




The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina. Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.

A warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us at Pittwater Parish - Sacred Heart Church and Maria Regina Church



Thoughts of Blessed Francis Jordan
Put all your hope and trust in God alone, He will fight for you like a mighty hero.

PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF

*Blessed Francis
Mary of the Cross Jordan*

O God of goodness and kindness, we thank You for inspiring Blessed Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan with a profound love and knowledge of You, the one true God and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent to be our Divine Saviour.

We implore the fire of Your Spirit to enflame all the baptised to be apostles in mission for the salvation of all people everywhere.


We invoke the intercession of Blessed Francis Jordan for our own personal intention.

May he accompany us at significant and challenging moments in our lives.

And if it be Your will, may he be recognised as a persevering and faithful saint whose apostolic life manifested Your strength shining through his human weakness.

We pray with trust in Your Divine Providence.
Amen.

“Bethlehem Candle”
The second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph’s journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus.



FILL US ALL WITH
Peace



Like us on
Facebook
Pittwater Catholic
Parish



You can find us
on Instagram
(catholicparishpittwater)

SAFEGUARDING

We, the people of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay and the Catholic Parish of Pittwater are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.



POPE LEO’S PRAYER INTENTION for DECEMBER

For Christians in Areas of Conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Church

1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale
WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 9.30 am
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction *from 8.30 am followed by Mass*

Wednesday 9.30 am

Thursday 7 pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction *from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm*

Friday 9:30 am
First Friday of the month, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration, Reconciliation and Benediction *from 9:30 am, followed by Healing Mass/ Anointing of the Sick at 10.30 am*

WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm
Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am & 6.00 pm (SOUL)

RECONCILIATION
Saturday Vigil 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm

BAPTISM
4th Sunday of the Month 11.30 am

Maria Regina Church

7 Central Road, Avalon

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 8.00 am

Wednesday 8.00 am

Thursday 10 am
9.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Benediction at 9.45 am

Friday 8.00 am
First Friday of the month, *Healing Mass/ Anointing of the Sick at 8.00 am*

WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 9.00 am

RECONCILIATION
Before Vigil Mass on **Saturday**

BAPTISM
3rd Sunday of the Month 11.00 am

WE PRAY for

Deceased Anniversary

Gertrud Keazor
William Deegan
Pat & Martin Curran

Recently Deceased

Ken Canlon
Stephen Martin

Prayer for the Sick

Anna Smigowska

Lily Janosik

Sue French

Maureen Larios

Elaine Boyes

Pauline Chipman

Ron Clarke

Barbara Clarke

Anna Katanec

Otma Nouak

Angela Miller

Philip Khalifeh

Joseph Khalifeh

George Azoury

Bruce Farr

Heidi Taylor

James

Jacinta Purnell - Major

Garry Gleeson

Nenita Roque

Marie Celine Roque- Maca

Neda Crvelin

Jesse Cathersides

Mary Reilly

Marta Bizubova

BOOK REVIEW

Talks of Father Francis
Mary of the Cross
Jordan



Fr Leonard of the Lay Salvatorians in Australia told us about now Blessed Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan. As a follow up, this book gives us, in the talks that survive, his vision both his Society and of his entire mission.



Vinnies

PIETY STORE

CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS

are available at
Mona Vale Piety Store
Pack of 10 Cards for \$8
Caleendars for \$11 each

All proceeds go to the St Vincent de Paul Society

Liturgy for the Week

08/12 Monday, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gen 3:9-15, 20; Lk 1:26-38

09/12 Tuesday, 2nd Week of Advent
Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

10/12 Wednesday, 2nd Week of Advent
Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

11/12 Thursday, 2nd Week of Advent
Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

12/12 Friday, 2nd Week of Advent
Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

13/12 Saturday, St Lucy
Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13

PLEASE PICK-UP A COPY (Available at the Back of Both Churches)

PASTORAL LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF THE NOTHERN BEACHES



Bishop Anthony reflects on the voices and hopes shared throughout the discernment process and prayerfully outlines a way forward. This letter invite us to remain engaged in prayer, communion, participation and mission as we continue to journey forward together.

ADVENT BOOKLET 2025



This year's booklet continues the tradition of focusing on the Sunday Gospel Readings, accompanied by personal reflections.



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF PITTWATER

GIVING

Our parish flourishes through the thoughtful care of resources and the generous commitment of our supporters. With gratitude, we thank all who help sustain our parish life, care for our Church and support the ministries that serve our community.

TO Make DONATIONS

SCAN the QR CODE below with your mobile phone camera and follow the prompts

Donations can be made weekly, fortnightly, monthly or one-off.



Areas OF GIVING

First Collection

(Clergy Giving)

Second Collection

(Parish Giving)

Pastoral Works Broken Bay

All PWBB donations over \$2 are 100% tax deductible

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the charitable outreach of our Catholic community, supporting the pastoral priorities of the Diocese. It plays a vital role in funding life changing ministries, strengthening families and nurturing parish communities across Broken Bay.

Has Your Credit Card Expired?

If you support the Parish through credit card giving, please let us know if your card details have changed or expired.

Direct Debit

You may also choose to support the Parish through direct debit. This can be set up easily and securely by contacting the Parish Office, who will arrange it for you.



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Vinnies will be collecting the Annual Christmas Appeal on the consecutive weekends of

**6TH & 7TH DECEMBER
AND**

13TH & 14TH DECEMBER

Envelopes are available in the pews at Maria Regina and Sacred Heart Churches.

VINNIES - MONA VALE

This Christmas season, Vinnies invites you to share the joy by contributing festive hampers filled with gifts for deserving families across Pittwater and the Northern Beaches.

Beautiful Christmas cards will be displayed on the windows of Sacred Heart Church,

each representing a family you can lovingly support.

Simply choose a card, prepare your hamper with care, and help bring a little extra sparkle to someone's Christmas.

Please deliver your hampers to Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale, on the weekend of 13-14 December.

VINNIES - AVALON

This year, Christmas cards and calendars are available for purchase at the Maria Regina Church Piety Store.

Thank you for bringing hope, joy, and Christmas cheer to our local community!

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE

BEFORE *Christmas*

Advent is a wonderful time to celebrate the reconciling love and the healing graces our Lord offers us.

Thursday, 18th December

**Individual Reconciliation after the 7 pm Mass
Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale**

Several Priests will be available to hear the Confessions. Come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of his forgiveness.

Christmas Mass Times

SACRED HEART CHURCH
MONA VALE

CHRISTMAS EVE

24 December

Family Mass

5:00 PM

Youth Mass

9:00 PM

Midnight Mass

12:00 AM

CHRISTMAS DAY

25 December

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM



MARIA REGINA CHURCH
AVALON

CHRISTMAS EVE

24 December

Family Mass

6:00 PM

Vigil Mass

9:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

25 December

9:00 AM



Parish Directory

Pittwater Parish

1 Keenan Street,
Mona Vale
NSW 2103
Tel 9157 0999

Parish Priest
Fr Richard Sadowski SDS

Tel 9157 0999 ext 10

pp@pittwaterparish.org

Assistant Priest
Fr Zygmunt Smigowski SDS

Tel 9157 0999 ext 12

ap@pittwaterparish.org

Parish Secretary
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**CCD Catechist
Coordinators**

Maureen Wooldridge

Mobile 0421 907 469

Veronica Thomas

Mobile 0417 061 534

Sacred Heart Church
1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale

Maria Regina Church
7 Central Road, Avalon

SCHOOLS

Sacred Heart School
Mona vale

Tel 8197 6900

Principal: Ms Louise O'Brien

Maria Regina School
Avalon

Tel 7256 2138

Principal: Ms Kirsty Thorpe

Mater Maria Catholic College
Warriewood

Tel 7256 2100

Principal: Mr Anthony Mahoney

Catholic Parish of Pittwater
Christmas Carols & Dinner

We take this opportunity to invite all Parishioner and to thank all our Volunteers in the Parish, especially the Senior Servers, Junior Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Counters, Wardens, Altar Society, Musicians and all who contribute to our Planned Giving and those who consistently give their time and effort generously to our Parish.

SATURDAY, 13TH DECEMBER AFTER THE 5 PM VIGIL MASS
 Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale

Bring your angelic voices and your best desserts and drinks to share.
 Please RSVP by Thursday, 11th December
 on the Sign Up list provided at the back of the pews in both Churches
 or ring the
 Parish Office on 91570999



**SOLEMNITY OF THE
 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
 OF THE
 BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
 and the
 ANNUAL SALVATORIAN
 FOUNDATION DAY
 MASS
 ON MONDAY, 8TH DECEMBER
 AT 6:30 PM,
 SACRED HEART CHURCH,
 MONA VALE
 followed by canapés & refreshments at
 Sacred Heart Church Parish Centre**

HELPERS FOR Christmas Eve Mass

Pittwater Parish is known for its beautiful 5 pm Children's Mass on Christmas Eve, and as always, we need many willing hands and enthusiastic helpers to make it a wonderful celebration. We are seeking volunteers who can spare one hour to help set up chairs for the Christmas Eve Mass.

**Set-up will take place at 10:00 am on
 Wednesday, 24 December**

If you are able to join us, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for helping us create a joyful and welcoming celebration for our parish families.

**Please E-mail Skye on
skye.nolan-brown@dbb.catholic.edu.au**



FROM THE BEGINNING, AN INCLUSIVE VISION

The man now honoured as Blessed Francis Mary of the Cross Jordan was born in Gurtweil, Germany, on June 16, 1848. On the following day he was baptised at the local parish church with the name John Baptist.

Being brought up in a poor family, he was not able to realise his dream of becoming a priest, although as a teenager he had already become aware of his vocation at the moment of his First Communion. After finishing primary school he worked as a journeyman and painter-decorator, traveling throughout Germany. John Baptist noticed the difficult spiritual situation of his homeland and of the other European countries, as people abandoned the practice of their faith. The Church in Germany was limited in performing its mission by the state (Kulturkampf). All these experiences strengthened Jordan's faith and conviction that he was called to be a priest. In 1869, he finally resolved to pursue his vocation and began his formal studies. Despite being older than his classmates, John Baptist worked hard and discovered a gift for languages; for the graduation exam he presented an essay in eight European languages and another one in four other languages.

Finally, in 1874 John Baptist began his studies of theology and philosophy. He used these years of study to deepen his faith and spirituality. He continued receiving the sacraments regularly, which had been his usual practice since childhood, and he devoted much time to prayer. He also began his lifelong practice of writing his Spiritual Diary, in which he recorded texts that inspired him and the prayers of his heart. In the years since his death, this diary has become an invaluable source of knowledge for his personality and spirituality.

John Baptist was ordained a priest on July 21, 1878. A short time later, at the request of his bishop, he left for Rome to begin studies of languages, including Syrian, Aramaic, Coptic, Arabic, as well as Hebrew and Greek. From the time of his theological studies John Baptist had a growing sense that he was being called by God to found a new apostolic work in the Church, in which members would defend the Faith by proclaiming to all people that Jesus Christ is the only Savior.

This conviction became even stronger during a trip to the Middle East in 1880. After his return to Rome, he started implementing his idea of founding a new community of priests, religious and lay Christians. This "Apostolic Teaching Society" would be organized into three groups, called "grades": the first one for those who, like the Apostles, leave everything and, living community life, devote themselves entirely to proclaiming the Good News; the second for academics, who spread the Divine truths by publications; and the third for those lay people who, remaining in their families and within the reality of their everyday life, would proclaim the Savior above all through the witness of a good Christian life.



Excerpt from The Salvatorian, "From the Beginning, An Inclusive Vision"



Parish Bulletin Term 4, Week 8

It has been an exciting and faith-filled week at Mater Maria Catholic College as we approach the end of the school year. Our Year 10 students celebrated this milestone with a joyful Semi-Formal, while top achievers in the EPIC House Cup were rewarded with a day of fun and camaraderie at Luna Park. Earlier in the week, our Carols for Soibada Concert, along with our annual Advent Liturgy and Thanksgiving evening brought the community together in prayer and song. The Concert Band's beautiful performance raised generous donations for Friends of Soibada, supporting vital projects in East Timor, and our Year 12 Hospitality students prepared a wonderful meal for guests at the College Advent Liturgy and Thanksgiving evening.

Mater Maria is proud to be represented at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne, joining thousands of young Catholics from across the country in a national celebration of faith, hope and joy, led by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. This event is a powerful reminder of the vibrant faith life that underpins everything we do at the College.

During this week, our students from all year groups embraced diverse learning opportunities beyond the classroom, including sustainability workshops, financial literacy sessions, creative arts experiences, and coastal field studies. These programs help them grow as responsible, informed and compassionate young people.

Year 10 PASS students participated in an exciting excursion to Cables Wake Park in Penrith, where they learned wakeboarding skills in a water-based environment that builds confidence and teamwork, a memorable experience for so many of our senior students.

In addition, several students joined the Northern Beaches community walk to support the 'Beaches Says No to Violence' campaign, showing solidarity with those impacted by domestic violence.

Faith Fridays continue to be a highlight, bringing students together for music, fellowship and prayer in the Chapel and Courtyard.

ENROLMENTS

As we look ahead, enrolments for Year 7 in 2028 and 2029 are now open, with waitlists for 2026 and 2027. Applications for Year 7, 2028 close at the end of Term 1, 2026. For details, visit matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolments.



PARISH MORNING TEA GATHERING

Everyone is welcome to join

Every month after the 8 am Mass on the 1st Sunday
and after the 10 am Mass on the 3rd Sunday at
**SACRED HEART CHURCH,
MONA VALE**



2nd and 4th Sundays after the 9 am Mass
at the front of
**MARIA REGINA CHURCH,
AVALON**



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MARIA REGINA?



Week 8 – 3rd December
Diocesan Mission Mass

Our Liturgy Leaders attended the Diocesan Mission Mass, where they learned about the incredible work Catholic Mission is doing in Zambia.

From supporting education to creating brighter futures for children, this experience was a powerful reminder of how we can all make a difference. Thank you to Catholic Mission for inspiring our students to live out their faith through action!



MARIA REGINA
Catholic Primary School, Avalon

**Enrolling
Now**
Kindergarten - Year 6



A National Catholic Ministry for Men, founded out of a response to a great need in the hearts & lives of men & great need in the life of the Catholic Church.

ALL MEN WELCOME

We Meet
First & Third Tuesday of every Month
At 7pm
Sacred Heart Parish Centre

Join Us – Men's Faith Gathering

We warmly invite all men of our parish & community to come together at 7:00pm for an informal & faith-filled evening of conversation, reflection & brotherhood.

These gatherings offer a welcoming & supportive space to share openly, grow spiritually & encourage one another in our journey of faith.

Together, we seek to renew our hearts in Christ, strengthen our commitment to God & be a vital & active force of renewal within our Church.

Come & be part of a community where faith is nurtured, friendships are formed & the Holy Spirit is at work.

All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

For any questions contact
Joe Cilla – 0418 863 814

The *Living* Word

Entrance Antiphon Isaiah 30:19,30

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from t
A reading from the prophet Isaiah
He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

(The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them.

The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together.

The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.

They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea.

That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. R. cf. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

May his name be blessed for ever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

Second Reading Romans 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of

the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The word of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Baruch 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.

The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today. John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of responsibility, disinterest in the welfare of others.

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Candle of Peace


During the 2nd Week of Advent,
 we reflect on our lives and orient
 ourselves toward Christ's coming,
 preparing our hearts to
 receive him anew.




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MONDAYS

9:30 - 11:30

(SCHOOL TERM)

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Second Sunday

Prepare the way of the
Lord, make straight
his paths.

Matthew 3:3

