

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.

Safeguarding Message November 2019

Children and young people will be kept safe by adults who treat them with care, respect and compassion.



CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASSES

All children are invited to take part in the Christmas Vigil Masses (5 pm at St Gerard's and 6 pm at OLHC on Christmas Eve in both churches.) We would like volunteers for many roles. We also need parent volunteers to assist at the practices, during the Mass and with supper.

The children participating in the Mass will be required to attend practices.
Parent helpers will also be required to attend.

Carlingford:
Parent run-through & dress rehearsal for Gospel mime
Saturday 21st December 10am - 11am
Readers: **Saturday 21st December 11am-11:30am**

Epping:
Parent run-through & dress rehearsals
Thursday 12th Dec. & 19th Dec. 4:00pm - 5.00pm .

Any questions? Please email:
Lynn for Carlingford stgchildrenmass@gmail.com
Therese for Epping olhcchildrensmass@gmail.com

--Please detach and return no later than **29th November**--

Epping / Carlingford

(Please circle which church you will be attending)

Please provide order of preference for each child for roles from Gospel mime, readings and processions. Although we try to give everyone his or her first preference, it is not always possible.

Child's Name	Age	Role

Parents: I am / am not able to assist with practices & during Mass
I am / am not able to assist with packing away sup per after Mass

Parent's name: _____

Email Contact: _____
Confirmation of roles etc. will be notified via email

Awards to be presented at the 2019 CCD Annual Diocesan Mass

At the 2019 Annual CCD Diocesan Catechist Mass which was held on Saturday 9 November at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara the following catechists were presented with the following awards:

Name	Award/Diploma
Christine Ann Beasley	15 Years of Service
Trish Lucas	30 Years of Service
Cyril Tumminello	25 Years of Service

We thank the Catechists for giving so generously of their time and congratulate those who received awards this weekend from Bishop Anthony.

MEMORIAL WALLS: A MASS FOR THOSE WHO ARE COMMEMORATED

We will celebrate Memorial Masses at Epping and Carlingford, which will be offered for the repose of the souls of those commemorated on the plaques attached to the walls of both churches.

The celebrations will take place on Saturday 30th November.

- at Epping at 9:15am.
- at Carlingford at 9:30am



Bishop Anthony Randazzo installed as fourth Bishop of Broken Bay last Monday 4th November .

What a truly beautiful night it was at the Solemn Mass of Installation of Bishop Anthony Randazzo. If you missed out, you can watch the video on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L6mLEgtXmIo>

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

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

You are invited to the Annual Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay MASS OF INCLUSION.

When: Sunday, 1st December 2019
Time: 9:30am
Where: Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Yardley Ave, Waitara
Enquiries: Colleen Smith 8379 1643 or email colleen.smith@bbcaatholic.org.au

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, (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.

24 Chapters of Luke in 24 days

Starts 01 December 2019
Ends 24 December 2019

A few minutes each day read or listen to a Chapter using your Bible or SmartPhone

Reflect on the reading

Share your Reflection in WHATSAPP

TO JOIN TEXT '24' TO 0435 031 848 (Leon)

<https://www.bbcaatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/>



Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

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Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel—Love After Death

Death is hard to talk about. But life after death is even harder. Since both are in this week's readings, let's try it.

Death brings many images and experiences to mind. Often much suffering accompanies them.

Real love is like a piece of rich earth that nurtures great trees. I have been with a fair number of people as they died, and each time the event has seemed miraculous. Someone I had known and spoken with, someone whose every movement came from a mysterious source of life within them, burning bright as a candle in darkness, that someone has vanished. The body is the same one I knew before. The mouth is the same one that talked and laughed. But in the blink of my eye, the individual is gone.

"Where did she go?" "Where did he go?"

But even that way of talking is inaccurate. We "go" by means of walking, using our arms and legs, and thus changing locations. In death "going somewhere" is deceptive. It is accomplished by cessation of all motion whatsoever. Any "going" has to be at a much, much deeper level.

Only the thing called "hope" can tell us where these people go. One of the brothers in the First Reading says it this way: "It is my choice to die at the hands of men with the hope God gives of being raised up by him."

Hope, not surety.

And we have only to glance at the crucifixion to see that Jesus chose to die this way. He knew his Abba so well that he kept hope alive even when everything screamed against it. God is God of life, the Gospel says; "to him all are alive," even the dead.

Why are they alive? Because God keeps love.

What?

Yes. Real love is like a piece of rich earth that nurtures great trees. Roots dig deep down in this earth for nourishment and moisture. The green selves grow out of this earth. And notice something obvious: the earth does not grow out of them! Life grows out of love, not visa versa. Their life and our lives are rooted in the rich loam of love.

It is difficult to say the last sentence correctly. Let me try again. Love is a force much deeper than life. When life ceases, love stays. It becomes the home, the embracing arms that enfold us. Love is the substance, life is the outgrowth.

So the "place" dead persons go, leaving their bodies behind, is into the heart of love, into the arms of God who is love.

Here is how the poet Hopkins put it:

Hither then, last or first,
To hero of Calvary, Christ's feet—
Never ask if meaning it, wanting it, warned of it—men go.*

Christ's feet are where you and I will be, honoring the perfect fullness of love he has achieved. Oh yes, we have to release our tight grip on the treasures we have hoarded, things we have chosen instead of love.

If we have a hard time "meaning it and wanting it" during our lives, even so we are still folded into the luxuriant soil of God's love. Of course sometimes we refuse it, and then our roots go dry in the sun. Yet love forgives and invites us and helps us back.

It is hard to talk about. But worth it.

John Foley, SJ

*The poem fragment comes from the poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins, SJ, "The Wreck of the Deutschland," stanza 8. "Men" in that day meant all persons.

Father Foley can be reached at:
Fr. John Foley, SJ

Fr. John Foley, SJ, is a composer and scholar at Saint Louis University.
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COMBINED CHURCHES EVENT – CAROLS IN THE PARK – SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2019 AT BORONIA PARK, EPPING Come along to "Carols in the Park" and join with people of Epping and Carlingford in an evening of fun and festivity. There is food and entertainment for 5:00pm, with face painting, rides, music and Santa. The main programme commences at 7:30pm. The evening comes to a spectacular close at 9:00pm with a sensational display of fireworks



PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	10/11/19	9:30am	Kidz Word at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Kidz Word at OLHC Church
		6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch meeting
Mon	11/11/19	9:30am	Communion Service at St Gerard's
		11:00am	OLHC School Remembrance Day Liturgy
		7:30am	PMR Carlingford SVdP Meeting
		7:30am	CH Carlingford—Rosary Group
Tue.	12/11/19	12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Adult Choir Practice
Wed.	13/11/19	9:15am	Communion Service at OLHC Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		6:30am	PH Epping—Meeting of the facilitators who have helped with Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford 'Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible' (catch up for last week' session)
Thur.	14/11/19	10:10am	St Gerard's School Reconciliation Yr. 5/6W
		11:00am	Mass at the Poplars Nursing Home
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		6:00pm	PMR SRE Teachers' lectures Walking with Jesus
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Fri.	15/11/19	10:10am	PMR Carlingford—Scripture Reflection
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		7:00pm	St Gerard's School Disco
		7:00pm	Cana will have an excursion to Macquarie Centre.
		9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Sat.	16/11/19	9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's Church
		6:00pm	Mass at St Gerard's Church

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

PARISH STAFF

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

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

Parish Pastoral Council
If you have any questions, comments or feedback for the Parish Pastoral Council then please send an email to ppsecretary@eppcarl.org.au

OUR LOCAL ADVENT ECUMENICAL SERVICE

A reminder that our next gathering with our fellow local Churches with whom we share a covenant relationship will take place on



Tuesday 26th November at 7:45pm

at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Epping.

Please be there for this final ecumenical gathering for the year as we prepare together to celebrate the Lord's birth.

Who are the Maccabees?

There is so much to know. What is going on in Israel at that time? Who are these invaders? Where is God in all of this?

For the past 8 weeks a large group of parishioners have attended the Wednesday evening sessions and have been **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible**. They would have answers to these and other questions from The Bible Timeline. We are celebrating the journey and preparing to offer **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** to parishioners next year and to follow up the *Unlocking*, with *The Great Adventure*. Come and join us after Easter next year.

Together as One ...

A Mass to remember, love and pray with our young people who have died.

You are invited to a candlelit Eucharist for parents, siblings, and other family members and friends who have experienced, or been touched by the death of a baby, (before or after birth), a child or young adult.

Thursday 21st November at 7.30pm
St Gerard Majella Church, Carlingford

You are welcome to bring a photo or a symbol of the young person you are remembering such as a small item of clothing, a toy or a favourite book to place in the sacred space before Mass.

All are welcome!

Plenary Council 2020

Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

This week we will look at:
A Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community
 This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a yearning for the Church to be a sign of God's kingdom for all people in Australia—to be able to see the Catholic Church in action, and to recognise Jesus. There was an expression of faith-filled hope in the capacity of the Catholic community to celebrate together, to show what it is to be a follower of Christ and to be loved unconditionally by God. There was a call to contemplate the Gospel call to be a servant Church for the good of all people in Australis—particularly for refugees and asylum seekers and other people who are vulnerable or at risk. Many responses called for greater sharing of the story of the good works done by so many people and organisations of the Church. Some responses expressed a hunger for strong witness of faith, especially by priests, young people and female leaders in parish and school ministries.

If you would like to be part of a group please complete the sheets which can be found at the back of both churches.

A Welcome Gathering for all 2020 Kindergarten Families at Our Lady Help of Christians and St Gerard Majella's Schools

An invitation is extended to All Kindergarten families for 2020 at Epping on:

Sunday 17th November at the 10:15am Mass

and

at Carlingford on:

Sunday 1st December at the 9:30am Mass

The families will be called forward for a blessing at the commencement of their child's years of school education. The Principal will also greet the families and after Mass there will be a morning tea to give class families a chance to meet with each other over a cuppa. We look forward to seeing you then.

Fr Peter



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

The second CWF Appeal for this Financial Year continues this weekend.

Shortfall after the first week \$15,197

Envelopes can be found in the pews. Please give generously as any shortfall from this appeal will have to be made up from normal parish funds – please support the appeal so that we can avoid this happening. Our Parish quota for this Appeal is \$18,577.

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 at 4:30pm** at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church. You are most welcome to join us.

VISITING CELEBRANTS We welcome Fr John Frauenfelder, and Fr Peter Severe osa, who will be celebrating the Masses at Epping this weekend. Please make them welcome.

MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS AT EPPING

A reminder, that our monthly Children's Mass at Epping, will take place next **Sunday, 17th November** at the 10:15am Mass. If you would like your child/ren to be involved in one of the active roles at this Children's Mass please email Therese at olhcchildrensmass@gmail.com



The Initiation Process for Adults: Becoming actively involved in the parish community

Q What do people need to know in order to be initiated?

A The initiation process prepares people to follow the Christian way of life.

To do this, they need to learn to draw nearer to God and to come to a deep sense of the great mystery of salvation in which they seek to take part.



They need an introduction to the dogmas and precepts of the Christian faith.

They need to learn to be part of a Christian community and to work with others to spread the Gospel through acts of love and service.

For those already baptised, who are seeking full communion with the Catholic Church, preparation focuses on learning the Catholic tradition and what it means to live their Christian vocation in the Catholic Church.

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Lourdes Day Mass

The Annual Lourdes Day Mass of the Order of Malta will be celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher and the Chaplains of the Order on Saturday 7 December at 10am in St Mary's Cathedral.

Parking for the general congregation is in the Enacon Car Park adjacent, at the end of Cathedral St. For any further enquiries or should you need assistance please contact the Order at: info@smom.org.au Or macolmi@bigpond.net.au or phone 9331 8477.

Youth Page

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

Meeting this Sunday 10 November

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 people!**



The meeting starts at 6pm in the parish meeting room @ Carlingford So head on down and bring a friend!



For more information Joanne—0416 030 927

"It was at Antioch that the believers were first called Christians." ~Acts 11:26

CANA: OUR yrs. 7-9 YOUTH GROUP

CANA is having an excursion this **Friday, the 15th November** for laser tag/karaoke!



CANA are meeting directly outside Strike Bowling (opposite the Cinemas), at Macquarie Centre at 6pm-9pm (not at the parish hall).

All children will be supervised by adult volunteers with a WWCC.

Please bring completed permission forms and return to the Youth Minister, Joanna Mak.

Also bring **cash for games and dinner** afterwards. If you have any questions please contact Joanna on 0404 710 588 or via email joanna@eppcarl.org.au

Making Disciples.....

Are you looking forward to death and to resurrection from the dead?

In the Gospel at Mass, Jesus replied to those who say there is no resurrection ~ *The God of Abraham is God of the living, for all are in fact, alive to God.* The ones who lived only for this life without hope of life with God forever, were the "Sadducees". We who have a relationship with Jesus have hope you see.

How can we know this? We come to know we are alive to God when we have a personal relationship with God who is alive to us. In the first reading we hear how four brothers could say "We are prepared to die rather than break the laws of our ancestors". 2 Mac 7:2 They did die because they believed "the King of the world **will raise us up to live again forever**".

If we think that breaking the law to eat a little bacon is not that important and certainly not worth dying for, then we miss the point. Eating pork for the Jewish people was the first step in denying their religion. Worshipping idols as gods was the last step. These brothers were committed to God who was faithful to their people, the descendants of Abraham. They followed the law God gave to Moses. They would not betray that relationship with their God.

This is a challenge for us: Who among us would be prepared to die for our belief that Jesus rose from the dead? Well the martyrs did witness to their belief in resurrection and they put up with torture and death.

How do we come to believe in resurrection? We ask and we seek for this faith to be given. We receive a gift. Therefore, we ask and pray to the Giver, for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to reveal this mystery to us. We seek to know Jesus and we trust "relying on God's promise we shall be raised up by him". 2 Mac 7:14

We can become alive to God through Jesus living in us. This is our faith. We say it in the Creed at Mass.

I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Denis McNamara

Supporting Missionary Disciples

Prayer for Prisoners

God, Our Creator, We acknowledge the ancestors and original owners of this land.

Maker and spirit of earth and all creation let your love possess our land and may we share in faith and friendship, all your gifts.

We pray for all those in our prisons and those who through sickness, addictions and other reasons live in their personal prisons.

We remember and pray for those who seek to change difficult life stories.

We remember and pray for the victims of crime on the outside.

We remember and pray for the countless victims of crime on the inside.

We remember and pray for the whole criminal justice system and its processes.

Keep all of us ever mindful of your great love so that we may always remember you as a God of Mercy and forgiveness.

Amen.

Australian Catholic Prisoners Pastoral Care Council www.catholic.org.au

