



THE BULLETIN

3 DECEMBER 2023
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Welcome

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.

This week Advent begins and we add a ritual to Mass - that of the lighting of the Advent Candles. In the column on the left you will see how this ritual plays out. Please join in with the singing and the parts allocated to all of us to proclaim.

This week Vinnies has their Christmas Appeal for our parish! Times are tough for everyone, so anything you can give to help the most disadvantaged sisters and brothers in our community is so deeply appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

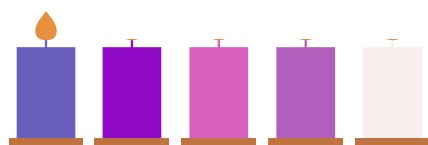
This weekend the parish Gift Shop is having another Christmas sale! Come past and do some last minute shopping for your loved ones.

At the back of the church there are copies of a beautiful series of Advent Reflections by Fr David - all are welcome to take a copy. Happy reading!

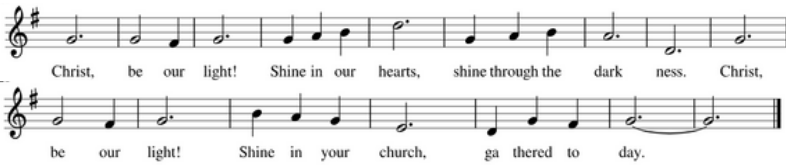
Enjoy your weekend everyone!

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

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Chatswood NSW 2067
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1446 Chatswood, NSW 2057



Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.
This Sunday's Gospel - Matthew 13:33-37



Hope for Those Who Wait

Priest: Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.

All: How long, O Lord, how long?

Priest: For those waiting for answered prayer:

All: Grant your steadfast patience.

Priest: For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:

All: Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.

Priest: For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:

All: Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.

Priest: For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come:

All: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Candle Lighting

Priest: This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" (*Psalm 27:14*)

Closing Prayer

All: God of all creation, we declare that you are the Eternal One. We confess to you, O Lord, that we easily grow impatient, when your word to us is to wait. Ignite within us a new and everlasting hope. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Fr David Ranson
PP VG
Parish Priest

This Sunday we begin a new year in our Church's year with the First Week of Advent. Advent is that special time each year we are given to prepare for the wonder of Christmas. We reflect on the mystery of waiting as we long to receive the life of Christ more fully in our hearts and in our world. To help us prepare, we have the ancient practice of the Advent Wreath on which we light a candle each week. Each candle represents one of the gifts of Christmas: hope, faith, joy, and peace. We now have a very elegant Advent Wreath. This has been made possible through a small bequest of the late Fr Barry Nobbs, for whom we now have the stand in memory. I am sure we will agree it is a very beautiful addition to our church.

We prepare for Christmas in a diversity of ways. One of those most important, of course, is to be aware of those not as fortunate as ourselves. And so, this weekend envelopes are available to contribute to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal. These can be left on any of the collection baskets during Mass.

The next few weeks will be quite busy with end of year and Christmas events! We are invited to a very special event at 10.00am on Monday 4 December at St Pius X College. Pius X College and Mercy Catholic College are collaborating to host 'The Road to Bethlehem - A Liturgical Pilgrimage.' Joined by students from St Leo's Catholic College Wahroonga and members of the parish, we will bring to life the Nativity with large sets, costumes, and live animals. Yes, camels are even on their way! Our students and staff dressed in biblical costumes will move in and through the congregation seated in the playground, as they unfold one of the greatest stories from our 'God of surprises'. It is the 800th Anniversary since St Francis of Assisi first held a live Nativity. Praying for fine weather, do feel welcome to join us on Monday! This will be the final week of school for the students at Pius College, so we wish them all the very best as they bring their school year to its conclusion.

Friday 8 December is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary through which we celebrate the freedom that Mary is given to become fully who she is created to be. We will have our ordinary Masses at 9.00am and at 12.30pm. However, at 8.00pm we will have an online Rosary available, the details of which are in the bulletin, with the link on our parish website on the 'online gatherings' page.

Earlier next Friday evening, our parish primary school is enjoying a great Christmas Fiesta! All of us are welcome to join in the school playgrounds! There will be music, dining, and lots of entertainment! And of course, a very special guest! So do come along and enjoy the festival. Tickets are important and are available through the many signs around the school and in the poster in this bulletin.

This week we return to our ordinary 6pm Wednesday evening Mass. May this be a special opportunity for us to enter prayerfully this new joyful season of spiritual preparation we have begun.

Friday December 8th
- 5.30pm - 8.30pm
CHRISTMAS FESTA

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS \$5
FAMILY TICKETS \$20
UNLIMITED RIDE TICKET \$20

ENTRY TICKETS INCLUDE A RAFFLE TICKET AND ENTRY TO THE PETTING ZOO TO HOLD, FEED AND BRUSH THE ANIMALS.

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS

Our Lady OF DOLOURS

CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF
OUR LADY OF Guadalupe

12 DEC

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR:
MASS 7:00PM
BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS
MUSIC ON THE FORECOURT AFTER

Our Lady of Dolours | 94 Archer St Chatswood

Broken Bay Diocese
FILIPINO CHAPLAINCY

Simbang Gabi 2023
CHRISTMAS NOVENA
LAUNCH MASS

SATURDAY | **09** | AT 7:00 PM
DEC

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHATSWOOD PARISH
Fellowship & Short Program follow from 8 - 9 PM

Scan here to register and join the celebrations!

December 9th - Launch of the Christmas Novena Masses
7:00pm

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER:

Our loved ones who have recently passed away:

Chunguang Lin (father of Mary Lin); Malcolm Oakes (brother of Mary Oakes); Antonio Marin Jr - November 6th (brother of Virginia Lagos); Sr Ellen Cahill rsm; Fr John Alt; Rinaldo Navarro; Ross Taylor; Peter Dwyer; Teresita Ortiga (mother of Joan Pitman and Jean Brady); Hector Naupari Belupu (brother of Dora Shipley); Warren Edward Farr; Nikola Mirošević; Aldrick Mitchell Habal Espinosa; Francis Ta.

Our loved ones who are sick:

John O'Brien; Gerard De Leon; Carlos De Leon; Iris Wickert (sister of Chrystal De Croos); Mary Kin-Soon Ng (mother of Elizabeth Chung); Bonnie Leung.

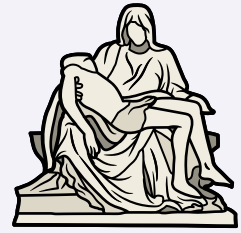
Our loved ones, at rest with God, whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Giovanni Moschella - December 11th (father of Rita Biviano); Franko Separovc (Romo); Kata Cetinic Pensa; Mate Bacic Fratric; Phil Ryan - November 24th (Husband of Judith, father of Gerard).

For Zelig Therese - may her life be wonderful and full of success, joy, and love. May she never forget how much God loves her.

For all who are dying in wars across the world. May they reach heaven and never lose faith in justice.

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.*

*Mirror of patience,
pray for us*

*Mother of consolation,
pray for us.*

This week's church flowers are generously donated in memory of:

Death anniversary of Mr and Mrs William Chan



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal is being held this weekend to help fund the activities of the Parish St V de P Conference. In the last 6 months over 50 calls for assistance with emergencies from local people have been attended to, and over \$7000 have been expended in response.

Chatswood parishioners have been generous towards the work of the Society and this generosity is again being called upon to help those with problems such as insufficient food, accommodation issues and medical/pharmaceutical needs.

Envelopes can be found around the church for cash and credit card donations and these can be placed on the collection plates.

A QR code can be found next to this message and at the poor boxes if this is preferred.

Donations are tax deductible.

- SVDP Team



Ways to donate:

Go to <https://tinyurl.com/sdkx4773>

Scan the QR Code

every little bit helps




Our Lady OF DOLOURS

JOIN OUR ZOOM Rosary

**Friday 8 December 2023
8:00pm ZOOM**

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88286954718>
Meeting ID: 882 8695 4718
No password required

Join us online to celebrate the
The Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception
by praying the Rosary together.



**Deacon
Kevin Hale**

Be on your guard, stay awake.

These words certainly do sound familiar, don't they? Over and over again, we are warned to lock our doors, set our alarms, and not talk to strangers. But that's not what Jesus was talking about.

The watching that Jesus urges us to do—the watching that is at the heart of the season of Advent—isn't meant to make us fearful or tense.

On the contrary, it's supposed to fill us with expectation and even joy—just as we pray at Mass after the Lord's Prayer, asking our Father to keep us "safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ."

So just what are we watching and waiting for? The fulfilment of God's promises—the time when every tear will be wiped away and all pain and suffering will end.

For the time when we will be gathered around God's throne, completely immersed in his love and filled to overflowing with his divine life.

We're not waiting just for Christmas; we're waiting for the fulfilment of everything that Christmas began—Jesus' glorious return!

Rather than passively waiting, try to spend this Advent actively anticipating the Lord. Invite him to meet you in prayer and at Mass. Look for him in the face of a stranger—or a difficult family member. Let the sights, sounds, and smells of the season lift your imagination and give you a glimpse of the celebration that awaits you.

Don't sleep through heaven! It's all around us, if we but open our eyes. Don't sleep through the miracle of God becoming man, either. Believe that Jesus is with us right now, that he wants to shower us with his love and grace.

Open your eyes, and you will begin to see signs that the kingdom is coming, signs that will fill your heart with hope and expectation.

Jesus really is on his way. Even if he doesn't come back in glory this Advent, he still wants to come into our lives.

And may he find us attentive when he does come!

In the parable of the man on the journey, the doorkeeper holds a very important position. Since none of the household staff knows when their master will return, the doorkeeper must always be looking out for signs of his arrival. Well, each of us has a similar job—to keep watch for Jesus. All he needs is for us to be alert, and he will have plenty of room to work. Let's not forget to look heavenward this Advent.

St. John tells us that Jesus, the Word, has become flesh and dwelt among us, and that we have seen his glory. As we devote time simply to gazing on Jesus in prayer and meditation, we will become more alert. We will begin to see this world differently and notice signs of Jesus' power and presence.

He may fill us with his love during Mass or at Eucharistic adoration.

He may give us his peace in the midst of a trying or painful situation.

He may convince us to go to the sacrament of Reconciliation after a long absence, or to reconcile with a neighbour or relative.

And who knows? He just might decide to rend the heavens and return in glory after all!

This really can be a season of transformation for us. If we are watchful and alert, we really will come to know Jesus more this Advent—and we really will begin to shine with his glory.

Children's Christmas Eve Nativity Mass

All children who would like to be involved in the Nativity play at the 5.30pm Christmas Eve Mass, please come to the **Blue Room** (Where we hold Children's Liturgy), after the 9:00am Family Mass on **Sunday 10th December**.

We will allocate roles and have a quick first practice at this meeting.

There will be two further practices as follows:

Sunday 17th December in the Blue Room after 9:00am Mass

Saturday 23rd December Rehearsal in the Church at 1:00pm

Any enquiries about the Children's Christmas Mass please contact Angela in the parish office on 9410 9033 or angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au



MORNING TEA

7.30am Mass Morning Tea

Please join us this Sunday in the Pew for a cuppa and a chat, after Mass.

Seniors Morning Tea

Please join us this Thursday at 10am for our final Seniors morning tea for 2023.

We will be celebrating Christmas with carols and morning tea.



MASS & LITURGIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday
4 December

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

Tuesday
5 December

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- **9:00am Mass**
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- **10:30am Pius X College Closing Mass**
- **12:30pm Mass**

Wednesday
6 December

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- **9:00 Mass**
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- **12:30pm Mass**
- 5:30pm Renewal of Marriage Vows (Private)
- **6:00pm Mass**

Thursday
7 December

**Memorial of
St Ambrose**

- 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
8 December

**Solemnity of the
Immaculate
Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- **9:00am Mass**
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- **12:30pm Mass**
- 5:00pm Wedding Anniversary
- **8:00pm Zoom Rosary for the Immaculate Conception**

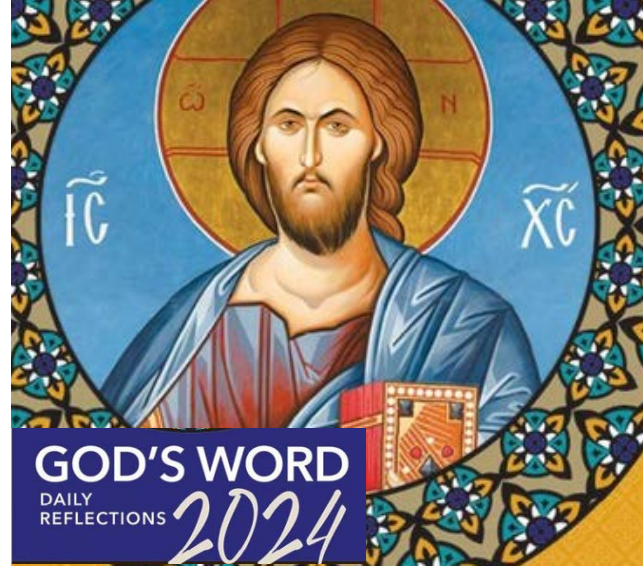
Saturday
9 December

- 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
- **5:30pm Vigil Mass**
- **7:00pm Filipino Special Mass**

Sunday Mass
10 December

**Second Sunday of
Advent**

- **7:30am Mass**
- **9:00am Family Mass**
- **10:30am Mass**
- **12:00pm Baptism**
- **5:30pm Mass**



God's Word 2024: Daily Reflections brings you:

- Scripture readings of the day from the Jerusalem Bible
- Inspiring reflections by eminent Australasian spiritual writers
- Liturgical information for the day
- Space to note down important events and personal reflections

A companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God.

**Now available at the Piety Stall for
\$18 per copy!**

ADVENT WREATHS FOR SALE

What better way to PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS than having an ADVENT WREATH in your home! Now available in the Piety Stall. Handmade, boxed, candles included. \$35 each.



OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

First Sunday of Advent / December 3rd

COME, LORD JESUS. The prophet Isaiah implored God to tear the heavens open and come down to save the people. God, however, did not come among us in such a dramatic way but in the humble form of Jesus of Nazareth. God continues to enter our lives in unexpected ways. If we are watchful for the presence of Christ in each day, we will recognise him when he comes in glory.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, (striking the breast) through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria is not said during Advent.

COLLECT

P. Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open
and come down — at your Presence the
mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god
but you act like this for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;

we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 79:2-3, 15-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, / shine forth
from your cherubim throne. / O Lord, rouse up
your might, / O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

2. God of hosts, turn again, we
implore, / look down from heaven and
see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine
your right hand has planted. **R.**

3. May your hand be on the man you have
chosen, / the man you have given your
strength. / And we shall never forsake you
again: / give us life that we may call upon
your name. **R.**



SECOND READING 1 Cor 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 13:33-37

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task;

and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED
Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I OF ADVENT

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray ...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said ...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

WATCHING AND WAITING

The liturgical year begins, Advent dawns, and the readings call us into reflection and renewal of our relationship with God. The prophet Isaiah's plea resounds across the ages, lamenting the current state of affairs. Having already asked God to see how bad things are, he beseeches God "Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down." Then and now, God's help is needed to turn our lives around.

The psalm invites us to raise our voices in response "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved." Paul writing to the Corinthians offers a thanksgiving to God for the revelation of Jesus Christ and prays with all gratefulness so that they, and we, "will not be without any of the gifts of the Holy Spirit while waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ."

In today's Gospel four imperatives emphatically call upon our hearts: "see" and "be alert" come in rapid succession, then "stay awake" is repeated. This warning to stay awake is echoed twice to the disciples in Gethsemane. The beginning of Mark's Gospel announces, "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ" (v1) and "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news" (v15). The ultimate moment of revelation of Jesus comes with the resurrection and the empty tomb. This is our time to turn our hearts to God, to hear the good news, to wait with gratitude and renew our souls before celebrating anew the birth of Jesus, God among us.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

WELCOME AND THANK YOU

Today we welcome Dr Rosemary Canavan as our reflection writer. Rosemary is Senior Lecturer in New Testament at Catholic Theological College, Melbourne. In her reflection, she will briefly consider each of the Scripture readings set down for the Sunday.

We are very grateful and thank Fr Christopher Monaghan CM, for his insightful reflections on the readings over the past three years.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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GATHERINGS THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

- Monday
4 December
- 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 (Church)
 - 5:00pm Setting up for I Am Jesus (St Peter)
 - 6:30pm Young Adults Christmas Choir Rehearsal (Church)
 - 7:00pm I AM Jesus (St Peter)
 - 7:00pm Filipino Community - Mae (Magnificat)

- Tuesday
5 December
- 10:00am Bible Discussion Group (St Paul)
 - 1:30pm Organ Practice (Church)
 - 2:00pm Parish Staff Workshop (Magnificat, St Paul)
 - 4:00pm Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
 - 4:00pm Atrium 6-9 and 9-12 year olds (Atrium)
 - 4:30pm Organ Practice (Church)
 - 6:00pm 50th Anniversary Wedding Practice (Church)
 - 6:00pm 50th Wedding Anniversary Gathering (Magnificat)
 - 7:00pm Filipino Choir (Church)
 - 7:00pm Indonesian Legion of Mary (St Peter)

- Wednesday
6 December
- 9:30am Lifestyle English Conversation Programme (Magnificat)
 - 9:30am English Speaking Class with Reg (St Peter)
 - 7:00pm Exploring the Faith (St Peter)
 - 7:00pm Filipino Community - Mae

- Thursday
7 December
- 10:00am Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
 - 10:00am Seniors Morning Tea (Magnificat)
 - 12:00pm Playgroup Set up (Magnificat)
 - 1:00pm Playgroup (Magnificat)
 - 3:45pm Organ Scholar Lessons (Church)
 - 5:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Church)
 - 6:30pm Parish-in-Council Debrief Meeting (Magnificat)

- Friday
8 December
- 10:00am Meditation and Sharing (St Peter)
 - 4:00pm Organ Practice (Church)
 - 7:00pm Online Zoom Meditation and Sharing
 - 7:00pm Indonesian CIC Choir Practice (St Paul)

- Saturday
9 December
- 10:30am Legion of Mary (Magnificat)
 - 10:30am MCAG Meeting (St Peter)
 - 11:00am Choir Practice (Church)
 - 12:30pm Catechist Lunch (Magnificat)
 - 2:00pm Organ Practice (Church)
 - 4:00pm Filipino Fellowship (Harrington Hall)
 - 7:00pm Filipino Community - Mae (Magnificat)

- Sunday Mass
10 December
- Second Sunday of Advent**
- 8:15am Children's Choir Practice (St Paul)
 - 9:30am Parish Choir Practice (St Paul)
 - 11:00am Parish Zoom Rosary Christmas Party (Magnificat)
 - 11:30am RCIA (St Peter)
 - 2:30pm Organ Practice (Church)
 - 3:45pm Mothers Group (Magnificat)
 - 6:30pm Cornerstone and Keystone Youth Group (Magnificat, St Paul, St Peter)

LUNAR NEW YEAR RAFFLE

PRIZES

TICKET \$10

1ST PRIZE: \$800 COLES GIFT VOUCHER
2ND PRIZE: \$200 WESTFIELD VOUCHER
3RD PRIZE: \$100 MOVIE VOUCHER

Tickets \$10 for 1
\$15 for 2 and \$20 for 4
All proceeds go to the Pastoral Works Fund

BUY YOUR TICKET BY CONTACTING THE
PARISH OFFICE OR AMELIA AT
CHATSWOODOFFICE@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU
02 9410 9000

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS

men ALIVE

**END OF YEAR
MEN'S MASS
AND DINNER**

WEDNESDAY
6
DECEMBER

MERCY COLLEGE CHAPEL
101 Archer Street, Chatswood

Mass: 6:30 PM
Dinner: 7:30 PM (besides church)
Food & Beverages supplied

Cost: \$25 Donation (No EFTPOS)
Further Details/RSVP 02/12/23
Peter: 0433 030 016 | Scott: 0406 512 425
Michael: 0410 226 787 | Rick: 0408 674 623

designed by Peter Sakazaki

Cultural Community Mass:

Filipino: 12:00pm, 1st Sunday
Spanish: 12:00pm, 3rd Sunday
Indonesian: 7:00pm, 3rd Sunday

Scan this QR code to donate to the first or second collection for our Parish.

Thank you for the many ways in which you already support our parish!



VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Are you free next Monday, December 4th?
Monday, December 4th, 1pm - 4pm

Volunteers are wanted to help make wreaths to decorate the church - we have 22 wreaths to make and decorate.

From 6pm onwards we would be grateful for any volunteers to help decorate the church in general e.g. putting up the wreaths, putting up the tree etc.

No experience necessary, just a joyous heart!

Any questions, please contact Ditas on 0405 999 510.

CANDLES



NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE CANDLES READY TO TAKE HOME

Thank you to all who purchased a remembrance candle for the month of November. Please feel free to now take your candle home - they can be found on the left wing of the church until the 10th of December. After this they will be moved to be used for Adoration.

Please note that previously it was noted that the candles could be collected from the front office - this is not the case now. Thank you for your help!

所以，你們要醒寤，因為你們不知道，家主什麼時候回來：或許傍晚，或許夜半，或許雞叫，或許清晨；免得他忽然來到，遇見你們正在睡覺。我對你們說的，我也對眾人說：你們要醒寤。 馬爾谷福音 13:35-37

So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!
- Mark 13:35-37

PIETY STALL

Put Christ back into Christmas!

How to do this? Let the Piety Stall help you!

- Send a nativity-themed Christmas card. Packs of 8 cards available at \$4.00 each. Loose cards from \$1.50 each.
- Advent wreaths available at \$35 each. Packs of tall nativity candles (3 purple, 1 pink) at \$10 each pack.
- Give your child a nativity ornament to hang on your Christmas tree. From \$4 each.
- Display a nativity scene in your home. Place an all-in-one very cute nativity set in your child's room. From \$7.
- Give a gift that lasts all year long. Columban religious art calendars, available at \$10.00 each.
- God's Word 2024 daily readings and reflections at \$18 each.



DONATIONS WANTED

Do you have any gift prizes that you can donate to our Chinese Lunar New Year celebrations?

We are currently seeking **large gift** for the raffle ticket prizes and **small gifts** for the Lucky Dip draws.

Gifts can be dropped off to the Parish Office on Monday - Wednesday from 9:00am - 4:00pm

from now until December 20.
Then again from January 10 - 31.

Donations towards celebration programs are welcomed and to Parish Working Account:

Chatswood Parish Working A/C
062-784
100001609
Ref: Your Name LYN donation

All funds raised for LNY 2024 will go towards the Parish's \$64,730 allocated contribution for the Pastoral Works Broken Bay Fund.

OUR PARISH CELEBRATION WILL BE ON 11 FEB 2024 AFTER 10:30AM MASS

Can you help to sell raffle tickets by taking home a book of tickets to sell to your community? Please let the office know! All help is gratefully received as we strive to raise money for the Pastoral Works Fund.



CELEBRATING PEOPLE WHO LIVE WITH A DISABILITY

This Sunday 3rd December is the International Day of People with Disability and at Our Lady of Dolours we are celebrating it with a Christmas party in the Magnificat room on Saturday for young people who live with autism, intellectual disabilities or other challenges. The Community Action team is hosting the party and will be supported by students from Pius and Mercy Colleges and anyone from the parish is very welcome. The party starts at 2.00 p.m. and Santa Claus is dropping in at 3.15 p.m. The International Day of Persons with a Disability aims to create an inclusive and diverse society. In Australia, 4.4 million people live with a disability and a third of those have a severe or profound disability. Among older Australians, nearly half live with a disability. One in ten people with a disability experiences discrimination which includes difficulty finding employment in jobs for which they have the necessary skills. One of the saddest kinds of discrimination is when children or adults stare or point or make comments which the person can hear and this is distressingly common. More frequently we look away. Let us resolve this Sunday to make eye contact with anyone we meet who has a disability and find a way to connect, despite the barriers.



- OLOD Community Action Group

ADVENT - A TIME OF WAITING AND PREPARATION

Presentations to Chatswood High School students

High School Catechists Deacon Roberto, Gillian Hawkins, Tony Almeida and Roberto Perez conducted presentations at Chatswood High School on November 8.

Students from Years 7 to 10 at Chatswood High School attended sessions on ways we can prepare for the important season of Advent. Students were encouraged to gain an insight to the social and religious situations of people living in the time before Christ, and their longing for the coming of the One who was promised.

Students explored readings of the prophet Isaiah and reflected on times they were waiting for something important to happen in their own lives. Presentations explored what Isaiah said about the coming of the Messiah and how we can prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

An Advent wreath with candles was displayed and the significance of the wreath was discussed, including how we can walk the light of Christ.

Many thanks to Deacon Roberto, Tony, Roberto and Gillian for their wonderful efforts with high school student presentations throughout 2023.

- Karen Forbes Catechist Coordinator



SINGERS WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS!



Our Parish Choir will be singing this Christmas for the Midnight Mass and 10:30am services. If you would like to sing at one or both of these, please contact the Director of Music, Titus Grenyer at titus.grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au. Please invite your singing friends, too! Rehearsals start this coming week, on Thursdays 5:30-7:00pm, and Saturdays 11-12:30pm.

OUR WEEK IN PICS



Congratulations to Hien for his ordination to Order of Deacons last Friday! Please continue to keep Hien in your prayers.



How beautiful are the decorations and lights that have gradually been put up? Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have helped out so far and a special thank you to Dom, Sally, Ditas, Henry who have been key to this!



A beautiful Christmas Assembly put on by Atarmon Public school - with thanks to our wonderful Catechists for their help and support of this!

CHRISTMAS GIFT SALE



The OLD Parish Gift Shop will have its Christmas Sale on Sunday 3rd December from 8am to 2pm in the Church foyer/forecourt. Be sure to drop by and browse - you'll be surprised by the unique array of gift items. Thank you to those who have been supporting the Parish Gift Shop since it started in March this year. All proceeds go back to the Parish to support its activities.

YOUTH GROUP

2nd and 4th Sunday of the month
Magnificat room 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

YOUNG ADULTS

1st and 3rd Sunday of the month
PEW garden 6:30 pm - 9 pm

@FOUNDATION_YOUTH_MINISTRY
FOUNDATIONYOUTHMINISTRY.OLD@GMAIL.COM



ING CHURCH
IN THE CITY

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS

Claremont Catholic Parish

INFO AT A GLANCE

Parish Support Team:

Parish Priest: Very Rev Dr David Ranson VG PP

david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au

Personal blog: davidranson.com.au

X (Twitter): @FrDavidRanson

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Joey Frez

joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Marek Woldan

marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au

Deacon: Rev Richard Houwing

Richard.Houwing@bbcatholic.org.au

Manager of Parish Operations: Olivia Lee

Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au

Receptionist: Diana Tinumbun

chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9000

Project Officer: Chloe Aylward

Chloe.Aylward@bbcatholic.org.au

Director of Music: Titus Grenyer

titus.grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au

Children's Ministry Coordinator: Angela Hague

angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9033

Pastoral Support Worker: Mona Saouma

mona.saouma@bbcatholic.org.au

Youth Minister: Bettina Ignacio

bettina.ignacio@bbcatholic.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Karen Forbes

karen.forbes@bbcatholic.org.au

Book-keeper: Amelia Lee

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



facebook.com/OLDChatswood



bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood

Want to receive the bulletin via
e-mail? Contact Olivia at
Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au



Regular Mass Times:

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 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7:30am• 9:00am• 10:30am• 5:30pm

The Magic of Christmas

Join us and sing along to your favourite Christmas songs, as we bring you an unforgettable evening filled with the spirit of the holiday season.

8 DECEMBER 2023
7PM

BOOK NOW



willoughbysymphony.com.au

TICKETS
from \$16.40 – \$75

VENUE
The Concourse
Concert Hall
Chatswood