

*Sunday 4 January 2026
Epiphany*

Welcome!



聖言成了血肉，寄居在我們中間。 **若望福音 1:14**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. **John 1:14**



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

Come and See!

PO Box 1446
Chatswood
NSW 2057

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Monday to Friday
9.00am—5.00pm

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Personal blog: davidranson.com.au

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Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Hien Vu
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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!

Fr David's Homily on 1 January 2026 **A Reflection on the 2025 Year**

New Year's Day customarily is a day to look forward. The old year has closed; a new year has dawned. We tend to put a line under the old and begin the new afresh.

Today, however, I wish to do something different. I want to look back with you over the year that has been, reflecting on all that has occurred for us in the Year of Jubilee, signs to us of the Spirit's activity in our midst. It has been a very significant year, marked also by the death of Pope Francis on 21 April and the election of Pope Leo XIV on 8 May. It would be easy to turn the leaf of the page and move on without genuinely appreciating all that the Lord has done for us. It is indeed our memory that must be the foundation of those hopes that we bring into a new year.

Where do we begin? In January we welcomed Sienna Klarica as our new youth ministry officer. We farewelled Fr Joey in early February and welcomed Fr Hien. Deacon Kevin retired in June, and we welcomed Deacon Tan in September. Olivia Lee, our former Manager of Parish Operations, left us in early March, and we welcomed Kristha Mangahas in June as our new Parish Administration and Facilities Officer with Duyen Au a few weeks later as our new Parish Engagement Officer. At the very end of the year, we farewelled Brenda Timp as Principal of Mercy Catholic College and welcomed Melissa Murray as the new Principal.

In this year of Jubilee, over fifty pilgrimages have been made to our church as a designated Shrine of Hope, with the letters of HOPE boldly proclaimed at the front of our church, and the publication of a series of Lenten reflections made available on the same theme. Our own parish community undertook a pilgrimage to the other diocesan Jubilee Shrines in mid-June, having made a pilgrimage to the Philippines in February and to Rome, Assisi and Medjugorje in November. Central to the year has been the celebration with Bishop Anthony of the canonization of Carlo Acutis and Piergiorgio Frassati on 7 September, preceded by an evening bonfire novena on our forecourt, and the broadcast of an ABC podcast featuring our shrine. Bishop Anthony made public to us his hope for the status of our church as a minor basilica. A lasting memento of the year has been the commissioning of our long-awaited external Marian sculpture by Linda Klarfeld.

Through the year we came together three times as a Parish-in-Council in April, June and October, and brought our senior students from Mercy Catholic College and St Pius X College in Youth-in-Council in March and May. In November we introduced our annual parish pulse survey.

We began the initial stages of the project of restoration of our church with various feasibility projects completed, the opening of refurbished PEW store on 20 July, the installation of security camera system and subterranean drains and termite guard around the church in September.

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**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!

And many have been the events we have enjoyed: our monthly Sunday community lunches on the forecourt; our many online parish Rosaries; our Lunar New Year celebration at the beginning of February; the presentation by Monica Doumitt in early March; the commencement of the Hub of Hope circle for youth; the visit of Bishop Rene Ramirez, Auxiliary of Melbourne, at the end of April; our Timor Trivia Event in early May; the Parousia Unlock the Bible series over May-June; our Feast of Freedom, 21 June and our sponsorship of a Venezuelan refugee family, whose house we blessed 10 August; our inaugural Film Festival over August - September, and our inaugural Festival of Beauty in mid-September; the Children's Pray and Play Rosary on 7 October; our Footprints Mass in mid-October; the annual Red Wednesday Mass 19 November; our Catechists Gratitude Lunch on 12 October; the annual St Vincent de Paul Regional Commissioning Mass 1 November; our fundraiser for Cebu in mid-November; our Volunteers Thank you lunch on 23 November; and our Simbang Gabi Dawn Masses leading up to Christmas. And, of course, we cannot forget the memorable occasions of the Stations of the Cross on the Concourse on Good Friday, our participation at the Chatswood Fair and Street parade in early September, our Filipino Choir performing carols in Martin Place and our own Carols on the Concourse on 14 December. Soon after we came together in grief and prayer with our Jewish sisters and brothers with whom we had developed such strong friendships over the last couple of years, especially through the We Believe Series we shared together through the course of the year.

Woven through all this have been the many baptisms, Confirmations, First Eucharists, Weddings, Receptions into the Church, milestone birthdays, school opening Masses, musicals and graduations. Mercy Catholic College celebrated its 135th anniversary. We farewelled those who had made significant contributions to our parish family - Terry Meagher, Monica Cotter, Gerard Say and rejoiced in three vocations to religious life: Carlo Ho to Carmel, Launceston; Caitlin Geraghty to Nashville Dominican Sisters; and Bryce Gonlin for the seminary in 2026.

It has been an extraordinarily full year for which we can be truly grateful. Yet, I think at the heart of all this abundance of life has been the finalization of our Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Chapel which has now become such an embedded feature of the life of our church and parish. And for me, this is the singular enduring gift of this last year which we now take into the future. All through the day, and into the night, people come to pray before the Blessed Sacrament silently placing themselves before the Mystery of God's sacrificial love. I have been deeply struck by the way people have instinctively known when to open and close the cabinet which displays the Eucharist, and always by their gentle adoration. The chapel has made our church a silent oasis in the midst of our world's complexity and struggle.

This prayer of silent surrender before the Eucharist must be for us the key to the uncertainty of all that lies ahead. The year ahead is uncertain. Social and political forces are coalescing into increasing friction. And as I shared at Christmas, in the coming months many shrill voices will seek to command our context. Our responsibility will be one of genuine discernment in the midst of the cacophony. And we will only know the way through, and the way forward, through the stillness and invitation we are offered through our silence before the mystery of the Eucharist. Our key to the future lies in this: to be still, to listen, to discern, and to act with that love given to us in the mystery of the Eucharist.

It is Mary, our Mother - the one whom we celebrate as ever bringing forth new life - that keeps us faithful to this: she who, in the midst of all the uncertainty and fragility of her own context, pondered, treasured, and loved.

As we start this new year, with hearts so grateful for the life birthed in our community over the past year, may Mary, whose Motherhood given us at the foot of the Cross is the dedication of our church, lead us to this place of stillness from which alone the deepest possibilities of this future year will spring.

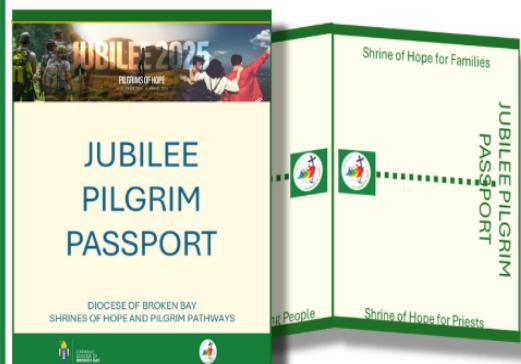


Come and See!



On Sunday 28 December, the Feast of the Holy Family, Bishop Anthony invited the parishes designated as Shrines of Hope during the 2025 Year of Jubilee to the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary, Waitara, to close the local Church celebration of the Jubilee. Special thanks to Tom Avanus who represented our parish of Chatswood with the relic of Carlo Acutis!

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR PILGRIMAGE PASSPORT?



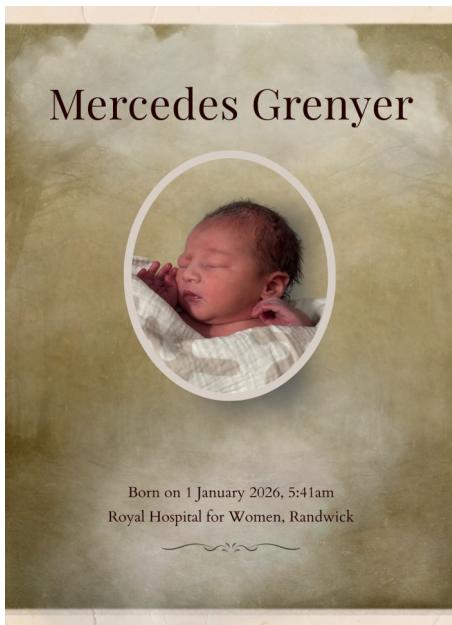
If you have all 4 Pilgrimage Site stamps on your Pilgrim Passport, don't forget to show your completed passport to your Parish Secretary. Your name will be recorded and a certificate of completion that will be signed by the Bishop will be arranged for you.

Check out how your parish is doing at:
<https://www.bb jubilee.com.au/pilgrimage-to-shrine/jubilee-pilgrimage-completion-leaderboard/>

**The 2025 Year of Jubilee concludes on Sunday 6 January
with the closure of the Holy Door at St Peters Basilica, Rome.**

For those who visited our diocesan Shrines of Hope through the Year of Jubilee, passports and certificates from Bishop Anthony are now available for collection in the church foyer .

Come and See!

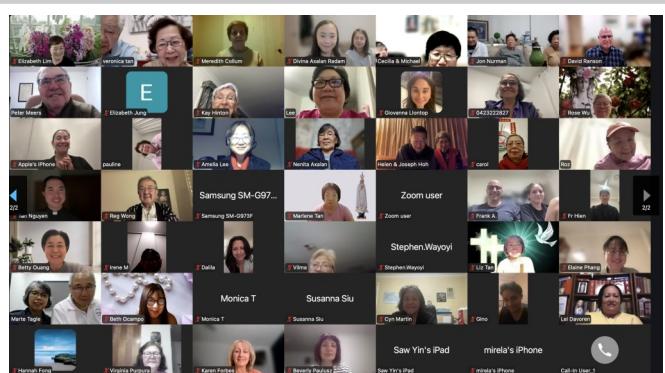
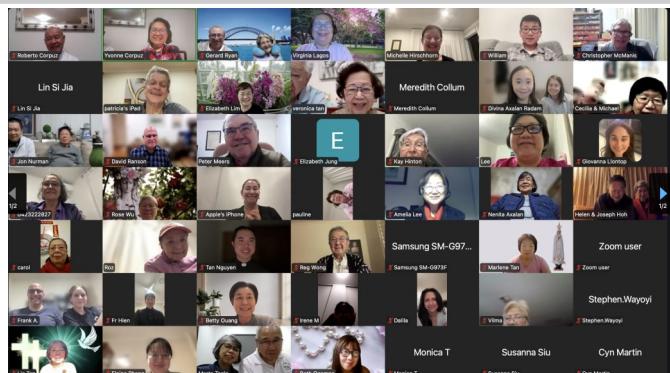


We have had some beautiful occasions of life in the last week. On 1 January 2026 just after dawn, Mercedes Grenyer was born into the world, a daughter to Kim and Titus, our Parish Director of Music!

And in this last week Roland and Daisy Freitas celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary! Ad multos annos!



On Friday 26 December we were joined by the Vietnamese Clergy and Religious for their annual Boxing Day Mass and Gathering.



Our Parish Online Rosary in honour of Mary, Mother of God, 1 January 2026.

Come and See!



On Saturday 27 December we celebrated our 5.30pm Vigil Mass welcoming the family and many friends of Bryce Gonlin whom Bishop Anthony has accepted as a student for the Diocese of Broken Bay at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd from the end of January 2026.

We thank Bryce for the many ways in which he has gifted our parish community over the last years, and we wish him God's richest blessings as he begins this new chapter in his journey of discipleship.

God of all calling and faithfulness,
we thank you today for Bryce Gonlin,
for the gift of his life, his generosity of spirit,
and the many ways he has shared your joy among us.
We give thanks for his years of service
among the young adults of this parish,
for his leadership, his friendship,
and for the music through which he has helped us pray,
hope, and lift our hearts to you.
Through his gifts, many have encountered your presence,
often quietly, often joyfully, always sincerely.
As Bryce now leaves this community
to begin a new chapter in the seminary,
we ask that you bless him abundantly.
Strengthen him with your Spirit
as he listens more deeply to your voice.
Grant him humility to learn,
courage to persevere,
and a heart ever attuned to the needs of others.
In moments of challenge or doubt,
remind him that he is not alone,
that he is carried by the prayers of this parish,
and by the faith of the Church he seeks to serve.
Shape him gently and firmly
into the person you are calling him to become.
We entrust Bryce to the loving care of Mary,
Our Lady of Dolours,
who knew both the cost and the joy of saying yes to God.
May she accompany him with tenderness and strength
as he walks this path of discernment.
And bless us, Lord, as we let him go—
grateful for what has been,
hopeful for what lies ahead,
and confident that the work you have begun in him
you will bring to fulfilment.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.



**JOIN US EVERY
SATURDAY AT 7.30 PM
TO PRAY THE ROSARY
FOR VOCATIONS.**

**[Https://Zoom.US/J/8034195601](https://Zoom.US/J/8034195601)
Meeting ID: 8034195601
No passcode required**

Enquiries: 0466 961 240

Come and See!



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

THE PRESIDENT

MEDIA RELEASE JANUARY 1, 2026

Statement from the President on the Bondi attack

President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Archbishop of Perth Timothy Costelloe SDB has issued the following statement in response to the Bondi attack:

"On December 14, our Jewish brothers and sisters gathered in Bondi to celebrate Hanukkah, a festival of light and hope.

"But their hopes for a peaceful celebration were shattered by the horrific violence unleashed against them.

"In the days and weeks following that dreadful day we have heard many times that 'there is no place for antisemitism here in Australia'.

"Tragically, we are now confronted by the terrible truth that there are dark places in our society where this most ancient of hatreds festers.

"The establishment of the Richardson Review into the adequacy of the policing, security and intelligence-sharing bodies charged with protecting Australians from terrorist attacks is an important step towards ensuring the attack of December 14 is not repeated.

"If there have been failures, they need to be identified and rectified quickly.

"It is important, however, to also name and confront the deeper roots and the extent of antisemitism in Australia and to propose ways to eradicate it.

"It is only by shining a light into the dark corners of our society - including its political, business, academic, media, religious, and cultural institutions - that we can hope to unmask the antisemitism which might otherwise go unseen, unacknowledged and unaddressed.

"For that reason, alongside the Richardson Review, some form of wider, national inquiry with sufficient authority and resourcing which can probe into the deeper issues which lie at the heart of antisemitism is needed.

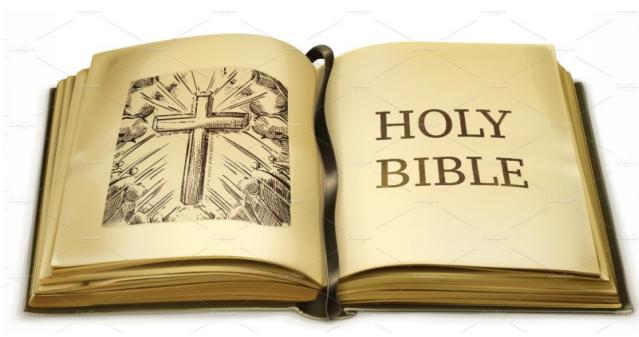
"A society that protects its Jewish community is a society that protects everyone.

"To fight antisemitism is to commit to a shared humanity in our country that seeks to 'advance Australia fair'.

"We must all work together to ensure that there is, indeed, 'no place for antisemitism in Australia' or for any other form of religious, racial or cultural hatred or persecution."



Come and Serve!



When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to His people, and Christ, present in His own Word, proclaims the Gospel.

GIRM # 29

Each time God's Word is proclaimed, we touch hearts and help community strengthen its faith.

Our Parish invites you to join this beautiful ministry of proclaiming Scripture during our liturgies at daily and Sunday Masses.

If you have a clear voice and a love for Scripture, you are warmly welcome to be part of this ministry. Training and guidance will be provided, so you can proclaim with confidence and reverence.

Please contact Ditas Naguit at bhnaguit@gmail.com or send her a text message at 0405999510.

Children's Liturgy



At 9am Mass

...supports parents in helping their child nurture their relationship with God and with their Catholic friends.

We need parents to support this important ministry by becoming a parent volunteer.

Please consider joining our team of parents who support each other in this role and grow your own faith friendships at the same time.

Volunteers are rostered on once per month during the school terms.

If you can help or would like to know more about what's involved, please contact Angela at the parish office on 9410 9033 or angela.hague@bbccatholic.org.au

Community Forum on Housing and Social Isolation

We are holding, in association with the Sydney Alliance of which our parish is a member, a Table talk on Saturday 17th January at 2.00 p.m. in the Magnificat Room to identify for our parish what are our preferred solutions to two major issues affecting our community and all of our society. They are the lack of affordable housing, especially rental housing, and the increasing social isolation of many individuals and groups in our society. Please come along and help us work out a position that represents the views of our parish and community.

We will then present these to a convocation of the Sydney Alliance as a whole. We are seeking political solutions achievable at the State level of government that are consistent with the needs and views of our community. These will then be the basis of an approach to the NSW Government in 2026 and to candidates in the 2027 State election. This is an opportunity for our parish and community to have a voice in political decision-making affecting matters of great social concern.

You can register by clicking here: https://events.humanitix.com/affordable_housing_chatswood

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD / A

4 JANUARY 2026

THEY OFFERED HIM GIFTS. For some Christians the feast of Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged. As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today's Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask: what precious gifts can we offer to Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Mal 3:1; 1 Chron 19:12

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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. P. Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You come in word and in sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You will come again in glory with salvation for your people: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

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

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy, that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. 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 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-13 R.v.11

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

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

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

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts / shall pay him tribute. / The kings of Sheba and Seba / shall bring him gifts. / Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, / all nations shall serve him. **R.**



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

SECOND READING

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 2:1-12

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.

We have come from the East to worship the King. After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people,

and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders
of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

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. Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these gifts of your Church, in which are offered

now not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but he who by them is proclaimed, sacrificed and received, Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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 OF EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

cf. Mt 2:2

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the
Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. 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

A UNIVERSAL CHURCH

Matthew's Gospel addresses Jewish/Israelite followers of Jesus living in troubled and confusing times in the later part of the first century. The Temple, the centre of Jewish religious life, is destroyed; Matthew's audience seeks confidence and direction anew. All it has is the Torah (the Old Testament teaching from the first five books of the Bible). The evangelist offers the Torah, the Jewish Scriptures, refracted through the teaching of Jesus, as foundational to engage their future with confidence.

Matthew is also aware that the future of the Jesus movement will have to be open to other peoples and cultures—like the missionary thrust of the Church today. Today's Gospel of the Magi following a star and seeking the birthplace of the 'king of the Jews' anticipates the Gospel's future universal growth. The Magi, perhaps Syrian astronomers, come seeking what they astrologically read in the cosmos, the one who rules over everything. But to know the exact place they also need the help of the Scriptures, offered by Herod's priests. These two aspects, science and God's Word, collaborate to give meaning and direction to the Magi's quest.

The star leads them to a *house*. Here they come to the end of their search as they worship the child Jesus and offer gifts worthy of a king. This third element, the domestic and household setting of the child's birth, adds a final dimension to a theologically rich story. Within our own local and domestic lives, we embark on a search to discover Jesus anew, assisted by the science of our world and the Scriptures that we treasure, listen to each Sunday and upon which we meditate.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Come and Serve!



Ready to make a difference?

Join our various ministry teams and help create a positive impact in our parish community! We have a number of volunteering opportunities depending on your availability and interests whether it be once a week, once a month or even once a year!



Areas to volunteer:

- Flower Arranging
- Gardening Group
- Catechists
- Mass Readers

- Morning Tea servers
- Welcomers
- Mass Announcers
- Visiting Elderly in Nursing Homes & Home-bound

- Library Maintenance
- Community Action Group
- Events set up crew
- Transport to mass



CONTACT DEE :



02 9410 9035



duyen.au@bbcatholic.org.au



Come and Serve!

HELP US HELP STREETWORK TO HELP
VULNERABLE YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

STREETWORK BBQ

PARISHIONERS NEEDED



TO BBQ AND SERVE

**NEXT EVENT ON: SATURDAY,
JANUARY 10TH, 8AM ONWARDS**

***** **INFORMATION** *****

Roles required: Barbecuers, servers, set-up and pack down any time between 8am and 4pm (2hr slots).



**Location: Bunnings Chatswood
For info contact Gillian : 0412 373 324
or Anthony: 0414 364 522**



Come and Serve!

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WITH THE SYDNEY ALLIANCE

Can't afford your rent?

Feeling isolated?

Concerned for your children
or grandchildren?

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION



COME ALONG TO OUR TABLE TALK

Take part in discussions and
solution-finding for two of the
biggest problems in our region

Lack of affordable housing

Loss of social connection

EVENT DATE

17
JAN

2.00 P.M.
OUR LADY OF DOLOURS
PARISH ROOMS
KIRK ST CHATSWOOD

Limited seats, free tickets here: or scan QR code:
https://events.humanitix.com/affordable_housing_chatswood

Come and Serve!

An Update from Mariza Sollano on the Cebu Fundraiser

Merry Christmas everyone!

Just a quick update on the fundraiser.

We cleared a net of \$13,009 across all the fundraising streams: cookie baking by my niece Daniela, gofundme, auction items, raffle tickets, dinner and some direct donations. We thank you sincerely for your kindness and support without which the relief efforts would not have been possible.

We split the relief into two: the water filters and food packages. We are joyful that a total of 250 food packages were distributed to families just before Christmas to earthquake-affected families in northern Cebu and to typhoon-affected families in Mananga Talisay City.

The Christmas food package for Typhoon Tino survivors in Mananga, Talisay City, included a single-burner stove so they could prepare their own food. For the earthquake-affected families in northern Cebu, their package was curated differently.

In their words: "madayon gyud ang pasko" (tuloy ang pasko or loosely translated Christmas continues) In a largely devout Christian region, Christmas means a lot to Filipinos, so the care packages, which will last each family well past Christmas, are appreciated.

The other half of the relief effort is the deployment of water filters. The first water filter was given to Batang Pinangga Inc, a residential orphanage affected by Typhoon Tino. The rest of the water filter deployments will be carried out in the new year once the volunteers from Safe Water for Every Child Philippines Inc have returned from their well-deserved break.

Our enormous gratitude for your support of the fundraising effort for Cebu.

We wish to thank the team in Cebu for their generosity in taking time off to make this endeavour happen and the team in Sydney who supported the fundraising. Between keeping our full-time jobs and getting this done, it is indeed a gift of the heart.

But we are not done yet. In January, the water filter team from Safe Water for Every Child Philippines Inc will get their work done and I will provide an update.

Have a lovely, safe, peaceful and joyful celebrations. Mabulahanong pasko sa tahan. A blessed Christmas to everyone.

Daghagh salamat! Thank you!

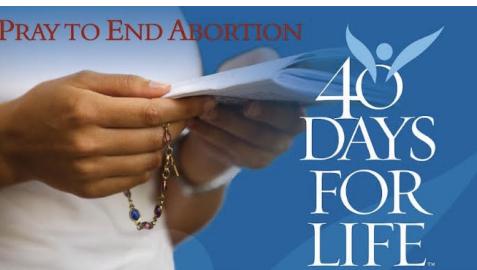


Around and About

Our Serra Association invite us to remember one of the bishops, priests and deacons in our Diocese in our prayer each day during January 2026

◀ December		January 2026					February ▶	
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
			1 Bishop Anthony Randazzo	2 Bishop Emeritus David Walker	3 Bishop Emeritus Robert McGuckin	4 Fr Colin Blayney		
5 Fr Stephen Hill	6 Fr Timothy Raj MSFS	7 Fr Alex Peter MSFS	8 Fr Vincent Lourduswamy MSFS	9 Fr Michael Belonio OSA	10 Fr Michael Sullivan OSA	11 Fr Jumbin Torres OSA		
12 Fr John Zhang OSA	13 Father Van Tu Nguyen OSA	14 Fr Robert Borg	15 Fr Jim McKeon	16 Fr Aldrin Valdehueza	17 Fr Vince Casey Fr John Hill	18 Fr Greg Chee OCD		
19 Fr Gerard Moran OCD	20 Fr Sunny Peacock OCD	21 Fr Restituto Ogismer cs	22 Fr Jose Aliro Gutierrez cs	23 Fr Savino Bernardi cs	24 Deacon Roberto Corpuz	25 Deacon Richard Houwing		
26 Deacon Adrian Gomez	27 Deacon Paul Simmons	28 Deacon Kevin Hale Deacon Kevin McGregor	29 Fr Ireneusz Czech SDS	30 Fr Brendan Lee Fr Anoop Devasia	31 Deacon Peter McCulloch			

PRAY TO END ABORTION



17 February Shrove Tuesday
KICK-OFF RALLY

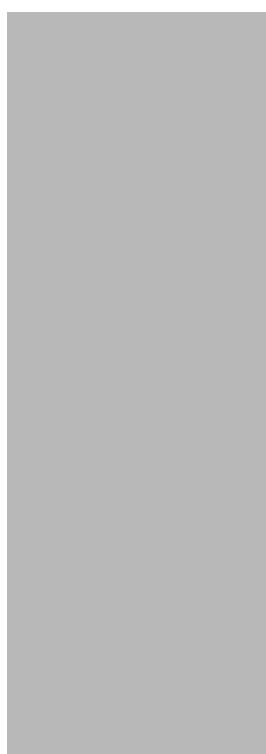
18 February Ash Wednesday
40 DAYS BEGINS!
Daily prayer vigils outside NSW Parliament House
6 Macquarie St, Sydney
Every Day 7am - 7pm
All Night Adoration for Life
Every Fri & Sat 7pm - 7am

29 March Palm Sunday
THE FINAL HOUR
Candle lit procession to Parliament House followed by Benediction and Victory Celebration.

Hosted by Family Life International (Aust)
ph: 02 9519 9111
mail@fli.org.au
www.fli.org.au

Sydney 2026
18 February to 29 March
REGISTER NOW! www.fli.org.au

Join the 40 DAY challenge
The 40 Days for Life campaign is history, where God used 40-day periods to transform individuals, communities, and the entire world! From Noah in the Flood to Moses on the mountain to the disciples after Christ's resurrection.
"... Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." Romans 12:11-12

Please join us
3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
8.30 TO 10.30AM

HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS
PARLIAMENTARY PRAYER VIGIL

A Life and Family Institute initiative
For more information contact
Paul Hanrahan 0402 320 217 or
Ambrose Button 0474 588 426




PRAY TO END ABORTION

Parish Information

Love God

Mark 12:30



Love One Another

John 13:34

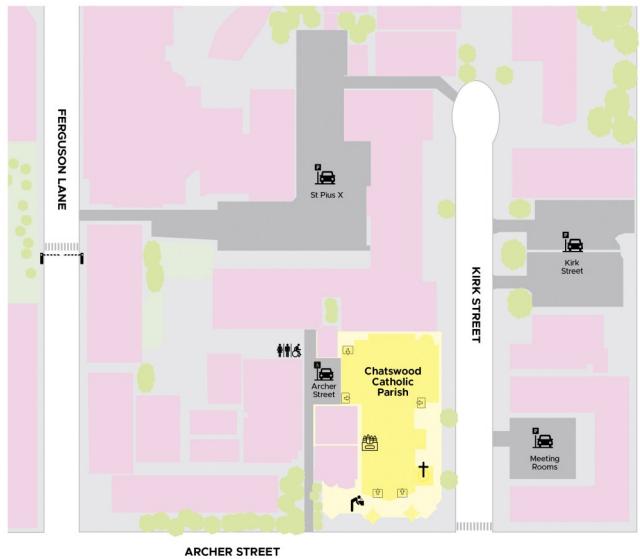
Go Make Disciples

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

Parish Information

Our Meeting Room Schedule This Week

Start Date	Start Time	End Time	Location	Subject
6/01/2026	10:00 AM	12:00:00 PM	St Paul; Pastoral Plan	Bible Discussion group
	5:00 PM	7:00:00 PM	PEW Garden	Breathe- Prayer & Support Group (St Pius)
7/01/2026	9:30 AM	11:00:00 AM	Magnificat;	Lifestyle English Conversation Programme (weekly)
	6:30 PM	8:00:00 PM	Harrington Hall	CIC Indo Instrument practice
10/01/2026	10:00 AM	12:30:00 PM	St Peter; Pastoral Plan	Legion of Mary @10.30am
11/01/2026	9:00 AM	10:30:00 AM	St Paul; Pastoral Plan	TG's Choir Practice
	4:30 PM	9:00:00 PM	Magnificat; Pastoral Plan	Cornerstone and Keystone Youth Group 6.30-8.30

Please note that there may be last minute additions to this table.

Please contact the parish office for any changes.

- **There will be no First Saturday Public Rosary in January**, it will resume on Saturday, 7 February 2026 at 4pm
- **There will be no First Friday DRC Healing Mass in January**, it will resume on Friday, 6 February 2026 at 7pm

The Solemnity of the Epiphany

On this feast Jesus is celebrated as the newborn king, foretold of old, and now revealed as the light of the nations. Matthew's account of the visiting Magi evokes, and thus declares fulfilled, both the Isaiah passage and the psalm. Indeed, it is the connection between these texts that led to the Magi being depicted as kings in art and nativity scenes. They are foreigners, and in them, symbolically, the Gentiles (the nations) are led by the light of the star to the newborn king; and falling before him they present their gifts to him, who is the gift to the world.

While the prayers of both Mass settings stress the light that is and comes from Christ, there is a surprise in the preface: it contains the first of only two instances of the phrase *lumen gentium* in our Missal, the second being in the preface of the Presentation of the Lord; there it is Christ himself who is titled "the Light of the nations", but here it is "the mystery of our salvation in Christ", and thus the Church herself, that is said to be "light for the nations". This is also found in the Communion antiphon at the Saturday evening Mass, in which the brightness of God illuminates the holy city, the heavenly Jerusalem, of which the Church is the earthly sacrament; the nations walk by God's light in this city.

In the Missal therefore we find reflected that ancient ambivalence by which all three—the kingdom, the city, and the king—may each be *the light to the nations*. This feast is indeed one of manifestation, revelation; but in pondering our mortal nature being united to Christ's immortal nature, we find that in the Church, the Body of Christ, people of all nations are blessed, and in her all nations bless him. The feast of the Epiphany of the Lord continues the reflection on the mystery of the Incarnation.

(From Liturgia)



Parish Information

Our Mass Schedule and church Schedule This Week

Monday	5 January	12.30pm	Weekday of Christmas time
Tuesday	6 January	9.00am, 12.30pm	Weekday of Christmas time
Wednesday	7 January	9.00am., 12.30pm and 6.30pm	7th Weekday of Christmas time
Thursday	8 January	9.00am, 12.30pm	Weekday of Christmas time
Friday	9 January	9.00am, 12.30pm	Weekday of Christmas time
Saturday	10 January	9.00am	Weekday of Christmas time
Sunday	11 January	Usual Times	Baptism of the Lord—The end of the Christmas Season

Start Date	Start Time	End Time	Subject
5/01/2026	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
	2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Organ practice SC (silent)
6/01/2026	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	10:30 AM	12:00 PM	Organ practice SC (silent)
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12.30pm Mass
	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	OC Organ practice
7/01/2026	6:30 AM	8:30 AM	Gardening (Sydney Garden Maintenance)
	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	Mass
	6:30 PM	7:30 PM	Copy: Evening Mass of Hope
	7:30 PM	9:00 PM	Organ practice SC (silent)
8/01/2026	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	9:30 AM	12:00 PM	Adoration and Exposition
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12.30pm Mass
	2:00 PM	2:45 PM	OC Organ practice
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	Holy Hour Adoration
9/01/2026	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	12.30pm Mass
	2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Organ practice SC (silent)
10/01/2026	9:00 AM	9:30 AM	Mass
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Exposition, Reconciliation, Rosary, Benediction.
	4:30 PM	5:30 PM	Vigil Singer Bookings
	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	5:30 Vigil Mass
	6:30 PM	7:00 PM	Rosary before Indonesian Mass
	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	Indonesian Mass
11/01/2026	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
	5:30 PM	6:30 PM	5:30pm Mass (Youth Mass 1,2,3,4)

Please Remember in our Prayer

For those recently deceased:

Tjoe Giok Tjoe; Apung Darma Sugandi; Pamela Crampton; Violet Joyce; Janet Namey; Mary Kin-Soon Ng (Elizabeth Chung's mother); Rogelio Torres; Tania Witts; Zhongyuan Jiang; Helen Orban; Tranquilla Stranges; Fong Wang; Gerard Say; Albert Wong; Fulvio Cogrossi; Victoria Balcanao; Braulio Dela Fuente; Almira Aurora Sabulao; Tom Rowan; Aljoša Žuvela.

For those who are sick:

Binnie (Marianne) Tan; Bruce Meppem; 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; Bonnie Leung; John Triog and family; Esther Grant and family.

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Max Fowler; Theodore Cowell; Mollie Curitin; Deceased members of the Curtin, Rolfe, Hughes and Egan families; Amparo Pua; Tuan Sheng Hao; Ruben Gacula; Christopher Dignam; Mate Bacic Fratic; Maria Vlatko Rulo; Mario Tan; Fausto and Sayone Enad; Dale Dazo; Lin Chunguang; Weng Haosong; Shi Ting; Agnes Press; Lydia Tan; Manuel Tan; John Kohr; Philip Ryan; Dayton family members; Vinko Cetinic; John Cetinic; Anthony Raffaele; Teresa Wang; James Biddell; Ellen Sunjaya.



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@bbccatholic.org.au.

Our Altar Flowers this Week

Our Altar Flowers this week have been donated to show appreciation for God's blessings and for the opportunity to remember our wonderful seminarians.



Pope's Prayer Intention for January 2026

In January 2026, Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention is for prayer with the Word of God, asking that it nourishes our lives and brings hope to our communities, fostering a more fraternal and missionary Church