

Responsorial Psalm Response Ps 88:3-6.12-14.17 In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.	Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!
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WEEKEND MASSES FOR COMMUNION SERVICES WHILE FR PETER IS AWAY SEE PAGE 3							
Epping	5:00pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am, 6:00pm						
Carlingford	6:00pm Vigil, 7:45am, 9:30am						
WEEKDAY MASSES	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	
EPPING	No Mass	12:15pm	9:15am	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am	
CARLINGFORD	9:30am	No Mass	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	No Mass	
HEALING MASS	Carlingford —1st Thursday, Epping — 3rd Wednesday						
EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST: Epping Saturday 9:45-10:15am, Carlingford , 4th Thursday 10:00am							
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Epping Saturday 9:45-10:15am Carlingford Saturday 5:00—5:30pm OR BY APPOINTMENT							
BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: BY APPOINTMENT							
PARISH OFFICE: 29 Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121 PH: 9876 2853 Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au							
ST GERARD MAJELLA PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH: 9871 1633 Email: sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au							
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTANS PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH: 9868 3322 Email: olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au							

Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us the gift of Everlasting life. Grant that life to:
Recently deceased: Michael Kelly, Tong Yin, Helen Evans, Sharon Kelly, Ping Kew Chung, Mary Seward Sophie Hollis,
Anniversary:
Also for: Ivan & Edith Almeida, Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Soo Woog Jin, Maria Hur, Young Seok Seo, Mary Anne Anthony, Hugh Mulligan, Christine Veronica Celilia, Esperinia Soria,
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, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng, Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Betty Connor, Narelda & Alan Ryan, Kit Smith, Margaret Floyd, Peter Baker. Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Elaine Hunt, Arnold Day, Maureen Carlon, Fr Adrian Borst, Augustine Hong, Luba Charlton, George Khouri, Antony Connor, Steve Toth, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Nicholas Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Patricia Muschalik, Ernest Lau, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Belisario, Stella Edwards, Fara Vargas, Theo Stevens, Monica Weeden, Thomas Woodward, Brigitta Williams, Wai Chun Wong.

Planned Giving Receipts
The Planned Giving Receipts are available for collection at the back of both churches this weekend for people who are in "Planned Giving" (envelopes, credit card and direct debit givers).

People not in Planned Giving can obtain receipts for CWF/Project Compassion Appeals from the parish office.

Broken Bay News out this weekend!
Read about Fr David Ranson's *Ad Limina* trip to Rome and his meeting with Pope Francis.
Many more exciting stories.

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 15th August is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – a holy day of obligation
Mass times are as follows:



14th August
7:00pm Vigil Mass at St Gerard's Church

15th August
9:30am Mass at St Gerard's Church
School attending.

15th August
12:15pm Mass Our Lady Help of Christians' Church—School attending.
7:30pm Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
10/08/19	5:00pm	Fr Paul Rowse OP	6:00pm	Fr Joey Frez
11/08/19	8:30am	Fr J Frauenfelder	7:45am	Fr Joey Frez
11/08/19	10:15am	Fr J Frauenfelder	9:30am	Fr Joey Frez
11/08/19	6:00pm	Fr Mikhael Loke SVD		

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

Administrator: 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	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	04-08-19
Ecclesiastes 1:2;2:21-23	Colossians 3:1-5.9-11	Luke 12:13-21

Help stop attempts to make abortion legal up until birth in NSW

Dear brothers and sisters,

Earlier this week, the *Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 (Bill)* was tabled in NSW Parliament.

If passed, it will make abortion legal up until birth in NSW, for any reason, as long as two doctors agree if the baby is more than 22 weeks' old.

There has been no community consultation on this Bill. Attempts to rush the Bill through Parliament intentionally exclude the voices of all concerned citizens, including people of faith, from the debate.

We must act immediately to try and stop this Bill.

Please **urgently** contact your NSW State Member of Parliament and ask them to vote against this Bill.

Your local member's details are:

The Hon Dominic Perrottet LLB, BCOM MP
Suite 303, Level 3/51
Phone: 9877 0266
Email: epping@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Simply phone the electorate office during business hours and let them know that you are from the local area, and would like to ask the Member to vote against the abortion bill.

Some reasons you can provide for asking them to vote against the Bill include:

- It would allow abortion up until birth with the approval of two doctors, for any reason.
- It does nothing to provide alternatives for women who feel distressed at being pregnant and feel they have 'no other option.'

- It provides no protection for women experiencing violence (According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, 48 per cent of women who report violence from a Former partner were abused during pregnancy, as are 18 per cent of women who report violence from a current partner).
- It overrides conscience of doctors and other medical professionals or institutions, requiring them to disclose their objections and refer to another doctor or institution who will perform the abortion.
- It will leave unborn children and distressed pregnant women even more at risk.
- There has been no community consultation on the Bill.
- Voters have been denied the opportunity to have their voices heard in this debate.

Catholics believe that women and babies deserve better than abortion.

If you know a woman experiencing difficulty because of an unexpected pregnancy, please know that there is help available. The Church, through its many agencies, can provide support to women who feel they have no choice available to them other than abortion.

Thank you for your willingness to help in building a culture of life in NSW!

The statement from Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, and Most Rev Michael McKenna are available at the back of both churches.

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 August 2019

Next month (September) is Safeguarding month in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

This year the Diocese of Broken Bay is celebrating the theme. *A safe community is one in which all experience a sense of belonging.*

All clergy, parishioners and the wider community are invited to the Diocese Liturgy which signifies the start of SAFEGUARDING MONTH



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT

JULY 2019

Dear Parishioners,

In the last PPC update, we mentioned how growing in small groups is a focus of the Parish Plan in 2019 in helping each one of us grow as Missionary Disciples.

As a reminder from the previous article, we talked about what is a small group? We mentioned small group is a group of people who come together to share community and to grow in their faith. Some types of small groups include Friendships groups (like Family groups), ministry groups (like PPC, St VDP,) etc.

So, what are the advantages of a small group?

In large Catholic parishes, often people can come to Mass for years and never get to know others. They can also come to church and not grow strongly in their faith as they are relying wholly on the Mass for that growth.

Small groups are very personal. They offer opportunities for everyone, including shy people, people with less English and people who are isolated, an opportunity to contact others. They help to build community and friendship, promoting knowledge and skills such as how to pray, biblical and theological knowledge, and how to understand & share our faith in a relevant way.

Small groups provide a pro-faith, personally supportive sub-culture in which Catholics can grow and develop their faith despite living in a culture that is becoming more antagonistic to faith.

What are the Small Groups in Epping and Carlingford Parish?

During the months of June and July, Fr Joey bulletin articles have been about his exciting excursions of Parish ministries. He has taken us for an "up close and personal" encounter with each of the small groups in action in our parish of Epping and Carlingford.

We have heard about our dedicated team of Sacristans, our small group of hard-working and dependable parish staff, Happy Family Chinese group who have been around for over 10 years and currently have 30 people coming together for spiritual and social enrichment; Antioch, our youth of the parish who have been the fabric of our 2 parishes for many years.

Many parishioners have also experienced Alpha over the last few years where friendships have formed, sharing a meal, watching a video, breaking out into small group discussions. It has been encouraging to see some of these groups have continued after Alpha.

This year 170 parishioners have participated in Lenten groups and some of these groups have enquired about continuing something similar during the liturgical seasons of the church calendar.

These are real-life examples of small vibrant groups in action; demonstrating all the elements of building community and personal faith and relationship with Jesus.

If you would like to grow in your faith and be part of a real community, then please consider joining a small group. You will find it will be a positive boost to your whole life! Any challenges or difficulties such as transport, baby-sitting, etc. can be overcome, just inquire; don't let that stop you participating!

The Pastoral Council's Parish Plan and Parish Team members (Frs. Peter and Joey and staff) will be there to support you in your journey.

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.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council

www.thecouncil.org.au
Ph.: 6234 0900

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:

The National Centre for Pastoral Research has just published *Listen to what the Spirit is saying*, the final report of the Listening and Dialogue stage of the Plenary Council. The report captures the voices of the more than 222,000 people who shared their submissions, questions and stories of faith during the 10-month process. Access the report at:

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/reports

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, (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.


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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
www.3Rcounselling.com.au

Reflection on Sunday's Gospel—The Danger of Riches

"Nobody gets to heaven without a letter of reference from the poor!" That's an axiom attributed to James Forbes, the pastor of Riverside Church in New York City.

He was right. If Jesus is to be believed, then we need to believe that the poor stand before us always as that place where we are judged. We get to heaven (or don't) on the basis of our response to the poor. The cross of Christ is the key to life and the cross is forever being erected at that place where the excluded ones, the poor, suffer. Only at that place can we learn the crucified-wisdom that, at the end of day, puts us inside the circle of discipleship, or, stated in another way, opens up for us the gates of heaven.

But, as we know, it's not easy to actually feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console the sorrowful, or help the down-trodden. Why?

The rich are becoming richer and the poor are being left ever further behind. Mainly because we never see them. We think we do, but in reality we don't. In fact, that's the point the gospels make when they point out the dangers of riches, namely, wealth blinds us so that we don't see the poor. We understand this clearly in the famous gospel parable about the rich man who dines sumptuously every day while a poor man, Lazarus, sits under his table and eats the crumbs that fall there. The rich man dies and goes to Hades and, from there, he finally sees Lazarus—implying that he had never seen him before even though Lazarus had sat just a few feet away from him during his life.

John Donahue, the biblical scholar, makes this point about that parable: "The rich man is condemned not because he is rich but because he never saw Lazarus at his gate: the first time he sees him is from Hades, emphasized by the somewhat solemn phrase, 'He lifted up his eyes, and saw.' Here the text is bitterly ironic. In life there was a chasm between himself and Lazarus because of wealth and power; in death this chasm still exists."

The real danger of wealth is that it causes a "blindness" that renders us incapable of seeing the poor. Jean Vanier, in the Massey Lectures at the University of Toronto in the late 1990s, made the same point: the "great chasm that can't be bridged," he suggests, exists already now, in the present distance between the rich and poor. The next life simply eternalizes a present situation where the rich and poor are separated in a way so that one cannot cross over to the other. Why?

According to the gospels, the major reason is that the rich simply don't see the poor.

It is easy to miss the point here: Jesus isn't saying that wealth is bad. Nor is he saying that the poor are virtuous and the rich are not. Indeed the rich are often just as virtuous in their private lives as the poor. We sometimes naively glamorize poverty, but poverty isn't beautiful and, often times, isn't particularly moral either. A lot of violence, crime, sexual irresponsibility, domestic breakdown, drug abuse, and ugliness of all kinds, happens on the poorer side of the tracks. The rich are no worse than the poor, in these things.

But where the rich are worse is in vision, eyesight. When we are rich, we have a congenital incapacity to see the poor and, in not seeing them, we never learn the wisdom of the crucified. That's why it's hard, as Jesus said, for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven.

That's also why it's hard for rich nations and rich individuals to reach across the great divide that separates us from the poor. We try, but in the richest nation in the world, the United States, one in every six children still falls below the poverty line and, worldwide, despite all the resources and goodwill on this planet, at least a billion people subsist on less than a dollar a day and thirty thousand children die every day from diseases that could easily be prevented by simply supplying clean drinking water. There's a gap that we can't find a way to cross.

We see—but we don't see! We feel the poor—but we don't really feel for them! We reach out—but we never reach across. The gap between the rich and poor is in fact widening, not narrowing. It's widening worldwide, between nations, and it's widening inside of virtually every culture. The rich are becoming richer and the poor are being left ever further behind. Almost all the economic boom of the last twenty years has sent its windfall straight to the top, benefiting those who already have the most.

What Jesus asks of us is simply that we see the poor, that we do not let affluence become a narcotic that knocks out our eyesight. Riches aren't bad and poverty isn't beautiful. But nobody gets to heaven without a letter of reference from the poor.

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.

C3 Church Carlingford (Organiser of Carols in the Park)

Have submitted an application for "My Community Project" to get some much needed funding; so they are asking for our help – they need our vote! You now have the opportunity to pick our favourite projects and you must live in the state Electorate to be able to vote for Carols.

How to vote and help us: The link is below and to help out, may we suggest you have ready:

Your MyServiceNSW Account information (if you don't have one, sign on the website, its super easy or phone them on 137788.

Your Medicare card to verify your name and age. Your NSW residential address to identify your electorate.

<https://mycommunityproject.service.nsw.gov.au/project>

My community Project is all about local ideas, local projects, local decisions.

Voting is now open and CLOSES on the 15th August, so please VOTE NOW to help decide which projects get government funding in our area.

Super important!!!! You'll need to pick between three and five projects in your electorate, arrange them in order of your preference, then submit your vote. Each person can vote only ONCE.

If you would like to how we set out our email, below is the address to have a look

<https://mailchi.mp/63d5d5972e81/action-required-vote-for-carols-in-the-park>

Justin Ware—On behalf of the Carols in the Park Committee

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event		
Sun.	04/08/19	9:30am	No Kids Word as it is a Mass with Children St Gerard's		
		10:15am	Kidz Word at OLHC Epping		
		6:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch meeting		
Mon	05/08/19	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church		
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP meeting		
		7:30pm	CH Carlingford—Rosary Group		
Tue.	06/08/19	12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church		
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Adult Choir practice		
		7:30pm	SVdP Epping Conference meeting in the shop		
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford Confirmation Facilitators briefing		
		9:15am	Communion Service at OLHC Epping		
Wed.	07/08/19	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church		
		11:00am	Communion Service at Rayward Nursing Home		
		11:30am	St Gerard's School Reconciliation for Yr. 5/6		
		7:00pm	NO PPC Meeting this month		
		7:00pm	CH Epping Adult Choir Practice		
		Thur.	08/08/19	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
				11:00am	Mass at the Poplars
11:30am	Feast of St Mary of the Cross St Gerard's School				
12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church				
9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
Fri.	09/08/19	10:10am	PMR Carlingford Scripture Reflection		
		10:15am	St Gerard's School Kindergarten Liturgy		
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church		
		4:30pm	CH Epping Rosary for the Immaculate Heart of Mary		
		7:00pm	PH Carlingford CANA meeting		
		Sat.	10/08/19	9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
				9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
10:15am	Benediction				
3:00pm	PH Carlingford Confirmation Session 1				
5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church				
5:00pm	CH Carlingford Reconciliation				
		6:00pm	Mass at St Gerard's		

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

25 day challenge!

Promotion Infographic by Leon

Read a chapter a day of Letters written by the Apostles.

Join us as we read the letters of James, Peter, John, Jude and Paul's letter to the Philippians.

We begin on Saturday 17 August by reading Chapter 1 of Paul's letter to the church at Philippi.

You are invited to sign up to receive daily information using WhatsApp Here is what some said after reading the 28 chapters of the Acts of the Apostles

Reading a chapter a day, has been a wonderful journey sharing the Acts of the Apostles with others.

I have learnt to read the Bible first thing in the morning.

I looked forward to this every morning.

For all participants, especially those who shared their reflections, your enthusiasm is really appreciated.

Thank you everyone, for your company has called me to keep reading and inspired me to reread the chapter through the insights your shared.

PARISH STAFF

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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

25 DAY CHALLENGE

LISTEN OR READ 25 CHAPTERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 25 DAYS

- PHILIPPIANS
- JAMES
- 1 & 2 LETTERS OF PETER
- 1, 2 & 3 LETTERS OF JOHN
- JUDE



Confirmation 2019

At all our Masses this weekend, we welcome the children who will begin their preparations towards receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. This Rite of Enrolment marks the beginning of a faith journey for the children together with their parents and us: their church family. 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 to one of these children, please remember to keep these children and their parents in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate their Confirmation, for it is an opportunity for us to show these families that they are part of a larger faith community! The families will also be presented with their Confirmation 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 6th August at 7:30pm in the Parish Meeting Room at St. Gerard's Carlingford. All facilitators must attend.

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

Children's Mass - Carlingford

There will be a Children's Mass at 10:15am at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church, Epping on Sunday 18th August.

The children can be involved in hospitality, readings, prayers and processions. Please email Therese at olhcchildrensmass@gmail.com if you would like your child to be allocated a role.

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



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 in Our Lady Help of Christians' Church. You are most welcome to join.



Altar Society—St Gerard's

The Altar Society at St Gerard's is in need of volunteers. Could you help arranging flowers, dusting, cleaning, polishing brass and silver. There is a roster and the duties usually take place on a Friday morning.

If you can help, please contact the parish office on 9876 2853 or email maree@eppcarl.org.au

CWF CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

The first CWF Appeal for this Financial Year will be held this weekend 3/4th August 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 \$17,500.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

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

St Benedict's Monastery Christian Meditation: Sunday, 18 August 2019

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia. Welcome and Registration on the day from 10:00am. 10:30am start and 3.00pm conclusion.

Presentations, Introduction to Meditation for newcomers, period of Meditation for ongoing meditators, Mass, Book Display for perusal or purchase, BYO picnic lunch, tea and coffee provided. No charge for day, donations gratefully accepted for the monastery. Contact Br Terry: 0438 282 318 for possible accommodation in monastery guest house. Other enquiries Ann Bergman: anniebergman@hotmail.com or Ann Lomas atlomas@bigpond.com or 9653 2637.

If only I inherited wealth, looks, talent, happiness, whatever?

The wisdom figure in the first reading tells us that those could be vain or futile desires ~ *Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!* What is vanity?

It is not a thing like 'the vanity' in the bathroom. Vanity is more like a delusion that robs us of living our life to the full.

Vanity makes life useless, pointless, worthless, meaningless, so it is obviously lacking something. Other translations explain vanity this way ~ *It's all smoke. Everything leads to weariness. Our eyes can never see enough to be satisfied; our ears can never hear enough. Everything's boring, utterly boring.*

Does this sound like someone having a bad day or going through a bad time? The wisdom figure could see it in people around him as they *worked their fingers to the bone and only to die and someone else gets it all.*

The first reading is a reality check. There has to be something more to life! The message is clear. See life from a different perspective.

In the Psalm we hear the reality ~ *You turn men back to dust. You sweep men away like a dream.*

Then we pray ~ *Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.*

In the morning fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days.

Give success to the work of our hands.

In the second reading, Paul has strong words for us *You have been brought back to true life with Christ... That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life ... especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god.*

...continued on page 5

Youth Page

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

Meeting this Sunday 4 August

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 Christians." ~Acts 11:26



CANA: OUR yrs. 6-9 YOUTH GROUP



CANA is on this Friday 9 August from 7:30—9:00 pm in 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 or 0423 717 550

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There is more to life than money. Yes, there is a life that money cannot buy. In the Gospel reading, Jesus has advice to the brother who felt he missed out in his share of the inheritance. *Watch and be on your guard against avarice.* What is avarice?

Avarice is an old English word that is hardly used now while **greed** has become a very popular word and used all the time! Greed is defined as the **intense and selfish desire especially for wealth**. Paul could see people totally worshipping this false god

Jesus then tells the parable where the man had a good harvest, a great return on investment and says *I will say to my soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come: take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time.* Jesus went on to say, *Fool, this very night the demand will be made for your soul and this hoard of yours, whose will it be? So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.*

Do you feel some unease about this? The parable does challenge us to consider our goals and to see life in a different way. If our life was full of the opposites to vanity and avarice, then our intense and selfless focus would be to love and to serve and to live our life full of purpose and meaning.

If only that would happen by wishing for it. (another vain delusion!)

We all need grace and courage to bring about any change, but this kind of change is truly the work of the Holy Spirit in us. As Paul says *Let your thoughts be on heavenly things. ... you have put on a new self (when you became a follower of Jesus) which will progress towards true knowledge.*

We pray at Mass and after Mass ~ May we come to know true wisdom with *God's love filling our heart.* May we learn to use money wisely and live our lives in ways that *make us rich in the sight of God.*

Denis McNamara *Supporting Missionary Disciples*

CYBB Pilgrimage to ACYF Perth 2019

As you may be aware the 4th Australian Catholic Youth Festival is scheduled to take place in December this year in the Archdiocese of Perth. Catholic Youth Broken Bay, alongside the Catholic Schools Office currently have more than 250 young people from Broken Bay registered to attend, with a large part of this cohort coming from our Catholic Schools. We hope that by the time group registrations close on 12th September 2019, that number will be closer to 350.

Before this happens, we want to encourage your parish to share and get behind this amazing opportunity for young people currently in Yr. 9 all the way up to the age of 30 to come and join us for an experience like no other! Time isn't up yet and we as a diocese are providing \$500 subsidies towards pilgrims going through their parish, as well as full subsidies for successful applicants who want to be a CYBB Pilgrim Group Leader.

If you are interested, register with CYBB now on our official website. (The easiest way to find us is to Google search 'CYBB ACYF'). Or contact us at youth@bbcatholic.org.au

CYBB Pilgrimage through Harvest Journeys includes: Flights, Perth airport transfers, twin share accommodation at high quality Perth city hotels, including breakfast, ACYF Registration and meal package, ACYBB t-shirt for all participants.

Choose from the following options

Package A
6 Days/5nights
Sat 7—Thur 12 Dec 2019
\$1,850 per person

Package B
5 Days/4 nights
Sat 7—Wed 11 Dec 2019
\$1,750 per person

Celebrating Disciples of All Nations – Saturday 17 August 2019

To mark Migrant and Refugee Sunday, all are warmly invited to our Diocesan Multicultural event "Celebrating Disciples of All Nations" to be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral on Saturday 17 August 2019. The evening starts with the celebration of Mass with Presider Very Rev Dr David Ranson. We then gather to celebrate our multicultural Christian community with multicultural food and live entertainment. The program is as follows:

- 5:00pm – 6:00pm Celebration of Mass at the Cathedral
- 6:00pm – 7:00pm Refreshments and live entertainment

You are invited to bring a plate to share from your cultural community, and to wear multicultural dress.

For more information please email faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au