

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

THE BULLETIN

11 FEBRUARY 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)





The leprosy left him and he was cured. This Sunday's Gospel - Mark 1:40-45

VOU'RE H Nefcome 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 Sunday we celebrate **Lunar New Year!** Kicking off with Mass together at 10:30am and then celebrations on the forecourt. End your Sunday on a lovely note by joining our **Zoom Rosary** at 8:00pm - all welcome!

Attention Metanoia attendees: please note that because there are so many of you attending, you will now be hosted in Harrington Hall (what a great problem to have!)

Check out the new gifts for sale from our **Giftshop Team;** and to all our young people, get your registrations in for our **Hearts Alive music workshop** on the 18th!

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



PP VG Parish Priest

Dear friends

We **welcome Fr Anselam Lakra** into our midst! Fr Anselam arrived with us during the week as Fr Marek departed us for the Parish of Manly-Freshwater. Fr Anselam hails originally from the northern part of India and has served in our diocese for the past II years in a variety of parishes, more recently at the Cathedral Parish of Hornsby. We pray that his time with us ahead will be one of great blessing for him and for us all.

Over the next 6 weekends, Fr Anselam and Fr Joey will be assisting in the Parish of Lindfield-Killara as well as serving our own parish. It will be a busy time for the three of us!

Our year is certainly stirring into life! Last week we had over 30 people attend our first Alpha evening on Monday, and on Tuesday nearly 50 people joined us for Metanoia! The numbers in our Metanoia program are now so large that, as from this Tuesday, we will need to locate our gathering in Harrington Hall.

This weekend **we celebrate the special event of Lunar New Year** – a most auspicious annual occasion for our parish family members from throughout Asia – which is most of us! To celebrate our cultural diversity is to honour the mystery of the Incarnation, the Word made Flesh. As the Catechism puts it, and as St John Paul II kept reiterating on so many different occasions,

The celebration of the liturgy, therefore, should correspond to the genius and culture of the different peoples. In order that the mystery of Christ be "made known to all the nations . . . to bring about the obedience of faith," it must be proclaimed, celebrated, and lived in all cultures in such a way that they themselves are not abolished by it, but redeemed and fulfilled: It is with and through their own human culture, assumed and transfigured by Christ, that the multitude of God's children has access to the Father, in order to glorify him in the one Spirit. (n. 1204)

Or as the eminent French scholar of Catholic spirituality, Michel de Certeau would write:

Experience is always defined in cultural terms, even when it is religious ... it is in the very cultural situation that [a person's] yearnings and [their] predicament 'take flesh', it is through this medium that [they] find God yet ever seek him, that [they] express [their] faith, that [they carry] on simultaneous experiments in colloquy with God and with [their] actual [fellows] ... A culture is the language of a spiritual experience. The very history of spirituality demonstrates this fact, unless we are determined to look at it in blinkers which would exclude its context ... Spiritual experience replies to the questions of the moment, and always replies in the terms of those questions, for these are what the [people] of a particular society talk about and live by ...

For this reason, it was the custom of St John Paul II to kiss the ground of the country he was visiting as soon as he alighted from the plane. What a joy, then, on this weekend of a new year for our family members with Asian heritage to hear Chinese, Korean, Indonesian, Vietnamese, and English in our church – all in the one celebration of Eucharist – demonstrating the vibrant beauty of our Catholicity which overflows then into much festivity on our forecourt after our 10.30am Mass.



A very special thank you to all those who have worked so hard to prepare for our celebration, especially our Chatswood Chinese Catholic Association. Their dedication and commitment have been simply outstanding, and their fundraising efforts will contribute directly to our diocesan Pastoral Works Fund.

This week **we also begin our annual season of Lent on Wednesday 14 February**. Masses will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday at 7am, 9am (joined by Pius College Years 11 and 12), 12.30pm and 7pm. Bishop Anthony has written to us, as he does each year, at this time to explain the season of Lent and to call us to prayer and penitence. Please be sure to take a copy of the Letter and consider it prayerfully.

As Christians we are particularly mindful that we are constantly on a journey 'from' something and 'towards' something – ultimately that journey from death to life, which is the movement we celebrate in the affirmation of Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter. How might we understand this journey more personally for us? Some years ago, Pope Benedict put this journey in these extraordinary words: "... Conversion to Christ, believing in the Gospel, ultimately means this: to exit the illusion of self-sufficiency in order to discover and accept one's own need – the need of others and God, the need of his forgiveness and his friendship ..."

This journey will be beautifully conveyed to **our children who, this week, commence their four-week program of preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.** We keep them and, indeed, our 50 catechumens who will be baptised this year at Easter in our hearts and prayer.

Our fasting, our almsgiving and our prayer, those activities which we practice during this time as a sign of our commitment to an ongoing conversion of life, seek in their own way to open our hearts to something more than just ourselves. As we die to the selfishness of our hearts and rise to a life more open to others then the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection manifests itself more fully in us.

The most important symbol that we are given on this journey is the symbol of fire. On the most important night of the Christian year: the night before Easter Sunday, a large candle will be lit symbolising the risen Jesus, a light in the darkness. The symbol of fire and light will extend to the feast of Pentecost when we think of the Spirit of Jesus as fire in our hearts, enlightening our life and our way.

We may see this period of Lent which we are about to being in the context of this symbol of fire. On Ash Wednesday, we place ash on our forehead. Lent is the time to be honest once again about the ash that exists in our own lives: he ash of fear, the ash of anger and bitterness, the ash of loneliness, the ash of resentment, the ash of hurt and pain – all those things that keep us enclosed within ourselves. All of us have been burnt in our life: we all have had experiences which have metaphorically burnt us, perhaps even scorched us. Maybe, in some ways, our lives are like the bush which even requires the fire at times to regenerate itself. Whatever, we have all had those experiences which have left us with a residue of ash. But now is not just a time to wallow in the ashes. It is a time to sift through the ash to look for the spark of life which is still there. That spark is our hope, our desire to keep moving forward, what remains of our dream, our trust, our courage, our faith. Lent urges us to retrieve this spark and to kindle it anew, to allow the regeneration and new life to come through the charred remains.

If we do this at this time during which the symbol of ash is central, then the new life which bursts forth on Easter night in six weeks' time will have real meaning for us. It is the both the promise and the joy which awaits us.

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER:

Our loved ones who have recently passed away:

Carmelina Jiménez Vda. de Tuesta (mother of Aida Moore); Elsa Harting; Souad Kecskemeti; Donald Alexander Stephens (Uncle of Theresa, Josef, Maria, Johana, and Martina Widjaja); Raul R Lee, John Moore (Aida Moore's father in law), Clinton Grant.

Our loved ones who are sick:

Yvonne Corpuz; Judith Ryan; 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: Roy Woodall AO - father of Sue Woodall (14 February); Denise Suplina, Alphonso Le; Ian Meredith (12 February), Francis Ward (31 January), Jean-Marie Ta and Margarita Ta (27 January).

For Molita in her new role in supporting the Indonesian Choir community.

For Su and Giselle who celebrate their birthdays these week!

For Aida and her family for the recent loss of their mother.



This week's church flowers are generously donated by the

Chinese Catholic Association

in thanksgiving to God and in celebration of Lunar New Year

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 Richard Houwing Parish Deacon

In today's reflection on the Gospel, we witness the gentle kindness of Christ as he reaches out to cure a leper. Christ stands as our ultimate example of kindness. But why did Jesus heal the man? It was undoubtedly an act of compassion, driven by a desire to alleviate the suffering of another human being. What's particularly striking is the manner in which Christ healed him – by physically touching him, breaking the societal taboo and showing unprecedented compassion.

Kindness, at its core, involves placing others before ourselves. It transforms self-love into selflessness. Moreover, kindness isn't merely about offering assistance when it's convenient; it's about stepping in to help others when needed, even if it requires sacrificing our comfort. In essence, kindness is our way of reflecting the divine love and care that surrounds us.

When we strive to emulate Christ's example of kindness, we find that negativity and bitterness fade away. Instead, we radiate a gentle warmth that touches the lives of

those around us. Kindness has the power to infuse every aspect of life with sweetness and fragrance, enriching our existence in ways that self-centeredness never could.

Empathy often accompanies kindness, as it allows us to understand and anticipate the needs of others. True empathy prompts us to fulfill those needs before they're even expressed, demonstrating a level of care and consideration that mirrors God's own love for us. In fact, empathy can be seen as a form of divine charity, offering gifts of kindness and support without waiting for a formal request.

Kindness also plays a crucial role in counteracting the unhappiness that often stems from sin and injustice. By extending kindness to others, we not only bring joy into their lives but also contribute to restoring the balance of goodness in the world. Each act of kindness serves as a beacon of hope, illuminating the path toward a happier, more fulfilling existence.

The influence of kindness extends far beyond individual interactions. It has the power to soften even the most hardened hearts, leading them back to God's love and grace. Countless souls have been touched and transformed by simple acts of kindness, paving the way for repentance and reconciliation.

Moreover, kindness serves as a source of encouragement and support for those striving to do good. A kind word or gesture can uplift the spirits of the weary and embolden them to persevere in their efforts. In this way, kindness becomes a catalyst for positive change, inspiring others to pursue virtue and righteousness.

Small acts of kindness have an immense impact. The scale of kindness does not necessarily correlate with its influence. Often, people overlook the sacrifices made to extend kindness and focus solely on the gesture itself. Even the smallest act of kindness outweighs significant wrongs. A tiny display of kindness holds the power to alleviate burdens and resonates far and wide with lasting effects. A kind act can last a long time.

As we reflect on the significance of kindness in our lives, let us strive to embody the spirit of Christ in all that we do. May we extend love, compassion, and empathy to those around us, knowing that even the simplest acts of kindness can bring light into the darkest of moments.

As we reflect on the significance of kindness in our lives, let us strive to embody the spirit of Christ in all that we do. May we extend love, compassion, and empathy to those around us, knowing that even the simplest acts of kindness can bring light into the darkest of moments. Let us be beacons of kindness in a world that sorely needs it, spreading warmth and hope wherever we go.



"My little children, reflect on these words: the Christian's treasure is not on earth but in heaven. Our thoughts, then, ought to be directed to where out treasure is. This is our glorious duty: to pray and to love. We do not have to talk very much in order to pray well. We know that God is there in the Holy Tabernacle; let us open our hearts to God; let us rejoice in God's Presence: This is the best prayer"



St John Vianney

MASS & LITURGIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH Monday • 9:00am Funeral for Souad Kecskemeti 12 February • 11:30am Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 11:45am Rosary (Cenacle, MMP) 12:30pm Mass Tuesday • 8:45am Morning Prayer 13 February 9:00am Mass • 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:30pm Mass Wednesday 7:00am Ash Wednesday Mass 14 February 8:45am Morning Prayer 9:00 Ash Wednesday Mass Ash Wednesday • 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:30pm Ash Wednesday Mass 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Mass Thursday • 8:45am Morning Prayer 15 February • 9:00am Mass 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration, Rosary, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 12:00pm Benediction 12:30pm Mass • 7:00pm Holy Hour Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation also available Friday • 8:45am Morning Prayer 16 February 9:00am Mass 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy 12:30pm Mass Saturday • 8:45am Morning Prayer • 9:00am Mass 17 February • 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 7:30am Mass 18 February 9:00am Family Mass 10:30am Mass 12:30pm Spanish Community Mass • 5:30pm Mass • 7:00pm Indonesian Community Mass



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

The Gospel spreads through the four seas; and Grace spreads to the five continents.

福音传四海·教恩播五洲。

Note: In Chinese literary terms, 'four seas' means all the oceans and seas of the earth; 'five continents' means all the lands of the world.

GATHERINGS THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH	
 Monday 10:00am Atrium for 3-6 year olds (Atrium) 1:30pm Organ Practice (Church) 3:45pm Atrium for 3-6 year olds (Atrium) 3:45pm Atrium for 6-9 year olds (Atrium) 3:45pm Atrium for 9-12 year olds (Atrium) 7:00pm Alpha (Magnificat, St Paul) 	THE PASSION NARRATIVES OF THE
 Tuesday 10:00am Bible Discussion Group (St Paul) 10:00am Mercy Catholic College Assembly (Chure) 12:30pm Prep for Catechists Meeting (Magnificat) 2:00pm Organ Practice (Church) 2:30pm Catechist Meeting (Magnificat) 3:00pm Organ Practice (Church) 3:45pm Atrium for 3-6 year olds (Atrium) 3:45pm Atrium for 9-12 year olds (Atrium) 5:15pm Mercy Catholic College info evening (Chure) 6:30pm Metanoia room set up and prep (Magnificat) 7:00pm Filipino Community Choir Practice (St Paul) 	MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH MARCH 23 3:30PM - 4:30PM ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THESE SERIES OF TALKS BY BISHOP DAVID WALKER Magnificat Room 96 Archer St, Chatswood Entry from Kirk St
 Wednesday 9:30am English Lifestyle Conversations (Magnific 10:30am Organ Practice (Church) 1:30pm Organ Practice (Church) 1:30pm Reconciliation Parents Meeting (Church) 2:30pm Organ Lessan (Church) 6:30pm Indonesian Music Practice (St Paul) 6:30pm Reconciliation Parents Meeting (Magnific 7:00pm Exploring the Faith (St Peter) 	eat) What is involved? Each week mentors will select topics' of interest as the basis for our conversation in English Verw WEDNESDAY FORM 320. Thousand DURING ScHool TERM WHERE: MAGNIFICAT PARISH MEETING ROOM, 0,LD. CHATSWOOD What are English Conversation Sessions (ECS)?
Thursday10:00am Atrium for 3-6 year olds (Atrium)15 February12:30pm Playgroup room set up (Magnificat)1:00pm Playgroup (Magnificat)2:00pm Organ Practice (Church)2:45pm Organ Lesson (Church)3:45pm Organ Scholar Lesson (Church)5:30pm Parish Choir Rehearsal (Church)6:30pm Reconciliation Parents Meeting (Magnificat)	Still interested? For more information please contact Anthong@churchinthecity.com.au (Our Ladg of Dolours Chatswood Catholic Church) If gou know friends or family members who could benefit from English Conversation Sessions, please let them know!
 Friday 10:00am Meditation and Sharing (St Peter) 10:30am Organ Practice (Church) 11:20am OLOD Primary Liturgy Practice (Church) 1:30pm Mercy College Mass Rehearsal (Church) 3:00pm Organ Practice (Church) 4:00pm Organ Practice (Church) 6:00pm Indonesian Choir room set up (St Paul) 6:30pm Life 1 Meeting (Magnificat) 7:00pm Indonesian Choir Practice (St Paul) 7:00pm Online Zoom Meditation and Sharing 	Are you interested in joining a Mothers Group? When: 2nd & 4th Sunday of each Month Time: 4pm - 5:15pm Where: Magnificat Meeting Room
 Saturday 8:30am Atrium Teen Group Meeting (St Paul) 17 February 10:00am Legion of Mary room set up (Magnificat 10:30am Legion of Mary Praesidium (Magnificat) 11:00am Choir Practice (Church) 4:15pm Reconciliation Parents Meeting (Magnific 4:30pm Vigil singers (Church) 	character building, prayer, mortification, examination of conscience charity and interior life. Interested mums will also have the opportunity to learn how to knit

Sunday Mass 18 February

- 9:30am Choir Practice (St Paul)
- 10:15am Reconciliation Parents Meeting (Magnificat)
- 11:00am Spanish Mass Prep & Fellowship (Magnificat, St Paul)
- 11:00am RCIA room set up (St Peter)
- 11:30am RCIA (St Peter)
- 1:00pm Hearts Alive Music Workshop (Harrington Hall)
- 2:30pm Organ Practice (Church)
- 4:00pm Indonesian Choir Practice prep (St Paul)
- 5:00pm Indonesian Choir Practice (St Paul)
- 4:30pm Youth Group Preparation (St Paul)
- 6:30pm Capstone Young Adults (Magnificat, St Peter)

THE CHINESE EMPEROR'S CHRISTIAN POETRY

The Qing dynasty Emperor Kangxi 康熙帝 (1654 – 1722) was the longest-reigning emperor in the history of China. He ascended the throne at age 7, and reigned for 61 years. A diligent and benevolent ruler, a brilliant military commander and economic reformer, he brought prosperity, stability and relative peace to the people of the Empire.

Kangxi was a learned scholar, steeped in Confucius tradition and Chinese literary heritage. On the other hand, he was intellectually curious and open minded to western technology and receptive to Christianity. In the early decades of his reign he appointed Jesuit priests to important roles at court, valuing their knowledge of languages, engineering and science. In 1692 he issued the Edict of Toleration, which recognised Catholicism, forbade attacks on their churches, legalised their missions and allowed Christian religious practice among the people.

A Christian Poem

Among his prolific poetry output was a poem inspired by Christian teaching. 'The Death of Christ' was composed in the classical 七 言 诗 format: 2 stanzas, each of 4 sentences that rhyme; each sentence with exactly 7 words (characters), in total 56 words.

十架頌 In Praise of the Cross

功成十字血成溪 Task of the cross was done, and blood formed a stream 千丈恩流分自西 Grace, a thousand 'zhangs' deep, From the west* then flowed 身列四衙半夜路 Body pressed to stand four trials, on the midnight road 徒方三背兩番鸡 By a disciple was denied three times, Ere the rooster twice crowed.

五百鞭达寸肌裂 Five hundred lashes tore at every inch of skin 六尺悬垂二盜齐 Tree six foot high, two thieves, hung either side 慘恸八垓惊九品 Grief and terror quaked to eight points far and wide, Nine levels low and high 七言一毕万灵啼 Seven sayings, one completed task; and Ten thousand spirits cried.

Note *: 'west' probably points to Jerusalem

Numerology in the Poem

The poem contains every Chinese numeral from 1 to 10.

1 —, 2 二, 3 三, 4 四, 5 五, 6 六, 7 七, 8 八, 9 九,

10 + (shape of a cross)

It also includes the Chinese characters for 100 百, 1000 千 and 10,000 万, which are a literary device to emphasize 'many', 'plentiful'. In addition the poem contains three units of measure, Inch 寸, foot 尺, 'zhang' (approx. 3 metres) 丈, to lend physical realism to the narrative.

The passion and death of Christ are described using the numeral 1 to 10 (albeit not in sequential order), with scriptural significance:

1 completed task, 2 thieves, 3 denials, 4 trials, 5 hundred lashes, 6 foot high tree, 7 last sayings, 8 points of the compass (to the furthermost point of the world), 9 levels of official hierarchy, 10 representing the cross.

Submitted by the Chinese Catholic Association

Source: <u>https://aleteia.org/2017/08/10/the-chinese-emperors-catholic-poetry/</u> https://lightofaith.com/2017/08/05/emperor-kangxi-the-death-of-christ/comment-page-1/ https://seekthykingdom.blogspot.com/2008/12/kangxi-his-poems.html Scan this QR code to donate to the first or second collection for our Parish.

Thank you for the many ways in which you alreadysupport our



parish!



OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

JESUS TOUCHED HIM. Jesus included the healing of lepers among the list of miracles which would authenticate his mission. He also communicated this power to his disciples (Mt 10: 8). In today's Gospel, he not only heals a leper; he lays his hand upon him. It is a gesture of acceptance (and perhaps even of solidarity) with a social outcast.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 30: 3-4 Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

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, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, 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.

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 teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. 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 Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46 A reading from the book of Leviticus. As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PS Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5 **R**. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation. 1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,/ whose sin is remitted./ O happy the man to whom the Lord/ imputes no guilt,/ in whose spirit is no guile. R. 2. But now I have acknowledged my sins;/ my guilt I did not hide./ I said: 'I will confess/ my offence to the Lord.'/ And you,

Lord, have forgiven/ the guilt of my sin. R.

11 FEBRUARY 2024



3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,/ exult, you just!/ O come, ring out your joy,/ all you upright of heart. R.

SECOND READING 1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

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

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone - to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ. The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia! GOSPEL

Mk 1: 40-45

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his

hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

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. May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. 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: When we eat this Bread, and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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 77: 29-30

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

or

Jn 3:16

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, so that we may always long for that food by which we truly live. 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, 承 and the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
P. Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

P. Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

BEAS CHRIST

Today's Gospel brings our focus again to Jesus' healing through a person identified only as "a leper". This person is described without gender (although masculine pronouns follow), without ethnicity, family name, geography or any human connection. The title "a leper" encapsulates the stigma of separation, being unclean and having to live apart (see Lev. 13, first reading). We read that "a leper" came to Jesus pleading on his knees, "If you want to you can make me clean" (v. 40). This phrase indicates that "a leper" recognises Jesus' power and authority. Moved with the deepest gut-wrenching compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand and touches him. Simultaneously with his touch, Jesus says "I do choose. Be made clean" (v. 41). Jesus' touch is redeeming in itself. Jesus touches the untouchable. Though warned not to say anything and show himself to the priest, the person "went out and began to proclaim freely and spread the word" (v. 45). We witness "a leper" becoming a proclaimer of the Good News. In our world today there are people with titles like "a leper", as we have "homeless" or "refugee" among us bereft of identity and dignity, untouchable. How can we "touch" like Jesus?

Paul's words to the Corinthians invite us to take him as the model as he takes Christ. This invitation together with the healing of one on the margins calls us to be as Christ, open to all and to be agents of healing wounds and separation.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING

Father David Ranson, Vicar General and Parish Priest of Chatswood Parish, will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Our Lady of Dolours Church 94 Archer Street Chatswood on Thursday 22nd February 2024. There is very limited parking in the Parish Kirk Street Carpark but street parking is free and available on the surrounding streets.

The evening commences with Mass at 6.00 PM followed by a light meal and a short meeting in the Magnificat Room which is directly across Kirk Street from the Church. Following the meeting Father David will be our guest speaker.

Everyone is welcome. Please "come and see".

Please remember to pray every day for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians, and novices and for the perseverance of existing vocations.

catering purposes For kindly telephone Henry or Anna Leung on 0478 083 116 or email henrywk@yahoo.com.au or telephone Terry Scanlan on 0438 887 295 or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you are planning to attend.

HEARTS ALIVE Exploring service to God through music



Curious about music ministry? Don't know anyone or where to start?

Come find out more about what serving God through music at mass is like!

OUR LADY OF DOLOURS, CHATSWOOD PLEASE REGISTER WITH THE QR CODE





1pm Lunch and games 2-5:30pm workshop 5:30-6:30pm Youth Mass

No prior music experience needed!



BETTINA.IGNACIO@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU

JOIN OUR NIGHTLY ZOOM ROSARY

Each night a group of wonderful, devoted parishioners come together on ZOOM to pray the Rosary and offer up their prayer and graces for different things. We would love for you to join us!

If you are interested, please feel free to scan the QR code below. You are also welcome to use this QR code to send us any prayer requests that you would like us to unite with you in prayer for.



JOB VACANCY

JOB VACANCIES: DIOCESAN OUTREACH ASSISTANTS -AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)

Could you share the stories of suffering Christians? Are you looking for flexible part time work? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across Sydney, Broken Bay, Perth and Maitland-Newcastle.

For more information and to view the full job ad go to www.aidtochurch.org/work

Or scan the QR code to the right.



ACN



First Reconciliation 2024

Enrolments for preparation and reception of First Reconciliation are now open via our parish website.

In our parish, children are eligible to enrol for Reconciliation once they have been Baptised and Confirmed and have reached 8 years of age or older.

To enrol your child

Go the following parish website page:

https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood/li turgy-sacraments/children-ssacraments/reconciliation

From this page, you will find all the dates and other details of the program.

Scroll to the bottom of this page and click "Enrol Here" and fill out the enrolment details as required.

For queries about sacraments for your child, please contact Angela or Mona at: <u>chatswood.sacraments@bbcatholic.org.au</u>

Enrolments close Monday 12 February

explore

#TryAlpha



VINNIES JANUARY REPORT

Chatswood St Vincent de Paul received 7 calls for help in Jan. We assisted a single mum with outfitting her two children for School and assisted 3 Disability Support Pensioners with food, clothing and medical lhelp respectively. Two cases are works in progress and we could not contact another. We will provide transport to medical care for one caller. Expenditure of \$800 was incurred.

by Chatswood St Vincent de Paul

HELP WANTED!

Fr Joey is looking for volunteers who know how to sew to help with creating a few items for the church. If you are interested or would like to know more please contact Fr Joey in person or email him at Joey.Frez@bbcatholic.org.au

S FEB 2024 Every Monday 7:00PM

KIRK STREET

MEETING ROOMS

Every year we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus at Easter. But 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.

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

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

Registration essential -Email: <u>chatswood.alpha@gmail.com</u> For queries contact: Gillian 0412 373 324; gillian-hawkins@bigpond.com





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.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW LOCATION OF METANOIA - HARRINGTON HALL

BEGINS TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 7:00PM - 9:00PM, HARRINGTON HALL - PARKING ENTRY VIA FERGUSON LANE INTO ST PIUS X COLLEGE CONTACT GILLIAN HAWKINS FOR MORE INFO ON 0412 373 324 OR AT GILLIAN-HAWKINS@BIGPOND.COM

OUR WEEK IN PICS



Metanoia kicked off with a strong start last week







Welcoming the new families of St Pius X College





Our Indonesian, Chinese, and Giftshop communities came out to the Chatswood Lunar New Year Street Fair to bring the light of Christ to the city!



FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS PUBLIC ROSARY - AD JESUM PER MARIAM!

Last Saturday 3rd February a public rosary in honour of the First Saturday Devotions as requested by Our Lady of Fatima for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary was held on the forecourt of our parish.

There were approximately 30 participants as well as Fr David, Fr Joey and Fr Marek to this first event. The Devotions commenced with a warm welcome by Fr David. The opening hymn was Salve Regina which was followed by the recitation of the Holy Rosary, Sub Tuum Praesidium, and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We finished with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, some of which was chanted. The Sacrament of Reconciliation was also available. Blessed handmade rosaries were also handed out to participants.

This will be a regular event at Our Lady of Dolours parish, held on the First Saturday of each month starting at 4pm. We hope to see you at the next First Saturday Devotions on Saturday 2nd March at 4pm on the forecourt in front of the Church! All are welcome!

By the First Saturday Devotions team (Bryce, Elaine, Lei, Stefan, Paul and Kate)



CATECHIST SUNDAY



Karen Forbes CCD Catechist Co-ordinator



This weekend 10-11 February we celebrate Catechist Sunday, acknowledging the important work of Catechists at public schools within our parish.

The act of catechesis is the bringing of the teachings of the Church to the world. A Catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church.

Why do we have a special day set aside to commission Catechists?

The work of a Catechist is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the life of the Church - her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis". This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church. It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

How are parents, the primary catechists of their children, recognised on Catechist Sunday?

Parents and caregivers are truly the primary teachers of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechist Sunday, we not only highlight the work of Catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and caregivers, and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation.

If you are interested in becoming a Catechist or an assistant in a class, and for enquiries please contact Karen Forbes at the parish office

Phone: 9410 9029. Email: <u>karen.forbes@bbcatholic.org.au</u>

Q AND A



Fr Joey Frez Assistant Priest

Angela Hague Children's Ministry Coordinator



My child is now in year 3 and hasn't been baptised – is it too late to do so?

Age is never a barrier to be baptised – people come to this decision to follow and love God through the Catholic Church all the time! Children before their 5th birthday can easily be baptized just like infant baptism. All the parents need to do is to email me (Fr Joey) and after that I will set a meeting with them to talk about the process. They will then be required to attend the Baptismal Preparation Meeting with other parents who are also intending to have their child baptized on the first Saturday of the month at 11:30 AM. Before the Baptism, in one of the 9:00am Masses, they will be presented to the whole congregation as a way of welcoming them into our parish community. Baptism usually occurs on the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 12 noon.

For children who are five years old and above, we run a 'Kids' Baptism' preparation program for children from 5-12 years of age, twice each year. The next kids Baptism Program begins on Sunday 10 March 2024. To be eligible to join the program at least one parent needs to be Catholic. If this is not the case, we still welcome your enquiry and are happy to discuss this further with you.

The Preparation Program Is held over three to four weeks and includes;

- Two child-parent small group preparation sessions
- Presentation and anointing at a 9.00am Family Mass
- A practice in the church before the Baptism Ceremony

The Baptism



Once the Kids' Baptism preparation program is completed children are eligible to be baptised. Baptisms for children in the Kid's Baptism program usually take place during our 9:00am Family Mass, however they can be arranged at another time. All the details of the dates and times of the next Kid's Baptism program are available on our Kids Baptism website page (click link below or scan the QR code above).

https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood/liturgy-sacraments/baptism/kidsbaptism

The staff had an interesting chat this week about how much knowledge we take for granted as practicing Catholics that are able to work for the church. So we would like to open a space to be able to share some of the things we know. Do you have a question about the Catholic faith, practices, beliefs that you think would be beneficial to be answered publicly? If so, e-mail the office at chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au - we would love to hear from you!



Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical, and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <u>https://BruceDownes.org/Lent</u>

Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.

IRENE MARGARET SPEAKS ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE



On Saturday Irene Margaret travelled to the cathedral in Waitara for a meeting of SJ around the Bay, the network of social justice groups from Broken Bay diocese that meets once a quarter. It's a long way to go for a meeting especially for someone who spends three days a week on dialysis so I asked her why she bothered.

Irene: Social justice matters to me. It's about community and caring how others are doing and not just about yourself.

Do you think there is much injustice in our society?

Irene: Well yes, there are things that bother me and seem unjust especially poverty. The gap between rich and poor is growing I think. There is discrimination not just gender but also ethnically and economically.

You spoke at the meeting about modern-day slavery. Is that something that particularly bothers you?

Irene: You know, I saw one of the Hunger Games movies. They are very popular but I felt disturbed that the films take enslavement as a given. It's as though they are desensitising young people and all of us to accept modern slavery. I think if people were aware of the things they buy that are made by forced labour or by exploiting women and children in cruel work conditions, they wouldn't want to buy those things. We need to create more awareness.

What else did you take away from the meeting?

Irene: There was a lot. Climate change and how it's already affecting the most at-risk people around the world and here in Sydney and the actions being taken by the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change. And the threat to marine life from deep sea mining in Australia's North West Shelf. And growing homelessness in the northern suburbs due to the very high rentals and the shortage of affordable houses for people to buy.

Doesn't it depress you hearing about all these big problems when you can't do anything about them?

Irene: I find it very interesting. It's important to me to know what is happening in the world. And I think that if you are aware, then you can make other people more aware too. Also the people there, they all have different views on things and what will make a difference and I think that's good. It means we can find better answers when we exchange our different points of view. I just wish more people came along. We have this ministry in our parish of Caring for Our World but we can't do it by ourselves. We need to work with other parishes and then we can make a bigger difference.

Thank you, Irene. The next meeting of SJ Around the Bay will be held on Saturday 11 May at a venue to be confirmed.

By Jo Karaolis AM together with Irene Margaret (pictured).



NEW GIFT ITEMS AT THE PEW GIFTSHOP

The Christmas season is over and the PEW team has restocked the Gift Shop with new inspirational gift items. Come and browse these new products at the PEW. A member of the team will be around on Sunday after the 10:30 am Mass to attend to anyone interested in buying any item. These can also be purchased anytime during office hours (through Diana at the front office).



Check our the freshly stocked gift cabinet and some of the wonderful members of our giftshop team who headed out to the Lunar New Year stall last week to sell some of their beautiful items!

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 Anselam Lakra Anselam.Lakra@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.lgnacio@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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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



Lateches Jood Shept children aged 1 to 12 years. place where children come to be with God

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





Mondavs 3:45-5:45pn

Mondays 3:45-5:45pm luesdays 3:45-5:45pm

year olds

vear olds

to find out more watch this video or contact Angela or Rose at <u>old childrens atrium@qmail.con</u>