

Diocese of Broken Bay

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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

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The Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford



YEAR B

4 AUGUST 2024 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11 AUGUST 2024 NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Fr Jim's Anniversary: This month I celebrate my 25th anniversary as a priest. This is something which I would love to celebrate with you, my parish community, because priesthood only makes sense in the context of the people whom I serve. Although the actual date is August 13th (and some of you were there with me in 1999!) I'd like to celebrate with you on the weekend when the most people are present.



We can use the existing morning teas and suppers which we already have at **OLHC on the weekend of August 11th** and at **St Gerard's on the weekend of August 18th**. Our morning tea coordinators have asked anyone who would like to help to bring a plate to share.

St Paul's Letter of the Ephesians: We're continuing to read St Paul's Letter to the Ephesians as our second reading at Mass. I'll be exploring this in each weekend homily as we discover Paul's reflection on what the life, death and resurrection of Jesus means for us today. You can find any of the homilies you miss on my YouTube channel <https://youtube.com/@frjimckeon?si=Oml4nQ3Ms2kWYE1> or via QR code on the right.



~Fr Jim McKeon

The Solemnity of

*St Mary of the
Cross MacKillop*

Thursday 8th August

St Gerard's

9:30am Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians

6pm Mass

Come and pray with us!



Readings

4 AUGUST 2024

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15
Ephesians 4:17, 20-24
John 6:24-35

11 AUGUST 2024

1 Kings 19:4-8
Ephesians 4:30-5:2
John 6:41-51

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION MASS TIMES

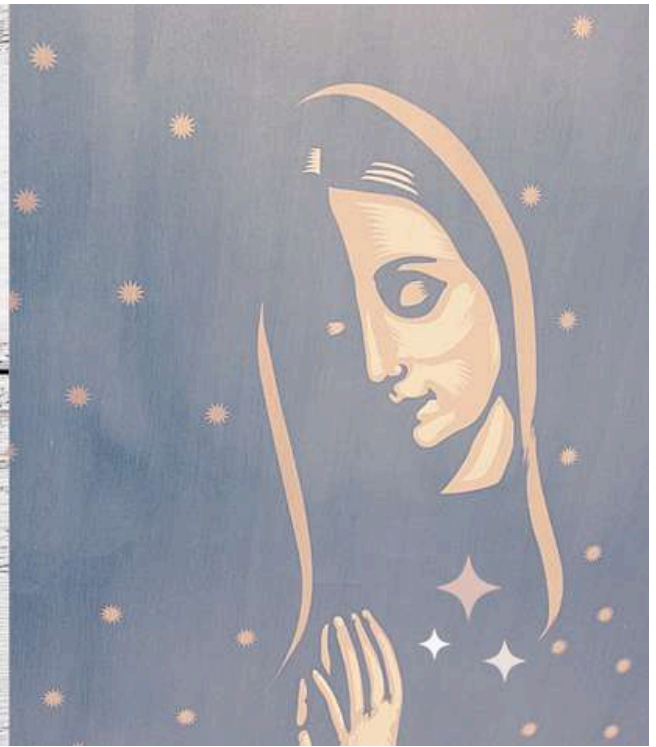
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St Gerard's Church

- Wednesday 14th August 7pm Vigil
- Thursday 15th August 9:30am Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians' Church

- Thursday 15th August 6pm Mass



NEW OLHC BUILDING UPDATE

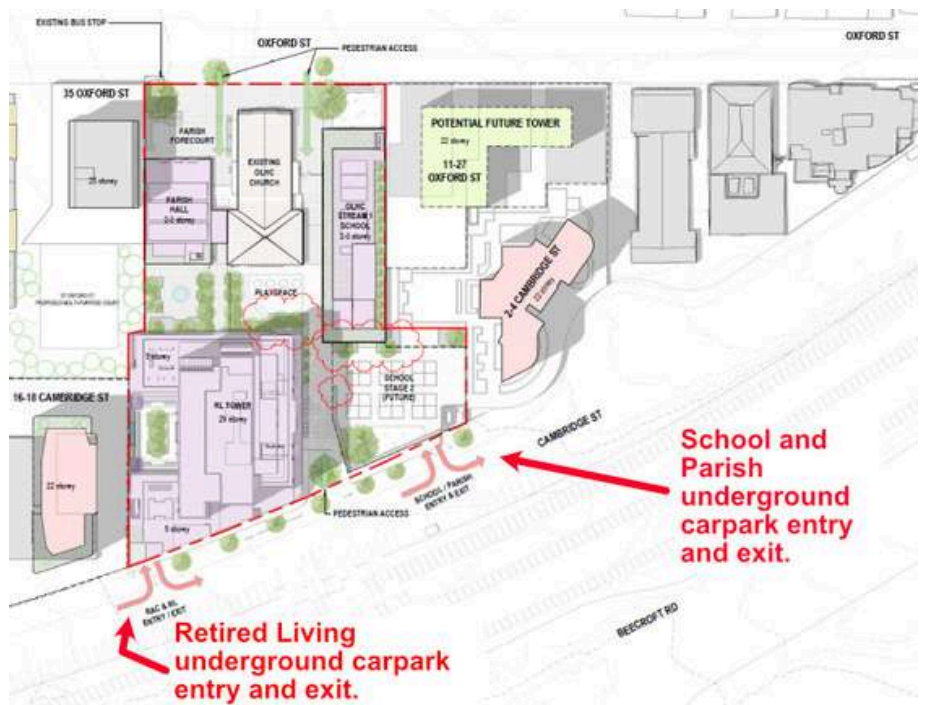
Getting ready for the new OLHC building: Even though the delivery date keeps getting pushed back (presently the end of September), anticipation is growing for our new building and carpark. We can now see that the forecourt is getting paved and there are plants and trees in the planter boxes, so we know we're getting close. It's time to start to think about some of the logistics, and this week we'll cover the carpark.

OLHC Carpark: There will be 95 parking spaces in our new underground carpark. For reference, this is twice as many as we previously had when we parked on the school playground, because we will have two levels of parking. The entry will be at 6 Cambridge St, just where the car park entry was previously. A separate carpark will later open for the residents of The Cambridge Tower at the northern end of the site.

Upon entry to the carpark your number plate will be scanned and the boom gate will lift. We need to control access to the carpark, otherwise it would soon be over run by commuters eager to find a parking spot near the station, but we will welcome commuters and shoppers who will be able to use the carpark for \$5 per hour, as this will help fund

the running costs of the building, so that the carpark can always be free for parishioners attending Mass and other functions. There will be a validation process around this.

A short period of free parking for school drop-offs, pick-ups, and couriers, etc will be available. The exit boom gate will also be programmed to allow enough time for parking during Mass and other events. In the coming month, we will contact ministers like musicians, welcomers, and hospitality servers for their car number plates to program additional free parking time. If you visit the parish office or attend a small group, you can provide your car number plate on the day for free parking. It might take some trial and error as we work on the best settings to make access easy for our parishioners whilst still maintaining security.



PARISH NEWS & NOTICES



Healing Mass at St Gerard's: Join us for the Healing Mass on **Tuesday 6th August**. We gather in the meeting room for Mass at **10am**. Please stay for morning tea following Mass, and if you are able to, do bring a plate to share. If you would like to attend and *are in need of transport*, that can also be arranged. Please contact Carole Wilson at 9869 1036.



Time Taken so Tiny Tots have Toys: It would be hard to list all the generous parishioners who have donated toys for the relaunch of our Kidzplay playgroup. Popping them into a charity box would have been so much simpler than patiently disinfecting them, packing them and delivering them. We are so grateful to all parishioners who made the effort and to all children who were made to choose which of their favourites they would give up.

Our inaugural **Kidzplay** will start later than anticipated but our assortment of toys is being safely stored in the meantime. Until we are in our new facilities and know how much storage space we have, the collection is probably just enough!

~ Simone Noel with gratitude

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

Facilities Manager - Epping

Nancy Ghazaleh Ph: 9876 2853

Email: Nancy.Ghazaleh@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

Joanna Mak Ph: 0404 710 588

Email: Joanna.Mak@bbcatholic.org.au

New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator - St Gerard's

Belinda Shi Ph: 0414 753 362

Email: Belinda.Shi@bbcatholic.org.au

Pastoral Worker - OLHC

Simone Noel Ph: 0414 753 799

Email: Simone.Noel@bbcatholic.org.au



New parish email address for general enquiries: eppcarl@bbcatholic.org.au

Please note parish@eppcarl.org.au will be obsolete.

Updating your contact details for the Parish Office:

Please contact our Parish Secretary, Marcella Letteri, if you need to update your contact details, for eg: mobile number, email address, home address.

You can either pop in to the parish office to see Marcella in person, contact her using details above.

#TryAlpha

explore

life
faith
mean!

Alpha is postponed to Feb 2025, due to the delayed opening of the new Epping hall.

You're Invited



to register

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and God in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Enquiries? Please Email alpha@eppcarl.org.au



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SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

PRESENTATION

ST GERARD'S CHURCH, CARLINGFORD
SUNDAY 4TH AUGUST 9:30AM MASS

The jumping castle is coming to us after Mass with morning tea at the school undercover area. Put on something warm and let's celebrate with the children!

We look forward to seeing you!



Family Mass 18th August

As part of the Confirmation programme, Fr Jim & Fr Aldrin are inviting the candidates to provide some ministries at the 9:30am Mass and the 10:15am Mass. The children can be involved in a number of ways. Other Year 3 children are also welcome! Please pick the preferred Mass time or church for the correct link to sign up and do so **by Thursday 15th August:**

- St Gerard's 9:30am volunteersignup.org/KJKQA
- OLHC 10:15am volunteersignup.org/LT4QH

2024 Confirmation: The Rite of Enrolment will take place this weekend 3rd/4th August at select Masses. The families will be presented during Mass where they affirm their wish to share more fully in the life and faith of Jesus.

There will be a JUMPING CASTLE after the 9:30am Mass on the 4th August!

We want to celebrate the families whose children are embarking on this exciting journey! Please come and show your support for these families and catch up for a cuppa whilst the children play! Morning tea will be provided by our parish hospitality team at the undercover area of St Gerard's Primary School. Even if you are attending another Mass, if you can, do still come and join this celebration which will begin at around 10:30am. You might catch Fr Jim having a go on the jumping castle again this year!



Join our **Children's Liturgy** team to help children learn about God's Word in an age-appropriate and engaging way! As we look forward to re-establishing our Children's Ministries when OLHC re-opens, we need you to help in various ways. You could lead a 20-minute easy session with support, or be a silent assistant if you wish, or simply help spread the word around. **During school term at the OLHC 10:15am Mass.** Email Lynn for more information (contact details below).

Lynn Siau

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

Lynn.Siau@bbcatholic.org.au or phone Parish Office 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 before **10am on Wednesday 14th August 2024**. 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. Please note that PDFs will have to be reformatted and the clarity of your notice will be compromised. Do 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

YOUTH MINISTRIES



Cana (Year 6-9): Cana is held fortnightly on Fridays at St Gerard's in the parish hall **7:30-9pm**. **Please note: as of Term 3, Cana is held every fortnight instead of weekly.** Remaining Cana dates for Term 3 are: 9th Aug, 23rd Aug, 6th Sept and 20th Sept.

Entrance to the premises is via 543 North Rocks Road, Carlingford.



Antioch (Year 10/16 year olds-23 year olds): Antioch will meet on the **4th and 11th August, 6-8pm** at St Gerard's meeting room. All welcome!

Contact parent support if you have any questions: Cres & Lui Yparraguirre Mobile: 0449228514.



Emmaus young adults (23-30 year olds): On the **6th and 20th August, 7-8:30pm** at St Gerard's meeting room. Topics will be on liturgy + music and reconciliation.

YOUNG ADULTS EVENT

The Story of Mary

Learn about the life of Saint Mary Mackillop with other young adults

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER | 10 AM
Mary Mackillop Place
7-11 Mount Street
North Sydney, 2060

Museum entry - \$10.00

Schedule
Mass: 10am
Museum Tour: 11am - 12.30pm
Liturgy/Reflection: 12.30pm - 1pm
Lunch to follow

RSVP via QR code




'NEVER SEE A NEED WITHOUT DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT'
MARY MACKILLOP

Half day retreat for 18-35 year olds: RSVP via the QR code or click [here](#).



! A ! t



We are looking for youth singers who want to join our choir on the **3rd Sunday of each month**. Please contact Joanna if you are able to help. Contact details below.



A special thank-you to all the Antiochers who helped organise and run the night including Casey, Jude, Sophia G, Erene, Julianne, Benita, Holly, Paddy, Tyrone, Finn, Ivy, Olivia, Sophia Y, Audrey, Christine, Emmanuele and our amazing clergy Fr Jim and Deacon Adrian!

Thank-you to everyone who came to the Trivia night and all who donated prizes. It was a wonderful Christmas in July themed night and we raised more than \$2100 to support the homeless.

Joanna's Work Hours: Mondays 6-9pm, Tuesdays 6-9pm, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Fridays 5-9pm and Sundays 4-9pm.

For more information on any of our 3 youth groups, please contact our Youth Minister, Joanna Mak on 0404 710 588 or send her an email at Joanna.Mak@bbcatholic.org.au



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

COMBATING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER

Please donate to CatholicCare's homelessness services across the Diocese

Thank you

Donor envelopes available during Mass Saturday and Sunday 10 & 11 August

There is no place like home – but for many having a home is not a reality. The causes may be diverse, but the impact is the same – a loss of dignity and a sense of hopelessness.

Thank you to our Parishes for helping us fundraise for CatholicCare's homelessness services. A donation drive will take place during Homelessness Week on 10 & 11 August. Thank you in advance for supporting this important Diocesan initiative.

We invite you today to consider supporting the homelessness services provided by CatholicCare in our Diocese. On any given night, 116,000 people in Australia are experiencing homelessness, and right throughout our own Diocese of Broken Bay there are people every night sleeping in parks, bus shelters, cars and on couches.

By supporting the appeal over the weekend of 10 & 11 August, you are ensuring that CatholicCare can continue offering meals, showering facilities, transitional accommodation, case management and social connection for the most vulnerable people in our community.

The facts



Homelessness has increased by 13.7% in 4 years.



20% of people experiencing homelessness are Aboriginal & Torres Straits Islander people. 30% were born overseas.



2 out of 5 people experiencing homelessness are under 25.

55+

There has been a 28% increase in Australians aged 55+ experiencing homelessness.



Only 6% of people experiencing homelessness actually sleep on the streets.

Please keep the good work of CatholicCare in your prayers.



LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 14TH SEPTEMBER

The **Epping Civic Trust** will host a meeting at the **Epping Church of Christ Hall on Bridge St, on Tuesday 20 August at 7.30pm** for voters to meet the candidates for City of Parramatta Council Epping Ward. All candidates will be invited to attend. You are welcome to be there.

If you are in the Hornsby Shire, the **Beecroft Cheltenham Civic Trust**, will host a meeting at **Beecroft Presbyterian Church Hall**, for the Hornsby Council candidates on **Thursday 29 August, at 7.30pm**. You are also welcome to attend that meeting.

Community members are encouraged to consider key attributes of an ideal candidate. For example,

- Social and Affordable Housing: Advocates for increasing affordable housing.
- Environmental Stewardship: Protects trees, promotes greenery, and sustainable development.
- Support for Migrants and Refugees: Supports integration programs.
- Open Play Areas: Ensures safe play spaces for children.
- Community Engagement: Engages with the community, values transparency.
- Proven Leadership: Has a track record of positive impact.
- Vision for Growth: Offers a clear, sustainable plan for the future.
- Collaborative: Works well with various stakeholders.

Please pray for a candidate with qualities that ensure responsible governance and addresses community needs with compassion and foresight.

OTHER NOTICES

Celebrations this Week

Ordinary Week 18

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

6 August Tue: **The Transfiguration Of The Lord**

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

8 August Thur: **ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP**

9 August Fri: *St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross*

10 August Sat: **St Lawrence**

Ordinary Week 19

12 August Mon: *St Jane Frances de Chantal*

13 August Tue: *Sts Pontian and Hippolytus*

14 August Wed: St Maximilian Kolbe

15 August Thur: THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

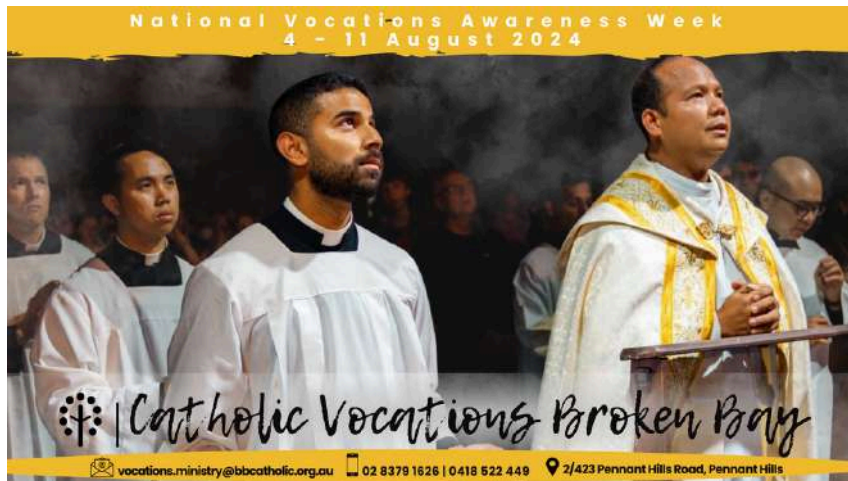
16 August Fri: *St Stephen of Hungary*

Fr Jim will be away on long service leave from August 26th to October 8th. He will be walking the 800km Camino de Santiago in Spain. Fr Aldrin will be the parish administrator during this time and will be able to assist with anything you need.



Deacon Hien Vu is known to many of us from his time on pastoral placement in our parish in 2021. Bishop Anthony has announced that Deacon Hien will be ordained to priesthood on

Saturday August 24th 11am at Our Lady of Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. Please come along to support Hien, and pray for him during his preparation.



On the 8th of August, we commemorate Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Australia's first canonised saint and cherished patron. As we celebrate her legacy, we also mark National Vocations Awareness Week, which runs from 4 -11 August 2024.

During this special week, let us pray for more devoted priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women as we recognise and support the critical role of families in fostering vocations. *May they find courage in Jesus Christ, draw strength from our united faith, and embrace the precious gift of their vocation with grace and gratitude.*

Permanent Part-Time Parish Secretary (Shared)

Applications are invited for the position of a Part-Time Parish Secretary at St Anthony's Parish Marsfield. The position will be eighteen hours per week (Tuesdays to Fridays, 9.30am – 2.30pm including half hour for lunch) with possibility of an increase in hours at a later date. A sound working knowledge of Microsoft Office – Word, Publisher, Excel, Outlook is required. Knowledge of MYOB would be helpful. The successful applicant will be a person who upholds the ethos of the Catholic Church. Please email your application and resume **by 9 August 2024** to: office@saintanthonys.org.au

WE ARE
HIRING

Dark to Light - an exploration on Domestic Violence - September 8:

We warmly invite you to a presentation on Domestic Violence September 8 at 1.30 pm at the Holy Name of Mary Church Hall, Hunters Hill. This event features Ms. Livia La Rocca, a trained psychologist with 20 years of experience working with the Good Shepherd Sisters, and Ms. Nicole Yade, CEO of the Women and Girls Emergency Centre, a specialist homelessness service for women and families escaping domestic violence. www.maristlaityaustralia.com/dark-to-light

Billings LIFE[®]
Leaders in Fertility Education

Natural Fertility Awareness Week

Trust your body's natural signals of fertility:
Forget about drugs and devices

You're invited to join our Free Webinar
19 August 2024 @ 7:30 PM AEST

An introduction to the Billings Ovulation Method[®] to naturally manage your fertility and monitor your reproductive health.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 4 Aug 2024

Ps 77:3-4, 23-25, 54 Response: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

WEEKEND MASSES

Epping	5:00pm Vigil, 8:30am, 10:15am 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	-	-	-	8:00am	
CARLINGFORD	9:30am	-	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

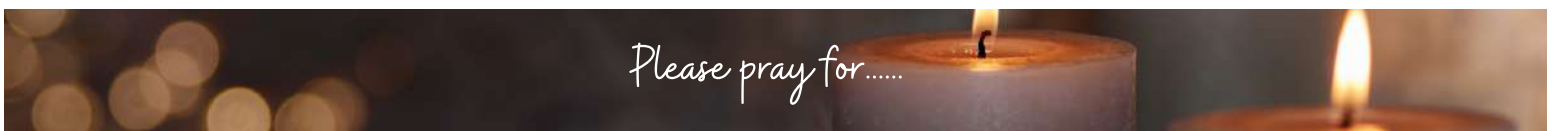
POSTAL ADDRESS FOR THE PARISH OFFICE: PO Box 369, Epping NSW 1710

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



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

- John Donnellan
- Sophia Camilleri (Marie Saul's 10mo great-granddaughter)
- Elaine Finlayson (Marie Saul's sister)
- Sister Rosalia Carlon (Marie Saul's sister)
- Katherine Barnett
- John Haydon
- Pat Booth
- Helen Tiltans



"Our Lord and our God, today we pray for those who are sick and suffering. May they be able to find healing in Your Name. May they find strength each day to battle their challenges. May they find joys and little mercies everyday despite the pain. May they experience more of your love each day. Provide strength as well for their family and loved ones. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."

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 - Denis Snell, Claire Clear, Estelle Moses, Guiseppe Pappallo (father of Marcella Letteri), Ann Pereira, Patricia Kelly (previously Sr M Madeleine RSM who taught at St Gerard's), Francoise Espitalier-Noel, Bishop Kevin Manning (former bishop of Parramatta), Hazel Nolan, Gus Breen, Noel Bennett, Diane Price

The funeral for parishioner Denis Snell will be held at OLHC Church Monday Aug 5th, 11am.

Anniversaries - Howard Carey, Serafina Gallo

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 11 Aug 2024

Ps 33:2-9 Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever.