

Responsorial Psalm Response The precepts of the Lord, give joy to the heart.	Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Your word, O Lord, is truth; make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!
---	---

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	10:00am	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: Margaret Cooke (nee Feld), David Boulton, Louise Carey, Hee Chua,

*Please pray for Robert "Bob" Carroll who died recently.
His Funeral Mass was held on Thursday, 27th September at St Gerard's Church.
Please keep him in your prayers.*

Anniversaries: Roger and Jean Claude Nina,

Also for: Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Young Seok Seo, Soo Woog Jin, Maria Hur, Isabel Melo,

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, Sr. Pauline Wicks.

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—
26th Week in Ordinary Time**
Monday—Memoria, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus,
Tuesday: Memoria, The Holy Guardian Angels
Wednesday—Memoria, St. Francis of Assisi

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

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
06/01018	5:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez
07/10/18	8:30am	Fr Joey Frez	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
07/10/18	10:15am	Fr Joey Frez	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd
07/10/18	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

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 2853

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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 23-9-18

Numbers 11:25-29 James 5:1-6 Mark 9:38-43.45.47-48

Congratulations
to
Martino Hoang
on his installation as Lector,
at the 10:15am Mass this Sunday
and a big thank you to
Fr David Ranson
Diocesan Administrator
and the
Priests from the Seminary
and
Seminarians who join us this
weekend

**This Sunday, 30 September
is Social Justice Sunday**

The Australian Catholic Bishops are deeply concerned about Australia's alarming growth in homelessness and insecure housing.

In their Social Justice Statement 2018-19, *A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land*, released Thursday, 6 September, the Bishops have called on Australians to look beyond the immediate challenges of the average household budget, and to consider those who are homeless or facing housing stress because of skyrocketing rents and property prices.

Copies of the Social Justice statement are available at the back of both Churches.

Safeguarding— September is Safeguarding month.

We will be kept safe by ADULTS who...

DO what they are supposed to do and what they say they will do

COMMUNITIES OF SAFETY AND CARE

We will be kept safe by ADULTS who...

STEP UP AND SPEAK OUT when we are being hurt, bullied or treated badly.

COMMUNITIES OF SAFETY AND CARE

Plenary Council 2020 Bulletin Notice — Week 2



Plenary Council 2020

Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

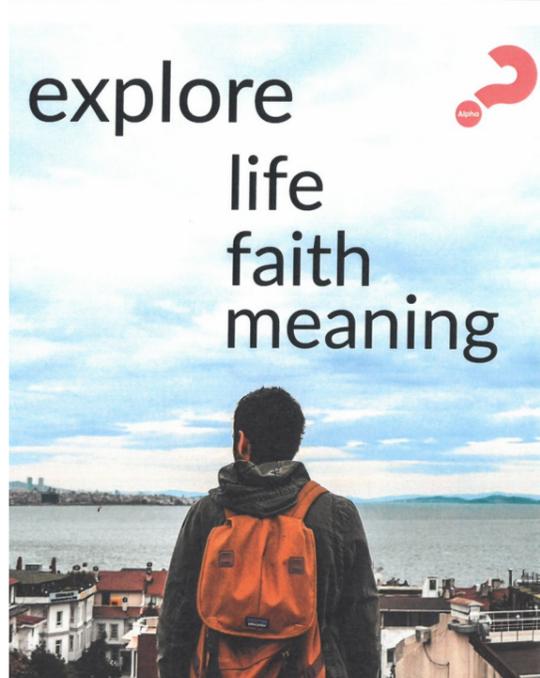
The **Plenary Council 2020** is a gathering of all people of the Church in Australia to make decisions for the future. We are invited to come together as local communities, with the Holy Spirit in our midst, and listen and speak about God's dream for our Church.

Your voice is important! You are invited to contribute and share your story to the Plenary Council agenda. You are encouraged to speak boldly and with passion about your unique experience of faith and of the Church and to listen to others with an open and humble heart. **Have Your Say!**

There will be an opportunity for parishioners to gather after Mass on:
Sunday 14th or 21st October after the **9:30am Mass at Carlingford** and after the **10:15am Mass at Epping.**

There will also be other opportunities to gather on:
Thursday 25th October at **7:30pm at Epping** and **Tuesday 30th October** at **7:30pm at Carlingford.**
You can also gather with a group of your own friends, family etc.

For further information please contact Lynne Slocombe by emailing lynne.slocombe@gamil.com



Alpha Began

It was a grand start. More excitement than a grand final!
Our fifth Alpha in Epping Carlingford came together to meet each other and begin our journey.
Congrats to all who came and quickly connected with others over dinner conversations.
We learnt more about Jesus, the historical person who lived and the evidence for his resurrection. We began to share our thought about life.

All this was possible through the generosity on a grand scale of those who helped, those who hosted and especially those who prepared and served food, set up then packed up.
Thank you for such a team effort.

Next Wednesday 3rd October we continue.
Come and join us. You are friend, you are family, just turn up. Bring a friend.

You will be welcomed over a meal at 7pm in the parish hall. Park in the school grounds ~ entry via 8 Cambridge St Epping.
For those unable to come last Wednesday, we look forward to another grand time this coming Wednesday. See you at Alpha



Thanks so much for celebrating our class mass with us today. Fr Joey. You did a lovely job and were just lovely with the children. We enjoyed your presence and loved your humour. Such a beautiful mass and so humbling. God bless and many thanks again.
Jayne van Koeverden 5M class teacher

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.

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God bless and unite all your people in Australia
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary
Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories
and to speak boldly of your truth

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
bread for the journey from age to age.

Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.



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, 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.



WN BULL
FUNERALS
Leaders in Personal Service

www.wnbull.com.au
wnbull@wnbull.com

9519 5344

An Australian owned company

Homeless Tragedy Demands Action—Social Justice Statement 2018-2019

The Australian Catholic Bishops have registered their deep concern over the alarming growth in the problem of homelessness and the insecure housing in Australia today.

In their Social Justice Statement 2018-19, *A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land*, the Bishops call on Australians to look beyond the immediate challenges of the average household budget, to consider those who are homeless or facing housing stress because of skyrocketing rents and property prices.

In a letter to parishes around Australia, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference president, Archbishop Mark Coleridge, writes: "It seems hard to believe that in a rich nation such as ours, the latest Census figures show that the number of Australians who are homeless has grown to more than 116,000.

"House prices and even rents are spiralling out of reach of too many families and placing huge financial stress on ordinary people, even when they are employed. For those living on pensions or allowances, finding secure housing can be a far greater challenge—one that often takes a terrible toll on social wellbeing and mental health."

In his foreword to the Statement, Australian Catholic Social Justice Council chairman, Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen, writes that a ruthless housing market is leaving people struggling to find secure and affordable housing, whether they live in cities or in regional areas.

"That struggle has a corrosive effect on family life, on employment, on study and on our capacity to contribute to and benefit from our society. At its worst, the struggle leaves the vulnerable in our society homeless—sleeping on the street, in cars or in doorways, or hoping for a space on someone's couch or floor."

The Statement draws on Jesus' famous parable of the Good Samaritan, reminding us that we have the same experience as the Samaritan: we see people in the street in need of help, wounded by violence, misfortune or poverty. We face the same choice do we walk past or do we stop and help?

"Behind the people on the streets is another legion—those who are battling to keep the roof over their heads, wondering if they can make the next rent or mortgage payment," writes Bishop Long. "Often, these people are people who are employed but whose income is barely enough—or not enough—to keep themselves and their families housed and fed.

"Housing prices and rents are spiralling out of reach of too many families."

"The Bishops emphasise that housing is a human right, asserted by documents like the UN Declaration of Human Rights and by the teachings of our Church. Housing, the Bishops say, is 'an essential entitlement for all people to meet their basic needs, flourish in community and have their inherent human dignity affirmed and upheld by others'.

"That human right and the call of the Church has been reinforced by the words and example of Pope Francis, who has made it a priority to reach out to the disadvantaged and marginalised of Rome, including homeless people."

The Statement puts out the challenge, writes Bishop Lang, "to confront an economy that has allowed housing to become out of the reach of so many; to reach out, like the Samaritan, to the wounded and helpless; and to call on our governments to make hard decisions that will allow everyone in our communities to find secure accommodation."

The Statement considers the tragedy of homelessness within the broader housing affordability crisis. Having a place to call home means much more than having shelter from the elements. It is about personal security and wellbeing, the social and economic base of living, the formation of families and kinship, and the development of personal and social identity.

Such essential qualities of having a place to call home are at risk where competitive economic valuation reduces housing to be simply a commodity to be traded and where unreasonable cost excludes people.

The statement highlights the plight of particular groups, particularly those living in poverty and people experiencing problems in health and family welfare such as domestic violence and mental illness.

Other people facing the crisis include unemployed and low-paid workers and older people reliant on low fixed incomes, as well as an emerging cohort of older single women in unaffordable rental accommodation.

The Statement asks: "How have so many people come to be on the streets of such a rich nation? And how is it that housing has become so unaffordable that it excludes increasing numbers of Australians?"

Just as in the parable of the Good Samaritan, social and political divisions remain a feature of our society.

"We too live in a divided society—one in which we can so easily cross to the other side of the road. Jesus challenges us as individuals and as a nation. Will Australia let its heart go out to the homeless or will we continue to walk past? Can we be like the Good Samaritan who bridges the divide and addresses both the symptoms and causes of distress?"

"In the face of entrenched homelessness in such a prosperous nation, it is time for Australia to reassert the true value of housing as a human right that is fundamental to individual and family wellbeing. All are our neighbours—all are owed this right."

The Statement traces the evolution of a nation that once prided itself on its high levels of home ownership to one that now lags behind many other nations in terms of housing affordability.

"In 1947, 52 per cent of Australians owned their own homes. By the mid 1960s, that proportion had grown to 72 per cent. Since that time, however, home ownership rates have fallen to around 65 per cent."

...continued next week



Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

McGrath

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event
Sun.	30/09/18	9:30am	No Kidz Word at St Gerard's—School Hols.
		10:15am	No Kidz Word at OLHC—School Hols.
			Installation of Seminarian by Rev David Ranson
Mon	01/10/18	6:00pm	PMR Carlingford—Antioch meeting
		9:00am	No Little Engines Playgroup—School Hols.
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
Tue.	02/10/18	7:30pm	CH Carlingford NO Rosary Group
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford—Adult Choir
Wed.	03/10/18	7:30pm	SVdP Epping Conference meeting in shop
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP Meeting
		9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Thur.	04/10/18	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church's Church
		11:00am	Mass at Rayward Nursing Home
		7:00pm	PH Epping Week 2 Alpha
Fri.	05/10/18	7:00pm	PMR Epping—PPC Meeting
		10:00am	PMR Healing Mass + morning tea
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Sat.	06/10/18	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford—Scripture Reflection
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
Sun.	07/10/18	7:00pm	PH Carlingford—NO CANA Group School Hols.
		9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
Mon.	08/10/18	10:15am	Benediction
		5:00pm	Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's
Tue.	09/10/18	6:00pm	Mass at St Gerard's Church

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

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 inter-church 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.

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
Email: ashleigh.belic@gmail.com

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.

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.

TWO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Thank you Mass: which will be held on Sunday 11th November at 10:30am Mass at St Gerard's.
- Our local Advent Ecumenical service: will be held on Tuesday 27th November at 7:45pm at St Alban's Anglican Church.



Our Lady Help of Christians annual fundraising event, the Epping Twilight Market, is approaching fast. Please "save the date" to this magical evening on Friday 9th November from 5pm—9pm. More information to follow in coming bulletins.



Children's Sacramental Journey Within Our Parish

Here at the Epping and Carlingford Parish, the preparation of children for the completion of the Sacraments of Initiation – Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is parish-based and family-centred. We hope to encourage and nurture parents in the preparation of their children through group sessions. The group sessions facilitate parent-child interaction utilising activities to help children explore the key concepts of the sacraments in an age-appropriate and fun way. Parents' companionship and witness speak volumes to the children as they pass down their faith to their children.

In our Diocese of Broken Bay, the order of the Sacraments for children after Baptism, begins with Confirmation, then First Reconciliation, followed by receiving First Holy Communion to complete their initiation into the Church.

Our Sacramental Programme is advertised through the parish website, bulletins, announcements at Mass, both parish school newsletters, catechists and word-of-mouth. Please take note of the next enrolment period in January 2019 for First Reconciliation. We will begin advertising closer to the date.

In the meanwhile, if you are wanting to find out more about your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please feel free to contact me.

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

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

will take place this **Wednesday 3rd October** in the parish meeting room at Epping commencing at 7:00pm.



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 5th October** at 7:30pm in the parish meeting room. For details contact Tim Paxton 9945 0151. Dads welcome for a relaxing and enjoyable evening.

CATALYST FOR RENEWAL REFLECTION MORNING Our final reflection morning for 2018 will be held on **Saturday 6th October**. Fr Peter Maher will lead our reflection, his topic: 'Creating a Gospel Church Here and Now'. We will be invited to imagine a church that is gospel focused, relevant, inclusive and connected to the real world of the people of God. Commencing at 9.30 AM in the parish hall of Hunters Hill and concluding at 12.30 PM. No need to book, tea and coffee available, a donation is appreciated. A time to be still. 'Come and See'. Enquiries: Carole Wilson 9869 1036.

BLESSING OF OUR HSC STUDENTS



We invite all our HSC students from both communities in the parish to the **Sunday 6pm** Mass on Sunday 14th October in the Epping Church and at Carlingford at the 9:30am Mass. There will be a blessing for all students within the Mass, and Mass will be followed by refreshments outside the churches – a chance for HSC students to gather together before the exams begin.

CARLINGFORD HEALING MASS

Our monthly Healing Mass will take place **this Thursday, 6th September 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 1st Thursday of the month at Carlingford and the 3rd 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.

SRE Teachers—Catechists

"Our catechists (SRE Teachers) who work voluntarily in the State Schools have been very busy this term preparing students for their annual Masses.

At **Cheltenham H/S Fr Peter** presided over a very uplifting celebration with **Years 10 – 12 dramatising the Gospel** in words & actions, providing musical accompaniment to their beautiful **singing of Hymns & Acclamations. Yr 11 composed & sang 'a capella'** an amazing Thanksgiving hymn.

Fr Joey explained to Yr 8 & 9 the significance of the Korean Martyrs & their Faith whilst **Pat McArdles's** class composed & read their **own intercessions.**

At **James Ruse Ms Connors, the Principal, Donagh D'Silva & Fr Joey** joined an enthusiastic **Yr 7 & 8 class** in celebrating the life & faith of **St John the Baptist.**

Our Invitation to Ministry will be at St Gerard's on 24/25 November & 2/3 December at OLHC. The entire PARISH celebrates the Catechist Ministry at St Gerard's church (this year) at 9.30am Mass.

Please contact Mary O'Byrne on 9871 2120 with any enquiries or offers to assist in this Ministry."



St. Vincent de Paul "Shop till you Drop" Bargain Bus Day is happening again this year on Saturday 27th October. Could all money be in by next Friday 28th September, as the bus has to be paid for. 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. It will be the best fun day you will have this year. Contact **Marilyn Sharp** on 9872 1436 for further details.

Year of Youth 2018

CANA YOUTH GROUP



CANA IS ON A BREAK FOR THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Ring Ashleigh for any further information
0430 120 015

End of Year of Youth Celebration and Youth Discipleship Awards

To celebrate the successes and growth that has occurred during the Year of Youth, we invite all people, but in particular young people and those who minister to them, to join us for an End of the Year Of Youth. As part of the celebrations that evening, we will also be acknowledging young people who have shown themselves to be witnesses of missionary discipleship. With this in mind we invite you to read the attached document that outline the concept and nomination process for the first ever, CYBB Youth Discipleship Awards.

Date: Saturday 24 November 2018 **Time:** 5:00pm
Mass – 9:00pm

Venue: Our Lady of The Rosary, Hornsby Cathedral Parish, 23 Yardley Avenue, Waitara

RSVP: youth@bbcatholic.org.au

An online nomination form is also available here: <https://goo.gl/forms/2hsZ18PUnI2a12GS2>

Kelly Paget, Team Leader, *Catholic Youth Broken Bay*

Lectors

The history of Lectors in the Roman Catholic Church.

The word "lector" is derived from the Latin word for "reader." The lector ministry dates back to the beginning of Church history, when educated laymen were called upon to proclaim the Word in the liturgical services. According to the New Advent Catholic Encyclopaedia, "the first mention of a Christian liturgical reader is by Justin Martyr (d. about 165AD) in 1 Apol., lxvii, 3, 4. The homily known as "il Clem. ad Corinthios" also contains a reference to a lector, anaginoskon (xix, 1). The position of reader was honourable and dignified. It involved a higher standard of education than that of most offices. Although Justin says that the bishop preached the sermon, it appears that the reader himself often went on to expound what he had read. As the idea obtained that a special blessing and dedication should be given to everyone who performs an office for the Church, the reader too was instituted by prayers and some ceremony. Readers were blessed and set apart... "Eventually this responsibility became one of the minor orders, conferred on those preparing for the priesthood. Prior to Vatican II, the Church recognised 4 minor orders (later renamed "ministries") beneath priests: lectors, exorcist, acolyte, and porter, as well as subdeaconates. Those who filled these positions were actually preparing to be priests.

Vatican II called for a revision of sacraments because almost no one served in the "minor orders," saying the following about lectors: "Readers exercise a genuine liturgical function. They ought to discharge their office therefore, with the sincere devotion and decorum by so exalted a ministry and rightly expected of them by God's people.

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY:

This Sunday 30th September

Why not Come along to the Antioch meeting to hear a great talk, join in discussion time, get into some awesome music, take time out for prayer and meet heaps of great young people from our parish!

The meeting starts at 6pm, in the Parish meeting room @ Carlingford

So head on down and bring a friend.

ALL VERY WELCOME!!

Donna—0498 935 580

Joanne—0416 030 927



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

Consequently, they must be deeply imbued with the spirit of liturgy, in the measure of proper to each one. And they must be trained to perform functions in a correct and orderly manner." Pope Paul the VI deemed that readers and acolytes would be those preparing for the diaconate, although he made it clear that readers could be ordinary lay persons instituted to be lectors.

The Apostolic letter Ministries quaedam of 15 August 1972 (in effect from Jan. 1, 1973) decreed that minor orders were to be called ministries, and that lay persons could be lectors and acolytes. The lector role was also defined as proclaiming the readings from sacred Scripture, except for the gospel in the Mass and other sacred celebrations; reciting the psalm between the readings when there is no psalmist, presenting the intentions for the general intercessions in the absence of a deacon or cantor; directing the singing and the participation by the faithful; instructing the faithful for the worthy reception of the sacraments, and preparing other faithful who are appointed on a temporary basis to read the scriptures in liturgical celebrations.

The General Intercessions of the Roman Missal states the following about lay lectors:

In the absence of an instituted lector, other laypersons may be commissioned to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scriptures. They should be truly suited to perform this function and should receive careful preparation, so that the faithful by listening to the readings from the sacred texts may develop in their hearts a warm and living love for Sacred Scripture." They should be truly suited to perform this function and should receive careful preparation, so that the faithful by listening to the readings from the sacred texts may develop in their hearts a warm and living love for Sacred Scriptures."

Finally, it is the practice of some Eastern Orthodox churches to tonsure (shave the hair from the top part of the skull) their lector trainees just prior to ordination. Thankfully the Roman Catholic Church does not follow that practice!

*Synche Jennifer Newberry, PhD
Co-leader of the Lector Ministry, St Margaret Mary
Alacoque Church, Lomita CA*