

<b>Responsorial Psalm Response</b> God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.		<b>Gospel Acclamation</b> <b>Alleluia, Alleluia!</b> Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. <b>Alleluia!</b>					
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</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>WEEKDAY MASSES</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:** Walter Souhrada, Peter O'Malley, Kiew's Mother, Kathy Walsh, Joshua Auvonavole, Peter Parish,  
**Anniversaries:** Cleofe Goro, Roger & Jean-Claude Nina,  
**Also for:** Mark Hillier, Richard Barry,  
**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, Stephen Last, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Patti Howard, Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Elaine Hunt, Arnold Day, Maureen Carlon, Fr Adrian Borst, Ausustine Hong, Luba Charlton, George Khouri, Antony Hogan, Ingrid Connor, Steve Toth, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Kath McCarthy, Nicholas, Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Patricia Muschalik, Ernest Lau, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Belisario, Stella Edwards, Fara Vargas, Theo Stevens, Monica Weeden.  
*Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the immediate family.*

### Catholic Life & Faith Formation

#### Laudato Si' Anniversary

The 4th anniversary of this influential document is on 18 June 2019. This provides an opportunity to look at implementing actions such as more efficient lighting or appliances; better recycling; use of reusable food containers and coffee cups; planting trees or gardens; and car-pooling where possible.

The Catholic Life & Faith Formation team has a limited number of printed *Laudato Si'* Discussion Guides available to small groups in parishes who wish to come together to read this document. Please contact Pina Bernard at [pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au) or 8379 1627 to secure some copies. Alternatively, the resource can be found online at [www.bbcatholic.org.au/socialjustice](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/socialjustice). Please also see related action below.

#### Future Fund Petition

Generation Earth, partnered with Caritas and Catholic Earthcare Australia, have organised a petition to ask our governments to rule out fossil fuel investments and prioritise renewable energy in our national Future Fund; and to direct government operations to utilise 100% renewable energy.



Sr. Pauline or rather Sr. Dr. Pauline receiving her Doctorate of Ministry at the Great Hall at Sydney University on Saturday 18th May. Congratulations on a great achievement.

## 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](http://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

### THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**2-06-19**

**Acts 1:1-11**

**Ephesians 1:17-23**

**Luke 24:46-53**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Firstly, a special word of appreciation to Fr John Fraunfelder for leading our parish readers (lectors) through an evening of prayer and spiritual 'refreshment' last Wednesday evening. Over sixty parishioners attended. A special thanks also to Carole Wilson for organising our wonderful supper. Such gatherings are in response to the Parish Plan formulated by the PPC as part of a desire to refresh and develop our Sunday celebrations and parish liturgical ministries. Later in the year, we plan to also gather our music, hospitality, and Eucharistic/serving ministers.

Secondly, as I will be leaving this coming Wednesday evening for my sabbatical and annual leave, this will be my last weekend in the parish until I return during the second half of August. As I mentioned in the bulletin a couple of weeks ago, when it became clear that the approval process for the DA for our proposed parish development at Epping was going to be delayed, I began to explore the possibility of taking a couple of months Sabbatical (study) along with my annual holidays at some point during this year. In November I will have been ordained a priest for thirty-four years and this will be the first time I have ever experienced an extended period of sabbatical leave. Our Diocesan Administrator, Fr David Ranson was very supportive of this idea and gave approval for me to be away from the parish from June 6th till mid-August. During this time I will attend a renewal course located at a Redemptorist monastery in Perth Scotland, as well as undertake the one-month "Tantur" Bible/Holy Land course in Israel. The latter course, in particular, will give me the opportunity to grow in my knowledge and love of the scriptures and its history as well as deepening my understanding of the land and culture in which the Bible was lived and evolved. Tantur is an ecumenical institute located near Bethlehem which draws on lecturers from Christian, Moslem and Jewish traditions. I am particularly looking forward to this part of my sabbatical!

While I am away Fr Joey has been appointed Administrator of the Epping and Carlingford parish and guest priests will supply for Masses during the weekends. Please note that on some days weekday Masses will need to become Communion services given Fr Joey will be on his own during this period. I thank Fr Joey for leading the parish while I am absent.

Also please note that I won't be reading or responding to parish emails from this Wednesday evening onwards until my return. Please keep me in your prayers over this time of my personal refreshment as you will all certainly be in mine! If there is an urgent need to be in contact with me during my time away from the parish please be in touch with Maree or Dennis in the parish office and they will be able to pass on your message.

Please keep me in your prayers over this time of my personal refreshment as you will all certainly be in mine!

Blessings!  
Fr Peter

### World Environment Day

#### A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing. To be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

*Pope Francis, Encyclical Laudato Si', n.246*

### Parish Mission Statement

We are a diverse Catholic community centred in the Eucharist. We gather for worship to serve and reach out to others as we grow in relationship with God and each other.

### Safeguarding Message June 2019

A culture of Safeguarding values PRESENCE....."For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."  
- Matthew 18:20

#### Disciples are destined for Heaven

Missionary disciples, our destiny is to be with those we witnessed to ~ to be with them in heaven.

At the end of his Gospel, Luke describes Jesus leaving his disciples. He tells them to "Stay, until you are clothed with the power from on high." Then, "He withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven". Lk 24:51 Jesus is now with the Father, which means our humanity is one with God and Christ is now present to us in Spirit.

We remember this major event ~ Jesus ascending into heaven and this prepares us for the coming of the Holy Spirit descending on the community who believe.

After the ascension of Jesus the disciples were full of joy. The separation did not cause grief or loss. They stayed connected as though his presence remained and they kept praising God.

When we hear what Luke tells us in the Gospel and in Acts, he is also describing our transition from being a disciple to a missionary disciple.

At the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles, Luke shows us who we will become. We will receive the Holy Spirit and we will be transformed. Listen to the angels who told the disciples, "Don't just stand there gazing up into heaven!" The Spirit gets us going!

Beware, the Holy Spirit transformed the apostles and the early church. When the Spirit comes, we too will be transformed, yes changed in deeply personal and profound ways. We will not be the same.

The church and our own community invite you, your family, your small group who gather to pray, to spend time this week praying for the Holy Spirit.

*Come Holy Spirit fill the Hearts of the faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created.*

Our Alpha community continue to meet each Tuesday evening. Please keep them in your prayer that they will experience belonging to a community of believers.

*Denis McNamara—Supporting people to become disciples*



### 2019 WINTER APPEAL

Our Annual Vinnies Winter Appeal commences 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of June in our parish.

Envelopes for donations are available in the church entrances at Epping and on the pews at Carlingford. Please return completed envelopes to the paper table at the main entrance at Epping and to the piety store at Carlingford or place on the second collection at any Mass.

Your Gift Can Help End the Pain of Poverty



*We would sincerely like to thank Fr John Frauenfelder for all his time and effort in making the Readers' Workshop at St Gerard's last Wednesday such a success.  
L. Fr Joey celebration his 9th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood.  
R. Fr Peter & Fr Joey talking to some of the Readers' who attended the workshops.*

### Plenary Council 2020—Year of Discernment

The Year of Discernment phase of our journey towards Plenary Council 2020 continues in earnest at Pentecost, beginning with Pentecost 5pm Vigil Mass at the Cathedral, Waitara celebrated by Fr David Ranson, Diocesan Administrator. In the weeks following, resources will become available to support small group listening and discernment encounters related to the themes.

Keep up to date with the latest information and resources by subscribing to the Plenary Council Newsletter at:  
<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/> and by clicking on 'News'.



## 28 CHAPTERS OF ACTS IN 28 DAYS

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

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



REFLECT ON THE READING



SHARE YOUR REFLECTION IN WHATSAPP



STARTS 12 MAY 2019  
ENDS 8 JUNE 2019

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



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

The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford  
Diocese of Broken Bay

#### 28Acts

continues ~ may the Holy Spirit enthuse those following the lives of Peter and now Paul to be inspired by all that happened in the early church to live with great trust in the Spirit guiding our Church, our community and our world today.

#### BAPTISM IN THE PARISH LAST SUNDAY

Welcome to: Arabella Molina Hackett  
Please hold this child and her family in your prayers



### 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.

#### 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.

#### ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS

Our parish is strongly committed to ecumenism and a formal Covenant has been signed with the Anglican Parish of Epping, Epping Uniting Church, West Epping Uniting Church and Epping Baptist Church.

#### ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL

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

**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.



McFixit

Handyman  
Pressure Cleaning

Free quotes.

Ring Mike

0434 878 160



### 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)



[www.wnbull.com.au](http://www.wnbull.com.au)  
[wnbull@wnbull.com](mailto:wnbull@wnbull.com)

9519 5344

An Australian owned company

### Reflection on the Sunday Gospel—The Mystery Of Saying Goodbye

When I was 23 years old, in the space of just three months, both my parents died. They were young, I was young, our family was young—too young, we felt, to let them go. But they died despite that and their leaving left a gaping hole in our lives.

But after a time that void began to fill in and our sadness began to dissipate. It didn't happen quickly. It took a couple of years, but eventually things changed. What was once a cold absence now became a warm presence. Our mother and father came back to us in a new way. We began to feel their presence as a warm nurturing spirit, as a permanent sustaining love. They were now present to us in a deeper way, a way devoid of tension.

Sometimes when we are physically present to each other we cannot give each other what we need to and we must go away

When they were still alive, we loved each other, but, as with all families, that love was fraught with some tension. Love and concern can never be given and received without some shadow, some resistance, some irritations, without negative feelings too entering. It's like that in all families and it's like that even inside of our most intimate relationships.

Face to face, in this life, there is no such thing as intimacy without a shadow, clear-cut pure love. No matter how much we love someone, we will still always experience some feelings of resistance, of disappointment, of irritation, of boredom, of not being understood, of not being properly valued, of needing a private space at times, of being wounded too in this relationship.

But, after our parents died and our grief over their leaving dissipated, their love for us and their presence began to flow into our lives in a way beyond those tensions. We now felt their love without a shadow. In their going away, in their deaths, they were able to give us something that they couldn't give us as fully when they were with us, namely, presence and love without a shadow.

Why? What happened? Was this simply a question of time healing the wound of death? A question of death making us forget about former tensions and disappointments with each other?

Partly, but there is something deeper involved. Intimacy is a curious thing, deep and paradoxical. Inside intimacy, presence and absence play on each other in such a way that, on a given day and in a given season of a relationship, it is hard to tell which provides the deeper connection.

Sometimes when we are physically present to each other we cannot give each other what we need to and we must go away, at least for a time, in order for that to happen.

Sometimes only our absence can deepen and cleanse our presence. Sometimes it is better that we go away, for a day or for a season. That is part of the mystery, the theology, and the psychology of the Ascension.

At one level, this is a mystery, yet we have a sense of how it works.

As a parent, you experience this when your children grow up and move away. First there is the pain of letting them go, but eventually there is the joy of having those same children come back and stand before you in a new way, as adults now who can befriend you and be with you in a way that they couldn't as children. But, this doesn't happen unless your children first go away. Good parents know that by hanging on too tightly, by not giving your children the space within which to be absent, you not only stunt their growth, but you deprive yourselves of eventually having a wonderful adult come back to you with something deeper to give than the dependent love of a child. That's true in every relationship.

Jesus tries, painstakingly and repeatedly, to teach this to his disciples before his ascension. He tells them, again and again: "It is better for you that I go away. If I do not go away I cannot send you the spirit. You will grieve now, but later you will rejoice."

It took me years to understand, even partially, what Jesus meant by those words and I'm still struggling, perhaps more in my heart than in my head, to accept that at times we have to go away in order for our spirits to bloom more fully and be capable of being received by those we love most, beyond the tensions and irritations that forever cloud relationships.

When children leave home for the first time to begin lives on their own, in one fashion or another, they are saying to their parents what Jesus said to his disciples before his ascension: "It is better for you that I go away. If I do not go away I cannot come back to you in a deeper way!"

We speak those words too every time we walk out of a door, for a long time or even for just a day, and have to say the words: "Good-bye!"

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).*

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
08/06/19	5:00pm	Fr Joey	6:00pm	Fr Mikhael Loke svd
09/06/19	8:30am	Fr John Frauenfelder	7:45am	Fr Joey Frez
09/06/19	10:15am	Fr John Frauenfelder	9:30am	Fr Joey Frez
09/06/19	6:00pm	Fr Joey		

### PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	02/06/19	9:30am	Kidz Word at St Gerard's Church
		10:15am	Kidz Word at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		11:00am	CH Carlingford First Eucharist Rehearsal
		11:15am	Morning tea for Fr Peter at Epping
		4:00pm	CH Epping First Eucharist Rehearsal
Mon	03/06/19	6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch Youth Group meeting
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP meeting
Tue.	04/06/19	7:30pm	CH Carlingford Rosary Group
		12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		6:30pm	CH Carlingford Adult Choir practice
		7:00pm	PMR Carlingford Alpha Programme
		7:30pm	PMR Epping Parish Finance Committee meeting
Wed.	05/06/19	7:30pm	SVdP Epping Conference meeting at the shop
		9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		10:10am	St Gerard's Church Reconciliation 3/4M
		11:00am	Mass at Rayward Nursing Home
Thur.	06/06/19	7:00pm	PMR Carlingford Parish Pastoral Council meeting
		7:00pm	CH Epping Adult Choir practice
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
Fri..	07/06/19	12:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
		7:00pm	PMR Carlingford SRE Course Classroom Management
		9:30am	<b>Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>
		10:10am	PMR Carlingford Scripture Reflection
		12:15pm	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church</b>
Sat.	08/06/19	4:30pm	CH Epping Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary
		7:00pm	PH Carlingford CANA Youth group meeting
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford Dads' Club
		9:15am	<b>Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians</b>
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
		10:15am	Benediction
		5:00pm	<b>Vigil Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians'</b>
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's Church
		6:00pm	<b>Vigil Mass at St Gerard's Church</b>

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

### MORNING TEA AS FR PETER HEADS OFF ON HIS SABBATICAL

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

- Our Lady Help of Christians, Epping after the 10:15 am Mass on Sunday the **2nd June**.

Please be a part of this special occasion as we wish Fr Peter a safe journey.



### PARISH STAFF

**Parish Secretary:**  
**Dennis Porteous** Ph.: 9876 2853  
Email: [dennis@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:dennis@eppcarl.org.au)

**Asst. Parish Secretary:**  
**Maree Balzulat** Ph.: 9876 2853  
Email: [maree@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:maree@eppcarl.org.au)

**Pastoral Care Assistant:**  
**Maree Balzulat** Ph.: 9876 2853  
Email: [maree@eppcarl.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:joanna@eppcarl.org.au)

**Missionary Discipleship Coordinator:**  
**Denis McNamara**  
Ph.: 0410 041 944  
Email: [denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au](mailto: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

This **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



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

As part of the preparations for First Eucharist, the children celebrated Reconciliation on Saturday afternoon at St. Gerard Majella's Church. A special **'thank-you'** to the musicians, parish volunteers and teachers for their assistance with the liturgy.

First Eucharist will be celebrated in our parish at the following dates and time:

- Sunday, 9th June at 9:30am in St. Gerard Majella's Church;
- Saturday, 15th June at 6pm in St. Gerard Majella's Church;
- Sunday, 16th June at 9:30am in St. Gerard Majella's Church;
- Saturday, 22nd June at 5pm in Our Lady Help of Christians' Church; and
- Sunday, 23rd June at 10:15am in Our Lady Help of Christians' Church.

A morning tea celebration prepared by the parish school parents will be held after the above-mentioned morning Masses. All are invited to come and congratulate the children and their families!

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



### Confirmation 2019

In our Diocese of Broken Bay, children who have been baptised and are in Year 2 or above are eligible to celebrate Confirmation.

If you would like to be placed on our email list to be sent information about Confirmation and enrolment, please contact us and we can have this organised. Kindly note that we have made essential changes to our Sacramental Programme enrolment process. As such we invite you to contact us so you can be kept informed to attend a Parent Information Evening as the start of the enrolment process.

Children enrolled in this Sacrament's preparation are required to attend a group session once a week with their parent over 4 weeks. Upon completion, the children will celebrate Confirmation in our parish on Saturday, 14th September.

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)

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

### The Charitable Works Fund

#### SHORTFALL AFTER THE FOURTH WEEK \$2,046



Envelopes can be found at the back of the church. Please give generously as any shortfall from this appeal will have to be made up from normal parish funds – please support the appeal so that we can avoid this happening. Our Parish quota for 2018/2019 Financial Year is \$51,193.

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

**PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE** will meet **this Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June**, in the parish meeting room at Epping commencing at 7:30pm.

**THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING** will take place **this Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** in the parish meeting room at Carlingford commencing at 7:00pm.

**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.

All are welcome to our monthly Healing Masses (on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at Carlingford and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Epping) as a time to pray for God's healing strength either for ourselves or those we know. Each third month (Mar, Jun, Sep and Dec) we also celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick (Anointing) within these Masses.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> June** at 7:30pm. For details contact Tim Paxton 9945 0151. Dads welcome for a relaxing and enjoyable evening.

#### Rosary for the Intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The rosary for the intentions of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will be recited every Friday afternoon at 4:30pm at Our Lady Help Christian's Church, Epping.

### BEYOND OUR PARISH

#### "Why am I still a Catholic?"

At this challenging time for ourselves as people of Faith and people of the Church, a precious opportunity to reflect on this important question.

Fr Richard Leonard SJ will speak to this question on **Wednesday 12th June at 7:30pm** in St Brigid's Hall on the first floor of Holy Family Church at Lindfield (lift access inside foyer of the church), corner Pacific Highway and Highfield Road, Lindfield.

Entry by gold coin donation.

## Youth Page

### OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

#### Meeting this Sunday 2nd June

Why not come along to the Antioch meeting to hear a **great talk**, join in **discussion time** get into some **awesome music**, take time out for **prayer** and **meet people!**



The meeting starts at **6pm**, in the parish meeting room @ **Carlingford** So head on down and bring a friend.

All young people from Yr. 10 to age 22 are **VERY WELCOME!!**

For more information  
Joanne—0416 030 927

"It was at Antioch that the believers were first called"



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



**Cana is on this this Friday 7th June from 7:30-9:00pm** in the St Gerard's Parish Hall.

Cana is a relaxed social and Christian gathering for young people between Year 6-9, with a combination of **games, food, a talk** each week and **prayer**.

Come along and try it, bring a friend along and make some new friends!

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

### Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)

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

This national festival occurs once every 2 years and is designed to bring young Catholics all over Australia together. This 3 day convention (**from 8-10th December, 2019**) will host a wide range of activities including music, prayer, leadership talks, worship and a pilgrimage walk. This festival is specifically for people between **Year 9 up to 30 years old** (under 18s must be accompanied and supervised by an adult). If you would like to find out more or you are interested in attending the ACYF, please email the Youth Minister on [joanna@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:joanna@eppcarl.org.au) or call Joanna on 0423 717 550.

You can also find more information on the website [www.acyf.org.au](http://www.acyf.org.au). We would love to give our youth this amazing opportunity to participate and deepen their relationship with Christ and with other Catholics.



### Welcoming our new Catechumens

#### Q Who are the catechumens?

**A** Catechumens are unbaptised persons (adult or children of catechetical age) who have celebrated the "Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens. Once they have been received into the Order of Catechumens, they have an official status in the Catholic Church. Like a mother, the Church cares for catechumens, nourishing them with the celebration of the Word in the Sunday liturgy and other celebrations of the Word, as well as other rites such as anointing with the Oil of Catechumens, blessings and minor exorcisms. The Church has designated appropriate rites of marriage and burial for catechumens. The names of all who have celebrated the Rite of Acceptance are recorded in a special registry and a person celebrates the Rite of Acceptance only once.



This weekend, at the 5pm Vigil Mass at Epping, we welcome Michelle Chan and Richard Fong into the Order of Catechumens.

Michelle and Richard have been seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith and the nature of the Christian way of life.

They have both participated in the ALPHA course and found it to be a very rewarding experience of the basics of the Christian faith and experiencing the life of the Christian community.

The journey of faith is a lifelong process of growing and learning to follow Jesus within the Christian community. The RCIA process helps to guide those seeking to know more about Christ in this context of experiencing and sharing in the life of the community.

If you are able to assist in the process of welcoming people like Michelle and Richard into our parish community by offering your home to host the gatherings of the RCIA group, or would like more details, please complete the information on the sheets at the back of the church. The RCIA team will be in contact with further details of what is involved.