

Responsorial Psalm Response In the sight of the angels I will sing your Praises, Lord.		Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people. Alleluia!					
<u>WEEKEND MASSES</u>							
Epping	5pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am, 6:00pm						
Carlingford	6:00pm Vigil, 7:45am, 9:30am						
<u>WEEKDAY MASSES</u>	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur	Fri	Sat.	
EPPING	No Mass	12:15pm	9:15am	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am	
CARLINGFORD	9:30am	No Mass	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	No Mass	
HEALING MASS	Carlingford —1st Thursday, Epping — 3rd Wednesday						
EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST: Epping Saturday 9:45-10:15am, Carlingford , 4th Thursday 10:00am							
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Epping Saturday 9:45-10:15am Carlingford Saturday 5:00—5:30pm OR BY APPOINTMENT							
BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: BY APPOINTMENT							
PARISH OFFICE: 29 Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121 PH: 9876 2853 Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au							
ST GERARD MAJELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH: 9871 1633 Email: sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au							
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTANS PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH: 9868 3322 Email: olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au							
Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us the gift of Everlasting life. Grant that life to:							
Recently deceased: William Atkinson, Stephen Tamone, Francesco (Frank) Nicita, Joan Byrnes, Valda Ellison, Ming Cheung Yeung, Chan Chee Keong, <u>Seah</u> Khung Img (Auntie of Lynn Siau), Mieke Van Werdt, Alicia Doyle, Bruce Laird, Peter Laird, Jose August da Rosa.							
Anniversaries: John Noakes, Bridget Gerardine Mahon. Leonardus, Tommy Hendra.							
Also for: Mary Anne, Anthony & Hugh Mulligan, Elizabeth & Hubert Pedemont, Deceased Members of Laird & Kennedy families.							
Please pray for those who are sick: Sean Huhse, Joel Steinberg, Patricia Rumble, Dean Pan, John Davies, Nicole Greenfield, Michael Furlong, Saulius Dovydas Balsya, Residents of Wesley Rayward Nursing Home, Rose Prior, Mark Di Palma, Anthony Conlon, Andrew Hannam, The Craig Family, Fr Mick Court, Margaret Maher, Anna & Leo Bruzze, Gerhard Stieger, Ron Jenkins, Tammy Birch, Dorothea Ellis, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, Jan Doherty, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Walter Souhrada, Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Pam Taig, Elaine Hunt, Arnold Day, Maureen Carlon, Fr Adrian Borst, Ausustine Hong, Luba Charlton, George Khouri, Antony Hogan, Ingrid Connor, Steve Toth, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Kath McCarthy, Nicholas Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Joyce Fewtrell, Patricia Muschalik, Ernest Lau, Delma Soria, Sn Atanasia Lee, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave, Fara Vargas, Kathy Walsh, Theo Stevens.							
<i>Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the immediate family.</i>							

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

The next Meditation Renewal Day will be on 17th February, at the St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia (9653 1159). Arrival at 10:00am for a 10:30am start. We will commence with presentations and periods of meditation, conclusion around 3:00pm. Mass is celebrated around 2pm. BYO lunch, tea and coffee provided. Books and other material will be for sale on the day. Self-catering accommodation may be available in the Monastery Guest House. Please contact the Guest Master, Br Terry, on 0438 282 318 for bookings.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
16/02/19	5:00pm	Fr Joey Frez	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd
17/02/19	8:30am	Fr Joey Frez	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
17/02/19	10:15am	Fr Joey Frez	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd
17/02/19	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez		

BAPTISM IN THE PARISH THIS SUNDAY

Welcome to: Lincoln Daniel Pols

Please hold this child and her family in your prayers



Celebrations this Week Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Thursday: Sts Cyril and Methodius, Memoria

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford Diocese of Broken Bay

Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
 31 Oxford Street, Epping and

St Gerard Majella Church
 543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Dowd,
Ph.: 9876 2853
Email: peter@eppcarl.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Joey Frez
Ph.: 9872 3400
Email: joseph@eppcarl.org.au

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Website: www.eppcarl.org.au

Parish Office: 9876 2853

Welcome to our Parish of Epping and Carlingford consisting of our two worshipping communities of St Gerard Majella's at Carlingford and Our Lady Help of Christians at Epping. If you are new to the area or visiting today we are glad that you are with us, and we hope that our celebrations of the Eucharist together will provide both nourishment and challenge on your Christian journey.

YEAR C

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

3-02-19

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

Dear Parishioners,

Over these days we have our annual Antioch weekend taking place at St Gerard's. As always a lot of hard work has gone into preparing for this event especially on the part of team members and parent support personnel. In particular, I wish to thank the school community at St Gerard's especially our new Principal Barbara Yee for making the school premises available as generously and willingly as they so often do...not all parish-es enjoy this degree of cooperation!

As I mentioned last week Antioch continues to provide a wonderful way of assisting young people to grow in their faith and connect with the Church community in a way that is meaningful and supportive. Please keep all those participating on the weekend in your prayers!

As many of you would be aware, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 6th March!

The forty days before Easter Sunday gives us an opportunity like no other in the year. Lent offers the followers of Jesus, one of very few chances to do something Jesus actually did himself - spending time listening to and reflecting upon how God's Word speaks to us in the midst of our busy lives and how we can grow in our personal relationship with God. Anytime is a good time for this, but the forty days of Lent have a unique 'feel'. These six weeks are also filled with the emotions of the Last Supper, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, so it is the ideal time.

This weekend you are being invited to be part of our parish Lenten reflection groups throughout Lent.

Part of the success of Alpha within our parish has been the opportunity for people to come together in groups, to share good food, drink and the companionship of other parishioners. While our Lenten reflection groups are not Alpha as such, the basic structure of coming together, sharing food, reflection and discussion intermingled with various segments of prayer provide us a way we can continue to grow as 'lifelong learners' or 'disciples' of Jesus Christ and continue to meet and build our relationships with other parishioners.

People who were in a parish group last year said:

- ♦ *The Lenten program was very good, thought provoking and an excellent preparation for Easter.*
- ♦ *Nearly all said ~ The quality and standard of the book-lets and audio and visual materials were a great help.*
- ♦ *We appreciated the generosity of our Hosts and the opportunity to share insights with others. This formed friendly links for many of us.*

Parishioners have experienced these benefits:

- ♦ Lenten Groups are easy to join.
- ♦ Lenten Groups are one way to meet others in the parish especially if you are new, or you now have the opportunity to go out. That is a great reason to join a group.
- ♦ Lenten groups have an impact on people who come. People listen to each other. They experience the power of sharing.
- ♦ It is amazing what the Gospel incidents in Jesus' life can mean for us. Jesus becomes a real person.
- ♦ When people come together in Lenten Groups, they often stay together.
- ♦ They discover how much they have in common, especially if they live close by.

What happens?

Lenten groups are an opportunity to come together in a home to meet with five or six people once a week for the 6 weeks of Lent for just over an hour.

During the time people focus on their faith. It is a spiritual space. You discuss significant events in the life of Jesus and can ask yourself "Who is Jesus?" People rediscover their faith and their relationship with the Church.

The friendship formed in Lenten Groups often continue because people see each other at Mass and stay in touch.

Meetings will be in one of our Leader's homes or one of the Parish meeting rooms. We have small groups at different times throughout the week, mornings and evenings. All participants receive the Lenten Companion Guide with the Sunday readings and more, so you will understand what will be discussed in your group.

...continued on p.2



Parish Mission Statement

We are a diverse Catholic community centred in the Eucharist. We gather for worship to serve and reach out to others as we grow in relationship with God and each other.

.....continued from the cover

How do I join a group?

Please write your name on the sheet at the entrance to the Church or contact the person leading the group you would like to join. Their name and contact details are at the back of the Church. There will be other parishioners at the doors who you can provide more information about the groups.

Our aim is to have at least 150 parishioners participants in this year's programme! Please consider joining and being part of a group and keep the success of our Lenten programmes in your prayers.

Finally we welcome **Aldrin Valdehauza** a seminarian for our Diocese who commences his six month pastoral placement in our parish this weekend.



2018 CHRISTMAS APPEAL PARISH OF EPPIN AND CARLINGFORD

The generosity of the Parish and St Gerard's and OLHC Schools with donations of \$27,576 and 170 food hampers was overwhelming. Our families thank you.

ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS

Our parish is strongly committed to ecumenism and a formal Covenant has been signed with the Anglican Parish of Epping, Epping Uniting Church, West Epping Uniting Church and Epping Baptist Church.

HAVE YOU TOLD US? If you have recently changed your address, phone number or email. For parishioners who give by credit card, does your credit card expire in the near future? Please give the parish office a call on 9876 2853 if you have received a new credit card and/or a new expiry date.

E-Bulletin

If you would like to receive the bulletin by email, please send an email with e-bulletin as the subject title to: maree@eppcarl.org.au

Can You Help??

"Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the parish of Our Lady Help of Christians, Epping in May 2017 we located much of the unknown as well as known history, very early documents and treasured instruments of the church which we assembled and wrote about in "A Paddock out the Back". Everyone who attended that celebration was thrilled.

With the coming changes in Epping generally and the site of our Church and school we need to sort through and assemble much of the material which led to our display and published history. By properly assembling and protecting these historical documents and pieces they can remain as treasures and be passed on to future generations.

Please, are there any historians, lovers of history, parishioners generally who would be interested in assisting - sorting, collating, record keeping the materials we located and now have stored relating to our interesting history. Collating and properly storing at this stage means our history is passed on to future generations. Being part of a team saving and storing history is far more exciting to those doing it as well as to later generations than being told that it took up too much space and was disposed of. Much of Australia's history has been lost that way.

Please think about this and telephone your interest in joining a group: "

If you are able to assist, please contact the parish office on 9876 2853 or email maree@eppcarl.org.au

Administrative Assistant to the Primary School SRE (Catechist) Coordinator for the Parish of Epping and Carlingford Voluntary Position

Role:

To assist the SRE Coordinator in performing administrative work and providing support to activities with the catechists.

Responsibilities (partner with the SRE Coordinator): Assist in the preparation for the new SRE school year .

2. Assist with annual activities
 - Combined state schools mass
 - Recruitment drive etc.
3. Assist with organising such things as
 - Catechists general meetings and
 - Maintenance of contact details

Skills:

1. Good communication capability in both speaking and writing.
2. Good working knowledge of tools such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Email.
3. Good capability to plan, commit and deliver.
4. Able to work independently and to work well with people.

Please contact Katherine Tam on 218catechists.ps@gmail.com or call the Parish Office on 9876 2853 for more information

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.

Safeguarding Message

A culture of Safeguarding values COMPASSION.... "Finally all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart and a humble mind" - 1 Peter 3:8.

Join us for an Important Seminar: 10-4pm on Saturday, 23 February 2019 at the Grail Centre, 22 Mc Hatton Street, North Sydney, when **Professor Lindon Coombes**, from Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research at UTS, will examine and discuss **the 'Uluru Statement from the Heart'** (May, 2017). How have governments and the wider community responded to this statement? What issues and concerns are holding back progress? **Register now:** 0408291429 or 9955 3053. Contribution \$20 or what you can afford.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL :

Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the various letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 14-day pilgrimage lead by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Meteora for an all-inclusive price of \$5990. The group departs on 1st October 2019. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + 4 day cruise with Lunch + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary and more.

Mick's Fixit

Handyman

Receive no-obligation quotes.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 17 Feb 2019

Welcome back to another wonderful year of the Journey Catholic Radio.

As always, these notices are one week in advance. This week on The Journey, our Gospel is Luke: 17,20-26. We are grateful to hear the sage words from Sr Hilda again with her Wisdom from the Abbey, Marilyn Rodrigues, The Peaceful Parent reminds us to Pray, Hope and Don't Worry, and our very own Trish McCarthy inspires us with her reflection on the Sea Cliff Bridge Run. Again, we are blessed to have such talented Christian music artists to contribute to our show. Go to WWW.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

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Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel Reading



Scholarly analysis of today's gospel reading shows how skilfully, and prayerfully, Luke has made use of the materials available to him. Presenting elements that are used differently in other gospels, he creates a tableau rich in meaning, expressing the optimistic outlook of the Church community in which Luke has been nurtured in the faith – probably Antioch in Syria. Jesus is portrayed bringing the Good News of the 'word of God' to an eager crowd. He calls Peter and his associates to join him, becoming 'fishers of men'; and they leave everything to follow him. Luke's narrative is centred, of course, on the Lord; but the figure of Peter stands out in a remarkable way. It is Peter's boat that Jesus teaches from; Peter speaks up for the group; it is Peter who falls on his knees, overwhelmed by his sense of unworthiness. We are left in no doubt that Luke reveres Peter. His warm portrayal invites us to share his reverence for the man to whom Jesus had given a new and symbolic name.

Reference to Peter's human frailty is not lacking – Luke is the only evangelist to refer to Christ's prayer for Peter: that 'his faith not fail', so that he may 'strengthen his brothers' (Lk 22:32). In the Acts of the Apostles – Luke's story of the early Church – Peter is leader and anchor-man. Luke is reflecting the importance Peter had for the first generation of Christians.

In his portrayal, Luke is anticipating the outlook of the Fathers of the early Christian centuries, who not only saw Peter as the leader and spokesman of the apostolic Church, but also saw him as giving expression to all that the Church is called to be: in his faith and his response to the call of Jesus – sharing in Jesus' way of life, given completely to the spreading of the Good News of God. There is a rich symbolism to be found in this portrayal of the origins of the Church's response to the call of the Saviour: Peter is the first person in Luke's gospel to respond to the call of Jesus (as time and again, in the Acts of the Apostles, Peter will be the first to make decisive moves in the life of the emerging Church); it is from the boat of Peter that Christ's true teaching is heard; Christ's encouraging words, 'Put out into the deep for a catch', echo down through the ages, bringing encouragement to the Church in all its difficulties and setbacks; Peter's humility in the presence of what Christ has done is an eloquent reminder to all members of the Church, great and small, that the successes of the Church – as it responds to Christ's call – are all the Lord's doing.

For all the human warmth with which it is portrayed, Peter's call is a mystery that has its origins in the eternal designs of God's love and freedom. We are reminded that we too have a place in those designs. Today's first reading – describing the awe-inspiring call of the prophet Isaiah – provides, therefore, a suitable complement to the gospel reading, inviting us to join in the response of the prophet, 'Here I am. Send me'. Paul, too, was to respond to the call to become a 'fisher of men'. In today's second reading, he assures us that the teaching through which he carries out his ministry is one with the teaching of those who first responded to Christ's call.

John Thornhill sm

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12 February—Sr Dorothy Stang

Dorothy Stang was a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Mamur. She was sent to Brazil in 1966 and worked with the Pastoral Land Commission, an organisation of the Catholic Church that fights for the rights of rural workers and communities. Over the years, assassinations of human rights advocates, environments and farmers became extremely common. On 12 February 2005 Dorothy Stang was murdered by two gunmen. As they approached her, she took out her Bible and began to read the Beatitudes.

For more information: www.sndohio.org/sister-dorothy



Awesome service. Amazing results.

Betty Ockerlander
bettyockerlander@mcgrath.com.au
 0408 505 080

McGrath

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	10/02/19		Antioch Outreach Weekend
		9:30am	Liturgy of the Word—Kidz Word
		10:15am	Liturgy of the Word—Kidz Word
		6:00pm	No Antioch Meeting
Mon	11/02/19	9:00am	PH Epping Little Engines Playgroup
		9:30am	PH Carlingford Gerry's Playgroup
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford—SVPD Meeting
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford—Rosary Group
Tue.	12/02/19	9:30am	School Mass—Beginning of Year
		12:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford—Facilitator Briefing
Wed.	13/02/19	9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		7:15pm	PMR Epping Meeting of Morning Tea Volunteers
Thur.	14/02/19	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		11:00am	Mass at the Poplars Nursing Home
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
Fri.	15/02/19	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford—Scripture Reflection
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		4:30pm	CH Epping Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary
		7:00pm	PH Carlingford—CANA Group
Sat.	16/02/19	9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		10:30am	PMR Epping Meeting with Morning Tea Volunteers
		5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's
		5:45pm	PMR Chinese Family Group—Irene Lee
		6:00pm	Mass at St Gerard's Church

PH—Parish Hall, CH—Church, PMR—Parish Meeting Room

LENTEN ECUMENICAL SERVICES

A reminder that we will again have a weekly Ecumenical Service each Tuesday evening of Lent at 7:45pm. Please note the dates in your diary and help to make the Lenten season of renewal of time of building the bridges of Christian unity.

The programme is as follows:

Day	Date	Church	Preacher
Tuesday	12 March	St Alban's Anglican Church	Fr Peter Dowd
Tuesday	19 March	St Gerard's Catholic Church	Rev Greg Woolnough
Tuesday	26 March	Epping Baptist Church	Bishop Ross Nicholson
Tuesday	2 April	West Epping Uniting Church	Rev Paul Weaver
Tuesday	9 April	Epping Uniting Church	Preacher from Epping Baptist Church

PARISH STAFF

Parish Secretary:
Dennis Porteous Ph.: 9876 2853
 Email: dennis@eppcarl.org.au

Asst. Parish Secretary:
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Pastoral Care Assistant:
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Parish Support Worker (PSW)
Sacramental Programmes and Children's Ministries
Lynn Siau
 Ph.: 0407 255 593
 Email: kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

Sacramental Programme Assistant:
Marcella Letteri
 Ph.: 0407 255 593

Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth:
Joanna Mak
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 Email: joanna@eppcarl.org.au

Missionary Discipleship:
Denis McNamara
 Ph: 0410 041 944
 Email: denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

AFTER HOURS SICK CALLS— 9876 2853

Outside office hours our office phones divert to Fr Peter and Fr Joey at home. In the event that they are unavailable, their answering machines will record your message or ring the number given in the message. However, if possible please restrict routine enquiries to office hours.

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

A reminder that if you are admitted to hospital, please try to ensure that you write down your religion as Catholic on the admission form, so that you can receive Catholic services during your stay.

THE SEASON OF LENT – ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday falls on **Wednesday 6th March**.

Please be part of our Ash Wednesday celebrations of Mass as we enter into the time of Lent:

Epping

9:15am (we will be joined by the OLHC Primary School for this Mass).
7:30pm Evening Mass

Carlingford

9:30am (we will be joined by St Gerard's School for this Mass).
7:30pm Evening Mass



Children's Sacramental Journey First Reconciliation 2019

The Parent Information Evening was held last Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th February in the parish hall at Our Lady Help of Christians' in Epping. We always look forward to sharing the evening with parents. The evening encompasses aspects of First Reconciliation which are important to assist parents in the understanding of their child's faith journey and their partnership with the parish. It was a lovely gathering!

The Group Facilitator Support and Briefing will be held on Tuesday, 12th February. All facilitators are required to attend this session at 7:30pm to 8:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room at St. Gerard's.

We always like to hear from you and look forward to building a fruitful relationship with all families! If you have any queries or would like more information regarding your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please feel free to drop me a line.

Lynn Siau
Sacramental Programmes & Children's Ministries
0407 255 593
kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

SCHOOL MASS There will be School Mass on **Thursday, 12th February at 9:30am** at St Gerard Majella's Church to celebrate the "Beginning of School Year Mass." All Parents most welcome!

Morning Tea Volunteers Meeting at Epping

There will be a meeting of the Epping morning tea volunteers on in the Parish Meeting Room on:

ROSARY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY The rosary for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be recited every Friday afternoon at 4:30pm in Our Lady Help of Christians' Church. You are most welcome!



ABOUT LENT

The key to understanding the meaning of Lent is simple: Baptism. Preparation for Baptism and for renewing baptismal commitment lies at the heart of the season. Since the Second Vatican Council, the Church has reemphasized the baptismal character of Lent, especially through the restoration of the Catechumenate and its Lenten rituals. Our challenge today is to renew our understanding of this important season of the Church year and to see how we can integrate our personal practices into this renewed perspective. Why is Baptism so important in our Lenten understanding? Lent as a 40-day season developed in the fourth century from three merging sources. The first was the ancient paschal fast that began as a two-day observance before Easter but was gradually lengthened to 40 days. The second was the catechumenate as a process of preparation for Baptism, including an intense period of preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation to be celebrated at Easter. The third was the Order of Penitents, which was modelled on the catechumenate and sought a second conversion for those who had fallen back into serious sin after Baptism. As the catechumens (candidates for Baptism) entered their final period of preparation for Baptism, the penitents and the rest of the community accompanied them on their journey and prepared to renew their baptismal vows at Easter. Catholic Online

BEYOND OUR PARISH

From 'Ten Steps to Making a Home for Everyone in Our Land'

Get the facts about homelessness and the housing market.

The 2016 Census has revealed there are 116,427 people in Australia who are homeless... That number includes not only people who are on the streets or sleeping rough, but also those who are 'couch surfing,' living in boarding houses or emergency accommodation, or staying in severely overcrowded dwellings. The people we see on the streets are just the tip of the iceberg.

Social Justice Statement 2018-2019, p.6

Homelessness can often be a hidden problem and it is not defined to our major cities. There are many factors that can lead to homelessness, but ultimately, it is a result of poverty. Find out what the housing issues are in your area, in your dioceses or state, and nationally. Seek out information about Australia's housing crisis from research bodies such as:

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 census: www.abs.gov.au
Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute: www.ahuri.edu.au
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, National Social Housing Survey: www.aihw.gov.au

Alpha Team Training



Alpha training will be offered on **16 February 2019**.

All Alpha teams are encouraged to come along for a refresher with any new leaders joining the team in 2019.

If you are new to Alpha, you are most welcome to attend, in particular to the 'Come and See' session in the evening, which includes a 'taste' of Alpha with a meal, video and discussion.

Alpha Team Training: Saturday, 16 February at Caroline Chisholm Centre, 9.00am – 4.30pm

Alpha "Come and See": Saturday, 16 February at Caroline Chisholm Centre, 6.15pm – 8.30pm

Please download the Alpha Training Flyer for more details.

Year of Youth 2019

CANA: OUR yrs 7-9 YOUTH GROUP



**Cana is on this Friday,
15th February from 7:30-9pm
in the St Gerard's Parish Hall.**

Anyone between year 6 to 9 is welcome
to come and bring a friend or two!

If you have any questions,
please contact
Joanna Mak on

joanna@eppcarl.org.au or 0423 717 550.

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

This Sunday will conclude our Antioch Weekend.

Next Week Sunday 16th February

Why not come along to the Antioch meeting to hear a great talk, join in discussion time, get into some awesome music, take time out for prayer and meet heaps of great young people from our parish!



The meeting starts at 6pm.
in the Parish meeting room @ Carlingford

so head on down and bring a friend.

ALL VERY WELCOME!!
for further information about Antioch
please call

Joanne—0416 030 927



BEYOND OUR PARISH

Choir members needed!

Singers and Musicians from across the Diocese are warmly invited

to lead the congregation in prayerful song at **Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Cathedral 23 Yardley Ave WAITARA, NSW** for the following diocesan events:

Rite of Election 10 March 2019 (Sunday)
Rehearsal on the day in the Cathedral from 12:45 PM for 2:00 PM ceremony start.

Chrism Mass 2019 16 April 2019 (Tuesday)
Rehearsal on the day in the Cathedral from 6:00 PM for 7:30 PM Mass start.

(Supper provided)
Run Sheet will be sent out closer to the date.

RSVP

To ensure we have enough seats and music/hymn books for everyone please RSVP ASAP to cathedral@bbcatholic.org.au and on the subject line type "CHOIR RSVP"

SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING

Father Shaju John OSH, Parish Priest of Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church, 2 Richard Porter Way Pymble on **Thursday 28th February 2019**.

The evening will commence with Mass at **6.30PM** followed by a light meal and a short meeting.

After the meal Father Shaju will be our guest speaker. He will speak to us about his faith and vocation journey.

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.

World Day of Sick—Monday 11 February 2019

The theme for this year's World Day of the Sick is: "You received without payment; give without payment" (Mt 10:8)

In his message for World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis calls for a culture of generosity, and reminds us that generous gestures, like that of the Good Samaritan, are credible means of evangelisation. He highlights that life is a gift, and says that "amid today's culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that 'gift' is the category best suited to challenging today's individualism and social fragmentation."

The full message can be accessed at http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/papa-francesco_20181125_giornata-malato.html

Casual Staff Opportunity

The Chancery of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay, located at Pennant Hills, is looking for casual staff to cover absences such as annual leave and sick leave in our Customer Service Team throughout the year. We particularly need someone to fill in for upcoming annual leave from 18/2/19 – 15/3/19, Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 5:00pm. Experience in general Reception and mailroom duties is preferred but not essential. If you are interested, please email your CV with a covering letter/email to Jackie Hanson at recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend date: 26th – 28th April at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
Bookings online at www.wme.org.au **or**
Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com