



Parish Office: 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067

(02) 9410 9000 | Emergency: 0473 046 906 | PO Box 1446 Chatswood, NSW 2057

PARISH OF CHATSWOOD

21 May 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year A)

The Ascension of the Lord



The Ascension by Gustave Dore

A very warm welcome to anyone 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 visit our parish website at www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood

Would you like to receive our Parish Bulletin by email? Please contact chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

This week we begin collections for the Broken Bay Pastoral Works appeal - an important avenue of support for our community particularly in supporting the work of our catechists and hospital chaplains.

Laudato Si' overlaps with National Reconciliation week giving us a wonderful chance to consider our faith in light of how we care for creation and stand in solidarity with our Aboriginal brothers and sisters

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

**All authority in heaven and on earth
has been given to me.**

This Sunday's Gospel - Matthew 28:16-20



Fr David Ranson
Parish Priest

Dear friends.

Our special thoughts go to Angela Estaban this weekend. Angela farewelled her husband Artemio Farol last Friday morning from our church. We extend to Angela and her family our deepest sympathy and the assurance of our prayer at this sad time. Eternal rest grant unto Artemio, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

As I shared last weekend, we have continued to progress the re-configuration of our parish staffing. I am pleased to share with you that we have created now two new positions in our parish team:

1. Manager of Parish Operations
2. Parish Support Officer

In so doing, I am very happy to share with you that I have appointed Olivia Lee to the position of Manager of Parish Operations. Olivia will bring her set of skills already well known and valued by us to this new role. She will take forward many of her current responsibilities such as Communication, Asset Management, and Liaison with parish ministry leaders and groups, and combine these now with more general oversight of our parish's operations. I am confident that Olivia will exercise her new role with much dedication, energy and professionalism.

Taking up Olivia's former role (somewhat amended) in the front office will be Carol Langley. Carol is not unknown to us as she acted as Temp in our Parish Office for some days earlier in the year. Carol hails from Manly. Shas a PhD in Theatre (UNSW), Master of Arts in Theatre (UNSW) and a Bachelor of Science (Sydney). She is a published author, writer and tutor, particularly in French and Hebrew. After pursuing a career in information technology, Carol established a marketing services company, and since then, has worked as a freelance writer on corporate contracts and on personal projects. Carol enjoyed her time so much with us earlier, that she is delighted to be back with us in this full time capacity.

These two new positions commence on Monday 22 May. Together with those who have more recently joined us - our wonderful Administration Assistant, Chloe Aylward, our brilliant new Director of Music, Titus Grenyer and our very dedicated CCD Coordinator, Karen Forbes - we have much look forward to as we continue our journey Being Church in the City. Please join with me in wishing Olivia and Carol the very best in this new chapter for our parish office team.

We continue through until June our Pastoral Works Broken Bay Appeal, the pastoral charity of our Diocese of Broken Bay. Our Pastoral works are at the forefront of our community, serving those in need, helping to rebuild and renew families and parish communities and introducing our children in state schools to the wonder and beauty of our faith. The appeal mainly supports two key Diocesan ministries which get little or no government funding. They are:

- The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) – around 650 volunteer catechists taking the Gospel

to approximately 14,000 state school children during the school terms. CCD provides a large range of online resources for the students plus newsletters, training, and workshops for the volunteers.

- Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Program – again Chaplain and care practitioners visit more than 3,000 individual hospital patients each year. Some are end-of-life patients, many may feel isolated, lonely or fearful; others will recover but are grateful to receive the sacraments; while some are parents trying to come to terms with very sick children or babies. There are probably many amongst us who have or are facing similar circumstances and are very aware of the time, care and attention offered by this ministry.

Funds raised during the appeal go directly to these ministries. It is a difficult time to be asking people to be generous. We are all facing cost-of-living challenges in many ways. However, our support and generosity are vitally important. It has made a huge difference in the past to many people. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. These donations contribute to our Parish target. Our own Parish is committed to raising some \$70,000 annually for the Appeal, and by the end of June we have some \$40,000 remaining to raise. Everyone's gift makes a difference.

Recently, we have had cameras and systems installed in our church to provide us with a very professional capacity for live-streaming. Though most people have now re-joined us (last weekend we had over 1200 people join us for our Masses), our capacity to broadcast will ensure our outreach even further – across the world! The capacity gives us opportunity, especially, for significant events – such as School Graduations – and also for weddings and funerals. The equipment, software, and systems now installed are 'state-of-the-art' with remarkable functionality to make the experience of watching what is livestreamed very professional and first class. The operating system is now in the corner of the choir loft. And now we are looking for operators! Might there be people who would be interested in becoming first class operators of the cameras and film makers? This is something open to people of all ages! It may be, however that some senior students, in particular, would really enjoy engaging this ministry? If anyone is excited and interested by this possibility, do let me or Olivia in our parish office know, and we will arrange training with Ben Thrum, our sound engineer who has installed the system for us and to whom we are very grateful.

We look forward to next weekend, the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost which brings to a close the Season of Easter. It is the great Amen to what we actually began 90 days ago at Ash Wednesday. The ash placed then on our foreheads has become the fire of the Spirit inflaming our hearts and minds. It will be a great moment to share our Parish Mission which is now been discerned through the remarkable engagement of so many people. This we will do through a special Pastoral Letter to our community which I have written for next weekend.

With my deep affection,

Fr David

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Barbara Alvarino Jaramillo; Artemio Farol; Yvonne Brownley Frewen; Lillas Roche;

SICK:

Margaret Marchetto; Elena Guerrero; Cynthia Martin; Baldo Polizzi; Anthony Mustaca.

ANNIVERSARY:

Hugh Russell; Margarita Tu & Jean Marie; Paul Truc Le.

For Cailin as she prepares for Mission School later this year.

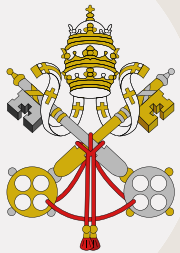
For Carol and Olivia as they take up their new employment roles.

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

The Pope's Prayer Intention for May

For church movements and groups:

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.



PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay.

Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

Thank you for your generosity

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College
Students with disabilities

Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners

Ephpheta Centre
Deaf community

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

To donate, complete the form in the envelope available in your parish and return to your parish.

Or go online by scanning the QR code or visiting: bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks. Thank you.



Everyone's gift you give makes a difference. Thank you for your time and generosity!



We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we gather, the Cammeraygal people, and pay respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as we continue the journey of Reconciliation and pray for justice and peace.

Image: Crucifixion by Richard Campbell

Our Lady of Dolours Parish is committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and those in the community who are vulnerable.

Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ who teaches the fundamental sanctity of each human person.

Should you witness anything that undermines the safety of anyone in this parish please contact the parish office on (02) 9410 9000 or chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au or contact the Office of Safeguarding on (02) 8379 1605



Scan this QR code to donate to the first or second collection for our Parish.

Thank you for the many ways in which you already support our parish!

SCAN TO GIVE



Connect with us!

FACEBOOK



WEBSITE



FR DAVID'S BLOG



FLORAL ARRANGEMENT DONATIONS

Altar flower arrangements can be donated to honour any special occasion. Donations can be made on a one-time basis or annually. The suggested donation for floral arrangements is \$100. Volunteers will then beautifully and simply arrange your flowers for Sunday.

Please submit your donation at least one month prior to the date you would like to dedicate the flowers.

To reserve a date on the calendar, contact the parish on 02 9410 9000 or chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au



Every week the parish is generously supplied with beautiful, fresh, flowers from Dale and Winnie over at Roseville Fresh Foods - 55 Hill St, Roseville NSW 2069. We thank Dale and Winnie deeply for the generosity and care with which they have supported our parish!

Thank you!

Requests for Mass Intentions:

It is a privilege to our priests to be able to offer Mass for a special intention, we welcome such requests. It is important to note, however, that a priest can only receive one intention per Mass. Therefore, it may not be possible to have a Mass offered on a specific day and time, given that the priest may already have allocated an intention for the Mass. Do be assured that if a Mass cannot be offered on a specific occasion it will be offered by a priest at the first available opportunity. Notwithstanding, if you would like a Mass for a specific purpose at a particular time, please contact a priest directly to seek to arrange this.

Discerning our parish **MISSION**



During masses last weekend we were invited to discern between three shortlisted, potential parish mission statements. An incredible 546 parishioners responded, and based on this discernment, Fr. David will be announcing our adopted parish mission statement at Pentecost next weekend.

In recent weeks we have also been sharing parishioner responses to the question, what is the primary purpose God is calling us to focus on as a parish mission?

Here is a further selection of our responses...

“To bring more people into our church. To build on the faith of existing members. Help it become more meaningful. To keep children in our church after receiving the sacraments and into adulthood until eventually bringing their own families to church.”

“Showing our ways of life as we follow the teaching of Christ.”

“To be a light in a secular and satanic world. To stand against evil such as - beliefs that are against Jesus.”

“To help each other, for us to feel safe and welcome.”

“To love God as we love one another.”

“Discern what we can offer and help with.”

“To support our wonderful church, Our Lady of Dolours, our Priests and to give thanks to God for all the daily good things, to pray for our families, to support one another and to pray for one another, and to give all we can for charity and to be most importantly have a place of worship.”

“To form communities so that we may be the place where they can communicate with each other and between each other. So that they may be of service and focus on helping and understanding each other so as to reduce the polarisation in our community. When we stop talking to each other we stop understanding and having the capacity to accept that yes, we are different but that this means we all have different gifts to offer each other and God.”

“To pray for each other. In this busy society there's no time for people to think or listen to each other. So, we need to pray for those who need comfort.”

“To cultivate hope, faith, peace and joy.”

“Outreach - evangelisation.”

“To grow our faith and spread the word of God in the community.”

“Helping sharing others with love.”

“To evangelise, to spread the Good News to those yet to know Jesus.”

“To gather together and as one to do Jesus' work of spreading the word of God and to help those who need it the most.”

“To love one another in fellowship. To care for and keep our eyes on one another so God's two commandments are fulfilled - 1. love God, 2. Love your neighbour.”

“To enter the lives of those around our church so they can experience, through knowing the glory and freedom and knowing Jesus. But first we must know them - not stay locked in our pews everyday only knowing each other.”

“To care for those who need help and nourishment - to teach and love. To make opportunities to train and serve one another.”

“To support existing members and recruit more members.”

Only Luke separates out resurrection, ascension, and giving of the Spirit over a fifty-day period. The clear implication in John's Gospel is that the Spirit is given on the day of the resurrection and that the ascension has occurred around the same time since, one week later, Jesus invites Thomas to touch him—something that Mary of Magdala had been forbidden one week earlier because the ascension had not yet occurred. In essence they are all different dimensions of the one reality, and the church, in following Luke's chronology, allows us to reflect on this one reality over fifty days in all its richly different aspects.

In Matthew's Gospel what is interesting is that we have the account of the women at the tomb (Matt 28:1-10), the account we proclaimed at the Easter Vigil, where the angel tells them not to be afraid and instructs them to tell the disciples of Jesus' having been raised and instructs them to go to Galilee. On the way to tell the disciples, the women see Jesus, who also tells them not to be afraid. The encounter between the women and the disciples is not described, and what we hear from the very last lines of the gospel, which we have just heard, is that the disciples are in Galilee. When Jesus appears some hesitate to recognise him.

We have a homily preached by Leo the Great, bishop of Rome between 440 and 461, on this solemn feast early in his episcopate, in 444. Leo saw the hesitancy of some of the disciples having a spiritual significance. His explanation was that it was for our benefit:

The Spirit of Truth would by no means have permitted this hesitation, wavering in human weakness, to enter the hearts of his preachers, if their trembling anxiety and questioning delay were not to have established the foundations of our faith. Consequently, it was our doubts, our danger, that was being considered in the apostles. We, in the guise of the apostles, were being instructed against the slanders of the wicked and the proofs of earthly wisdom. Their 'seeing' instructed us, their 'hearing' informed us, their 'touching' strengthened us. Let us give thanks for the divine plan and the necessary 'slowness' of the Holy Fathers [the apostles]. They 'doubted' so that we need not doubt. (Sermo 73)

In Matthew's Gospel, the ascension is the moment of the great commissioning. To be a disciple is to be sent into the world to bear witness to the resurrection, to be a messenger of the good news of hope and promise and of the victory of life over death and of love over sin. We hear no more about the fear of the disciples after this. This is the paradox of Christianity: the one who was dead is alive, the one who has gone remains with us, those who fail are forgiven, those who fear are fortified. This is the mystery of faith, this is the hope God's call holds for us. Would that we allow the eyes of our minds to be enlightened by this promise of the rich glories we are to inherit.

These rich glories are beyond our wildest dreams. Leo the Great concluded that the promise of the ascension is not that we shall be restored to the paradise of our first parents, but we shall be raised to the heights of heaven itself and dwell in the very presence of God:

Since the ascension of Christ is our elevation, and since, where the glory of the head has preceded us, there hope for the body is also invited, let us exult, dearly beloved, with worthy joy and be glad with a holy thanksgiving. Today we are established not only as possessors of paradise, but we have even penetrated the heights of the heavens in Christ. (Sermo 73)

In our eucharist we are thankful that the Christ who has left us is still present with us in the bread that is his body and the wine that is his blood. We share in this meal that we may share in the triumph of life over death, in the triumph of love over death. We are an Easter people and alleluia is our song.

MASS & LITURGIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday
22 May:

- 11:30am Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 11:45am Rosary (Cenacle, MMP)
- **12:30pm Mass**

Tuesday
23 May:

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:00am Mass
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 12:30pm Mass

Wednesday
24 May:

**Our Lady Help of
Christians**

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- **9:00am Mass**
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Thursday
25 May:

- 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 (Confession) also available.

Friday
26 May:

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- **9:00am Mass**
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- 12:30pm Mass
- 1:00pm Wedding (Private)

Saturday
27 May:

- 8:45am Morning Prayer
- 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation (Confession), and Rosary
- 10:00am Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- 10:30am Benediction
- **5:30pm Vigil Mass**

Sunday Mass
28 May:
Pentecost

- **7:30am Mass**
- **9:00am Family Mass**
- **10:30am Mass**
- **5:30pm Youth Mass**



Cultural Community Mass:

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

GATHERINGS THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday
22 May:

- 10:00am: Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
- 4:00pm: Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
- 4:00pm: Atrium 6-9 and 9-12 year olds (Atrium)
- 7:00pm: Alpha

Tuesday
23 May:

- 10:00am: Bible Discussion Group (St Paul)
- 4:00pm: Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
- 4:00pm: Atrium 6-9 and 9-12 year olds (Atrium)
- 7:00pm: Indonesian Legion of Mary (St Peter)
- 7:00pm: Filipino Choir Practice (St Paul)
- 7:30pm: Wild Goose Faith Discussion and Reflection (Magnificat)

Wednesday
24 May:
**Our Lady Help
of Christians**

- 9:30am: Lifestyle English Conversation Programme (Magnificat)
- 11:00am: Parish Staff Meeting (Magnificat)
- 7:00pm: Men Alive (Magnificat)
- 7:15pm: Exploring the Faith Course (St Peter)
- 8:00pm: Zoom Rosary - Meeting ID: 392 679 1205 - No Pword.

Thursday
25 May:

- 10:00am: Atrium 3-6 years old (Atrium)
- 5:00pm: Music Reading Lessons (St Paul)
- 5:30pm: Choir Rehearsal (Church)
- 6:00pm: Legion of Mary (St Peter).

Friday
26 May:

- 10:00am: Meditation (St Paul)
- 7:00pm: Online Zoom Meditation

Saturday
27 May:

- 8:00am: Men Alive Weekend (Harrington Hall)
- 10:00am: Catechumens Celebration (Magnificat)
- 11:00am: Choir Rehearsal for 9:00am Mass (St Paul)
- 10:30am: Marian Catholic Action Group (St Peter)

Sunday Mass
28 May:
Pentecost

- 8:00am: Men Alive Weekend (Harrington Hall)
- 10:00am: Baptism Families Morning Tea (Magnificat)
- 6:30pm: Cornerstone and Keystone Youth Groups Meeting (Magnificat, St Paul).



CELEBRATING MAY THE MONTH OF MARY

Marian Devotions at our Parish:

- Mondays – 11.45 am (Cenacle rosary of the Marian Movement of Priest)
- Tuesdays – Saturdays at 9.30 am (following the 9 am Mass)
- Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help – every Saturday at 10 am
- Parish Zoom Rosary at 8 pm – on special feast days of Our Lady (next one is on 13 May)
- Inviting the image of Our Lady of Fatima to your home for a few days and pray as a family.



Cecilia O



Visitation of Mary to your Home:

Would you like to take home Mary's statue in the month of May? You may have your own statue of Mary, and that is wonderful, but consider this as a blessed visit with spiritual blessing for your family. A statue is available to be picked up from OLOD Church to stay in your home for one or two days. A booklet of prayers will be provided to help you venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary during her statues visit to your home.

If you are interested, please sign up on the list at the statue's table or e-mail chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au or approach one of the priests or contact Cecilia at 0466 961 240. - Fr Marek

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING THE ROSARY TO HONOUR OUR BLESSED MOTHER ON HER SPECIAL FEAST DAYS - VIA ZOOM



*Our Lady Help of
Christians,
Patroness of
Australia*

*Wednesday,
24 May at 8 pm*



*Mary, Mother of the
Church*

(In 1980 Pope St John Paul II added this title to the Litany of Loreto and Pope Francis decreed in 2018 that the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, be inscribed in the Roman Calendar on the Monday after Pentecost and be now celebrated every year.)

*Monday
29 May at 8 pm*

Meeting ID for both Rosaries : 392 679 1205 (No passcode required)

Or click on: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3926791205>



WE'RE LOOKING FOR A YOUTH MINISTER



Do you have a passion for working with youth and young people? Are you dynamic & enthusiastic about the Catholic faith? Are you willing to help our youth and young people engage with their faith in a fun, caring and supportive environment?

Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood invites you to join their team as a Youth Minister, working casually two days per week, including 5 hours on Sunday (4:30pm to 9:00pm).

This is an exciting role where you will build and maintain a parish youth group, encouraging young people to engage and participate in parish youth activities, ensuring a sense of fun, community, belonging and faith for the youth and young adults in the parish.

You'll work to build a strong youth network and collaborate with like groups and organisations as well as encouraging, supporting and assisting volunteers to assist in the youth ministry.

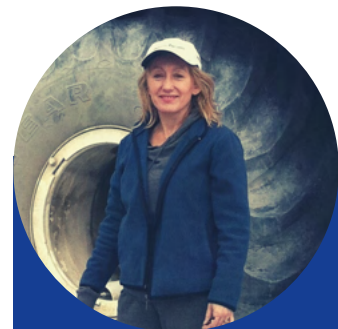
The ideal candidate will have a good understanding of the Catholic Church coupled with a comprehensive knowledge of, and experience in the delivery of contemporary youth ministry programs. These skills supported by well-developed communication and interpersonal skills will be crucial to your success.

If the above sounds like you, please apply by sending a CV and brief cover letter addressing role requirements via email to Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au

Applications close Friday, 2 June 2023

The Diocese of Broken Bay is committed to and promotes a culture of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our Diocese has no tolerance to child abuse and is committed to ensuring our staff and volunteers understand the joint responsibility to safeguard all those within our community.

CATECHISTS CORNER



Karen Forbes
CCD Catechist
Co-ordinator

The Catechist Coordinator & Year 1 Catechists from the Chatswood primary public schools are attending the Year 1 Mass this Sunday 21 May, and morning tea afterwards.

Fr. David will lead us in Introductory Rites and give a special welcome to the Year One children and their families to the congregation.

We have children preparing for First Communion and this week they have been learning more about the prayers and gestures prayed over the bread and wine at Mass.

The children will be invited to gather around the altar to watch these prayers during Mass. Hope to see you there!

OUR WEEK IN PICS



Our pilgrims at World Youth Day Formation, together with our friend and seminarian Huy Tran - not long to go!



Who knew an online Rosary could look so good!



Our pilgrimage coordinators were hard at work making lunch for our 3 Saints Pilgrimage this Saturday!



Our Community Action Group attended the Strategic & Effective Leadership Training held by Sydney Alliance on 4th & 5th May and look to be very energised for the work ahead!



Happy birthday to the wonderful Bernadette! The choir celebrated with cake and what I assume was probably the most in tune rendition of the Happy Birthday song.

This week we continue the celebration of Laudato Si' Week and welcome the start of National Reconciliation Week - two very important representations of Catholic Social Teaching: care for God's creation, and Solidarity.

This week is a great opportunity to consider how as a community, and as individuals, we can take steps to contribute positively to greater respect for the Earth and for our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.

INDIGENOUS

There is a deep interconnection between the health of Country and the health of Indigenous people.

As Indigenous peoples' lands and seas are returned to their care, so are cultural management practices.

Land rights and native title have enabled recognition of some Indigenous rights across 57% of Australia's lands

Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) are growing and make up nearly half of Australia's National Reserve System, delivering multiple conservation, socio-economic and cultural benefits.

Indigenous-led and governed caring for Country, undertaken via holistic and long-term programs, is key to future success.

2021 State of the Environment Report

It needs to be said that, generally speaking, there is little in the way of clear awareness of problems which especially affect the excluded. Yet they are the majority of the planet's population, billions of people. These days, they are mentioned in international political and economic discussions, but one often has the impression that their problems are brought up as an afterthought, a question which gets added almost out of duty or in a tangential way, if not treated merely as collateral damage. Indeed, when all is said and done, they frequently remain at the bottom of the pile. This is due partly to the fact that many professionals, opinion makers, communications media and centres of power, being located in affluent urban areas, are far removed from the poor, with little direct contact with their problems. They live and reason from the comfortable position of a high level of development and a quality of life well beyond the reach of the majority of the world's population. This lack of physical contact and encounter, encouraged at times by the disintegration of our cities, can lead to a numbing of conscience and to tendentious analyses which neglect parts of reality. At times this attitude exists side by side with a "green" rhetoric. Today, however, we have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

LAUDATO SI', NO. 49

REFLECTIONS

Are you aware of any Indigenous communities whose land and culture have been affected by economic activity such as mining or environmental threats such as climate change?

How might getting to know local First Nations people and talking with them about caring for country make a difference for the environment and for First Nations peoples themselves?

ACTION

Attend a National Reconciliation Week event in your local community and continue to nurture relationships with local elders and communities and talk to them about caring for country:

Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia are offering a three-part webinar series on this year's Voice to Parliament referendum.

The Indigenous Voice to Parliament: Moments for healing this country event will bring together a range of speakers on this important topic. On May 25, Professor Melissa Castan will explore questions including: What is the history surrounding the referendum? Should First Nations people have a Voice in Parliament? Why is it being proposed as an adaption to the Australian Constitution?

The second webinar on June 29 will be given by Fr Frank Brennan SJ, who will look at how the Church has engaged in Aboriginal affairs, and why Catholics should take serious interest in the referendum.

The final session on July 27 will feature three different voices of First Nations peoples who will consider what the Voice means for them, for their communities and for Australia.

Details:

www.trybooking.com/CHXKH



When was the last time you felt **really alive?**



God is glorified
when men are
fully alive
St Irenaeus

MEN'S WEEKEND

The menALIVE Men's Weekend is an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. The experience of the weekend is powerful and dynamic and many men are inspired and encouraged with a new sense of purpose and mission. The weekend is organised by men in your local community and conducted by an experienced team of menALIVE leaders. It is suitable for all men from 18 years of age.

27 - 28 May 2023

Harrington Hall, Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church
94 Archer Street, Chatswood NSW 2067

For more information, contact:

Peter Woo
0433 030 016 / pwoo2010@gmail.com

Steve Lia
0412 667 657 / steve.lia@menalive.org.au

SAT 27/5: 8am - 8pm | SUN 28/5: 8am - 1:30pm

Cost: \$50 (Sat Lunch and BBQ Dinner provided)

<https://www.trybooking.com/CHDBW>

(RSVP by 19/05/2023)



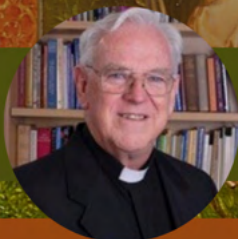
The purpose of menALIVE is to bring men together, to renew their faith in God, and to encourage them to become an active force within the Church.

www.menalive.org.au



THE BOOK OF Revelation

A SERIES OF TALKS WITH
BISHOP DAVID WALKER
DIVING INTO THE BOOK OF REVELATION



**01
JULY**

**08
JULY**

**15
JULY**

3:30pm - 5:00pm at the Magnificat Room
96 Archer St, Chatswood - entry from Kirk St

For more info please contact
chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

All are welcome!

*What if it's
real?*



ALTARATION+

THE MYSTERY OF THE MASS REVEALED

DO I HAVE TO COME TO MASS?

WHAT IS ACTUALLY HAPPENING
DURING MASS?

IS MASS MORE THAN JUST
AN OLD STORY?

COMMENCING:

29 MAY

PROGRAM
IS MADE UP OF
7 SESSIONS
HELD
ON MONDAYS
FROM 7.30PM
TO 9PM
AT MAGNIFICAT
ROOM
BOOKING



DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH?

JOIN OUR

LIFESTYLE ENGLISH CONVERSATION PROGRAMME(LECP)

2023 PROGRAMME CONTINUES EACH WEDNESDAY DURING SCHOOL TERM



What is involved?

Each week mentors will select 'topics' of interest as the basis for our conversation in English

You will have the opportunity to develop your speaking skills and increase your confidence in a friendly space!

WHEN DO WE MEET?
EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 9:30-11:00AM
DURING SCHOOL TERM

WHERE:
MAGNIFICAT PARISH
MEETING ROOM,
O.L.D. CHATSWOOD

What is Lifestyle English Conversation Programme?

As a person with a language background other than English, this programme may be of particular interest to you.

LECP gives people (over 18) of all cultural backgrounds who are not comfortable with the use of everyday English, the opportunity to improve their language skills and build confidence through conversations in English with the support of our mentors.

Still interested?

For more information please contact
Anthony on 0414364522 or
anthony@churchinthecity.com.au
(Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood Catholic Church)

If you know friends or family members who could benefit from LECP, please let them know!

RECALLING THE MESSAGE OF FATIMA DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

When Josef Stalin, the cruel Soviet tyrant was cautioned that his actions would arouse the opposition of the Vatican, he scoffed in response saying "O yes, and how many battalions does the Pope have?" Stalin understood political and military power but he had no appreciation of the spiritual.

When Our Lady appeared to the three peasant children at Fatima, she warned of the pending Bolshevik revolution in Russia which was to lead to the communists assuming control which brought Stalin to power. Our Lady asked for the rosary and penance to combat the ascent of evil within the world. She tells us that the battle between good and evil is essentially a spiritual battle and therefore peace and human flourishing will only come when the hearts of people are formed by the principles of love of God and neighbour which of course is at the heart of the Catholic faith.

Christians Association on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 7.30 pm and the zoom rosary group at 8 pm on each of the other nights of the week (<https://zoom.us/j/8034195601> - Mon to Sat. Please ring 0466 961 240 for Zoom link for Sun)

We also have the opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament exposed for our adoration on Thursdays following the 9 am Mass through to 12 noon and at 7 pm.

The parish bulletin keeps parishioners informed of many other devotions we have within our parish, such as the Parish Zoom Rosary (led by our clergy) to be held on Wednesday at 8 pm on 24 May (Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians) and Monday at 8 pm on 29 May (Feast of Mary Mother of the Church). Meeting ID for both Rosaries: 3926791205 (No passcode required)



As we again celebrate the anniversary of Our Lady's apparitions at Fatima, it is apposite to recall the message of Our Lady and to intensify our efforts at prayer and penance in order to combat the growing tide of evil within our society and in the world generally.

In our parish we have the opportunity to participate in the rosary said after morning the Mass (Tuesdays to Saturdays), to participate in the Zoom meetings of Our Lady Help of

or type in your computer's browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3926791205>.

Naturally we are encouraged to undertake our own personal acts of prayer and penance. In these ways we can assert a powerful influence on our world though even in circumstances in which we have no political and of course no military influence.

By Michael O - Marian Catholic Action Group



A FUNDRAISER FOR THE JESUIT REFUGEE SOCIETY AND THE HOUSE OF WELCOME

FREEDOM FEAST



6:30PM SATURDAY 3RD JUNE 2023



HARRINGTON HALL, ENTRY FROM
FERGUSON LANE, CHATSWOOD



TICKETS \$35 INC. 2 COURSE MEAL
+ DRINKS



SCAN CODE TO BUY TICKETS OR GO TO
EVENTS.HUMANITIX.COM/FREEDOM-FEAST



GUEST SPEAKER:

JAMES ATANASIOUS

PEACE, JUSTICE,
AND ECOLOGY
FACILITATOR,
DIOCESE OF
PARRAMATTA

I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'
Matt.25:36

Once again, on Saturday 3rd June, our parish Community Action group is holding a Freedom Feast in support of refugees and asylum seekers. The Feast will include tasty dishes from the countries from which refugees come to Australia seeking refuge from imprisonment, fear and poverty, for themselves and their children. Our guest speaker will be James Atanasious from the Australian Catholic University and the Parramatta Diocese's Peace, Justice and Ecology ministry of which he is the facilitator. James will speak of his own experience as a refugee from South Sudan via refugee camps in Africa to first Tasmania and then Sydney. Last year we raised \$6000 from this event and we hope to do the same this year. The money raised will be shared between the Jesuit Refugee Service and the House of Welcome. The ticket cost is \$35 which includes the two-course meal and drinks. Register here through Humanitix: events.humanitix.com/freedom-feast or scan the code on the poster above.

Aid to the Church in Need

The Catholic Charity Aid to the Church in Need has launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign. Did you know that in 2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria? These were not Nigerians who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death. This is a Church being crucified with Christ. To watch testimonies and to make an offering visit www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal



CHOIR CORNER



Titus Grenyer
Director of Music

As we look to enhance the worship in our parish, the time has come to formally establish the Parish Choir. This choir rehearses on Thursday evenings from 5:30-7:00pm, and generally sings on a Sunday at the 10:30am service. If you love to sing, you are invited to be a part of the next chapter in our church's musical life. Regular attendance is not essential.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

On the third Sunday of each month, we invite the children of the parish to sing in the Children's Choir for the 9:00am mass. Music is a wonderful and natural gift of children, and this is the perfect opportunity for them to be a part of the music in the church. Rehearsals take place after the 9:00am mass, on the second Sunday of the month.

If you have any questions, please contact titus.grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au

MUSIC READING LESSONS

Have you ever wondered how to decipher written music but not known who to ask?

Eileen Gallery is running basic music reading lessons. Feel free to come along if:

- you're a choir member who can't read music, or would like to improve your music reading skills; or
- you're thinking of joining the choir, but concerned that reading music might be a prerequisite. It isn't, but the ability to read music makes learning new songs much easier and faster.

So if you're not sure, why not come along. Join us at 5pm on Thursdays in the St Paul meeting room to explore this new language - the language of music.

Call Eileen on 0418 163 062 with any questions.

The theology and spirituality of the ascension is essentially contained in these words: Refuse to cling to what once was, let it go and let it bless you, so that you can recognize the new life you already have with and within you and receive its spirit.

Today, in the church, we are trying manage an ascension, not a death. The church today is in that time between the resurrection and the ascension, feeling mostly despondent, with its imagination attuned to a former experience of Christ, unable to consistently recognize Christ in the present moment.

To have faith today is to be in that time between the death of Christ and the ascension, vacillating between joy and despondency, trying to manage an ascension.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Angela Hague
Children's Ministry
Coordinator

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on the Feast of Corpus Christi 10 & 11 June at the Vigil, 9am and 10:30am parish Masses and at a special First Communion Mass at 12.30pm.

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers during this time of preparation.

If you have any queries about the children's sacraments program, please contact Angela or Mona at:
chatswood.sacraments@bbcatholic.org.au



The Children's Atrium is a beautiful ministry we have been running in our parish since July 2007. This is a specially prepared space where children come to nurture their relationship with God in small groups.

Based on Montessori principles of education, the atrium program is run in 3 levels, and a separate room is prepared for each age group. The age groups are; Level 1 – for 3-6 year olds, Level 2 for 6-9 year olds and Level 3 for 9-12 year olds.

If you would like to find out more about the atrium, please contact our Children's Ministry Co-Ordinator Angela at angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au

VINNIES APRIL REPORT

Chatswood St Vincent de Paul helped six people during April, all who were previously known to us.

All but one live in public housing where the rent is linked to income.

The other is boarding in a unit and contributing to power costs . Three of these had run out of food whilst a severe schizophrenic also needed food and some clothing. A disabled pensioner was transported to medical appointments while another was helped with specialist medical attention.. Expenditure of \$360 was incurred.

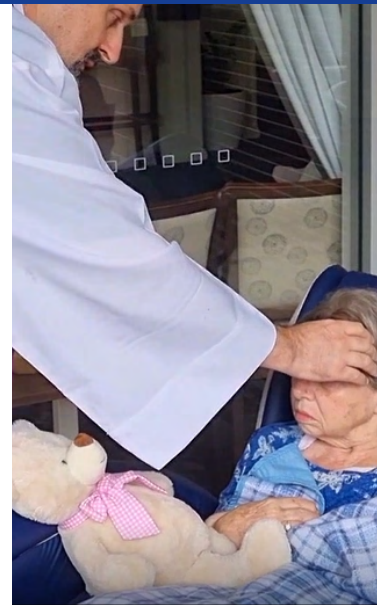
Donations of clothing and goods which have resale value can be dropped off at the Society's Store at 287 Victoria Avenue. - John R



HELPING AT ST PETER'S GREEN

Volunteers are needed to help at St Peter's Green Catholic Residential Aged Care Facility - 5 Felton Ave, Lane Cove North 2066

- Tuesdays at 10:30am
Giving communion to residents in their rooms and/or Leading Communion Service.
- Fridays at 2:00pm
Leading the rosary and/or giving Communion to residents in their rooms.
- Sundays from 10:45am - 11:45am to assist with setting up and cleaning up after the 11am Sunday Mass.



For any questions or to volunteer please e-mail Fr Joey at Joey.Frez@bbcatholic.org.au



Spiritual Direction

Now available with Fr Joey.

For more information please e-mail the parish office at chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

YOUTH



Cailin Geraghty
Youth Leader

Youth Groups



FOR YEAR
5-8



FOR YEAR
9-12



Youth Masses

SUNDAY 5:30PM

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES:

READING
MUSIC
WELCOMING
ALTAR SERVING
COLLECTIONS
OFFERTORY

DATES/TIMES

BOTH GROUPS MEET ON THE 2ND AND 4TH SUNDAY'S OF THE MONTH (DURING SCHOOL TERM)

6:30PM-8:30PM

LOCATION

MEET IN THE FORECOURT OF OUR LADY OF DOLOURS

Stay Updated

EMAIL
FOUNDATIONYOUTHMINISTRY.OLD@GMAIL.COM

INSTAGRAM
FOUNDATION_YOUTH_MINISTRY

FACEBOOK
SCAN THE QR CODE



Young Adults

DATES/TIMES

1ST AND 3RD SUNDAY'S OF THE MONTH

6:30PM-8:30PM

WORLD YOUTH DAY



The count down is on for Sean Dixon, Cailin Geraghty, Clive Sam, Monty Calimbahin, Savio Coutinho, Ashleigh Wan, Thomas Hurrell to join thousands of other young people at World Youth Day in Lisbon! Thank you so much to everyone who has donated to the fundraising for WYD - your generosity has made a huge impact on the support we are able to give the pilgrims.

Our young people will join other young Aussies in Lisbon together with Pope Francis to celebrate the joy and unique gifts that young people bring to our Church. If you would like to support our pilgrims, there is a tap and go donation point at the back of the church where you can also read more about them. Please continue to keep all the pilgrims in your prayers.



**PASTORAL
WORKS** Broken Bay

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay.

Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

Thank you for your generosity

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners

St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College
Students with disabilities

Ephpheta Centre
Deaf community

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

To donate, complete the form in the envelope available in your parish and return to your parish.

Or go online by scanning the QR code or visiting: bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks. Thank you.



Everyone's gift you give makes a difference. Thank you for your time and generosity!



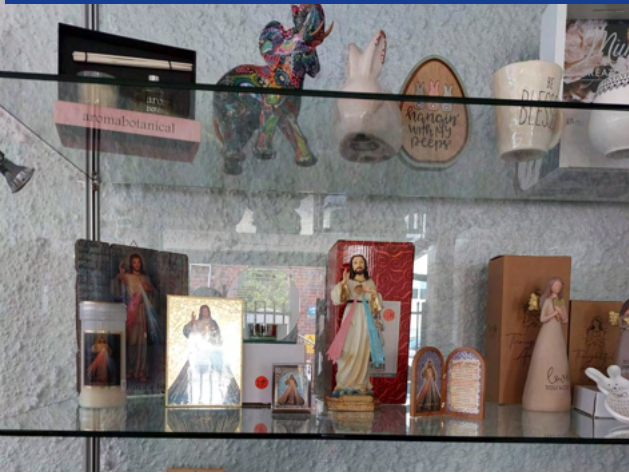
The Catholic Enquiry Centre has launched a new website, "Becoming Catholic", to help answer the questions that people commonly ask when they consider becoming Catholic, and to invite people into the life of the Catholic Church.

The Catholic Enquiry Centre is a work of the National Centre for Evangelisation, and this website is designed as a gateway for people to connect with their local Catholic community.

It provides introductory information on God, including Jesus and the Trinity, explores the birth of the Church, and covers other key topics like Mary, the Bible, the saints, and sacraments. A companion booklet, "Discovering God and what it means to be Catholic" is also available.

www.becoming.catholic.au/

PEW GIFT SHOP



We hope you have had the chance to enjoy the PEW space on the side of the church. If not, we invite you to come and visit. It is a great place to catch up with your Ministry groups, hold fellowship or simply have a quiet time in a garden setting.



The most recent addition to the PEW is a gift corner where souvenir and gift items will be on display and will complement the current Piety Stall so we invite all to browse the gift items and get involved! And yes, we haven't forgotten the ever-in-demand coffee machine! Watch this space and don't miss its arrival!

The PEW Gift Store still has a range of Divine Mercy products including images that can be purchased on any or day at the PEW Gift Shop.

Left: Divine Mercy Products

PIETY STALL

When you enter the church, on the right hand side you'll see a room - that's our piety stall! Open after Mass every Sunday (including the Saturday night Vigil), the piety stall is a great place to have a look at gifts, cards, ornaments and many more items helping to encourage your faith.



Check out some of the items that will be stocked this month and pay the team a visit.



Before the middle of the year the piety stall will be completely cashless, helping to make payments easier for our community.



AROUND AND ABOUT



Kooroora Tennis Club Ukraine Fundraiser

Kooroora Tennis Club, Rosville is holding a fundraising event to help rebuild Unicourt Tennis Club, Kharkiv, Ukraine to show support for the people of Ukraine in this area.

If you would like to help support this worthwhile and fun cause, or for more information, please scan the QR Code, or go to <https://events.humanitix.com/help-the-ukrainian-tennis-club>

Anthony: (M)0414364522
Kooroora Tennis Club
5A William Street, Roseville NSW 2069



Willoughby Symphony Choir's 50th Birthday Concert

Willoughby Symphony Orchestra will present some exciting and uplifting music which includes - Finlandia by Jean Sibelius, Coronation Anthems by George Frideric Handel, Chichester Psalms by Leonard Bernstein, Carmina Burana by Carl Orff.

Sunday 28 May 2023 2:00 PM
The Concourse, Chatswood www.theconcourse.com.au

Bookings: 02 8075 8111 | www.theconcourse.com.au | concourse_boxoffice@century.com.au



Meditation Days at St Benedict's Monastery, Arcadia

Invitation to St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia for 2023 :
Sundays - 19th February, 21st May, 20th August and 19th November.
For our Introduction and Renewal Days for Christian Meditation.

Timetable : Arrival from 10am to register for a 10:30am start, presentations, introduction to meditation, periods of meditation, Mass, information exchange, conclusion around 3pm.

Book display and morning tea provided, BYO picnic lunch.

Enquires : Ann Bergman, anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas , atlomas@bigpond.com / 9653 2637



Palms Australia

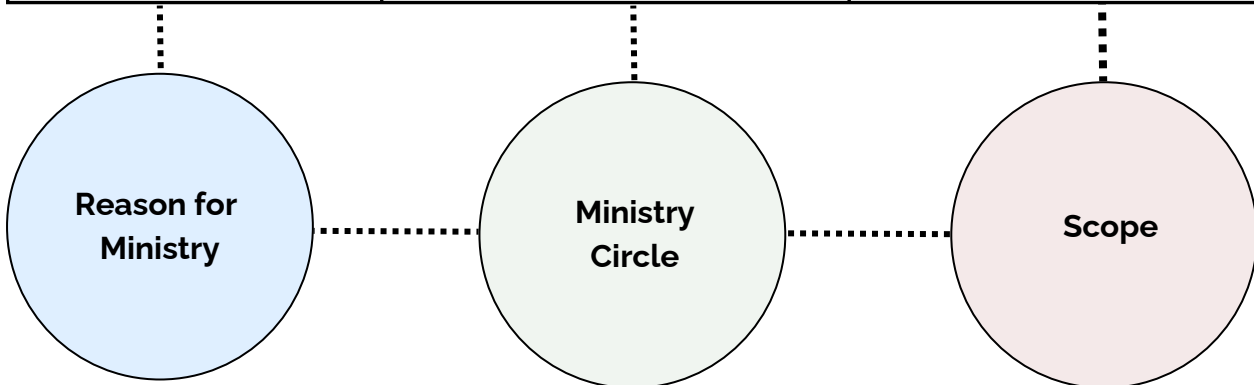
Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training.

Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development.

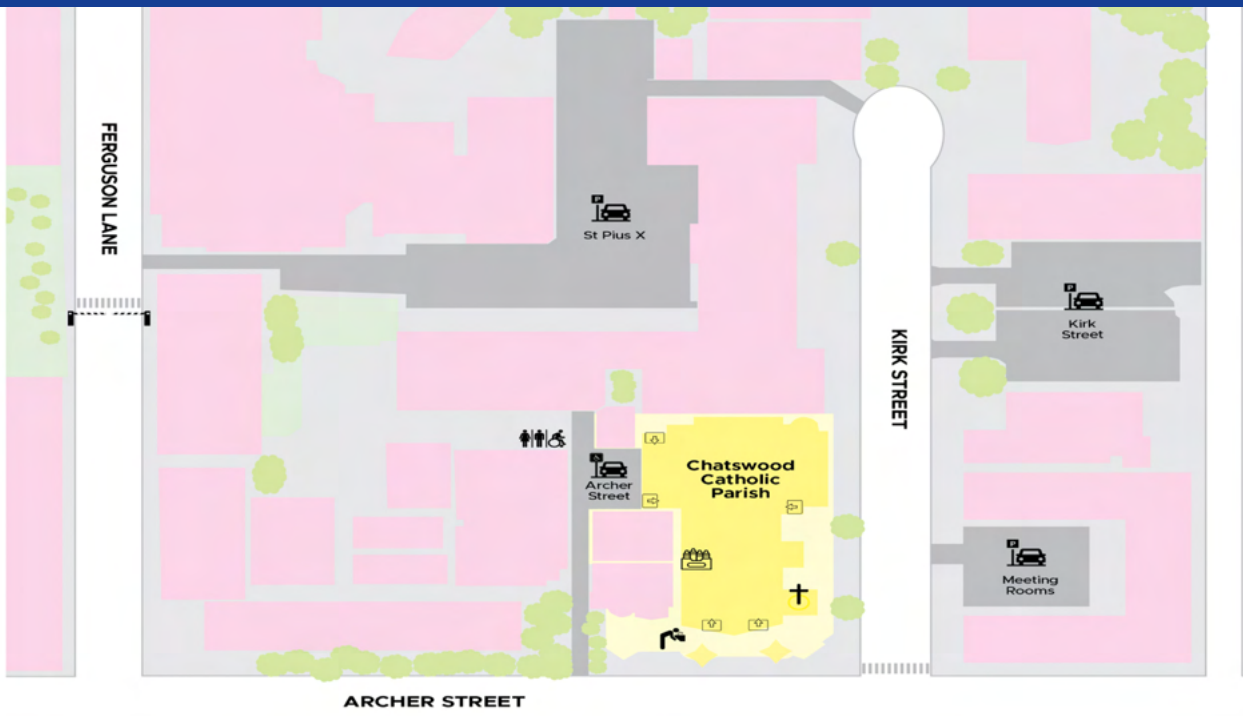
Explore 35 positions by going to www.palms.org.au or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567 for more info. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.

OUR CIRCLES OF MINISTRY

Love God Mark 12:30	Worshiping Together Leading Reflective Lives	Liturgy and Music Prayer and Spirituality
Love One Another John 13:34	Nurturing Relationships Caring for our World Caring for One Another	Community and Family Ecology and Social Justice Support and Visitations
Make Disciples Matthew 28:18-20	Growing in Faith Sharing the Good News Building our Future	Catechesis and Formation Mission and Evangelisation Administration and Stewardship
Supports all ministries	Building our Future	Administration and Stewardship



PARKING



Parish Support Team:

Parish Priest: **Very Rev Dr David Ranson VG**

david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au

Personal blog: davidranson.com.au

Twitter: @FrDavidRanson

Assistant Priest: **Rev Fr Joey Frez**

joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9027

Assistant Priest: **Rev Fr Marek Woldan**

marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9028

Manager of Parish Operations: **Olivia Lee**

Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9000

Parish Services Officer: **Carol Langley**

chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9000

Administrative Assistant: **Chloe Aylward**

chatswoodadm@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9021

Catechist Coordinator: **Karen Forbes**

karen.forbes@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9029

Parish Director of Music: **Titus Grenyer**

titus.grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9034

Children's Ministry Coordinator: **Angela Hague**

angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9033

Children's Ministry Assistant: **Mona Saouma**

mona.saouma@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9024

Book-keeper: **Amelia Lee**

amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au | (02)9410 9032

Mass This Week:

Monday Mass 12:30pm.

Tuesday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Wednesday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

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 - Youth Mass

 facebook.com/OLDChatswood

 bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail?

Contact Olivia at

Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au



A G B O C D D M E O F U G N H T H S J H K
I L S M T N H O R P O Q N R E S T T O U S
V H W O X U Y T Z S A O B F C J D O E Y F



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension?
Use every other letter from the box of letters above
to fill in the blanks below.

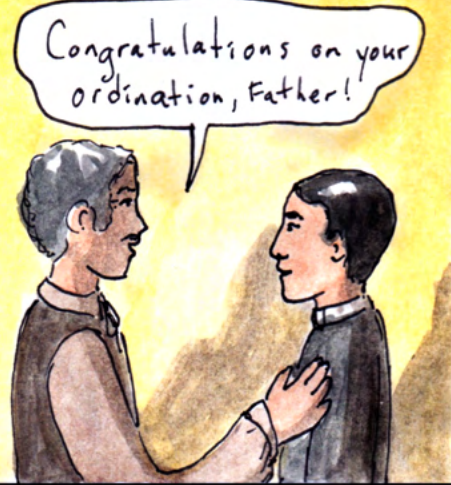
G

_____ !

Saint Cristobal

May 21

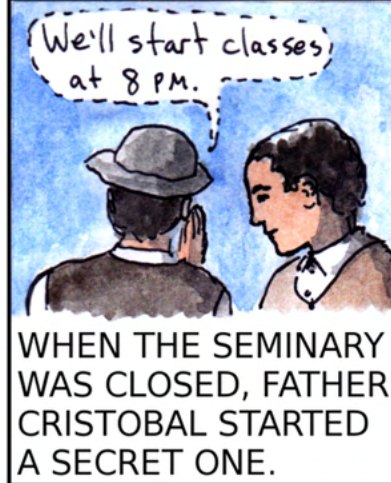
CRISTOBAL WAS BORN IN MEXICO IN 1896. HE ENTERED THE LOCAL SEMINARY AT THE AGE OF 19 AND WAS ORDAINED AT AGE 30.



HE BECAME A PARISH PRIEST. HE STARTED MISSIONS AND SCHOOLS FOR TRADES.



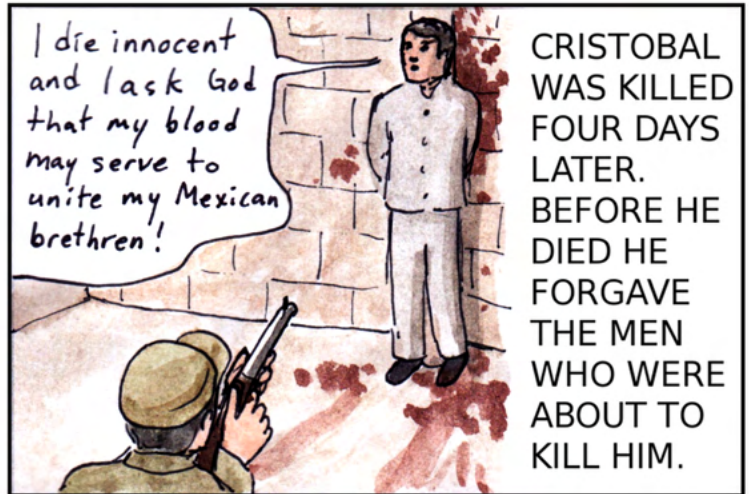
BUT SOON THE GOVERNMENT OUTLAWED THE CHURCH!



HE AND THE OTHER PRIESTS WORKED SECRETLY SO THEY WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT



BUT HE WAS ARRESTED ON HIS WAY TO SAY MASS ON A FARM.

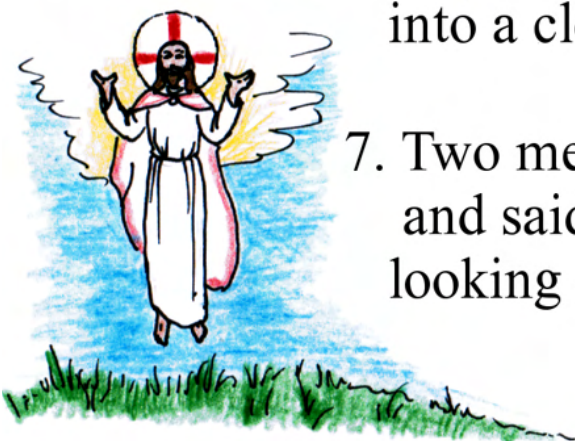


SAINT CRISTOBAL WORKED TO HELP HIS FELLOW MEXICANS TO LIVE A BETTER LIFE. WHEN THE GOVERNMENT TRIED TO STOP THE CHURCH, HE KEPT WORKING ANYWAY. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIM THAT HELPING PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY IN THEIR FAITH, IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN HAVING A NICE SAFE LIFE.

True or False about... *The Ascension*

*How well do you know the story of the Ascension?
See if you know which of these are true
and which are false:*

1. Jesus appeared to His disciples for forty days after He rose from the dead. True or false?
2. When Jesus was with His disciples after He rose from the dead, they could only see Him but they couldn't touch Him. True or false?
3. Jesus didn't tell His friends that He was going to leave them. True or false?
4. Jesus promised that He would send the Holy Spirit. True or false?
5. The disciples had gathered together and asked Jesus if He was going to restore the earthly kingdom. True or false?
6. Nobody saw Jesus rise into the sky and disappear into a cloud. True or false?



7. Two men appeared to the disciples and said, "Men of Galilee, why are you looking at the sky?" True or false?

Jesus Ascended into Heaven



The Ascension is one of the great feasts of the Church. Jesus went up, Body and Soul, into Heaven to be with His Father where He is waiting for all of us. Can you imagine what it was like for the apostles to see their leader and best friend going up to Heaven? It would be pretty amazing, don't you think?



At the same time, doesn't it seem a bit sad that Jesus left? Well, He knew it was time for His disciples to start working on their own. It was kind of like having someone there to help you learn to ride a bike and then they let you go so you can learn to bike on your own.

But Jesus didn't go away and leave us without any help. Nine days after He went into Heaven

WOW! DID YOU
SEE THAT?



YES... WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO NOW?

He sent the Holy Spirit, who would help and guide His followers.

Answer to puzzle on front page: God
mounts His throne to shouts of joy!
Answers to True or False:
1. True 2. False 3. False 4. True
5. True 6. False 7. True