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

Email: parish@eppcarl.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Bogdan Skupien Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.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 A

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Romans 13:8-10

6-09-20

Matthew 18:15-20

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ezekiel 33:7-9

September is a month of Safeguarding in our Diocese. This is a month of reminding us that as the Church we are obligated to protect and support children and vulnerable people in our communities. The motto of this year "Listening to the past; Caring for the future" leads us to reflect on that important issue.

Last Tuesday, the Diocese with its pastor – Bishop Anthony Randazzo, celebrated the "Liturgy of Lament" praying for the victims and with the victims of sexual abuse. During the liturgy, we acknowledged our responsibility for the sin of abuse, asked for God's and the victim's forgiveness, and reflected on how to protect children in the future.

This Sunday asks us to take responsibility for the Church. It is our duty to react if we see a sin; we can't pretend that we are blind and we are deaf. It is our responsibility to warn people and if necessary report to the Church. If we love the Church; if we care for our children, safeguarding and protection have to be the core of our Catholic faith.

Fr Bogdan



The Liturgy of Lament was held last Tuesday night at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara



The Parish Website address is: www.bbcatholic.org.au/eppingcarlingford

Spring has arrived. Time to move. See the things in life that matter and the things that last forever. It's might be time to let go of fantasy on Netflix or STAN or TV It must be time to see what really matters and talk with real people. Coming soon ~ your invitation. Join us for Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible SFARCH What interests you have about your family, your personal destiny and your questions about God. Spread the word so your friends know too. So much can happen in the coming months. So much will happen when you and others ask the *Father* for what is good for us and our parish. So much more to life when we *meet together in* His Name and realise Jesus is with us. Please pray, Holy Spirit to quide us. Give us joy from being together and being with Jesus. Supporting disciples and supporting Denis McNamara disciples to become missionary.

CATHOLIC PARISH OF EPPING AND CARLINGFORD

LOOKING FOR A HELPING HAND

IF YOU WANT TO HELP CHILDREN LEARN ABOUT OUR FAITH JOIN US!

AGE APPROPRIATE LITURGY OG THE WORD SUPPORT WILL BE PROVIDED TO HELP LEAD OUR CHILDREN THROUGH READING REFLECTION & PRAYERS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – KIDZ WORD

DURING SCHOOL TERM AT: 9:30AM MASS CARLINGFORD 10:15AM MASS EPPING

Adult volunteers are needed to lead and to assist with the supervision of children. This is also a great opportunity for middle/high schoolers and youth to help the young ones celebrate God's Word. A working with Children's Check is required which we can assist you with to apply at RMS online.

> FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: <u>LYNN@EPPCARL.ORG.AU</u> OR CALL: 0407 255 593



The first CWF Appeal for this Financial Year will be held this weekend 5/6th September in both our Churches.

The Charitable Works Fund is working every day to support faith-based services for the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay. Supporting the CWF puts your gift to work in our local faith community.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

Catholic Care Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Practitioner Programme—where five Pastoral Care Practitioners reach over 3,000 patients, 700 families and over 180 hospitals staff each year across seven hospitals in our Diocese.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine—creating and updating teaching materials and training catechists who minister to public school students across the Diocese.

St Lucy's School—for primary school students with disabilities.

St Edmund's College—for secondary school students with disabilities.

Ephpheta Centre—serving the Catholic deaf community.

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

Envelopes will be available when collecting your copy of the bulletin. or make a donation online to:

https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/charitable-works-fund

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.



Bishop Anthony celebrating the 9:30am Mass at St Gerard's on Sunday 23 August.



PARISH	DIARY	FOR	THIS	WEEK	
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Day	Date	Time	Event				
Sun.	06/09/20	7:45am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
		8:30am	Mass at OLHC Church				
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
		10:15am	n Mass at OLHC Church				
		6:00pm	Mass at OLHC Church				
		6:00pm	NO Antioch Meeting this week				
Mon.	07/09/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
Tue.	08/09/20	12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church				
Wed.	09/09/20	9:15am	Communion Service at OLHC Church				
		9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
Thur.	10/09/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church				
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford PFC Meeting				
		8:00pm	PMR Epping Men of St Joseph				
Fri.	11/09/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church				
		12:15pm	Mass at OLHC Church				
Sat.	12/09/20	9:15am	Mass at OLHC Church				
		9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation				
		10:20am	Benediction				
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's				
		5:00pm	Vigil Mass at OLHC Church				
		6:00pm	Vigil Mass at St Gerard's Church				
PH—Pa	rish Hall, Cl	H—Church,	PMR- Parish Meeting Room				

Blessing of Crosses and Crucifixes . . .

As you know we try to tap into our Church's tradition of punctuating the rhythm of the year with feasts and festivals by observing some of those feasts in a special way so that they might help to relate our faith to the living of our lives.

One of those feast days will soon be upon us. The Feast of the Triumph of the Cross, Monday 14th September, celebrates the victory over sin and death that comes through the Cross of Jesus. It is an especially appropriate day each year to bless the cross or crucifix in our sacred space at home.



Please bring along your cross or crucifix from your sacred space at home – these will be blessed at the 9:30am Mass at St Gerard's.

There is no Mass at Epping on a Monday.

Celebrations this Week **Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time**

08/9 Tuesday: Feast, The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

PARISH STAFF

Parish Secretary: Dennis Porteous Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: dennis@eppcarl.org.au

Asst. Parish Secretary: Maree Balzulat Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: maree@eppcarl.org.au

Pastoral Care Assistant: Maree Balzulat Ph.: 9876 2853 Email: maree@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Support Worker (PSW) Sacramental Programmes and Children's Ministries Lynn Siau Ph.: 0407 255 593 Email: lynn@eppcarl.org.au

Sacramental Programme Assistant: Lisha Abraham Ph.: 0407 255 593 Email: kids.sacrament@eppcarl.org.au

Pastoral Support Worker (PSW) Youth: Joanna Mak

Ph.: 0404 710 588 Email: joanna@eppcarl.org.au

Missionary Discipleship Coordinator: Denis McNamara Ph.: 0410 041 944 Email: denis.mcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council If you have any questions, comments or feedback for the Parish Pastoral Council then please send an email to ppsecretary@eppcarl.org.au

Prayer Requests

Do you have a prayer request - especially during the difficult times each of us is facing.

Do You Have A Prayer Request? Please Let Us Know If you would like to pray for any special intention

Send your request to:

Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au or Facebook link: https://form.jotform.com/201323501410837

We are more than happy to pray for you!

Men of St. Joseph

Men of St Joseph is a group of Catholic men who want to pray together, grow spiritually, share their experiences and support one another. The group discusses our spiritual and

daily issues and helps us to be the better people, members of the Church and of our families.

Meeting every Thursday at 8pm in the PMR at Epping.

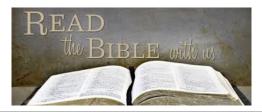


Fr Bogdan

Parish Bible Reading Group

Hi everyone, our Bible reading group is currently reading Acts! Invite your friends and family as we continue to read the New Testament.

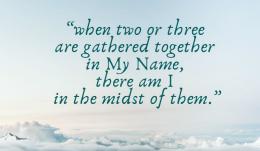
Join via our Facebook group <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>groups/1148887152176778/</u> or join our Whatsapp group by texting Acts28 to Joanna on 0404 710 588.



Emmaus Young Adults Group

Our young adults group will be meeting this Tuesday, **8th September 7-8:30pm** at **St Gerard's Meeting Room**. We are having a **pizza and games night!** Come along if you are between 23-30 years old and want to have some fun and meet others! Please contact Joanna Mak on 0404 710 588 or email joanna@eppcarl.org.au if you have any questions.





AL verbum dei

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

NO Meeting this Sunday due to Father's Day

The Antioch community wishes all Dads, Granddads and Great Granddads a Safe and happy Father's Day.

> For more information call Joanne 0416 030 927 Karen (parent support) 0421 506 577

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

CANA: OUR Yr. 7-9 YOUTH GROUP

Cana is going on zoom! We have a meeting this Friday 7:30-9pm, via this link <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88684811582?</u> pwd=Nkk4U3A2OGRHR3NwRnhkVmFqWDhLUT09

Please contact Joanna (phone: 0404 710 588 or email joanna@eppcarl.org.au) for the zoom password to join.

CYBB Young Adults (via Zoom)

Catholic Youth Broken Bay invites you to our next young adult (18+) Zoom Gathering! Join young adults from around the Diocese to connect and be nourished by inspiring speakers. This month we will be focusing on "*What do we do in Mass?*"

Sit, stand, sit, kneel, stand... Ever wondered how to get the most out of going to Mass? Never fear, answers are here! Our guest for the evening will be Deacon Jonathan Vala from the Archdiocese of Sydney.

10 September 2020 7.00pm via Zoom (link to follow on Facebook event page) RSVP to the Facebook link here. https://www.facebook.com/events/220850422623897

Keep in Touch (KIT)

Keep informed, keep exploring, keep on thinking about the things that matter the most and move us.

If you would like to receive Keep in Touch please forward your email address to the parish office, contact number: 9876 2853 email: maree@eppcarl.org.au



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AND RE-CEIPTS FOR FY 2019/2020

Just a reminder that your new Planned Giving Envelopes for 2020/2021 are available for collection from the parish office at Epping.

Receipts for those parishioners with planned giving envelopes or those who have made contributions to CWF and Project Compassion may be picked up at the parish office between 9:00am—4:00pm or can be emailed to you.

If you don't have envelopes and would like a pack, or if you would like to contribute by credit card or direct debit please contact Dennis Porteous at the Parish Office.

New Vatican Document "The pastoral conversion of the Parish community in the service of the evangelising mission of the Church"

This recent document from the Congregation for the Clergy, contains a call to parishes to go out of themselves to become creative missionary communities that read the signs of the times and proclaim the Gospel to the world.

The full document can be read here: http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/ pubblico/2020/07/20/200720a.html

Position Vacant – Administrative Assistant, The Lakes Parish Part Time Pole: 2 days not week. Wednesday, J

Part Time Role: 3 days per week, Wednesday - Friday

The Lakes Catholic Parish is looking to employ a Parish Administrative Assistant to provide general administrative assistance as well as specific administrative support for the Sacramental Programs ministry within the Parish.

The position is for 21 hours per week, Wednesday – Friday and also covers Parish Secretary leave as

required which will increase the role at times to 5 days per week.

View the full advertisement and details on how to apply on the Diocesan website: <u>https://</u><u>www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant</u>

For further information and a position description, please email <u>recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au</u> or phone Jackie Hanson (Chancery HR) on 8379 1667.

Applications close on **Monday, 14 September**.

The successful applicant must be eligible to work in Australia; hold a current unrestricted driver's licence; and will be required to undertake a pre-employment National Police History Check and WWCC.

Listen to the Word ~ Respond in prayer

God is reconciling the world to himself through Jesus. God entrusted this good news of reconciliation to us. (We hear this before the Gospel, 2Cor 5:19) We are reconciled with God and with one another through Jesus.

Listen to how God wants peace and reconciliation in our personal world. Matthew told his community in the Gospel (18:15-20) this is how reconciliation happens if a brother or sister does something wrong.

Step 1 Go. Have it out with him or her, alone, between your two selves. If they listen, you have won them back. If they do not listen, then step 2. Take one or two witnesses to sustain any charge. If they listen, you have won them back. If they refuse to listen, step 3. Report it to the community. If he or she refuses to listen to the community, treat him or her like a pagan or a tax collector.

Remember how Jesus treated pagans and tax collectors? – With respect and acceptance to win them over to God's loving ways.

God has entrusted to us this work of reconciliation and Jesus makes three very strong promises to us.

If your community makes the decision *to forbid (bind) or to permit (loose) on earth,* then *it will be considered the same in heaven.* (Mt 18:18)

If two of you **agree and ask my Father in Heaven**, God the Father **will grant it to you**. Matthew added that Jesus said this **once again**, so Jesus made sure we would remember to pray. (18:19)

When we get together and *meet in Jesus name*, as few as three or even two, *Jesus promises us, I shall be there with you*. (18:20)

Respond in prayer

At Mass we pray for our parish ~ *Heavenly Father may we be faithfully united in mind and heart*. Paul in the second reading shows how. (Rm 13:8-10) ~

LOVE. You must **love your neighbour**, just as you must **love yourself**. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour or yourself. Love is the answer to every one of the commandments of our God of love.

Heavenly Father we pray for the patience, the kindness, the endurance to love. Give us your Holy Spirit to **empower us to love our neighbour, and to love ourselves.** We pray for our families. Form us and make us strong enough to give love and to receive love, to be loving and be forgiving.

If a brother or sister in our community has done something wrong, they may not be aware of it. You must act to warn them, to make them aware. In all of this, pray to be loving and to reconcile any division. Follow the steps. Take the initiative. *Go to them. Speak the truth in love.* Pray to persevere with the person through the steps

Pray with another or others **and agree to ask our Heavenly Father** who we trust will grant it to us. Then always, **continue to meet in Jesus name with another or others** and pray to recognise Jesus in our meetings and hear him saying, **I am here with you**.

Denis McNamara

McGrath

Supporting Missionary Disciples



Awesome service. Amazing results.

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

Reflection on this Sunday's Gospel...

Today's gospel reading from Matthew comes from a collection of Jesus' teachings applicable to life within the community of the Church, as it awaits the coming of the final Kingdom. In the passages that precede this one, Jesus has warned against arrogance on the part of those called to be leaders: 'the one who makes himself as little as this child is the greatest': he has pronounced a terrible judgment on those who lead astray 'these little ones who have faith'. Matthew also includes here the parable of the lost sheep, as indicating the generous zeal that should be shown by leaders in the community. This reference to those who have gone astray leads into today's reading. It describes the manner in which these people are to be dealt with within the Church community. Clearly, the community Matthew is writing for has developed procedures to be followed in such cases, and they see themselves as acting in accordance with the Lord's own mind. When we recall the authoritative spirit that was taken for granted by those with leadership roles in the ancient world, we recognise how the listening and dialogue of these procedures reflect the fraternal love that was taught by Jesus - and recalled by Paul in our second reading.

In these procedures, we see the origins of the sacrament of reconciliation that is an essential part of the life of the Church during its time of pilgrimage. It was not a question of some private offence committed against the one who admonishes the wrongdoer. In referring to the need for 'two or three witnesses to sustain the charge', this procedure echoes the community's Jewish background, citing a prescription of the Old Testament (Deut 19:15), thus making it clear that it is a question of serious and public faults. When these procedures, calling the wrongdoer to conversion. have failed, this person is to be 'excommunicated' - excluded from the community. We know from comments of St Paul concerning such cases, that this exclusion aimed to help the wrongdoer find forgiveness: 'Do not treat them as enemies, but warn them as believers', Paul writes (2 Thess3; cf. 1 Cor 5). Being welcomed back to share in the life of the community especially the Eucharist - was the sacramental sign of reconciliation with God. Note that Matthew follows these procedural instructions with a second reference, in his gospel, to the power to 'bind and loose' in God's name. This time it is given to the Church community, acting through the ministry of those who carry on the leadership role of the apostles. As we said, the sacramental sign of reconciliation with the Lord is being received back into the Church community.

'The Son of Man has power to forgive sins', Jesus declared (Mk 2:10). The reconciliation available in the life of the Church is the reconciliation he brings to the world. The words with which our reading ends, though brief, have immense importance for us, as we seek to understand and enter more fully into the mystery of the Church's common life. You come together 'in my name', Jesus tells us. In the biblical tradition, these words have a great depth of meaning: they imply our identification with the Lord through our baptism, and to the fact that he continues to be present in the world of our time through our coming together as his Church and celebrating the Church's common life. They also remind us of the Saviour's presence in the public prayer of the Church, uniting our prayers with his, as he intercedes for the world before the Father.

John Thornhill sm

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Plenary Council 2020

In light of the postponement of the Plenary Council assemblies by 12 months, Plenary Council president Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB is encouraging people across Australia to reflect more deeply on the practice of discernment.



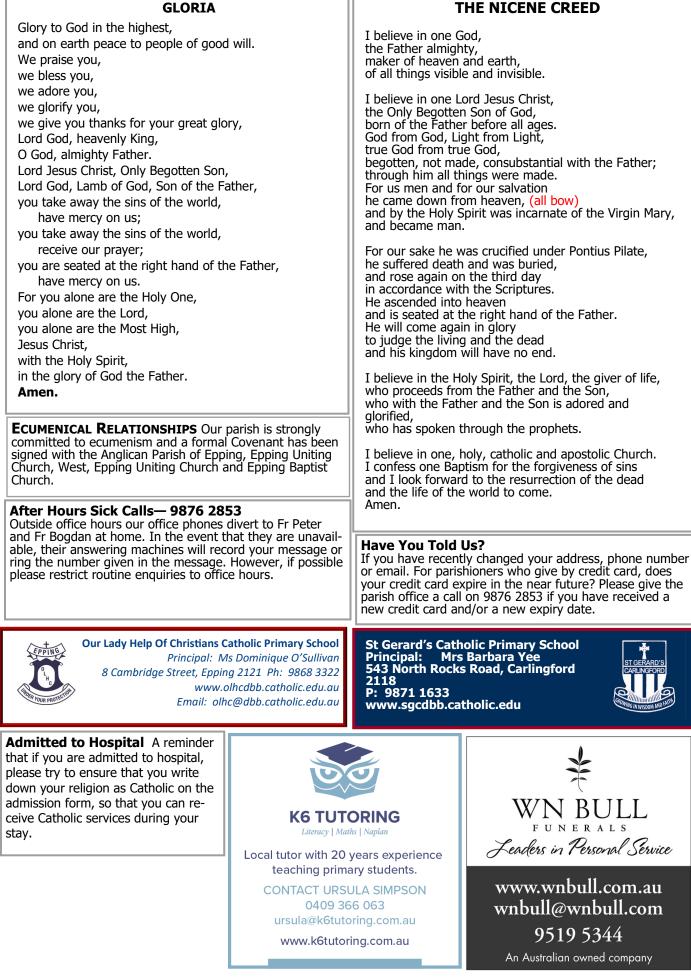
In his paper, entitled "A Journey of Discernment", Archbishop Costelloe begins by examining the genesis of the Plenary Council, retraces the journey so far and offers insights into the period leading up to the assemblies in 2021 and 2022, as well as the implementation phase beyond. <u>https://</u>

mcusercontent.com/466af249e088db70ab864d088/files/d73968f6-207c-47e3-bec3-83718d538ad3/ A_Journey_of_Discernment_FINAL.pdf

View the latest <u>Plenary Council timeline</u> by going to: <u>https://mcusercontent.com/466af249e088db70ab864d088/files/8bf7edf4-e401-4fad-af9c-3a50f8edc1d5/</u> <u>Plenary_Council_Journey_Landscape_2020.pdf</u> leading up to the assemblies in 2021 and 2022.

Archbishop Costelloe has also recorded a short video to introduce the paper, which can be viewed here: <u>https://youtu.be/94CI5NxoDzw</u>

THE NICENE CREED



Responsorial Psalm Response Ps 94:1-2.6-9 R. v. 8				Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;				
O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.				and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!				
WEEKEND MASSES	Please note, we must adhere to social distancing within the churches.							
EPPING	5:00PM V	5:00PM VIGIL, 8:30AM, 10:15AM, 6:00PM						
CARLINGFORD	6:00PM V	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 MASSES	ТВА							
EXPOSITION OF THE E	UCHARIST:	Epping Sa	turday 12:30	pm -1:00pm	, Carling	ford , 4th Th	ursday 10:00am	
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Epping Saturday 9:45—10:15am Carlingford Saturday 5:00pm—5:30pm OR BY APPOINTMENT								
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Supporting our Parish Financially A number of people have enquired as to how they can continue their financial support for the parish during this difficult time. We realise that this may not be possible in the light of growing unemployment and reductions in superannuation returns at the moment and **there is absolutely no pressure on anyone to contribute!**

The First Collection Supports the needs of the priests of the parish, the retired priests of the diocese and the Bishop. The Second Collection Money from the Second Collection supports the running costs of the parish including the payment of staff. If you are able to contribute, the Church account details are shown below:

Epping and Carlingford Parish Accounts for Internet Banking with the Commonwealth Bank First Collection BSB 062 784 A/C No 858 8002 Second Collection BSB 062 784 A/C No 858 8001

In order to record planned giving in the parish office, we would suggest the reference be planned giving number where applicable and surname.

Thank you to all those who have made financial contributions. Your support is very much appreciated.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
12/09/20	5:00pm	Fr Terence Bell	6:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien
13/09/20	8:30am	St Benedict's Monastery	7:45am	Fr Bogdan Skupien
13/09/20	10:15am	St Benedict's Monastery	9:30am	Fr Bogdan Skupien
13/09/20	6:00pm	Fr David Ranson		