

Responsorial Psalm Response Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.	Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life, you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!
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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: Barbara McCordle (UK), Patricia Amy (sister of Margaret Coonan), Fr Paul Ryan, Marion Barton, Mary McKinnon, Stan Connolly, Tsang Chan Yuk, Marcella Power, Gan Chin Joo, Mrs Tsang, Joan Gurr, Angela Roworth, Peter Flanagan (father of Brendan Flanagan).

Anniversaries: Edith Almeida, Margaret Johnstone, Agnes Chia, Yung Chi Li,

Also for: Ivan Almeida, Dolores B Ansay, Norman De Luca, Deceased members of the Foss family.

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, Amy, Andrew Hannam, The Craig Family, Fr Mick Court, Margaret Maher, Cooper Rundell, Anna & Leo Bruzze, Gerhard Stieger, Fred Saad, Ron Jenkins, Mike Van Werdt, Tammy Birch, Dorothea Ellis, Veronica Hartwich, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, 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, Tony ?, George Khouri, Martin Sill, Antony Hogan, Ingrid Connor, Steve Toth, Rob Neil, Josie Scully, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Kath McCarthy, Patricia Amy, Nicholas Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Frank Holmes, Joyce Fewtrell, Patricia Muschalik, Ernest Lau,

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

Celebrations this Week— 21st Week in Ordinary Time

Monday—Memoria, St Monica
Tuesday— St Augustine
Wednesday— Memoria The Passion of St John the Baptist

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
01/09/18	5:00pm	Fr Joey Frez	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd
02/09/18	8:30am	Fr Joey Frez	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
02/09/18	10:15am	Fr Joey Frez	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd
02/09/18	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez		

BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH THIS SUNDAY

Welcome to:
Lachlan Henry Casali
Lucas Kim
Please hold these children and
their families in your prayers.



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

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford Diocese of Broken Bay

Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
31 Oxford Street, Epping and

St Gerard Majella Church
543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Dowd,
Ph.: 9876 2853
Email: peter@eppcarl.org.au

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

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Website: www.eppcarl.org.au

Parish Office: 9876

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 B**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****26-8-18****Joshua 24:1-2.15-18****Ephesians 5:21-32****John 6:60-69**

Dear Parishioners,

Despite the hectic nature of my first week back from holidays, I can still say that I feel refreshed following my three week break. I would like to equally thank Fr Joey and members of the parish team for managing and looking after the parish so well during my absence. We are indeed blessed to have such faith-filled and capable people to assist in the building up of God's Kingdom here at Epping and Carlingford!

There are a couple of important matters that I need to share with you.

Firstly, this week it was announced Ann Milling, our Principal at St Gerard's will be stepping down as Principal at the end of the year. Ann has been Principal at St Gerard's for eleven years and prior to that was Principal at OLHC Epping, so her association with our parish has extended over many years.

Ann has been an outstanding leader of Catholic education, a faith-filled, caring and compassionate 'missionary disciple' of Jesus and a pleasure to have worked with as a person and as a co-leader in spreading the mission of the Gospel here in the parish. I particularly note Ann's attentiveness and support in ensuring the school and wider parish are working together as harmoniously as possible.

Further details regarding an opportunity to celebrate Ann's leadership and express our gratitude to her will be given at a later date.

Secondly, last Monday the Development Application (DA) for the development of the Epping parish site was successfully lodged with council. It is likely that the DA will go on public exhibition in the coming fortnight. As this is a major milestone, I would like to thank all those involved in assisting us to reach this point including the representatives from Stockland, Peter Hamil and representatives from the Catholic Schools Office,



Emma McDonald and Saskia Driscoll from the Diocese as well as the wonderful encouragement and support of our previous bishop, now Archbishop Peter Comensoli. We continue to keep this project in our prayers as we await Council's decision.

Thirdly, during my absence Fr David Ranson was elected Diocesan Administrator until such time as a new bishop is appointed for our diocese. Fr David is of course, well-known to many of you as he lived and assisted here in the parish prior to his appointment to the Parish of Wahroonga. We are indeed fortunate to have the benefit of Fr David's gifts and leadership to guide us all during this time of transition. Please keep him in your prayers.

Finally, as we move towards the end of the year and as part of our invitation to become more a Church of Missionary Disciples, we are offering along with Alpha, a brief four week course on "Sharing Our Faith."

The purpose of this course is to help us articulate better our response to questions such as "what do I believe?", "Who is Jesus Christ?", "Why did he die on the cross?"...etc. Building confidence in responding to the questions of others is an important part of our formation as 'disciples (life-long learners) in the way of Jesus. I thank Martin Teulan for facilitating this programme.... **and yes! PLEASE** sign up to 'Alpha especially if you haven't been involved so far.

We are looking at the formation of so called 'Connect' groups which continue the relationships, prayer and sharing begun in Alpha. More of this in coming weeks.

Fr Peter

Growing in Faith - Sharing with Others

John Paul 11 said that "the more you give away your faith, the more faith you will gain."

More than half of all parishioners in Epping and Carlingford have said that they would like to share their faith with others. But many of you say that you want to know how to share it better with family, friends and colleagues.

You can learn the skills of how to share our faith in a low-key, appropriate and friendly way with others.

The Growing in Faith - Sharing with Others course will be held on four Thursday nights commencing September 6, starting at 7.15 pm, at the Epping parish meeting room.

The four weeks are:

Missionary Disciples

Becoming a Missionary Disciple - Pope Francis says we all should be *Missionary Disciples*.

- What is a Missionary Disciple?
- Why should I be a Missionary Disciple?
- How do parishes develop Missionary Disciples?

Sharing my Faith

- Why did people become Christians in the early Church?
- Why do people become Catholics today?
- How do I need to act, and what do I need to know, to share my faith?

A Welcoming Parish

- What are newcomers looking for from our parish?
- First impressions of our parish
- Why visitors and newcomers are VIPs, and how to ensure they will stay and grow.

Sharing My Faith

- Answering questions about the basics of our faith, the "Kerygma"
- Recognising the questions or interest of others

To sign up for Growing in Faith – Sharing with Others, fill in a form (at the back of each Church) and place on the plate or in a box in the church or just email your name to maree@eppcarl.org.au

Share
Your
Faith!

Celebrating Alpha at Carlingford ~ Come and See ~

You are invited to celebrate with us for we have just finished Alpha at Carlingford. We want you to share something of what we have experienced. The evening begins with a meal; we watch the video *Come and See*, then we have time for more conversation.

This Thursday 30 August, at 7 pm
Please join us for dinner in the parish meeting room at Carlingford
be our guest. All are welcome.

When people come to Alpha they experience something new.
They feel they Belong.

Alpha is for everyone, it awakens something in everyone
A Great Opportunity Knocks on the Door of your Heart

Those from the last Alpha are at the doors of the church at this Mass.
Talk with them to find out more.
Let them know if you would like to come or let Maree at the parish office know.

The next Alpha program to be run in the evening will be in Epping, starting at the end of September.
The date and time for the *Come and See* evening at Epping will be in the Bulletin next weekend.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

AFTER HOURS SICK CALLS—9876 2853

Outside office hours our office phones divert to Fr Peter, Fr Anselam & 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, please restrict office and routine enquiries to office hours.

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.

August Safeguarding Message

"A child—focused complaints process is an important strategy for helping children and others in institutions to make complaints." (Royal Commission, Final Report 2017).

This means;

- The process is not slow in addressing the concern/complaint,
- children know who to speak to if they have a concern/complaint,
- children are listened to, they are believed, they are supported and
- children feel comfortable and empowered by the complaints process.

Benedict's Tools for Peace

A day of retreat hosted by the Mount St Benedict Centre in partnership with the Office for Evangelisation, Diocese of Broken Bay. In the busyness of today's fast paced, noisy, ever changing world we long for peace – in our hearts, in our homes, in our workplaces. This day of reflection will immerse you in the ancient wisdom of the Rule of St Benedict, who in this "little rule for beginners" provides practical tools for living a life of peace with oneself and the world.

Facilitator: Margaret Malone sgs **Date:** Saturday 8 September 2018

Time: 10.00am – 3.00pm

Venue: Mount St Benedict Centre, 449D Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills (entry via Hull Rd)

Cost: Gold coin donation; morning tea provided, bring your own lunch.

RSVP: By Monday 3 September mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au Ph 8752 5390

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', 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.

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

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

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.



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Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel: Shocking

Jesus has been distressing the disciples by his words, at least in John's Gospel.

For instance, last week he said we have to consume his flesh and blood in order to have eternal life. His followers could not possibly have understood this. They whispered, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?"

This Sunday his words would make it harder still.

Does this shock you?
What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending
to where he was before?
It is the Spirit that gives life,
while the flesh is of no avail. ...

As a result of this,
many of his disciples returned to their
former way of life
and no longer accompanied him (Gospel).

A sad scene, and puzzling too. Why is Jesus saying such mystifying things to his followers, and, just as a side issue, how are we ourselves supposed to understand them today? Do they make sense?

Here is a key: *whenever an event or saying does not seem to make complete sense in the Gospel of John, we have to seek deeper meanings.* There is often a delicious significance hidden behind events that John describes in a bewildering way.

*Let us become
bearers of the
Word to the
world.*

Alright then, what does he mean in the line 5 and 6 of the Gospel reading by what seems like a non sequitur:

What if you were to see the Son of Man
ascending to where he was before?

What?

Well, likely, he was talking about the Ascension. Where was the "before"? We know that he had been in the bosom of the Holy Trinity! God's love had leaned out to us in Christ's life, death and resurrection. At that point Jesus had to "go to the next life." He was still a human being, as well as divine. He was telling them that if eating his body and blood was shocking to you, wait till you see me ascend into heaven!

Then the words a few lines later, "It is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh is to no avail."

We already celebrated the Ascension. There, Jesus said he would not desert us but would be present on earth in a new form. The third person of the Trinity would come to dwell within people who believe. Since the members of the Trinity share everything they are with each other, Christ would be within the Holy Spirit. That Spirit would offer to live deep within each believer, within each human who says yes to its presence.

How then do we acquire the Holy Spirit? Through Baptism, definitely. And of course, as in Jesus' command from last week, by eating and drinking his body and blood. Communion lets us "become what we have eaten," the body of Christ. We are to let Christ have flesh again, in our hearts and in our actions. By communing each week, each day, we are more and more carriers of Christ. When we are part of the "Body of Christ," we therefore have eternal life, as he told his followers in this week's Gospel.

Peter sums it up. "We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

Let us make that statement too. Let us open wide to this Holy One of God as we celebrate Mass this Sunday.

Let us become bearers of the Word to the world.

John Foley, SJ

*You are invited to email a note to the author of this reflection:
Fr. John Foley, SJ*

*Fr. John Foley, SJ, is a composer and scholar at Saint Louis University.
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Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

McGrath

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	26/08/18	9:30am	Kidz Word at St Gerard's
		10:15am	Kidz Word at Our Lady Help of Christians
		12:00pm	CH Carlingford—Baptisms
		2:30pm	PH Epping—Confirmation Session 4
		6:00pm	No Antioch Meeting this week
Mon	27/08/18	9:00am	PH Epping—Little Engines Playgroup
		9:30am	PH Carlingford—Gerry's Playgroup
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford—Rosary Group
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford—SVdP Conference Meeting
Tue.	28/08/18	12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		3:00pm	PMR Carlingford—Confirmation Session 4
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Adult Choir practice
Wed.	29/08/18	9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		2:00pm	Mass at James Ruse High School
Thur.	30/08/18	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church followed by Exposition and Benediction
		10:15am	OLHC Yr. 6 Class Mass
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		7:00pm	PMR Carlingford "Interested in Alpha"
		8:45am	St Gerard's Father's Day Liturgy + breakfast
Fri.	31/08/18	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford—Scripture Reflection
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		7:00pm	PH Carlingford—CANA Youth Group meets
		9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Sat.	01/09/18	9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		2:30pm	CH Epping—Confirmation rehearsal
		4:00pm	CH Carlingford—Confirmation rehearsal
		5:00pm	Vigil Mass at OLHC Church
		5:00pm	CH Carlingford—Reconciliation
		6:00pm	Vigil Mass at St Gerard's

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



Liturgy of Commitment and Care

To officially begin Safeguarding Month in the Diocese of Broken Bay, the Liturgy of Commitment and Care will be held on **Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 7.00pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral.**

Everyone in the Diocese is invited to gather together to acknowledge the suffering caused by abuse of our most vulnerable, to give public expression to our sorrow, to seek forgiveness and to make a public commitment to safeguard all.

The Liturgy is an opportunity for all to commit to ensuring a culture of safety and care prevails in all our Parish communities.

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

Children's Sacramental Coordinator:
Lynn Siau
Ph.: 0407 255 593
Email: kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

Sacramental Programme Assistant
Marcella Letteri
Ph.: 0407 255 593

Cana Youth Group
Ashleigh Belic
Ph.: 0430 120 015

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - 1 September

We are faced with the devastating effects of climate change as we have seen through extreme drought in Australia and floods in Kerala, India. The need to care for our creation is even more urgent today. On 1 September, Christian churches all over the world will be celebrating the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation* on 1 September, and the *Season of Creation* between 1 September and 4 October – the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. We pray that all people may learn to respect creation and care for it as a gift of God. For further information and resources please visit SeasonofCreation.org

Flood relief for Kerala, India

As much of eastern Australia battles one of the worst droughts it has experienced for many years, the state of Kerala in India is experiencing massive floods with dreadful destruction. Eighteen of our own priests come from Kerala, and so this is a very anxious time for them. We ask that you keep them and their families in your prayer.

Caritas Australia have established a special emergency appeal for the floods in Kerala. If you would like to donate, please go to <https://www.caritas.org.au/learn/emergency-response/asia-emergency-appeal>



Children's Sacramental Journey Confirmation 2018

On Thursday evening, we had a lovely gathering with parents of the children who are celebrating Confirmation in a few weeks. Over a dinner so generously contributed by the wider parish community, the parents were so grateful and truly felt the welcoming and cheerful spirit of our community! It was a wonderful opportunity for a more personal catch up with one another, enabling us to better understand the challenges parents face in bringing up Catholic children in today's society.

This week, we complete the final session – Confirmation. We talk about what happens during the Rite of Confirmation. We will tell the children to focus and think carefully about what is going to happen that day when we gather at Church, what Fr. Peter will say to them and their appropriate responses as they are being anointed with the Oil of Chrism. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read 'The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost' to help the children understand that the Holy Spirit was sent to us lovingly by God so that He would always be in our midst to guide us, even though we can't see Him.

Rehearsals for the Confirmation Liturgy will be held on the 1st September 2:30pm at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church and 4pm at St Gerard Majella's Church.

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they continue on this journey to learn more about our beautiful faith. Upon completion of all four sessions, the children will celebrate Confirmation in our parish on **Saturday, 8th September**.

Confirmation at St. Gerard Majella's Church –
10am Liturgy

Confirmation at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church –
12pm Liturgy

We always like to hear from you! If you have any queries or would like more information regarding your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please feel free to drop us a line.

Lynn Siau
Children's Sacramental Co-ordinator
0407 255 593
kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au



St. Vincent de Paul "Shop till you Drop" Bargain Bus Day is happening again this year on Saturday 27th October. There are only 45 tickets sold, so it is wise to get in early. Some of the venues will include KB Toys, Debs Hidden Treasure and Manchester Importers, plus many more new and exciting places. The cost of the ticket will be \$60 including morning and afternoon tea and a great venue for lunch. There will be a Drone Camera given away to a lucky shopper on the bus. It will be the best fun day you will have this year. Contact *Marilyn Sharp* on 9872 1436 for further details.



CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

Thank you for supporting the August Charitable Works Fund Appeal highlighting the CatholicCare Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Practitioner Program (one of the charities supported by the CWF).

The Charitable Works Fund is 100% tax deductible and 98.25cents of every dollar goes to CatholicCare Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Practitioner Program – where five Pastoral Care Practitioners reach over 3,000 patients, 700 families and over 180 hospital staff each year across seven hospitals in our Diocese.

- Confraternity of Christian Doctrine – creating and updating the curriculum and training catechists who minister to public school students across the Diocese.
- St Lucy's School – for primary school students with disabilities.
- S Edmund's School – for secondary school students with disabilities.
- Ephpheta Centre – serving the Catholic deaf community.

SHORTFALL AFTER THIRD WEEK \$6,462

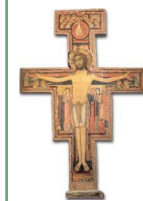
Envelopes can be found in the pews. Please give generously as any shortfall from this appeal will have to be made up from normal parish funds – please support the appeal so that we can avoid this happening. Our Parish quota for this Appeal is \$17,064.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

There will be devotions in honour of Our Lady, on the 1st Saturday of the month preceding the 9:15am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church. This includes the rosary and prayers. You are most welcome!

CLASS MASS Yr. 6 Class Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' School, Epping this **Thursday 30th August at 10:15am**. All class families are welcome!

Blessing of Crosses and Crucifixes . . .



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

One of those feast days will soon be upon us. The **Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, Friday 14th September**, celebrates the victory over sin and death that comes through the Cross of Jesus. It is an especially appropriate day each year to bless the cross or crucifix in our sacred space at home. **Please bring along your cross or crucifix from your sacred space at home – these will be blessed at the 12:15am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians and the 9:30am Mass at St Gerard's.**

Year of Youth 2018

CANA YOUTH GROUP

If you're in **Years 7-9** come along for a night Jam-packed with FUN & FAITH!
EVERY FRIDAY night of the School Term,
7:30pm - 9pm. In the Parish Hall @ Carlingford

It's a great place to catch up with old friends, and meet some new ones!
Please remember that a small donation when you come to the meeting would really help out with the costs of the night. Thanks.

Ring Ashleigh for any further information
0430 120 015



Ecumenism

An invitation to pray and enjoy fellowship with Australian Church Women

Australian Church Women (ACW) are holding their Community Day on 25th October 2018. The speaker will be Mrs Peg McGee OAM. Peg holds positions in the Catholic Women's League, is a Papal Dame and is on a number of boards and councils. She is the newly elected State President of ACW. ACW is an interchurch association and it has been some time since this position has been held by a Catholic woman. If you are able to, please come along and join us. You are welcome to stay for a light lunch after the Service.

Date: Thursday, 25th October 2018

Venue: St Gerard's Catholic Church, 543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford

Time: 11:00am

Enquiries: Please contact Lorraine Lobsey 9872 4005 for further information.

Give Us A Sign 2018 – Season of Creation



Church and school communities in the Diocese of Broken Bay are once again invited to be involved in the annual ecumenical *Give Us a Sign* campaign which this year will focus on *Season of Creation*, beginning on 1 September and finishing on 4 October. The *Give Us A Sign* campaign emerged out of conversations within the Anglican, Catholic and Uniting Churches in the Hunter and Central Coast as a powerful initiative to highlight Social Justice issues across the wider community.

How to get involved:

From 1st September to 4th October simply post a message, at least one day EACH week, on your church or school noticeboards to show that you **Stand Together for Creation**. Select from the list of signs available from our website www.giveusasign.org.au or create your own.

Take a photo of your sign and email it to giveusasign@hotmail.com along with the name of the church or group you are from. A member of our team will then upload the image to the Facebook page and the website.

Individuals can also participate by taking a picture of themselves with a message to show they Stand Together for Creation and email it to giveusasign@hotmail.com for uploading.

Choose a bulletin notice from the website for each week during the Season of Creation

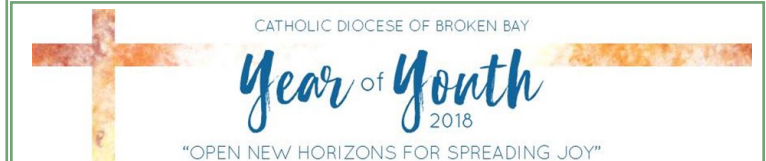
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OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY:

There will be no meeting this Sunday



"It was at Antioch that the believers were first called Christians." ~Acts 11:26



Parish Youth Forum

As part of the Year of Youth celebrations, our Parish of Epping and Carlingford will be holding a Parish Youth Forum. The Youth Forum invites us all to enter into a prayerful discernment about the importance and life-giving presence of young people in the local Church and society. It will be held on

Sunday 9 September, after the 10.15am Mass at the Parish Hall at Epping

We invite you all whether you are young, or not so young to 'Come and have your say' to discuss and share your vision of the future for our young people.

We will have morning tea/light lunch down next to the Parish Hall at 11:15am, followed by the Forum in the Parish Hall. All ages are welcome including youth, young adults, parents, grandparents etc. (12 years old and up).

We will also be holding kids' activities (5-12 years old) in the Parish Meeting Room during the Youth Forum for those who may not want to participate in the Forum.

If you have any questions, please contact Fr Joey at joseph@eppcarl.org.au.

Why are we involved in a movement for Christian Unity?

Come and hear Rev. Professor Gerard Kelly speak at Warnervale Parish, Mary MacKillop Drive off 91 Sparks Road, 7pm Wednesday 29 August 2018.

From its beginning, the Christian Church has had to face the problem of division. There is a sense in which the Church was born ecumenical. Over two thousand years there have been some major divisions within the Churches. Perhaps the Reformation in the 16th century has had the most impact on our society. In the modern era (20th century) the impulse for unity has been strong and the ecumenical movement has seen major breakthroughs in the healing of relationships among divided Churches. To be aware of our history and of the achievements over the last one hundred years is to be well prepared for the challenges that we face. In this way we will not lose courage in heeding the prayer of Jesus that "they may all be one".

SPEAKER:

Rev. Professor Gerard Kelly is a priest of the Archdiocese of Sydney, and a lecturer in Theology at the Catholic Institute of Sydney. For over twenty years he has been involved in local ecumenical dialogues. He is currently the co-chair of the Australian Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue. He is also the chair of the Faith and Unity Commission of the National Council of Churches in Australia (NCCA) and a member of the NCCA Assembly.