HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Parish Newsletter 22 November 2020



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Year A

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November: Artificial Intelligence

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

Sunday Gospel Reflection by Deacon Rogelio Delmonte

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, marks the crowning and the conclusion of liturgical year A. The Scripture Readings proclaimed to us in today's solemnity presents two very contrasting images of Christ our King.

In the **First Reading** and the **Gospel**, Jesus was presented as the *Good Shepherd* who spends considerable time looking after His own straying sheeps and bringing them back. While on the **Second Reading**, Jesus was presented as the 'all-powerful ruler' to whom every other power and authority must eventually give way.

Theologians have tried to capture this unique kingship of Jesus Christ as a combination of leadership and service which we call these days as "Servant-Leadership". Indeed, Jesus choice of humble origins has a purposive logic. By choosing not to be born of a royal or wealthy family, by choosing to originate from the powerless and the poor, showed us what His kingship and leadership was all about.

Jesus leads not by imposing His will, but by helping us to see that His Father's will is the only will worth imposing upon ourselves with absolute freedom. He leads without intimidation, coercion, or external pressure. His leadership has inner power to compel because he leads in love. He served by loving those who are materially, socially, psychologically, morally and spiritually poor. Such is our call as servants and servant-leaders, of Christ our King.

Deacon Rogelio Delmonte

First Reading

Ez 34:11-12. 15-17

The Lord will rescue his sheep.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22:1-3. 5-6. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading

1 Cor 15:20-26. 28

When all has been subjected to Christ, all will be one in Him.

Gospel Acclamation

Mk 11:9-10

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 25:31-46

Whenever you serve the least of people, you serve Christ.

Vox Populi: Message from Raj Rajasingam

"Vox Populi"
The Voice of the People



The courage to share God's Word

This weekend is the anniversary of the turning point of my faith journey. 20 November happens to be my baptism and confirmation Day.

My parents, both teachers in Christian schools, were practising Hindus. My sister and I grew up attending temples and saying prayers at home. Though we attended the Christian school, no one approached us to talk about Christ or His love and mercy. Conversion was never mentioned.

It was my classmates in the Methodist high school, who were Anglicans and Methodists, who used to come to my house in the afternoons after school and share bible tracts with me. They would ask me questions and try to explain the Gospels to me.

In 1978, I arrived in Sydney to complete high school and met up with two other Malaysian Chinese Students, who were not Christians. I remember that on the first day of walking into the gates of the university, I was given a bible by Campus Crusade. The persistence of my classmates in Malaysia, who shared the Scriptures with me, instilled in me a hunger for God's word. I was faithful to reading the Scriptures every night for the next seven years, even if I got home after midnight!

Over time, I lost track of my two Malaysian Chinese friends. It was many years later that we were able to reconnect through the internet and discovered the path that God had led each of us. My sister invited me to a Pentecostal church and eventually I moved to the Anglican church where I was baptised and confirmed in 1988.

I was chosen by the Anglican church to go to Taize in 1989. I ended up spending eight months in Taize, being sent by the brothers to Scandinavia and Poland to speak to young people and adults, sharing my faith and what God had done in my life. It was during my stay in Taize, that I met my future wife, Roslyn, a Catholic. I was received into the Catholic Church, we married in 1991 and have been blessed with two boys.

As a husband and a father, I have continued my thirst for God's Word and take time each day to read scripture and spend time in prayer, and regularly attend retreats and teachings. I have always looked for opportunities to serve and share God's love in various ministries within the Church such as altar serving, ministry of the Word, social justice, ecumenical an interfaith events and the Vinnies Van.

In my involvement with Couples For Christ Australia, my passion is to encourage Catholic families to be grounded in God's love and mercy and having Him at the centre of their lives and to then share this with other families. We meet weekly to pray, discuss scripture and faith-related topics and fellowship with one another. I regularly give talks on prayer, scripture, and evangelisation.

There is a need to be courageous in sharing the Good News. You will never know when the grace of God or the Holy Spirit will guide and lead a person to Christ, but we must step out in faith. The courage of my Christian classmates to share God's Word led me to discover God's love for me. But it was up to me to cultivate my own courage and recognise the presence of God working through me.

As my life journey continues, I trust the Holy Spirit will guide me to reach out to others who need to hear and experience God's love.

Message from the Fr Peter



My dear Parishioners,

Last weekend and this weekend **21/22 November** invites us to reflect deeper on our *Baptismal Calling*. It is an opportunity for us to support the **Mission of faith in our State Schools**.

With that in mind, I express my deep gratitude along with yours to our Catechist Coordinator, **Louise Spencer** and our Parish Catechist Team who share their faith day in and day out with one goal in mind i.e., *faithfully hand on the teachings of Christ as handed on by*

the successors to the Apostles, our Bishops, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Each of them responded to their Baptismal calling in the words, "receive this light, this light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly".

I ask you my dear Parishioners to come forward to be that light in the minds and hearts of our young ones. It is a great journey, a journey richly rewarded, and your reward is seen in the eyes of these young ones. "Be there for them." I sincerely thank the ones who have committed through our appeal and shown interest. For those who are in the process of discerning, please say a special one for them.

The next is our **CWF** appeal, your generosity supports the Charitable Mission of the Diocese, which is in turn ours, and in this climate, when situations have not been easy, each of you have shown your best and been there in the forefront to support the same. I thank you for your support, you make the Charitable Works happen. I ask you to generously support the same.

The current Broken Bay Neighbourhood news explains in detail the amount spent for the purpose, in supporting the CWF, you help the Parish too.

With gratitude I acknowledge the work of our **Finance Committee**, and their efforts, to meet the demands of finances through each of your support, your prayerful support, encouragement and generosity, is greatly appreciated.

Once again, I say a big THANK YOU to you all for your constant support and encouragement. May the good Lord continue to bless our efforts.

God Bless,

Fr Peter de Souza

Charitable Works Fund (CWF) November 2020 Appeal 21/22 November is our CWF collection and we appreciate your support. The November appeal highlights the spiritual need of about 21,000 Catholic students who attend State Schools across Broken Bay.

Giving to CWF supports the wonderful work of Catechists, nourishing our children and young people with solid faith education. Raising them up to be passionate young people who love Jesus Christ and His church.

Nurturing faith in our children and young people is one of the most powerful things we can do to support our parishes. Amount raised will go towards supporting 5 charities that make a difference on the lives of people in the Broken Bay diocese.



Taking the Gospel to the World

The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) exists to bring the message of God's kingdom through effective evangelisation by delivering quality Special Religious Education to Catholic students in State Government schools.

Congratulations and Blessings to our Our Parish Catechists, on their service awards

Ann Bradshaw (10 years)
Katherine Co-Elliott (5 years)
Sarah Keen (20 years)

Marianna Kenderes (30 years) Adeline McGuire (15 years)

Invitation to become a Catechist in 2021

A journey of discovery, and an opportunity to reflect on your personal vocation, and commitment to and sharing of your faith opportunity.



21 & 22 November at OLOR Cathedral, Waitara

It will be also a celebration of our Catechists who have reached milestones, of journeying in our faith communities through their involvement in our state schools.

Can you help?

The original meaning of "catechist" is one who "echoes God's word", however catechists are much more than that. Facilitating a child's faith formation is a rewarding experience that does not require a teacher's degree or an advanced degree in theology: all it requires is enthusiasm, as well as generosity in sharing your time with others.

Accepting the invitation to become a catechist would give you the opportunity to teach Scripture to children who would love a Scripture teacher. They are children in the following schools and years:

- Hornsby South Public School: Tuesday afternoons times to be announced for Kindy, Yr 1 and Yr 2.
- Waitara Public School: Wednesday 9:20 10:00am for Yr 1 and 10:00 10:40am for Yrs 3 and 6.
- Normanhurst Public School: Wednesday 10:30 11:00am for Yrs 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6.
- Normanhurst West Public School: Thursday 10:30 11:00am for Yrs 1, 2, 4, and 5.
- Thornleigh West Public School: Wednesday 2:15 2:45pm for Kindy and Yr 2. Thursday 2:30 3:00pm for Yrs 5 and 6.

Classes are once a week and run for 30-40 minutes. *Resources, lesson plans, teacher's manuals, student workbooks, support and training are provided free of charge.*

You may have some questions you would like to discuss. Please contact either the Catechist Coordinator or the Parish Office for a commitment-free discussion about how you can add value to our community's youth. (see details below)

Louise Spencer louise.spencer@bbcatholic.org.au 0475 887 735 Parish Office Cathedral@bbcatholic.org.au 8379 1700

Please Pray while we decide

The Pastoral Missionary Council (PMC) and our Liturgy Committee (LC), are discerning the best way we can to meet the demands of Christmas and the upcoming services.

Given the situation we are in, the restrictions we face, and with utmost care for the wellbeing of all those we will encounter, may I request that you pray for members of our PMC and LC, and more so may we pray that the Lord be with us through this journey...of being that child Jesus to one another.

Dear Lord, we know we can trust You to guide our PMC and LC members. We pray that they may honour one another by keeping an open mind. Free them from making decisions primary for their comfort and others' approval, or fear their disapproval. May they discern Your will in order to unite their decision in a fruitful outcome. With grateful thanks, we offer this prayer in Your name. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick, those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur during this time. May I request you to keep all those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive and those in isolation in your special prayers.

Sacrament of Penance is available on request, and also on Saturdays from 9 to 9.30am at the Cathedral.

ADVENT RETREAT

WHEN: 28 November COST: \$30.00

If you are interested please contact **Verbum Dei Missionaries** (Louise or Maria) on **verbumdeisydney@gmail.com** or call **0402 452 342** for more information. All are welcome!



Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Philippines,

Vietnam and Cambodia who have been devastated by unprecedented flooding after two typhoons hit the region in one week.

Across the region, homes have been destroyed and livelihoods lost with hundreds of thousands of people fleeing to evacuation centres, where the risks of spreading COVID-19 are high.

With your help, and with our church and NGO partners on the ground, we can provide vital support to those affected by this and other disasters as part of our Asia Emergency Appeal.

Donate today at www.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

NOVEMBER MASSES

Our priests will be accepting offerings for November Masses to be said for the Intentions of the Faithful departed.

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a Faithful loved one, please take *November Masses* envelope from the vestibule, fill in the details and place it on the plate during the offertory.

Please note that all Mass intentions offered will be prayed for at all Masses in November, however, the names will not be printed on the bulletin.

Monstrance She has arrived our 'Restored' Monstrance. Originally gifted to Fr Michael Farrell on his Silver Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood in 1945. My dear parishioners, you made it happen! Thank you for your generosity. God bless you and your families. As an act of gratitude, might I ask all the donors and faithful to join in this celebration



WHAT : Blessing of Restored

Monstrance

WHEN: 29 November 2020

First Sunday of Advent

WHERE: Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara

TIME : 9.30 AM Mass

CCD Mass

WHAT: CCD Mass and Service Awards
WHEN: 22 November 2020 (Sunday)

WHERE: Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara

TIME : 11:00 AM Mass

Recipients of this year's Service Awards to RSVP to the Parish Office at 8379 1700 or cathedral@bbcatholic.org.au.

MASS OF INCLUSION

The International Day of Disability is celebrated annually on 3 December. In Broken Bay, this is marked by the celebration of the Mass of Inclusion, where we recognise the ability and dignity of all.

WHAT: Mass of Inclusion
WHEN: 6 December 2020

WHERE: Our Lady of the Rosary, Waitara

TIME : 11:00 AM

The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo on Whilst attendance in person is limited, tickets can be booked by contacting Nicholas Weir at nicholas.weir@bbcatholic.org.au or phone 8379 1632.

Join via the live stream, which can be accessed here.

Yakhumndeni Orphans Appeal Christmas Stall

The faith community of Hornsby Cathedral Parish has been supporting the Yakhumndeni Orphans for a few years now. I wish to share with you the letter written by Zandile Khoza, the director of the Yakhumndeni AIDS Project in the parish of Dundee, South Africa to the people of Hornsby Cathedral Parish.

Dear Hornsby Cathedral Parishioners

I would like to thank you greatly for your ongoing support of the Yakhumndeni AIDS Project in Dundee.

Thank you for your last donation of \$2500 dollars. It has made a difference to the lives of the poor children and families in the area. Many parents and guardians have lost jobs during the COVID-19 outbreak and the hard shutdown. Food has also become more expensive due to supplies being affected. Some families have lost members due to the virus. Your support is all the more appreciated during this pandemic. The children returned to school in August after a very disrupted learning year.

We hope you all remain safe and that you will remember us in your prayers.

Yours faithfully Zandile Khoza

On this note, I invite you to order goodies and or decorations from our Christmas List. All proceeds from the sale will go towards supporting Yakhumndeni Orphans.

Christmas Order List

Christmas cakes. \$20
Christmas loaves \$15
Plum pudding med. \$10
Mini plum puddings \$5
Christmas biscuits. \$6
Jams, chutneys, pickles. \$6
Rocky Road. \$4
Advent wreaths with candles. \$20
Christmas wreaths small \$15
Christmas wreaths medium \$20
Felt Christmas decorations \$3
(bird, star, tree, angel)

To place your order, please call Helen or Gerry Schyvens on 9487 1563.

Thanking you,

Colleen Kearey, Co-ordinator

My dear Parishioners,

John the Baptist is central to the Second Sunday in Advent each year. His challenge for us is to 'prepare the way for the Lord' which is also the heart of the Advent message. As we continue to walk our pilgrimage of faith, I assure each of you my prayerful support, and may I request you please say one for us your Priests.

The Parish Gifting Tree is on display again this season with tags on it for you to pick. It is an opportunity for us all gathered, to think in what way we can best be of help to the Parish with our talent, time, and treasure. We are invited to open our hearts in prayer at this time, and make a commitment in action, so that we might be able to grow as a community in faith. Our generosity is a great gift of our persons to the incarnated Christ we carry daily through our efforts of being human.

As we spend time reflecting on our personal gifting, please consider the Parish in the same way, your community of faith.

The high point of John the Baptist's short ministry was his meeting with Jesus. Not only did he get to baptise our Lord, but he also helped some of his own followers to go with Jesus and become the first Christian disciples.

I thank you on behalf of the clergy for your generosity. May this time help us grow together as one family of faith.

With prayerful wishes and gratitude in our hearts, **Fr Peter de Souza**

My Gratitude to those Parishioners who have come forward to clean up after our Masses during this time.

Thank you for your untiring service to our parish community. We still need many hands to continue the good work, please feel free to support us. May I also mention all those who donated cleaning products, your thoughtfulness and generosity is very much appreciated.

My Gratitude to those who are returning back to various Ministries: Given the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, thanks for making the effort. I trust the Lord will be with you to guide you through these unprecedented times.

Looking for COVID-19 Safe Hygiene Marshals

Parishioners interested in helping-out as COVID Marshals for our various Masses during the weekend may contact the Parish office. Your help is a great gift to our community.

Calling on our Music Ministry

I do understand, and given the situation, we do not have Congregational Singing within the Community. Yes, it is true, so that we minimise the risk of spreading the virus. But there are ways without engaging the community in singing. We can make our worship meaningful and beautiful in our responsibility for one another and uplifting for a God experience.

So therefore, can I ask instrumentalists who would like to offer their talent, "that priced Pearl" to play at various Masses over the weekend, I personally am happy to help you out in this venture.

Please come forward, and make no hesitation, remember as a disciple gifted with that priced pearl, you are helping and touching someone on their journey of faith and being enriched yourself.

Fr Peter de Souza

Blessed Carlo Acutis Technology Centre

In celebrating Carlo Acutis, I entrust under his care, protection and patronage two of our ministries namely, Audio Visual Ministry (aka AV) and Podcast / Streaming Ministry and all those that Minister. Through His intercession may we continue to be blessed with volunteers with a heart and love for Jesus and his people through the Eucharist accompanied by His Blessed Mother.

New Positions Vacant

There are six new roles available in the Chancery at Broken Bay

- Team Leader Catholic Youth;
- Team Leader Life, Marriage & Family;
- Sacramental Life, Liturgy & RCIA Coordinator;
- Executive Assistant (job share / part time 2 days); and
- Diocesan Pastoral Project Facilitator.
- Diocesan Director, Communications

To apply for these roles or for more information go to www.bbcatholic.org.au/jobs

St Vincent de Paul Conference, Waitara

It is almost time again to start thinking about the **Christmas Hampers**. We would like to know if you are interested in helping us again this year by providing hampers for our families, we realise it is a very difficult time for you. All safety methods would be in place such as social distancing.

If you are interested, please contact John Courtney at 9487 3780 or Shirley Kelynack at 0401 041 443 or Shirleymyra@optusnet.com.au We will understand if you are not able to help as it is a very difficult time for all.

Curious about Catholicism, or Christianity in general?

Are you, or someone you know, interested in finding out more about what Catholics believe and practice, and why? Do you think you might like to become a Catholic?

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), or Ordo Initiations Christianae Adultorum is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicisim who are above the age of infant baptism.

Free information and discussion sessions start very soon. Come and see with no obligation. Contact

Peter (Parish Christian Initiation Team Leader) **Mobile 0411389300**

Email rcia.hornsby@gmail.com i

If you are a parishioner and would like to be a friend or become part of the RCIA team to help those on the journey, please also contact Peter.

If a Priest is needed in a matter of emergency, after hours or on the weekend, please call 0458 351 843.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

This weekend 21/22 November is our CWF collection and we appreciate your support.

The November appeal highlights the spiritual need of about 21,000 Catholic students who attend State Schools across Broken Bay.

Mass Times OLOR

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 5pm Vigil Sunday 9.30am, 11am, 6pm

At the Cathedral, only 97 people allowed at any one time

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday 7am
Tuesday 7am
Wednesday 7am & 9.30am
Thursday 7am
Friday 7am
Saturday 7am

At the Cathedral, only **97** people allowed at any one time.

Mass Times QOP

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 5.30pm Vigil

Sunday 8am

At Queen of Peace Church, only **64** people allowed at any one time.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday 8.45amThursday 8.45am Friday 8.45am Saturday 7.30am

At Queen of Peace Church, only **64** people allowed at any one time.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on request, and also 9am to 9.30am on Saturdays at the Cathedral.

Sacrament of Anointing is available on request, and in an emergency, please feel free to call our emergency number 0458 351 843. Please make sure if your family member is in the Hospital or Nursing Home, it should go through the hospital or nursing home authorities.

Private Prayer: Our Cathedral *Chapel* is open for private prayer. It is necessary for everyone who enters the chapel to record their visit on the sheet provided. Failure to do so will mean we need to close the Chapel.

Please maintain a physical distance of at least 1.5 metres from others and ensure you have washed your hands before you enter the chapel.

REMEMBER to Scan to check-in in each venue you visit either the Cathedral, Cathedral Chapel, or Queen of Peace Church.

Authorised officers are currently visiting public places to assess their compliance with COVID Orders. If a breach of the COVID-19 Orders is found, a Penalty Infringement Notice may be issued for non-compliance. This on-the-spot fine is \$1,000 for individuals or \$5,000 for our parish. There are much larger penalties for repeat offences.

BOOKING FOR MASS NOT NECESSARY

You no longer need to call the office to book for Masses. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of Mass so you have time to scan to check-in.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES IN THE CATHEDRAL

Daily Mass is live streamed at 7.00am. Sunday Mass is live streamed at 9.30am. May I request that you stay tuned with us during these times. Your family Church is a continuation of our joint celebrations "gathering of families", 'The Body of Christ'.

My dear Parishioners,

It is important that **everyone at our celebration wear a face mask**. People are encouraged to bring their own mask. For further guidelines about masks, including mask types and who should and shouldn't wear them can be found here: https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/face-masks.

I need to stress with the utmost urgency: If you are feeling unwell, and especially if you have any flu-like symptoms, you must cease work, stay home, isolate and get tested.

Fr Peter de Souza





