

<b>Responsorial Psalm Response</b> This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.			<b>Gospel Acclamation</b> <b>Alleluia, Alleluia!</b> Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; Let us feast with joy in the Lord. <b>Alleluia!</b>				
<b><u>WEEKEND MASSES</u></b>							
<b>Epping</b>	<b>5pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am, 6:00pm</b>						
<b>Carlingford</b>	<b>6:00pm Vigil, 7:45am, 9:30am</b>						
<b><u>WEEKDAY MASSES</u></b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Thur</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	
<b>EPPING</b>	No Mass	12:15pm	9:15am	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am	
<b>CARLINGFORD</b>	9:30am	No Mass	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	No Mass	
<b>HEALING MASS</b>	<b>Carlingford</b> —1st Thursday, <b>Epping</b> — 3rd Wednesday						
<b>EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST: Epping</b> Saturday 9:45-10:15am, <b>Carlingford</b> , 4th Thursday 10:00am							
<b>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Epping</b> Saturday 9:45-10:15am <b>Carlingford</b> Saturday 5:00—5:30pm <b>OR BY APPOINTMENT</b>							
<b>BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: BY APPOINTMENT</b>							
<b>PARISH OFFICE:</b> 29 Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121 <b>PH:</b> 9876 2853 <b>Email:</b> parish@eppcarl.org.au							
<b>ST GERARD MAJELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH:</b> 9871 1633 <b>Email:</b> sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au							
<b>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTANS PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH:</b> 9868 3322 <b>Email:</b> 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:** Rolands L'Olive, Maria Jacinta Hemadez, Norman Bampton, Terry Mooney, Joyce Few-trell, Edward Sulto Span, Kevin Plummer, Caroline Prasad, Lynette Herbert, John McKelvey.

**Anniversaries:** Dominico Pak, George Byrnes, Bert Saul, Theresa Mifsud, Kata Medved, Mato Matijasic, Hubert Pedemont, Josephine Mercer.

**Also for:** Richard Barry, Mark Hillier, John & Elizabeth McEanearney, Jack & Noon Barry, Patricia & Donna Barr, Shaun Pak, Hock Beng Chua, Hock Hee Chua, Lilian Chua, Kiat Chee Lo, Tjekoslav & Julijana Medved, Tomo Medved & family, Karlo Puskaric, Elizabeth Pedemont, John Noakes, Norma Barlow, Francis (Frank) Boyd, Tony Moses.

**Please pray for those who are sick:** Sean Huhse, Joel Steinberg, Patricia Rumble, Dean Pan, John Davies, Nicole Greenfield, Michael Furlong, Saulius Dovydas Balsya, Residents of Wesley Rayward Nursing Home, Rose Prior, Mark Di Palma, Anthony Conlon, Andrew Hannam, The Craig Family, Fr Mick Court, Margaret Maher, Anna & Leo Bruzze, Gerhard Stieger, Ron Jenkins, Dorothea Ellis, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, Jan Doherty, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Walter Souhrada, Stephen Last, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Pam Taig, 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 Atanasia Lee, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave, Fara Vargas, Kathy Walsh, Theo Stevens.

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

## Sequence

*The sequence is said or sung on this day.  
On the weekdays of the Octave of Easter, its use is optional.*

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;  
and Christ, the undefiled,  
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon th way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!



## 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](http://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

## SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

**20-04-19**

**Acts 10:34.37-43**

**Colossians 3:1-4**

**John 20:1-9**

Dear brothers and sisters,

Firstly welcome!...especially any visitors who joining us today! We appreciate greatly your presence and hope our prayer together may instil joy, hope, and peace as we raise our minds and hearts especially at this time in honour of the Risen One.

Importantly, a very blessed Easter to you all! Today we celebrate the very heart of what it means to be 'Christian'...That Jesus Christ, the Son of God, truly conquered death in His Resurrection from the dead and as a result we too are 'risen' in Him!

Our bulletin this weekend contains an Easter letter from our Diocesan Administrator, Fr David Ranson. Here in response to the questions that is at the heart of the account of the Resurrection of Jesus "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?" (Luke 24:5) Fr David writes, life cannot be found in our bitterness, life cannot be discovered in our resentments; life cannot unfold in our fears. Life can only burst forth when we lift our eyes and begin to search elsewhere. The Resurrection of Jesus is the bursting forth of His life such that it is no longer contained in time and space. It is for this life that we are now searching with hearts full of expectation and anticipation. The eruption of His life beyond the confine of death shatters not only the tomb in which Jesus' body lay. It shatters too, the tombs of our own spirits. It breaks open the cycles of entrapment and offers us newness and freshness and possibility in those places where we thought there was only more of the same. We no longer have to search among what deadens us for the life for which we yearn. The Resurrection proclaims it does not have to be more of the same. Something different is possible!

May this Easter be for each of us an occasion of hope. May the Risen Christ touch anew our hearts and quicken our spirits. May we all find in surprising ways the fire of His life again.

*Fr Peter*

### No Sunday Evening Mass this Weekend

Please note that there is no 6pm Sunday evening Mass on Sunday evening the 21st April. Sunday evening Mass will resume next weekend.

### Project Compassion

Please return Project boxes and envelopes by Sunday, 5th May. Please help our counters by turning your coins in your Project Compassion boxes into cheques or notes or \$1 and \$2 coins (or if at all possible, cheques). Your help is most appreciated.

### Easter Offering Envelopes

Easter Offering Envelopes are available near the bulletin boxes in both our churches. This annual appeal is a vital supplement to the First Collection which provides the salary and living expenses and health care provision for the priests of our diocese in active ministry and the accommodation, care and living expenses for priests who are retired. Please give as generously as you can as this fund is sorely strained and struggling to meet its commitments. The envelopes can be placed on the collection plates over the Easter Season.

### Weekday Mass this Week

Please come along to Mass during this Easter Octave as the liturgy continues to celebrate the joy of the resurrection. Weekday Mass times for this week are given on the page 8 of the bulletin. We've spent 40 days of Lent preparing for Easter. Let's not leave it there - we have 50 days of the Easter Season to celebrate!

### Anzac Day Mass

Falls on this Thursday 25th April. Masses will be at: 9:30am at St Gerard's Church and 12:15pm at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church.

### 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.

### April 2019 Safeguarding Message

A culture of Safeguarding values COMMITMENT....."Speak out and judge fairly, defend the rights of the poor and needy." See Proverbs 31:9.

### Antioch is hosting a Parish Trivia Night and we would like to invite you all to come along!

**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. This event happens once every two years and calls together young people from all around Australia to join together and celebrate their faith. The theme is 'Listen to what the Spirit is Saying' and some of the events being hosted include workshops, music, prayer, Mass, Adoration and a Pilgrimage walk.

We are also in need of people to donate gifts for trivia prizes. If you can help, please drop them off at either Church before the 19th of May. All your support and prayers are greatly appreciated!

Please RSVP yourself or your group of 8-10 people to this email address: [joanna@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:joanna@eppcarl.org.au).

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. If you have any questions, please email [joanna@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:joanna@eppcarl.org.au) or contact the Parish Youth Minister, Joanna Mak on 0423 717 550. Thankyou!



Pictures taken at our Taize evening held last Friday 12th April at OLHC Epping. L: Altar adorned with candles R: Musicians



Alpha at Carlingford, begins on **Tuesday** evening **14 May**, with dinner at **7:00pm**.

Be our guest and join us over a hot meal.

It is time to **Come and See** for yourself and your friend and your neighbour.

Please sign up for Alpha.

We look forward to welcoming you.

*The Alpha Team*

.....✂.....✂.....  
*Please complete the tear-off slip below and return to the parish mailbox at Carlingford or Epping*

I would like to come along to the Come and See Evening on 14th May at 7:00pm at St Gerard's parish meeting room (behind the church).

Name:.....

Surname:.....

Phone No:.....

Email:.....

Parking is available in the grounds of St Gerard's (drive down the driveway and park behind the church)



### 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.

### 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

### Divine Mercy Sunday at St Agatha's, Pennant Hills

St Agatha's Parish at Pennant Hills has been formally celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday for some years now. It is usually a very well-attended afternoon and a wonderful opportunity for prayer and reflection, including:

- Recitation of the Rosary;
- Reconciliation throughout the afternoon;
- Holy Mass;
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament;
- Readings from the Novena of the Divine Mercy;
- Afternoon Tea;
- Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image and Relic; and
- Benediction and Blessing of Sacramentals.

When: Sunday 28 April 2019, commencing at 1:30pm.  
Where: St Agatha's Catholic Church, 20 Boundary Rd, Pennant Hills

### Pre-Marriage Course

**Couples** before you officially say "I-Do", take this course to learn how to **build** a stronger foundation for your **marriage**.

Call **Cynthia**: 0404 488 238  
E: [3Rcounselling@gmail.com](mailto:3Rcounselling@gmail.com)  
[www.3Rcounselling.com.au](http://www.3Rcounselling.com.au)

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### 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;  
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.

### Catholic Social Teaching afternoon at Frenchs Forest Parish

*Catholic Social Teaching: Principles for Hope in Challenging Times*  
A forum to learn, discuss and apply to issues relevant to our lives.  
With **Fr Jack Evans SSC** and Young Key Listeners/Respondents,  
**Ashleigh Green** and **Justin Donnelly**

**When:** Sunday 28 April, 3:30 – 5:00pm  
**Where:** OLGC Meeting Room, Currie Rd, Forestville  
Organised by the Frenchs Forest Parish Social Justice Group  
**RSVP:** Parish Office: 9451 5097 or [annelanyon@gmail.com](mailto:annelanyon@gmail.com)

### Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday 28th April at St Therese, Denistone

2pm—Reconciliation and Devotion  
3pm Mass

All Welcome!

**The Truth Justice and Healing Council**  
[www.thecouncil.org.au](http://www.thecouncil.org.au) Ph.: 6234 0900

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...continued from page 5

The Easter Proclamation cannot but rekindle our hope and our courage. The fire has not been extinguished and it will never be. Yes, the Easter Proclamation sparks to life and vigour the fire we have been given in ever new ways but which can appear at times to dim and fade.

To return to Van Gough, "Now, look here, what must be done, one must tend that inward fire, have salt in oneself, wait patiently yet with how much impatience, for the hour when somebody will come and sit down near it—to stay there maybe? Let [the one] who believes in God wait for the hour that will come sooner or later."<sup>2</sup> But the hour has come! It comes now in our Easter Proclamation.

No, we will not look among the dead for the One who lives. We will look for Him in what still quickens our hearts; we will search for Him among the multitude of blessings we experience through the unmistakable goodness and generosity of those we know; we will stand ready for Him in our restlessness to create new possibility; we will discover Him anew as we reread the Scriptures with Him in mind, repeat His gestures in memory of Him, especially in the Eucharist, and live in fellowship with one another alive to the beauty of lives radiant with faith, hope and love.<sup>3</sup> For Christ lives! Nothing can destroy this. Our numbness and our weariness, our anxiety and timidity, our loss of confidence and despair pale and dissolve in the Easter Proclamation which through grace, we utter once again deep in our hearts, and find the courage to sing again in the darkness of our churches as the Vigil of Easter—the same places which become flooded with the many lights of faithful witnesses and which evidences the remarkable truth that no amount of darkness can extinguish the flame of a single candle. Christ lives and therefore does his Church!

As we gaze upon the Candle of Easter, may each of us be reminded of those beautiful words of Pope Benedict to the crowd that had gathered in vigil to farewell him upon his resignation in 2013: "The fire of the Holy Spirit, the fire of Christ is never one that devours nor a destructive one. It's a quiet fire, a small flame of goodness, of goodness and truth transforms with its light and warmth. We have seen that the Lord doesn't forget us—even today, His way is humble. The Lord is present, He gives warmth to our hearts, shows us life, creates charisms of goodness and charity that shine in our world which are for us a guarantee of the goodness of God."

May this Easter be for each of us an occasion of hope. May the Risen Christ touch anew our hearts and quicken our spirits. May we all find in surprising ways the fire of His life again.

1 The Letters of Vincent van Gough, edited by Mark Ruskell (New York: Atheneum, Macmillan Publishing Co., 1963), 122. Cited in Joyce Rupp, May I have this Dance? (Notre Dame, IND: Ave Maria Press, 1922), 112.

2 The letters of Vincent van Gough, 122.

3 With reference to Louis-Marie Chauvet, Symbol and Sacrament: A Sacramental Reinterpretation of Christian Existence, translated by P Madigan and M. Beaumont, (Collegeville, MN: Pueblo, 1995).

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

for this week 22nd – 26th April will be as follows:

22/4 Monday	Closed (Public Holiday)
23/4 Tuesday	9:00am—12:30pm
24/4 Wednesday	9:00am – 12:30pm
25/4 Thursday	Closed (Public Holiday)
26/4 Friday	9:00am – 12:30pm

*Christ is Risen!*

#### Prayer

God of life, Master over Death, Alpha and Omega, we worship you this day.  
With the rising of the sun, you have raised Jesus Christ and delivered him from death's dominion.  
On this bright new day we praise you for your gift of life, for all the ways you defeat our defeat, all the times in which you have refused to let death have the last word over our world, all the big and little occasions in our lives when you intruded unexpectedly, took charge, and delivered us from the grip of disappointment and despair.  
Raise us from death to life. Release the grip which sin has over our lives. Renew our faith in your ability to give us more than we ask or pray. Show us your glory in our times of doubt.  
Send us forth joyfully to tell others of what we have seen and heard in this time of Easter worship.  
Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection might be worthy of your great love for us, your great gifts of eternal life, and death's defeat.



**Awesome service. Amazing results.**

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

**McGrath**

#### PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	21/04/19	9:30pm	No Liturgy of the Word—School Holidays
		10:15am	No Liturgy of the Word—School Holidays
		6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch meeting
Mon	22/04/19	9:00am	No Little Engines at the moment
		9:30am	No Gerry's Playgroup—School Holidays
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		2:30pm	CH Carlingford—Music practice
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford—Rosary Group
Tue.	23/04/19	12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Adult Choir practice
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP meeting
		8:00pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet (see p. 4 of the bulletin)
Wed.	24/04/19	9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
Thur.	25/04/19	9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b> Mass [followed
			by Exposition & Benediction]
		12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
Fri.	26/04/19	9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		10:10am	PMR Carlingford Reflection of Sunday's Scripture
		12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		4:30pm	<b>NO</b> Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary
		7:00pm	NO Cana Group—School Holidays
Sat.	27/04/19	9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		11:00am	CH Epping Wedding
		2:00pm	CH Carlingford Wedding
		5:00pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		5:30pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's
		6:00pm	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		6:00pm	PMR Epping Talk Around the Table

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

#### EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

Easter Offering Envelopes are available near the bulletin boxes in both our churches. This annual appeal is a vital supplement to the First Collection which provides the salary and living expenses and health care provision for the priests of our diocese in active ministry and the accommodation, care and living expenses for priests who are retired. Please give as generously as you can as this fund is sorely strained and is struggling to meet its commitments. The envelopes can be placed on the collection plates over this An Invitation to our next Ecumenical Easter Season.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
27/04/19	5:00pm	Fr Joey Frez	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd
28/04/19	8:30am	Fr Joey Frez	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
28/04/19	10:15am	Fr Joey Frez	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd
28/04/19	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez		

#### PARISH STAFF

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

**Asst. Parish Secretary:**  
**Maree Balzulat** Ph.: 9876 2853  
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**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: kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

**Sacramental Programme Assistant:**  
**Marcella Letteri**  
Ph.: 0407 255 593

**Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth:**  
**Joanna Mak**  
Ph.: 0423 717 550  
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](mailto:ppsecretary@eppcarl.org.au)

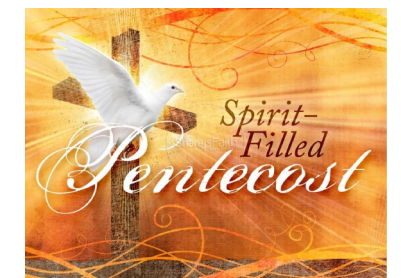
#### OUR LOCAL PENTECOST ECUMENICAL LITURGY

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.



**THE PARISH WEBSITE**  
[www.bbcatholic.org.au/eppingcarlingford](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/eppingcarlingford) contains a complete directory of parish life and downloads of



**Positions Vacant  
Catholic Parish of Epping Carlingford  
Sacramental Programme Assistant, Part-Time**

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford is seeking a highly personable assistant to be part of a team in providing support for the implementation of the parish Sacramental Programme where families are welcomed and nurtured in the sacramental life of our Catholic faith.

The successful applicant will work closely with the parish Sacramental Coordinator by providing primarily general administrative support for the programme and occasional facilitation of groups when necessary.

Please email your CV to [peter@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:peter@eppcarl.org.au) by Friday 26th April 2019.

A Working with Children Check and National Police History Check (NPHC) will be required for this post.

A copy of the job description is available from the Parish Office 9876 2853.

**Divine Mercy Prayer Group** meets this **Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 8pm**. Come join us for an hour of reciting the Chaplet, praise and worship, reflection of a Scriptures verse, prayer for intentions and thanksgiving followed by some simple fellowship. Venue changes monthly within the neighbourhoods, all are very welcome to attend, please call Cynthia for more info on 0404 488 238.

**Talk Around the Parish Table (TAPT)**

Our next communal dinner will take place on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 6:00pm** 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 or vegetables. Could you also bring desserts and entrées.

Families with children most welcome!

BYO drinks.

For further information please contact Trish Harrison on 9869 2489 or 0490 912 747.



**SAVE THE DATE MUSIC MINISTRY DINNER**

Wednesday, 22nd May 2019  
in the Parish Meeting Room at 7pm

All musicians and projectionists are welcome!

More details to come.

For further information  
please contact Rachel  
through the Parish office.



**What a speech Pope Francis gave in yesterday's homily/sermon!**

READ IT AGAIN AND AGAIN:

\*You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world.

Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you. Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.

To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life. Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us.

To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry". It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you". It is to have the ability to say "I love you".

May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness ... That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom. And when you make a mistake, start all over again. For only then will you be in love with life.

You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your losses to train patience. Use your mistakes to sculptor serenity. Use pain to plaster pleasure. Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence. Never give up .... Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show.\*

(Pope Francis).

**Youth Page**

**CANA: OUR yrs. 6-9  
YOUTH GROUP**



**Cana is on a break  
until Term 2.**

Our next gathering will be on the  
**3rd May from 7:30-9pm**  
in the St Gerard's Parish Hall.  
Anyone between year 6 to 9  
is welcome to come and bring  
a friend or two!

If you have any questions, please contact the  
Youth Minister, Joanna Mak  
on [joanna@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:joanna@eppcarl.org.au) or 0423 717 550

**OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY**



**Meeting this Sunday 21st April.**  
The meeting starts at 6pm, in the Parish  
meeting room @ Carlingford,

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  
heaps of great young people from our parish!

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



**An Easter Letter to the People of Broken Bay  
Very Rev Dr David Ranson  
Diocesan Administrator**

Tuesday 16 April 2019

My dear brothers and sisters,

As we continue to wait in anticipation for the appointment of our new Bishop, it is my privilege to write to you in my service of leadership of our Diocese to wish each and every one of you, the joy and the peace of Easter. May the Risen Christ be with you!

We are those who reach out beyond ourselves to something other, to something more. As the ancient philosophers understood, there is an innate restlessness in the human spirit, an essential nomadic quality, that sets us on a journey into an infinite horizon. We search for love; we search for identity; we search for wholeness. Indeed, the very first question that Jesus puts to his disciples when they encounter him is, "What are you looking for?" (John1:35).

However, just as the Gospel begins with a question, so too does the Gospel and with a question. It is the question that is at the heart of the account of the Resurrection of Jesus: "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?" (Luke 24:5). On the first Easter Sunday morning, the women come to the tomb in which Jesus has been laid looking for something. Yet, here in the empty tomb they are given a question which re-orientates and transforms not only their own search, but indeed the human search itself. "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?"

Do we not often search among the dead for what we need? We search for love, for dignity, for acceptance for worth, for understanding in places that cannot bring life. In the tomb of our hurts, in the darkness of our addictions, in the ghosts of our illusions and fantasies, we get trapped searching for something. But when we search among the dead for life, our spirits become deadened; we become paralysed, unable to move forward. Our hearts no longer breathe; we have become numb.

Life cannot be found in our bitterness; life cannot be discovered in our resentments; life cannot unfold in our fears. Life can only burst forth when we lift our eyes and begin to search elsewhere. The Resurrection of Jesus is the bursting forth of His life such it is no longer contained in time and space. It is for this life that we are now searching, with hearts full of expectation and anticipation. The eruption of His life beyond the confine of death shatters not only the tomb in which Jesus' body lay. It shatters too, the tombs of our own spirits. It breaks open the cycles of entrapment and offers us newness and freshness and possibility in those places where we thought there was only more of the same. We no longer have to search among what deadens us for the life for which we yearn. The Resurrection proclaims it does not have to be more of the same. Something different is possible!

In this time of confusion, weariness, and disillusionment in our Church, we long for this opportunity with particular ardency. Perhaps the developments of this year have left us reasoning with the words of the painter, Vincent van Gogh, "There may be a great fire in our soul, but no one ever comes to warm [oneself] at it, and the passers-by see only a little bit of smoke coming through the chimney and pass on their way."<sup>1</sup> As a Church, we long for the coals of our spirits to burst forth with fire yet again.

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