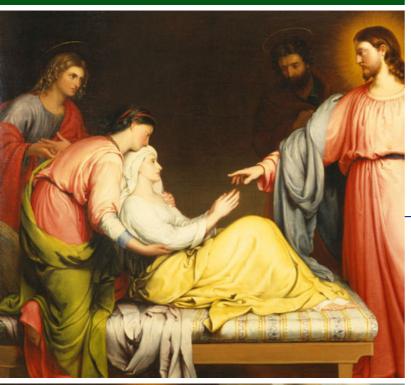


Parish Office: 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067 (02) 9410 9000 | Emergency: 0473 046 906 | PO Box 1446 Chatswood, NSW 2057

THE BULLETIN

4 FEBRUARY 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)





Healing Peter's Mother-in-Law by John Bridges

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another. This Sunday's Gospel - Mark 1:29-39

GLAD YOU'RE HERE

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

This Saturday from 10am we will be at the Chatswood Lunar New Year Street Fair! Come say hello to us on Anderson Street.

This week Fr Marek will be at all Masses to say his final goodbyes as he prepares to leave for Manly. We will miss you so much, Fr Marek!

Keep an eye out for Alpha and Metanoia faith formation programs starting next week – everyone, of all levels of faith, are welcome to attend.

This Saturday at 4pm we begin the Public Rosary! So come along and join us in prayer for the world.

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



FROM FR DAVID



Parish Priest

Dear friends,

This weekend we sadly farewell Fr Marek from our midst. Fr Marek takes up his new appointment at the Parish of Manly-Freshwater this coming week. Though Fr Marek has been with us but 2 years, he has endeared himself to our hearts in such a significant way. We thank him for his dedication, his generosity, his availability, his passion. In all things he has undertaken he has done with care, thoughtfulness, and commitment. And to the many pastoral initiatives in which he has been involved he has also brought to bear his fine skills in carpentry. We salute his passion for evangelisation that has been expressed by his dedication to our Alpha programmes, our baptismal preparation programme, our Foundations Youth Ministry, especially to our Capstone Young Adults group, his outreach to a number of our aged care facilities, our parish pilgrimages . . . to name just a few. As I mentioned at our beautiful farewell Mass and social last Wednesday evening, Fr Marek leaves us knowing that because of his presence our parish family is so much stronger for him having been with us. Thank you Fr Marek and God's richest blessings be yours as you assume this new challenge in your priestly ministry. We look forward to seeing you often back with us as occasion suggests.

Our new Assistant Priest, Fr Anselam Lakra will take up residence with us on Tuesday, and we look forward to introducing him in the coming weeks. Fr Anselam is a priest of the Diocese, originally from India. He joins us from the Cathedral Parish of Hornsby. In the weeks ahead, however, we have the responsibility of assisting the Parish of Lindfield-Killara each weekend until the middle of March. Both Fr Anselam and Fr Joey will attend to this need.

A couple of weeks ago, we were informed of a generous bequest to our community. The bequest was from the late Margaret Anne Demee, a former parishioner but who more recently was resident at Lourdes Village Killara. Margaret passed away in 2021 and generously left our parish the sum of \$67,000. This is of enormous advantage to us and we express our profound gratitude to Margaret and her family, committing ourselves to remember her in our prayer. The monies will be of particular assistance to us as we consider the capital works that we need to undertake this year.

Through last year we were able to refurbish our carpark on Kirk Street. With the start of the new school year, we have now entered a License Deed with Catholic Schools Broken Bay to the sum of \$23,000 per annum for its use of 20 car spaces by Mercy College teachers through the 41 school weeks. This will be of considerable financial benefit to our parish and ensure the maximum engagement of our parish facility. The carpark, of course, will continue to be available for parishioner use of a weekday evening and over each weekend.

We've just become an Earthcare Parish In 2015, Pope Francis wrote his environmental encyclical <u>Laudato Si'</u> in which he implored us to protect our common home. To escalate the implementation of Laudato Si', Pope Francis then established the <u>Laudato Si' Action Platform</u> with its seven Goals. <u>Our Australian Bishops Social Justice Statement</u> <u>2021-22, 'Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor'</u> reinforced the call to care for all creation and invited us to join them in taking action and committing to the Laudato Si goals. The Bishops followed up by mandating this action in the eighth decree of the Plenary Council on Integral Ecology. Catholic Earthcare Australia has made it easy for parishes to take up this call by developing tools to assist us on the journey towards these seven goals and to becoming a living Laudato Si' community We have received the Earthcare Parish Self-Assessment Tool and look forward to the sharing the journey.

We have two marvellous programs starting this week: our Alpha program commences on Monday 5 February and our Metanoia program starts on Tuesday 6 February. What great ways to start the year! And then next Sunday at our 10.30am Mass we celebrate Lunar New Year. Happy new year everyone! The work of our year has truly begun!



"I believe that it is impossible to grasp all the different forms of prayer without great purity of heart and soul. There are as many forms of prayer as there are states of soul. A person prays in a certain manner when cheerful and in another when weighed down by sadness or a sense of hopelessness. When one is flourishing spiritually, prayer is different from when one is oppressed by the extent of one's struggles."

John the Ascetic

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER:

Our loved ones who have recently passed away:

Donald Alexander Stephens (family of Theresa, Josef, Maria, and Martina Widjaja); Raul R Lee, John Moore (Aida Moore's faither in law), Clinton Grant, Stella Hammond (aka Stella Seery), Peter John Harrison, Francesco Mollace, Vlasta Novacek, Susan McGrath, Loredana Santi, Ksenija Bosnich, George Souama, Fr Bill Aliprandi.

Our loved ones who are sick:

Maria Taylor, Bruce Meppem, Moh Har Yip, Bill Piper, Frank Hallissy, John O'Brien, Gerard De Leon, Carlos De Leon, Mary Kin-Soon Ng, Bonnie Lueng, John Tiorg and family, Esther Grant and family.

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

Denise Suplina, Alphonso Le; Ian Meredith (12 February), Francis Ward (31 January), Jean-Marie Ta and Margarita Ta (27 January), Juliana Chee (20 January).

For Peter as he searches for part time work. For Celine and Nash who celebrated their birthdays this week. For Margaret and he generosity in leaving the parish a bequest.

This week's church flowers are generously donated by

Valli and Gabriel

to celebrate their wedding held in our church this Saturday February 3rd, congratularions!

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



Our Lady of Dolours, Pray for Us

Rock of constancy, pray for us.

Refuge of the abandoned, pray for us.

Mirror of patience, pray for us

Mother of consolation, pray for us.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



Deacon Kevin Hale

One of the images we have whenever the Pope visits a country is the crowds. There are literally millions of people, young and old, yelling, jumping up and down, trying to get a glimpse of the Pope.

You can imagine that this type of adulation could be intoxicating both for the Pope, and also, for the crowds.

It is also one way to imagine the kind of commotion Jesus stirred up wherever he went.

Even early in his ministry, the crowd's interest in Jesus had the capacity of reaching frenzied proportions. And the scene from today's gospel is no exception.

Not only had Jesus made a deep impression on the people with his teaching, he also drove out an unclean spirit, healed Peter's mother-in-law, and performed cures for all the sick and possessed who crowded around his door.

No wonder, when Jesus disappeared early in the morning, the disciples went looking for him: they couldn't stand being separated from him.

But, instead of going back to the last crowd, Jesus gave the disciples an unexpected

answer: "Let us go on".

Jesus never allowed the admiration of the crowds to distract him from his purpose.

The Father had sent him into the world to open the way for the kingdom, and Jesus worked until he reached his goal. He always kept his eyes on this goal, no matter how busy he was or how many people made demands on him.

The gospel was everything to Jesus, and he longed to see everyone embrace his message. Two thousand years later, Jesus remains just as focused.

When he enters into our hearts at baptism and gives himself to us in the Eucharist, his one goal is to deliver us from sin and establish his kingdom in us.

He wants to comfort and encourage us, and he wants to pierce our hearts with his truth, to deliver us from evil, and

to commission us as his disciples.

He wants us to go forward, to reach out to people, to spread the kingdom.

So how can we win people to Jesus? How can we become all things to all? It doesn't mean we have to leave home and be missionaries, but it does mean we should look for whatever way the Lord wants us to minister.

It may be to help feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, to be a catechist in our state schools.

It may be to be a reader and proclaim God's word, to be a musician and bring music and singing into our services, take Communion to those who are housebound, or to be part of our R.C.I.A. team to tell our enquirers about Jesus. But how do we do any of these tasks.

Paul would tell us to learn how to talk about sports so that we can meet sports fans on their level.

He would tell us to learn how to talk about current events with an accent on God's plan.

He would tell us to learn what it means to have nothing so that we can relate to the poor or what the main concerns of young people are so that we can put ourselves in their shoes and win them.

Within our parish there are many ministries; there must be one for you!

Especially, today, we emphasise The Word of God and the role our readers play in Mass. This may be a ministry that you can see yourself being involved in.

Have a look and don't look back but look forward. Let Jesus show you what you can do.

Will you let Jesus reveal himself to you at Mass today? Will you let him give you a glimpse of what his kingdom can look like in your life? Are you willing to be sent out as a witness to his kingdom?

COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP

We've just become an EARTHCARE PARISH!

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote his environmental encyclical Laudato Si' in which he implored us to protect our common home. To escalate the implementation of Laudato Si', Pope Francis then established the Laudato <u>Si' Action Platform</u> with its 7 Goals. <u>Our Australian Bishops Social Justice</u> Statement 2021-22, 'Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor' reinforced the call to care for all creation and invited us to join them in taking action and committing to the Laudato Si goals. The Bishops followed up by mandating this action in their Plenary Decree 8 on Integral Ecology.Catholic Earthcare Australia has made it easy for parishes to take up this call by developing tools to assist us on the journey towards these 7 goals and to becoming living Laudato Si' communities. So we have signed up and now have our Step 1 Certificate. We have received the Earthcare Parish Self-Assessment Tool and the next step is for us to evaluate where our parish is now on the journey and what areas of sustainability and care for our common home we think we can work on as a parish. Please get in touch with me at jokaraolis1@bigpond.com if you'd like to take part in this review or if you have any observations to contribute. Jo Karaolis



Great dinner and a wonderful chat about the year ahead!



Our Lady

PLAYGROUP

Mona on 9410 9000

lers and infants are welcome

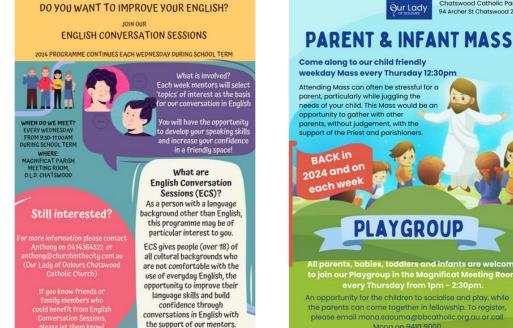
Chatswood Catholic Parish

94 Archer St Chatswood 2067



CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES





CAPSTONE YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT

Last week our Capstone Young Adults group went for a retreat in Jamberoo - here are their experiences!

The Capstone Retreat last week in Jamberoo has been nothing short of life changing - it has gifted us with so many means to lead our lives in true faith with Jesus, and has provided us with an everlasting purpose to provide for others in example with His outstanding grace. Through discussions of God's love, sin, re-conversion and salvation in Jesus, our eyes have been opened to His abundant grace and blessings over all. We have immense gratitude for Fr Marek for organising the retreat as well as the leaders: Bettina, Clara and Clive and all the fellow young adults with whom we have shared this experience with. Thank you for allowing and encouraging us to open our hearts to live in true fellowship with Christ. *Joseph and Jenevieve*

The Capstone Retreat was a spiritual revival for me and a reminder of God's love. I've had a spiritual drought for the past few years so I am glad I finally answered God's call, to approach and talk to a Priest. Father Marek's empathy to my journey and his gentle guidance was what I needed to return to practicing my faith. I now have a community of brothers and sisters I can grow and nurture my faith with. Thanks be to God!

Daven

For me, the Capstone Retreat was a great opportunity to truly connect with my friends and grow in the faith side by side, as we connect and grow close to our best friend: Jesus.

The Capstone Retreat was a truly life changing experience and has already inspired great positive change. The speakers, all selected from amongst the young adults, prepared great, engaging talks and activities, and we had great fun whilst also exploring deep, challenging topics. Truly, we felt the presence of the Holy Spirit flowing through everyone, and we've grown tremendously in loving each other and loving God! *Bryce*

The Capstone Retreat has provided me for the first time in my life a stronger sense of spiritual purpose and a stronger desire to serve others. It has given me the finally needed clarity and path to grow my faith in the right direction. I am eternally grateful for Father Marek's kind and selfless guidance to help nurture our spiritual faith journey with our fellow young brothers and sisters in Christ during this retreat! *Peter*

Such a wonderful opportunity to reflect on how we can live more God centred lives, see the Holy Spirit at work and build closer friendships within Capstone.

Carla

For me, the capstone retreat was a reminder of the friendship and joy that Jesus offers to my life. Sharing meals and wholesome conversations are part of the joy that draws me closer to God. This retreat opened my eyes and heart spiritually, through its challenging message... to choose Christ above all else. It's hard to do so, as an adult, when I depend and desire so much, even if it is good. But I chose to give myself completely to God as best as I can, because it is he who makes me a better friend, brother, son and man.

I thank God for this. *Andre*



MASS & LITURGIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday 5 February <mark>St Agatha</mark>	 11:30am Chaplet of Divine Mercy 11:45am Rosary (Cenacle, MMP) 12:30pm Mass 5:00pm Mass - New Families of St Pius X
Tuesday 6 February Saints Paul Miki and companions	 8:45am Morning Prayer 9:00am Mass 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:30pm Mass
Wednesday 7 February	 8:45am Morning Prayer 9:00 Mass 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:30pm Mass 6:00pm Mass
Thursday 8 February	 8:45am Morning Prayer 9:00am Mass 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration, Rosary, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:00pm Benediction 12:30pm Mass 7:00pm Holy Hour Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation also available
Friday 9 February	 8:45am Morning Prayer 9:00am Mass 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:30pm Mass
Saturday 10 February Saint Scholastica	 8:45am Morning Prayer 9:00am Mass 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation, Rosary 10:00am Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help 10:30am Benediction 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday Mass 11 February Lunar New Year Celebrations	 7:30am Mass 9:00am Family Mass 10:30am Lunar New Year Mass and celebrations after 5:30pm Mass

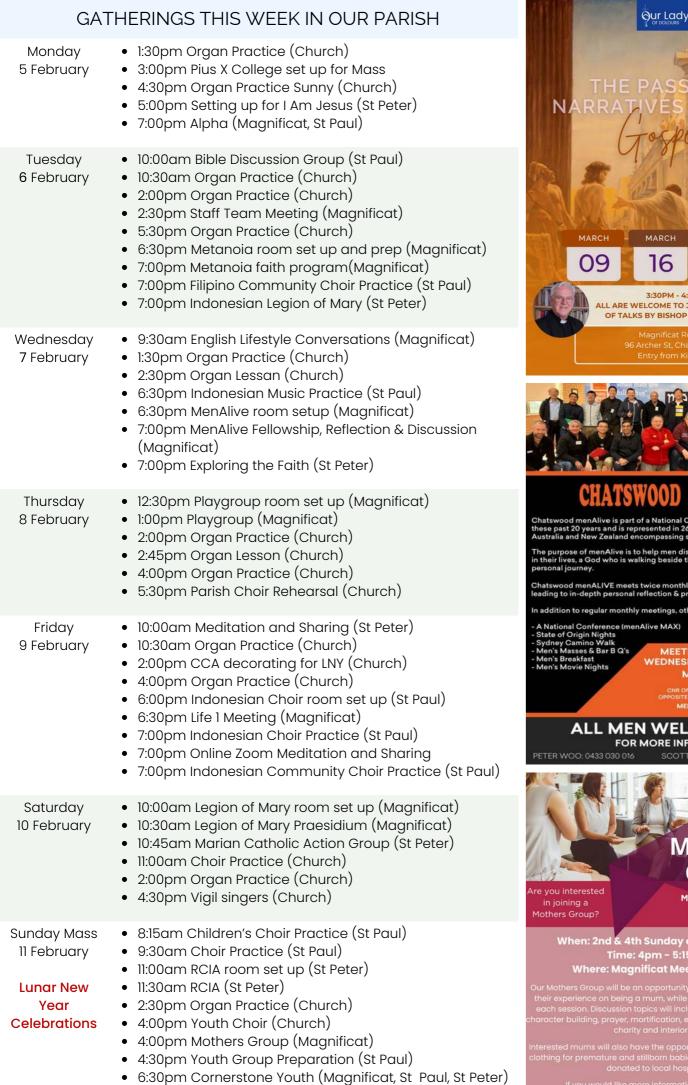
講實話的唇舌,永垂不朽;說謊話的舌頭,瞬息即逝。 箴言 12:19

Truthful lips endure forever, the lying tongue, for only a moment. Proverbs 12:19 7.30am Mass Morning Tea Please join us this Sunday, after 7.30am mass, for a cuppa in the PEW courtyard.





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





art of a National Catholic M represented in 26 dioceses New Zealand encompassing some 25,000 me

rpose of menAlive is to help men discover God at work lives, a God who is walking beside them on their own

chatswood menALIVE meets twice monthly to discuss men's topics, adding to in-depth personal reflection & prayer with a scriptural basis

lition to regular monthly meetings, other events include

MEETINGS EVERY 2ND & 4T WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH MAGNIFICAT ROOM

ALL MEN WELCOME FOR MORE INFO SCOTT SULLIVAN: 0406 512 425

MOTHERS GROUP

> Mums of all ages and stages welcome!

When: 2nd & 4th Sunday of each Month Time: 4pm - 5:15pm Where: Magnificat Meeting Room

Our Sunday Celebration

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

JESUS TOOK HER BY THE HAND. We sometimes come to Mass poor, sick and troubled, much like the people who crowd around the door of Jesus in today's Gospel. In this Mass let us express our needs to Jesus. Let us ask him to take us by the hand and help us as he helped Simon's mother-in-law. Then, with our spirits uplifted, we will go out from Mass with a renewed desire to share God's love with others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 94: 6-7 O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

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.P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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. Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. 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

A reading from the book of Job.

Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

- Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
- his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
- or the workman with no thought but his wages,

months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be dav?'

- Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'
- Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.
- Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,

and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy. The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 146: 1-6. R. v. 3

R. Praise the Lord who heals the brokenhearted. or Alleluia!

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;/sing to our God for he is loving:/to him our praise is due. **R**.

2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem/and brings back Israel's exiles,/he heals the brokenhearted,/he binds up all their wounds./He fixes the number of the stars;/he calls each one by its name. **R**.

 Our Lord is great and almighty;/his wisdom can never be measured./The Lord raises the lowly;/he humbles the wicked to the dust. R. 4 FEBRUARY 2024



SECOND READING 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R. Thanks be to God

Mt 8: 17

Mk 1: 29-39

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

P. The Lord be with you.

GOSPEL

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

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. O Lord, our God, who once established these created things to sustain us in our frailty, grant, we pray, that they may become for us now the Sacrament of eternal life. 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-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN **ORDINARY TIME**

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. Ps 106: 8-9 Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,

his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. O God, who have willed that we be partakers in the one Bread and the one Chalice, grant us, we pray, so to live that, made one in Christ, we may joyfully bear fruit for the salvation of the world. 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 in peace. R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

CELEBRATING THE WORD OF GOD

Today the Church in Australia celebrates 'Word of God Sunday'. In establishing this day, Pope Francis invited us "to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred scriptures" (Aperuit Illis. 30 Sep 2019). This celebration brings our attention to how we engage with the Word in the liturgy, and how we take the Word with us and proclaim it in our daily lives. Today let's focus on the Gospel.

Mark portrays Jesus discerning his ministry. We accompany Jesus on his journey: having left the synagogue, where he had been teaching and healing, he enters the house of Simon and Andrew, along with James and John, where he finds and heals Simon's mother-in-law. By evening as the sun is setting, the word is already out, and people are bringing the sick and possessed to him. Indeed, "the whole city was gathered at the door" (v. 33), and Jesus ministers to them. In the morning, while it is still dark, Jesus goes to pray. Simon leads a search, and when they find him, Jesus declares, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is why I came" (v. 38). What we see in this Gospel passage is the word and deed in action in Jesus, and his discernment through prayer to take his mission out further

Nourished by the Word of God let us pray and discern our mission in our daily lives sharing the Good News beyond our doors.

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Catechist Presentation: Congratulations to Dcn Roberto, Amelia, Kathleen, Virginia, and Binnie!



10-





Playgroup is back this week and we were loving the snacks!



We will miss you Fr Marek!

Seniors Morning Tea is back!



OUR LADY OF CHINA



中华大圣母/东闾圣母 中華大聖母/東閭聖母

Our Lady of China, the Great Mother is a Roman Catholic title of the Blessed Virgin Mary associated with a reputed Marian apparition in Dong Lu, China in 1900.

Dong Lu was a small impoverished mission village founded by Vicentian fathers. There were some 700 - 1000 Christians gathered in the village in 1900 when the boxer rebellion broke out. A large troop of hostile soldiers attacked the village. The local clergy, together with the children and the elderly in the village prayed day and night, while the young and ablebodied villagers fought with the Boxers. What would have been a futile and disastrous resistance turned into a decided victory in a few months. An apparition was reportedly observed a number of times, of a beautiful lady in white surrounded by light, floating in the air above the church. The Boxer soldiers on the other hand reported seeing an army of white angelic figures riding into the village, led by a fiery horseman (perhaps St Michael). In the end, the soldiers retreated and never returned. In thanksgiving to God, a new bigger church was built on the site in 1904. In 1908 the clergy commissioned a painting for the main alter, of Our Lady dressed in the royal robes of the Manchu dowager empress, holding a sceptre, with the Child Christ dressed royally standing upright on her lap and supported by her. A vivid image of the Queen Mother and her Son.

In 1924 during the Shanghai Synod of Bishops (the first national conference of bishops in China), the bishops together with the Apostolic Delegate decided on this image as the official image of "Our Lady of China". Pope Pius XI granted the request and promulgated the images as Our Lady of China in 1928, approved the church in Dong Lu as an official Marian Shrine in 1932, and as a national shrine in 1937.

The church was destroyed during the Japanese War in 1941. The image was courageously saved by some parishioners, kept in safety in private, but had to be handed over to the government during the Cultural Revolution. It was destroyed in 1969 due to lack of care after confiscated.

In 1992 the church was rebuilt as the largest church building in north China, and a faithful replica of the painting was hung over the high alter. Although forbidden as a pilgrimage destination, Chinese pilgrims continued to flock there. In May 1995 an alleged miracle of the spinning sun and an apparition in the middle of the sun was observed by thousands of pilgrims, certified later by the local bishop. Tension with and suspicion by the government arose. Soon after, the shrine was suppressed.

The heritage of Our Lady of China spread to Taiwan. Initially a Church of Our Lady of China was established in the 1950's in the township of Meishan, then moved to the city of Chiayi in 1962. It was designated a pilgrimage site by the local bishop. A bigger church was rebuilt on the original site and completed in 1991. Beside the Church was the National Shrine of China, where a much venerated statue of Our Lady of China was placed, dressed in the royal robes of the Manchu Dowager Empress, with the Christ Child on her lap. In 2021 Pope Francis granted a decree of coronation towards the Statue. The coronation was carried out on 14 August 2022.

Our Lady of China is for every age, every nation and people. As the Chinese diaspora moved to many parts of the world, the veneration of Our Lady of China spread. In the West, non-Manchu style images of Our Lady of China can be found in Washington DC in the U.S., Queensland in Australia, etc.

We pray to Our Lady of China to unite her children, to grow and flourish in faith.



Source

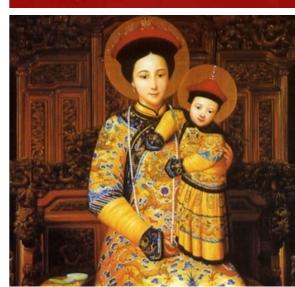




LUCKY DIP FOOD STALLS

PLANT STALL

FORECOURT



LUNAR NEW YEAR TICKETS

Lunar New Year tickets for food, drinks, and the raffle are now on sale online! Lunar New Year is a wonderful celebration centred around removing the old and bad of the previous year, and ushering in a new year of goodness! In our parish, culture and religion intersect peacefully by celebrating the Lunar Year as a time of renewal, excitement, and community.

On **Sunday February 11th** the Chinese Catholic Association of Chatswood invites you and your loved ones to join us at Mass at 10:30am and then for celebrations out on the forecourt where you can taste the food of our cultural communities, have a go at the lucky dip, watch the lion dancers, and get yourself a ticket into our raffle!

This year we are fundraising to help meet our parish's **\$64,730.00** allocated quota for Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) which supports the work of two key Diocesan ministries: our catechists, and Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program. PWBB also supports St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College for students with disabilities and the Ephpheta Centre which supports the deaf community.

Get your tickets at **https://www.trybooking.com/COAXT** or scan the QR code! Cash payments can be made at the parish office during opening hours.



L.I.F.E FORMATION - Lay Initiative for Formation and Evangelization



Fr Joey Frez Assistant Priest



What is Catholic LIFE Formation?

LIFE stands for Lay Initiative for Formation and Evangelization. This is based on the formation programs that I received when I was with the Franciscan Capuchins as their postulant and novice, and also from the formation I got in the seminary. After receiving my religious formation, I wondered why we are not offering these tools for formation to the laity so that they can also grow in their spiritual life. This formation program contains the four pillars of formation (Spiritual, Intellectual, Human, Pastoral) as contained in John Paul II's Pastores Dabo Vobis but are applied in the context of a lay person's lifestyle.

Why is it important?

Although most of us pray every day and go to church every weekend, there is a need for structure and regularity that will help us to grow in our spiritual life.We also need to have a means to gauge our growth. The LIFE formation program fulfills these necessities because without them, our journey becomes dependent on our moods and emotions, and there is no consistency in doing our spiritual exercises.

What sort of commitment is asked from those interested?

Since this program takes into consideration the busy life of a lay person, each participant will meet with me to sort out a daily schedule of his/her spiritual exercises. Then all the participants will meet once a month, on the Second Friday of each month at 6:30 pm.Participants will also be assigned in a small group and each group will meet once a month. This first year, we will start with an orientation meeting on Feb 16 (Fri.) at 6:30 PM at the Magnificat Room followed by a one-day retreat at Marymount Mercy Centre on February 24 (Sat.) to be familiarized with and to practice the different forms of prayer. At the end of the year, we will have a three-day retreat to evaluate our one year of formation and to set our goals in the following year. There is an expectation from the participants that they will take control of their own formation. I will just be there to guide them and to present them the tools that are necessary to help them with their growth in their spiritual life.

If you are interested to join the Catholic LIFE Formation Program, please email me at joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au.



explore

#TryAlph

Jesus was born 2000 years ago... So what?

Every year we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter. But why? What makes Jesus so special that we remember him year after year – for 2024 years?

Come and explore this question and the other big questions about life, faith, God and meaning, as we journey in Alpha together in 2024.

Alpha is an introduction to Christian faith which assumes nothing. If you've never read the Bible, never prayed, never been to church before, then Alpha is for you.

But it's also for you if you've been coming to church for a long time – maybe your whole life – but you've still got big questions.

In each Alpha session we have a meal together, watch a video and have a conversation about what we've watched. We ask our questions and together work out the answers.

We'll be offering Alpha once a week on Mondays commencing on Monday, 05 February 2024 at 7:00pm

We'd love you to come! Please bring a friend who would also like to know Jesus! Let's explore life, faith and meaning together in 2024!

For queries contact: Gillian 0412 373 324; Email: gillian-hawkins@bigpond.com

For more details – and to register – go to: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood/ministries/alpha

Registration essential - Email: chatswood.alpha@gmail.com





JOIN US FOR A NEW VIDEO SERIES

Metanoia contains 10, half hour episodes shot in locations all throughout the Holy Land. The audience will be able to encounter the Lord in the settings of some of the holiest sights in the world. Metanoia is a spiritual journey through the places where Jesus physically taught His Church the meaning and the way of metanoia.

Metanoia is a transformation of the heart, a spiritual conversion, which comes about through repentance. This conversion may be in how we see Jesus, the Father, our self, and others. This eleven part follow-up series to The Wild Goose focuses on eight different areas that invite us to a deeper metanoia of who Jesus is and how He desires us to know Him. When one views this series, the viewer will have a much broader understanding of Jesus' message.

BEGINS TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 7:00PM - 9:00PM MAGNIFICAT ROOM, KIRK ST

CONTACT GILLIAN HAWKINS FOR MORE INFO ON 0412 373 324 OR AT GILLIAN-HAWKINS@BIGPOND.COM

Metanoia means a resolve to turn to Jesus with all our heart, soul, mind and strength throughout our entire lives

THE BAY AND BEYOND



Check out these great events within our wonderful community!



SHRINES OF OUR LADY PILGRIMAGE

FATIMA | AVILLA | LOURDES AVIGNON | SIENA | ASSISI LORETTO I ROTONDO I ROME

With Fr Richard Rosse

21" MAY - 3" JUNE 2024 HLIGHTS

- Join the procession of Our Lady of Fati
- Pray at the Lourdes Grotto
 Visit Avilla, Home of St Teresa
- Visit the Palais des Papes, Avign
- Visit the Leaning Tower of Pisa
 Visit the Sanctuary of St. Catherine, Siena
- Pray at the tomb of St Padre Pio
 Witness the Eucharistic miracle, Land
- Guided tour of Catacombs & Colosseum Vatican Museum & Sistine Chapel

For Details contact

Fr Richard Rosse Email: Richard.ros

For Bookings contact © 1300 721 561 ■ 103/202 Jells Rd, Wheelers Hill, VIC 3150 Ø pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au ூ magiholidays.com.au





Return Economy Class Airfare Accommodation in Premium Hot Breakfast and Dinner Transfers on Deluxe A\C Coach Entrance Fees Services of Professional Guides

ATAS

ATIA





Adult \$99

Holder \$8 Youth (Under 35s) \$79



Child (5-16 yrs) \$45 Family (2 Adults, 2 Children, 5-16 years) \$275

willoughbysymphony.com.au

Disnep **CHE LITTLE** RMAID IN CONCERT LIVE TO FILM

'Under the Sea' as Disney's

Hall while the music is performed

live by the Willoughby Symphony Orchestra.

Showcasing the Academy Award®-winning

beloved characters Ariel, Flounder, Sebastian,

King Triton and Ursula on the big screen, the

uplifting soundtrack is brought to life by the

WSO in a magical performance. Enjoy all the

score by Alan Menken and featuring the

Mermaid projects onto the big

Family & Sacramental Ministry Coordinator PERMANENT PART-TIME

Media & Communications Coordinator

PERMANENT PART-TIME

Please email your application to parishpriestenorthharbourcatholic.org.au For enquiries, please contact Fr Michael Belonio, OSA on 9949 4455 Applications close on Friday 9 February 2024.

Job Description is available in this link: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/contact-us/positions-vacant





PERFORMED LIVE BY THE WILLOUGHBY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sunday 10 March 2024 | 2pm

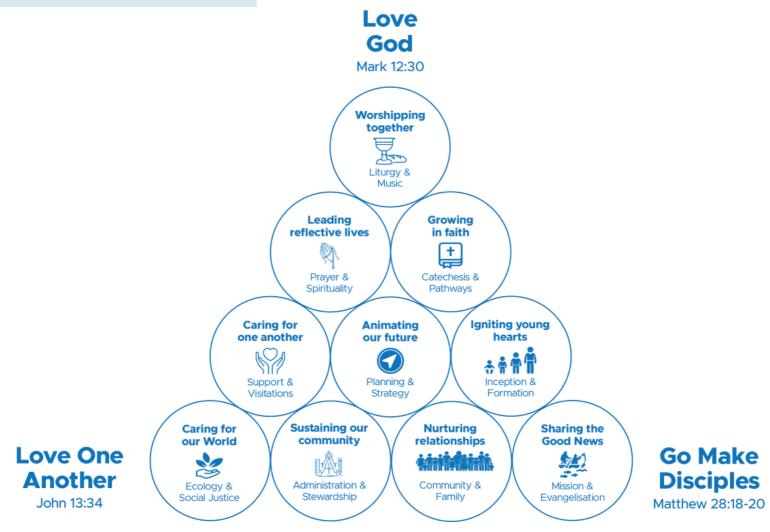




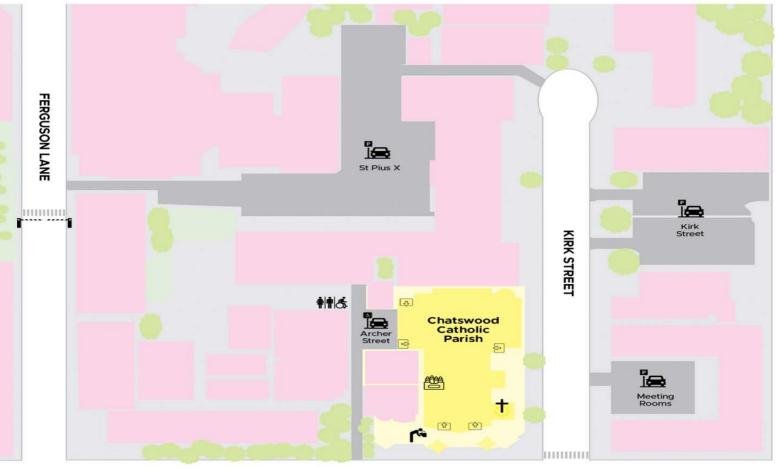


Concession/ Seniors Card

OUR CIRCLES OF MINISTRY



PARKING



ARCHER STREET

INFO AT A GLANCE

Parish Support Team:

Parish Priest: Very Rev Dr David Ranson VG PP david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au Personal blog: davidranson.com.au | Twitter: @FrDavidRanson

> Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Joey Frez joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Marek Woldan marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au

Deacon: Rev Richard Houwing Richard.Houwing@bbcatholic.org.au

Manager of Parish Operations: Olivia Lee Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au

Receptionist: Diana Tinambun chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9000

> **Project Officer: Chloe Aylward** Chloe.Aylward@bbcatholic.org.au

Director of Music: Titus Grenyer titus.grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au

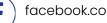
Children's Ministry Coordinator: Angela Hague angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9033

Pastoral Support Worker: Mona Saouma mona.saouma@bbcatholic.org.au

Youth Minister: Bettina Ignacio bettina.ignacio@bbcatholic.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Karen Forbes karen.forbes@bbcatholic.org.au

Book-keeper: Amelia Lee amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au | (02)9410 9032



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bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood

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



Regular Mass Times:

Monday	Mass 12:30pm.
Tuesday	Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.
Wednesday	Mass 9:00am, 12:30pm & 6:00pm.
Thursday	Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm. Reconciliation: 7:00pm.
Friday	Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.
Saturday	Mass: 9:00am Reconciliation: 9:30am. Vigil Mass: 5:30pm
Sunday	Mass

- 7:30am
- 9:00am
- 10:30am
- 5:30pm



Jood Shepher or children aged fron

to 12 years.

Catechesis (

A place where children come to be with God to discover and explore God's love for then

their stage of development and thei eligious needs and capacities at each stage. The age groups and times available for the children to come to our elationship with him. The program is based on Scripture and Liturgy and framed by Montessori principles of The Atrium is a specially prepared room, where children spend time with God so that they can nurture their each room is prepared for them Education. Run in three age

ondays 10am-11.30an Mondays 4.00-5.45p year olds



o find out more watch this video or contact Angela or Rose at: old.childrens.atrium@gmail.com

uesdays 4.00-5.45pm Mondays 4.00-5.45pm

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year olds