

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

27 JULY 2025

Genesis 18:20-32
Colossians 2:12-14
Luke 11:1-13

3 AUGUST 2025

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23
Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11
Luke 12:13-21



The Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford



CONNECT



WORSHIP



GIVE



SERVE



GROW

YEAR C

27 JULY 2025 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

3 AUGUST 2025 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Thank-you to everyone who has contributed to the parish financially this year. Receipts for your giving were mailed to you this past week. Please contact the parish office if you haven't received it by the 1st August.

~Fr Jim

Please join us at our
SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM

11:30AM | AUG 10TH, 2025

A chance to share your ideas & initiatives for our Social Justice Committee to take on board and implement!

**LEARN
SHARE IDEAS
GET INVOLVED**

Register your attendance or ideas by scanning the QR code

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall
29 Oxford St, Epping NSW 2121

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.**

A New Paten for St Gerard's: To honour the sacredness of the Eucharist, sacred vessels like the paten should be made of precious metals. Last year, a parishioner donated \$1000 for a gold paten for OLHC Church in memory of a loved one, whose name was engraved on it. We now hope to purchase a similar paten for St Gerard's.



Would you consider donating in memory of someone special? If so, please contact Fr Aldrin at Aldrin.Valdehueza@bbcatholic.org.au

INVITATION TO DEVOTIONS & DISCIPLESHIP - DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

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

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.

BROWN SCAPULAR

Thank you for your feedback. We understand that attending weekday mass isn't possible for everyone.

A SECOND CHANCE TO ENROL FOR THOSE WHO MISSED OUT

CARLINGFORD

☑ Sunday, 10th Aug

09:30 am mass

05:00 pm mass

EPPING

☑ Saturday, 16th Aug

05:00 pm mass

☑ Sunday, 17th Aug

10:15 am mass

Who can enrol:

- Anyone who has not already enrolled.

How to enrol:

- Bring your Brown Scapular or use the one provided by devotions team (limited supply available)
- Be present for the blessing and enrolment prayer.

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

Behold, I make all things new

HEALING MASS & PRAYER

BY DIVINE RETREAT CENTER TEAM

*Every third Friday
starting 19th September*



19 SEP 2025

6:00 PM - ROSARY

6:30 PM - HOLY MASS

7:10 PM - TALK

7:30 PM - ADORATION

8:00 PM - BENEDICTION

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, EPPING

Monthly Healing Services Begin in September

We are pleased to announce that Fr. Sam Samuel VC, Director of the Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, will lead monthly healing services at our parish. These will begin on the third Friday of September and continue every third Friday at 6:30PM. His team also includes another priest and music ministry. All are warmly invited to experience this time of grace and healing.

Brown Scapular Enrolment – Second Opportunity

The Devotions Team has received feedback from parishioners who were unable to attend the recent scapular enrolment due to its weekday timing. In response, we are planning a second opportunity for those who missed out. Please see above Mass times. You can pick up an information sheet at the back of the church. On it, spiritual benefits and common questions are answered. All are most welcome.

ALPHA 2025

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the first Alpha session on Friday 18th July; it was a fantastic evening filled with great food, meaningful conversations, and a chance to explore life's big questions together.



📷 **Some photos from the night:**



If you weren't able to make it, we missed you! The good news is: you can still join us this Friday. Each Alpha session is designed to be welcoming and stand-alone, so **it's never too late to jump in.**

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

We can send you the video and reflection questions to catch you up. No stress!

We would love to welcome you this Friday as we continue the journey together.

🕒 Time: 7:00pm (Dinner served)

📍 Venue: New OLHC Hall, 33 Oxford Street, Epping

If you have any questions or need help finding us, feel free to contact us at alpha@eppcarl.org.au

We look forward to welcoming you!

~Leon D'Sylva
Alpha Coordinator

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



2025 CONFIRMATION – For children in Year 3 & above who are baptised

Not enrolled yet? Do hurry! **Enrolment for Confirmation will close on Friday 1 August.** 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 this QR code below 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

The **Parent Gathering & Information sessions** will be held online on **Tuesday 5 August and Thursday 7 August.** The **Rite of Enrolment** will take place across two weekends - one church per weekend.

Celebrate with us after Mass!

- 10 August, 10:15am at OLHC
- 17 August, 9:30am at St Gerard's
- Enjoy a jumping castle and morning tea both weekends as we mark the beginning of our young parishioners' journey toward full initiation!

Not yet Catholic? 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 on the right)

Year 2 Family Mass 3rd August

Fr Jim & Fr Aldrin invites **Year 2** to serve in some ministries at the 9:30am Mass on August 3! The children can be involved in a number of ways. You will be contacted by Lynn Siau after you sign up. Please use this link: volunteersignup.org/KJKQA to do so by Thursday July 31.

KidzPlay is on during school term!



- **Playgroup at OLHC** - Wednesdays 9:45am in the hall. Contact Christine for enquiries 0414 753 799.
- **Playgroup at St Gerard's** - Fridays 9:30am in the hall. Contact Belinda for enquiries 0414 753 362.

Kidz Word now on:

- 9:30am Mass at St Gerard's
- 10:15am Mass at OLHC

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

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 6th August 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



DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY PILGRIMAGE FLIGHTS + 4 NIGHTS ACCOMODATION + 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@bbcatholic.org.au

Register your interest by emailing
Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.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 with a further subsidy also available through the Parish. If you are interested in attending or would like some more information, please contact Holly on 0404710588 or Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au



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

Emmaus Young Adults



For those aged 23 - 30
looking to grow in Faith &
Fellowship

Our Lady Help of
Christians Church

6:30PM-8:30PM

Thursdays
Fortnightly

Join our
WhatsApp
Community!



Contact Holly Lawton on 0404 710 588
or Holly.Lawton@bbcatholic.org.au

Antioch

Year 10 - 23 Years old

**Weekly meetings on a Sunday at St
Gerards Parish Meeting Room**

6:00pm - 8:00pm

PROJECT COMPASSION

Certificate of Appreciation

Presented to:

Epping and Carlingford Catholic Parish

♥ Thank you ♥

Your generosity during Project Compassion this year will support our neighbours worldwide, empowering the most vulnerable people to build a just future for themselves, their families and communities.

Kirsten Seyers

Caritas Australia CEO



**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent



fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au



(02) 7254 5120



#projectcompassion

Thank you for being part of Caritas Australia's Project Compassion in 2025. You have made an extraordinary impact. This Lent, together with hundreds of Catholic parishes across the country, Project Compassion raised an incredible \$10 million to support vulnerable communities around the world. Your generosity has changed lives.

MORE PARISH NOTICES

NAMETAG SUNDAY AT BOTH CHURCHES!

every 1st Sunday
of the month,
all Masses



It's **Name Tag Sunday** on the weekend of **2nd/3rd August**. Come with a name tag or use our marker to write your name on the labels provided. Take a moment to greet fellow parishioners. Meet someone new and make a new friend. Or maybe you can finally know the name of a face you have known for years!



St Gerard's Healing Mass will be on **Tuesday 5th August, 10am in the meeting room**. Come join us to pray for yourself and others who are sick, and join us for morning tea. A plate to share would be welcome. Should you require transport please contact Carole Wilson at 9869 1036.



The Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is on **Friday 8th August**. We will have Mass at 9.30am at St Gerard's to celebrate Australia's patron saint.



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



Surrounded by their children, Tony and Cassandra renewed their marriage vows celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary last Sunday.

Family and friends celebrated this special occasion with them at the 10:15am Mass at OLHC.

Parishioners were also invited to a lovely morning tea after Mass. Thank-you to the Hendricks family for hosting.

Congratulations!

Happy Anniversary

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

Celebrations this Week

Ordinary Week 17

29 July Tue: Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus

30 July Wed: *St Peter Chrysologus*

31 July Thur: St Ignatius Loyola

1 August Fri: St Alphonsus Liguori

2 August Sat: *St Eusebius of Vercelli, St Peter Julian Eymard*

Ordinary Week 18

4 August Mon: St John Vianney

5 August Tue: *The Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major*

6 August Wed: **The Transfiguration of the Lord**

7 August Thur: *Sts Sixtus II and companions, St Cajetan*

8 August Fri: **ST MARY OF THE CROSS**

9 August Sat: St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

Anointed: A Day for Women to Reconnect and Be Renewed

- More than a conference, Anointed is a celebration of women's sacred identity and vocation in the Church. Join us for a full day of worship, fellowship, and Spirit-led messages that speak to the heart of womanhood. Be refreshed in prayer and empowered to walk in God's anointing—at home, at work, and in your community.



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS 2025-2026 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT

Register for the Launch

13 August at midday

[launch here.](#)

The Statement explores serving people living in homelessness and mental ill health

Copies available late August



Date: Saturday, 27 September 2025
 Location: Royal Randwick Racecourse, Sydney
 Keynote Speaker: Sr Miriam James Heidland, SOLT

Tickets available now – we'd love to see you there!

Get tickets here:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1399095>

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 23 July 2025

Ps 137:1-3, 6-8 Response: Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

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
- Roslyn Rodriguez
- David & Elizabeth Evans & Family
- 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 - Luke Manassa, Clara Choi, Narelda Ryan, Eduardo Gutierrez (Elena's husband)

Anniversaries & Remembrance - Giuseppe Papallo (1st anniversary - Marcella Letteri's father), Bill Kilby (Anne Kilby's husband), Joan Thompson (nee Pedemont), Serafina Gallo, Flora Ng (Kevin Siau's grandmother), Roger Brennan (Cliff Brennan's father), Sr Philomene Tiernan RSCJ, Estelle Moses

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 3 August 2025

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17 Response: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!