

Sunday 30 November 2025
The First Sunday of Advent

Welcome!
Come and See! Come and Grow! Come and Serve!



Throughout the Season of Advent we light the Candles on our Advent Wreath
Our First Sunday— Hope for Those Who Wait

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

How long, O Lord, how long?

For those waiting for answered prayer:

Grant your steadfast patience.

For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:

Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.

For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:

Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.

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

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.

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!"

並在困厄的時日，呼號我，我必拯救你，你要光榮我。 聖詠集 50:15

Then call on me on the day of distress; I will rescue you, and you shall honor me. Psalms 50:15

Bringing the Light of Christ to the City: We Love; We Grow; We Serve

Come and See!

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9.00am—5.00pm

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Monday and Thursday

Mercy College Parent Engagement Coordinator
Annette Leahy: annette.leahy1@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Saturday evening Vigil Mass

7.30am (followed by Morning Tea on 1st Sunday of the month at the PEW café)

9.00am (Includes Children's Liturgy of the Word on 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays, except on long weekends), followed by Morning Tea on the forecourt

10.30am, followed by Morning Tea on the 2nd Sunday of the month, and Community Lunch on the last Sunday.

11.00am at St Peter's Green Aged Care Facility, North Lane Cove (Note this is for residents only)

5.30pm

Filipino Culture Mass
12noon, 1st Sunday of the month

Indonesian Culture Mass
7.00pm, 2nd Saturday of the month

First Friday of the month: 6.30pm—8.30pm Divine Retreat
Centre Healing Mass and Prayer

Weekday Masses and Devotions

Monday: 12.30pm
Tuesday: 9.00am and 12.30pm
Wednesday: 9.00am and 12.30pm and 6.30pm
(The Sacrament of Anointing: after each Wednesday evening Mass and after 12.30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month)
Thursday: 9.00am and 12.30pm
Friday: 9.00am and 12.30pm
Saturday: 9.00am

Morning Prayer: Tuesday to Saturday: 8.45am

Rosary
Monday: 11.45am (preceded by Divine Mercy Chaplet at 11.30am); Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am; Monday to Fridays: 1.00pm

Thursday Adoration After 9am Mass, followed by Rosary then Divine Mercy Chaplet ends at midday with Benediction.

Thursday Holy Hour with Exposition and **Reconciliation**
7.00pm

Saturday Morning: **Reconciliation** from 9.30am.

Come and See!

Dear friends

Welcome to a new year in the life of our Church as we commence the Season of Advent and enter our preparation of Christmas!

Last weekend on Bishop Anthony's directive we re-introduced at every Mass the Chalice with the Precious Blood of Christ available to everyone who wishes to avail of it. **This week we will make the chalice available on each side of the Sanctuary (rather than simply on one side).**

Regretfully, we have run out of all our copies of the wonderful Advent resource published by our Diocese. However, as week to secure some more hard copies, the resource is available online through the QR code here. **It is not too late to join one of our Advent Reflection groups being led by Deacon Tan on a Tuesday—either at 10.00am or at 7.00pm**

We have now been able to collate all the responses to the survey that we undertook a few months ago on the renovation of our church—a project that lies ahead for us over 2026-2027, with the hope that the project will be completed ahead of the International Eucharistic Congress taking place in Sydney in 2028. The full document with everyone's response can be found at <https://docsend.com/v/dbnpb/refreshing-our-church>

Access a digital copy of the Diocesan Advent Program here!



Over the last few weekends, we had the opportunity to participate in our **Parish Pulse Survey**—a wonderful way to measure the mood of our community life and which we wish to conduct at this time every year. There will be yet a further opportunity to participate in the survey this weekend too. There are printed surveys in the church which we can leave in the white boxes around the church. An online version is also available through the QR code here.

Through the month of November we have conducted an annual count of the number of people attending Mass in our church. **The outcome of this count has been 1485 average attendance each weekend.** This is an increase from 1444 when the count was last taken in May 2025. The ever-increasing number over the last years has been very encouraging and is testament to the vitality of our parish community.

During the week, we received news of the **permanent appointment of Mrs Brenda Timp, Principal of Mercy College, to the role of Catholic Schools Broken Bay Precinct Lead for the lower North Shore region.** In this role, Brenda will have responsibility for the development of the new co-ed K-12 Catholic School at Pymble, and oversight of the recent changes at Northbridge and Willoughby primary schools. We will miss Brenda's more immediate engagement with our parish which has been simply superb over the last five years. With grateful hearts we wish her all the very best in this new chapter in her educational leadership. We are delighted, however, that **Ms Melissa Murray, acting Principal at Mercy College has now been appointed in a permanent position as Principal of Mercy College.** We congratulate Melissa and look forward to our close collaboration with her.

We acknowledge the Cammeraygal People of the Eora Nation, custodians of the land on which our parish stands and we commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of national reconciliation.

As a Parish of Catholic Faith we are committed to ensuring always a community of safety and care for all especially for children, and those who are vulnerable.

Come and See!

Our Meeting Room Schedule This Week

Start Date	Start Time	End Time	Subject	Location
1/12/2025	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	Cenacle group Gathering	St Paul
	5:00 PM	9:00 PM	AET 7pm - 9pm Beta	Magnificat; St Peter; St Paul; Pastoral Plan
2/12/2025	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Advent Reflection	Magnificat
	10:00 AM	12:00 M	Bible Discussion group	St Paul; Pastoral Plan
	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	Parish Team Meeting (Tuesdays @2pm)	Magnificat;
	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	Breathe- Prayer & Support Group (St Pius)	PEW Garden
	6:30 PM	9:00 PM	Indonesian Legion of Mary [AET=7 pm]	St Peter; Pastoral Plan
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	Advent Reflection	Magnificat
	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Filipino Choir	Harrington Hall
	8:00 PM	9:30 PM	LOM Indo Gathering	Magnificat; Pastoral Plan
3/12/2025	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	Lifestyle English Conversation Programme (weekly)	Magnificat;
	11:15 AM	2:45 PM	Chinese ALPHA @1pm	St Peter, Magnificat; Pastoral Plan,
	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	AoF Meeting	St Peter
	6:30 PM	8:00 PM	CIC Indo Instrument practice	Harrington Hall
	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Exploring the Faith	St Peter
4/12/2025	9:00 AM	11:30 AM	Preparation- Seniors Morning Tea	Magnificat; Pastoral Plan
	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	Seniors Morning Tea @10-11.30am	Magnificat
	11:00 AM	4:00 PM	Playgroup Chatswood Parish [AET= 1-3 pm]	Magnificat; Pastoral Plan
5/12/2025	9:30 AM	11:15 AM	Meditation Group [AET 10am-11.15am]	St Paul
	11:15 AM	12:15 PM	Meditation- Morning Tea monthly	St Paul
6/12/2025	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Chinese RCIA Meeting	Pastoral Plan; Magnificat
	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	TG Music lessons	St Paul
	10:00 AM	12:30 PM	Legion of Mary @10.30am	St Peter
	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Infant Baptism Preparation Class @11.30am	Magnificat
	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	RM Family Pilgrimage @1pm	Magnificat
	1:30 PM	3:30 PM	Bible Study group - CCA + General	St Peter
	6:30 PM	9:00 PM	Indo Choir- Christmas Practice	Magnificat; St Paul; Pastoral Plan
7/12/2025	9:00 AM	10:30 AM	TG's Choir Practice	St Paul; Pastoral Plan
	10:30 AM	3:00 PM	Filipino Fellowship aft Mass [AET: 1-3pm]	Magnificat; Pastoral Plan
	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	PEW Giftshop Gathering	Magnificat;
	3:45 PM	5:15 PM	Mums' Ministry	St Peter
	4:00 PM	9:30 PM	Capstone Young Adults Group 6.30-8.30	Harrington Hall; Pastoral Plan
	6:00 PM	9:00 PM	Capstone Young Adults at 6:30pm	St Peter; St Paul; Magnificat

Note: There might be changes to schedules due to late bookings. Please check with parish office to confirm.

Upcoming Events in our Parish

Saturday	29 November	Evening Prayer at 4.45pm
	29 November—3 December	ACYF (Australian Catholic Youth Festival) in Melbourne
Sunday	30 November	First Sunday of Advent; Community Lunch after 10.30am Mass
Saturday	6 December	Forecourt Rosary at 3.30pm
Saturday	13 December	Parish Catechists Christmas Lunch
Sunday	14 December	Carols on the Concourse at 7.00pm
Tuesday	16—24 December	<i>Simbang Gabi</i> 5.30am Masses
Wednesday	24 December	Christmas Eve: Masses at 5.30pm; 8.00pm and 12 Midnight
Monday	29 December	Mass of the Holy Innocents for all those who have died through abortion

Come and See!

Our Church Schedule This Week

Monday	1 December	12.30pm	Monday of 1st Week of Advent
Tuesday	2 December	9.00am and 12.30pm	Tuesday of 1st Week of Advent
Wednesday	3 December	9.00am and 12.30pm and 7.00pm	St Francis Xavier
Thursday	4 December	9.00am and 12.30pm	Thursday of 1st Week of Advent
Friday	5 December	9.00am and 12.30pm	Friday of 1st Week of Advent
Saturday	6 December	9.00am	Saturday of 1st Week of Advent
Sunday	7 December	Usual Times	Second Sunday of Advent

Start Date	Start Time	End Time	Subject
1/12/2025	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	OLOD - Yr6 Graduation Liturgy Practice
	11:30 AM	12:00 PM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	11:45 AM	12:15 PM	Rosary (Cenacle MMP)
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12:30pm Mass
	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	Organ Lesson- Bernadette
2/12/2025	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12.30pm Mass
	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	OC Organ practice
	4:00 PM	5:30 PM	Organ practice: AH
	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	OLD Graduation
3/12/2025	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	Mass
	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	ROSARY & allow Mass to wrap up
	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	Copy: Evening Mass of Hope
4/12/2025	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	12:00 PM	Adoration and Exposition
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12.30pm Mass
	2:45 PM	3:45 PM	Organ Lesson: SC
	3:45 PM	4:45 PM	Organ Lesson: TL
	4:45 PM	5:30 PM	Organ Lesson: AH
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	Holy Hour Adoration
5/12/2025	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	Organ practice- AS
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12:30pm Mass
	6:00 PM	10:00 PM	First Friday Mass & Devotions - DRC
6/12/2025	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Exposition, Reconciliation, Rosary, Benediction.
	11:00 AM	12:30 PM	TG's Choir Practice
	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	RM Family Pilgrimage @1pm
	2:30 PM	3:00 PM	Youth Pilgrimage, Normanhurst Parish (Private prayer only)
	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	Copy: Reconciliation First Saturday Rosary
	4:30 PM	5:30 PM	Vigil Singer Bookings
	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	5:30 Vigil Mass
7/12/2025	7:30 AM	8:30 AM	7:30am Mass
	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	9:00am Mass
	10:30 AM	11:30 AM	10:30am Mass
	2:30 PM	4:00 PM	Organ practice: AH
	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	5:30pm Mass (Youth Mass 1,2,3,4)

Communicants guide to receiving Holy Communion

Preparing for Mass

In preparing to receive Christ in the Eucharist, you should consider:

- Have I interiorly prepared through prayer?
- Would the Sacrament of Reconciliation assist my preparation?
- Have I maintained the Eucharistic fast for one hour before receiving, except for water and medicine?*

**The elderly and infirm, along with those who care for them, are not bound to the Eucharistic fast.*

Communion Procession

The act of processing forward to receive the Body and Blood of Christ is an important symbolic action, reminding us that we are a pilgrim people, while also uniting us as the one Body of Christ, journeying together. It is important, therefore, to remember that receiving the Body and Blood of Christ is not an isolated action, but rather part of a unifying ritual. In this regard, you should consider:

- Ensuring your actions allow the dignified and unifying pilgrimage as the Body of Christ, toward the Body of Christ. This includes singing the Communion Hymn, while processing.
- Being aware of your personal and valid choices as a communicant, that they do not disrupt the flow of the procession, or the ability of others to make their own choices.
- Leaving enough space between yourself and the person in front of you.
- As a sign of reverence to the Blessed Sacrament, gently bow – not genuflect – as you approach the Minister of Holy Communion.

Receiving the Body of Christ

When receiving the Body of Christ, the common posture in Australia is to stand; however, the communicant can choose to kneel, as long as they are aware of their surroundings and do not impact the reverence and safety of others. As you come forward to receive and gently bow, the Minister holds the host up to your eye level and says the words, **“The Body of Christ”**, allowing you to reply **“Amen”** before receiving.

It is the communicant's choice whether to receive on the hand or on the tongue. Both are acceptable, and both should be done with reverence, respect and care.

Receiving on the hand

Place your hands out in front of you, with your dominant hand under your less dominant hand.

Hold your hands still and open. Keep your fingers out of the way, allowing the Minister of Communion to place the host on your hand.

Do not pluck or grab the host.

Once you receive on the hand, step to the side and consume the host while in the presence of the Minister.



Receiving on the tongue

After responding **“Amen”**, open your mouth and gently extend your tongue out towards the Minister of Communion, so that they may place the host on your tongue. Please do not lower or bow your head while receiving on the tongue.

Once the host has been placed on your tongue, slowly draw your tongue back into your mouth to consume the Body of Christ.



Receiving the Blood of Christ

If the chalice is being offered at Mass, a communicant can choose if they wish to receive the Blood of Christ.

In the same manner which you approach the Body of Christ, bow gently as you approach the Minister, who will say **“The Blood of Christ”**, and you respond **“Amen.”**

Take the Chalice in your hands as you would normally take a cup, and raise the Chalice to drink as normal, one sip is sufficient. Then carefully hand the Chalice back to the Minister.



For further reflection in relation to our participation in the Celebration of the Eucharist, click the QR Code to read Bishop Anthony's 2025 Pastoral Letter to the Community of the Church in Broken Bay, **“The Mystery of Faith: Encountering Jesus Christ in the Eucharist”**



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY

Come and See!

Love God

Mark 12:30

Worshipping together



Liturgy & Music

Leading reflective lives



Prayer & Spirituality

Growing in faith



Catechesis & Pathways

Caring for one another



Support & Visitations

Animating our future



Planning & Strategy

Igniting young hearts



Inception & Formation

Caring for our World



Ecology & Social Justice

Sustaining our community



Administration & Stewardship

Nurturing relationships



Community & Family

Sharing the Good News



Mission & Evangelisation

Love One Another

John 13:34

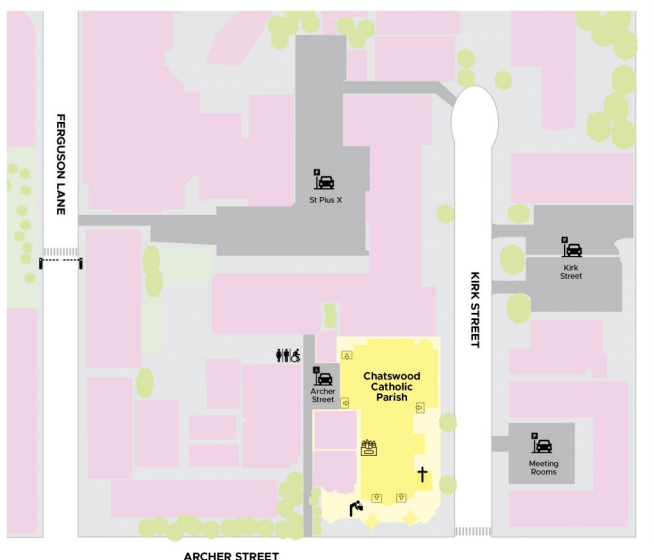
Go Make Disciples

Matthew 28:18-20

Supporting our Parish Financially

Donation for	Description	BSB	Account Number
Clergy Giving (First collection) (support for Clergy)	Chatswood Parish Pastoral Revenue A/C	062-784	100001606
Parish Giving (2nd collection) Planned Giving by EFT & general donation to Parish (support for Parish operation)	Chatswood Parish Working A/C	062-784	100001609

Parking at our Parish



Sustaining our community



Administration & Stewardship

Come and See!

**Our Parish church is designated as
a Shrine of Hope for Young People
during the Year of Jubilee.**

Friday	21 March 5.30pm—7pm	Students from Central Coast Catholic Schools
Saturday	5 April 9am Mass	50 Young Adults from Hornsby Parish
Monday	7 April	Parish group from Toukley-Lake Munmorah
Tuesday	8 April 10.30am - 1.00pm	Parishioners from St John the Baptist Woy Woy
Thursday	10 April	Parish group from St Monica's Parramatta Diocese
Saturday	26 April—afternoon	Young Adults from Parish of Manly-Freshwater
Friday	9 May—11.50am-12.30pm	70 Students from Redfield College
Monday	12 May at 10.30am	Students from Tangara School for Girls
Sunday	24 May—afternoon	Young Adults from around our Diocese, walking from Lindfield
Friday	6 June 10am –11.30am	80 Staff from St Brigid's College, Lake Munmorah
	6 June 1.00pm—2pm	120 Staff from St Peter's College, Tuggerah
Thursday	19 June, 11.30am—1.00pm	45 x Stage 3 Students from St Thomas and St Philip Neri, Willoughby
Saturday	28 June, 11.30am	Parishioners from Parish of Wyoming
Tuesday	5 August 11.30am,	30-50 Homeschool children
Thursday	14 August at 10.30am	School leaders from St Mary's Manly
Saturday	30 August at 3.00pm	Parish group from Warringah Parish (Dee Why)
Saturday	13 September 12.30pm	Parish Group from Hornsby Cathedral Parish
Saturday	27 September 2.00pm	Youth Group from St Agatha's Parish Pennant Hills
		Western Sydney Catholic Chinese Community Youth Group
Tuesday	30 September 11.30am	Diocesan Parent Engagement Coordinators
Thursday	9 October 12.30pm	Parish group from French's Forest Parish
Wednesday	15 October, 9.30am	Wyong Parishioners
Friday	24 October 11.30am	Staff of Schools of Lower North Shore Parish
Tuesday	28 October 10.00am	Students from Holy Spirit Primary School, North Ryde
Saturday	8 November	Parishioners from St Patrick's East Gosford, 10.30am
		Parishioners from Epping/Carlingford at 2.00pm
Sunday	9 November, 2pm	Parish group at St Felix's, Bankstown
Thursday	13 November, 1.30pm	Parishioners from the Parish of Pittwater
Friday	14 November	Students from Holy Family Primary School Lindfield, 10.30am-11.15pm
Saturday	15 November	Parishioners from Parish of Manly-Freshwater, 9.00am
		Parishioners from the Parish of The Lakes, 10.30am
Saturday	22 November	Catholic Indonesian Community
		Youth and parents from Wyong parish
Saturday	29 November	Legion of Mary 4.15pm
Saturday	6 December	Molinaro Family Pilgrimage
		Youth Group at 2.30pm
Monday	15 December at 10am	65 Staff from St Joseph's Catholic College, East Gosford

Come and See!



Last Saturday, 22 November, our Indonesian community spent a day on pilgrimage visiting the shrines of jubilee in our Diocese. They started very early to visit all four and concluded by returning to Chatswood: Shrine of Hope for Young People!



During the last week we were also visited by student pilgrims from St John's the Apostle in Narrabeena.

Come and See!

A Note from our Youth Ministry on our Recent Raffle

On the 16 November, our youth ministry team drew the winners of the 2025 Youth Fundraising Raffle. The winners are below. If you have won, please collect your prizes from the office.

Lisa Mitchell - \$150 Amazon Voucher

Moula Chi - Smart Telescope

Fanny - Hamper

Rosa yip - The Butchers Friend Twin Wine Bottle Chess and Backgammon Set

Fanny - Targus Protective Slipcase for laptops

Jose - Image of the 'Black Madonna' from Czsetochowa

Monica - Premium Matcha Whisk Set

Unfortunately, we didn't get everyone's full names, but we do have their phone numbers so we can ensure the correct people claim the prizes.

From our Pew Gift Store Beautiful Gifts for Sale brought home from Medjugorje



The transformation of the northern side of our church in the last week

Come and See!



LAST FREE COMMUNITY BBQ FOR 2025

We Love. We Grow. We Serve

Why do we do this each month?

Well, yes it's nice to bring parishioners together and strengthen the bonds between us but more importantly, we are laying the foundations for being what our mission says, the face of Christ to the City.

Our Community Lunch is for everyone! Any who are feeling a bit short of companionship, a bit isolated in this frenetic world, or who feel like outsiders in a community that doesn't care about them.

Think about who in your work or social circle or your family or among your friends could do with a bit of love, a bit of warmth or just a friendly meal and invite them along. That is bringing the face of Christ to the city.

Let's do it!!!

**Sunday,
30th
November**

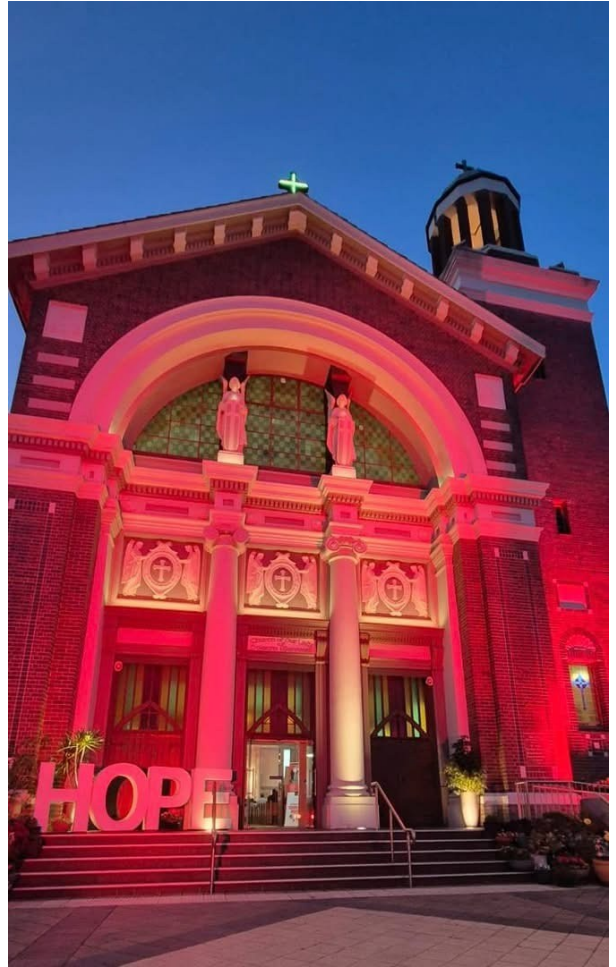
Our Lady of
Dolours
Church
Forecourt
From 11:30am



Come and See!



Come and See!



To all our Parish Volunteers—

Your heart for service is a true blessing to the parish.

Thank you



Photos from our recent Parish Events

Left: Our wonderful Volunteers Appreciation Lunch last Sunday 23 November in Harrington Hall.

Above left: Our parish playgroup last week

Above: Photos from our recent Red Wednesday Mass on 19 November sponsored by the Church in Need, praying for all Christians who suffer for their faith.

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

30 NOVEMBER 2025

WALK IN GOD'S LIGHT. We do not know when Christ will come again in glory. Nor do we know the day of our death. This should not worry us. What is important is to live this day well by being respectful and loving towards each other and seeking to walk in God's light. If we do this, we will be ready whenever God calls us to eternal life.

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 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.’

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: / Let us go to God's house. / And now our feet are standing / within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**
2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there to praise the Lord's name. / There were set the thrones of judgement / of the house of David. **R.**
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace! **R.**
4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say: 'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of the Lord / I will ask for your good. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over; it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Mt 24:37-44

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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

STAY AWAKE!

Happy New Year! Today we listen to the Gospel according to Matthew for the first time on this first day of the new liturgical year, Year A. Matthew writes for Jewish followers of Jesus living in the mid-80s of the first century. We shall listen to this Gospel aware that Israelite-Jewish concepts permeate its presentation of the Jewish Jesus, so different from Mark or Luke.

The language of today's Gospel is very Jewish. It is drawn from imagery of the Old Testament—typical, as we shall see, of Matthew—and from a particular style of biblical writing called 'apocalyptic'. Tempted to take our selection literally; it is better and to think of it as 'theological-poetry'. The evangelist uses a familiar Jewish literary style of writing. Its basic theme is that, despite the evil and tragedies that surround people, God will save and protect those who are faithful, especially at that definitive moment of divine judgement at the end of time.

Jesus' injunction is to 'stay awake' to this moment—not to fall asleep or become disheartened by its delay. God will definitively act against evil and vindicate the faithful. Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder. We, too, must 'stay awake' and 'stand ready' to what will unfold in the year ahead and not be dispirited by all that seems negative, fruitless and disheartening. God's presence, the God who 'will be with us' will be revealed in the figure of the 'Son of Man'. This is a recurring theme in the Gospel and throughout this new liturgical year.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Come and See!



Christmas Eve Childrens Mass

All children who would like to be in the **Nativity play** at the 5:30pm Christmas Eve Children's Mass, Please come to the room where we hold

Children's Liturgy after the 9:00am Family Mass on

Sunday 14th December

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

There will be two further practises as follows:

Sunday 21st December after 9:00am Mass

Tuesday 23rd December in the Church at 2:30pm

Questions?

Contact Angela at: angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au

Come and See!



The Road to Bethlehem

A LITURGICAL PILGRIMAGE

Tuesday 2 December 2025

St Pius X College Chatswood Campus

Liturgy 1: 9.45am – 10.45am

St Pius X College, Mercy College, OLOD Parishioners,
St Gabriel's Castle Hill, St Edmund's Wahroonga and Parents

Liturgy 2: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Catholic Schools Broken Bay Primary Schools,
Pre Schools and OLOD Parishioners



Come and See!



Carols

at the Concourse



7PM Sunday

14 December, 2025



Chatswood Concourse

409 Victoria Ave,
Chatswood NSW

Building off the success of the inaugural *Carols on the Concourse* in 2024, Carols will return this year at 7:00pm on Sunday 14th December 2025.

There will be one joint choir rehearsal on Saturday 13th from 1-4pm at Our Lady of Dolours Church.

For those who are keen to join: please register through this link: <https://form.jotform.com/252998901634873> or QR code below.

The music can be collected from the Parish Office.

More Information:

titus.grenyer@bbccatholic.org.au



Come and Grow!

Advent Reflection Program



**A 4-week journey through Advent with
Deacon Tan Nguyen**

- **Dates:** Tuesday 25th November, 2nd December, 9th December, and 16th December 2025
- **Duration:** one hour
- **Time:** 10:00a.m or 7:00pm.
- **Location:** Magnificat Room, Kirk St Chatswood NSW 2067

All Welcome! No pre-registration required. Come any week to listen, pray, and reflect on God's Word for you this Advent.

Enquiries chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au
or 02 9410 9000

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS



END OF YEAR MASS & DINNER

WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER

Mass: 7:00 PM

HARRINGTON HALL

94 Archer Street, Chatswood

Parking available at Kirk Street (Former St. Pius X College Tennis Court)
(Opposite St. Pius X College)

Dinner: 8:00 PM till late

PEW GARDEN CAFE

94A Archer Street, Chatswood (Behind the church office)
(next to the Our Lady of Dolours Church)

Dinner and drinks will be provided

COST: \$25PP (CASH ONLY) RSVP by 03/12/25

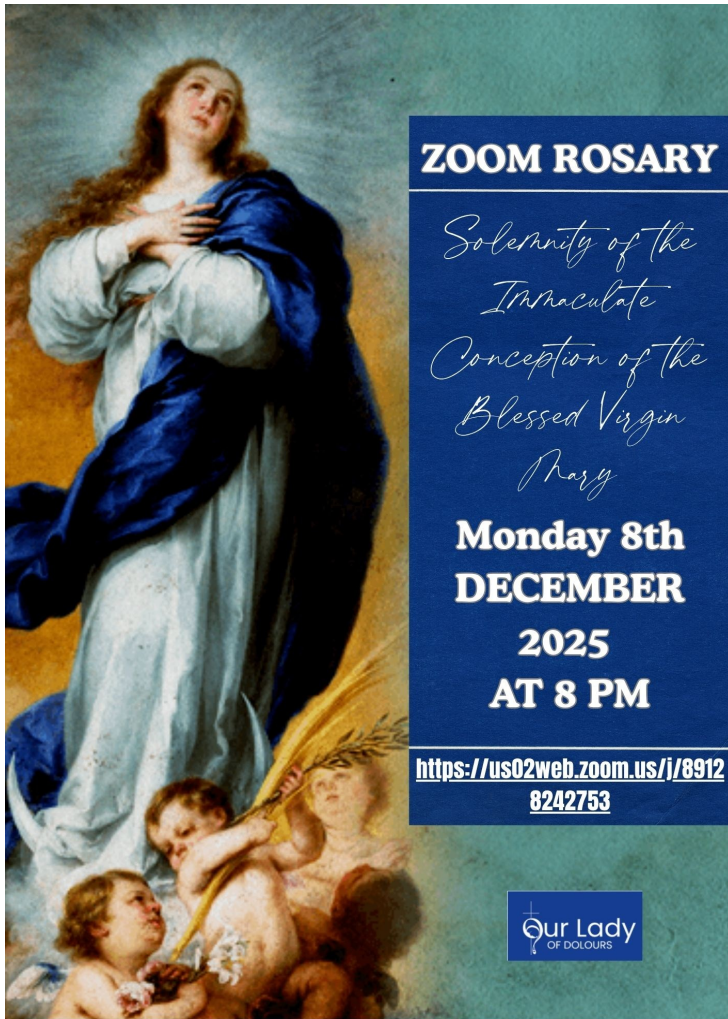
Peter: 0433 030 016 | Andy: 0400 355 251

designed by Peter Sakazaki



Our Tuesday morning Advent Reflection Group led by Deacon Tan has commenced. It meets each Tuesday through the Season of Advent from 10.00am. There is also an evening session at 7.00pm of a Tuesday. All are welcome!

Come and Grow!



From our Christian Meditation Group

Dear Friends,

Below, please find the video of Fr Richard Rohr :: Thomas Merton :: non- dualism - which will be the Talks of 10 min each accompanying our last 3 Meditation session for 2025 on Fridays 28 Nov, 5 Dec and 12 Dec.

https://youtube.com/watch?v=l9_EHq3UO7I&si=6h19K2rD0boZ-xsX

Our last Meditation session for 2025 will be on 12 Dec, followed by p lunch together - details to follow.

After annual recess. we will restart on Fri 6 Feb 2026.

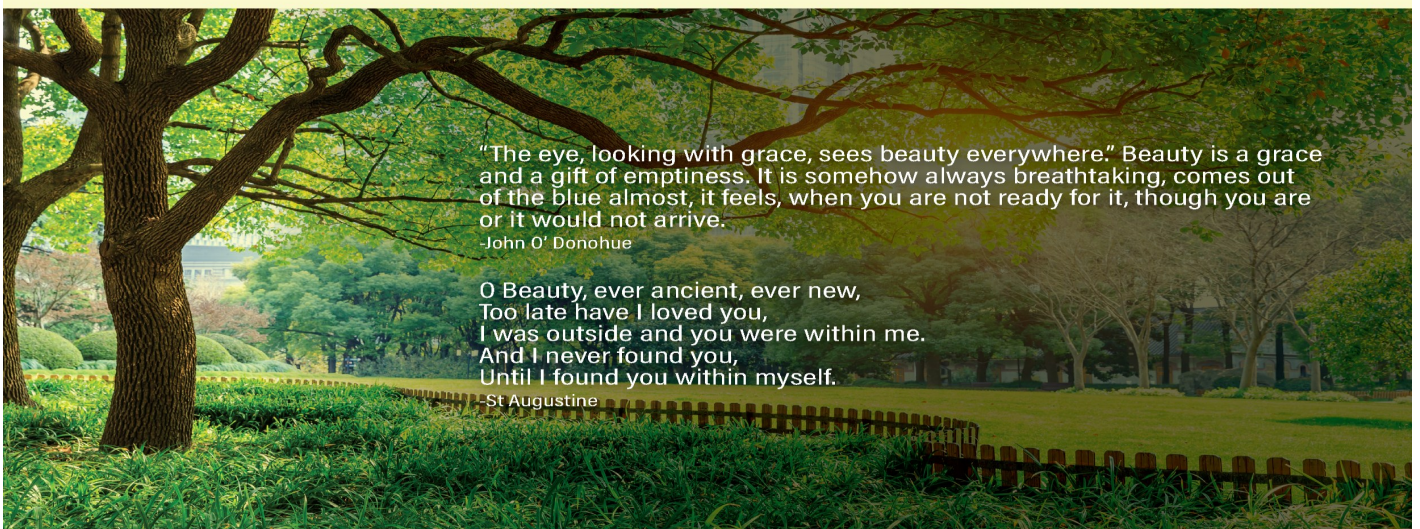
Grateful thanks for all your support as we finish another year of contemplative life long journey together.

Peace,
Meditation Group OLOD Chatswood
Jon N

MEDITATION GROUP OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHATSWOOD

The World Community for Christian Meditation

International Website: www.wccm.org | Australian Website: www.wccmaustralia.org.au



ALL WELCOME Begin your Christian Meditation Journey with us!

Meditation & Sharing on Fridays : ***Face to Face** at 10am (St Paul) | ***Online Zoom** at 7pm
Meditation Group OLOD Chatswood | **Enquiry:** Jon N. - email jnnurman@yahoo.com or sms 0439 449 554

Come and Grow!



FIRE UP MINISTRIES

how to date with passion & purpose

SUNDAY • 7TH DEC 2025 • 5:30 PM

Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church
94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067

PROGRAM

5:30 Holy Mass
6:30 Dinner
7:30 Talk
9:00 Compline



**Presented by
Simon Carrington**

Come and Serve!



Carols ON THE CONCOURSE

We're looking for **volunteers** to help bring to life the joy of Christmas with our Carols at the Concourse to help make it a wonderful experience for all!

Available roles are:

- Crowd Direction: Guiding attendees to seating and key areas.
- Resource distribution: Handing out programs or other materials.
- Event set-up: Assisting with light preparations before the event.
- Warm welcome: Being a smiling, approachable presence to help everyone feel the joy of Jesus in this season.

When: 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Date: Sunday 14th December 2025

For more info contact Dee 02 9410 9035
chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au
or scan QR code to sign up!



Following our wonderful 8th session of Parish-in-Council on Saturday 25 October, a number of our facilitators gathered with our Animation Circle last Monday 25 November to reflect and learn on the experience.

We will be able to share the outcomes of the Parish –in–Council in the coming weeks.

Join our Kirk St Community Garden Group!



Caring for
our World
Ecology &
Social Justice

Meet every Thursdays 1–2pm and
Saturdays 10–11am

Call: 02 9410 9000
Email: jokaraolis1@bigpond.com

Come and Serve!

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2025

OLD Vinnies Summer Appeal will be held next weekend. We report monthly on our activities, our November report is also in this bulletin. Since our Winter Appeal, OLD Vinnies i.e. we/you, have helped some 95 both families/single persons (cases) who sought help. We expended some \$13000. These figures are well above average. We are seeing a trend for more cases to be complicated with DV, mental health, children with disabilities and effects of drugs. So far we have not had to turn away help seekers but resources, both material and human, are strained.

Our main resource is from our Appeals. For our last Winter Appeal you generously gave \$9000. All donations to the Appeals goes to help our local cases. Shortfalls are being filled mainly from surpluses in the local region, Bunnings BBQs and poor boxes.

Vinnies is an international organisation and OLD Vinnies provides limited support to 5 overseas conferences in Indonesia and Thailand which are thankful. What your support does, apart from material help, shows Christian Charity at work and Catholic Witness. We hope that you will continue to generously support our neighbours in need next weekend.

Appeal is also for more people to help in this work. If interested please contact El at El.Herlianto@vinnies.org.au or John on 0439783956



VINNIES CHATSWOOD CHRISTMAS HAMPERS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Can you help us spread the joy of Christmas
by delivering Christmas hampers to our local
households in need?**

**Are you available for a few hours any day(s)
between Saturday 20th December – Monday
22nd December?**

Please put your name down on the sign-up
sheet found at the back of the church or
email el.herlianto@vinnies.org.au

Ability to safely carry up to 10kg useful

**Caring for
one another**



**Support &
Visitations**



Vinnies

**GOOD GOES
FURTHER
AT VINNIES**

**VOLUNTEER TODAY
CHATSWOOD**

**HELP US CREATE A SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITY AND PLANET**

Volunteering with Vinnies is a chance to give back to
the community, share your skills, develop new ones and
make new friends. We have roles for everyone.

EMAIL retailvolunteering@vinnies.org.au

VISIT vinnies.org.au/shopvolunteersnsw

ASK instore or **SCAN** the QR code below



Come and Serve!

CCD Annual Catechist Mass 2025

The annual CCD Catechist Mass takes place on Saturday 22 November at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral at Waitara. On this special day we remember deceased catechists who dedicated many years teaching Catholic religious education lessons at public schools within our parish.

Rose Ceremony: for deceased Catechists - may they rest in peace:

Maria Fernandez
Maria La Greca
Terry Livermore
Terry Meagher

CCD List of Service Awards / Certificates for Chatswood: for presentation at the CCD Mass on 22 November

This year it's wonderful to see so many Chatswood Catechists receiving Special Religious Education Training Certificates and Service Awards for teaching Catholic education lessons at our public primary schools: Artarmon, Castle Cove, Chatswood, Mowbray, Roseville and Chatswood high school. It's very special for Pressy Braganza and Cecilia O'Connell to be receiving Papal blessings for 20 Years of Service, and for Gillian Hawkins to be receiving her 15 Years of Service award. A terrific achievement from Lei Davoren who is receiving her Diploma in Special Religious Education.

Name	Service Award or Training Certificate
Preciousa (Pressy) Braganza	20 Years of Service (Papal Blessing)
Cecilia O'Connell	20 Years of Service (Papal Blessing)
Gillian Hawkins	15 Years of Service
Lei Davoren	Diploma of SRE: Chatswood & Epping parishes

It's wonderful to see so many Catechists receiving 5 & 10 Year Service Awards!

Name	Service Award or Training Certificate
Nenita Axalan	5 Years of Service
Rita Hung	5 Years of Service
Kaini Kashipri	5 Years of Service; Level 1 Certificate
Eva Lim	5 Years of Service; Level 1 Certificate
Virginia Purpura	5 Years of Service
Jeanette Cowell	10 Years of Service
Chrystal De Croos	10 Years of Service
Maria Paino	10 Years of Service; Level 2 Certificate
Su-Lin (Su) De Souza	Level 1 Certificate

Congratulations to you all, may God continue to bless our Catechist team!

Karen Forbes
CCD Catechist Co-ordinator – Chatswood Parish

Come and Serve!



Come and Serve!



Representatives of our Parish at the recent Sydney Alliance General Meeting

Dignity Pro-Life Alliance

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

It sometimes happens that a baby survives an attempted abortion and is born alive. What do you think should be done to the baby??

Existing health regulations prescribe that no aid or care is to be extended to this baby and it is simply to be left aside until it dies. There is a cruel logic in this procedure for the intention was that the baby be killed by abortion. So leaving the baby to die is a result that satisfies that intention. Yet this only serves to highlight the ugly and evil nature of abortion. When the baby is born alive we see the living human being that was the intended victim of abortion. Every abortion follows the same path – the destruction of the unborn baby and its disposal as medical waste even if in vast majority of cases we do not see it as we would if it survived the attempted abortion and was born. This is the horrendous nature of abortion which we seek to overcome.

Please assist us in this endeavour by joining our Dignity Pro-life Alliance and supporting efforts to uphold both the dignity of the unborn baby and of the mother. To register your support email prolife@gotomary.com or phone Cecilia on 0466961240 or Peter on 0413270261. Also you might like to join the Pro-life Rosary via Zoom every Thursday at 8 pm, ID 8034195601 to add your prayers for the intention of life.



Around and About

Our Serra Association invite us to remember one of the bishops, priests and deacons in our Diocese in our prayer each day during December

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 Fr Paul Finucane	2 Fr Paul Durkin	3 Fr Bogdan Skupien	4 Fr Chima Ofor	5 Fr Marek Wol-dan	6 Fr Joshi Nadup-pura	7 Fr Philip Thottam MSFS
8 Fr Grzegorz (Greg) Skulski	9 Fr Bronislaw (Bronek) Pie-	10 Fr Ryszard (Richard) Sa-	11 Fr Zygmunt Smigowski SDS	12 Fr Bill Stevens	13 Fr Harry Kenne-dy	14 Fr Stephen Ham-ilton
15 Fr Rex Curry	16 Fr Jack Robson	17 Fr Stan Skibicki	18 Fr Robert Bro-gan	19 Fr Geoff Bugden	20 Sr Marea Ross rsj	21 Sr Josefa Mabini OSA
22 Seminarians Shayne D'Cunha	23 Seminarians Matthew French Tan Nguyen	24 Seminarians Victor Atuhura Huy Tran	25 Fr Robert Craw-ford	26 Sr Ann Duncan rsj	27 Fr Carmelo Sci-beras	28 Fr Jim Tierney
29 Fr Clem Hill	30 Fr Terry Johns	31 Sister Damian Lai				



CATHOLIC
PARISH OF
LOWER NORTH SHORE



Healing Mass

Fr. Justin Torres, OATH

Oblate Apostles of the Two Hearts of Jesus and Mary

In honour of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Father Justin will lead us in a grace-filled celebration of the Holy Eucharist, followed by prayers of healing, discernment, and blessing through the loving intercession of Our Lady.

12th December 2025
Friday, at 9:00 AM
St Thomas' Church, Willoughby

Come with an open heart and bring your intentions, your loved ones, and all who need the tender mercy of Christ, the Divine Healer.

May this feast day be an encounter with hope, healing, and the maternal care of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

"Am I not here, I who am your Mother?"
 — Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego





THURSDAY 11 - SUNDAY 14
DECEMBER 2025
COBBITTY, NSW

YOU'RE INVITED

RECEIVE THE POWER AND BE MY WITNESSES

ACTS 1:8



iWitness is an annual Catholic young adults conference in Sydney. Through inspiring talks, uplifting worship, and the sacraments, participants are invited to grow in faith, deepen their love for God, and be renewed in spirit.



iwitnessaustralia



iwitnessaustralia.com

Please Remember in our Prayer

For those recently deceased

Helen Orban; Tranquilla Stranges; Fong Wang; Gerard Say; Albert Wong; Fulvio Cogrossi; Victoria Balcanao; Braulio Dela Fuente; Almira Aurora Sabulao; Tom Rowan; Aljoša Žuvela; Ada Otero; Amir Siburian; Minnie Walshe.

For those who are sick:

Ely Herft; Augustine D'silva; George Lo; Catherine M Chan, Mirjana Marinovic; Mellita Jones; Daniel West; Ying Leong Fong; Rosetta Lo Presti; Celine Robinson; Rafael Senedrin; Gina Marotta; Deysi Villanueva; Ervita Wiroatmodjo; Almira Christina Chen; Mary Oakley; Eugenia San Gabriel; Jim Dennis; Jeremy Moon; Ley Peng Tan; Lody Herlianto; Chet Catapang; Mila Fidel; Onni Wong; Victor Chun Kau Ng; Carmel Villanueva; Mr Gurung; Delfin Mendoza; Irene Margaret; Laila Haddad; Thomas West; Lucy Rodriguez; Gillian Hawkins; Sr Marie Dayton; Judith Ryan; Maria Taylor; Ban le Llamas; Sally Hawkins; Donna Fernandez; Allison Roberts; Zac Vlasic; Helen Coutts-Trotter (sister of Terry Meagher); Teddy Malapria; Kristen O'Loan; Mitch East; Victor Villanueva Herriquez; Johnson Siu; Joseph Bonnici; Bill Piper; Gerard de Leon; Carlos de Leon; Mary kin-Soon Ng; Bonnie Leung; John Triog and family; Esther Grant and family.

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Lydia Tan; Manuel Tan; John Kohr; Philip Ryan; Dayton family members; Vinko Cetinic; John Cetinic; Anthony Raffaele; Teresa Wang; James Biddell; Ellen Sunjaya; Valentine Erny Tjie; Warren Farr; Aida Freeman; Paul Truc Le; Margarita Tu Edgar Rodriguez; Silvio Ventura; Poi Suen Cheng Hui; Slava Julia Suplina; Maria Raffaele; Salud Rodriguez; Luz Rodriguez; Alipio Celedonio; Maria Cristina (Tina) Robinson; Chun Ying Cheng; Phoebe Montana; Kevin Bruce; Anunciacion Gadiane; Abraham Gadiane; Francisca Elnas; Marcos Elnas.

Wedding: George Saouma & Sadie Arida on Saturday, 29 November 2025 at 1pm.

Wedding Anniversary: Heinrich & Margaret Hamann (60th) – wedded in our church on 25th Nov 1965

Upcoming First Saturday Public Rosary: Saturday, 6 December 2025 at 4pm.

Our Altar Flowers this Week

Our Altar Flowers this week are in commemoration of Denis and Noreen Kelliher.

Flowers at Our Lady's Shrine are donated from a parishioner in Thanksgiving .



FLOWER DONATIONS

Would you like to donate flowers to adorn our church?

Honour a special occasion or remember a loved one with altar flower arrangements
Donations can be one-time or annual.



Suggested donations: \$130+ for standard arrangements, \$150-\$200 for fuller or specific flowers like roses.



Our volunteers, Irene, Cynthia, and Teresa, will beautifully arrange and place them by the tabernacle for Sunday.



Submit your donation at least one month in advance.
To reserve a date, contact Chloe at Chloe.Aylward@bbcatholic.org.au.

Pope's Prayer Intention for December 2025

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.