

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

10 DECEMBER, 2023



Parish of Gosford

The Shrine of St John Paul II

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford, St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



St Patrick's Gosford

Year of

COURAGE

MESSAGE ON HAPPINESS

BY FERNANDO PESSOA

You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust. Many appreciate you, admire you and love you.

Remember that to be happy is not to have a sky without a storm, a road without accidents, work without fatigue, relationships without disappointments.

To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the stage of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes, but to learn lessons from the failures. It is not only to feel happy with the applause, but to be happy in anonymity.

Being happy is not a fatality of destiny, but an achievement for those who can travel within themselves. To be happy is to stop feeling like a victim and become your destiny's author. It is to cross deserts, yet to be able to find an oasis in the depths of our soul. It is to thank God for every morning, for the miracle of life.

Being happy is not being afraid of your own feelings. It's to be able to talk about you. It is having the courage to hear a "no". It is confidence in the face of criticism, even when unjustified. It is to kiss your children, pamper your parents, to live poetic moments with friends, even when they hurt us.

To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It is to have maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". It is to have the courage to say "I am sorry". It is to have the sensitivity to say, "I need you". It is to have the ability to say "I love you". May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness. That in spring may it be a lover of joy. In winter a lover of wisdom. And when you make a mistake, start all over again. For only then will you be in love with life. You will find that to be happy is not to have a perfect life. But use the tears to irrigate tolerance.

Use your losses to train patience. Use your mistakes to sculptor serenity. Use pain to plaster pleasure. Use obstacles to open windows of intelligence. Never give up Never give up on people who love you. Never give up on happiness, for life is an incredible show.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

For DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



"MAKE STRAIGHT THE PATHS
OF THE LORD."

NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY

BY MARY COLOE PBVM

"Get Ready"

Mark 1:1-8, The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God

Here we have the first written proclamation of the Gospel – the Good News of Jesus the Christ, the Son of God. Mark wastes no time in his announcement with a long introduction but instead immediately introduces John. Since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls scholars now know that at this time there were some in Israel who had a strong sense that God's Kingdom was about to break into history. The community of Qumran by the Dead Sea lived with this expectation and they also practised rituals of cleansing. While there is no evidence that John was part of this group, his message and manner are similar. God's reign is coming. Prepare for it by seeking forgiveness.

Baptism, immersion in water, was a common Jewish practice as a way of purifying oneself before participating in major religious festivals. John applies this ritual to a desire for repentance as preparation for the coming Kingdom. John was remembered as a great and holy man of God. He too attracted disciples and even Jesus came to him seeking his baptism. These historical facts must have puzzled the early Christians, particularly if some of John's disciples were now part of the Jesus group. How were they to speak about John, recognising his greatness while acknowledging that Jesus was even greater? In trying to understand John's role in Jesus' story, Mark looks back to the Jewish Scriptures and uses the prophets Malachi and Isaiah to clarify that John's role is one of preparation for another greater figure who is on the way.

FR. Francis Jordan

Yes! - Could I but devote my life and my all to promote the work of Jesus our Saviour. Could I but labour to spread faith's light and lovingly capture souls - I would live from delight and die of rapture! *MM Urgent Request 1875 in Poems*





ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

UNDER THE PASTORAL CARE OF SALVATORIANS
Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH PRIEST	Fr Grzegorz (Greg) Skulski SDS greg@sds.org.au
ASSISTANT PRIEST	Fr Bronislaw (Broniek) Pietruszewicz SDS

PARISH OFFICE
Mon – Thu: 8:30am – 4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am – 3:30pm
Phone: (02) 4325 1042

PARISH SECRETARY	Colleen Kirk
EMAIL:	patsgos@acs.net.au

ST POPE JOHN PAUL II PASTORAL CENTRE

EMAIL:	JPII.Centre@bbcatholic.org.au
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PASTORAL CENTRE & FORMATION, INCLUDING YOUTH MINISTRY

COORDINATOR	Jaimi-Lee Andrews
EMAIL:	jaimi.andrews@bbcatholic.org.au
PHONE:	0499 386 336
MEDIA	John French
EMAIL:	03johnfrench@gmail.com
CATECHIST COORDINATOR	Raelene O'Connor
PHONE:	0499 995 292
EMAIL:	saintpatscdd@acs.net.au

PARENT ENGAGEMENT COORDINATORS

ST JOSEPHS	Sophie Holliday
EMAIL:	sophie.holliday@dbb.catholic.edu.au
ST PATRICKS	Dionne Soares

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON	Scott Beattie
PARISH OPERATIONS	Eunice Dal Busco
EVANGELISATION	Amanda Eades
COMMUNITY	Diane Dankwah
DISCIPLESHIP	Maisie Tenev
LITURGY	Jon Kealy

EX OFFICIO PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS	St Patrick's - Chris Franklin
	St Joseph's - Tony McCudden
	St Edwards - Mark Bonnici

PASTORAL CTR INCLUDING YOUTH MINISTRY	Jaimi Andrews
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FINANCE COMMITTEE	Maria Andrzejewska
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SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Hilary Pope
EMAIL:	hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au



If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that concerns you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer.

SENIORS MINISTRY:	Barb: 4322 0250, Eunice: 043-827-2141
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CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Mon: 9:00am	Wed: 11:30am	Fri: 12:00pm
Tue: 9:00am	Thu: 9:00am	Sat: 9:00am

Devotion to St JPII after Mass

Adoration and Confession 30 minutes before each weekday Mass.

Mass live stream: <https://www.youtube.com/@stpatrickscatholicchurch-g5766/streams>

WEEKEND MASSES INCL. CONFESSION 30 MIN BEFORE

GOSFORD, 76 YORK STREET EAST GOSFORD

Sat Vigil: 5:00pm	Sun: 7:30am, 9:30am & 6:00pm
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Filipino Mass:	2nd Sunday of each month: 12:00pm
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SOMERSBY, 30 LUTANA RD	Sat Vigil: 5:30pm
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SPENCER, 4200 WISEMANS FERRY RD	4:00pm 2nd Sat of Month
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ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Mon 8:30 - 9:00am	Wed 11:00 - 11:30am	Fri 12:30 - 3:00pm
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Tue 8:30 - 9:00am	Thu 8:30 - 9:00am	Sat 8:30 - 9:00am
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ROSARY - PLUS ON LINE DAILY AT 9:00 PM

Mon, & Thu	8:05 am to 8:25 am
Tuesday	8:05 am to 8:25 am: "Right to Life"
Wednesday	10:35 am to 10:55 am
Fridays	11:35 am to 11:55 pm
Saturday	8:05am until 8:25am: 1st Priests & Religious 2nd Mothers & Babies 3rd Persecuted Christians
Sunday	7:05 am to 7:25 am

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Mon to Thu:	8:30am to 3:30pm
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Fri:	9:00am to 3:30pm
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ACTIVE GROUPS IN OUR COMMUNITY OF ST PATRICK'S

Cancer Prayer Group	After 9:00am Mass, 4th Tuesday of the Month, in the Jordan room.
Craft Group	9:00am to 12:00pm Every Friday in the Jordan Room
Grief & Loss Support	Please contact Margaret on 0439257817..
Women's Faith Circle	2nd and 4th Friday of the Month in the Primary Learning And Resource Centre 6:00 pm to 7:45 am
MenAlive	7:00pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Mass followed by meeting in the Jordan room.
Seniors Ministry	Meet 1st Tuesday of the month. Enquiries:
Monday Morning Prayer Groups	Prayer Group DVDs 1st Monday of the Month Prayer & Bible Discussion 2nd, 4th and 5th Monday of the Month Prayers for Christian Unity 3rd Monday of the Month
Bible Study - Monday night	7:00pm to 9:00pm Monday, in the Jordan Room, all are welcome!
Divine Will Prayer Group	6:00pm to 7:15pm every Wednesday in the Jordan Room.
Salvatorian Collaborators	3:00pm, 1st Saturday of the month, in the Jordan room.
Paddies - Youth	Years 3 & 4 students, meet every Wednesday during school terms in the Hall 3:00 to 4:30 pm.
Arise - Youth Group	Years 5 & 6 students, meet every Friday during school terms, in the school Library 6:00pm.
Ascend - Youth Group	Years 7 to 12 meet every Sunday night during school terms, after 6:00 pm Youth Mass
Awake - Young Adults Group	18 to 35 year olds meet the last Saturday of each month 7:00 pm in the Jordan Room

NATIONAL CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP STANDARDS

Committed leadership, governance & culture

Key Elements of Standard 1:

- † A Commitment to Safeguarding
- † Promoting a Safeguarding Culture
- † Safeguarding Policies
- † Code of Conduct




UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR NORMAL MASS TIMES SEE OPPOSITE ON PAGE 2 ANY EXCEPTIONS WILL BE LISTED BELOW.

Date	Time	Event
Sun 10/12/23	10:30 – 11:30am	Nativity Play Rehearsal
Tue 12/12/23	9:30 – 10:30am	Church Decorating
Sun 17/12/23	7:00 – 8:00pm	Youth Christmas Party
Tue 19/12/23	9:30 – 10:30am	Church Cleaning
Wed 20/12/23	7:00 – 8:00pm	2nd Rite Encounter Evening (Mercy NIGHT)
Fri 22/12/23	3:00 – 4:00pm	Nativity Play Rehearsal

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

 St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal envelopes will be on the seats for this weekend only, and then will be available in the foyer for the next weekends. The Poor Boxes will be available as usual. Food and clothing may be placed neatly in boxes in the foyer. Help is available for those in need at 4322 5861. If you would like to volunteer for Conference work, please contact Margaret Gunnelson (Conference President) 0419 589 540. Thank you.

PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

DECORATIONS

If you would like to assist in decorating our church for Christmas, this work will commence at 9.30am this Tuesday, December 12.

CLEANING

On Tuesday, 19th December at 9.30am, volunteers will help to clean our church, followed by a yummy morning tea. Please join us! As they say, many hands make light work!

ANOINTING OF THE HOUSEBOUND SICK BEFORE CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 19 & 20

If you know of someone who is unable to make Mass, and would like to receive the Eucharist and possibly be anointed, please advise the office by Friday, 15th December so that a schedule may be comprised.

BON VOYAGE SOPHIE!

At our 6pm Mass this weekend, we say farewell to St Joseph's Parents Engagement Coordinator, Ms Sophie Holliday, who is leaving her role to enjoy living overseas for a period of time. We thank Sophie for outstanding work in encouraging the girls and their parents to be in touch with their faith.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17 – FAREWELLS

At the 9.30am Mass next Sunday, December 17 we will farewell our seminarian on placement at St Pat's in 2023, Huy Tran, who contributed so beautifully to our faith formation during his time here. We also say farewell to the Principal at St Joseph's, Mr Tony McCudden, who is moving on from that role. We thank Huy, Tony & Sophie for their contributions to the fabric of Catholic faith of those in their outreach and they take with them our best wishes. Please join us for the morning tea that follows this Mass.

THANK YOU PAUL!

Thanks to the voluntary work of parishioner, Paul Galea, we have a refurbished deck leading to the Parish Office after quite a number of years of a very neglected surface. We thank him for his time and his talents.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR THOSE WITHOUT FAMILY IN THE AREA

It is our tradition to provide a Christmas lunch for those who are alone at this special time. If you would like to attend from 11am on Christmas Day at St Patrick's Hall, please RSVP to Barbara on 4322 0250 or Eunice 0438582 938, our hard working ladies who coordinate this. If you would like to donate cash towards this lunch [so that the menu may be tailored to our needs] please pop it in an envelope duly marked and place it on the plate, or bring it to the office.

COFFEE SHOP OPERATORS REQUIRED

3RD SATURDAY MONTHLY

We take this opportunity to thank Raelene, Bethany & Tiffany for their energy and commitment to 3rd Saturday Coffee Shop for quite some time as they can no longer be available after the 3rd Saturday in December. This leaves an opening for at least two people to step into this ministry... could that be you? If you are interested, please call the office to enquire further.

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

At Fr Greg's request, the Parish Finance Committee passed a motion at its meeting last Wednesday that from next week we will commence advertising weekly in the Bulletin the amount of the 2nd Collection, which is the collection that supports the parish and its upkeep. Last week's 2nd collection was \$2396.78. So that there is full clarity, from next week this will be displayed against the average cost of sustaining the parish weekly.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF STAFF CHANGES

SEBASTIAN EAGER

As promised last week when we announced that Jaimi was leaving her multiple roles in the parish, we are very pleased to advise that Jaimi's Youth Coordinator role has been accepted by Sebastian Eager, who has been part of our youth group for over 5 years. We look forward to welcoming Sebastian into his new role!

RAELENE O'CONNOR

Mrs Raelene O'Connor has accepted the roles of Sacramental Program Coordinator and Shrine & Formation Coordinator in addition to her current Catechist Coordinator role! We welcome Raelene into her new position with confidence in her dedication and commitment, shown in her passionate contribution to her existing roles in our parish, and look forward to a continuation of the success of all these programs in 2024.

CHRISTMAS MARKETS – WHAT A SUCCESS!

We owe a huge thank you to the many parishioners for the success of the Christmas Market held two weekends ago from which we raised \$3500+ for the parish. We would like to thank Kelly Paget and her many elves (Fund Raising team helpers!). We thank Lucy Price for making and donating the Christmas cakes, Eunice Dal Busco, Pauline Parsons, Lucy Price and others who donated craft items, John for the plants, Cecilia for the home made jams, chutneys & biscuits, Margaret for the cakes, and the youth for their work packing it all away! If we have forgotten to mention anyone, please forgive us! What an outstanding result.

BLESSING & LIGHTING THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT ST PAT'S!

At the conclusion of each of the Masses on the weekend of December 16 & 17, Father will bless the nativity scene set up in the church and switch on the lights to celebrate the commencement of the week leading up to Christmas!

AWAKE YOUNG ADULTS

X CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

All young adults invited to join us for our last event of the year! We will be heading to St Mary's Cathedral to see this year's Christmas lights, enjoy live music and visit their food and gift stalls. We would love for you to join us!

22ND
DECEMBER
@7:30

TRAVEL WITH US AT
GOSFORD STATION
OR MEET US THERE

ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

FINAL YOUTH GROUPS OF 2023

PADDIES

Wednesday, 13th December.

ARISE

Friday, 8th December.

ASCEND

Sunday, 17th December

All youth groups will recommence on the first week of February. Enjoy your holiday break and we will see you next year!



CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL MEAL

25th December
St Patrick's Parish Hall
11:00 am

Come and join us for a festival meal
at St Patrick's on Christmas Day!
All ages are welcome!

We would greatly appreciate any
monetary contributions to help cover
costs.

Please give to parish office and/or
RSVP by Friday 22nd December .

CHRISTMAS EVE

24TH DECEMBER

@ST PATRICK'S GOSFORD

5PM FAMILY MASS

9PM YOUTH MASS

MIDNIGHT MASS

@ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI SOMERSBY

5PM FAMILY MASS

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS DAY

25TH DECEMBER

7:30AM MASS

9:30AM MASS

SHRINE OF ST JOHN PAUL II | GOSFORD PARISH

*'Confession is an act of honesty and courage - an act of
entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving
and forgiving God'*
St John Paul II

MERCY NIGHT

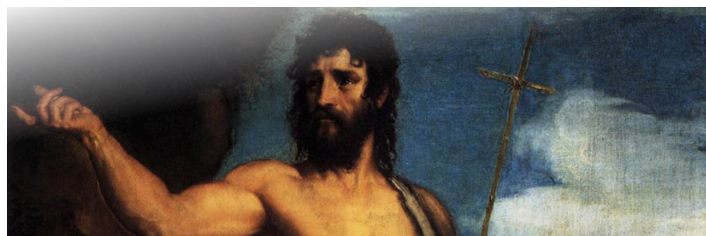
2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

+ ADORATION | PRAYER | VENERATION | PRAISE & WORSHIP

20th DECEMBER @ 7 PM

CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 6

Last Thursday, our parish celebrated Mass for the year 6 students at St Patrick's school who graduated and are moving on to high school next year. We pray for their bright future and that their education may teach them to be witnesses to the love of Christ in our community.



CATECHIST MINISTRY



It was such a Joy celebrating the Advent/Christmas season with our Catholic students at Kariong Primary School last Thursday, as it was also Barbara McCarthy's final day teaching at Kariong PS. Prior to the celebrations beginning, Kariong PS organised a volunteer's morning tea to thank Barbara for her dedication and commitment to their Catholic students since around about the time the school opened 34 years ago in 1989. It was so beautiful to witness the appreciation the Kariong PS school has for Barbara, as well as the love the students have for 'Mrs Mac'. One of my personal highlights of our celebration was the impromptu thanksgiving speech a young man in Mrs Macs year 6 class announced at the end of our assembly. Thank you Mrs Mac, you have been a great influence on my Catechist journey and I am so glad you are continuing with our Ministry at Gosford PS.

Please call Raelene for further information about the Catechist Ministry 0499 995 292

CONGRATULATIONS JAIMI!

Congratulations to Jaimi-Lea Andrews, our JP II Shrine / Formation / Youth / & Sacramental Coordinator as she has been appointed as a Youth Ministry Officer at the Catholic Schools Office in the Archdiocese of Canberra.

While we are very sad to lose her, we're very excited for her in this new adventure. She has done such incredible work at Gosford and we will be forever grateful for her passion and hard work.

With this new appointment, Jaimi will leave her multiple roles in our parish at the end of January, with her official farewell on January 21. We wish Jaimi many blessings as she moves forward in this next step in her career.

JP II CENTRE

DISPLAY ROOM IS OPEN

Over the last few weeks, our volunteers have been working hard to present for the parish a display room which features the history of the life of St John Paul II. All are invited to visit the room which can be found in the JP II centre. **The display room is now available for viewing on Fridays from 12:30-1:30pm (no appointment needed), and from Tue-Thur by appointment. The room is not open for viewing on Mondays. To book appointments, please call 0499 386 336.**



We are a migration agency based on the Central Coast

PWBB APPEAL - WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

ALL DONATIONS OVER \$2 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Our Diocese of Broken Bay continue their appeal to support the pastoral works program which supports a wide range of charities in our Diocesan community, particularly the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and the Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program. PWBB also supports St Lucy's School and St Edmund's College for students with disabilities and the Ephpheta Centre which supports the deaf community. This financial year, Gosford Parish has been asked to collect \$60,319 for the 2023/24 appeal. More information about donations below:

PWBB Total to be Raised by Gosford Parish	
60,319	APPEAL 2023/2024 FINANCIAL YEAR <i>Our allotted target this year is:</i> \$60,319 to be collected by June 30, 2024.
60,000	
55,000	
50,000	
45,000	
40,000	
35,000	
30,000	
25,000	
20,000	
15,000	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Collected to Date</p> <p>\$16,857</p> <p>Balance Owing</p> <p>\$43,462</p> </div> <p>Thank you so much for your generosity to date.</p> <p>A long way to go!</p>
10,000	
5,000	



Thank you for your generosity

Your generosity means the Church can be there during times of great need, renewing and rebuilding their lives. Your donations support two key diocesan ministries:



Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay.

Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo
Bishop of Broken Bay



Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

Catechists taking the gospel to state school students.



Hospital Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Practitioners

Helping those who are vulnerable, experiencing loneliness or are sick in hospital.



St Lucy's School

Serving year K-12 students with disabilities.



St Edmund's College

Serving year 7-12 students with disabilities.



Ephpheta Centre

Pastoral care, sacraments, and advocacy for the deaf community.



All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. ABN 87 849 944 998
To donate, complete the form in the envelope available in your parish and return to your parish.
Or go online by scanning the QR code or visiting: bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks. Thank you.

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“MAKE STRAIGHT THE PATHS OF THE LORD.”

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf ISAIAH 30:19,30

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart. The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is not said.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 40:1-5. 9-11

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah
Prepare the way for the Lord.**

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’

A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.

Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land.

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven.

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps.

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING

2 PETER 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

We wait for new heavens and a new earth. There is one thing, my friends, that you

must never forget: that with the Lord, ‘a day’ can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

LUKE 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MARK 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, ‘Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.’

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

BARUCH 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God..

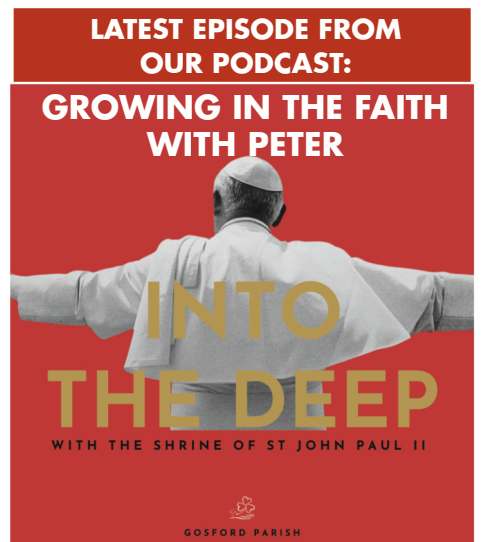
THIS WEEK

- Mon Monday of 2nd week of Advent**
Mass Service @ St Patrick’s 9:00 am
 - Tue Tuesday of 2nd week of Advent**
Mass Service @ St Patrick’s 9:00 am
 - Wed St Lucy, virgin, martyr**
Mass at St Patrick’s 11:30 am
 - Thu St John of the Cross, priest, doctor**
Mass at St Patrick’s 9:00am
 - Fri Friday of 2nd week of Advent**
Mass 12:00 noon
 - Sat Saturday of 2nd week of Advent**
at St Patrick’s 5:00 pm
at Somersby 5:30 pm
 - Sun THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT**
Mass at St Patrick’s 7:30 am
Mass at St Patrick’s 9:30 am
Mass at St Patrick’s 6:00 pm
- * Designates Mass is Live-streamed**

NEXT WEEKS READINGS

3rd Sunday of Advent

- 1st: Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11
- Ps Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10
- 2nd: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- Gos: John 1:6-8. 19-28



EPISODE DESCRIPTION

On this episode of Sacred Stories Jaimi is joined by Peter Mclean. Peter has been a member of our community for over 50 years and involved in many ministries during this time. Peter shares on how he has witnessed the Church grow and change as a boy, the people who influenced his faith and the challenges he has experienced along the way. From becoming an acolyte to his experience of community here at St Pats. Let's dive right in!

ROSTER — DECEMBER 17TH, 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass	Vigil 5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:30 am	6:00 pm	Somersby - 5:30 PM	
Date	16.12.23	17.12.23	17.12.23	17.12.23	Function	16/12/23
Audio Visual	Michael Lynch	Ron Begg	Peter McLean	Sam O'Connor	Audio / Visual	Matthew Xuereb
Acolytes	Anna Jubg	John McCrae	Peter Cho	Patrick Nicholls	Altar Society	Michael Monaghan
	Peter Young	John Ryan	Liz Malik	Joseph French		
Commentator	Maisie Tenev	Gerard Price	Frances Mathey	Jaimi Andrews	Commentator	Michael Monaghan
Lectors	Maisie Tenev	Sheila Evans	Tom Croll	Sebastian Eager	Lectors	Sonia Cummings
	Val Dibben	Anne Lovett	Frances Mathey	Joseph Nicholls		Sarah Xuereb
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Fiona Bolton	Lucy Price	Emily Rudd	Mark Bennett	Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Mary Luci
Altar Servers					Cleaning	Michael & Janelle Monaghan
	Natasha Pettitt	Amelia Eager	Theodore Huang	Vito De Toffol	Altar Servers	Dylan Xuereb
	Soren Patelia	Faith Eager	Hugo Huang	Remi De Toffol		
			Esther Mathey	Luca De Toffol		
			Jude Mathey	Xavier Werder	Flowers	Rita Galea
			Reagan Gomez			
COUNTERS 11/12/23 Eunice Dal Busco Neryl Tyrrell Marie Cradock 18/12/23 Eunice Dal Busco Diana Addis Margaret Hunter	ALTAR LINEN P/Up 11/12/23 Aimee Sands Ret'n by 15/12/23 COFFEE SHOP 16/12/23 Raelene O'Connor Bethany O'Connor Tiffany O'Connor	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat 16/12/23 Maree Nolan Anna Neale Pauline Nesbitt Ros Moriarty Margaret Pratt	CHILDREN'S LITURGY 17/12/23 Betty O'Connor - Emily Rudd	PARISH BUS 17/12/23 Driver Jorge Osorio Helper Pauline Nesbitt	FRIDAY HOSPITAL 22/12/23 Theresa Giddings John McCrae Bigi Kongola Coleen Martin Denise Nicholson Sandrea Petith Joan Vella-Critien Gary Wills	SUNDAY HOSPITAL 24/12/23 Bigi Kongola Marie Cradock

PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Margaret Spooner, Denis McCarrol, Gloria Emara, Leigh Adams, Fran Thompson, Cathy Low, Emma Wright, Patricia Kociela, Caroline Galea, Brian Connell, Jadwiga Skulska, Maria Ines Ramirez, Alfredo Osorio, Derek Melia, Judith Vale, Paul Jones, Cath Goudie, Jim Smith, Aaron Burke, Margaret Gunnulson, John Bendkowski, Marie Allman, Christine Mary Page, Margaret Eadie, Peter Glow, Robert Clark, Ranjan Fernando, Michael Ludemann, Marie Nolan, Caterina Erbeni, Philip Soady, Sheryl Rogers, Bernadette Humphries, Megan McGowan, Mery-Anne Bonnici, Ross Sayer, Teresa Davar, Susan Milne, Maura Garvey, Anne Holohan, Angela Gibbs, Peter Allman, Pam O'Malley-Jones, Judith Wennerbom.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Padraigh (Pat) Kinsella, Lloyd Greenwood, Marie Hodsdon, Sheron Decker, Tony Xuereb

ANNIVERSARIES:

Maia Attard, Clare Murphy, Gerard Wall, Jeanne Friquet

REMEMBRANCES

Kieran Warden, Edmond Maher, Gabrielle Cerveau, Paul Galea, Hilda Doutré, Michael Kokegei.

CONDOLENCES

Our sincere condolences to Lesley Kinsella, wife of Pat Kinsella who recently passed. May the Lord keep him in his loving arms.

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 09/12	9:00am Gosford	JPII INTERCESSIONS + [18th] Birthday Blessings RAYDEN GOMEZ
Sat 09/12	4:00pm Spencer	Strength & Healing of JADWIGA SKULSKA
Sat 09/12	5:00pm Gosford	Healing & Conversion of MY FAMILY [PP]
Sat 09/12	5:30pm Somersby	+ One Month Anniversary TONY XUEREB
Sun 10/12	7:30am Gosford	+ Anniversaries MARIA, FRANK & CARMEL ATTARD
Sun 10/12	9:30am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS
Sun 10/12	6:00pm Gosford	Birthday Blessings CHRISTOPHER HUIE
Mon 11/12	9:00am Gosford	+ Remembrances KIERAN WARDEN & EDMOND MAHER
Tue 12/12	9:00am Gosford	Recently Deceased LLOYD GREENWOOD
Wed 13/12	Whole School Mass	PRIVATE INTENTION [PP]

Date	Mass	Intention
Wed 13/12	11:30am Gosford	+ BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE GABRIELLE CERVEAU
Thu 14/12	9:00am Gosford	[INTENTION AVAILABLE]
Fri 15/12	12:00pm Gosford	STRENGTH & HEALING OF JADWIGA SKULSKA
Sat 16/12	9:00am Gosford	JPII INTERCESSIONS
Sat 16/12	5:00pm Gosford	Recently Deceased PADRAIGH (PAT) KINSELLA
Sat 16/12	5:30pm Somersby	[INTENTION AVAILABLE]
Sun 17/12	7:30am Gosford	[INTENTION AVAILABLE]
Sun 17/12	9:30am Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS
Sun 17/12	6:00pm Gosford	[INTENTION AVAILABLE]

RELAX



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