



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

LETTER

FROM FR GREG, OUR PARISH PRIEST

Dear Parish Community,

As we are celebrating Christmas, I am filled with immense gratitude for each one of you who has contributed to our parish's success this year. Your unwavering support and the dedicated work of our volunteers have made a profound impact on our community.

This season is a testament to the spirit of giving and selflessness that defines our parish. Whether through organising events, assisting those in need, or simply being a pillar of support, your efforts have created a warm and welcoming environment for all.

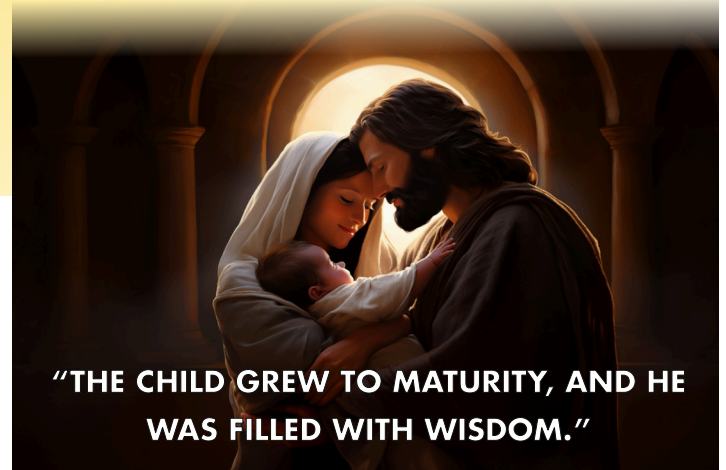
Year 2024 was very special for our community as we were able to achieve much and I take this opportunity to provide this overview:

- Established the Year of Discipleship, followed by a Discipleship Retreat Day in July.
- Fr Bronek Arrived, as did Seminarian Huy Tran.
- We celebrated 20 Years of the Salvatorian Fathers' ministry at Gosford.
- Our Parish Pastoral Council established the Five Fields of Mission
- Continued our commitment to Child Protection, including our annual commitment by our clergy and the local principals to the safeguarding of children.
- Celebrated our inaugural Fatima Night and blessing of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima donated by our youth attending WYD Lisbon 2023, and these will continue in 2024.
- Celebrated the 1st Anniversary of the establishment of the Shrine to St John Paul II and successfully completed the JP II display room at the Pastoral Centre. In addition, the use of the Church & Pastoral Centre as a place of pilgrimage is flourishing and we look forward to an event filled 2024.

In terms of other pastoral and formation events, we:

- Continued our commitment to faith formation opportunities including our Healing & Encounter Evenings, Bible study groups, MenAlive, Pastoral Centre talks & retreats, e.g. Men's Retreat, Women's Retreat, Domestic Church, Theology of the Body and many more.
 - In addition, St Patrick's held Lenten and Advent retreat days.
- Continued our weekly podcasts and social media updates.

- Continued providing free Counselling sessions with a psychologist.



"THE CHILD GREW TO MATURITY, AND HE WAS FILLED WITH WISDOM."

- Hosted the ecumenical World Day of Prayer
- Our RCIA program hosting 12 candidates is currently running, and our sacramental programs were completed successfully during the year.
- Blessing of the cars and people's pets
- Successfully fostered thriving youth groups from Yr 4 to Young Adults, with 19 attending World Youth Day, Lisbon, and the Ignite conference in Sydney, as well as our involvement with Connecting Catholic Coasties keeping us in touch with other high school youth!
- Successfully fostered a thriving seniors' ministry with monthly activities.
- Provided many social events for parishioners [International Food Night, Italian Night, Bush Dance etc., Coffee Shop mornings and Craft Group mornings, monthly BBQ breakfasts and Morning Teas]
- Training opportunities for our senior and altar servers, and our readers
- Launched multiple fund raising opportunities, concluding with the successful Christmas Markets in November.
- Hosted a Christmas Concert on December 3 performed by the Central Coast Chorale.
- Launched Year of Courage at the beginning of Advent

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us also celebrate the spirit of generosity that thrives within our parish. Thank you for your tireless commitment and for embodying the true meaning of Christmas.

May the joy of Christmas fill your hearts with warmth and love. May the blessings of peace and hope accompany you into the coming year. Your presence in our parish community is a gift that enriches us all. Merry Christmas to each and every one of you. May the light of this season shine brightly in your lives, bringing joy, love, and harmony.

Warmest wishes,

Fr Greg Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

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.



FR. Francis Jordan

Be happy that you are called to follow the Saviour. Be happy that you have his name: Salvatorians.

JT 1899/12/22

2024 ENCOUNTER EVENINGS

SHRINE OF ST JOHN PAUL II

FEBRUARY 24 | HEALING EVENING

MARCH 22 | MERCY NIGHT

APRIL 19 | HEALING EVENING

MAY 11 | FATIMA NIGHT

JUNE 13 | FATIMA NIGHT

JULY 26 | HEALING EVENING

AUGUST 13 | FATIMA NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 13 | FATIMA NIGHT

OCTOBER 13 | FATIMA NIGHT

NOVEMBER 13 | ENCOUNTER EVENING

DECEMBER 18 | MERCY NIGHT

2024 PARISH DINNERS

GOSFORD PARISH

MARCH 16 |
INTERNATIONAL FOOD
NIGHT

JUNE 22 |
COMMUNITY DINNER

AUGUST 31 |
COMMUNITY DINNER



2024 CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

GOSFORD PARISH

2ND JUNE |
CONFIRMATION

19 SEPTEMBER |
1ST RECONCILIATION

22 SEPTEMBER |
1ST HOLY COMMUNION



2024 RETREAT DAYS

SHRINE OF
ST JOHN PAUL II

FEBRUARY 24 | LENTEN RETREAT

MAY 4 | WOMEN'S RETREAT

JUNE 29 | MEN'S RETREAT

OCTOBER 12 | JP II RETREAT

DECEMBER 7 | ADVENT RETREAT



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

LUKE 2:16

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 15:1-6. 21:1-3

A reading from the book of Genesis

Your own son shall be your heir.

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great'.

'My Lord', Abram replied, 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be one of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised her. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 104:1-6. 8-9. R.vv.7.8

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

O sing to him, sing his praise; tell all his wonderful works!

(R.) The Lord remembers his

covenant for ever.

2. Be proud of his holy name, let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.

Consider the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

3. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, the judgements he spoke.

O children of Abraham, his servant, O sons of the Jacob he chose.

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

4. He remembers his covenant for ever, his promise for a thousand generations, the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and

never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

COLOSSIANS 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

LUKE 2:22. 39-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

When this Feast is celebrated on Sunday, the Creed is said.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

BARUCH 3:38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us..

ROSTER — JANUARY 7TH, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Mass	Vigil 5:00 pm	7:30 am	9:30 am	6:00 pm	Somersby - 5:30 PM	
Date	06.01.24	07.01.24	07.01.24	07.01.24	Function	06.01.24
Audio Visual	Johan Fernandes	Ron Begg	Greg McBride	Cheryl Walsh	Audio / Visual	Matthew Xuereb
Acolytes	Peter Young	Sheila Evans	Liz Malik	Kevin O'Donnell	Altar Society	Nai Herford
	Johnson Fernandes	Eunice Dal Busco	Tim Dasan	Patrick Nicholls		
Commentator	Maisie Tenev	Gerard Price	Emily Rudd	Barbara McCarthy	Commentator	Joanne Comensoli
Lectors	Maisie Tenev	Margaret Eadie	Emily Rudd	Rayden Gomez	Lectors	Dakota Xuereb
	Val Dibben	Gerard Price	Steph Trevenen	Peter Forbes		Mark Bigeni
Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Anita Fernandes	Cecelia Coughlin	Tom Croll	Trudie Hiep	Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist	Michael Monaghan
			Regina Fong			
Altar Servers	Dominic Chehade	Veronica Chechelska	Victoria Bennett	Reagan Gomez	Altar Servers	Dylan Xuereb
	Christopher Chehade	Sobina Chechelska	Dennie Paget	Gabriel Guirguis		
	Amin Chehade		Samson Paget	Diesel Parletta		
	Alvita Fernandes		Alexander Warner			
	Annette Fernandes				Flowers	Nai Herford
COUNTERS 03/01/24 Eunice Dal Busco Trudie Hiep Victoria Milanovic 08/01/24 Eunice Dal Busco Ron Begg David Slingsby	ALTAR LINEN P/Up 01/01/24 Aimee Sands Ret'n by 05/01/24 COFFEE SHOP 06/01/24 Jenny Appleby Anita Venn Michael Tabone	ALTAR SOCIETY Sat 06/01/24 Eunice Dal Busco Mabel Kan Thea Hemming Susan Tabone	CHILDREN'S LITURGY [Returning on the first Sunday of February, 2024]	PARISH BUS 07/01/24 Driver Dominik Giemza Helper Carmen Chetcuti	FRIDAY HOSPITAL 05/01/24 Mccaskie: Patricia Drummond: Colleen Kongola: Bigi Martin: Coleen Nicholson: Denise Petith: Sandra Vella-Critien: Joan Wills: Gary	SUNDAY HOSPITAL 07/01/24 Johnson Fernandes Paul Hussein

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