

Responsorial Psalm Response Ps 94:1-2.6-9 R v. 8 If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.	Gospel Acclamation Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world, give me living water, that I may never thirst again. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
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WEEKEND MASSES

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	10:00am	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am
CARLINGFORD	9:30am	No Mass	9:30am	10:00am	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: Fr Denis Callahan, Dorothea Ellis, Dorothy Hullet (one of the founding members of St Gerard's), John Harold Bowring, Pam Paynter (Neville Wilkin's sister), Maria N T Dong, Carol Rodricks, John F Feld, Lalitha Janet, Joe Calleija, Lalitha Janet, Doo Hwan,

*Please pray for Lizeth Albornoz Gonzalez who died recently.
 The funeral was held last Thursday at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church, Epping.*

Anniversaries: Dorothy Deane, Col Wilde.

Also for: Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Young Seok Seo, Maria Hur, D Choi,

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, Mark Di Palma, Anthony Conlon, Andrew Hannam, The Craig Family, Fr Mick Court, Margaret Maher, Anna & Leo Bruzze, Gerhard Stieger, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, Jan Doherty, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng, Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Narelda & Alan Ryan, Kit Smith, Margaret Floyd, Bev Aliprandi, Barbara Madafiglio, John Lyons, Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, MarciaPower, 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, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Belisario, Stella, Edwards, Fara Vargas, Theo Stevens, Monica Weeden, Thomas Woodward, Wai Chun Wong, Heather Stoodley, Agnes Wong.

Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the family.

After Hours Sick Calls— 9876 2853

Outside office hours our office phones divert to Fr Peter and Fr Bogdan 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.

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.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
21/03/20	5:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd	6:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien
22/03/20	8:30am	Fr Peter Dowd	7:45am	Fr Bogdan Skupien
22/03/20	10:15am	Fr Peter Dowd	9:30am	Fr Bogdan Skupien
22/03/20	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd		

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 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

Assistant Priest: Fr Bogdan Skupien

Ph.: 9876 2853

Email: Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

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

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 A**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT****15-3-20****Exodus 17:3-7****Romans 5:1-2.5-8****John 4:5-42**

Plenary Council Discernment Session next weekend

Fr Noel Connolly a Columbian and a member of the Plenary Council 2020 Facilitation Team wrote:

The real question at the heart of our Plenary Council planning process is not "What will we do?" but "What is the Holy Spirit leading us to do?" Unless the Plenary Council processes are Spirit-inspired, they will not be attractive, life-giving or lasting in the end. Pope Francis has reminded us that the church does not grow by proselytising or by argument but by attractiveness. [EG #14] Ultimately, it is only the beauty of God that attracts.

If you read "Listen to what the Spirit is saying", the final report on the Listening and Dialogue stage, you will notice that there are many, varied opinions expressed. We will need patient discernment to grasp the voice of the Holy Spirit among the enthusiastic, strongly held but, sometimes contradictory, voices of the People of God. We will also need humility and generous openness to all. In a debating process, it is easy for us to decide who has the *sensus fidei*, (*sense of the faith*) and who should be listened to. It is the ones we agree with!

Group discernment requires a different process; a commitment to listen attentively and to trust the intentions of others, together with a willingness to share our own experience and insights and let go of our assumptions or biases. We come to God in and with our brothers and sisters, sharing and listening, not debating and correcting.

Listen and Discern Sessions will be offered**Epping Parish Meeting Room**

Sun. 22 March after Mass at 11:15am—1:00pm

Carlingford Parish Meeting Room

Sun.15 March after 9:30am Mass

Sat. 21 March 12:30pm lunch start 1:00pm-3:30pm

The theme we will begin with is

A joyful, hope-filled and servant community.

Please let us know if you are coming by writing your name on the sheet at the entrance to the church and collect a set of documents or contact Denis by phone 0410 041 944 or denismcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

The documents include the **Reports on the Six Themes** and an **Introduction and Discernment Guide**. May the Holy Spirit guide our parish community in discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading our Church.

Denis McNamara *Supporting Missionary Disciples*

PARISH CENSUS TO BE HELD NEXT WEEK

As Epping and Carlingford is a growing and changing parish, we need to ensure our records up to date and accurate!

We also would like to ask for some thoughts about the parish, and to think about your own involvement in the parish.

Census cards will be distributed next week for completion during Mass. We need **every household** single or family, to **complete the Census**. It won't take very long.



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.

'The Light is On for You at Epping and Carlingford'

This is an exciting initiative for Lent, that seeks to welcome people to our churches for quiet time, prayer, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Stations of the Cross.

Please note we will alternate between the parish churches each Friday night commencing at 7:30pm during Lent as follows:

Friday 20 March - Epping
Friday 27 March - Carlingford
Friday 3 April - Epping

All Welcome!

2020 Easter Vigil Ensemble and Choir

We will celebrate the **Easter Vigil 2020** as one parish at St Gerard's church Carlingford on **Holy Saturday 11th April @ 7pm.**

We would like to invite parishioners from both churches to volunteer to join our Parish Easter Vigil Ensemble and Choir to celebrate this most important Mass of the year.



Our practices will be on a **Tuesday night** in St Gerard's church, commencing – 24th March @ 7.30pm. We will also have a **rehearsal** on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon prior to 11th April.

To indicate your interest, please email – **by Mon 17th March.**

Elizabeth - dneausti@optusnet.com.au— or
 Fran - francunneen@optusnet.com.au

To celebrate this pinnacle point in the Church's liturgical calendar we encourage you to be part of this special music group.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND LENT

Since Lent is the time of Easter preparation please make use of the whole of Lent to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

Reconciliation is celebrated during Lent on:

Saturday
 Morning 9:45 am—10:15 am at Epping
 Afternoon 5:00 pm—5:30 pm at Carlingford

Friday
 Evenings After the Stations of the Cross. (see notice for the Light is on re alternating each week between the two churches.)
 The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available by appointment with either of our priests.

KEEPING THE TIME OF LENT

please support the work of Caritas Australia, our Church's aid and development agency, by taking a Project Compassion box and/or set of envelopes. Project Compassion is a wonderful way to turn our Lenten self-denial into Lenten giving.

as Lent calls us to renewal it also calls us as Churches to overcome the barriers which have divided fellow Christians for so long. Please be part of our shared Ecumenical Lenten Celebrations on the Tuesday evenings of Lent.

weekday Mass is a rich way of entering into Lent: the daily readings offer food for our reflection & the Eucharist is our spiritual food for the Lenten journey.

Lenten Gatherings & Alpha will meet: - see Parish Diary on pg. 3.

**PROJECT
 COMPASSION**
 GO FURTHER TOGETHER

Third Sunday of Lent

15th March 2020

Caritas
 AUSTRALIA



Father of four, Barry, embodies resilience and strength. Growing up in a tough environment, he had to look inside himself to make the right choices for himself and his family. Barry, and others like him, were able to take part in a cultural healing program called Red Dust Healing. This program encourages participants to examine their own personal hurt and allows them to heal from within, addressing family and personal relationships and what may be been life-long patterns of violence, abuse and neglect. Today, thanks to the Caritas support, he's an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

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.

LENTEN ECUMENICAL SERVICES

A reminder that we will again have a weekly Ecumenical Service each **Tuesday evening of Lent at 7:45pm. Everyone is welcome!**

The dates and venues are as follows:

Date	Church	Preacher
17/3	St Alban's Anglican Church	Rev. Howard Bennett
24/3	Epping Baptist Church	Rev. Tammy Hollands
31/3	West Epping Uniting Church	Rev. Greg Woolnough

COVID-19

The public concern about the novel coronavirus, now name COVID-19, remains - especially given its recent outbreak in many new countries. At the beginning of March, Bishop Anthony issued guidelines for the Diocese of Broken Bay pertinent to any such situations of general community health concern, namely that:

- The chalice is not to be shared at any Masses but is to be reserved to the Celebrant(s) only.
- All Ministers of Communion (Ordinary and Extraordinary) are to be diligent in the use of hand sanitizer prior to and after the distribution of Communion.
- Rather than shake hands at the sign of peace, a nod, a smile etc. will suffice.

Given the continuing level of public concern about the coronavirus, but in light of the fact that the virus is currently contained in Australia, Bishop Anthony instructs that the above principles be maintained in the Diocese of Broken Bay until the end of March 2020. The situation will be constantly monitored and his instruction reviewed should changing circumstances necessitate.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council

www.thecouncil.org.au

National Catholic Safeguarding Standards: Leadership, monitoring & improvement

Standard 9 – The Parish regularly reviews and improves systems for keeping children safe

Key Elements of Standard 9:

- Regularly reviews and improves practices
- Analyses concerns and complaints to identify causes and potential system failures
- Reports of the findings of relevant reviews

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
 The Father almighty,
 Creator of heaven and earth,
 and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord,
 Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, **(all bow)**
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried;
 he descended into hell;
 on the third day he rose again from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
 from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and life everlasting. Amen

SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR EASTER 2020 CHOCOLATE PASCHAL LAMBS Made from Cadbury Chocolate (Brown + White)

Beautifully packaged and lovingly made by the Michaelite Community



Selling price: \$8.00

The lambs are a special symbol of Easter and a good way to raise funds for the Missions in Papua New Guinea



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Reflection on Sunday's Gospel—Risking God's Mercy

Shortly after ordination, doing replacement work in a parish, I found myself in a rectory with a saintly old priest. He was over eighty, nearly blind, but widely sought out and respected, especially as a confessor. One night, alone with him, I asked him this question: "If you had your priesthood to live over again, would you do anything differently?" From a man so full of integrity, I had fully expected that there would be no regrets. So his answer surprised me.

Yes, he did have a regret, a major one, he said:

If I had my priesthood to do over again, I would be easier on people the next time. I wouldn't be so stingy with God's mercy, with the sacraments, with forgiveness. You see what was drilled into me was the phrase: 'The truth will set you free,' and I believed that it was my responsibility to challenge people so as to protect something inside of them. That's good. But I fear that I've been too hard on people. They have pain enough without me and the church laying further burdens on them. I should have risked God's mercy more!

We must not spend God's mercy as if it were ours to spend.

I was struck by this because, less than a year before, as I took my final exams in the seminary, one of the priests who examined me, gave me this warning: "Be careful," he said, "never let your feelings get in the way. Don't be soft, that's wrong. Remember, hard as it is, only the truth sets people free!" Sound advice, it would seem, for a young priest.

However, as the years of my ministry have moved towards middle-age, I feel more inclined to the old priest's advice: we need to risk God's mercy more. The place of justice and truth should never be ignored, but we must risk letting the infinite, unbounded, unconditional, undeserved mercy of God flow free. The mercy of God is as accessible as the nearest water tap, and so we, like Isaiah, must proclaim a mercy that has no price tag: "Come, come without money and without virtue, come everyone, drink freely of God's mercy!"

What holds us back? Why are we so hesitant in proclaiming God's inexhaustible, prodigal, indiscriminate mercy?

Partly our motives are good, noble even. Concern for truth, justice, orthodoxy, morality, proper public form, proper sacramental preparation, fear of scandal, and concern for the ecclesial community that needs to absorb and carry the effect of sin, these are not unimportant things. Love needs always to be tempered by truth, even as truth must ever be moderated by love. But sometimes our motives are less noble and the hesitancy arises out of timidity, fear, jealousy, and legalism—the self-righteousness of the Pharisees or the bitter jealousy of the older brother of the prodigal son. No cheap grace is to be dispensed on our watch!

In doing this we are misguided, less than good shepherds, out of tune with the God that Jesus proclaimed. God's mercy, as Jesus revealed it, embraces indiscriminately, the bad with the good, the undeserving with the deserving, the uninitiated with the initiated. One of the truly startling insights that Jesus gave us is that the mercy of God cannot not go out to everyone. It is always free, undeserved, unconditional, universal in embrace, reaching beyond all religion, custom, rubric, political correctness, mandatory program, ideology, and even beyond sin itself.

For our part then, especially those of us who are parents, ministers, teachers, catechists, and elders, we must risk proclaiming the prodigal character of God's mercy. We must not spend God's mercy as if it were ours to spend; dole out God's forgiveness as if it were a limited commodity; put conditions on God's love as if God were a petty tyrant or a political ideology; or cut off cut access to God as if we were the keeper of the heavenly gates. We aren't. If we tie God's mercy to our own timidity and fear, we limit it to the size of our own minds.

A bad game.

It is interesting to note in the gospels how the apostles, well-meaning of course, often tried to keep certain people away from Jesus as if they weren't worthy, as if they were an affront to his holiness or would somehow stain his purity. So they tried to shoe away children, prostitutes, tax-collectors, known sinners, and the uninitiated of all kinds. Always Jesus over-ruled their attempts with words to this effect: "let them come! I want them to come."

Things haven't changed. Always in the church, we, well-intentioned persons, for the same reasons as the apostles, keep trying to keep certain individuals and groups away from God's mercy as this is expressed in word, sacrament, and community. Jesus handled things then; I suspect that he can handle them now.

God doesn't want our protection. What God does want is for everyone, regardless of morality, orthodoxy, lack of preparation, age, or culture, to come to the unlimited waters of divine mercy.

Ron Rolheiser

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. Currently, Father Rolheiser is serving as President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio Texas. He can be contacted through his web site, www.ronrolheiser.com.



Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

McGrath

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	15/03/20	9:30am	Kids Liturgy at St Gerard's this Sunday
		10:15am	Children's Mass, Kids Word at OLHC Church
		10:40am	PMR Carlingford "Listen and Discern"
		11:15am	PMR Carlingford Baptism Preparation Meeting
		3:00pm	PH Epping First Reconciliation—Session 4
		6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch Meeting
Mon	16/03/20	9:30pm	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford Lenten Group
		7:00pm	PMR Epping Communications Meeting M Teulan
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP Conference Meeting
		7:30m	SVdP Conference Meeting at the shop in Epping
		7:30pm	Rosary Group St Gerard's Church
Tue.	17/03/20	12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		6:30pm	CH Epping Antioch Rehearsal
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Choir Practice
		7:00pm	PH Epping Alpha Session
		7:45pm	OLHC Ecumenical Service at St Alban's Church
		9:30am	Communion Service at St Gerard's Church
Wed.	18/03/20	10:00am	Healing & Anointing Mass at Epping
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Thur.	19/03/20	10:00am	Home Lenten Group—L Slocombe
		10:15am	OLHC School Class Mass Yr. 4
		11:30am?	Leader's Mass with Bishop Anthony
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		7:00pm	Rm 2 RCIA meeting
		7:30pm	Home Lenten Group Charles & Elizabeth Barton
Fri.	20/03/20	7:30[pm	Home Lenten Group Max & Trish Lucas
		7:30pm	Home Lenten Group—Pat & Margaret McArdle
		7:30pm	PMR Epping Lenten Group
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford Lenten Group
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Sat.	21/03/20	7:00pm	PH Carlingford CANA Youth Group
		7:30pm	Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation –St Gerard's
		8:30am	Home Lenten Group Philip & Maria Senger
		9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		12:30pm	PMR Carlingford Listen and Discernment Session
		3:30pm	PH Carlingford First Reconciliation Session 4
		5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's
		6:00pm	St Gerard's Vigil Mass

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

PARISH STAFF

Parish Secretary:
Dennis Porteous Ph.: 9876 2853
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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

PALM SUNDAY – AN ECUMENICAL ENTRY INTO HOLY WEEK

Once again our parish, St Alban's Anglican Church, Epping Uniting Church will gather together for A COMMON BLESSING OF PALMS for our principal Sunday morning celebration of Palm Sunday after which we will process to our individual churches for our own liturgies.

The arrangements will be that we will gather at 10:00am on Palm Sunday, 5th April, for the blessing of palms in the grounds of St Alban's Anglican Church, 3 Pembroke Street, Epping from which we will then move in procession with our blessed palms returning to our own church for the celebration of Mass. Members of the St Gerard's community within our parish are of course very welcome to come to Epping on Palm Sunday to take part in this celebration.

Palm Sunday is the threshold to Holy Week and this time of shared prayer gives us a wonderful opportunity to come together to begin that most sacred time of our common Church year.





Children's Sacramental Journey First Reconciliation 2020

We move into our concluding session this week where we examine how sometimes our poor choices of words and actions hurt others, how we are all connected and why hurting others and ourselves also hurts God. We remind the children throughout their preparation that we are created in God's Image and therefore we must always try our best to be as good as Jesus.

We will also look at what happens during the Reconciliation Liturgy in the Second Rite, explain why we celebrate this Sacrament with a reading from the Gospel of John "The Peace of Christ" and that it is a source of healing and help which we can turn to throughout our lives.

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they undergo their preparation for Reconciliation. May they fully understand that being able to receive this Sacrament is ultimately being a privileged recipient of God's love and mercy!

First Eucharist 2020

Enrolment for First Eucharist will open on Saturday, 21st March. In our Diocese of Broken Bay, children who have celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, undergone preparation for Reconciliation and who are currently in Year 3 or above are invited to enrol.

Our Sacramental Programme is advertised through the parish website, bulletins, announcements at Mass, both parish school newsletters, catechists and word-of-mouth. If you do know of anyone who may wish to enrol their children, please feel free to spread the word for us.

Enrolment forms will be emailed to all who are currently enrolled in First Reconciliation and to all who have enquired online. Enrolment forms will also be available from the 21st March at the back of both Churches and on the parish website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/eppingcarlingford>

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 Programme and Children's Ministries
0407 255 593
lynn@eppcarl.org.au

Lenten Foodbank Appeal

Father Peter on behalf of the Parish has again offered to support the Lenten Foodbank appeal of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) at Westmead. They ask that this Lent you donate one item each week to support refugees living in this community and suggest : Basmati Rice, Tuna in Oil, Cooking oil, Tinned

Tomatoes, Long life milk, pasta or spaghetti. Personal care items are also most welcome. A marked box will be left in each Church. Your generosity over the past two years has been greatly appreciated. For further information, contact Tricia Whealy at 0425 270 215

CLASS MASS

Yr. 4 Class Mass this Thursday 19th March at 10:15am at Our Lady Help of Christians School. All class families are welcome!

ST GERARD MAJELLA

The monthly Mass in honour of St Gerard will be celebrated in the St Gerard's Chapel within St Gerard's Church **Monday 16th March at 9:30am.**

EPPING HEALING MASS

Our Healing and Anointing Mass will take place on **Wednesday, 18th March at 10:00am** in the Church. Morning tea will be served at the conclusion of Mass in the meeting room. Catering: Carmel Avis and Marie Heard.

All are welcome to our monthly Healing Masses (on the 1st Thursday of the month at Carlingford and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Epping) as a time to pray for God's healing strength either for ourselves or those we know. Each third month (Mar, Jun, Sep and Dec) we also celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick (Anointing) within these Masses.

Supporting Our Parish

Our parishes create a strong positive presence in our communities, and enjoy essential partners in our Catholic schools. Our Catholic identity finds fluent expression through them.

The Catholic Church has a strong tradition of giving that follows in the footsteps of St Paul who spoke about caring for one another; it has established and supported many worthwhile charities throughout its long history.

This culture of charity continues on, but a parish can only sustain itself and these charitable works with the help of its parishioners whose generosity makes great things possible. We ask you to consider this when thinking about your Charitable commitments to your parish. A church is not merely a building but the people who breathe life into it.

What happens to the Second Collection? Money from the second collection supports the maintenance of the parish buildings and pastoral programs. The parish must work within its own budget and is unable to draw funds for expenses from any source other than its own income. Loans for church works are permitted as long as they can be serviced. Some of the expenses covered are:

1. Parish running costs, e.g. administration, insurance, utilities, general maintenance and upkeep of the Church, presbytery and parish property.
2. Parish staff salaries including superannuation.
3. Priests' care expenses. 4. Charitable Works Fund shortfall. The collection combines income from planned giving envelope and cash on plates.

 Parish Giving

YOUTH PAGE

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

Meeting this Sunday 15th March

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 at Carlingford.
So head on down and bring a friend.



For more information call
Joanne 0416 030 927



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



Date: Friday 17 April 2020
Where: The Catholic Parish of Frenchs Forest- Our Lady of Good Counsel, 9 Currie Road, Forestville

To RSVP email
vocations_ministry@bbcatholic.org.au or
parishoffice@ffcp.org.au



The Office of the Children's Guardian is holding free information sessions about the new Children's Guardian Act. They are being supported by the Diocese of Broken Bay through two parishes hosting their sessions:
St Kieran's Manly Vale - 26 March 2020
Our Lady of the Rosary The Entrance - 17 March 2020
Macquarie Park - 18th March 2020

Go to the following address to register.
<https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/training-and-resources/face-to-face-training>

CANA: OUR Yr. 7-9 YOUTH GROUP FRIDAY 20th March 2020

If you're in Years 7-9 come along for a night Jam-packed with **FUN & FAITH EVERY FRIDAY** night of the School Term.
7:30 pm—9:00 pm
In the Carlingford parish hall.

It's a great place to catch up with old friends
And meet some new ones.

Please remember that a small donation when you come along to the meeting would really help out with the costs of the night.
Thanks ☺



All enquiries to Joanna
0404 710 588

Catholic Youth Broken Bay invites all young people to our first PRAISEFEST of the year kicking things off with a fun outdoor festival with free food, and heading in to celebrate and relive the joyous memories from ACYF 2019 in Perth! After a fruitful and exciting journey through Perth for ACYF, the night will be a chance to come together, share stories and catch up with old friends! The night includes a festival with food and activities, leading into a night of praise & honest worship, an inspirational message by our very own Bishop Anthony Randazzo, and time for reflection, prayer and ministry.

Date: Friday 20 March 2020

Time: 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Venue: MacKillop College, Warnervale Parish,
91 Sparks Rd, Warnervale



JOIN THE CATHOLIC CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL!

CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay is seeking volunteers who are interested in joining their Advisory Council. More information about the opportunity and how to apply can be accessed via the following link:
<https://catholiccaredbb.expr3ss.com/jobDetails?selectJob=155&s=5>

Applications close 16 March 2020