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 Jim McKeon Tel.: 9876 2853 Email: jim@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Office Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Bogdan Skupien Assistant Priest: Fr Marek Woldan Email: Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au Email: Marek.Wolden@bbcatholic.org.au Tel: 9876 2853

YEAR B	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	05-09-21 12-09-21	
Isaiah 35:4-7	lames 2:1-5	Mark 7:31-37	

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Isaiah 35:4-7 Isaiah 50:5-9 James 2:1-5 James 2:14-18 Mark 7:31-37 Mark 8:27-35

Dear Parishioners,

Coming back to Mass: We don't yet know when restrictions will be lifted to allow us to return to Mass, but, we wait in hope for these announcements from the NSW Govt later this month. The language the government is using at present suggests vaccination may be a requirement to take part in public gatherings, which would include at places of worship. For this, and for every other reason, I encourage you to seek your vaccination now if you have not already done so. Bishop Anthony also encourages you to be vaccinated, and Pope Francis has said that being vaccinated at this time is "an act of love ... for oneself, for our families, and friends and for all people" (Aug 18th). None of us however are qualified to give you specific medical advice (and neither is anybody on the internet), so please, if you have any hesitation or questions about being vaccinated, please see your own doctor now. - Fr Jim



Checking in at Mass: Checking in to Mass will be more important than ever. Scanning the parish's QR code at the entrance to the church will continue to be the normal way for most people to check in. Previous-

ly we had offered the option of signing in with pen and paper for people who were unable to scan a QR code. However, the speed at which the delta virus spreads makes this less suitable, and so Service NSW now offer a "covid checkin card" which will have a unique QR code for you, which can be scanned at the door of the church (and other

venues). This can be obtained at <u>www.service.nsw.gov.au/</u> <u>transaction/create-covid-19-check-card</u>. If you cannot access this yourself, call the parish office and we can do the application on your behalf and have it posted to you. You might also like to reach out to your neighbours and elderly relatives to assist them with this.

Welcome back to Denis McNamara with whom the parish has again contracted to lead missionary discipleship programs. You'll see an invitation from Denis in this bulletin.

Afghanistan: We have watched tragic events unfold in Afghanistan and felt helpless, not knowing what we can do to assist. While we are distant from the plight of people who are unable to leave Afghanistan, we can be of help to

people who are seeking asylum or who have been granted refuge in Australia. Jesuit Refugee Services <u>https://</u> <u>aus.jrs.net</u> offer assistance to refugees and asylum seekers from all backgrounds, and their website also links to a petition to the government to request asylum be given to greater numbers of people fleeing Afghanistan.

The Epping Development: If you've walked past OLHC Church lately you may have seen a "Notice of Proposed Development" placard placed on the front fence by Parramatta Council. While the Development Application for the redevelopment of the site was approved in May last year, this notice is for a "Section 4.55 (1A) modification to approve a number of changes associated with the design development including optimisation of floorplates, minor external façade refinements, revised stormwater design and revised landscaping"

This redevelopment project has now been underway for several years and there have been parish forums and numerous updates over this time. Official updates are posted on our parish website <u>https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/our-parish/epping-development</u>.

In November this year we will be moving the parish office from OLHC to St Gerard's, and Fr Jim and Hien will move into the presbytery at St Gerard's with Fr Bogdan. The presbytery and parish office buildings will be decommissioned at the end of the year ahead of us providing vacant possession of much of the OLHC site to Stockland, our development partner at the start of 2022.

OLHC Church will continue to be open, and all weekend Masses will continue throughout the development period in 2022-2023.

Learning Hub: To learn more about Safeguarding during Safeguarding Month visit the Diocesan Safeguarding Month webpage and register for the free presentations -<u>https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/safeguarding/</u> <u>safeguarding-month-2021</u>

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In lockdown, the great escape is to watch hours of fantasy, to live in someone's imagination. As the Everly brothers sang, "dreaming my life away". The great challenge is to live in the real world.

Remember the parable Jesus told about the three servants. One received five talents, one three and the third received one talent, then the Master went away. When he came back, he asked what each had done with what they had been given. The first two

invested and made a profit. The Master gave them more. The third buried his one talent, then returned it to the Master. A poor choice! Even that was taken from him.

We have this time in lock down, so invest your talent or some of your five talents in learning. When you Unlock the mystery of the Bible you read the history in the Bible. You meet these real people, so you understand their choices. You see the consequences for themselves, their families, and their nation.

The Bible tells the story. It is also our story, and we need to know it, for we will learn the choices we have and the consequences of those choices for ourselves, our family, and our nation.

You can join those **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible** on **Tuesday 5th October in the morning or the evening**. We Unlock the Mystery online as Jeff Cavins opens up the Bible for us. We join our group to discuss the section of the Bible we have read and discover how God's plan is unfolding for us.

We offer Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible to everyone. No need to go out, just join us online. You can invite neighbours from our parish, friends and family from outside our parish!

Holy Spirit guide us to focus on what is real. Help us invest our time and talents to understand the story of your plan for our family. Enlighten us to discover our place in God the Father's plan. We pray in Jesus' name.

Please let Denis know if you are joining us at Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible. Email him on denis@eppcarl.org.au

Denis McNamara - Supporting Missionary Disciples

Webinar on Refugees





HOPE OUT OF HORROR

Thursday 23 Sep 7.00pm to 8.00pm



good works

In the wake of the tremendous difficulties currently being faced by those in Afghanistan and by Afghans currently in Australia on temporary visas.

SJAB (Social Justice Around the Bay), St. Vincent de Paul, Northern Sydney / Central Coast Regional Social Justice Committee and Jesuit Refugee Service Australia (JRS) are holding a Webinar titled:

Hope Out of Horror – Seeking Refuge in Australia

Thursday, 23 September, 7.00pm – 8.00pm

This is a chance to hear the stories of those seeking Refuge and Asylum in Australia

and to join a cry to Canberra to:

1. Offer Permanent Protection to all Refugees 2. Enable access to Family Reunions for Refugees

3. Offer a Safety Net, including Medical and Financial Assistance to those in need of refuge

REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS ESSENTIAL

To register click on the link below:

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stories-of-hope-and-courage-seeking-refugee-in-australia-tickets-166888717647

Father's Day 2021

WHAT MAKES A DAD?

God took the strength of a mountain. the majesty of a tree. the warmth of a summer sun, the calm of a quiet sea, the generous soul of nature, the comforting arm of night, the wisdom of the ages, the power of the eagle's flight, the joy of a morning in spring, the faith of a mustard seed, the patience of eternity, the depth of a family need, then God combined these qualities, when there was nothing more to add, he knew His masterpiece was complete and so,

He called it....Dad





Praying the Rosary



Our Seminarian Hien will be leading the Rosary every Wednesday morning on our parish Facebook page. This will be live-streamed so you can join us in real-time to pray. We will also be livestreaming our morning Mass after the Rosary. If you click on this link - <u>https:// www.facebook.com/ CatholicParishOfEppingAndCarlingford</u> to "Like" or "Follow" the parish

page, you will receive a notification when we are Live on Facebook. Hope to see you online!

Also, you are all invited to join in the Scriptural Rosary - Praying with Our Blessed Mother every Saturday at 9am on Zoom, starting from 7 Aug 2021.

Please follow this link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83775576857 Meeting ID: 837 7557 6857

Hope to see you all there!

Supporting the Parish while we are in Lockdown

The Catholic Church has a strong tradition of giving, following in the footsteps of St Paul who spoke about caring for one another; it has established and supported many worthwhile charities throughout its long history.

This culture of charity continues on, but a parish can only sustain itself and these charitable works with the help of its parishioners whose generosity makes great things possible.

We ask you to consider making a donation to the Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford. To do so please use the following bank account: Please note that the two accounts previously shown have been changed by the bank; you are asked to use the account shown below.

Internet Banking Commonwealth Bank of Australia BSB: 062 784 Account No: 100 012 613

Use your name or envelope number as the reference and either 1st Collection or 2nd Collection.

1st Collection supports the needs of priests of the parish.

- The priests' monthly salary.
- Upkeep of the presbytery, e.g. food, utilities, cleaner, etc.
- A small percentage to cover the expenses of the Bishop especially in caring for elderly priests.

2nd Collection

- Parish running costs e.g. administration, insurance, utilities, general maintenance and upkeep of the church, presbytery and parish property.
- Parish staff salaries.
- Priests Car Expenses.

Any other questions please contact Dennis Porteous on 9876 2853 or dennis@eppcarl.org.au



Celebrations this Week—23rd Week in Ordinary Time

8/9 Wednesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Celebrations this Week—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- **13/9 Monday:** St John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor.
- 14/9 Tuesday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
- 15/9 Wednesday: Our Lady of Sorrows.
- 16/9 Thursday: Sts Cornelius, & Cyprian.

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The Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford

Sacramental & Children's Ministries Information



Children's Sacramental Journey -Confirmation 2021

Our online preparation sessions for Confirmation are now completed. Until such time as we are permitted to gather, the families are keeping connected via intermittent emails and newsletters from me and through our parish online activities. I have been looking into creating interactive worksheets in the form of an online booklet. This would enable the children to keep learning as well as save the parents having to print the sheets out. I hope this works out, so please keep us all in your prayers!

It has been a wonderful 4 weeks for us as we gathered online each week to discuss the sacrament of Confirmation. The intimacy of the parent-child interaction was so clearly visible from where I sat. In the comfort of their own homes, they felt secured and I feel this must play a part in their active participation online as there were no inhibitions to speak up and contribute to our discussions. We were also able to all participate in a candle-lighting ceremony to explain the significance of their baptismal candle, do some Annunciation craftwork to make two statues, one of Our Lady Mary and one of the Archangel Gabriel using toilet rolls and role-played (of course I got to be the Bishop!) as we

practised renewing our baptismal promises. Each week, different families would email me the sacred space they had

set up at home with holy symbols such as the crucifix, the Bible, etc.

This is a challenging time for us all; we are doing our best to support the children and their families as we journey through this. We can't wait for the time we can gather again! In the meanwhile, here are a few photos of the online sessions sent to me from parents

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

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.



Candle lighting ceremony to explain the significance of the Baptismal Candle

Annunciation Craftwork to make two statues, one of Our Lady May and one of the Archangel Gabriel.





Families would email me with the sacred space they had set up at home with holy symbols.

WELCOME TO THE MEN OF ST JOSEPH



THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH UT THE FAMILY

The group is dedicated to Catholic men, who together spend time, to pray and to discuss how Catholic men live in today's world, discuss and support Catholic family issues and choices we make. You are most welcome to join us on Thursday, 26th Aug. & 2nd Sep. we will come together via Zoom at 6:30pm.

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Youth And Young Adults - For more information on any of our three youth groups please contact the Youth Minister, Joanna Mak on 0404 710 588 or joanna@eppcarl.org.au.



ANTIOCH (YEAR 10/16 YEARS OLD -23 YEARS OLD)

Antioch meets every Sunday nights for games, a talk, share groups and prayer. No meeting on the 5th September (due to Father's Day) Next meeting on the 12th September on zoom from 7-8:30pm,

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/88930953704

Meeting ID: 889 3095 3704

Contact parent support if you have any questions:

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CANA (Years 6-9)

Join us on Friday nights 7:30—9:00pm on zoom!

(3rd and 10th September)

https://us02web.zoom.us/ i/84038682054

Meeting ID: 840 3868 2054

For further information call Joanna Mak on 0404 710 588 or email joanna@eppcarl.org.au

We also have Facebook groups for Antioch and Emmaus, so if you would like to join, please contact the Youth Minister.



Emmaus Young Adults (23-30years old)

Our young adults group meets once a fortnight on Tuesdays 7-8:30pm.We are on zoom and our next meeting is on 7th September.

https://us02web.zoom.us/i/86955115016 Meeting ID: 869 5511 5016

For more information contact the Youth Minister, Joanne Mak on 0404 710 588 or joanna@eppcarl.org.au

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.



First Plenary Council Assembly Moving Fully Online

At long last, starting 3rd October 2021, the Catholic Church in Australia will gather for the first Assembly of the Plenary Council. Due to the current climate the format of the assembly has evolved from a large gathering, to smaller hubs and now to a fully online gathering with one person per device. While not ideal and not what we had hoped, the national team will continue to assist and support the members and delegates so that they may participate as effectively as possible.

While many may question why we are proceeding with the Plenary Council at this time, the desire to fulfil Christ's mission, no matter how difficult the circumstances may be, is part of the thinking in moving ahead. It is precisely the challenges that people are now facing, the isolation and discernment, that we are hoping the Church will be able to address. Please continue to pray for the Plenary Council, the members and delegates as they prepare to fulfil their role in the coming months.

You can keep abreast of all the latest news, access the *Instrumentum Laboris* and sign up to the Plenary Council Newsletter by heading to the National website: **http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/**



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Pastoral Works Broken Bay

Rebrand of CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay.

We are delighted to announce the Charitable Works Fund (CWF) has rebranded to **Pastoral Works Broken Bay** in July 2021.

The purpose of the new name is to better reflect the authentic, life-giving pastoral work you are helping to support, and provide a name that uniquely connects it to our Diocese of Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay will play a vital role in building on the **six Pastoral priorities** for the Diocese, including giving vital support to life-changing ministries, nurturing families, and parish communities.

Each year, about 20,000 families and friends—those in hospitals, schools, parishes, and the wider community—will be assisted through the generous support of parish communities to Pastoral Works Broken Bay.

Thank you for your support of this important and historic initiative for the Diocese of Broken Bay.

My prayer is the change from CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay enables us to reach further and wider in helping our local community, and more deeply connects us to the mission of Jesus.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL, Bishop of Broken Bay

September Appeal

At this time, we appreciate support that can be given no matter how big or small. Our ministries continue to operate and provide vital services. **We encourage donations which can be made at www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks**

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Donations can be made by using a normal envelope clearly marked Donations for Pastoral Works Broken Bay can also be placed in the post box in the green doors at Epping and in the parish meeting room post box, which can be found in the parish meeting room door.

Thank you for helping to renew and rebuild lives. Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

THE EPPING PARISH EMPORIUM IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS.

There are many items in the Epping Parish that are no longer required. These items need to find good homes before the building commences. A lot of items have already been archived.

From time to time I will advertise a few items. People who are interested in purchasing them or giving a donation to the church can contact me – **Trish O'Donnell** (PPC Secretary) on **0418 650 889.**



The first is a **church pew.** Sturdy construction. In need of varnishing. Dimensions: 4700 x 900 x 500.



The second is a roll-top desk. I am assured it is in good condition and just needs a good polish. Dimensions: 1250w x 1200h x 800d. It has 8 drawers



The third item is a **sideboard.** The fourth a **wardrobe.** I have no details on these yet but can get them if anyone is interested.



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Responsorial Psalm Response 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Ps 145:7-10 R. v.1	Fage 8
Praise the Lord my could	

Gospel Acclamation 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

Praise the Lord my soul!

Epping 5:00pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am, 6:00pm.										
Carlingford	6:00pm V	6:00pm Vigil, 7:45am, 9:30am								
		Y MASSES								
	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.				
EPPING	No Mass	12:15pm	6:00pm	12:15pm	12:15pm	9:15am				
CARLINGFORD	9:30am	No Mass	9:30am	9:30am	9:30am	No Mass				
HEALING MASS	Carlingfor	Carlingford —1st Thursday, Epping — 3rd Wednesday (no Healing Mass in Jan.)								

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Epping Saturday 9:45-10:15am Carlingford Also, Epping Monday 6pm and Carlingford Friday at 7:30pm OR BY APPOINTMENT. Carlingford Saturday 5:00—5:30pm

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: BY APPOINTMENT

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

ST GERARD MAJELLA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH: 9871 1633 Email: sqc@dbb.catholic.edu.au

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS' 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: Kathleen McFadden, Val Porter, Kath Rewhorn, Barry Clifford, Molly Sullivan, Maria Lombardo, Carmel Binns,

Please pray for Rev Fr John Neill OP OAM (brother of Carole Wilson) who died on 21st August. The funeral Mass was celebrated on Friday 28th August.

Anniversaries: Edith Almeida, Enid Snedden (Kathy Batten's mother). Also for: Richard Barry, Mark Hillier, Elizabeth & John Mc Enearney, Noon & Jack Barry, Patricia & Donna Barr.

Please pray for those who are sick: Sean Huhse, Joel Steinberg, Patricia Rumble, Dean Pan, John Davies, Nicole Greenfield, Michael Furlong, Saulius Dovydas Balsya, Mark Di Palma, Anthony Conlon, Andrew Hannam, The Craig Family, Fr Mick Court, Margaret Maher, Anna & Leo Bruzze, Gerhard, Stieger, Rebecca Lawler, Ben Thornton, Elaine Finlayson, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Kathy Noonan, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Margaret Floyd, Barbara Madafiglio, Radhi Riley, Patrick Thornton, Jan Doherty, Ana Matijasic, Benjamin Verco, Peter Kelly. John Goodwin, George Bell, Michael & Susan Tuite, Benjamin Verco, Noelene Viset, Eileen Brownlow, Leonie Hale, Elaine & Graham Yeates, Anne Kilby, Cohen Hadden, Yuqin Li, Greq Walsh, John Gilberti, Stella Nathan, Catherine Walsh, Brendan Stone, Melanie Loudoun, Mary Wijewardana, Elaine Hunt, Maureen Carlon, Augustine Hong, Luba Charlton, George Khouri, Antony Hogan, Ingrid Connor, Steve Toth, Martin & Gay Flood, William Jones, Nicholas Rajanayagen, Maria Lee, Patricia Muschalik, Delma Soria, Sr Abanasia Lee, Maria Belisario, Stella Edwards, Fara Vargas, Theo Stevens, Monica Weeden, Thomas Woodward, Wai Chun Wong, Heather Stoodley, Agnes Wong, Alex Benjamin Zaragoza, Janice Lemon, Mary Lou Petony, Donald Wong, Joyce Heidke.

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

Responsorial Psalm Response 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ps 114: 1-6.8-9 R v 9

I will walk in the presence of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and to the world. Alleluia!





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