

Responsorial Psalm Response

Ps 32:4-5.18-20.22. R v. 22

Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**Gospel Acclamation****Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**From the shining cloud The Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!****WEEKEND MASSES****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	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:** Fr Denis Callahan, Dorothea Ellis, Dorothy Hullet (one of the founding members of St Gerard's), John Harold Bowring, Pam Paynter (Neville Wilkin's sister), Maria N T Dong, Carol Rodricks, John F Feld, Lalitha Janet, Joe Calleja.**Anniversaries:** Roger & Jean-Ckaude Nina, Dick Brownlow, Concetta Barbagallo,**Also for:** Liz Albornoz, Yong Min Ho, Young Hwan Ho, Maria Hur, Toung Seok Seo, Doo Kwan Ji, D Choi,**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, 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, Jan Doherty, Brian Walsh, Patricia O'Connor, Kathy Noonan, Alice Eng, Peck Quah, Dorothy Bonaccorso, Narelda & Alan Ryan, Kit Smith, Margaret Floyd, Bev Aliprandi, Barbara Madafiglio, John Lyons, Greg Walsh, John Gilberti, MarciaPower, 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 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.*Due to privacy laws, names of the sick and deceased can only be put in the bulletin with the permission of the family.***After Hours Sick Calls— 9876 2853**

Outside office hours our office phones divert to Fr Peter and Fr Bogdan 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.

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.

Date	Mass	Epping	Mass	Carlingford
14/03/20	5:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien	6:00pm	Fr Peter Dowd
15/03/20	8:30am	Fr Bogdan Skupien	7:45am	Fr Peter Dowd
15/03/20	10:15am	Fr Bogdan Skupien	9:30am	Fr Peter Dowd
15/03/20	6:00pm	Fr Bogdan Skupien		

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.**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****Assistant Priest: Fr Bogdan Skupien****Ph.:** 9876 2853**Email:** Bogdan.Skupien@bbcatholic.org.au**Email:** parish@eppcarl.org.au**Parish Website:** www.bbcatholic.org.au/epppingcarlingford**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****SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT****8-3-20****Genesis 12:1-4****2 Timothy 1:8-10****Matthew 17:1-9**

Dear sisters and brothers,

At various stages of the emergence of the novum coronavirus, COVID-19, Bishop Anthony has offered instructions for our Diocese on preventative measures appropriate to any situation of concern about public health. He maintains vigilance on the current situation and is continuously receiving what might be appropriate for the gatherings of the Faithful in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Now with confirmed cases of human to human transmissions in the greater Sydney area, Bishop Anthony has reviewed the instructions that he provided previously and now provides additional instruction proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities. In summarising the previous instruction that parishes continue not to distribute Holy Communion from the Chalice remains in place. All Ministers of Communion should take particular care to wash their hands before and after distributing Communion. Holy Water is to be temporarily removed from the stoups at the doors of churches to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus. We have removed the Holy Water as is our custom during Lent in preparation for the blessing of the Easter Water at the Easter Vigil.

Perhaps the main change to the instruction that during the Sign of Peace individuals should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow. Finally, the faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday Mass – whether due to the coronavirus or some other condition – or are at particular risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus can honour their Sunday obligation by participating in a time of prayer within the home, reading the Scriptures or watching Mass on television.

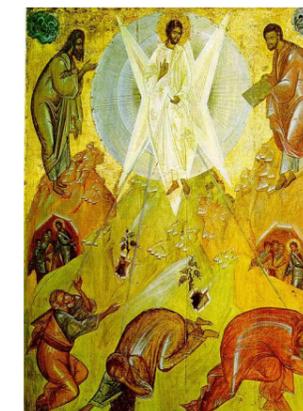
Should the situation change, Bishop Anthony will further review these instructions.

Finally, I would like to invite you all to consider participating in the next step of 'listening and discerning' as we prepare for the Plenary Council.

Unlike the previous sessions, this next step is meant to focus on a prayerful reflective process focused on a deep listening to what God is calling us to at this particular time in the history of our church. It is not about simply saying what I think or believe but entering into a structured way of listening through reason, Scriptures, faith, prayerful reflection and interaction with other parishioners, to give up our "answers" to become sincere seekers of God's wisdom.

More information can be found in today's bulletin.

Fr Peter



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.



Our Lady Help Of Christians Catholic Primary School
Principal: Ms Dominique O'Sullivan
8 Cambridge Street, Epping 2121 Ph: 9868 3322
www.olhcdbb.catholic.edu.au
Email: olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au



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Promoting Alpha week 2 *Why did Jesus die?*

Is Christianity in decline in Australia?

The research shows there is real interest in Christianity, but there are few opportunities to have spiritual conversations. 7 out of 10 Australians pray. But they don't talk about it. There is interest in spirituality. We are obsessed with mental health and physical health, so it is ok then to ask about spiritual health. Do you have questions about God, life and faith? Alpha is an opportunity to have those conversations.

Alpha is about community. You are invited to have dinner and connect with people with different views to yours, but we have good dinner party conversations. Alpha is a bit like a communal table at a café, except were actually talking to each other. You're surrounded by people and you're connecting around mutual discussion topics. The videos give a basis for that conversation. While some people have blockages to organised religion, they are interested in knowing spiritual things. Alpha is a place to talk about these things.

Alpha works primarily on invitation. People invite their friends and after coming along one week, they might say, *Who is Jesus? I haven't had time to talk about that.*

Extract from D Halliday's article in July 2019 Melbourne Catholic Magazine

Your personal invitation to a friend this weekend is really important. Next Tuesday we ask, "Why did Jesus die?" The next Alpha will be later this year at Carlingford.

Denis McNamara *Supporting Missionary Disciples*

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School
Principal: Mrs Barbara Yee
543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford 2118 P: 9871 1633
www.sgddb.catholic.edu E: sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au



St Gerard's Open Day

Wednesday 11 March
9.15am—11am
in the Hall




Michelle and Danielle joined with others from the Diocese in celebrating the Rite of Election with Bishop Anthony last Sunday. Please keep Michelle and Danielle in your prayers as they journey towards Easter and Baptism.

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.

The Truth Justice and Healing Council
www.thecouncil.org.au

..continued from pg. 5

As **we grow** in faith through prayer in our Lenten group or at Alpha or in our personal contemplation, we learn about God's love and faithfulness towards us.

May we see Jesus, the *Beloved* and *listen to him*.

Denis McNamara *Supporting Missionary Disciples*

Marriage Enrichment Weekend :

Take the time to step back from everyday distractions and rediscover your relationship!
17th – 19th April, 2020 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
Book online at www.wvme.org.au
Alternatively contact Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com
Worldwide Marriage Encounter

National Catholic Safeguarding Standards: Leadership, monitoring & improvement

Standard 9 – The Parish regularly reviews and improves systems for keeping children safe
Key Elements of Standard 9:

- Regularly reviews and improves practices
 - Analyses concerns and complaints to identify causes and potential system failures.
- Reports of the findings of relevant reviews

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
The Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, **(all bow)**
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

LENTEN ECUMENICAL SERVICES

A reminder that we will again have a weekly Ecumenical Service each **Tuesday evening of Lent at 7:45pm. Everyone is welcome!**

The dates and venues are as follows:

Date	Church	Preacher
10/3	OLHC Church	Rev. Paul Weaver
17/3	St Alban's Anglican Church	Rev. Howard Bennett
24/3	Epping Baptist Church	Rev. Tammy Hollands
31/3	West Epping Uniting Church	Rev. Greg Woolnough



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

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Reflection on Sunday's Gospel—Brilliant Suffering

Last week we saw Jesus being tempted just like the rest of us. We recognized our humanity. This week we see him transformed into dazzling light. Not so human. What is going on? Is he trying to teach us something?

To try for an answer, I want to describe a possible prayer experience.*

The Transfiguration was one way for Jesus to reassure us and them that agony would not negate his divinity

Please imagine yourself sad and discouraged, wishing God would help you. You want the faith that used to be yours ... but you do not find it. You go along in your normal patterns. But suppose that all at once you find yourself moved and attracted to God in a way you cannot doubt, a way that is "beyond you but within you." Afterwards you cannot really doubt that it was from God, even though you don't really understand it.

This would be an important moment, wouldn't it, a brief transformation of your experience of God, a reshaping of it. Call it a "transfiguration."

Now apply such an understanding of "transfiguration" to Jesus in Sunday's Gospel. The apostles suddenly behold Jesus with his divinity shining forth (like a "glorified body"). It goes through their usual filters. Their experience of Jesus is being, precisely, transfigured. For a moment they see Jesus in the complete union with God that he is.

Notice, we are talking about the complete union with God "that he is," not that he "has." In Jesus, divinity and humanity are at one with each other. Daily onlookers see only the human, but in this case Jesus is showing the apostles his whole self: divinity in its complete oneness with humanity.

Why would Jesus make such a revelation to them?

Again, the answer might be found in the Ignatian prayer we are imagining. In such a prayer God can give us a brief vision of how things really are at their root. Sometimes it would be to keep us from getting discouraged, or to avoid letting our attention drift away. Couldn't this be the case with the transfiguration as well?

Couldn't Jesus have seen one of his jobs as training the apostles—throughout the entire Gospel and in particular in this scene—as just one stage of the instruction?

Let us assume this to be the case.

Jesus would have taught them about himself, gradually, all through Matthew's Gospel. He was a superb teacher. Just before Sunday's passage in Matthew, he had finally told them what a real Messiah is. He said that the "Son of the living God must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised" (Mt 16:13-23).

A major revelation, one he had thought they were at last prepared for. If you remember, however, Peter had objected vehemently, when he took Jesus aside "and began to rebuke him, 'God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you.'" Jesus went so far as to call Peter "Satan" for resisting the new revelation. Suffering and death are not foreign to Jesus, the Messiah. They are of the essence. Such a hard lesson this is for each of us. Suffering, death and resurrection are at the heart of love!

I suppose the Transfiguration was one way for Jesus to reassure us and them that agony would not negate his divinity, it would fulfill it. It would be God's love shining forth.

John Foley, SJ

* Ignatius Loyola describes such a prayer experience as:

... an occasion when God our Lord moves and attracts the will in such a way that a devout person, without doubting or being able to doubt, carries out what was proposed. This is what St. Paul and St. Matthew did when they followed Christ our Lord.

From the Spiritual Exercises, #175. [see also, Mt 9:9].

Father Foley can be reached at:
Subject=http://liturgy.slu.edu/2LentA030820/reflections_foley.html
Fr. John Foley, SJ, is a composer and scholar at Saint Louis University.

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Lenten Day Retreat for Women

Enrich your Lenten journey through the transformative embrace of scripture, reflection, adoration and prayer. Experience Lent through a unique process of engagement that draws you deeply into this holy season.

Date: Saturday 7 March 2020

Where: All Saints, 48 George St, Liverpool

Registration cost: FREE *A small \$10 donation will assist in the catering for the day.

For more information, please contact vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au or the Sydney Vocations Centre, vocations@sydneycatholic.org or 02 9307 8424 **Please RSVP by Wed 4 Mar 2020.**

PARISH DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Day	Date	Time	Event		
Sun.	08/03/20	9:30am	No Kids Liturgy at St Gerard's this Sunday		
		10:15am	Kids Word at OLHC Church		
		3:00pm	PH Epping First Reconciliation—Session 3		
		7:00pm	PMR Carlingford Antioch Meeting		
Mon	09/03/20	9:30pm	Mass at St Gerard's Church		
		10:00am	PMR Carlingford Lenten Group		
		7:30pm	PMR Carlingford SVdP Conferenced Meeting		
		7:30pm	Rosary Group St Gerard's Church		
Tue.	10/03/20	8:30am	PMR Carlingford Carpet Cleaning		
		10:15am	CH Epping OLHC Reconciliation Yr. 5		
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church		
		7:00pm	CH Carlingford Easter Choir Practice		
		7:45pm	OLHC Ecumenical Service with light refreshments at the conclusion of the service.		
		Wed.	11/03/20	9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
				9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's
				11:45am	PMR Carlingford Hornsby Deanery Meeting
Thur.	12/03/20			9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's Church
		10:00am	Home Lenten Group—L Slocombe		
		11:00am	Mass at the Poplars Nursing Home		
		12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church		
		3:30pm	PMR Carlingford First Reconciliation Session 4		
		7:30pm	Home Lenten Group Charles & Elizabeth Barton		
		7:30pm	Home Lenten Group Max & Trish Lucas		
		7:30pm	Home Lenten Group—Pat & Margaret McArdle		
		7:30pm	PMR Epping Lenten Group		
		Fri.	13/03/20	9:30am	Mass at St Gerard's
				10:00am	PMR Carlingford Lenten Group
				11:30am	St Gerard's School Reconciliation Yr. 6M
12:15pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church				
		7:00pm	PH Carlingford CANA Youth Group		
		Sat.	14/03/20	8:30am	Home Lenten Group Philip & Maria Senger
				9:15am	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
				9:45am	Exposition and Reconciliation
10:15am	Benediction				
		12:00pm	PMR Epping Listen and Discernment Session		
		3:00pm	PH Carlingford First Reconciliation Session 4		
		5:00pm	Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians' Church		
		5:00pm	Reconciliation at St Gerard's		
		6:00pm	St Gerard's Vigil Mass		

Men's Discernment Retreat, Take a glimpse into the life and formation of the priesthood. This retreat is designed to assist men ages 18-35 discern their vocation and who are seriously thinking about the diocesan priesthood. The retreat will offer time away from your daily routine and provide an opportunity for personal prayer and reflection to examine God's call; to listen to inspiring talks and guidance for discernment process; learn the tools of discernment, sharpen your discerning skills, one-on-one time with spiritual direction from a priest and Q & A discussions with seminarians.

Date: 27-29 March 2020 **Where: Seminary of the Good Shepherd, 50-58 Abbotsford Rd, Homebush.**

To register or for more information, please contact the Broken Bay Vocations Office on vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au
Ph: 0418522449 **RSVP by Wed 18 Mar 2020**

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

International Women's Day – Sunday 8 March

International Women's Day is a day to celebrate women's achievements, and both highlight and work to address barriers that continue to perpetuate gender inequality. The 2020 global IWD theme is "Generation Equality", which is a call to action to join forces across generations, to create a world where every girl and woman has equal opportunities to fulfil their full potential. Equal access to education and income are central to levelling the playing field for women around the world. For further information, please visit <https://unwomen.org.au/international-womens-day/>



Children's Sacramental Journey First Reconciliation 2020

This weekend, the children who are preparing for their First Reconciliation will receive a copy of the Act of Contrition during all Masses. The Act of Contrition which we explain to the children as a "Sorry" prayer, comes with it a recognition of not just their poor choices, but also the huge effort required to choose to want to try their best to love others and the need to seek help in doing so.

Our third session on Forgiveness offers the children some simple steps they can take to make peace with their family and friends. Firstly, by being honest and owning up to the unloving words and actions that were said and done (Confession), then the importance of recognising the need to seek forgiveness (Act of Contrition) and lastly to do something to show that person and God they want to make peace (Penance).

We lightly touch on helping them understand pride can sometimes be the reason people are unable to say sorry and also forgiveness can sometimes take time. We then link this to the stories we have read on The Loving Father, The Lost Sheep and also to this week's Gospel reading on Zacchaeus, the Tax Collector. All these readings are reminders to the children of God's everlasting love for us, always forgiving and through prayer we learn to love others so as to return God's love, for He created us all and loves us all equally.

If you have any queries or would like more information regarding your child's sacramental journey within our parish, please feel free to drop me a line.

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

The Light is On for You'

Will begin at 7:30pm at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Epping. This is an exciting initiative for Lent, that seeks to welcome people to our churches for quiet time, prayer, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Stations of the Cross.

Please note we will alternate between the parish churches each Friday night commencing at 7:30pm during Lent as follows:

Friday 13 March - Carlingford
Friday 20 March - Epping
Friday 27 March - Carlingford
Friday 3 April - Epping

All Welcome!

Fellow Parishioners Father Peter on behalf of the Parish has again offered to support the Lenten Foodbank appeal of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) at Westmead. They ask that this Lent you donate one item each week to support refugees living in this community and suggest: Basmati Rice, Tuna in Oil, Cooking oil, Tinned Tomatoes, Long life milk, pasta or spaghetti. Personal care items are also most welcome. A marked box will be left in each Church. Your generosity over the past two years has been greatly appreciated. For further information, contact Tricia Whealy at 0425 270 215

Plenary Council Discernment Session next weekend

Fr Noel Connolly a Columban and a member of the Plenary Council 2020 Facilitation Team wrote:

The real question at the heart of our Plenary Council planning process is not "What will we do?" but "What is the Holy Spirit leading us to do?" Unless the Plenary Council processes are Spirit-inspired, they will not be attractive, life-giving or lasting in the end. Pope Francis has reminded us that the church does not grow by proselytising or by argument but by attractiveness. [EG #14] Ultimately, it is only the beauty of God that attracts.

If you read "Listen to what the Spirit is saying", the final report on the Listening and Dialogue stage, you will notice that there are many, varied opinions expressed. We will need patient discernment to grasp the voice of the Holy Spirit among the enthusiastic, strongly held but, sometimes contradictory, voices of the People of God. We will also need humility and generous openness to all. In a debating process, it is easy for us to decide who has the *sensus fidei*, (*sense of the faith*) and who should be listened to. It is the ones we agree with!

Group discernment requires a different process; a commitment to listen attentively and to trust the intentions of others, together with a willingness to share our own experience and insights and let go of our assumptions or biases. We come to God in and with our brothers and sisters, sharing and listening, not debating and correcting.

Listen and Discern Sessions will be offered

Epping Parish Meeting Room

Sat. 14 March 12:30pm light lunch then start 1:30pm
Sun. 22 March after Mass at 11:15am—1:00pm

Carlingford Parish Meeting Room

Sun. 15 March after 9:30am Mass
Sat. 21 March 12:30pm lunch start 1:00pm-3:30pm

The theme we will begin with is
A joyful, hope-filled and servant community.

Please let us know if you are coming by writing your name on the sheet at the entrance to the church and collect a set of documents or contact Denis by phone 0410 041 944 or denismcnamara@eppcarl.org.au

The documents include the **Reports on the Six Themes** and an **Introduction and Discernment Guide**.

May the Holy Spirit guide our parish community in discerning where the Holy Spirit is leading our Church.

Denis McNamara *Supporting Missionary Disciples*

Vinnies Bushfire Appeal thanks

With heartfelt thanks to our Parish communities that held the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal. At this stage, Vinnies has not officially released the amounts collected but we know that the generosity at the Parish level was wonderful; and some Parishes have shared the amount raised in their Parish bulletins.

Going forward, we would like to recognise those in our community that have assisted with the bushfire recovery efforts across NSW. If you know of anyone or any stories of how our local communities are helping those in need, please contact me on 02 8379 1664 or email ane.giuliano@bbcatholic.org.au. A page on our website will be made available to share these stories <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/bushfires>

YOUTH PAGE

OUR PARISH ANTIOCH COMMUNITY

Meeting this Sunday 8th March

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 at Carlingford.

So head on down and bring a friend.



For more information call
Joanne 0416 030 927



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

PRAISE

fest

Catholic Youth Broken Bay are hosting their first PRAISEFEST of the year! Whether you're coming for an ACYF2019 reunion or just to be in a place to gather as young Catholics from across the Diocese, come and join us for an evening of fun, a free BBQ, fellowship, and an experience of energetic worship with a life-giving message.

Date: Friday 20 March 2020

Time: 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Venue: MacKillop Catholic College, 91 Sparks Rd, Warnervale

2020 Easter Vigil Ensemble and Choir

We will celebrate the **Easter Vigil 2020** as one parish at St Gerard's church Carlingford on **Holy Saturday 11th April @ 7pm.**



We would like to invite parishioners from both churches to volunteer to join our Parish Easter Vigil Ensemble and Choir to celebrate this most important Mass of the year.

Our practices will be on a **Tuesday night** in St Gerard's church, commencing – 24th March @ 7.30pm.

We will also have a **rehearsal** on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon prior to 11th April.

To indicate your interest, please email – **by Mon 17th March.**

Elizabeth - dneusti@optusnet.com.au— or
Fran - francunneen@optusnet.com.au

To celebrate this pinnacle point in the Church's liturgical calendar we encourage you to be part of this special music group.

CANA: OUR Yr. 7-9 YOUTH GROUP

If you're in Years 7-9 come along for a night **Jam-packed with FUN & FAITH EVERY FRIDAY** night of the School Term.

7:30 pm—9:00 pm

In the Carlingford parish hall.

It's a great place to catch up with old friends
And meet some new ones.

Please remember that a small donation when you come along to the meeting would really help out with the costs of the night.

Thanks ☺

All enquiries to Joanna
0404 710 588



Becoming a Missionary Disciple

Fr Peter outlined in the Bulletin, how we grow with God and with others in our parish community to become Missionary Disciples: **We worship, we connect, we serve, we give, and we grow as a disciple.**

The readings at Mass reveal who God is to us

Know our story. The first reading reminds us – God called Abram. (God changes his name to Abraham, later in his life.) That invitation was a challenge: **Leave country, family, father's house. Go to a land I will show you. The consequence – I will bless you: make your name so famous. . .** That was the covenant or the agreement between Abram and God. **All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you. So, Abram went as the Lord told him.** That man had great trust!

Pray with trust. Could this psalm show us how to pray, how to praise God and increase our trust in God? **Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

Life is different for a missionary disciple. Paul tells us we live life with power and purpose and face death with hope of eternal life. **Bear the hardships. Rely on the power of God who saved us . . . for his own purpose. This grace has been revealed by Jesus ~ He abolished death and proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.**

Believe who Jesus really is. Jesus was transfigured. Three apostles saw Jesus for who he was. They heard the voice, **This is my son, the Beloved, he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.**

During this Lent, let us be attentive to where the *power of God* is guiding us *for his own purpose*.

When **we worship**, we hear God speak to us and praise God who comes to us.

Where **we connect** with others in our Antioch Group or Sacramental program we belong as friends of Jesus.

When **we serve** others in all ministries as a Catechist, or carer or parent or active support for your children in our schools, and our ministries at work that go beyond our job description to the heart of compassion, justice and charity. When **we give** and share our treasure to support our parish activities and maintain our parish facilities, or when we give our talent or our time to the parish community, we store up treasure in heaven.

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