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 Tel.: 9876 2853 Email: peter@eppcarl.org.au



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

Welcome to our Parish of Epping and Carlingford consisting of our two worshipping communities of St Gerard Majella's Church at Carlingford and Our Lady Help of Christians' Church 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 celebration of the Eucharist together will provide both

YEAR A

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

22-11-20

Ezek. 34:11-12.15-17

1 Cor. 15:20-26.28

Mt 25:31-46

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 24th November at 7:45pm

at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Epping

You are invited to come along to this ecumenical gathering as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's birth. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions there will be no supper following the liturgy service.

November CWF Appeal 21/22 November

Your generosity is enabling our wonderful catechists to reach out to the many thousands of Catholic students who attend State Schools across Broken Bay, nourishing their faith and equipping them for the future.

You are also providing life-changing help and assistance to families across our community through the Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care program, St Lucy's School, St Edmund's College and The Ephpheta Centre.

To give online please go to: <u>www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/</u> <u>charitable-works-fund</u>,

or use the QR code at the bottom of the page.

Please remember to return your envelope / make a donation this weekend if you are able. All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible and contribute to our parish quota.



Thank you and God Bless.

OR Complete your CWF Envelope

Christ the King, coming in glory at the end of time

Can you recall the moments when Christ was your King, for you placed Christ at the centre of your life? Christ is only our King when he reigns in our hearts and the Kingdom of Heaven has changed our lives. Our prayer **Thy Kingdom come** is being answered. We let God be at the centre of our lives and we receive amazing gifts of grace and healing, joy and encouragement.

Next week, we move into Advent, which means "He comes" or the arrival of someone special. This is the Great Story about the coming of the Saviour, Jesus who is the Messiah, the Christ. These are ways to prepare: read, or watch, or join a group online to watch and catch up together.

ADORE: This booklet lists the Bible readings for each day. You can **read a reflection** on what you have read and nourish yourself with God's Word. The book fits into your pocket or purse and is available at the Church entrance or from the parish office.

ADVENT PILGRIMAGE: go to **parousiamedia.com** to register. **Watch world-class speakers** on the Bible and the Catholic Faith on this Journey from Eden to Bethlehem

ADVENT PROGRAM on FORMED.org : You can watch the video in your home or **join other parishioners.** We watch the first session ~ *Prepare the Way of the Lord* from 7.20 on Wed evening 2nd December. Send your email to **denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au** Receive the *link to log into Zoom.*

If you have not done this before, click on the link at that time. We will see each other online; watch the video and we catch up with each other in conversation. We end our time together with prayer. This *link to log in*, will also be in Keep In Touch on Monday 23rd where you can open up your email and click on the link.

May we be ready to meet Jesus when he comes into our lives now and at the end of time.

Denis McNamara Supporting Missionary Disciples

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford

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Children's Sacramental Journey - First Eucharist 2020

A big CONGRATULATIONS to the following children who will celebrate their First Eucharist with us this weekend at both our churches:



Sterling Aspiras, Blair Bautista, Jaydan Chan, Chloe Chong, Thomas Heard, Eleanor Heard, Evan Mathew, Joel McGinty, Ivy Mouncey, Madeline Sleiman and Callum Sullivan.



The parish would like to thank both our parish school principals, teachers, parents and all volunteers in our various parish ministries for their assistance in making this celebration memorable for the families! A special mention and thank you to the Year 2 class parents of St Gerard's Primary School. COVID restrictions may have prevented our usual morning tea celebrations after the First Eucharist Mass, but the Year 2 class parents have worked hard to co-ordinate a special surprise for all First Communicants. What a wonderful community we have! Thank you Year 2 parents!

Please continue to keep these children and their families in your prayers as the children journey towards becoming fully initiated members of the church.

If you have any queries or would like more information regarding your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please feel free to send me an email.

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

			CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASSES			
All chi Gerard		hildren ar rd's and (ildren are invited to take part in the Christmas Vigil Masses (5 pm and 7pm at St d's and OLHC on Christmas Eve in both churches.)			
000000			child volunteers for many roles. We also need parent voluntee during the Mass.	rs to assist at		
			PRACTICES			
		<u>Parer</u>	t helpers and children participating in the Mass will be rec attend the following practices:	<u>uired to</u>		
Carlingford: Saturday 19	th Dec	ember 10 1	Dam- 11am—Parent run-through & Gospel mime dress rehearsa Iam—11:30—Readers	Ι.		
Epping: Saturday 19th Do	ecemb		l:45am—12:30pm— Parent run-through & Gospel mime dress r 2:30pm-1pm Readers	ehearsal.		
Any questions? Please emo	uil: Ly The	nn for Co erese for	rlingford stgchildrensmass@gmail.com Epping olhcchildrensmass@gmail.com			
×-		Please o	letach and return no later than 29th November	×		
Parent Contact						
Name:						
Mobile:				* We will		
Email:				try to give		
□ T em eble de secied	:		und during the Maga	everyone their first		
Church: D Epping		ractices	and during the Mass Mass Time: □ 5:00pm □ 7:00pm	preference		
		a mgrora		and will		
			Role (please number preferences 1 and 2) *	notify by		
Child's name	Age	Reading	Gospel Mime	email.		
			(Joseph/Mary/Angel/Shepherd)			
			1	I		

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PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun. 22/11/20		7:45am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		8:30am	Mass at OLHC Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Mass at OLHC Church
		6:00pm	Mass at OLHC Church
		7:00pm	PMR Epping Antioch Meeting
Mon.	23/11/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Tue. 24/11/20	12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church	
		7:00pm	PMR Carlingford Emmaus Youth Gp.
		7:15pm	PMR Epping—Unlocking the
			Mystery of the Bible
Wed. 25/11/20	9:15am	Mass at OLHC Church	
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford—Unlocking the
			Mystery of the Bible
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Thur.	26/11/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford Men of St Joseph
Fri.	27/11/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church
Sat.	28/11/20	9:15am	Mass at OLHC Church
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:20am	Benediction
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's
		5:00pm	Vigil Mass at OLHC Church
		6:00pm	Vigil Mass at St Gerard's Church
PH—Pa	rish Hall, Cl	H—Church,	, PMR– Parish Meeting Room



The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford

PARISH STAFF

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

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

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

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

Sacramental Programme Assistant: Lisha Abraham Ph.: 0407 255 593

Email: kids. Sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth: Joanna Mak Ph.: 0404 710 588 Email: joanna@eppcarl.org.au

Missionary Discipleship Coordinator: Denis McNamara Ph.: 0410 041 944 Email: denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

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

Adore—Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2020

A pocket-size book of **Daily Reflections for Advent Christmas and new year.**

Adore takes us out of our daily lives to focus on Jesus Our Lord in adoration.

Without adoration, there can be no transformation of the world. The life of the creature must be one of adoration.

My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my

saviour.... The almighty works marvels for me. Holy is his name. Lk 1:46–49

Email Maree to put one aside for you and your family. Receive your copy on Sunday 22nd November.



The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford

Youth And Young Adults



OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY Meeting this Sunday, 22nd 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 7pm in the parish meeting room at Epping.

So head on down and bring a friend.

For more information call

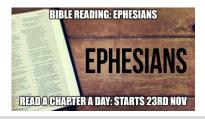
Joanne 0416 030 927, Karen (parent support) 0421 506 577 "It was at Antioch the believers were first called Christians"

Bible Reading

Hi everyone, we will be starting to read Ephesians on the 20th November! Invite your friends and family as we continue to read the New Testament.

Join via our Facebook group

https://www.facebook.com/ groups/1148887152176778/ or join our Whatsapp group by texting Ephesians6 to Joanna on 0404 710 588.



Mass of Inclusion -

The annual Mass of Inclusion will be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara on Sunday, 6 December 2020 at 11.00am. This Mass marks the International Day of Disability (on 3 December) and recognises the ability and dignity of all.

This year, we encourage all to join via the live stream at <u>https://</u> www.youtube.com/channel/ UCNenwlf17i14XB9TsVBrLvQ

Due to the current restrictions, there are very limited places available for people to attend in person. Should you wish to enquire please contact Nicholas Weir at **nicholas.weir@bbcatholic.org.au** or phone 8379 1632.

Emmaus Young Adults Group

The Emmaus Young Adults Group is meeting this Tuesday, 24th November in the parish meeting room at Carlingford from 7:00-8:30pm.

We will continue to meet on a fortnightly basis.

FACE MASKS THANK YOU !

Thank you to all those that have been wearing masks to mass.

If you have forgotten your mask there is a supply available. Check with the Greeter or with the

Sacristan in the Sacristy.

We strongly encourage our parishioners to continue to care for each other and wear a face mask when attending Mass.



Advent Retreat, "WE LONG TO SEE YOUR FACE", on 28th Nov.

We would like to invite you to an online retreat. If you are interested please contact Verbum Dei Missionaries (Louise or Maria) on <u>verbumdeisydney@gmail.com</u> or call 0402 452 342 for more information.

All welcome!

CANA: OUR 7-9 yrs. YOUTH GROUP

Cana is meeting again!

Cana will be on next Friday at St Gerard's parish meeting room from 7:30-9:00pm.

There will be a limit of 20 people per meeting. Please RSVP if you are coming to

Joanna at 0404 710 588.

COVID-19 Safety Plan

□ We adhere to maximum number of person permitted in the church based on the four square metre rule (80 people at Epping and 100 at Carlingford).

□ Coloured cards on the seats indicating seating positions ensure maximum separation.

□ All are asked to sanitise their hands on entering & leaving and sign in the book.

□ We ask the parishioners to sanitise the pew where were sitting after every Mass

 $\hfill\square$ There is no physical exchange of the sign of peace.

□ All are asked to maintain 2 metre spacing when coming forward for Holy Communion (which is given on the hand first and then those receiving on the tongue are asked to come up last).

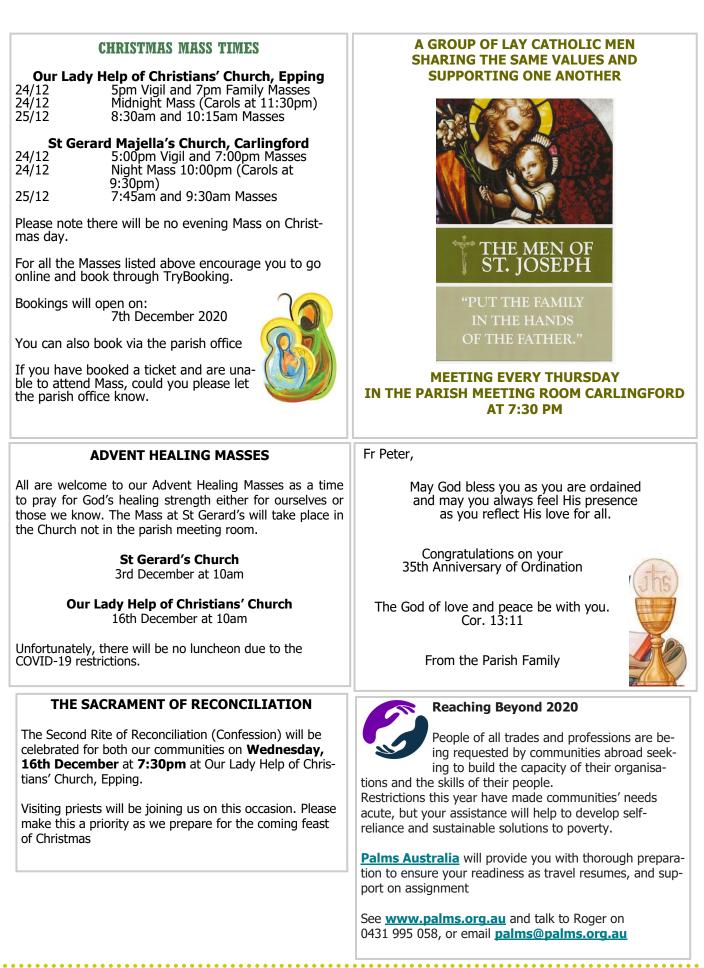
The Parish Pastoral Council Meeting will take place this **Wednesday, 2nd December** the parish meeting room at Epping commencing at 7:00pm.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for parishioners to become: Greeters Altar Society Bulletin Collators in both churches. If you can help, please contact the parish office on 9876 2853 or email maree@eppcarl.org.au

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The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford



Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel—Give Drink to the Thirsty

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink.

When we think of the essentials of the Christian faith we generally associate these with belief in a certain creed, acceptance of various dogmas, adherence to a certain moral code, especially as it pertains to private morality, involvement with a church community, and with having some personal relationship to Christ in our lives.

Now, while these things are essential and may never be denigrated, Jesus would add something else. For him, a criterion, in fact the criterion, for the practice of the Christian faith is the exercise of the corporal works of mercy. Have we fed the hungry? Given drink to the thirsty? Clothed the naked?

What is required is a change of heart and ultimately a change of lifestyle, by each of us who do have clean water. Jesus' command to practice the corporal works of mercy is direct, uncompromising, and everywhere present in the entire New Testament. Taken as whole, every tenth line in the New Testament is a direct challenge to the Christian to reach out to the physically poor. In Luke's gospel, it is every sixth line. In the Epistle of James, it is every fifth line. Involvement with the poor is not a negotiable item. This is mandated with the same weight as is any creed, dogma, and moral or spiritual teaching.

And this may never be spiritualized. The command to be involved with the physically poor means just that, the physically poor. It is rationalizing when we turn the corporal works of mercy into something less concrete, namely, when we define the physically poor in such a wide sense so as to

include everyone—"To feed the hungry can also mean feeding those who are spiritually hungry." "To give drink to the thirsty can also mean giving spiritual nourishment to those who, while affluent materially, are hungry for deeper things." There is a sense in which this is true, but that is not what Jesus intended in Matthew 25 and not what the church has perennially intended in its social teachings.

There is a spiritual sense to hunger, thirst, and poverty, but that is addressed elsewhere, both in the New Testament and in church teachings. Reaching out to the deeper, non-material, hungers and thirsts of humanity is what is mandated in the spiritual works of mercy. The words of Jesus in the gospels challenging us to reach out to the physically poor are not intended spiritually. The corporal works of mercy are about reaching out to the physically poor, pure and simple.

So how do we give drink to the thirsty?

Obviously, especially given what has just been said, there is an aspect to this that is brutally concrete. Water is even more important than food. Without water we die, are unable to wash ourselves and our clothing, and are unable to enjoy any quality of life whatever. To lack clean, drinkable water is to lack the first necessity of life. Hence, Jesus' command to give drink to the thirsty is, first of all, about looking around ourselves and our world and trying to provide for every person on this earth clean, drinkable water.

This, given the present situation of the planet, is not easy to do. A long, and mostly morally sanctioned, history of privilege and inequality—wherein some of us have surplus while others lack for basic necessities—has made for a situation in which there is now a rationalized acceptance of the fact that millions of people lack the basic physical necessities for life, including clean drinkable water. Thus, to get water to the thirsty today requires more than just the positive efforts being made by those individuals and agencies which are directly trying to bring clean water into poor areas. What is required, as well, is a change of heart and ultimately a change of lifestyle, by each of us who do have clean water.

As the great social encyclicals of the church, from Leo XIII through John Paul II, re-iterate over and over, clean water will come to everyone on the planet when those of us who have surplus, of any kind, live fully moral lives, namely when we accept that is it not right to have surplus while other lack necessities:

- God intended the earth and everything in it for the sake of all human beings. ... Thus created goods should flow fairly to all. All other rights, whatever they may be, are subordinated to this principle. (Popularum Progressio 22 & Gaudium et Spes 69)

No person or country may have surplus if others do not have the basic necessities. (Rerum Novarum 19; Quadregesimo Anno 50-51; Mater et Magistra 119-121; Populorum Progressio 230)

Giving drink to the thirsty involves looking at those principles with more moral courage than we have up to now.

Ron Rolheiser

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



Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

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The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore vou, 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.

Can You Help?

We are looking for parishioners that could help out in the following ways:

Seeking Greeters for both Churches

During this time of COVID-19 the Greeters: Offer a sincere welcome to everyone. Ensure the parishioners sign in, and sanitise their hands. They may also need to help the parishioners find a seat if necessary.

Ensure that only a certain number of parishioners access the church.

Hand out the bulletins, ensuring that the parishioners do not go to the bulletin boxes and take the bulletin themselves.

Please contact the parish office if you are interested in supporting this work.

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School Principal: Mrs Barbara Yee 543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford 2118 P: 9871 1633 www.sgcdbb.catholic.edu





Our Lady Help Of Christians Catholic Primary School Principal: Ms Dominique O'Sullivan 8 Cambridge Street, Epping 2121 Ph: 9868 3322 www.olhcdbb.catholic.edu.au Email: olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au

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 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.

After Hours Sick Calls— 9876 2853

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

Admitted to Hospital A re-

stav.

minder 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



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Responsorial Psalm Response Ps 22:1-3.5-6 R. v. 1 The Lord is my shepherd; There is nothing I shall want.	Page 8 Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who Blessings on the com Alleluia! Alleluia!	Gospel Acclamation o comes in the name of the Lord! ing kingdom of our father David!
WEEKEND MASSES Please note, we must adhere to social distancing within the churches. EPPING: 5:00 pm Vigil Mas 8:30 am Mass 10:15 am Mass 6:00 pm Mass CARLINGFORD: 6:00 pm Vigil Mass 7:45 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 	WEEKDAY MASSES Please note, we must adhere to social distancing within the churches. EPPING: Monday—No Mass Tuesday—12:15 pm Friday—12:15 pm Friday—12:15 pm Saturday—9:15 am CARLINGFORD: Monday—9:30 am Tuesday—No Mass Wednesday—9:30 am Friday—9:30 am Friday—9:30 am Saturday—No Mass Sacrament of Reconciliation Epping Sat. 9:45am—10:15am Carlingford Sat. 5:00pm—5:30pm	Parish Office: 29 Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121 Tel: (02) 9876 2853 Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au St Gerard Majella Primary School Tel: 9871 1633 Email: sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School Tel: 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: Irene De Nardi, Leena Mendonsa, Ching Hon, Hilton Paes, Deborah nee White.

Anniversaries:

Also for: Roger & Jean-Claude Nina, Francis Xavier Erapiepilla,

Please pray for those who are sick: Sean Huhse, Joel Steinberg, Patricia Rumble, Dean Pan, John Davies, Nicole Greenfield, Michael Furlong, Saulius Dovydas Balsya, Residents of Wesley Rayward Nursing Home, Mark Di Palma, Anthony Conlon, Andrew Hannam, The Craig Family, Fr Mick Court, Margaret Maher, Anna & Leo Bruzze, Gerhard Stieger, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng, Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Margaret Floyd, Barbara Madafiglio, John Lyons, Bev Gibbeson, Alison Deane, Radhi Riley, Patrick Thornton, Jan Doherty, Maureen McKeough, Pauline Wicks rsj, Ana Matijasic, Benjamin Verco, Peter Kelly. John Goodwin, 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, Heather Stoodley, Agnes Wong, Alex Benjamin Zaragoza, Amarech Zewolde, Janice Lemon.

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

Christmas Carols Service Saturday, 26th December at St Gerard's Majella at 7:00 pm

We would like to invite anyone interested in taking part in singing carols in various languages, to contact Fr Bogdan or the parish office by 6th December. Contact number for the parish office is 9876 2853 or email parish@eppcarl.org.au

Please note that COVID-19 restrictions will apply. More information to come.



Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford	Г
28/11/20	5:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd	
29/11/20	8:30am	Fr Bogdan Skupien	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd	
29/11/20	10:15am	Fr Bogdan Skupien	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd	1
29/11/20	6:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien			

Parish Website Address

https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/ eppingcarlingford