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THE BULLETIN

8 OCTOBER 2023
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)





GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Velcome

A very warm welcome to you, especially to anyone new and visiting our parish. It is good to have you with us! If you have any questions or would like to know more about our community at Our Lady of Dolours please contact us at 02 9410 9000 or email us at chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au - we would love to hear from you.

Thank you to everyone who has donated the knitting equipment and wool for our mothers group to begin their creations for babies.

With the referendum just around the corner, remember to read Fr David's pastoral letter to our parish.

Congratulations to Vinnies who celebrate their regional festival Mass in our parish this week, welcoming in a number of new members.

Next Sunday our Spanish Community is celebrating the Christ of Miracles as part of their Mass - come along! We will also have the blessing of the animals on as well for your furry family member.

For any inclusions to next week's bulletin, please e-mail your content to Olivia at Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au by close of business on Wednesday.



He leased his vineyard to other farmers.

This Sunday's Gospel - Matthew 21:33-43

FROM FR DAVID



Dear friends

Our deep sympathy to the family of Tina Robinson who passed away last week. Tina was with us every week and was a long time member of our parish family, and a very active member of our Filipino community. We extend our heartfelt condolences to her children. Tina will be farewelled from our church on Friday 13 October. We also extend our sympathy to Gillian Hawkins whose sister, Jean, passed away during the week, after a long illness. May eternal rest be granted Tina and Jean, and perpetual light shine upon them always.

This weekend we are delighted to have with us our friends from the Society of St Vincent de Paul, celebrating their annual Regional Festival Mass at our Saturday evening Vigil. A number of new members will be inducted as the members renew their pledge of service. We give God thanks for their witness and dedication to those in need.

They do this without publicity and with such generosity. They are a great blessing to us, and encourage us, too, to "not a pass a need unattended", as St Mary MacKillop was fond of saying.

We welcome back our students to Term 4 this week, hoping that they and their families had an enjoyable break. In particular we welcome those who are now beginning their Year 12.

As we might know, last Tuesday 4 October, was an important day for our Church. It was the feast day of St Francis, and two important events occurred. Pope Francis published his Apostolic Exhortation, Laudato Deum, and he opened the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops: "Towards a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission." The pope's letter can be found at https://tinyurl.com/5hk7byys. It is a direct plea to us to take seriously the current crisis of climate. For several days prior to the opening of the Synod of Bishops, the participants (including our Bishop Anthony and Kelly Paget, our Chancellor) took part in a retreat outside of Rome. The retreat was led by the English Dominican, Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP. The reflections, both as video and text, can be found at https://tinyurl.com/mj85dr5d. They are wonderful reflections on aspects of what it means to be a Synodal Church: Hope, Home, Friendship, Conversation, Authority, Truth. I encourage us to watch or read these superb reflections.

Next Thursday evening at 4.30pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral in Waitara, our Diocese conducts its annual Liturgy of Lament for those who have been hurt by the crime of sexual abuse in our community. In Bishop Anthony's absence I will lead this liturgy. All are welcome to join us.

Welcome home this week to many of our pilgrims from the Holy Land! This last week they have been to Jerusalem and Jordan. It has been the most remarkable experience for them, and we very much look forward now to having them home with us.

Again, I commend next Saturday's Referendum to your careful and prayerful consideration. It is a very significant moment in the life of our nation. I pray that it will progress the cause of Reconciliation in our country.

Unfortunately, we're out of practice in how to conduct ourselves in a referendum. This process is supposed to promote dialogueabout the fundamental rules and identity of our nation. Yet passions can run hot, and misinformation is rife.

How can we make sureour discussions with friends and family are respectful?

How can we find reliablesources to ensure wemake an informed choice?

Joe McIntyre Page 2 - 3 of Fr David's Letter

Read Fr David's Pastoral Letter to our community regarding the National Referendum on October 14 at https://tinyurl.com/4x8p4byf or scan the QR code



IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER:

Our loved ones who have recently passed away:

Tina Robinson; Julio Maynes; Warren Farr; Sr Maureen Shakeshaft; Mariani Ridwan (grandmother & great grandmother to the Sunjaya family); Anthony Tys; Francis Tai; Ricardo Cortez Jr (Uncle of Giselle Goloy); Mary Bowie.

Our loved ones who are sick:

Bruce Meppem; John O'Brien, Giselle Clark; Gerard De Leon; Carlos De Leon; Johanna Tse; Iris Wickert (sister of Chrystal De Croos); Mary Kin-Soon Ng; Bonnie Leung.

Our loved ones, at rest with God, whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Maria Raffaele (mother of Grace Ann Raffaele); Joseph Syria Santio; Baby Faith Aylward; Chun Ying Cheng; Janet Coombs; Andrew Lee; Cecilia Lee; Sang Yon Jeon; Kevin Bruce; Teresita A Castro; Bernadette Cheng Take Yee; Robert Playdon; Irene Ward; Mark Van; Wah Chew Chan; Jose Ben Arbarca.

For Max and Bernadette as they discern the future of their relationship, may they be happy.

For all looking after their elderly and sick parents, may they find joy in this special time, and remember they are not alone.

For those who suffer from epilepsy. May they find peace and healing in body and mind.

Our community would love to pray for you. If you have an intention you would like to be included in this bulletin e-mail chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au



Our Lady of Dolours, Pray for Us

Rock of constancy, pray for us.

Refuge of the abandoned, pray for us.

Mother of consolation, pray for us.



This week's church flowers are generously donated by Mega Tio to commemorate the anniversary of

Joseph Syria Santio

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Deacon
Richard Houwing
Parish Deacon

The image of a vineyard is common in the first reading (Is 5:1-7) and the Gospel (Mt 21:33-43). Each reading offers a thoughtful reflection on God's unwavering expectations of righteousness and the tragic human propensity to reject His invitation for love and concern for everyone, especially those less powerful. The moral teachings in these readings beckon us to think deeply about the world around us, recognize our roles as stewards of God's blessings, and adhere to the just path shown by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. However, each reading has a slightly different perspective to illustrate the need to be good stewards.

In Isaiah's "Song of the Vineyard," God is the vineyard owner, and the vineyard represents the house of Israel and the men of Judah. The song recounts how God lovingly and expectantly cultivated His vineyard, only to be disappointed when it produced "wild grapes," a symbol of moral decay and

unrighteousness. In this parable, Isaiah condemns the Israelites for their injustices and warns of impending judgment. The passage culminates in a sorrowful declaration of God's expectations and Israel's failure: "He looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress."

The Gospel of Matthew presents Jesus recounting the Parable of the Tenants. Here, the vineyard again symbolizes God's kingdom but with a more direct reference to the leadership of Israel. The landowner is God, the servants are the prophets, and the son is Jesus. The tenants entrusted with the vineyard fail to produce righteous fruit and violently reject and kill the servants and the landowner's son. Jesus, addressing the religious leaders, makes the point that they have consistently ignored, mistreated, and killed the prophets sent by God and will do the same to Him. The parable concludes with a powerful prediction and moral injunction: "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

Matthew's passage makes a significant point about Christ's role in salvation history. Jesus is the cornerstone. A building relies on its cornerstone for stability and direction. In the same way, we depend on Jesus for spiritual strength and direction. His teachings, sacrifice, and resurrection provide us with guidance and purpose.

At a cursory glance, both passages utilize the metaphor of a vineyard. However, delving deeper reveals that the vineyard's representation shifts from being God's people in Isaiah to the kingdom of God in Matthew, wherein God's people are now the tenants. Yet, the core message remains consistent: God's expectations of righteousness and the regrettable failure of His chosen people to uphold these expectations.

In both passages, the divine disappointment stems from turning away from God. While Isaiah highlights moral decay, injustice, and a departure from God's laws, Matthew emphasizes the rejection of God's messengers, culminating in the rejection of His son, Jesus.

What teachings can we gain from these readings? Both passages impress upon us that we are stewards of what God has given us. Whether it's the blessings of our circumstances, the teachings we've received, or the message of the Gospel, we are entrusted with a responsibility to bear fruit that aligns with God's will.

God seeks righteousness. As Christian stewards, ensuring justice and righteousness entails: loving our neighbours, defending the vulnerable, and pursuing fairness. We're called to act with integrity, advocate for the marginalized, and uphold ethical principles in all we do. By emulating Jesus' compassion and righteousness, we promote justice in our communities and the world.

In Isaiah, the consequences of rejecting God are desolation and judgment, while in Matthew, it's the taking away of the kingdom and giving it to another who will produce its fruit. Both serve as a solemn reminder of the repercussions of turning away from God.

Despite humanity's consistent failures, God's love remains persistent. This is evident in His continuous efforts to reach out through sending prophets or His son.

In conclusion, Isaiah 5:1-7 and Matthew 21:33-43 show how the New Testament often echoes and builds upon the Old Testament. Both passages use the metaphor of a vineyard to convey divine expectations and the human failure to meet them. These passages comprehensively show God's persistent love and humanity's repeated failings. By examining these passages together, we can reflect on the relationship between God and His people and the moral obligations this relationship imposes for justice and love for all of God's creation.

MASS & LITURGIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday 9 October

- 11:30am Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 11:45am Rosary (Cenacle, MMP)
- 12:30pm Mass

Tuesday 10 October

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:00am Mass
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 12:30pm Mass

Wednesday
11 October

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:00 Mass
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 12:30pm Mass
- 6:00pm Mass

Thursday 12 October

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:00am Mass
- 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration, Rosary. and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 12:00pm Benediction
- 12:30pm Mass
- 7:00pm Holy Hour Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation also available.

Friday 13 October

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:00am Mass
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 10:30am Funeral for Tina Robinson
- 12:30pm Mass

Saturday 14 October

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:00am Mass
- 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation, Rosary
- 10:00am Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- 10:30am Benediction
- 4:30pm Public Rosary in the Forecourt
- 5:30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday Mass 15 October

- 7:30am Mass
- 9:00am Family Mass Blessing of the Animals
- 10:30am Mass
- 12:00pm Spanish Community Mass Celebration of the Christ of Miracles, Senor de los Milagros
- 5:30pm Mass
- 7:00pm Indonesian Community Mass



GATHERINGS THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday 9 October

- 10:00am Atrium 3-6 year olds (Atrium)
- 4:00pm Atrium 3-6, 6-9 and 9-12 year olds (Atrium)
- 4:30pm Organ Practice Sunny (Church)
- 7:00pm Alpha (Magnificat, St Paul, St Peter)

Tuesday 10 October

- 10:00am Bible Discussion Group (St Paul)
- 11:00am Parish Staff Team Meeting (Magnificat)
- 1:00pm Organ Practice Paul (Church)
- 4:00pm Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
- 4:00pm Atrium 6-9 and 9-12 year olds (Atrium)
- 4:30pm Organ Practice Sunny (Church)
- 6:30pm LIFE Formation (St Paul)
- 7:00pm Filipino Choir (Church)
- 7:00pm Growing in Faith Ministry Circle Meeting (Magnificat)
- 7:00pm Indonesian Legion of Mary (St Peter)

Wednesday 11 October

- 9:00am Mercy Catholic College Students' HSC Exams (St Peter)
- 9:30am Lifestyle English Conversation Programme (Magnificat)
- 9:30am English Speaking Class with Reg (St Paul)
- 2:00pm Organ Lesson (Church)
- 6:30pm Indonesian Traditional Instrument Practice (Church)
- 7:00pm Exploring the Faith (St Peter)

Thursday 12 October

- 9:00am Atrium Level One Part One Formation (Magnificat)
- 9:00am Mercy Catholic College Students' HSC Exams (St Peter)
- 10:00am Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
- 1:00pm Indonesian Community Team Meeting (St Paul)
- 3:45pm Organ Scholar Lessons (Church)
- 5:00pm Choir Music Reading Practice (St Paul)
- 5:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Church)

Friday 13 October

- 9:00am Atrium Level One Part One Formation (Magnificat)
- 10:00am Meditation and Sharing (St Peter)
- 4:30pm Organ Practice Sunny (Church)
- 7:00pm Indonesian Choir Practice (St Paul)
- 7:00pm Online Zoom Meditation and Sharing

Saturday 14 October

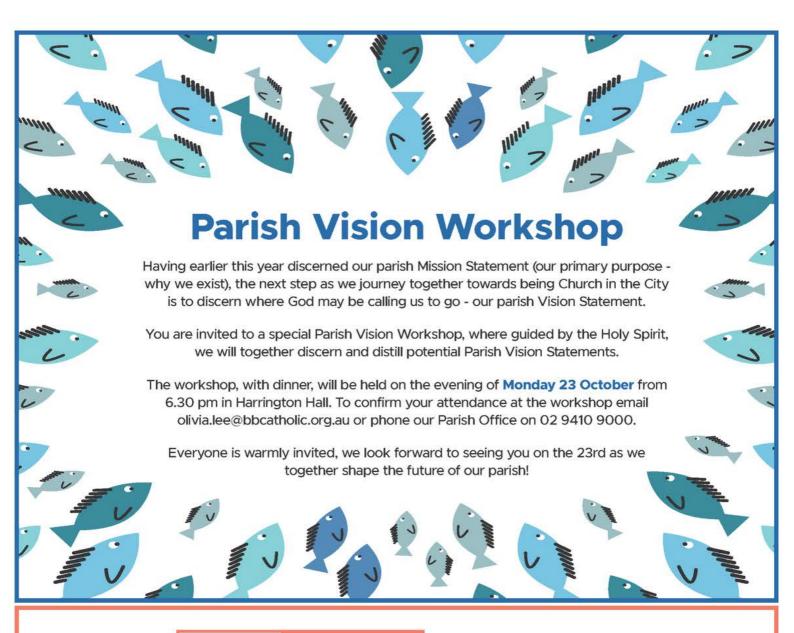
- 9:00am Atrium Level One Part One Formation (Magnificat)
- 10:30am Legion of Mary (Magnificat)
- 10:30am Choir Music Reading Practice (St Paul)
- 10:30am MCAG Meeting (St Peter)
- 11:00am Choir Rehearsals for 10:30am Mass (St Paul)
- 12:00pm Atrium Level One Part One Formation (St Paul)
- 12:00pm Disability Party (Magnificat)
- 7:00pm Korean Bible Reading and Discussion Class (St Paul)

Sunday Mass 15 October

- 9:00am Choir Practice (St Paul)
- 10:00am Kids Baptism Sessions (St Peter)
- 11:30am RCIA (St Peter)
- 11:00am Spanish Community Fellowship (Magnificat)
- 5:00pm Indonesian Community Fellowship (Magnificat)
- 6:30pm Capstone Young Adults Group (St Peter)



UPDATES



I AM JESUS

Through movie clips and discussion, be taken back 2,000 years to the dusty roads of Galilee, to meet Jesus and discover who He really was on earth.

As we watch the short movie clips, we'll imagine ourselves standing there, on the edges of the crowd, listening, watching - what do we see? what impresses us? what confuses us? how would we have responded to this son of a carpenter from Nazareth?

Starting with what Jesus may have looked like, we'll then look at His birth, messages and miracles, coming to better know Jesus and taking away lessons to apply in our lives.

I AM Jesus runs for four weeks on Monday evenings at 7pm in the Magnificat Room, starting on the **13th of November**.

The course is for anyone, all ages and backgrounds, interested in learning more about Jesus in a relaxed, thought provoking and down to earth setting.

To register for I AM Jesus, or if you have any questions, email Brendan at brendan@churchinthecity.com.au







OUR WEEK IN PICS









Ignite
Conference
2023 in Sydney
finished up last
week and it
was an
fantastic
event! Looking
forward to
2024 already.





Our pilgrims travelling the Holy Land celebrated Mass in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and have shared what a priveleged experience it was - here they laid your prayers that you shared through the online form.



We've been slowly continuing to work on the Kirk St carpark - the newest addition are these lights on the stairs to help safely guide you to and from the carpark.





4pm - 5:15pm Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month

At 4pm on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, a group of mums will come together to discuss topics such as virtue, character building, prayer, mortification, examination of onscience, charity and interior life. It will be a chance to bond with other mums in the Parish community, and an opportunity for all to share their wisdom and advice on being a mum.

The group will also focus on works of charity, and will knit/crochet clothing and beanies for premature and stillborn babies. You don't need to have any experience with knitting, all training will be provided by our mums.

If you would like more information, and to learn when this starts, please email chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

Mums of all ages welcome!



VINNIES VISION YOUTH

We are a group of passionate, enthusiastic young adults (16-30) who are striving to better the lives of those in our community.



WHAT WE DO

LISTENING EARS

We visit 19 residents at a local nursing home where we provide a 'listening ear' to combat isolation and loneliness BREKKY VAN

We serve a hot breakfast in the city to anyone in need. We chat and connect with those we serve. WINTER SLEEPOUT

Our annual fundraiser where we learn about homelessness in Australia, and raise funds for vital Vinnies services. DOCUMENTARY

Our social nights, where we share a meal, watch a documentary and discuss, to learn about important social justice issues



IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

thankzyou

Thank you to all those who have so generously donated their wool, knitting needles and crochet hooks!

Our mums are over the moon with the support you have shown towards their Mothers Group.

God bless!

Donations for Knitting

Do you have knitting needles, wool, or crochet hooks sitting in a cupboard or drawer, no longer needed?

We are currently asking our generous parishioners who may these items to donate them to a wonderful cause!

A group of mums will be coming together each fortnight to knit and crochet clothing and beanies for premature and stillborn babies.



The World Community for Christian Meditation (NSW) presents:

Monday 27 Nov. 2023 'Introduction to Meditation'

An introduction to the contemplative practice of silent meditation in the Christian Tradition.

Each 1-hour session covers the same content.
Choose 1 of the three options:

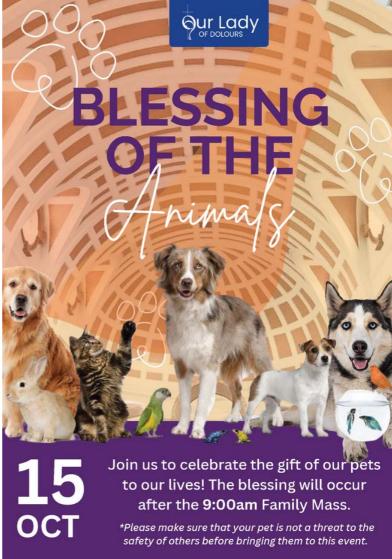
9:15am at the Blue Room cnr. of High Street & Horsley Avenue

4:30pm at the Parish Office on 182 High Street

6:30pm at the Blue Room cnr. of High Street & Horsley Avenue

RSVP via email maximoc@gmail.com





COMMUNITY EVENTS

Organ for all Ages

16 October at 12:30pm Free entry - Sydney Town Hall

Titus Grenyer, our Director of Music is presenting an organ recital at the Sydney Town Hall! There's nothing quite like the sound of the Sydney Town Hall Grand Organ – whether it's the roar of its 64-foot Contra Trombone on the final chord of Bach's Toccata and Fugue, or a lone flute playing a little waltz, this organ is truly the instrument for all ages, with

the power and range of an entire orchestra at one's fingertips.

This next lunchtime recital will be a special presentation by Titus Grenyer for audiences young, old and all in-between, and especially

for those who have never heard the organ before. As well as enjoying some very exciting music, audiences will discover how the Grand Organ works and the unique sounds it can produce. Titus will also be joined by organist Samuel Giddy for some 4-hands duets.



2023 PUBLIC ROSARY SATURDAY OCTOBER 14 4:30PM

Join Cecilia and Elaine as they organise a public rosary for our parish as part of a nation-wide Rosary Chain, in the forecourt near the cross.

Join the public to honour the gift of Mother Mary to our Church. Then, join us for the Vigil Mass after. All are welcome!

For more information contact Cecilia at 0466 961 240.



Living Our Faith Today

A series of talks with Bishop David Walker exploring what it means to live out our faith in this day and age.

3:30pm - 5:00pm at the Magnificat Room 96 Archer St, Chatswood - entry from Kirk St

Bookings not needed. Just come along and enjoy the session!

AROUND AND ABOUT



In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage: Melbourne to Sydney

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry.

For more information, itinerary, or an application form please contact Sr Annie Bond at national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or on 89124818.



Lectio Divina with Bishop Emeritus David Walker Online

Join Bishop David, Fr John Frauenfelder, and Virginia Ryan online at http://www.lectiodivina.com.au/ or scan the QR code below to lead you to a video where they will break open each Sunday's Gospel through Lectio Divina - a contemplative way of reading the Bible that has been held through our tradition for many years.

Join Us Today lectiodivina.com.au



INFO AT A GLANCE

Parish Support Team:

Parish Priest: Very Rev Dr David Ranson VG

david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au Personal blog: davidranson.com.au

Twitter: @FrDavidRanson

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Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Marek Woldan

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Deacon: Rev Richard Houwing

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Parish Services Officer: Chloe Aylward

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Catechist Coordinator: Karen Forbes

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Parish Director of Music: Titus Grenyer

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Children's Ministry Coordinator: **Angela Hague**

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Children's Ministry Assistant: **Mona Saouma**

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Book-keeper: Amelia Lee

amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au | (02)9410 9032

Youth Minister: **Bettina Ignacio**

bettina.ignacio@bbcatholic.org.au | (02)9410 9000

Mass This Week:

Monday Mass 12:30pm.

Tuesday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Wednesday Mass 9:00am, 12:30pm &

6:00pm.

Thursday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Reconciliation: 7:00pm.

Friday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Saturday Mass: 9:00am

Reconciliation: 9:30am.

Vigil Mass: 5:30pm

Sunday Mass

• 7:30am

9:00am

• 10:30am

• 5:30pm

(f)

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bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail?

Contact Olivia at

Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au

