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

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

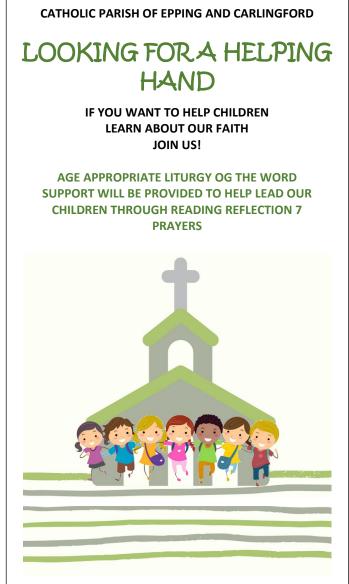
Assistant Priest: Fr Bogdan Skupien Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au

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.

	-15.29-32 Matthew 15:21-28
The recent outbreak of positive tests to COVID-19 in	
to be vigilant in following regulations designed to keep our community safe. Ultimately our cooperation in this matter is one way in which we live the Gospel call to char- ity which lies at the heart of the teachings of Jesus. My thanks to you all for your cooperation and patience as we implemented a number of procedures in line with our COVID-19 safe plan especially the need to record names and contact details as well as using hand sanitiser before and after Mass. In line with current NSW requirements, our churches are able to allow 100 people to gather at St Gerard's Carlingford and 80 at OLHC Epping. Couples and families can, of course, sit together without needing to physically distance among themselves but common sense means that where a large family attends, those sitting position behind the fixed coloured markers so as to en- sure we maintain the 4 square metre rule between per- sons living in different households.	As from this weekend, all those distributing Holy Communion will wear masks as a way of supporting the health of our people. Last Thursday morning I received a request from Bishop Anthony to celebrate Mass here in the parish NEXT WEEK-END! This will be the Bishop's first opportunity to visit the parish and it is meant to be an informal meet and greet similar to his previous visits to other parishes in the Diocese. The Bishop will preside at the 9:30 am Mass at St Gerard's and time permitting may be available to greet the people at the conclusion of the 10:15 am Mass at Epping. Due to the limit of 100 persons in the church at St Gerard's, could I please request that those attending the 9:30am Mass next weekend register with the parish office during the coming week either by email Orby calling 9876 2853. Finally, may we continue to prayerfully and in other ways care and look after each other! We especially remember the people of Victoria and all those who are sick and grieving at this time.

The Parish Website address is: www.bbcatholic.org.au/eppingcarlingford



CHILDREN'S LITURGY – KIDZ WORD

DURING SCHOOL TERM AT: 9:30AM MASS CARLINGFORD 10:15AM MASS EPPING

Adult volunteers are needed to lead and to assist with the supervision of children. This is also a great opportunity for middle/high schoolers and youth to help the young ones celebrate God's Word. A working with Children's Check is required which we can assist you with to apply at RMS online.

> FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: <u>LYNN@EPPCARL.ORG.AU</u> OR CALL: 0407 255 593

Welcome to FORMED

"God our Saviour...desires all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." 1 Tm 2:3-4

Recently the Diocese offered our parish the opportunity to subscribe to a set of online faith formation resources called **FORMED.** These resources can be accessed by individual parishioners for private study or by parish groups, schools etc.

Sign up to access the Resources on Formed.org Go to: https://formed.org/signup

The opening screen says:

Create a new account Find your Parish or Organisation

Type in: Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford

Click on "next", then enter: Your name Your email address

Click on "Sign Up" When asked the postcode is 2121

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AND RECEIPTS FOR FY 2019/2020

Just a reminder that your new Planned Giving Envelopes for 2020/2021 are available for collection from the back of the Churches.

Receipts for those parishioners with planned giving envelopes or those who have made contributions to CWF and Project Compassion may be picked up at the parish office between 9:00am—4:00pm or can be emailed to you.

If you don't have envelopes and would like a pack, or if you would like to contribute by credit card or direct debit please contact Dennis Porteous in the Parish Office.

Men of St. Joseph



Men of St Joseph is a group of Catholic men who want to pray together, grow spiritually, share their experiences and support one another. The group discusses our spiritual and daily issues and helps us to be the better people, members of the Church and of our families.

Meeting every Thursday at 8pm in the PMR at Epping.

Enquiries to Fr Bogdan by emailing: Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au

Fr Bogdan

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	16/08/20	7:45am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		8:30am	Mass at OLHC Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Mass at OLHC Church
		6:00pm	Mass at OLHC Church
Mon.	17/08/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Tue.	18/08/20	12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church
Wed.	19/08/20	9:15am	Mass at OLHC Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Thur.	20/08/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church
		8:00pm	PMR Epping Men of St Joseph
Fri.	21/08/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church
Sat.	22/08/20	9:15am	Mass at OLHC Church
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:20am	Benediction
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's
		5:00pm	Vigil Mass at OLHC Church
		6:00pm	Vigil Mass at St Gerard's Church
		6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch Meeting
PH—Pa	rish Hall, Cl	H—Church,	, PMR- Parish Meeting Room

MARY MACKILLOP - an iBOOK

My book, *God Will take Care of Us All: A Spirituality of Mary MacKillop,* has now been published as an iBook. It was specially aimed at being published to coincide with the feast of Mary MacKillop by St Pauls Publications. It is available on both Amazon kindle and apple iBooks and the retail price is AUD\$9.95.

Pauline Wicks rsj

Prayer Requests

Do you have a prayer request - especially during the difficult times each of us is facing.





If you would like to pray for any special intention Send your request to:

Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au or Facebook link: https://form.jotform.com/201323501410837

We are more than happy to pray for you!

Fr Peter and Fr Bogdan

PARISH STAFF

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

Asst. Parish Secretary: Maree Balzulat Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: maree@eppcarl.org.au

Pastoral Care Assistant: Maree Balzulat Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: maree@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Support Worker (PSW) Sacramental Programmes and Children's Ministries Lynn Siau Ph.: 0407 255 593 Email: lynn@eppcarl.org.au

Sacramental Programme Assistant: Lisha Abraham Ph.: 0407 255 593 Email: kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth:

Joanna Mak Ph.: 0404 710 588 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

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

The second CWF Appeal for this Financial Year will commence the weekend of the 5/6 September in both our churches.

Donations can be made online at www.givenow.com.au/ cwf and will support our Parish quota.

Envelopes can be obtained from the Parish Office. Or the back of each church.

Blessing of Crosses and Crucifixes . . . As you know we try to tap into our Church's tradition of punctuating the rhythm of the year with feasts and festivals by observing some of those feasts in a special way so that they might help to relate our faith to the living of our lives.

One of those feast days will soon be upon us. The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Monday 14th September, celebrates the victory over sin and death that comes through the Cross of Jesus. It is an especially appropriate day each year to bless the cross or crucifix in our sacred space at home. Please bring along your cross or crucifix from your sacred space at home – these will be blessed at the:

Mon. 14/9 9:30am Mass at St Gerard's.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK TWENTIETH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

20/8 Monday: Memorial, St Bernadette, Abbot.
21/8 Tuesday: Memorial St Pius X, Pope
22/8 Thursday: Memorial The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

CANA: OUR Yr. 7-9 YOUTH GROUP

Our Cana (year 7-9) youth group meetings is currently postponed.

If you want to stay in touch, please email or message Joanna (email: joanna@eppcarl.org.au or mobile: 0404 710 588) to receive weekly Cana newsletters and updates.

Keep in Touch (KIT)

Keep informed, keep exploring, keep on thinking about the things that matter the most and move us.

If you would like to receive Keep in Touch please forward your email address to the parish office, contact number: 9876 2853 email: maree@eppcarl.org.au



Volunteer Musicians, Instrumentalist, Singers and Projectionist Required

We are seeking additional volunteers for the Music Ministry for St. Gerard's Carlingford and Our Lady Help of Christians Epping. This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance your skills, make new friends whilst becoming more involved in our church community. Please complete your details and nominate your preferences on the form below and return by 24th August 2020.

Name	•
Talent/skills:	

Ph. No/Mobile:....

Email:....

Mass Prefences:

St Gerard's Christians

□ 6:00 pm Vigil Mass □ 7:45 am Mass □ 9:30 am Mass

Frequency

Monthly
 Fortnightly
 Weekly

Our Lady Help of

□ 5:00 pm Vigil Mass □ 8:30 am Mass □ 10:15 am Mass □ 6:00 pm Mass

Age Group

Primary School
 High School
 18 yrs. +/Uni. Student
 Adult

When completed please return to the Parish Office at Epping OR place in the Post Box (in the door of the parish meeting room C'ford) or in the post box of the green door leading to the verandah at Epping. Otherwise you can email parish@eppcarl.org.au. We will then be in contact with you.

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY Meeting this Sunday 16 August

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 Karen (parent support) 0421 506 577

"It was at Antioch the believers were first called Christians."

Parish Bible Reading Group

Our Parish Bible reading group are currently reading a chapter a day of John.

Join us via Facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>groups/1148887152176778/</u> or via WhatsApp by texting John21 to Joanna on 0404 710 588.



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School 543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford 2118 02 9871 1633 | www.sgcdbb.catholic.edu.au/is-your-child-ready-for-kindy-in-2021



Aid to the Church in Need Emergency Lebanon Appeal

Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched a national emergency appeal for Lebanon, requesting prayers for victims and their families, and raising funds in the wake of the deadly explosion in Beirut on the 4th of August, which has killed at least 135 people, injured 5000 and decimated the capital city.

The funds that are raised will be used to support the most urgent needs in Lebanon (such as emergency food packages) but they will also respond to the physical and spiritual needs that arise in the coming weeks, months and years.

To donate to ACN Australia's National Emergency Appeal for Lebanon visit: <u>aidtochurch.org/lebanon</u> or call ACN on 1800 101 201 during business hours, 8.00am-5.00pm

Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

Expression of Interest for FUTURE FOCUSED SCHOOL LEADERS

"You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together we can do great things." Mother Teresa We are seeking ambitious, inspirational and future-focussed leaders to join our Broken Bay system of Catholic schools in 2021.

The Diocese of Broken Bay encompasses 44 systemic Catholic schools stretching across Sydney's North Shore, Northern Beaches, and up through the Central Coast.

Creating positive outcomes for our students and enriching our school communities imbued with the Spirit of Christ is at the heart of everything we do in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Experience the benefits of a forward looking, growth focused system of Catholic schools with opportunities for quality leadership development and targeted professional learning. Be inspired by the vision of authentic professional Catholic education delivered with care and compassion. Under the leadership of Bishop Anthony Randazzo, we are entering an exciting time of transformation to equip our schools and our people to be future ready, inspiring hearts and minds to know Christ, to love learning and to use their talents to be the very best they can be.

To express your interest in positions of responsibility including Principal, Assistant Principal and Religious Education Coordinator, please email our recruitment team at hr@dbb.catholic.edu.au or call us on 9847 0596. Alternatively, start right now and apply here.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel

Jesus, take pity on our world tormented with Covid-19.

My daughter is tormented by a devil. Desperate for help she started *shouting at Jesus, Sir, Son of David. Take pity on me.* The disciples join in, *Give her what she wants!* She is shouting. People are looking. They did not want any attention. The woman caught up to them and was kneeling at the feet of Jesus.

Jesus responds to her ~ *I am sent to the people of Israel* and only to the lost people of Israel. It was implied that they are outside of Israel, in the foreign country of Tyre and Sidon. The woman is quick to say. *It's not fair, even the house dogs can eat scraps that fall from the master's table.*

Jesus changes. *You have great faith.* You really do believe I can heal your daughter. *Let your wish for your daughter* to be free from evil torment and free from the devil *be granted*. And *her daughter was well again from that moment*!

In our Covid world, there are fears for people without work and for people losing their life's work. Fears for how things will work out for our country and for all those countries on the news for the wrong reasons. Our lives, our 'economy' is not in our control and we see normal is ending. Something unknown is happening. In times like this we might be thinking \sim "For God's sake would somebody do something!"

Perhaps the first thing to do is to wait and see what is happening. Let us see things from a bigger perspective. For our sake **God did do something**. God sent his Son to save and to heal. Our first prayer is to believe *Jesus is Lord of our universe*. Our God of love is in control and the Holy Spirit is doing something to bring all things to good.

When we believe, we put our trust in God. This does wonders for our mental health. We come to a new relationship with Jesus. We pray from that place where we are not in control. In many ways we cannot help ourselves, but **we do not despair**.

We tell God about the fears we have and the evil we see in our world. We pray. *Take pity on us, our world is tormented by evil.* We wait to let the Holy Spirit open our eyes to see and open our hearts to love what you are doing in our world. May we have this hope from God that our world will be well again.

As Missionary Disciples we are not stressed or embarrassed by what is happening in our world. We know Jesus has overcome evil in our world and the Holy Spirit is bringing about the Kingdom of Heaven, here on earth. May others see our hope and draw on our trust in our God.

Denis McNamara

Supporting Missionary Disciples

Reflection on the Sunday's Gospel...Food for Dogs?

Sunday's Gospel can give a headache both to preachers and to people in the pews. Jesus refuses to hear a woman because she is, in his metaphor, one of the "dogs." OUCH.

You know the story. The Canaanite woman cries out for help and Jesus at first will not even talk to her. The disciples demand that he send her away because she is a trouble-maker, and he seems to agree with them. "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," he says.

She is from Canaan, not Israel.

Finally the poor woman walks right up, does "homage" to Jesus and says, "Lord, help me." Jesus would never ignore such words, at least so we Christians and Catholics believe. Nor should we ever be deaf to words like this in our own daily lives.

However, he says to her, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs."

Ouch indeed. This is the line that is so hard for us to understand. So un-Jesus-like.

There are clues. She first called out to him with the words "Son of David." This is a term hallowed by use in the ancient Hebrew scriptures, always referring to the Messiah. She is a Canaanite, and they did not believe in any Messiah-to-come, especially not one that would descend from David. Yet this woman, against her whole background, seems to have belief in Jesus as Messiah.

She calls him "Lord." In Matthew's Gospel this is an explicit admission that Jesus and God are one. Going just on her language, this is proof that she believed in him as the Savior.

Surely he sensed this.

when we ask for

what we need?

But Israelites and Canaanites had long been in strife. How could "they" with their strange gods produce a woman who believes in the one God and in Jesus as the Christ? Is it possible that Jesus was drawing her out, teasing her in order to strengthen her belief?

Perhaps he was quoting the word "dogs" as a reference to names the two peoples called each other. Something like this: "my people of Israel believe in the one God and your people do not. How can I give their food to you 'dogs,' as we call you?"

The woman's quick wit provides a wonderful, humble, bantering response that wins the day. "Even dogs eat scraps that fall from their master's table," she says. It is a riposte, a parry, a counter-thrust, and Jesus loves it. She is saying, "It does not matter what a person's status is as long as they believe. And I do believe."

I'll bet Jesus smiled a great smile as he told her how great her faith was. Maybe he laughed at her fast repartee. And of course he gladly gave her what she asked; he cured her daughter.

Doesn't Christ's Holy Spirit smile within you and me when we ask for what we need? When we let nothing stand in the way, like our own origins, our status in life, our sins, and maybe even our rejection by others?

Remember when we approached Communion and held out our hands and said in effect, "Son of David, have pity on me." This is a paraphrase of the Canaanite woman. Our response is "Amen," which means "I do believe," just like the woman.

Let us mean it this Sunday, whether we attend a virtual or a real Mass.

John Foley, SJ

Father Foley can be reached at: Subject=http://liturgy.slu.edu/20OrdA081620/reflections_foley.html Fr. John Foley, SJ, is a composer and scholar at Saint Louis University. Copyright © 2020, John B. Foley, SJ All rights reserved. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce for personal or parish use.



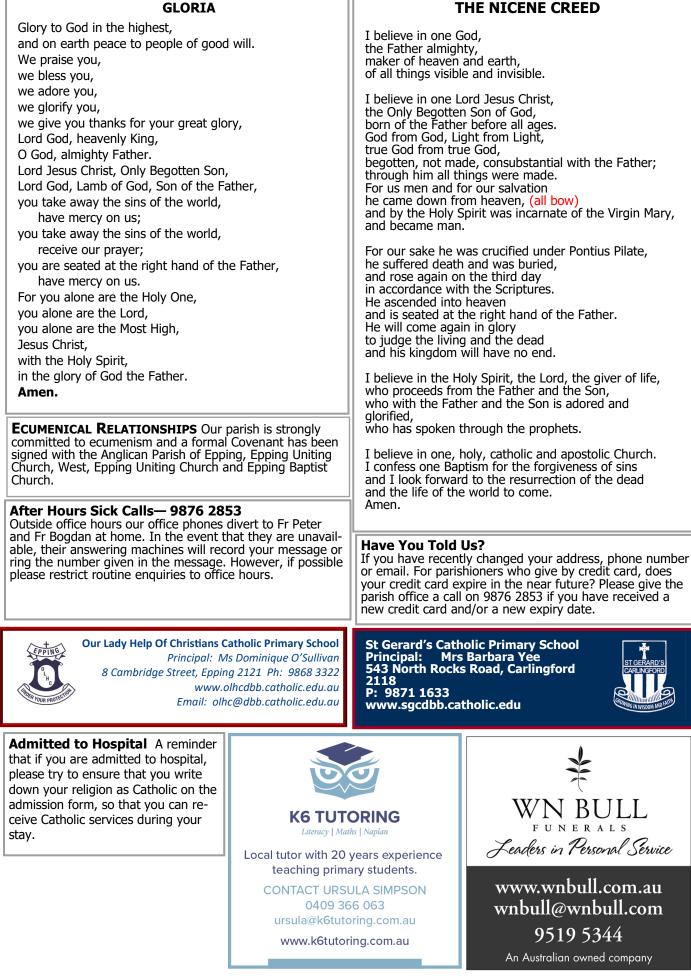
Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

McGrath



THE NICENE CREED



13 00.2	Responsorial Psalm Response Ps 66:2-3.5-6.8 R. v. 4				•	el Acclam	ation
O God, let all the nations praise you!				Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom; and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!			
WEEKEND MASSES	Please note, we must adhere to social distancing within the churches.						
EPPING	5:00PM V	IGIL, 8:30	AM, 10:1	5AM, 6:00PI	м		
CARLINGFORD	ARLINGFORD 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 MASSES	ТВА	1	1		1	1	,
EXPOSITION OF THE	JCHARIST:	Epping Sa	turday 12:3	30pm -1:00pm	, Carling	ford , 4th Th	ursday 10:00am
SACRAMENT OF RECON OR BY APPOINTMENT	CILIATION:	Epping Sa	turday 9:45	5—10:15am	Carlingfo	rd Saturday	7 5:00pm—5:30pm
BAPTISMS AND WEDDI	NGS: BY A	PPOINTME	NT				
PARISH OFFICE: 29 Oxfo	ord Street, Ep	ping NSW 2	121 PH: 98	76 2853 En	nail: parish@	eppcarl.org.	au
ST GERARD MAJELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH: 9871 1633 Email: sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au							
ST GENARD PIAJELLA PI			50/1 105.	3 Email: sg	c@dbb.catho	lic.edu.au	
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Thank you to all those who have made financial contributions. Your support is very much appreciated.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
22/08/20	5:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd
23/08/20	8:30am	Fr Bogdan Skupien	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
23/08/20	10:15am	Fr Bogdan Skupien	9:30am	Bishop Anthony Randazzo
23/08/20	6:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien		

