

**Responsorial Psalm Response**

Ps 97:5-9 R cf. v. 9

The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

**Gospel Acclamation****Alleluia, Alleluia!**Lift up your heads and see;  
your redemption is near at hand.  
**Alleluia!****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.
<b>EPPING</b>	No Mass	12:15pm	9:15am	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am
<b>CARLINGFORD</b>	9:30am	No Mass	<b>10:00am</b>	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:** Helena Recko, Margaret Doyle (sister of Eileen Rourke), Jimmie Hamell, Roy Dias, Helmut Piffe, Bernadette Fonseka, John Verhagen, Sandra (Sandy) Bradley, Daphne North, Mary Carroll.*Please pray for Anthony (Tony) de Luca who died last week**The funeral will be held on Thursday 21st November at 10:30am at St Gerard's Church***Anniversaries:** Cathy Kiss.**Also for:** Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Young Seok Seo, Soo Woong Jin, Maria Hur, Evelyn Dias, Mario Caruso, Robert Webb.**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, Dorothea Ellis, 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, Peter Baker, Bev Aliprandi, 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, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Belisario, Stella, Edwards, Fara Vargas, Theo Stevens, Monica Weeden, Thomas Woodward, Wai Chun Wong, Sr Pauline Wicks rsj.**AFTER HOURS SICK CALLS— 9876 2853**

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

**Admitted to Hospital**

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

**ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS**

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

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

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
23/11/19	5:00pm	Fr Joey Frez	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd
24/10/19	8:30am	Fr Joey Frez	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
24/10/19	10:15am	Fr Joey Frez	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd
24/10/19	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez		

**The Truth Justice and Healing Council**www.thecouncil.org.au  
Ph.: 6234 0900**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 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****THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****17-11-19****Malachi 3:19-20****2 Thessalonians 3:7-12****Luke 21:5-19**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I am sure our hearts have been touched greatly by the scenes of devastation and the loss of life following this week's bushfires. Certainly I know our prayerful support has been greatly appreciated by many of those affected. Of course along with the fires many communities continue to suffer from the impact of drought especially farmers. Following on from a conversation with one of our parishioners, I would like to suggest you might consider joining me in supporting the drought relief drive being organised by the Coasties Drought Aid in association with the CWA Baradine.

**Here is the background for your information:**

"The communities that are being supported by this group are Baradine and townships in the region and beyond.

A coordinator at the Central Coast, Melissa Turner, has been doing on-going food drives for the better part of the last two years. A Face book page with photos, Coasties Drought Aid, shows the work being done. Unfortunately we only found out about this four months ago and have been trying to support them by collecting from friends in our area and delivering to Toukley for transportation out west.

The CWA in Baradine have a "Pantry" in a hall where families can collect items that they need so that nothing is wasted.

**Items required:**

The communities would be grateful for non-perishable food, including tinned food suitable for salads, tinned fruit, long life milk, tea, coffee, Milo, juice, cereals, rice, pasta, biscuits, toiletries and personal items for both men, women and children, sun screens, moistures, Aerogard, and really, any items you would use in your own home, but no chocolate due to the heat. Food for pets would also be appreciated. Also, any new books, new toys and any items which might be included to bring a little joy for Birthdays and Christmas".

Cut off date for this year is Sunday, 24th November, as a convoy of volunteers with cars, trailers, etc. is transporting all items to the drought areas the following weekend.

At each church a basket is available for you to place your donations **by next weekend**. Another opportunity to donate will be available during the month of January.Finally, while Fr Joey is away on holidays I have a good opportunity to remind everyone he will be officially leaving the parish on the **3rd December** at which time Fr Bogdan will arrive. If anyone wishes to contribute to a farewell gift for Fr Joey envelopes are available on the tables near the entrances to both churches in which you can place your donation. These envelopes can then be placed with any church collection over the coming weeks or in the boxes provided on the tables as you enter the churches. An opportunity to thank Fr Joey will be available at the Parish Thanksgiving evening on Wednesday 20th November as well as after the 10:15am Mass at Epping on 1st December.*Fr Peter***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 this:

**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.

**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 supper after Mass

Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Confirmation of roles etc. will be notified via email*

**2019 Catechists Service Awards:**

We celebrated our 2019 CCD Annual Diocesan Mass for Catechists on 9th November at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. Most Rev. Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay as the Principal Celebrant together with priests from the Diocese of Broken Bay at this special occasion.

Service awards were presented by the Bishop to Trish Lucas (30 years of service) and Christine Beasley (15 years of service). Cyril Tumminello (25 years of service) who was not able to attend will receive his award afterwards.

Service awards will for 5 and 10 years will be presented to the recipients in the Catechists Mass at OLHC, 10:15am on 1st December 2019. Congratulations to all of them.



L to R  
Christine Beasley, Bishop Anthony Randazzo, Fr Peter and Trish Lucas

**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



Margaret Hall, Anne Kilby, Bishop Anthony and Marie Saul at St Patrick's Asquith where they attended the admission to Candidacy for Orders of Aldrin Valdehueza.

**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

**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.

**World Day of the Poor - 17 November 2019**



On Sunday, 17 November, Pope Francis calls us to commemorate the third World day of the Poor. This year, the theme is "the hope of the poor shall not perish for ever" (PS 9:19), in which "the Church in Australia is recognising volunteers who work to bring hope to those in need."

In his 2019 World Day of the Poor message, Pope Francis reminds us that "Before all else, the poor need God and his love, made visible by "the saints next door", people who by the simplicity of their lives express clearly the power of Christian love. God uses any number of ways and countless means to reach people's hearts. Certainly, the poor come to us also because we give them food, but what they really need is more than our offer of a warm meal or a sandwich. The poor need our hands, to be lifted up; our hearts, to feel anew the warmth of affection; our presence, to overcome loneliness. In a word, they need love."

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### Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel

The Church's year is drawing to a close. During the coming weeks, the liturgies invite us to look forward in hope to the glorious fulfilment of God's plan for creation.

At the time of Jesus' ministry, the Jewish nation was full of restless expectations – giving rise at times to uprisings seeking to throw off the yoke of Roman occupation. The Jerusalem Temple not only symbolised the nation's life and hopes; it was one of the wonders of the ancient world, filling God's people with joy and pride each time they saw it. The disciples of Jesus would have been shocked, therefore, when Jesus interrupted their buzz of admiration to foretell the Temple's destruction. This prediction was well known - at the trial of Jesus, outrage was expressed that he had spoken of the destruction of the Temple. Today's scholarship sees his dramatic disrupting of the life of the Temple, at this same time, as an act pointing to the end of the era symbolised by the old Temple.

The restless expectations of Israel - that were the explosive background to Jesus teaching – recalled the words of the great prophets, and anticipated a turning point in history, confronting the nations of the world with Israel's special place in the designs of God. It is important to appreciate these expectations as we interpret the message of Jesus. The Jewish people did not look forward to the end of history, but to an intervention of God that would inaugurate a new era of human history. In this new era, all the institutions of Israel, such as the Temple worship, would be even more glorious. Jesus certainly brings the message that the hopes of Israel are to be realised; but it will be a realisation that shows such things as the Temple as only a pale foreshadowing of God's final blessings – 'the hour is coming when you will worship the Father, neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem' (Jn 4:21). The dismayed reaction of the disciples reminds us how attached old Israel was to their venerable institutions; and the history of the early Church shows how difficult it was for them to accept that the new order of things brought by the Saviour was the fulfilment of their hopes. In what Jesus has to say after the prediction of the destruction of the Temple, he anticipates the turmoil that will follow, as people struggle to understand the designs of God. About to experience a violent rejection by his own people, he prepares his disciples for the persecutions they will experience as they bring his message to the world.

The first Christians tended to link the new era inaugurated by the death and resurrection of Jesus with the end of the world. Some Thessalonians (second reading) had even given themselves to a 'life of idleness', as they await the end! Luke, however, warns against such an outlook; he does not interpret the prediction of Jesus and what follows as referring to the end of the world. In a separate passage (Lk 17: 20-37) he has given the teaching of Jesus concerning the end of human history. Clearly, in today's passage, he warns against interpreting the disasters of human history as signs of the coming end.

John Thornhill sm  
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### Hospitality Team—Can You Help?

The Bible had numerous references to hospitality in connection with spiritual experiences and our Parish desires that everyone be warmly welcomed and befriended as they attend our churches. From the welcome at the door through to the morning tea afterwards, an atmosphere is built to help people feel welcomed, cared for and connected. We desire our church to be a safe place!

#### This hospitality ministry comprises:

**Welcome team** to greet people as they arrive and befriend them in the foyer  
**Hospitality team** to provide morning tea after the service

**Can you help in one of these areas? If yes, please contact the parish office with your details. We would love to hear from you.**

### Being alert to God and not alarmed by whatever

The readings at Mass focus on spectacular endings. The prophet Malachi predicts justice for "All evil doers will be stubble" from "fire burning like a furnace". The opposite for *You who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays*. Paul advises those concerned about what will happen at the return of Jesus simply says, *Go on quietly working*.

When Jesus was with his disciples admiring the Temple, he said "Everything you are staring at will be destroyed". This would be a mega disaster, too much to comprehend! He goes on to spell out the challenges those who follow him will have to endure then promised, *Your endurance will win your lives*. No matter what is happening around us or to us we pray the Alleluia together with faith, *Lift your heads and see your redemption is at hand*.

It seems simple to have faith and place ourselves in God's hands. Reminds me of the village that came together to pray for rain. Only one child turned up with an umbrella. May our trust keep us alert to what God is doing.

Denis McNamara Supporting Missionary Disciples

### PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	17/11/19	9:30am	Kidz Word at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Children's Mass (no Kidz Word) at OLHC Church
		11:15am	PMR Carlingford Baptism Preparation Meeting
		18:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch meeting
Mon	18/11/19	9:30am	<b>Communion Service at St Gerard's Church</b>
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP meeting
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford Rosary Group
Tue.	19/11/19	12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Adult Choir Practice
		7:30pm	SVdP meeting in the Epping Shop
Wed.	20/11/19	9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		10:00am	<b>Healing Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians</b>
		11:30am	PH Epping OLHC Kindergarten Liturgy K2
		7:00pm	<b>St Gerard's Church Mass</b> "Thanksgiving for Our Parish" followed by supper in the Parish Hall
Thur.	21/11/19	9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford Facilitators meeting for 'Unlocking The Mystery of the Bible'
		10:15am	OLHC School Reconciliation Yr. 3
		12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		2:00pm	CH Epping Yr. 6 practice
		7:30pm	St Gerard's Mass to remember, love and pray with our young people who have died.
Fri.	22/11/19	9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		10:10am	PMR Carlingford Reflection on the Gospel
		12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		3:00pm	PMR Carlingford Adult Choir
		4:30pm	CH Epping Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary
		7:00pm	PH Carlingford CANA meeting
Sat.	23/11/19	9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		5:00pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		5:00pm	CH Carlingford Reconciliation
		6:00pm	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>

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

### PARISH STAFF

**Parish Secretary:**  
**Dennis Porteous** Ph.: 9876 2853  
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**Parish Support Worker (PSW) Sacramental Programmes and Children's Ministries**  
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**Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth:**  
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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](mailto: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.

*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 21<sup>st</sup> 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!*

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy (Kidz Word) is an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word offered at the 9:30am Sunday Mass at Carlingford and the 10:15am Mass at Epping during school terms. The presiding Priest calls forward the authorised adult leaders and children just after the Collect (Opening Prayer). The children are invited to go on a little "pilgrimage" with the leaders to the parish meeting room to celebrate the Gospel.



During Kidz Word, the leaders lead the children through prayers, songs/mimes and readings. The children reflect on the same Scripture readings as the rest of the assembly. They are taught a simplified message of the readings and are encouraged to share that message with their family and friends after Mass.

Adult or youth volunteers are needed to lead Kidz Word each week, as well as to assist with the supervision of the children. This is a great opportunity for adults and middle/high school/uni youth to help these eager youngsters celebrate God's Word. A Working with Children's Check will be required, which we can assist you with. Training will also be provided before you begin and you can be assured you are always part of a team!

If you would like to help bring this meaningful ministry to life so God's Word can reach the hearts of our young children, please contact the parish office on 9876 2853 or email me at [lynn@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:lynn@eppcarl.org.au) We look forward to hearing from you!

Lynn Siau  
Sacramental Programmes & Children's Ministries  
0407 255 593  
[lynn@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:lynn@eppcarl.org.au)



### CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

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

#### Shortfall after the second week \$9,397

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.

**EPPING HEALING MASS** Our Healing and Anointing Mass will take place on **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October** 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 Herd.

### Rosary for the Intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The rosary for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be recited every Friday afternoon at 4:30pm in Our Lady Help of Christians' Church. You are most welcome to join us.



### ANGEL TREE 2019



Once again through the "Angel Tree" the Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford can deliver the Christ love of Christmas to children of prisoners. Prison Fellowship invites you to help make a child's Christmas a little brighter. The children we are supporting have a parent/s serving a goal term, but the children are often the forgotten victims of their parents' crime.

Your commitment will involve purchasing a gift (up to \$30) or donating money towards the postage of the gift. We do not know how these gifts will be received, or the material circumstances of the family, but these families are suffering. The gift is from an incarcerated parent who cannot personally buy or deliver the gift to their child.

You are asked to collect an "Angel Card" from the Tree in St Gerard Majella church **next** weekend. The Card has the child's name, sex, age and possibly a gift suggestion requested by the parent.

Due to jail regulations please do not wrap the presents. Place the "Angel Card" on the outside of the gift and return to the Tree on the weekend **8/9th December**. Please continue to pray for the children, parents and carers this Christmas.



### HAMPER SUNDAY

**This weekend 16/17th November**  
**Where: St Gerard's Church Carlingford**  
**Number of families needing a "hand up": 50**

*Please can you help fill a hamper*

### The Initiation Process for Adults: Growing in the Christian life through the parish community

#### Q How do people learn what they need to know in order to be initiated?

A Those preparing for Christian initiation learn in many ways – listening, observing and living with the community. (The word *catechumen*, the name for those preparing for Baptism, comes from a Greek word meaning "to hear".)



They learn through the proclamation of the Word of God, at Mass and outside of Mass.

They learn through faith sharing with others, exploring what the Gospel means and how it is coming to life in their lives.

They learn through weekly gatherings focused on learning the faith with their catechists and pastor.

They learn through informal conversations with their godparents or sponsors or other Catholic friends.

They learn through taking part in active service of others alongside other Christian believers.

Most of the learning a person does in preparing for the sacraments does not happen in a classroom!

Corinna Laughlin. © 2017 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Art by Steve Musgrave.

## Youth Page

### OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

#### Meeting this Sunday 17 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

### Let's Listen & Discern for the Plenary Council

*Pope Francis set the scene when he told the Italian Bishops four years ago that we are not so much living in an era of change as a change of era, "that our times require a deeply merciful Catholicism that is unafraid of change".*

Thank you to those who have expressed interest in participating in the second stage of preparing for the Plenary Council. This is a stage of communal discernment. The group's response will be submitted to the Council. Fr Peter has asked Lynn Slocombe and Denis McNamara to contact you with more details.

More information or links to the information will be emailed to you. This way we will have a better understanding and appreciation of the issues for the sessions *Let's Listen & Discern* planned for late January or February next year.

If anyone else wants to join the group learning about the movements of this Council, please add your name to the list at the back of the church and we will be in touch.

### Plenary Council 2020

#### Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

This week we will look at:

#### Open to Conversation, Renewal and Reform

This National Theme for Discernment is inspired by the voices of the People of God who expressed a desire to do things differently in response to Christ and the experience of our people, accepting that faithfulness to tradition requires change that is both personal and communal. Respondents also affirmed the important role of the clergy, expressing their appreciation for their vocation and recognising the need for support and ongoing formation and accompaniment. Some asked for a consideration of alternative approaches to ordained ministry, some for a greater inclusion of laity and different groups in the Church's life, some for new models of government and leadership, and some for a renewed fidelity to the Church's teachings. There was also a call for a renewed life of prayer and communion with one another, including understanding the many different ways in which we encounter God and experience a conversion of heart.

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

### CANA: OUR yrs. 7-9 YOUTH GROUP

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—9.00pm. 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 ☺

Enquiries to Joanna Mak  
0404 710 588



### BEYOND OUR PARISH



### Position Vacant Faith Formation Team Leader Parish of St Agatha's, Pennant Hills Fulltime

The Catholic Parish of St Agatha's, Pennant Hills is seeking applications from interested and suitably qualified persons for the position of Faith Formation Team Leader. The Faith Formation Team Leader is required to:

- Provide leadership, management, coordination, advice and support to team members and volunteers to deliver faith formation programs and spiritual development opportunities; and
- Develop, in the Parish Team and Parishioners, an understanding of the inter-relationship between Faith Formation and aspects of parish life such as liturgy, ministry, prayer and service to people in need.

The successful candidate will need to have:

- a demonstrated ability to lead, inspire, and work with others no matter where they are on their faith journey;
- relevant qualifications and or studies in theology, religious education, scripture or other areas such as education, adult learning, business skills or social work;
- familiarity with writings in parish life, Fr James Mallon's *Divine Renovation* and Sherry Weddell's *Forming Intentional Disciples*; and
- an ability to translate strategic plans into action and resource the parish to sustainably realise the plans and actions.

To obtain more information about this role including **how to apply**, please email [recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au). **Applications close 4pm Monday 9 December 2019.**

The successful applicant will also be required to undergo pre-employment screening including WWCC verification.