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|--|---|---|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--|
| Responsorial Psalm Response I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. | | Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia! I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia! | | | | | |
| WEEKEND MASSES | | | | | | | |
| Epping | 5pm 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: Lynette Herbert, John McKelvey, Walter Souhrada, Peter O'Malley, Kiew's Mother.
Please pray for Kathy Walsh who passed away last week.
The date and time of the Funeral Mass will be announced at Sunday Masses.

Anniversaries: Francis (Frank) Boyd, Agnes Hu.

Also for: Young Kwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Soo Woog Jin, Maria Hur, Young Seok Seo.

Please pray for those who are sick: Sean Huhse, Joel Steinberg, Patricia Rumble, Dean Pan, John Davies, Nicole Greenfield, Michael Furlong, Saulius Dovydas Balsys, 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, Stephen Last, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Elaine Hunt, Arnold Day, Maureen Carlon, Fr Adrian Borst, Ausustine Hong, Luba Charlton, George Khouri, Antony Hogan, Ingrid Connor, Steve Toth, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Kath McCarthy, Nicholas, Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Patricia Muschalik, Ernest Lau, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave, Fara Vargas, heo Stevens, Monica Weeden.

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



*To Dear Mary [Flook],
Congratulations on the celebration of
your special day. May your birthday be
filled with sweet memories and good
friends, and may God's blessing wrap
you in comfort and love. Happy 104th
Birthday!*

The Parish Family

| Date | Mass | Epping | Mass | Carlingford |
|----------|---------|--------------|--------|---------------|
| 25/05/19 | 5:00pm | Fr Joey Frez | 6:00pm | Fr Peter Dowd |
| 26/05/19 | 8:30am | Fr Joey Frez | 7:45am | Fr Peter Dowd |
| 26/05/19 | 10:15am | Fr Joey Frez | 9:30am | Fr Peter Dowd |
| 26/05/19 | 6:00pm | Fr Joey Frez | | |



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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

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

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

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



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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

19-05-19

Acts 14:21-27

Apocalypse 21:1-5

John 13:31-35

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Last Tuesday approximately forty people gathered for the commencement of our new season of Alpha at St Gerard's meeting room. It was a wonderful evening where food, friendship and a deepening sense of relationship with Jesus was explored and celebrated. It is not too late to join us next Tuesday evening! Either let Maree know at the parish office or just turn up....you will be made very welcome!

On Sunday 7th May, Jean Vanier (1928-2019), sailor, academic, companion and man of boundless hospitality, died leaving behind him not only many communities in grief but also a model for how a world free of discrimination might look.

Fr Justin Glyn SJ wrote this moving tribute in a recent edition of the publication Eureka Street:

"Jean was born to the Canadian Governor Georges Vanier and diplomat and Privy Councillor, Pauline Vanier, both renowned for their saintly lives, with their causes for canonisation having begun. When he took office as Governor-General, Georges prayed a prayer that might have been a premonition of his son's life:

'May Almighty God in his infinite wisdom and mercy bless the sacred mission which has been entrusted to me by Her Majesty the queen and help me to fulfill it in all humility. In exchange for his strength, I offer him my weakness. May he give peace to this beloved land of ours and, to those who live in it, the grace of mutual understanding, respect, and love.'

After the young Jean resigned his commission in the Royal Canadian Navy in 1950, he felt driven towards something more. He studied philosophy in France, published works on Aristotle and briefly explored the possibility of becoming a priest.

Vanier found his true calling in his 1963 encounter with two young Frenchmen with intellectual disabilities, Raphaël Simi and Philippe Seux. These men's need for companionship and empathy touched his heart when he visited the institution in which they were confined. Vanier realised that the first response of society, when confronted with people with disability, was to shut them away in fear. His response instead was hospitality.

He invited the two men to live with him in a home he had bought, beginning the first L'Arche (The Ark) community in Trosly-Breuil in Picardie. In return, the men opened his own heart to a greater understanding both of what people cast onto the margins of society could offer by way of love and a broader understanding of all of humanity as limited, powerless, vulnerable and in need of mutual support.

Today, L'Arche has 154 communities and 21 community projects in 38 countries on five continents. While the philosophy of

the movement is grounded in Vanier's Catholic faith, it is open to all and eschews discrimination on any grounds. Although the exact structures differ from place to place, 'core' members (with an intellectual disability) live with others ('assistants') in homes which offer mutual support and friendship.

One of the great gifts of Vanier and L'Arche has been to subvert the understanding of 'disability'. Vanier's key insight was that:

'When we start helping the weak and the poor to rise everyone will begin to change. Those who have power and riches will start to become more humble, and those who are rising up will leave behind their need to be victims, their need to be angry or depressed ... This is the spirituality of life that helps people to rise up and take their place. It is not a spirituality of death. Jesus wants those who have been crushed to rise up and those who have power to discover that there is another road, a road of sharing and compassion.'

It is very easy for people without a disability to see those who have one as 'the other', as strange because the workings of their bodies or minds are so manifestly different or apparently deficient. This is particularly so in the case of people with an intellectual disability, where cognitive processes which many of us take for granted may be a foreign territory, leaving them open to exploitation, neglect or exclusion.

The fact is, as Vanier recognised, that all of us are partial, incomplete beings. His '5 Principles of Humanity' include the sacredness of all people, the constant evolution of people, the corollary realisation that maturity comes in working with others, the need for people to make choices for the benefit of themselves and others and the universal search for meaning.

It follows that the myth of the self-made person with flawless body and mind is just that. Vanier pointed out that it is in our very vulnerability and woundedness that we display the form of Christ. Indeed, it is appropriate that Vanier went to meet his God at Easter, a time when Christians celebrate Christ meeting his disciples — and proving his identity and triumph over death in the face of their disbelief by showing them his wounds.

All of us begin life incapacitated — unable to speak or see or reason — and most of us, if we are lucky to live so long, will leave it that way: with mental or physical limitations. Limitation and disability is accordingly not something foreign, to be feared or locked away, but is in fact an essential part of the human condition. What is more, as Jean Vanier has demonstrated in a life lived for others, it is in that limitation which we shall see the face of God."

May Jean Vanier pray for us and continue to inspire us all!

Fr Peter

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 May 2019

A culture of Safeguarding values DIGNITY....."As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love."
- John 15:9

PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT

Antioch is hosting a **Parish Trivia Night** and we would like to invite you all to come along! Entry price is \$10 per person or \$80 for a team of 8-10 people. The latest date to RSVP is the 19th of May. This weekend we are speaking at all Masses and will be taking registrations for the Trivia night.

Trivia Date: 25th May, Saturday
Time: 7-10pm
Location: St Gerard's Parish Hall, 543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford

We are fundraising for our youth who will be attending the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Perth in December this year.

As part of fundraising, we are also selling **Entertainment books**. The book costs \$70 and 20% of the sales go towards fundraising the youth. This book offers discounts to a wide range of offers including dining, shopping, movie tickets, travel, theme parks, hotels, car hire etc. and is great for the family or as a present for others.



A display copy will be out this weekend for you to have a browse. More information can be found on the website <http://bit.ly/2VL1piX> and you can order it online via the link. Both a hard copy and digital copy are available to purchase.

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

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.

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.

How does believing in the resurrection of Jesus make a difference?

When we tell people; "Jesus was raised from the dead; the apostles saw and spoke to Jesus; they were witnesses", these facts may not seem that relevant to them. Then something else happened to the apostles, that made the difference for them.

The power of God worked through them. They healed people and turned people from their "dark and destructive" behaviour. They received the "Power of the Holy Spirit". People who experienced this power of God, praised God in Jesus. This spiritual power transformed their lives. Their attitude and behaviour became focused on others. They valued the dignity and worth of people. They believed that people are fundamentally good and cherished by a Loving Father.

In the readings at Mass you will hear about the difference that the resurrection of Jesus made. *The Apostles gave an account of all that God had done with them.* Acts of the Apostles Something they did, was made spectacular by what God did through them for others. People were transformed.

The Apostles focused on the good and began with gratitude. When people recognised the gifts received, they realised there is a giver, a very gracious God. The psalm says it this way, "The Lord is kind and full of compassion." They had a very different experience of God. The apostles became missionary and shared the good news of Jesus, risen from the dead.

The resurrection of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit makes all the difference. We can now hear Jesus as a friend speaking personally to us; *I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples.* Jn 13:34-35

Do you hope for change and for some difference in your life? Coming to Alpha is a time of gratitude and growth. We become aware of our life journey and the journey ahead with renewed hope. The resurrection of Jesus makes all the difference. Our lives too can be transformed.

Alpha at Carlingford will take place this Tuesday evening. You are invited to join us at dinner at 7pm. We had a wonderful beginning last week and now is the time to join the groups exploring life and celebrating their lives. Would all those who have done Alpha or just beginning please let others at Mass know how Alpha can enrich your life with new insight, understanding and new friends. You are welcome to bring a friend and just come on in. You could also fill in your contact details and leave them in the box at the entrance to the church. See you this Tuesday in the meeting room behind the church at Carlingford.

Denis McNamara ~ *supporting people to become Disciples then Missionary Disciples*



28 CHAPTERS OF ACTS IN 28 DAYS

CHALLENGE YOURSELF BY READING A CHAPTER A DAY FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS.

LISTEN OR READ FOR A FEW MINUTES EACH DAY USING YOUR SMARTPHONE OR BIBLE.



REFLECT ON THE READING



SHARE YOUR REFLECTION IN WHATSAPP



STARTS 12 MAY 2019
ENDS 8 JUNE 2019

TO JOIN TEXT '28' TO 0435 031 848 (LEON)



CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION Email Denis McNamara at denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford
Diocese of Broken Bay

Pre-Marriage Course

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28Acts

Begin reading the Acts of the Apostles. Do 2 chapters a day this week and you will join the community reading and reflecting on the Acts of the Apostles. Text '28' to 0435 031 848 and you can join this conversation.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council
www.thecouncil.org.au
Ph.: 6234 0900

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, **At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.**

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; 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.

Association of the Miraculous Medal:

Mass with Novena will be celebrated in St. Anthony's Church, 54 Agincourt Road, Marsfield, on Saturday, 1st June, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. All welcome.

CHILDREN creating and connecting...
FAMILIES belonging and learning...
TEACHERS listening and supporting...
COMMUNITIES growing and collaborating...

"LEARNING TOGETHER" PLAYGROUPS

- ✓ FACILITATED BY EARLY LEARNING EDUCATORS
- ✓ STIMULATING PLAY AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES
- ✓ FRIENDLY AND INCLUSIVE - ALL WELCOME

ST GERARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, CARLINGFORD

ALL SESSIONS: 9AM - 10.30AM

Term 2: Monday 27th May and Tuesday 18th June
MEET IN THE SCHOOL HALL: 543 North Rocks Rd, Carlingford 2118
Morning tea provided

Term 3: Wednesday 31st July, Friday 23rd August
And Night Playgroup on Thursday 15th August from 6.00-7.00 pm
Like more information? Phone: 9871 1633, or email: sac@dbb.catholic.edu.au

ALL PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND CARERS

Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel—Gospel Challenge

The gospels point out that, before his conversion, Zacchaeus was a short man, someone lacking in height, but that, after his conversion, the tall man gave back what the small man had stolen. Meeting Jesus, it seems, made Zacchaeus grow bigger in stature.

That's what goodness does to us, it makes us grow taller. For example, a friend of mine shares this story: He has a neighbor who frequently drops round to drink coffee and chat. The neighbor is a good man from a wonderful family and has been blessed with lots of love and good example in his life. But, like the rest of us, he has his weaknesses; in his case, gossip and occasional pettiness.

One day, as he was sitting with my friend, he made a very racist remark. My friend, instead of accusing him of being a racist or shaming him with the inappropriateness of his remark, called him instead to his own essential goodness: "That comment surprises me," he said, "coming from you. I've always considered you and your family big-hearted people, with class, never petty. I've always envied your family for its goodness and understanding. That remark simply doesn't sound like you!"

The man's reaction was instant, positive. Immediately he apologized: "You're right," he said, "I don't know why I sometimes say stupid things like that!" Like Zacchaeus the taller man gave back what the smaller man had taken.

To grow to what our deepest DNA has destined us for is what makes us whole, makes us tall—humanly, spiritually, and morally.

It's interesting to note that the word "gospel" means "good news." not "good advice." The gospels are not so much a spiritual and moral theology book that tell us what we should be doing, but are more an account of what God has already done for us, is still doing for us, and the wonderful dignity that this bestows on us. Of course the idea is that since we are gifted in this way our actions should reflect that dignity rather than what's less lofty and more petty inside us. Morality is not a command, it's an invitation; not a threat, but a reminder of who we truly are. We become taller and less petty when we remember what kind of family we ultimately come from.

In essence, we all have two souls, two hearts, and two minds. Inside of each of us there's a soul, heart, and mind that's petty, that's been hurt, that wants vengeance, that wants to protect itself, that's frightened of what's different, that's prone to gossip, that's racist, that perennially feels cheated. Seen in a certain light, all of us are as small in stature as the pre-converted Zacchaeus. But there's also a tall, big-hearted person inside each of us, someone who wants to warmly embrace the whole world, beyond personal hurt, selfishness, race, creed, and politics.

We are always both, grand and petty. The world isn't divided up between big-hearted and small-minded people. Rather our days are divided up between those moments when we are big-hearted, generous, warm, hospitable, unafraid, wanting to embrace everyone and those moments when we are petty, selfish, over-aware of the unfairness of life, frightened, and seeking only to protect ourselves and our own safety and interests. We are both tall and short at the same time and either of these can manifest itself from minute to minute.

But, as we all know, we are most truly ourselves when what's tall in us takes over and gives back to the world what the short, petty person wrongly takes. John of the Cross, the great mystic, made this insight the center-piece of his theology of healing. For him, this is the way we heal:

We heal not by confronting all of our wounds and selfishness head-on, which would overwhelm us and drown us in discouragement, but by growing to what he calls "our deepest center." For him, this center is not first of all some deep place of solitude inside the soul, but rather the furthest place of growth that we can attain, the optimum of our potential. To grow to what our deepest DNA has destined us for is what makes us whole, makes us tall—humanly, spiritually, and morally.

Thus, if John of the Cross were your spiritual director and you went to him with some moral flaw or character deficiency, his first counsel would be: what are you good at? What have you been blessed with? Where, in your life and work, does God's goodness and beauty most shine through? If you can grow more and more towards that goodness, it will fan into an ever larger flame which eventually will become a fire that cauterizes your faults. When you walk tall there will be less and less room for what's small and petty to manifest itself.

But to walk tall means to walk within our God-given dignity. Nothing else, ultimately, gives us as large an identity. That's useful too to remember when we challenge each other: Gospel-challenge doesn't shame us with our pettiness, it invites us to what's already best inside us.

Ron Rolheiser

Facebook Twitter Email

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

The 2019 Diocesan Children's Choir Games will be held on Sunday 22nd September, St Patrick's Church, Asquith.

Open to any young singer from Yr. 2 to Yr. 12. Registration opens at 12:30pm, followed by workshops and rehearsals plus a break for socialising. Families and friends are invited to join the action at 3pm and watch the choirs compete.

Afternoon tea for all will be provided after the Games.

Registration \$5.00 per singer.

Places are limited—Please RSVP toparishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au or on 9456 2450

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

| Day | Date | Time | Event |
|-------|----------|---------|--|
| Sun. | 19/05/19 | 9:30am | Kidz Word at St Gerard's |
| | | 10:15am | No Kidz Word—Children's commented Mass |
| | | 11:15am | PMR Carlingford—Baptism Preparation Meeting |
| | | 3:00pm | PH Epping First Eucharist Session 3 |
| | | 6:00pm | PMR Carlingford Antioch meeting |
| Mon | 20/05/19 | 9:30am | Mass at St Gerard's Church |
| | | 7:30pm | PMR Carlingford SVdP Meeting |
| | | 7:30pm | CH Carlingford Rosary Group |
| Tue. | 21/05/19 | 12:15pm | Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church |
| | | 7:00pm | CH Carlingford Adult Choir Practice |
| | | 7:30pm | SVdP Meeting in the shop at Epping |
| Wed. | 22/05/19 | 9:00am | PMR Carlingford Primary Catechists Meeting |
| | | 9:15am | Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church |
| | | 7:00pm | Musicians dinner—TBA |
| Thur. | 23/05/19 | 9:30am | Mass at St Gerard's Church followed by Exposition and Benediction |
| | | 12:15pm | Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church |
| | | 3:30pm | PMR Carlingford First Eucharist Session 3 |
| | | 7:30pm | PMR Epping First Eucharist Parent Gathering |
| | | 7:30pm | Rm 2 Bldg. 1 Epping RCIA |
| Fri. | 24/05/19 | 9:30am | Mass at St Gerard's Church |
| | | 10:05am | PMR Carlingford Scripture Reflection |
| | | 12:15pm | Mass + School for OLHC Feast Day |
| | | 4:30pm | CH Epping Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary |
| | | 7:00pm | PH Carlingford CANA Youth Group |
| Sat. | 25/05/19 | 9:15am | Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church |
| | | 9:45am | Exposition and Reconciliation |
| | | 10:15am | Benediction |
| | | 5:00pm | Reconciliation at St Gerard's Church |
| | | 5:00pm | Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church |
| | | 6:00pm | Mass at St Gerard's Church |
| | | 7:00pm | PMR Epping Talk Around the Parish Table (TAPT) |
| | | 7:10pm | PH Carlingford Trivia Night |

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

PARISH STAFF

Parish Secretary:
Dennis Porteous Ph.: 9876 2853
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Asst. Parish Secretary:
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Pastoral Care Assistant:
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Parish Support Worker (PSW) Sacramental Programmes and Children's Ministries
Lynn Siau

Ph.: 0423 255 593
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Sacramental Programme Assistant:
Marcella Letteri
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Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth:
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Missionary Discipleship Coordinator:
Denis McNamara
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Email: denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

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

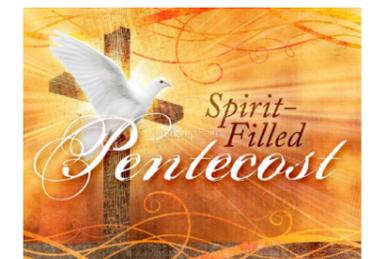
OUR LOCAL PENTECOST ECUMENICAL LITURGY

The next gathering of the local Churches in our Covenant will be to celebrate Pentecost on

Tuesday, 4th June 2019

at 7:45pm
at West Epping Uniting Church,
161 Carlingford Road
Epping

Please come along to this liturgy and be part of our Pentecost celebrations.



MORNING TEA AS FR PETER HEADS OFF ON HIS SABBATICAL



The Welcome and Hospitality Ministers within the parish cordially invite all parishioners to a morning tea to wish father Peter bon voyage as he departs for his well earned sabbatical leave. The proposed dates are as follows:

- St Gerard's at Carlingford after the 9:30am Mass on Sunday the **26th May**
 - Our Lady Help of Christians, Epping after the 10:15 am Mass on Sunday the **2nd June**.
- Please be a part of this special occasion as we wish Fr Peter a safe journey.

THE PARISH WEBSITE
www.bbcatholic.org.au/
eppingcarlingford contains a complete directory of parish life and downloads of



Children's Sacramental Journey - First Eucharist 2019

This weekend at all the Masses, the children who are preparing to celebrate their First Eucharist will receive a reflection on the Lord's Prayer. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

In our third session called God's Word, we discuss about the importance of storytelling: families have stories, Jesus also told us stories. We explain to the children the true stories in the Holy Bible teach us about our history and how it forms our identity today as Catholics and why we celebrate the Eucharist, which means "thanksgiving". They will also begin learning the first part of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the said or sung responses during Mass.

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.

There is also a Commentated Children's Mass at 10:15am this Sunday, 19th May at Our Lady Help of Christians', Epping.

We always like to hear from you and look forward to building a fruitful relationship. If you have any queries or would like more information regarding your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please send an email to kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

Children's Liturgy of the Word – 19th Sunday of Easter

This week, Kidz Word looks at Jesus teaching us about love by his actions: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." The children explore ways they can help people learn about God's love as disciples of Jesus.

During Kidz Word, the adult 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 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 youth to help these eager youngsters celebrate God's Word. Training and resources are provided. A Working with Children's Check will be required, which we can assist you with.

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 We look forward to hearing from you!



Children's Mass - Epping

There will be a Children's Mass at 10:15am at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church, Epping on Sunday 19th May.

The children can be involved in hospitality, readings, prayers, processions and singing in the choir. We invite your children to participate! Please email me for more information.

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



The Charitable Works Fund

The CWF Appeal for this Financial Year continues this weekend 18/19th May in both our Churches.



SHORTFALL AFTER THE SECOND WEEK \$11,516

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 2018/2019 Financial Year is \$51,193.

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

ALL READERS PLEASE NOTE!

All Readers are invited to an evening with Fr John Frauenfelder as we reflect on the importance of the Ministry of Breaking Open the Word at Mass each week.

The workshop will take place on Wednesday 29th May in the parish meeting room at Carlingford, commencing with a light supper at 7pm followed by a reflection given by Fr John and Fr Peter.

All Readers (and anyone else for that matter) are asked to attend.

RSVP no later than Friday 24th May to the parish on 9876 2853 or email maree@eppcarl.org.au

Talk Around the Parish Table (TAPT)

Our next communal dinner will take place on **Saturday 25th May at 6pm** after the 5pm Mass in the parish meeting room at Epping.

If you are coming along, could we invite you to bring a plate of meat, salad, vegetables, desserts or entrees.

Families with children most welcome! BYO drinks. For further information please contact Trish Harrison on 9869 2489 or 0490 912 747.

PRAISEFEST Catholic Youth Broken Bay invites all young people to PRAISEFEST! Join young people (youth & young adults) from across the Diocese to catch up with friends, enjoy our Festival consisting of different activities and a free BBQ, encounter God through vibrant and honest worship, and receive spiritual nourishment through an inspiring and relevant message.

Date: Friday 7 June 2019 **Time:** 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Venue: Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood Parish, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067
(next PRAISEFEST on 23 August 2019)

Youth Page

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

Meeting this Sunday 24th May

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.

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"



Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)

Are **YOU** interested in attending the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Perth this year?

This national festival occurs once every 2 years and is designed to bring young Catholics all over Australia together. This 3 day convention (**from 8-10th December, 2019**) will host a wide range of activities including music, prayer, leadership talks, worship and a pilgrimage walk. This festival is specifically for people between **Year 9 up to 30 years old** (under 18s must be accompanied and supervised by an adult). If you would like to find out more or you are interested in attending the ACYF, please email the Youth Minister on joanna@eppcarl.org.au or call Joanna on 0423 717 550. You can also find more information on the website www.acyf.org.au. We would love to give our youth this amazing opportunity to participate and deepen their relationship with Christ and with other Catholics.



CANA: OUR yrs. 6-9 YOUTH GROUP

Cana is on this this Friday 24th May from 7:30-9:00pm in the 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



An opportunity to be a "missionary disciple"

Through our baptism, we are called by Jesus to be missionary disciples – to share the Gospel message with others. As followers of Jesus, we are also called to community, to grow together in the Christian life.

At times people express an interest in knowing more about the Christian faith and the way of life, and as a community of faith we are called to respond.

Through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the parish community shares with these people their faith, life and beliefs.

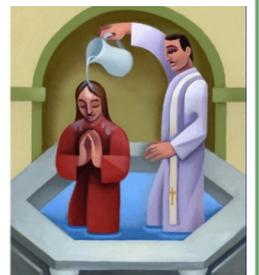
In an effort to support these people, we gather with them to share our faith in a home setting, around members of the local community.

In order to do this we invite parishioners to open their homes and hearts to meet with our enquirers.

To this end, we once again would like to invite parishioners who are interested in offering their homes for these meetings. **If you are able to assist in this ministry of hospitality and welcome, or would like more details, please complete the information on the sheets at the back of the church.** The RCIA team will be in contact with further details of what is involved.

Q What is Christian Initiation?

A Christian initiation is the process of preparing for and receiving the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Those baptised as infants receive these sacraments over years – Confirmation at around the age of seven, and Eucharist a year or so later. But in the early Church, these sacraments were received together. That still happens for adults who wish to become Christians. Their preparation may last one or even more years; they learn about and apprentice in a life of faith in the community before receiving all three sacraments at once, usually at the Easter Vigil, on the night before Easter. This process is known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Adults baptised in other Christian traditions prepare to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church and to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Depending on their background, this preparation may take a few or many months.



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