

<b>Responsorial Psalm Response</b> Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.	<b>Gospel Acclamation</b> <b>Alleluia, Alleluia!</b> You believe in me. Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! <b>Alleluia!</b>
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**WEEKEND MASSES**

<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>

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur	Fri	Sat.
<b>EPPING</b>	No Mass	12:15pm	9:15am	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am
<b>CARLINGFORD</b>	9:30am	No Mass	<b>10:00am</b>	9:30am	9:30am	No Mass

**HEALING MASS** **Carlingford**—1st Thursday, **Epping** — 3rd Wednesday

**EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST:** **Epping** Saturday 9:45-10:15am, **Carlingford**, 4th Thursday 10:00am

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** **Epping** Saturday 9:45-10:15am **Carlingford** Saturday 5:00—5:30pm  
**OR BY APPOINTMENT**

**BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: BY APPOINTMENT**

**PARISH OFFICE:** 29 Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121 **PH:** 9876 2853 **Email:** parish@eppcarl.org.au

**ST GERARD MAJELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL:** **PH:** 9871 1633 **Email:** sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTANS PRIMARY SCHOOL:** **PH:** 9868 3322 **Email:** olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au

**Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us the gift of Everlasting life. Grant that life to:**

**Recently deceased:** Maria Jacinta Hemadez, Norman Bampton, Terry Mooney, Joyce Fewtrell, Edward Sulto Span, Kevin Plummer, Caroline Prasad, Lynette Herbert, John McKelvey.

**Anniversaries:** Edith Almeida, Maureen Kiss, Leonardus Tommy Hendra.

**Also for:** 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, Monica Weeden.

I am writing to you to invite the parishioners to attend a meeting to be held:

**Monday 29 April 2019**  
**St Kevin's Parish Hall**  
**36 Hillview Road**  
**Eastwood NSW 2122 at 7.30 pm**

The matter to be addressed, in relation to the forthcoming Federal election is "Upholding the Dignity of Life from the beginning until life's "natural end".

Of particular concern to Bennelong voters is the candidature for the Labor party of Dr Brian Owler - Sydney neurosurgeon.

Dr Owler played a major role in the implementation of Victorian legislation in 2017, legalising physician assisted suicide or euthanasia.

He clearly subscribes to the principle of the life not worthy to be lived.

Should he be elected to Parliament he has been rumoured to become the Federal Health Minister if Labor wins the election.

Please could you place the enclosed flyer around your parish and if possible add a reference to our event in your bulletin.

An election information meeting is being hosted by Right to Life Australia on Mon 29 April 2019 at 7.30pm in St Kevin's Parish Hall, 36 Hillview Rd, Eastwood. Guest speakers will be Dr Rachel Carling, former MP, Victoria and Dr Maria Cigolini, Head Palliative Medicine RPA All welcome. More info on flyer.

**BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH THIS SUNDAY**

Welcome to: Archie Peter and Harvey Vasquez

Please hold these children and their families in your prayers.



Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
04/05/19	5:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez
05/05/19	8:30am	Fr Peter Dowd	7:45am	Fr Joey Frez
05/05/19	10:15am	Fr Peter Dowd	9:30am	Fr Joey Frez
05/05/19	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd		

## 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**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**27-04-19**

**Acts 5:12-16**

**Apocalypse 1:9-13.17-19**

**John 20:19-31**

Dear brothers and sisters,

**Christ is risen!!** On behalf of Fr Joey, our seminarians Martino and Aldrin and myself, I would like to extend a very blessed and I hope peaceful Easter to you all!

Despite all that has happened over the past twelve months both within the Church and the wider society, the numbers of people participating in our Holy Week celebrations were generally up on previous years and many have commented on the prayerfulness and beauty in the way we entered together into the most important days in the Christian calendar.

My sincere thanks to ALL who assisted in the preparation and celebration of our Holy Week liturgies...your generous service, time and gifts were appreciated more than you know!

As we proclaimed the life of Christ we are also conscious of the death of so many in the awful attacks in Colombo, Sri Lanka. We join in the condemnation of such senseless violence and brutality and stand in solidarity especially with our Christian brothers and sisters in their sufferings.

Finally, as the Easter Octave concludes and our students return from holidays, I once again extend a warm invitation to everyone, especially those who are new to our parish, to come along to our next session of Alpha! Enjoy good food, company, excellent input and a chance to grow in faith.

**Alpha starts on Tuesday, 14th May at Carlingford at 7 pm.** Even if you can only come occasionally we would love to welcome you. For more information please see the Alpha notice in the parish bulletin.

*Fr Peter*

**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. Thank you!

**TRIVIA  
NIGHT**

**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.

**Do you know? Do you care?**

Did you hear of the teacher who asked a student to explain the difference between "ignorance" and "indifference"? The student paid no attention and did not seem interested, so the teacher asked again. Then the student said very strongly, "I **don't** know and I **don't** care!" Excellent answer. That is the difference!

*Ignorance* is 'I don't know' and *Indifference* is 'I don't care'.

Some parents have wondered, how do I "tell" or "teach" my children about my Catholic faith, because it is so important to me? This is a clue ~ if they are ignorant and indifferent, telling them will not help, for they don't know and don't care. There is another approach, offer them your reasons for the knowledge and hope you have and present your experience for caring.

The reason is the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus is someone you can have a personal relationship with. The friendship and trust in Jesus is very real and this changes everything. When they see how you "do care" about life, about them and about others, they can see how loving is caring and may become curious to learn more.

As adults, we run into all kinds of things that can lead us in all kinds of directions that don't bring life. Sometimes we find ourselves doing life in ways that don't give life, but we don't know what to do about it anymore. Most of us find ourselves captive to fear and addictions and just bad choices – and that's not life and we know it.

"Alpha gives us a chance to take a pause as we sit around a table over a meal, and talk about 'how we are making out?'" We explore life's basic questions. "At the end of the day, God is real or God is not, and if God is, you're going to want to find out a little bit about what God is offering. Does God know us? Does God care about us? There is evidence that God is not ignorant nor indifferent to us.

If you have questions, your curiosity opens the door to ask about what you don't know. You also open up to other people, that shows you do care. This is an invitation to go beyond being ignorant. Bring your questions to Alpha.

Register on-line at <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/groups-and-ministries/alpha> or fill in the Alpha form at the back of the Church of just "Come to Alpha". We begin at **7 with dinner on Tuesday evening 14 May**, in the meeting room behind St Gerard's Church in North Rock's, Rd Carlingford. The first night is an introduction, so **Come and See**.

Denis McNamara ~ Supporting missionary disciples in our parish who run Alpha



**Alpha at Carlingford Starts on Tuesday 14 May at Carlingford at 7 pm**



All are welcome to "Come and See". We begin with dinner at **7 pm**. Alpha is in the **Parish Meeting Room** behind the church

**Parking ~ enter via the driveway beside the church at 5 43 North Rocks Road Carlingford**

**For more information please contact:** Maree at the parish office 9876 2853 or [maree@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:maree@eppcarl.org.au) or

Denis McNamara 0410 041 944 or [denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au)

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CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION Email Denis McNamara at [denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au)

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford Diocese of Broken Bay

**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

**Mt Carmel Retreat Centre May retreats**

Where: 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville  
Ph: 8795 3400  
[retreats@carmelite.com.au](mailto:retreats@carmelite.com.au)  
[www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au)

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord  
May 4: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Presenter: Br Emmanuel Noel, OCD  
Cost: \$30

Let Mary lead us to a deeper relationship with the "Son of the Most High" (Lk 1:32).

Mary MacKillop, Woman of faith and Vision  
May 17 – May 19  
Presenter: Sr Ann Morrison, RSJ  
Cost: \$300 (concessions apply)  
"Believe the whisperings of God to your own heart."

**Pre-Marriage Course**

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E: [3Rcounselling@gmail.com](mailto:3Rcounselling@gmail.com)  
[www.3Rcounselling.com.au](http://www.3Rcounselling.com.au)

**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.

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

A week with the Carmelite Saints  
May 27 – June 2  
Presenter: Fr Aloysius Rego, OCD  
Cost: \$800 (concessions apply)  
How can the Carmelite Saints guide us in our journey to intimacy with God?

Directed retreat  
May 27 – June 2  
Cost: \$800 (concessions apply)  
A time of reflection and prayer on your own spiritual journey with the help of a director.

ASSOCIATION OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL: Mass with Novena will be celebrated in St. Anthony's Church, 54 Agincourt Road, Marsfield, on Saturday, 4th May, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. All welcome.

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## Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel—Dark Nights of Faith in Our Lives

When the memoirs of Mother Theresa were published they revealed that for the last 50 years of her life she had struggled painfully to feel God's presence in her life.

Her critics felt a certain glee: Underneath it all, they now believed, she was an agnostic, doubting the existence of God.

Her devotees were confused: How could this happen to her? How could a woman of such exceptional generosity and seeming faith not be secure in her sense of God's existence and providence?

What underlies both reactions is a failure to understand an experience as old as faith itself, that of being inside a dark night of the soul. Looking at Mother Theresa through the eyes of Christian mysticism the better question might be: How could she not experience what she experienced? She was an extraordinary woman, a spiritual athlete, someone who had given her entire freedom over to God; might we not expect this to happen to her? Wouldn't you expect her to experience a dark night of the soul?

What is a dark night of the soul? A dark night of the soul is an experience where our felt-sense of God dries up and disappears. At the level of feeling, thought, and imagination, we are unable to conjure up any sense of security or warm feelings about the presence of God in our lives. We feel agnostic, even atheistic, because we can no longer imagine the existence of God. God seems non-existence, absent, dead, a fantasy of wishful thinking.

But notice that this takes place at the level of the imagination and feelings. God doesn't disappear or cease to exist. What disappears are our former feelings about God and our capacity to imagine God's existence.

*Why are dark nights of faith given to us? Why does God seemingly sometimes withdraw his presence?* God exists, independent of our feelings. Sometimes our heads and hearts are in tune with that and we feel its reality with fervor. Other times our heads and hearts cannot attune themselves to the think, imagine, and feel the existence of a God who ineffable, unimaginable, and Other (by definition) and we experience precisely a certain absence, depression, or void when we try to imagine God's existence and love.

We should expect this in our lives; Jesus experienced dark nights of the soul. Just before he died on the cross, he cried out in anguish, expressing feelings of being abandoned by God. But inside this seeming agnosticism something beyond his feelings and imagination held him steady and enabled him to give himself over in trust to someone whom he could no longer imagine as existing. This wasn't doubt, it was real faith. Faith begins exactly where atheism assumes it ends.

If this happened to Jesus, should we be surprised that it happened to Mother Theresa. Henri Nouwen tells how shocked and surprised he was at the deathbed of his mother, a woman of extraordinary faith, when she began to express anguish and feelings of abandonment by God: "How can this be happening to my mother?" Later, upon reflection, it made sense. His mother had prayed every day of her adult life to die like Jesus. God simply took her prayer and her offer seriously.

Understood correctly a dark night is not a failure in faith but a failure in our imagination: Imagine sitting down to pray one day and having the sure sense that God is real, more real in fact than anything else. At that moment, your faith feels secure both in your head and in your heart. Then imagine a different scene: You are lying in bed, in the dark, one night and, with every ounce of sincerity, intelligence, and will-power, you try to imagine and feel God's existence and come up empty and dry. You are haunted by the fear: "I don't believe! Deep down I'm an atheist!" Does this mean that in the one instance you had strong faith and in the next you had weak faith?

Not necessarily. In the first instance you had a strong imagination and in the second you had a weak one. In one instance, you were able to imagine the existence of God and the other you weren't. Neither determines whether God exists or not. Dark nights of faith have to do with feelings and the imagination and not with God's reality or presence to us.

Why are dark nights of faith given to us? Why does God seemingly sometimes withdraw his presence? Always to make us let go of something that, while it may have been good for a while, an icon, is now causing some kind of idolatry in our lives.

Whenever we cry out in faith and ask God why he isn't more deeply present to our sincerity, God's answer is always the same one he gives in Scripture, time and time again:

You will find me again when you search for me with your whole heart, your whole mind, and your whole soul, that is, when you let go of all the things that, right now, in your mind and heart you have mistaken for God!

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](http://www.ronrolheiser.com).*



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## PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event		
Sun.	28/04/19	9:30pm	No Liturgy of the Word—School Holidays		
		10:15am	No Liturgy of the Word—School Holidays		
		11:15am	PMR Carlingford Baptism Preparation Meeting		
		12:00pm	CH Carlingford Baptisms at St Gerard's		
		6:00pm	NO Antioch meeting this Sunday		
Mon	29/04/19	9:00am	No Little Engines at the moment		
		9:00am	OLHC School Anzac Day Assembly		
		9:00am	St Gerard's School Anzac Day Prayer at assembly		
		9:30am	PH Carlingford Gerry's Playgroup		
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>		
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford—Rosary Group		
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP meeting		
Tue.	30/04/19	12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>		
		7:30am	PMR Carlingford First Eucharist Facilitator Briefing		
		7:30pm	PMR Epping Parish Finance Committee meeting		
		Wed.	01/05/19	9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
				9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		11:00am	Mass at Rayward Nursing Home		
		7:00pm	PMR Epping PPC Meeting		
		7:00pm	CH Epping Adult Choir practice		
		Thur.	02/05/19	10:00am	<b>Healing Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
				12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church</b>
		5:00pm	CH Epping Wedding		
		Fri.	03/05/19	9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's</b>
				10:00am	PMR Carlingford Scripture Reflection
				12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians</b>
				4:30pm	CH Epping Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary
7:00pm	PH Carlingford Cana Group				
7:30pm	PMR Carlingford Dads' Club				
Sat.	04/05/19			9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation		
		10:15am	Benediction		
		3:00pm	PH Carlingford First Eucharist Session 1		
		5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church		
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's		
		6:00pm	Mass at St Gerard's Church		

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.

### 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.: 0423 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)

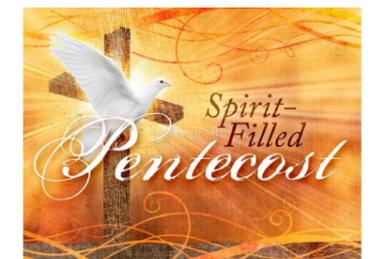
### OUR LOCAL PENTECOST ECUMENICAL LITURGY

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



### Children's Sacramental Journey - First Eucharist 2019

At all our Masses this weekend, we welcome the children who will begin their preparations towards celebrating their First Eucharist. This Rite of Enrolment marks the continuation of a faith journey for the children who will become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church when they celebrate their First Eucharist in June.

During this Rite at all the Masses, the children will hand out a special 'Please Pray for Me' card to members of the parish. Should you have the honour of becoming a Prayer Companion for one of these children, please remember to keep them and their parents in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate their First Eucharist, for it is an opportunity for us to show these families they are part of a larger faith community! The families will also be presented with their Preparation Book during this Rite, which confirms their enrolment and commitment to this special journey.

The Group Facilitator Briefing and Support will be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room at St. Gerard's Carlingford. All facilitators must attend.

On Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> May 9:30am at St. Gerard's Carlingford, we invite the children to participate in our special Children's Mass. This is a Mass that is commented by Fr Peter and always enjoyed by all! The children will provide the ministries for this Mass by reading God's Word, leading the prayers, be involved in the Gospel procession or bring forth the bread and wine for offertory. If you cannot make this special Mass, there will be another one on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 10:15am at Our Lady Help of Christians' Epping, also commented by Fr Peter.

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](mailto:kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au)

May you continue to find new hopes, new joys in this season of new beginnings. Our heartfelt wishes for a blessed Easter!

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

### SAVE THE DATE~MUSIC MINISTRY DINNER

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

All musicians and projectionists are welcome!

For further information please contact Rachel through the Parish office.

### Children's Mass - Carlingford

There will be a Children's Mass at 9:30am at St. Gerard's Church, Carlingford on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

The children can be involved in hospitality, readings, prayers and processions. 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](mailto:lynn@eppcarl.org.au)



### 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

**CARLINGFORD HEALING MASS** Our monthly Healing Mass will take place *this Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May* at **10:00am** (no 9:30am Mass that day). Please note the Mass will take place in Meeting Room, and morning tea will be served at the conclusion of Mass.

**PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE** will meet **this Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April**, in the parish meeting room at Epping commencing at 7:30pm.

**Dads' Club** The monthly gathering of the parish Dads' Club (for all dads in both the Epping and Carlingford communities of the parish) takes place **this Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** at 7:30pm. For details contact Tim Paxton 9945 0151. Dads welcome for a relaxing and enjoyable evening.

## Youth Page

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



**Cana is back this this Friday  
3rd May from 7:30-9pm**  
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](mailto:joanna@eppcarl.org.au) or 0423 717 550



### The Charitable Works Fund

Supporting the CWF puts your gift to work in your local faith community.

We are so grateful to our community who demonstrate their love for their neighbours by generously supporting the Charitable Works Fund.

**The CWF works** every day by providing the funds to ensure that there are trained CatholicCare Pastoral Care Practitioners in the hospitals in our Diocese.

**The CWF works** every day by providing the funds to create the resources and train the catechists (Catholic Special Religious Education Teachers) to the public schools in our Diocese.

**The CWF works** every day by providing additional funds to two schools with students with special needs.

**The CWF works** every day by providing funds to those who are deaf or hard of hearing through the Ephpheta Centre.

When you give to the CWF, you can be assured that your donation is working for the faith and the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

The third CWF Appeal for this Financial Year will be held next weekend 4/5<sup>th</sup> May in both our Churches. 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.

### 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 (or if at all possible, cheques). Your help is most appreciated.

### OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY



**No Meeting this  
Sunday 28th April.**



For more information  
Joanne—0416 030 927

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

### BEYOND OUR PARISH

#### Catalyst for Renewal Reflection Morning

Our next reflection morning will be held on **Saturday 4th May** in the parish hall of Hunters Hill, corner of Gladesville Road and Mary Street. **Fr Richard Leonard sj** will lead our reflection. His topic: **'Will Our Faith have Young People in the 21st Century?'** Commencing 9.30 AM concluding 12.30 PM. Tea & coffee available. No need to book. We do appreciate a donation. *A time put aside for silence and reflection.* A warm welcome to all. *'Come and See'*. Enquires: Carole Wilson 9869 1036.

#### Proclaiming Pentecost

You are invited to celebrate Pentecost at Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood, on Pentecost Eve. Proclaiming Pentecost is an inter-denominational event, to gather and pray with our brothers and sisters in Christ for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit over a region. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year the event is being held around Sydney, and this year the region in focus is Northern Sydney and the Northern Beaches. All are welcome.

**Date:** Saturday 8 June 2019

**Time:** 7.00pm – 9.00pm

**Venue:** Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood  
94 Archer St Chatswood (parking via Kirk St)

**Enquiries:** Parish Office 9410 9000

#### Prepare to reach beyond...

Communities in Myanmar, PNG, Samoa, Timor Leste, Kiribati and Kenya seek volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. These assignments are not quick fixes. **Overseas Catholic communities** are inviting you to **immerse yourself** for 1 to 2 years.

If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, you can give opportunity by **sharing them with our global family!** Come for **Global Mission Info: Sunday May 26 @ 10:30am Aquinas Academy, 141 Harrington Street The Rocks, Sydney**

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

This Sunday 28th April at 1:30pm.

Rosary, Reconciliation, Mass, Exposition, Benediction.

#### Divine Mercy Sunday at St Therese, Denistone

This Sunday 28th April

2pm Reconciliation and 3pm Mass

All Welcome!