

## Diocese of Broken Bay

Parish Priest: Fr Jim McKeon  
[Jim.McKeon@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Jim.McKeon@bbcatholic.org.au)

Assistant Priest: Fr Aldrin Valdehueza  
[Aldrin.Valdehueza@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto: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](http://eppcarl.org.au)

### Email

[eppcarl@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:eppcarl@bbcatholic.org.au)

### Giving

### Click here for:

[Weekend Mass Times](#)

[Weekday Mass Times](#)

[Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament](#)

[Sacrament of Reconciliation](#)



## Readings

**18 MAY 2025**

Acts 14:21-27  
Revelation 21:1-5  
John 13:31-35

**25 MAY 2025**

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29  
Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23  
John 14:23-29



## The Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford



CONNECT



WORSHIP



GIVE



SERVE



GROW

YEAR C

18 MAY 2025 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25 MAY 2025 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Opening & Blessing of OLHC Parish Centre and School



Bishop Anthony Randazzo will celebrate Mass with us on **Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am**, then bless the new buildings and join us for morning tea in the hall. This will be a major celebration for the whole parish, OLHC School and the Diocese of Broken Bay which has supported us throughout the construction. You will see invitations on the notice boards asking for RSVPs, but this is for external guests only – **all parishioners are warmly invited.**

**Welcome** to our New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator for OLHC, Christine Carpio. Christine's introduction is below, and her contact details are with the Parish Team on Page 3:

*Hi, I'm Christine Carpio. I'm a full-time mum to three beautiful kids - Celine, David, and Dominic - and I'm married to my loving husband, Dennis. I used to work as a pharmacist, but now I've been blessed to care for my family full-time.*

*My family and I have been part of this parish for the last three years, and we've truly felt blessed to belong here.*

*Through the ministries we've joined,*

*our faith has grown, and our love as a family has become even stronger - and this is what we hope to share with others who are searching for that too.*

*I'm very happy to say "YES" to this new role in our parish, and I feel so excited to serve and meet more families. I look forward to starting a fun playgroup for little ones here at Epping and working with our welcoming and hospitality teams to help everyone feel welcome and make our parish a warm and inviting home for all.*

**~Christine Carpio**

**Stepping Down:** Thank you to **Max Bosotti** who is stepping down as a member of the Parish Finance Committee, and to **Gavin Hayes** and **Christine Howe** who are stepping down as members of the Social Justice Team. I am grateful to each of them for their wisdom and support in recent years.

**~Fr Jim**



Christine with her family

**OLHC Car Park** will be closed on the weekend of May 31<sup>st</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup> while the tower crane behind us is disassembled. We apologise for the inconvenience.

## PASTORAL WORKS FUND

**Thank you** to everyone who gave generously to last weekend's Pastoral Works Fund Appeal to support the Catechists and Catholic hospital chaplains in our diocese.

You can still give using the Good Giving app via this QR code on the right which will send you a tax receipt immediately, or, using the



envelopes at the back of the church or which you might have brought back from last week. You'll receive your tax receipt in July.

## MAY APPEAL

Sundays 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

PASTORAL  
WORKS  
Broken Bay

[www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks)

Confraternity of  
Christian Doctrine (CCD)



Providing religious education in public schools.

Hospital Chaplaincy  
and Pastoral Care



Care and support for patients and families.

## PARISH NEWS

**Our Community Dinners** will be an opportunity for us to serve and build up community in our increasingly fragmented society where more and more people suffer from being lonely.

**Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup> 6pm** will be a gathering in OLHC hall of everyone who wants to contribute: as cooks, washers and welcomers. We'll form ourselves into 4 teams so that each team can serve one Thursday per month.



Come and join us in this new venture as we seek to be like Jesus who gathered people from the margins and shared meals and life with them. Contact me on 9876 2853 or [Jim.McKeon@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Jim.McKeon@bbcatholic.org.au) to find out more.

~Fr Jim

## FREE PARKING FOR CHURCH SERVICES

Parking is free during the following times for Mass, Adoration, and Reconciliation. Charges may apply outside these hours.

Saturday	7:40 - 9:30 am 4:40 - 6:30 pm
Sunday	8:00 am - 1:00 pm 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Tuesday	4:40 - 7:15 pm
Wednesday	8:15 - 10:30 am
Thursday	6:30 - 9:15 am

Parking for parish activities is arranged separately. For details, scan the QR code.



Our OLHC Parish Centre is open and already many parish groups are starting to utilise and enjoy our new facilities, which is great to see! This is a gentle reminder of our parking policy. Please see the notice on the left and also visit our parish website for full details on car park use: [bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/news-events/epping-redevelopment/car-parking/parking-policy](http://bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/news-events/epping-redevelopment/car-parking/parking-policy), or scan the QR code on the left.

The commencement of various parish activities has also seen an increase in the booking of rooms. The following rooms at OLHC are currently listed for use:

- Board Room (Lower Ground) – accommodates up to 16 people
- Epping Hall (Ground Level) – accommodates up to 200 people
- Multipurpose Area (Lower Ground) – suitable for several small groups
- Discussion Lounge (Lower Ground) – accommodates 8–12 people
- Interview Room (Ground Level) – accommodates 2–4 people

All bookings must be made through the Parish Secretary, Marcella Letteri. Please contact her via email [Marcella.Letteri@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Marcella.Letteri@bbcatholic.org.au) or phone the office 9876 2853. Kindly ensure your booking is confirmed before you advertise or inform your group to avoid clashes and disappointment.



## CELEBRATION

# THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS



**Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May at OLHC, Epping**  
Rosary – 5:30 PM | Holy Mass – 6:00 PM

*Please bring a plate to share, if you can.*

## Parish Team

### Parish Secretary

**Marcella Letteri** Ph: 9876 2853

Email: [Marcella.Letteri@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Marcella.Letteri@bbcatholic.org.au)

### Business Manager

**Deacon Richard Houwing** Ph: 9876 2853

Email: [Richard.Houwing@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Richard.Houwing@bbcatholic.org.au)

### Admin. Assistant

**Michael Davies** Ph: 9876 2853

Email: [Michael.Davies@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au)

### Youth Ministry Coordinator

**Holly Lawton** Ph: 0404 710 588

Email: [Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au)

### New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator - St Gerard's

**Belinda Shi** Ph: 0414 753 362

Email: [Belinda.Shi@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Belinda.Shi@bbcatholic.org.au)

### New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator - OLHC

**Christine Carpio** Ph: 0414 753 799

Email: [Christine.Carpio@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Christine.Carpio@bbcatholic.org.au)

### Sacristan - OLHC

**Dennis Porteous** Ph: 9876 2853

Email: [Dennis.Porteous@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Dennis.Porteous@bbcatholic.org.au)

## Some photos of our Mother's Day family Mass and the offering of flowers to Mother Mary:



Congratulations to Teresa and  
Jeffrey Lau on the birth of their  
daughter Isabella!

## Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

to our long term parishioner

**Tony McEnearney.**

Tony isn't able to come to  
OLHC, but many parishioners  
have signed a card for him.





### FIRST EUCHARIST 2025

Our online preparations are now underway. In the coming weekends, you will see the children and their families at Presentation Masses at both churches across our regular Mass times. When you see them, please feel free to approach them with your well wishes!

First Eucharist will be celebrated in our parish at the following dates and time:

- Sunday 8th June at 10:15am Our Lady Help of Christians' Church
- Sunday 15th June at 9:30am St Gerard's Church
- Sunday 22nd June at 9:30am St Gerard's Church

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they journey towards becoming fully initiated members of the Church.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June is the Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Our parish Devotions Team will be organising an event for the First Communicants. Stay tuned here for an update in the next edition of the Bulletin!

**Want to know when we celebrate Confirmation this year?**

Please email Lynn Siau to enquire and be placed on the mailing list so that you can be informed when it is time for enrolment.

**Lynn Siau** - Coordinator of Children's Ministries, Sacramental Programme & Parish Communications  
[Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au) or phone 9876 2853

## COMMUNICATIONS

**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](mailto:Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au) before **10am on Wednesday 28th May 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](https://bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/news-events/parish-newsletter)

## OLHC Playgroup



### We are relaunching Kidz Zone!

Come and join us as we start up again on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 9:45 –11:30am in the Epping Parish Hall**. This is ongoing every Wednesday during school term.

We welcome you and your little ones to join us for playtime whilst learning & having fun!

For more information please contact Christine on 0414 753 799 or via email: [Christine.Carpio@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Christine.Carpio@bbcatholic.org.au)



**Baptism enquiries?** You can book your child's Baptism online. Please visit the parish website here: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/sacraments/baptismforchildren>

If your child is aged 8 or above, you can visit <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/epping-carlingford/sacraments/baptism-for-children-8>

For further queries you, Belinda Shi, our Coordinator, would be happy to hear from you. Belinda can be contacted on 0414 753 362.



## YOUTH MINISTRIES

Come along on Friday 30 May or 13 June for **Cana**, our youth group for students in **Years 7-9**. We meet in the hall at **St Gerards in Carlingford** from **7:30pm – 9:00pm** to share talks, play games and build strong friendships with other young people in our community. Our next talk will be on The Millennial Saint Carlo Acutis.



**Antioch** youth group (**Yr 10 – 23 years old**) meets **weekly on Sundays 6-8pm** after the 5pm Youth Mass at St Gerards. Antioch is a group run by the youth, for the youth and sees different members of the group giving talks on a range of topics about the faith and how to live it out in a modern-day world. If you have been looking for new ways to develop Christian friendships and grow in your faith, we invite you to join us at Antioch, we look forward to meeting you!





# TRIVIA *Night*



**JUNE 28, AT 7.00 PM**  
St Gerards Parish Hall,  
543 North Rocks Rd,  
Carlingford

**RSVP**  
By email to  
[holly.lawton@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:holly.lawton@bbcatholic.org.au)  
or via the QR code

## Prize Donations Needed

### WHAT IS ACYF?

A three-day Festival bringing together young people from across Australia to connect & deepen their relationship with Jesus.

**WOULD YOU OR YOUR BUSINESS LIKE TO DONATE A PRIZE FOR OUR PARISH TRIVIA NIGHT ON 28 JUNE?**

THIS YEAR WE ARE FUNDRAISING FOR OUR YOUTH TO ATTEND THE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL (ACYF) IN MELBOURNE.

Interested in donating?

Please email Holly at [Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au)

*All donations are greatly appreciated.*



**Emmaus** Young Adults (**23-30 years old**) continues to meet **fortnightly on a Thursday 6:30-8:30pm** in our new Parish Meeting Rooms at **Our Lady Help of Christians Church in Epping**. Over the past few months we have had the opportunity to hear talks from different people, share meals and grow in faith as we recently begun praying Compline which is night prayer together. Please join us on **Thursdays 29 May or 12 June** and experience the joys of fellowship in our community.



## PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE



**The Challenge of Pope Leo XIV:** Our new Pope has chosen his name as a successor of Pope Leo XIII, whose groundbreaking encyclical *Rerum Novarum* launched a new field of Catholic Social Teaching in 1891. *Rerum Novarum* presented the Church's alternative solution to Marxism for the relationship between labourers and capitalists, and stressed the dignity of the worker, the right to form trade unions, the right to just wages, and the right to own private property tempered by the realization that property is to be used for the good of all humanity, not just the few. Successive Popes have built on *Rerum Novarum* and on the Church's role in promoting a just society for all.

It is fitting then that we as a parish (along with Chatswood Parish, Sydney & Parramatta Dioceses and the St Vincent de Paul Society) are members of the Sydney Alliance, a coalition of faith and non-faith groups working for the common good in areas such as just wages, affordable housing, clean and affordable energy and accessible public transport. We're hosting two-day training workshops at **OLHC on Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>** to build our skills in advocacy for the common good. Register at <https://www.sydneyalliance.org.au/foundations-training> and let Fr Jim know too.



The St Vincent de Paul team at Carlingford would like to **thank our parishioners** for their very generous donations in the recent clothing drive. We significantly exceeded our expectations and the donations will greatly assist various teams that support the local community.

*Thank you*



## CATECHIST NEWS

On May 10, 2025, our Primary and Secondary School Catechists attended a retreat and formation day organised by the Parish at St Benedict's Monastery, Arcadia, a beautiful place steeped in prayer. There were teaching of Pope Francis on baptism and mission, a Mass with Fr Aldrin and Fr Jim, praying with the Benedictine monks and some quality time for silent reflection.



**At the heart  
of catechesis  
is Jesus of Nazareth.**

To catechise is to reveal God's  
eternal design in Christ and bring  
people into communion with Him.

(taken from CCC 426)

We seek your prayers for all our catechists as they religiously take the WORD of GOD to hundreds of our children every week during school terms and we thank them for their dedication of time and effort.

If you are interested to become a catechist or to obtain more information regarding this ministry, please contact [katherine@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:katherine@eppcarl.org.au) for primary school or [trish@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:trish@eppcarl.org.au) for secondary school or call the Parish Office during office hours at 9876 2853. You can also visit the Diocesan website for more information: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/mission/ccd>

## MORE PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

*'For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.'* Heb 4:12

Join us for **Men Alive! Now at Epping**. A space for men to connect, grow, and share in faith with bible study. Every **fortnightly Thursday, 7PM, at OLHC Epping Lower Ground Meeting Room**.

To find out more, please contact [men.alive@eppcarl.org.au](mailto:men.alive@eppcarl.org.au)

Scan the QR code on the right to join our WhatsApp group or contact +61 401208694. See you there!

Men Alive EPPCARL  
WhatsApp group



**The Gospel of John** is the gospel you're hearing at Mass throughout the Easter Season, and it is the richest and most complex of the four gospels. Join Fr Andrew Murray SM, former lecturer at the Aquinas Academy and the Catholic Institute of Sydney as he brings a philosopher's lens to the gospel on four

**Wednesday mornings starting June 4<sup>th</sup>, 10am (after 9.30am Mass) in the OLHC meeting rooms** (downstairs from the hall). Sign up sheets are at the back of both churches.

**50+++ OUTING:** By popular request, we will return to The Ranch North Ryde for lunch on **Wednesday, 28th May, 12noon**. We will enjoy lunch together and plan future outings. Please let me know if you are free to join us. RSVP Monday 26<sup>th</sup>: Carole 9869 1036 or mobile 0478 003 704. You can also email [carolewilson2816@gmail.com.au](mailto:carolewilson2816@gmail.com.au) Hope to see you there.

## LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS

### Celebrations this Week

#### Easter Week 5

20 May Tue: *St Bernadine of Siena*

21 May Wed: *Sts Christopher Magallanes and companions*

22 May Thur: *St Rita of Cascia*

24 May Sat: OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

#### Easter Week 6

26 May Mon: *St Philip Neri*

27 May Tue: *St Augustine of Canterbury*

29 May Thur: *St Paul VI*

31 May Sat: **The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has it happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?" Luke 1:42-43*



## ECUMENICAL SERVICE

To celebrate the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, the communities of St Albans Anglican Church, Epping Uniting Church, West Epping Uniting Church and Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford invite you to an Ecumenical Service.

- **Venue:** *Our Lady Help of Christians' Church* (undercover parking is available via 6 Cambridge Street)
- **Date:** *Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June*
- **Time:** *11 am* (the Service runs for about 45 minutes and will be followed by light lunch)

**ALL WELCOME! Please invite your friends.**

While there is no charge for the meal, a financial contribution of approximately \$10 will be appreciated.

Enquiries: Lorraine Lobsey 0438605773



# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 18 May 2025

Ps 144:8-13 Response: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

## Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

### WEEKEND MASSES

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

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Note Wednesday morning Mass now at OLHC

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	
<b>EPPING</b>	-	6:00pm	9:30am	-	-	8:00am	
<b>CARLINGFORD</b>	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**

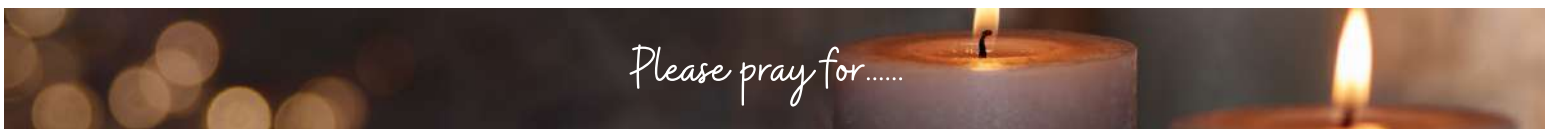
**POSTAL ADDRESS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE:** PO Box 369, Epping NSW 1710

**ST GERARD'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:** PH - 7256 2140 Email - [sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sgc@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS' PRIMARY SCHOOL:** PH - 9868 3322 Email - [olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:olhc@dbb.catholic.edu.au)



**Healing Mass: 1st Tuesday of the month, 10am at St Gerard's Meeting Room, Carlingford**



- For those who are sick and suffering (new requests):**
- Sr Rosalie Carlon
  - Guy Chan
  - Lillian Chan
  - Anita Hoffman
  - Louis Yeung (Goretti's brother)
  - Elaine Finlayson
  - Graham Kelly
  - Stephen Last
  - Fleur Tropea



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** - Ignazio Gallo, Nishu Bhattacharya, Reji Thomas (Uncle of Joshua Thomas), Robert Tessoriero  
**Anniversaries & Remembrance** - Cedric Fernandes, Patrick Murphy, Bert Saul, Choon-Myun Park, Olive Arrais, Phyllis Yan, Paul Kelly, Bev Aliprandi

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 25 May 2025

Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8 Response: O God, let all the nations praise you!

## Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.