

Responsorial Psalm Response Ps 32:1-12.18-20.22 Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.	Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!
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WEEKEND MASSES FOR COMMUNION SERVICES WHILE FR PETER IS AWAY SEE PAGE 3

Epping	5:00pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am, 6:00pm
Carlingford	6:00pm Vigil, 7:45am, 9:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES	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: Michael Kelly, Tong Yin, Helen Evans, Sharon Kelly, Ping Kew Chung, Mary Seward Sophie Hollis,

Anniversary: Bill Kilby, Bernadette O'Brien, Barry O'Brien, Elizabeth Pedemont, Gregory McShane, Connie Luciano, Jessie Brennan.

Also for: Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Soo Woog Jin, Maria Hur, Young Seok Seo, Sarah & Phillip Curry, J Barry O'Brien, Bernard Sullivan, Hubert Pedemont, John Noakes, Norma Barlow,

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, Dorothea Ellis, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, Jan Doherty, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng, Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Betty Connors, Narelda & Alan Ryan, Kit Smith, Margaret Floyd, Peter Baker. Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Elaine Hunt, Arnold Day, Maureen Carlon, Fr Adrian Borst, Augustine Hong, Luba Charlton, George Khouri, Antony Hogan, Ingrid Connor, Steve Toth, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Nicholas Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Patricia Muschalik, Ernest Lau, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Belisario, Stella Edwards, Fara Vargas, Theo Stevens, Monica Weeden, Thomas Woodward, Brigitta Williams, Wai Chun Wong.

St Benedict's Monastery Christian Meditation: Sunday, 18 August 2019

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia. Welcome and Registration on the day from 10:00am. 10:30am start and 3.00pm conclusion.

Presentations, Introduction to Meditation for newcomers, period of Meditation for ongoing meditators, Mass, Book Display for perusal or purchase, BYO picnic lunch, tea and coffee provided. No charge for day, donations gratefully accepted for the monastery. Contact Br Terry: 0438 282 318 for possible accommodation in monastery guest house. Other enquiries Ann Bergman: anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas atlomas@bigpond.com or 9653 2637.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
17/08/19	5:00pm	Fr Joey Frez	6:00pm	Fr Peter Carroll msc
18/08/19	8:30am	Fr Joey Frez	7:45am	Fr J Frauenfelder
18/08/19	10:15am	Fr Joey Frez	9:30am	Fr J Frauenfelder
18/08/19	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez		

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 15th August is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – a holy day of obligation
Mass times are as follows:



14th August
7:00pm Vigil Mass at St Gerard's Church

15th August
9:30am Mass at St Gerard's Church School attending.

15th August
12:15pm Mass Our Lady Help of Christians' Church—School attending.

7:30pm Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church

A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

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

Parish Office: 02 9876 2853

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

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/eppingcarlingford

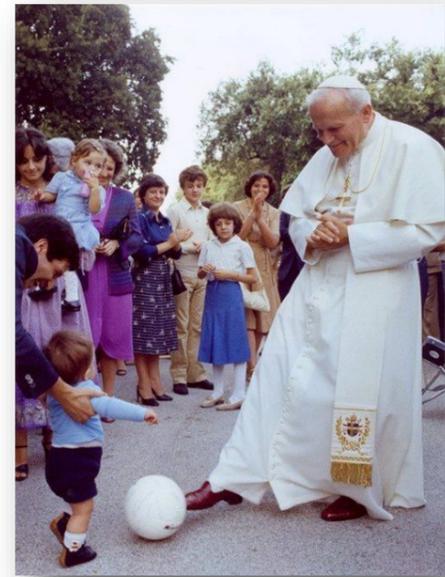
Welcome to our Parish of Epping and Carlingford consisting of our two worshipping communities of St Gerard Majella's at Carlingford and Our Lady Help of Christians at Epping. If you are new to the area or visiting today we are glad that you are with us, and we hope that our celebrations of the Eucharist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

YEAR C NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11-08-19

Wisdom 18:6-9 Hebrews 11:1-2.8-19 Luke 12:32-48

Inter-Seminary Soccer Tournament 2019

Martino Hoang



In 2019, there are 7 teams with seminarians from Corpus Christi College (Melbourne), Good Shepherd Seminary (Sydney), Holy Spirit Seminary (Paramatta), Holy Spirit Seminary (Queensland), Missionaries of God's Love, Redemptories Mater and Vianney College. Also, about 150 seminarians gathered in Melbourne. Priests and seminarians came to play and watch football games. This event is one of the most important chances to see seminarians once year.

For the first day, we were on Friday evening where the draw was hosted and took place by the Missionaries of God's Love, the John Paul II House of Formation, at St Benedict's Parish. There were a welcome and the communal celebration of Evening Prayer, followed by a BBQ dinner and the competition draw from 7:30 pm. We had the lovely dinner there. I also had the good opportunity to see some friends that I know them last year. Indeed, some new faces that I had known before came to me and we become our friends. Because matches could be long the day after, we tried to finish the meal early and to be ready for tomorrow.

On Saturday, 27 July 2019, all seminarians had good a chance to know each other yesterday. However, it is so hard to remember all. For me, I had the good chance to see many main soccer players on the field. All matches were held at the State Football Centre in the Darebin International Sports Centre (DISC) at the same day. Although the weather was cold, most of them got warm because of the warm relationship between us.



The annual Inter-Seminary Soccer Tournament is an event where seminarians from many seminaries in Australia gather together to compete for the cup.

For me, soccer is my favourite sport. When I was the age of 11, I went to school to play soccer with my classmates. Then, I continuously play the sport until now. Pope John Paul II wrote in the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, Pastores Dabo Vobis (1992).

that there are four areas of priestly formation, which are spiritual, human, intellectual and pastoral formations. I believe that playing any sport is part of human formation.

...continued on page 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.

Safeguarding Message August 2019

Next month (September) is Safeguarding month in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

This year the Diocese of Broken Bay is celebrating the theme. *A safe community is one in which all experience a sense of belonging.*

All clergy, parishioners and the wider community are invited to the Diocese Liturgy which signifies the start of SAFEGUARDING MONTH

....continued from page 1

In the evening, a Vigil Mass celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli was held at St John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Melbourne. It was amazing when we attend the dinner meal after.

I have been played this event for 3 years. However, I am so excited because we got the cup after 16 years. It took long to get the championship cup back. Thanks be to God.

Shayne, who is one of our seminarians, wrote on Broken Bay News last month that "during my football years I had more time to listen to our Lord and to discern what he wanted of me. And slowly I felt this calling to do something a little more for Him and his Church, and now I'm here." Although he was a professional soccer player for many years, he gives it up and hear the voice of the Lord. Then, he made the final decision. I learn that he willingly discerns the priestly vocation. I stay with him the Good Shepherd seminary in Homebush. For the success of the soccer competition, he mainly contributed to the preparation of the games. All seminarian there were trained weekly, he corrected our mistakes when we play. Then, we can play soccer properly and have basic skills now.

After the game we were tired. A few people got sick while some got sore throat because of screaming for a long time. Each of us happily contributed to the champion of the game this year. We are united to get the cup. So, the unity of the community is more important than anything.

Last year, I had my pastoral work in primary school during the first and second semester. Sometimes, I played soccer with students there. They were happy when they saw me run, pass and shoot with a ball. I also feel that I am amongst them, which inspires me to think of my memories in Vietnam. Therefore, I am able to help them with a little bit of football, a bit of time and a bit of our Faith. Faith and soccer can help us to be closer no matter where we are.



Statement by Fr David Ranson Diocesan Administrator On the NSW Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 6 August 2019

Given that the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 is currently being debated in the NSW Parliament, I wish to convey my strongest personal opposition to the proposed legislation in its current form. In so doing, I record also the formal objection of the Catholic community of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

The decriminalisation of abortion is one matter. The social factors in which the practice of abortion flourishes are complex and require our careful attention. The response to these requires a great deal of consideration in light of the often-difficult circumstances in which the decision for an abortion is made. However, the killing of life, with the liberal possibility allowed for in the proposed legislation, cannot make ours a more human society. If with legal sanction we kill those who are most vulnerable, either at the beginning or at the end of their life, we rob ourselves of our human dignity which is best demonstrated in a quality of care exercised even in the face of life's demand and challenge. Such an option represents a gross failure of social imagination and public moral leadership.

The widening of the scope of the practice of abortion, which the proposed legislation suggests, is unacceptable. A woman certainly has rights of her own body, as does a man. But both also have responsibility to protect the body of the separate life entrusted to them. That independent life is not of such little value that it can be arbitrarily extinguished often with the price of silent, life-long trauma of women who feel pressured to terminate their pregnancy and the life of the child they carry. Rights can never be promoted without responsibility. And what greater responsibility do we have than to care for life?

In raising this objection, I implore the NSW Government to commit both to increasing those social services that will genuinely assist women who find themselves with an unwanted pregnancy, and to raising sustained awareness about such services. Our own Catholic social service agencies are present and ready to assist in this enterprise. I urge the Members of the NSW Parliament to vote in such a way that the rights of all are genuinely protected.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK NINETEENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Tuesday: Memoria, St Maximilian Maria Kolbe.
Thursday: Solemnity, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Assumption is a Holy Day of Obligation.

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.

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.

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.

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.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council

www.thecouncil.org.au
Ph.: 6234 0900

Mary Immaculate College Sutherland 60th celebration

Ex-students and staff are invited to celebrate 60 years since Mary Immaculate College, Sutherland opened in 1959.

Friday 25 October: 4.00pm school visit followed by 6.00pm function at Tradies, The Kingsway, Gympie. Bookings essential. For further information contact Julie Banister: jewelbano@hotmail.com

SMARTLoving Marriage Weekend Seminar

Open to all married couples, the SMARTLoving weekend is a solution-focused seminar that will equip you and your spouse to identify your unique love profile and learn practical ways to love more effectively. Whether you are in a stable marriage or a stressed one, you can consolidate strengths, overcome barriers, and move closer to being the couple you want to be. Take some time for your selves and register for this weekend.

When: 21-22 September 2019

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.

Where: St Joseph's Retreat Centre. 33 Barina Downs Rd, Baulkham Hills.

Time: 8:30am Saturday—4:30pm Sunday
Cost: \$445 per couple (Accommodation and full catering).

Registration: www.trybooking.com/BDEKL
Enquiries: events@bbcatholic.org.au

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Reflection on Sunday's Gospel—Patience, People

Trust.

Trust is difficult for us today. Relying on someone else involves a risk, and we have been disappointed so often.

Yet human bonding is entirely dependent on trust, wise trust.

In the modern world we use substitutes for human bonding and certainly for trust. We overwork, we overeat, we live for parties and pleasure; we invent formulas such as "quality time" in order to fit family and children into our loaded schedules; and in the United States we simply get rid of a husband or wife or vocation that no longer pleases us.

Abraham relied completely on the steady reality of God's loving kindness. Is there any room left for trust? In the Gospel, Jesus says "be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Jesus is prescribing here a two-way relationship with God. The Master has gone away, relying and depending on the loyalty of his servants. They will fulfill their role by continuing to keep order and by being ready to welcome their Lord back at any moment.

Not so. They are eating, drinking, dancing, forgetting all about the duties of love. They say, "he is nowhere to be seen, he is probably staying overnight at his family's house, so we are FREE! Let's have a ball!"

So they are throwing away relationship and trust. Instead of a human and Godly bonding, they are isolating themselves into selfish indulgences, a "freedom" to cut themselves off sharply from their master (and everyone else).

Do you and I ever break our trust with God, to whatever degree?

Let us compare ourselves with a surprising example: Abraham in the Second Reading.

There God asks a series of risky deeds from Abraham. Travel to a land that you will somehow inherit. Pass through great deserts and villages full of strangers; dwell in temporary shelters all the way; and harshest of all, believe that your wife Sarah will at last conceive and give birth, even though, in your old age, you are both "as good as dead," as Paul puts it.

It gets worse, not better. God orders Abraham to make the bloody sacrifice of his precious son, Isaac, born at last to the couple's ancient age. Offer to me his death, God said.

So much for trust, wouldn't you say? We cannot not trust an order like this, of all things. Save yourself and your children!

Yet God had given a promise. He had said that Abraham was going to have "descendants as numerous as the sands on the seashore" by Sarah. Many people think that in this scene God was simply asking for obedience from Abraham. But in fact he was asking that Abraham remember and rely on the love and the promise that God had shown over all the years. Our reading tells us he "thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy."

Even though God's command seemed (and surely was) completely impossible and even outrageous, Abraham relied completely on the steady reality of God's loving kindness.

Reader: for better or for worse, this is the way we too are led toward bonding with God. We are to try our best to stay faithful even if the entire world gives in to greed and disregard for others. We are told to be present to those whom Jesus loves; to remember God's fidelity to us; ...

to remember love.

To return trust for love.

Isn't it worth the risk?

John Foley, SJ

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

Fr. John Foley, SJ, is a composer and scholar at Saint Louis University. Copyright © 2019, John B. Foley, SJ All rights reserved. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce for personal or parish use.

BAPTISM IN THE PARISH THIS SUNDAY

Welcome to: Grace Lilly Gwen Dolan
Lewis Eugene Ormond
Jacob Stuart Cook
Thomas Christopher Himbrechts
Abigail Claire Mooney

Please hold these children and their families in your prayers.



PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	11/08/19	9:30am	Kidz Word at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Kidz Word at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		3:00pm	PH Epping Confirmation Session 1
		6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch Meeting
Mon	12/08/19	9:30am	Communion Service at St Gerard's Church
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP Conference meeting
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford Rosary Group
Tue.	13/08/19	12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Wed.	14/08/19	9:15am	Communion Service at OLHC Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Mass at OLHC School—Class Mass Yr 6
		3:30pm	PMR Carlingford Confirmation Session
Thur.	15/08/19	7:00pm	Vigil Mass at St Gerard's for the Assumption
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church for The Feast of the Assumption—School Mass
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC for the Feast of The Assumption School Mass
		3:30pm	PMR Carlingford Confirmation Session 1
Fri.	16/08/19	7:30pm	Mass at OLHC for the Feast of The Assumption
		8:52am	Mass at Carlingford High School
		9:30am	Communion Service at St Gerard's Church
		10:10am	PMR Carlingford—Scripture Reflection
Sat.	17/08/19	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 meeting
		9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		3:00pm	PH Carlingford Confirmation Session 2
		5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		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

Talk Around the Parish Table (TAPT)

At our next TAPT dinner, we will discuss "What creates a vibrant Parish which helps our lives. Is it friendship, fellowship and support, or a Good Shepherd or priest leader, or prayer groups, or other ministries, or other".

We would like to invite you to come along and talk about your experience.

Date: Saturday, 31st August after the 5:00pm Mass,

Venue: Parish Meeting Room (under the church).

RSVP: Trish Harrison 0490 912 747 for catering purposes.

We would like to invite you to bring a plate of food to share.

Thank you to those brave souls who have shared in the past.

Trish Harrison

PARISH STAFF

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

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Pastoral Care Assistant:
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Email: kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

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

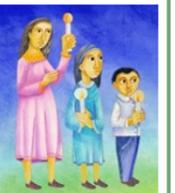
Missionary Discipleship Coordinator:
Denis McNamara
Ph.: 0410 041 944
Email: denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

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

Reception of baptised Christians into the Catholic Church

Q If a person from another Christian tradition wants to be received in the Catholic Church, do they need to be baptised again?

A Baptism happens just once in a lifetime. The Sacrament of Baptism changes us, linking us with the communion of believers, making us part of "a royal priesthood, a holy nation" (1 Peter 2:9). That change can never be wiped away.



Because of this, the Catholic Church never repeats this sacrament. Baptism administered in other Christian churches, with the pouring of water and the words "I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," (*Christian Initiation*, General Introduction, 23) is honoured in the Catholic Church.

The sacrament is the same even for many churches that are not in full communion with the Catholic Church.

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Confirmation 2019

Preparation sessions for Confirmation have now commenced. Candidates are required to attend a session once a week with their parent over 4 weeks for preparation of this sacrament. The four sessions are on:

1. Remember Baptism
2. Called by Name
3. Life in the Spirit
4. Confirmation – The Rite

This week, the groups discuss why the children's baptism story is so important, that it marked the beginning of each of their lives as a follower of Jesus and as a member of the church. We show the children the symbols used at their baptism to help them further understand how significant that day was and how it ties in with Confirmation. In the Gospel of Mark, we read The Baptism of Jesus and teach the children the value of silence as prayer.

The group sessions are family-centred and encourage parent-child interaction with activities to help children explore the key concepts of the sacrament in an age-appropriate and fun way. Upon completion of the four sessions, Candidates will go on to celebrate Confirmation in our parish on Saturday, 14th September.

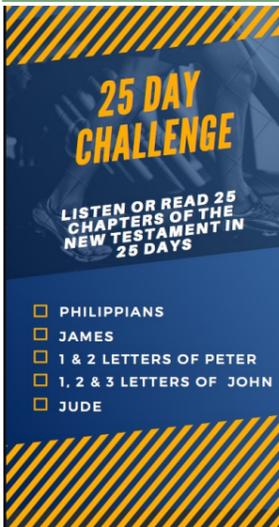
We always like to hear from you! If you have any queries or would like more information regarding your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please feel free to contact us.

Children's Mass - Epping

There will be a Children's Mass at 10:15am at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church, Epping on Sunday 18th August.

The children can be involved in hospitality, readings, prayers and processions. Please email Therese at olhcchildrensmass@gmail.com if you would like your child to be allocated a role.

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



25 day challenge!

Promotion Infographic by Leon

Context for Philippians, by Noel Boreham*

Read a chapter a day of Letters written by the Apostles. Join us as we read the letters of James, Peter, John, Jude and Paul's letter to the Philippians.

We begin on Saturday 17 August by reading Chapter 1 of Paul's letter to the church at Philippi.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. Chapter 1 verse 3 to 6. (Phil 1:3-6)

You are invited to sign up to receive daily information using WhatsApp



The first CWF Appeal for this Financial Year continues this weekend in both our Churches.

SHORTFALL AFTER 1st WEEK—\$16,062

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.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your kindness, your thoughtfulness and your generosity.

Planned Giving Receipts

The Planned Giving Receipts are available for collection at the back of both churches this weekend for people who are in "Planned Giving" (envelopes, credit card and direct debit givers).

People not in Planned Giving can obtain receipts for CWF/Project Compassion Appeals from the parish office.

Alpha

Alpha began in June and last Tuesday the group completed the 12-week journey. Congratulations to all who came as guests and grew in friendship.

Thank you to the 4 Hosts and 8 Helpers who welcomed and supported the groups as they explored questions about life and believing in Jesus. The team of Ted, Joanne and Trish prepared the meals while others offered hospitality by turning the meeting room into a dining room. Your efforts have made Alpha possible.

As St Paul wrote, "May Christ who began this good work in you, strengthen you" to share the good news.

Alpha is the beginning, the first step, so we look forward to taking another step that will sustain the friendships and support people to continue to grow in faith in Jesus and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fr Peter has asked for another Alpha is be offered early next year.

Denis McNamara



OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

No Meeting this Sunday 11 August as Antioch will be going to a combined meeting at Plumpton

All young people from Yr. 10 to age 22 are very welcome!!



For more information
Joanne—0416 030 927

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



CANA: OUR yrs. 6-9 YOUTH GROUP



CANA is on this Friday 16 August from 7:30—9:00 pm in St Gerard's Parish Hall.

CANA is a relaxed social and Christian gathering for young people between Year 6-9, with a combination of **games, food, a talk** each week and **prayer**.

Come along and try it, bring a friend along and make some new friends.

If you have any questions, please contact the Youth Minister, Joanna Mak
joanna@eppcarl.org.au or 0423 717 550

Growing in small groups ~ a focus of the Parish

Growing Missionary Disciples through Small Groups has been the focus of our Parish in 2019. The Pastoral Council have offered some deeper insights into the purpose of small groups.

As a parish, we are helping every parishioner to grow into what Pope Francis calls a "Missionary Disciple". There are key attributes of a Missionary Disciple. We can group some around the experience of belonging to the parish community by participating in Sunday Mass, having friends in the parish, giving generously and using our gifts in ministry.

How do we grow Missionary Disciples?

We will, in most cases, grow Missionary Disciples through small groups. Most of the attributes are best developed in small groups, particularly those small groups with some support and direction from the parish leadership.

Parishioners are invited to experience real Christian community by belonging to a small group where we can share our faith with others. The parish leadership will support these small groups to explore the Scriptures, so you can better understand the mystery of how God has loved us through the history of the Bible.

Many people want to read the Bible because they hear it at Mass and know it is God's Word, but give up because it is so complicated. You will be invited to join a small group in September where you can see the "big picture" of the Bible. **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** shows how fourteen books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve in Genesis to Christ and the Church in the Gospels. More information next week on how we can join a group to journey through the Bible and unlock some of that mystery.

Denis McNamara

Supporting Missionary Disciples

CYBB Pilgrimage to ACYF Perth 2019

As you may be aware the 4th Australian Catholic Youth Festival is scheduled to take place in December this year in the Archdiocese of Perth. Catholic Youth Broken Bay, alongside the Catholic Schools Office currently have more than 250 young people from Broken Bay registered to attend, with a large part of this cohort coming from our Catholic Schools. We hope that by the time group registrations close on 12th September 2019, that number will be closer to 350.

Before this happens, we want to encourage your parish to share and get behind this amazing opportunity for young people currently in Yr. 9 all the way up to the age of 30 to come and join us for an experience like no other! Time isn't up yet and we as a diocese are providing \$500 subsidies towards pilgrims going through their parish, as well as full subsidies for successful applicants who want to be a CYBB Pilgrim Group Leader.

If you are interested, register with CYBB now on our official website. (The easiest way to find us is to Google search 'CYBB ACYF'). Or contact us at youth@bbccatholic.org.au

CYBB Pilgrimage through Harvest Journeys includes: Flights, Perth airport transfers, twin share accommodation at high quality Perth city hotels, including breakfast, ACYF Registration and meal package, ACYBB t-shirt for all participants.

Choose from the following options

Package A 6 Days/5nights Sat 7—Thur 12 Dec 2019 \$1,850 per person	Package B 5 Days/4 nights Sat 7—Wed 11 Dec \$1,750 per person
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Divine Word Missionaries

Friday nights at SVD

Topic: Introduction to the Minor Prophets (Part 2)

Time: 7:30pm—8:30pm

Date: 23 August 2019

Venue: SVD Community Hall, Society of the Divine Word, 199 Epping Road, Marsfield.

Presented by: Fr. Elmer I. Lbarra, SVD
Bible Apostolate Coordinator, SVD Australia Providence
Admission: is FREE!!!!