

Diocese of Broken Bay

Parish Priest: Fr Jim McKeon
Jim.McKeon@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Aldrin Valdehueza
Aldrin.Valdehueza@bbcatholic.org.au

Our Lady Help of Christians'

31 Oxford Street, Epping

St Gerard Majella's

543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford

Phone

02 9876 2853

Website

eppcarl.org.au

Email

eppcarl@bbcatholic.org.au

Giving

Click here for:

[Weekend Mass Times](#)

[Weekday Mass Times](#)

[Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament](#)

[Sacrament of Reconciliation](#)



Readings

13 JULY 2025

Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Colossians 1:15-20

Luke 10:25-37

20 JULY 2025

Genesis 18:1-10

Colossians 1:24-28

Luke 10:38-42



The Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford



CONNECT



WORSHIP



GIVE



SERVE

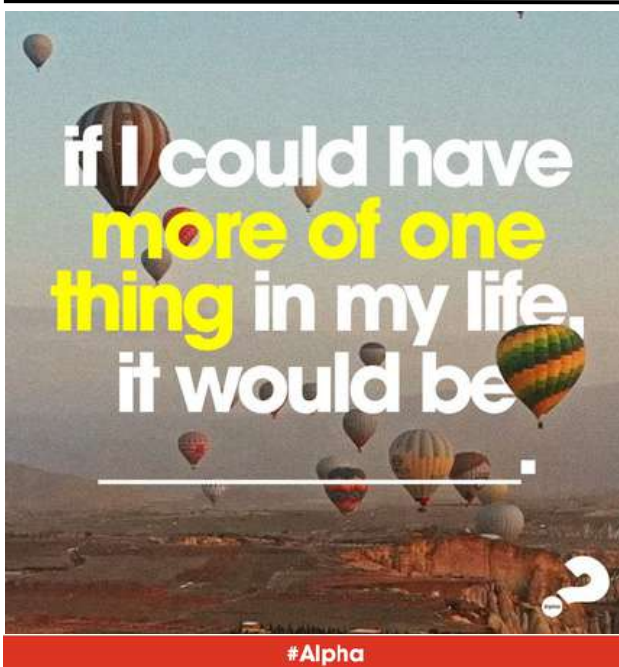


GROW

YEAR C

13 JULY 2025 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

20 JULY 2025 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



At Alpha, there's a seat for everyone

Come and see what it's all about. You might be surprised.



TAP HERE

**Registration closes on
Tuesday 15th July**

Alpha is a series of relaxed, interactive sessions where we explore life, faith, and meaning—together. Whether you're curious about Christianity, new to church, or just have big questions, Alpha is a place where you can feel at home.

What to Expect:

- Good food or refreshments – because conversations are better when shared over a meal!
- A short talk or video – covering a key topic of the Christian faith.
- Open discussion – where you can share your thoughts, ask anything, or just listen. No pressure. No judgement.

Alpha is for anyone and everyone. Come as you are, bring a friend, and discover a space where you truly belong.



To prepare to bring you an enriching experience, our parishioners who have volunteered to be trained as Alpha leaders attended an Alpha Coaching Day led by Tania Rimac from the Alpha Australia team. It was a fruitful day with our parish

Alpha leaders now raring to bring you this experience. Alpha is just the beginning. Once you experience Alpha, you will understand who Jesus is and can start to explore your relationship with Him.

Join us at:

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall
33, Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121

Starts Friday 18th July, 7pm - 9:30pm

Enquiries: alpha@eppcarl.org.au

RELAUNCHING AT OLHC:

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PRESENTS:

MONTHLY ANOINTING MASS

MASS OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
THIRD THURSDAYS 11AM | ALL WELCOME
BRUNCH FOLLOWING | OLHC CHURCH

Beginning this **Thursday 17 July 2025 at 11am**, we will be relaunching our Monthly Mass for the Anointing of the Sick. Open invitation, especially those who are sick, injured or elderly who are seeking anointing of the sick. A light brunch will be held after the Mass. Feel free to bring a plate!

INVITATION TO DEVOTIONS & DISCIPLESHIP - DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL



"One day through the
ROSARY and the
SCAPULAR, I will save
the world"

Our Lady to St. Dominic

Brown Scapular Enrolment

EPHING

Wednesday, 16th July
09:30 am mass

CARLINGFORD

Thursday, 17th July
09:30 am mass

More information is available in pamphlets at the back of the church.

If you have always wondered about the Brown Scapular, please pick up the information sheet at the back of the church. On it, spiritual benefits and common questions are answered.

A LETTER TO YOU!

FROM: POPE FRANCIS
TO: EPPING-CARLINGFORD PARISHIONERS



THE LETTER A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

DON'T MISS THIS! REGISTER TODAY
CHOOSE A SESSION BELOW

THE LETTER is a documentary featuring Pope Francis and his call to hear both the **cry of the earth** and the **cry of the poor**. It builds on the teaching of Pope Francis' letter to us, *Laudato si'*.

REGISTER FOR ONE OF THESE SESSIONS
Forms are at the entrance of each Church

19 August 7pm - 9pm at OLHC Epping

21 August 7pm – 9pm at St Gerards

25 August 10am - 1pm at St Gerards

27 August 10am - 1pm at OLHC Epping

THE LETTER runs for 80 minutes. Our time together will include time for refreshments, reflection, conversation and how we might take action together as a parish community.

FR JIM'S HOMILY NOTES

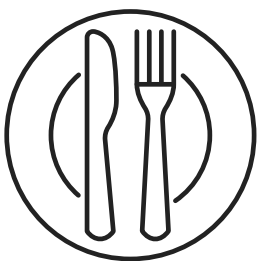
Last weekend I referred to Christifidelis Laici (The lay members of Christ's faithful people), by Pope John Paul II in 1988, where the pope stated that "The Church's mission of salvation in the world is realized by all the lay faithful; indeed, because of their Baptismal state and their specific vocation, in the measure proper to each person, the lay faithful participate in the priestly, prophetic and kingly mission of Christ" (CL23)

This week we will hear the very familiar Parable of the Good Samaritan. Chapter 2 of Fratelli Tutti (You are all brothers and sisters) by Pope Francis in 2022 is a meditation on this parable which, reflecting on the pandemic notes that "For all our hyper-connectivity, we witnessed a fragmentation that made it more difficult to resolve problems that affect us all." (FT7). With hope the encyclical presents the solution: "The parable eloquently presents the basic decision we need to make in order to rebuild our wounded world. In the face of so much pain and suffering, our only course is to imitate the Good Samaritan. Any other decision would make us either one of the robbers or one of those who walked by without showing compassion for the sufferings of the man on the roadside" (FT67).

~Fr Jim

COMMUNITY DINNERS

Last week we had a fantastic launch to our Community Dinners, with a team of volunteers serving a great meal to dozens of people who enjoyed the time in fellowship. Some photos below. You can join us **any Thursday from 6pm – 7pm at OLHC**.



Thank you to Team Week #1!

Parish Office Address

Parish Centre, 33 Oxford Street, Epping NSW 2121
(car park entry via 6 Cambridge Street)

Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday - 8:30am to 3pm

Parish Team

Parish Secretary

Marcella Letteri Ph: 9876 2853

Email: Marcella.Letteri@bbcatholic.org.au

Business Manager

Deacon Richard Houwing Ph: 9876 2853

Email: Richard.Houwing@bbcatholic.org.au

Admin. Assistant

Michael Davies Ph: 9876 2853

Email: Michael.Davies@bbcatholic.org.au

Coordinator of Sacramental Programmes, Children's Ministries & Parish Communications

Lynn Siau Ph: 9876 2853

Email: Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Holly Lawton Ph: 0404 710 588

Email: Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au

New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator - St Gerard's

Belinda Shi Ph: 0414 753 362

Email: Belinda.Shi@bbcatholic.org.au

New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator - OLHC

Christine Carpio Ph: 0414 753 799

Email: Christine.Carpio@bbcatholic.org.au

Sacristan - OLHC

Dennis Porteous Ph: 9876 2853

Email: Dennis.Porteous@bbcatholic.org.au



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



2025 CONFIRMATION - How to Enrol

Confirmation is a sacrament which children receive in Year 3 or older. Confirmation confirms baptism, and allows children who were baptised as a baby to learn about Jesus, and to make their own yes to being a follower of Jesus. In our Diocese of Broken Bay, Confirmation is the next sacrament children receive after Baptism. Your child will need a Sponsor as well as choose a Saint's name. It is an exciting time for the family!

If your child has been baptised, is in Year 3 or above, with either one or both parents Catholic, and you wish to enrol for Confirmation, please click [here](#) or scan QR code to submit your child's enrolment online. A hard copy of the brochure with more details is available at the back of both churches.

Some example of details you will be asked when you enrol:



- select the venue/session time for the celebration
- a copy of the Baptism certificate if this was not celebrated at our parish
- select the Parent Gathering session date you will attend
- select weekly prep session day and time you will attend

Not yet Catholic?

If you're not Catholic, then we extend to you the invitation to explore what it means to be Catholic, and if you want to, to be baptised and received into the church.

Please contact Lynn Siau (details below)

Lynn Siau -Coordinator of Children's Ministries,
Sacramental Programme & Parish Communications
Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au or phone 9876 2853



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Calling all parents to come and see!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is now at Broken Bay Diocesan Centre:

📍 2/423 Pennant Hills Rd, PENNANT HILLS.

This is a Christocentric Catholic formation program for young children from age 3 years, utilizing Montessori methodology. By means of scripture and liturgy, and employing tactile materials in a prepared atrium, it is a powerful means of facilitating your child's close relationship with God.

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Applications are welcome for 3-6 and 6-9 year old children.

We operate each Monday, morning and afternoon.
Inquiries: Contact Mary Clare Meney 0435 496 624 or cgs.marymount@gmail.com

Kidz Word at both churches will resume on Sunday 27th July!

COMMUNICATIONS

DEADLINE

Article submission deadline: If you would like to submit an article from your ministry for inclusion in the next edition of our parish bulletin, please send it to Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au before **10am on Wednesday 23rd July 2025**. Kindly understand I am unable to accommodate late submissions.

Please send in a Word document. Photos or graphics are acceptable in PNG or JPEG format. Do note that PDFs will have to be reformatted and the clarity of your notice will be compromised. Remember to provide an email address, a contact name and number in your article. Thank you.



Other ways to connect:



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM

eBulletin: If you know someone who would like to receive the electronic version of the bulletin, please forward this link for them to fill in via a desktop, the form on our website: bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/news-events/parish-newsletter



CANA

YOUTH GROUP
FAITH . FUN . FRIENDS

COME ALONG AND LEARN MORE ABOUT
FAITH, PLAY SOME GAMES AND MAKE NEW
FRIENDS!

FOR STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-9

Term 3 Dates

25th July

8th August

22nd August

5th September

19th September

Please join our
Facebook Group
for Parents



St Gerards Church
Hall

 7:30PM-9:00PM

 Fridays Fortnightly
During School
Term

Cana Youth Group (Yr 7-Yr 9) will
resume again next term on Friday 25th
July. If you are in Yr 7 – Yr 9 and looking
to make new friends and learn about
your faith in fun and interactive ways
we would love to see you there.

Emmaus Young Adults

23 - 30 Years Old

Fortnightly meetings on a Thursday at Our Lady

Help of Christians Church

Next meeting Thurs 24 July & 7 August

Antioch

Year 10 - 23 Years old

Weekly meetings on a Sunday at St

Gerards Parish Meeting Room

6:00pm - 8:00pm



Some of our young parishioners recently attended
the interparish sports day. Participating in intense
games of soccer, volleyball and basketball they
ultimately came in second place, a fantastic
result!



DIocese OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION + REGO

Day 1	Sat 29 November	Departure (Travel Day)
Day 2	Sun 30 November	Australian Catholic Youth Festival
Day 3	Mon 1 December	Australian Catholic Youth Festival
Day 4	Tue 2 December	Australian Catholic Youth Festival
Day 5	Wed 3 December	Return (Travel Day)

INCLUSIONS

- Economy class airfare from Sydney / Melbourne / Sydney
- 4 nights' centrally located 4 star hotel (Holiday Inn Express, Little Collins)
- Breakfast daily (at Accommodation)
- Diocesan group dinner on Saturday, 29th November at Accommodation
- Return airport coach transfers on arrival and departure
- ACYF Melbourne Registration fee and Administration/Management
- Harvest group booking management
- Diocese of Broken Bay Pilgrim T-Shirt

Not included:

- Travel insurance
- Lunches and dinners on festival days
- Items of a personal nature

Pilgrimage is open to young people in Year 9 at school, through to the age
of 25, and their leaders and clergy.

\$1,620 PER PERSON, INCL GST

Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy
Reducing cost to \$1,120



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY

mission@bbccatholic.org.au

Register your interest by
emailing Holly at
Holly.Lawton@bbccatholic.org.au

Join young adults from Broken Bay at the **Australian Catholic Youth Festival** happening in Melbourne this December! ACYF is a three day festival bringing together young people from across Australia to connect & deepen their relationship with Jesus. The Diocese has put together packages including flights, accommodation and the conference registration fee for those In year 9 - 25 years old. If you are interested in attending or would like some more information please contact Holly on 0404710588 or Holly.Lawton@bbccatholic.org.au

PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE

What's Next for Social Justice? For the past three years our Parish Social Justice Team has led us in projects of awareness, action and prayer in the areas of supporting refugees, women and children at risk, and ecology. Now we want to engage in a conversation with the wider parish to identify focus areas for the coming years, which could include these existing projects, and new areas of need. These will become our ongoing projects for action, prayer and awareness, and also the beneficiaries of charitable distributions from the future Our Lady Help of Christians Trust. Join us on **Sunday August 10th in OLHC hall after the 10.15am Mass, 11.30 – 12.45pm.**



DEVOTIONS - OUR PARISH ROSARY GROUP

Responding with Love to Our Lady's Call – Rosary Group at Epping and Carlingford

The tradition of praying the Rosary before Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians (OLHC) began in the early 2000s, lovingly initiated by dedicated members of the Legion of Mary. In those early years, **Mona** and **Padmini** faithfully led the Rosary before weekday Masses. Their devotion was later carried on by **Maureen**, with the support of **Betty** and **Helen**. What started as a small, faithful gathering has grown into a vibrant prayer community that now also extends to St Gerard's in Carlingford.



This prayerful initiative arose as a heartfelt response to the message of Our Lady of Fatima, who urged the faithful to pray the Rosary daily as a spiritual weapon against evil. In today's world, her call remains as urgent and meaningful as ever. United in prayer, we lift up intentions for global peace, the conversion of hearts, and the personal needs of our community.

We draw inspiration from the words of the Angel of Portugal, who appeared to the children at Fatima: "Believe, adore, hope, and love God. Ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love Him." As we gather before the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle, we find strength and grace in meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary. Many participants have experienced deepened faith, inner peace, and spiritual renewal through this devotion.



After each Rosary, we continue the tradition of praying a litany associated with the Church's monthly devotions. For example:

- **March:** Litany of St Joseph
- **June:** Litany of the Sacred Heart
- **July:** Litany of the Precious Blood ... and so on, in harmony with the catholic liturgical calendar.

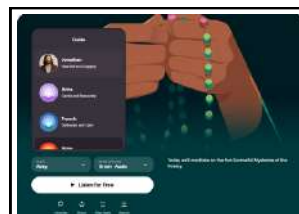


St. Louis de Montfort saw the Rosary as a spiritual sword against the devil. He called it a "bludgeon" to destroy vice and a safeguard for souls battling temptation. We warmly invite all parishioners to join us to pray the rosary and draw closer to Jesus.

📍 **St Gerard's, Carlingford** - 9:00 am: Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays

📍 **OLHC, Epping** - 9:00 am: Wednesdays, and First Saturdays

~Princy George



Some parishioners also use the Hallow app to pray the Rosary: <https://hallow.com/prayers/1605/> It changes daily and you can pick whose voice accompanies your prayers as well as the duration according to your time availability. The longer duration reads the Bible verses from which the mysteries are rooted. If you are new to the Rosary, you can follow the steps here: <https://hallow.com/blog/how-to-pray-the-rosary/> The app is free.

MORE PARISH NOTICES



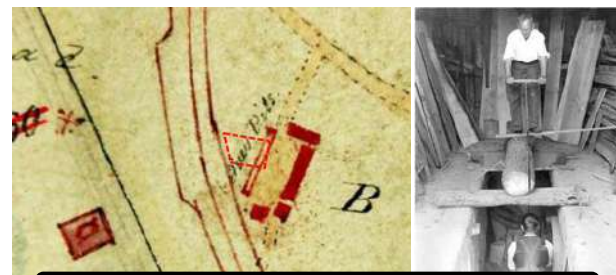
A new paten for St Gerard's: The sacred vessels which hold the Body and Blood of Christ, that is, a paten (plate), a ciborium (with a lid) and a chalice should be made of precious metals, gold or silver as an expression of the reverence we have for Christ. Last year a parishioner donated \$1000 in memory of a loved one to buy a gold paten which could hold the large number of

Communion hosts for OLHC Church, and the loved one's name was engraved on the paten. Now we would like to purchase a similar paten for St Gerard's Church. Would you like to donate the cost of this in memory of a loved one? If so, please contact **Fr Aldrin**.

Building at St Gerard's School: Last year Catholic Schools Broken Bay proposed an extensive redevelopment at St Gerard's School which would have included among other things the replacement of the Hall and COLA. St Gerard's parishioners were consulted and were gracious about the possible changes. However, the present scope of the project has been narrowed and is now focused on the building of one new classroom block, followed by the removal of the old red brick classroom block in the centre of the school. Fencing has been erected near the hall for construction access from the Roselea Way gates around to the back of the school, and shouldn't impact events in the parish.

OLHC Path: Commemorative inlays are being installed along the path where a historic saw pit from our colonial era is located. To honour and preserve this heritage, the inlays will incorporate various elements related to traditional wood sawing, supported by totem signs providing additional information.

These inlays are substantial in size and will require installation using a small crane. For safety, the area will be fenced off during the work. Approximate completion before school term begins.



(Source: NSW State Archives Collection Map 2713 and Maskill 2011, p710)



Congratulations

to Anton and Virginia who celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary last Sunday 6th July!

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Celebrations this Week

Ordinary Week 15

14 July Mon: *St Camillus de Lellis*
15 July Tue: *St Bonaventure*
16 July Wed: *Our Lady of Mount Carmel*
5 July Sat: *St Anthony Zaccaria*

Ordinary Week 16

21 July Mon: *St Lawrence of Brindisi*
22 July Tue: **St Mary Magdalene**
23 July Wed: *St Bridget*
24 July Thur: *St Sharbel Mahkluf*
25 July Fri: **St James**
26 July Sat: *Sts Joachim and Anne*

Eucharistic Congress 2028: In 2028 Sydney will be hosting the International Eucharistic Congress (IEC) which will draw tens of thousands of visitors. Like the Olympics and World Youth Day the IEC will be seeking volunteers for a range of roles. If you'd like to volunteer or to be added to the mailing list iec2028@sydneycatholic.org

FREE WILLS SEMINAR & MORNING TEA

Plan Well

Join us for a free seminar with legal expert Cecilia Castle, Principal of Castle Lawyers, who will cover essential estate topics like:

- Writing a Will
- Power of Attorney
- Enduring Guardianship

Attendees may be eligible for a complimentary will*

CECILIA CASTLE
PRINCIPAL OF CASTLE LAWYERS

Magnificat Room at Our Lady of Dolours Parish, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067

12 August, 2025

10:30AM-12:30 PM

BOOK NOW

Scan to register by 7th August or visit www.trybooking.com/DAPZO

* Terms and conditions apply. For enquiries, please contact Mona Saouma on (02) 9410 9024

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 13 July 2025

Ps 18:8-11 Response: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

WEEKEND MASSES

Epping	5:00pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am (Family/Children) and 7:00pm (Youth)
Carlingford	6:00pm Vigil, 7:45am, 9:30am (Family/Children) and 5:00pm (Youth)

WEEKDAY MASSES

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	
EPPING	-	6:00pm	9:30am	-	-	8:00am	
CARLINGFORD	9:30am	-	-	9:30am	9:30am	-	

EXPOSITION OF THE EUCHARIST: Epping Tuesday 5:00-6:00pm and Saturday 8:30-9:00am

Carlingford Thursday 10-10:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Epping Tuesday 5:00-6:00pm and Saturday 8:30-9:00am

Carlingford Thursday 10-10:30am and Saturday 5:15-5:45pm, **OR BY APPOINTMENT** at either church

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: BY APPOINTMENT

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE: PO Box 369, Epping NSW 1710

ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH - 7256 2140 Email - sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS' PRIMARY SCHOOL: PH - 9868 3322 Email - olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au



Healing Mass: 1st Tuesday of the month, 10am at St Gerard's Meeting Room, Carlingford
Anointing Mass: 3rd Thursday of the month, 11am at OLHC Church, Epping



Please pray for.....

For those who are sick and suffering (new requests):

- Greg Forrester
- John Letteri (Marcella's husband)
- Anita Hofmann
- Elaine Finlayson
- Graham Kelly
- Bernadette Murray
- Collette Murray
- Bev Gibbeson
- Maureen Bestulic
- Peter Hargreaves
- Fred Saad



Thank you for your faithful prayers. Our brothers and sisters in need are surely strengthened by them. Our parish Prayer Ministry also has a private group on Facebook where you can post your requests directly or email us to do so. Please feel free to join this private group if you would like to pray for someone or for your own intentions: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2660800900909668> or via QR code on the right.



Lord, in Jesus your Son, you restored to us the gift of Everlasting life. Grant that life to:

Recently deceased - John Day, John Van Den Elzen, Luke Manassa, Clara Choi, Narelda Ryan

Anniversaries & Remembrance - Warwick Robertson, Richard Barry, Mark Hillier, Howard Carey, Dorrie Flanagan (mother of Betty Connors), Eddie Lee (uncle of Kevin Siau), Noelene Viset, Domenico Staltari

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 20 July 2025

Ps 14:2-5 Response: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.