



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish



31st SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

31 October 2021 – Year B/1

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE
PRAY FOR:

Sick: Gordon Thomas

Recently Deceased:
Esme Thomas, Liam Vinci

Church - Cnr Kirk & Archer Sts,
Chatswood
Parish Office - 94 Archer Street,
Chatswood, 2067
PO Box 1446, Chatswood, 2057

Phone: 9410 9000 or for an after
hours' emergency call 0473 046 906

www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood
chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

Youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOuWB-xkzimV6TdjNbTbSnv>

Parish Office hours:
Mon-Fri 9.30am-4pm
(Closed for lunch 1-1.30pm)

Rev Dr David Ranson VG (Parish Priest)

David.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au

[Blog: davidranson.com.au](http://Blog:davidranson.com.au)

Twitter: @FrDavidRanson

Fr Joseph Frez (Assistant Priest)

joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au

Fr Aldrin Valdehueza (Assistant Priest)

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Deacon Kevin Hale (Deacon)

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Nicole Gorman (Parish Secretary)

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Gail Gill (Faith Formation & Social
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Officer)

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Assistant)

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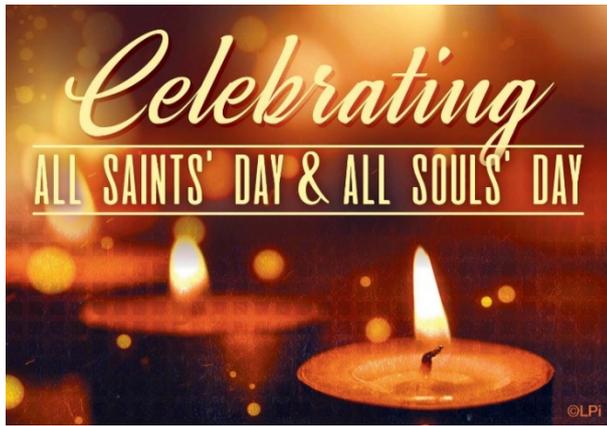
Mark 12: 28b-34

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is given a question by a scribe. This kind of interaction is very common at the time of Jesus. A great teacher is expected to be able to draw on the wisdom of the Scriptures to respond to the theological questions that are presented. The question is, "Which commandment is the first of all?" (12:28). In responding to the scribe, Jesus is able to cleverly weave together three essential concepts of Judaism: first, that God is one; second, that believers need to love this one God with their total selves; and third, that believers also have to love their neighbour as themselves. In weaving together these key Jewish beliefs, Mark presents Jesus as a scribe himself, a scholar and teacher of the Scriptures who was able to show their applications to daily life. In his response to the question, Jesus relies on a Jewish prayer called the "Shema" that he would have prayed each day and that everyone hearing him would have known as well. Jesus also refers to Deuteronomy 6:4 and 6:5 and Leviticus 19:17.

What happens next is surprising. The scribe who posed the question affirms Jesus on his keen insight to the Scriptures and Jewish life. The scribe goes even further to say that love of God, neighbour, and self is more important than the ritual of burnt offerings. Then Jesus says to the scribe, "You are not far from the kingdom of God" (12:34). Not all scribes were Jesus's adversaries; some, because their knowledge and understanding, were led to know Jesus and embrace him as the Messiah. What Jesus said was so profound that no more questions were presented to him. "After that no one dared to ask him any question" (12:34).

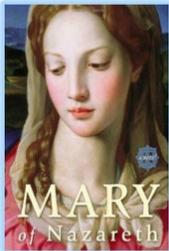
A reminder that the Parish Meeting Rooms remain closed until 1 December 2021. Please email Nicole to confirm your room bookings are still required after this time. Nicole.gorman@bbcatholic.org.au

Within our Parish



Our Masses for the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) on Tuesday, November 2nd will be at 9am, 12.30pm and 7pm. **These Masses will not be pre-booked like weekend Masses, but only the first 150 people will be able to attend each Mass so please be early.** We invite you to bring a photo of a deceased friend or relative whom you are praying for, or a flower to represent them, and we will place these reverently before the altar as a symbol that we are offering this Mass for them.

You are warmly invited to attend
Seminar with
Fr David Ranson, VG & PP
on
Blessed Virgin Mary



Topic:
Mary, Woman of Nazareth
31 Oct Sunday 7:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86715066560?pwd=51EyUjloZVd0akl0aklyMmFMFLVlZz09>
Meeting ID: 867 1506 6560
Passcode: 470319

To book in for Weekend Mass, please go to our website or click on this link:

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on a Friday until early December.

CENACLE OF THE MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS (MMP)

The Marian Movement of Priests was founded by Father Stefano Gobbi in 1972, on the 55th anniversary of Our Lady of Fátima. The MMP is an international movement consisting of priests, religious and laity who are bound in fraternal love for the Lord, His Church and each other and who are particularly devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Here in our parish, the Cenacle of the MMP meets every Monday at 11.45am near Our Lady's shrine. The whole procedure takes only about 30 minutes. Do you have 30 minutes a week to spare to join us in this devotion?" We resume our meeting in the church on Monday 25 October at 11.45am (Mass commences at new time of 12.30pm)

Chinese Bible quote:

Freely you have received, freely give.
白白的得来,也要白白的舍去。

The **Catholic Weekly** newspaper is back for sale at \$2 per copy into the church foyer. Euthanasia is a hot topic in the circular media at the moment, so perhaps one way of keeping abreast of what is happening is to read the *Catholic Weekly*.

New (WhatsApp) chat channel for anyone interested in Plenary Council (Catholic Church in Australia) updates.

On Tuesday 12th October, 8pm via zoom, Fr David shared with us (interested O.L.D. parishioners) his reflections on the First General Assembly of the 5th Plenary Council that took place from 3rd-10th October. A number of interested attendees have decided to form a virtual group via chat so we can keep each other up to date on what is happening in this area, as well as allow a space to share our thoughts and ideas on the many aspects of the plenary which will affect us. If you would like to join this chat group, please let the Parish Office know (including your name and contact number), and we will happily add you to our group.

Anthony Seeto

From Fr David

Dear friends

It has been lovely seeing so many of you again as our Masses have recommenced. Now, it is as if we are almost back to normal! However, we continue to proceed with care. As we shared last week, for some people now is not the time to return to our church and we fully respect this. We must make personal decisions that are at the service of our own safety and the safety of our families. Our return as a community will be a journey then over a number of months. Again, please let me know if there is any difficulty for you personally and we will seek to respond as creatively as we can.

We have sorted out some of the technological difficulties of checking in to the church without a smart phone. However, the most important thing is that everyone registers their attendance at the church in one way or another.

This Sunday, Fr Aldrin celebrates our 10.30am Mass. At the conclusion of this Mass, we will present our new priest with some gifts marking the most significant moment of his Ordination. Thank you to all those who have contributed so generously to celebrating this great event. Fr Aldrin is now awaiting news of his pastoral appointment from Bishop Anthony.

The renovation on the presbytery is now in full swing. Fr Joey and I have relocated close by for the next several weeks as two of the bathrooms are completely redone. The dust and debris are a small price to pay for the benefits at the other end. Again, my deep appreciation to Michael Mercer, our Facilities and Finance Manager, for his oversight of the works.

Next Monday, 1 November we celebrate our annual Solemnity of All Saints. We will have just the one Mass on Monday at the usual time of 12.30pm. However, on Tuesday 2 November the Commemoration of All Souls we will have three Masses available: 9am, 12.30pm and 7.00pm. From this weekend we will also create a special place on the sanctuary to which we invite you to bring photos of those deceased you wish for us all to remember during the month of November which is the time each year we are especially mindful of those who have died. Please feel welcome to bring your framed photos at any time during the month, and place them on the dedicated space you will see in front of the altar.

We will also have a Book of Remembrance there in which you can write the names of your deceased. These we will remember in our prayers through our November Masses. If you would like one of the priests to remember your deceased specifically during one of their Masses over the month, there will also be envelopes available in the church for this purpose.

It is not long before our HSC students begin their exams. As a parish community we would like to support them in a special way this year with our prayer. To this end next Saturday 6 November at 12 noon we will have an online Rosary for them. Exams begin on 8 November and during the weeks of the exams we are exploring opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration dedicated to prayer for our students. We will have more details about this next week for you.

Continue to keep safe and well,

Fr David

Rev Dr David Ranson PP VG

PASTORAL
WORKS Broken Bay

November 2021 Appeal Next Weekend

St Edmund's College is one of the five beneficiaries of Pastoral Works Broken Bay.



The College supports 120 students with disabilities such as intellectual, sensory impairment or autism, providing skills and experience for them to fully engage in life.

Your generous donations help with vital fee assistance to families in our Catholic community so that their children can access the services offered by St Edmund's.

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and allocated to your Parish contribution for Pastoral Works Broken Bay. Please give generously by either using the QR code above, completing one of the PWBB envelopes on the pews or online by clicking the link below.

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood/giving/pastoral-works-broken-bay>



Helping People. Changing Lives.

SOMETHING NEW AT O.L.D

On Thursday 17th October, Our Lady of Dolours launched its new Community Action initiative with a zoomed liturgy attended by 49 parishioners. In launching Community Action, Fr David spoke of the importance of names and of our parish reflecting our Church's name: Our Lady of Sorrows or Our Lady of Compassion.

Community Action is a way we can together be a church that helps others by 'suffering with them' as Mary did with Jesus. In illustrating Fr David's message, Jo Karaolis outlined the actions that will follow during the remainder of the year to lay the foundations of the work to follow in 2022. These include communal study of Pope Francis's book, *Let Us Dream*, which is the inspiration for joining in Community Action; training by the Sydney Alliance in grassroots organisation to exercise influence for the common good; a course in deep listening to enhance our communication with those on the margins and the opportunity for specialist training in the areas of action for 2022.

The areas of action were identified as including a Coffee Club with the Dougherty Centre for neighbours with dementia, a Christmas Social for adults with intellectual disabilities, youth events for young troubled clients of StreetWork and the provision of a hot meal once a week in winter for homeless and hungry people in Chatswood.

Ditas Nguit provided more details of the training to be provided and why it is necessary, followed by Gillian Hawkins who spoke about the book, *Let Us Dream*. The liturgy was created by the very talented and hard-working Ditas Nguit and was very moving. It was followed by a robust Q&A session.

Anyone wishing to know more about Community Action should contact Gillian Hawkins gillian-hawkins@bigpond.com, Ditas Naguit bhnaguit@gmail.com or Jo Karaolis jokaraolis1@bigpond.com



The Parish Pastoral and Missionary Council met online on Thursday 21st October. Following our warm congratulations on the ordination of Fr Aldrin earlier this week, we continued our reflection on an extract from *Fratelli Tutti*. This week's focus was Chapter 6, Dialogue and Friendship in Society. We are called to recognise other people's right to be themselves. We are reminded that exploitation within society, including the poor, will eventually lead to grave consequences. Instead, we are to be inclusive and respectful - acknowledging different worldviews. "We have to stand in the place of others, if we are to discover what is genuine, or at least understandable, in their motivations and concerns".

With joy, we discussed the reopening of Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood Church for prayer and mass. Bookings are essential for weekend masses, as are QR scanning upon entry (more details on the parish website). Mercy Catholic College and O.L.D. Chatswood schools have reopened, and this has been well received. There is an air of excitement as our community has the opportunity to come together in person once again.

We also discussed other updates within our parish - both precinct and church. The church is ready for an uplift and we were briefed on the current state, heritage standing and potential opportunities of the church by Carlos and Sarah of VS Design Studio. There will be wide consultation on the work needed, including what improvements we, the parish, would like to see take place that aligns with our vision for the Church. This consultation will begin next year, as our beautiful church enters its 2nd century.

The Parish Pastoral and Missionary Council

ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR SIGNUP FOR 2021



If you would like to reserve a date for Altar flowers, we still have a few weekends left in the 2021 calendar year. Altar flower arrangements can

be in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a special occasion; birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms, marriages, etc,. The suggested donation for flower memorials is \$100. Volunteers will then beautifully and simply arrange the flowers for Sunday. Please submit your donation at least one week prior to the date you would like to dedicate the flowers. This will give the parish office time to ensure your dedication is in the weekly bulletin.