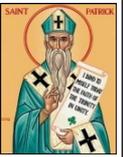


'Seek God, Find God, Embrace God in Jesus'



KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Gaudete Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle is **pink** and symbolises joy. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is **pink** because rose is a liturgical colour for joy.

11th December 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6, 10: James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Our Mission Statement:
'Help others to recognise, through their experiences, that Jesus who died and is risen is the truth that lights up their lives.'

Our Vision Statement:
'That the parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish grow as missionary disciples and live as community in Christ inviting all people into our Parish, welcoming them to our Parish life and embracing the rich diversity of our community.'

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5pm St Bernard's
6pm St Patrick's
Sunday 8am St Patrick's
9am St Bernard's
10am St Patrick's
6pm St Patrick's

WEEKDAY MASSES

Until further notice there will be **ONE Morning Mass only** on weekdays

St Patrick's 9am:
Mon ~ Tue ~ Thur ~ Sat
St Bernard's 9am: Wed ~ Fri
(except 1st Friday of the month when Mass is at 11.30am @ St Bernard's)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.30am St Patrick's
Friday After 9am Mass St Bernard's

Emergency sick calls
0468 341 841

(Out of office hours URGENT only)
HOSPITAL ADMISSION:
If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.

Be sure to notify the Pastoral Centre if hospitalised and you would like our own priests to attend.

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Candles ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: As the Shepherds did, we hasten with joy towards the birth of baby Jesus. We light the third candle, coloured **rose for joy**. We pray for the spirit of repentance, to purify us in readiness for His coming.



Reader: Let the wilderness and the dry lands rejoice; let the wasteland exult and bloom.

Response: Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.

Reader: Courage, be not afraid. Look your God is coming to save you.

Response: Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.

Reader: He will exult over you with joy.

Response: Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.



'Keep Christ in Christmas'

CHRISTMAS 2ND RITE RECONCILIATION TIMES

Monday 19 December ~ 7.30pm St Patrick's
(1st Rite times unchanged ~ see left hand column for details)

CHRISTMAS-MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve - Saturday 24 December

5pm St Bernard's Vigil Mass for Children (Outdoor in school grounds), Carols & BBQ ~ bring a chair
6pm St Patrick's Vigil Mass for Children (dress up as Angels & Shepherds etc)
9pm St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass

Christmas Day - Sunday 25 December

12 am St Patrick's 'Midnight' Mass
8am St Patrick's Mass
9am St Bernard's Mass
10am St Patrick's Mass
NO evening Mass Christmas Day



Matthew 11:2

HOMILY © Richard Leonard SJ

Have you ever been on a farm during summer? If you have you will know how precious water is. When I was a boy, I spent several holidays on an uncle's property. There were often six or seven city-based cousins there for the long summer break. It was great fun, but the one thing of which we needed a daily reminder was to be careful with how much water we used. We seemed to luxuriate in the shower for twice as long as our country cousins!

I can remember that when we arrived for one holiday, it had not rained in the area for nearly nine months. A few days later, just at dusk, the thunder rumbled, the storm clouds gathered and the heavens burst open. The rain poured down. Like in the movies, everyone inside the house just stood up and walked out into the rain. No one said a word. We stood in the rain and soaked it in. The earth was not the only thing in need of a drenching.

In today's letter from St James the metaphor of waiting for rain is given to us as a way of understanding what it was like to wait for Christ. It is a potent image for Advent. In this season each year ...

[Continues over page]

PASTORAL CENTRE (Parish Office)

Opening Hours: 9am – 3.30pm, Mon-Fri only.

Phone: (02) 9456 2450 / Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082 / P.O. Box 335, Berowra Hts 2082

Parish Office Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au



KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH
Diocese of Broken Bay Australia

Parish Administrator: Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

Assistant Priest: Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary: Margaret Cooper / Bookkeeper: Karen Price

Vol. Office Assist: Jan Favaloro / Vol. Sacramental Team: Peta & Phill

Sacramental Team Email: kccpsacraments@gmail.com

'Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic parish acknowledges the Darug and Guringai people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.'

THIS WEEK'S READINGS and PRAYERS

Third Week of Advent Year A

Monday 12/12

Num 24:2-7, 15-17;
Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday 13/12 ~ Memorial

St Lucy, virgin, martyr
Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13;
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday 14/12 ~ Memorial

St John of the Cross, priest, doctor
Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-26; Lk 7:19-23

Thursday 15/12

Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30

Friday 16/12

Is 56:1-3, 6-8; Jn 5:33-36

Saturday 17/12

Gen 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Pope's intention for December:

For volunteer not-for-profit organisations:

We pray that volunteer not-for-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish Remembers & prayers for...

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dario Rossi, Frances Gleeson, Sally Agnew, Daryl Harvey, Marie Rita Romano, Edith Ireland, Philip Joseph, Alfredo Figueras, Antonia Passalacqua, Jeanette Bakker, Brian Patterson

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Lombardo, Assunta Fraietta, David Huntley, Patrick Porter, Robert Martin, Lesley White, Irena Iwona, Mary & Frank Jack, Patrick O'Halloran, Fr Patrick McMaugh, James Treacy, Nancy Gomez.

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Those suffering from Covid-19 - that it is brought under control and eliminated as a health risk.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Isabel Henson, Judy Farrell, Chichi Datoc, Carla Medeiros, Ann Leslie, Modesta Borromeo Laroco, Georgina Hughes, Mary Burns, 'Roy', Rey Hilarario, Patrick Dorahy, Roger Okell, Jean Cook, Barbara Jones, Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger, Brian Treacy, John Cosgrove (Snr), Patrick O'Donoghue, Fr Thomas Philip OSH, Josef, Marie Haag, Elaine Longmuir.

WELCOME BACK



Fr Biju returned to Australia on Friday and will be back on deck and chained to his desk by Monday !! (There is a list as long as his arm and leg put-together to get through, so he'll be busy!). We missed you Fr Biju and are happy to have you back with us.

What's good for the gander is good for the goose!

That's right, all is fair in our parish office and now it is the turn of our Secretary to take leave. Marg will be taking a combination of leave from next Wed. 14 December 2022 until Mon. 30 January 2023. We wish her a *very well deserved rest* and a revitalised return to us in 2023.

From Fr Martins: Dear Parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish, thank you for your warm reception especially during the past three months of my ongoing studies. It has been a great privilege to celebrate the Eucharist with you every weekend. Special thanks to the Parish Administrator, Fr. Biju and Fr. Joy for their hospitality. Many thanks to Margaret and the office staff for their support. Wishing one and all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. *Fr. Martins.*



From our Vicar General:

Fr Aloga, a priest on loan to the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn, has been resident in the parish of KCCP during the time of Fr Joy's long service leave and more recently Fr Biju's annual leave. His presence has been an invaluable supply during this period. I record our deep gratitude to him for his availability to us whilst undertaking studies in Sydney. *Very Rev Dr David Ranson, PP, VG.*

[from previous page]



we remember that humanity waited through a long, dry and exhausting period for the sign of new life in Jesus. For generations people looked to the heavens every day for a sign that today would be the day when God's salvation would come. Then, one night, in a way no one could have ever imagined, with no fanfare, a child burst forth into the world and established the final reign of God's love.

Advent is not the time when we pretend that Jesus hasn't come into our world and that we are the first to anticipate his coming at Christmas. It's a richer season than that. It is the time when we recall what it was like before he came and how much we need him to keep coming again and again in our daily lives.

The First Reading and the Gospel make it very clear that farmers never down tools just because the rain comes. We're told that as a result of being soaked in the love of God we are called to do all we can for those in our world who are lame, blind, deaf, lepers, poor and for any one left for dead.

This is a vital message for us to hear today because there are some in our country who tell us that all we have to do is look after 'our own back yard'. This line is many things, but it's not Christian. Advent reminds us that by welcoming Christ we have an obligation to care for all his children. Everywhere is our back yard because that's where our brothers and sisters live. May we gain from Christ this Christmas the generosity to see that the desert is meant to bloom for all people everywhere, not just a few of us lucky to live in an oasis.

We are ridiculously generous to others because God in Jesus has been lavishly good to us and our goodness remains a most powerful sign of God's salvation that is always seen in deeds not words.



THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS ~ Reflections for Advent

The new Diocesan Advent resource is now available. Written by Fr David Ranson, (our Vicar General and PP of Chatswood Parish), it offers reflections based on the Gifts of Christmas that are represented by the Advent candles, these being Hope, Faith, Joy, and Peace. Advent is a time for preparation and anticipation and this resource helps you along the way with scripture verses, reflections and prayers. The resource can be accessed on the Diocesan webpage - <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/evangelisation/advent-2022>

December 2022 Parish Timetable

The ultra busy month of December will soon be upon us so here is an idea of what is in the diary for Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish ...



Date	Time	Church	Event
Dec 12	6pm	SBB	Year 6 Graduation Mass
Dec 14	3pm	Hornsby	Christmas Mass, Regis Aged Care
Dec 15	11.30am	SPA	Whole School end of year Mass
Dec 15	5.30pm / 7.30pm	Berowra Oval	Carols under THE Star - Ecumenical Event (see opposite page)
Dec 16	11.30am	SBB	Whole School end of year Mass
Dec 17	9am / after 9am Mass	SBB / SPA	Christmas Church Cleaning—all hands and buckets on deck!
Dec 19	7.30pm	SPA	2nd Rite of Reconciliation opportunity
Dec 21	7.30pm	SPA	Whole Parish Christmas Carol Evening

The 250 Club! 250 Club in recess until Feb. 2023

Dear all, thank you for your amazing support of this long running and highly successful fundraiser for our parish. **We now have TWO DEFINED SERIES each year beginning in February and in July.** When the office re-opens in late January after the Christmas break, reminders will be sent to those not financial. Number sets are available numbers. For more information contact the Office.



Tap n Go donation points available in both Churches. All taps are set to \$10. Thank you for your support through these devices.



Bank Account Number: To obtain the details of our new bank account (for regular or ad hoc donations), please contact the parish office on 9456 2450 or via email to: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au
~ Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish, Dr Biju.



St Vincent de Paul Asquith & Berowra Conferences Thank you the parishioners of KCCP for your generous support of their Christmas Appeal



The **Asquith & Berowra Conferences** of the St Vincent de Paul Society sincerely thank Parishioners for your generous donations to the recent Christmas Appeal.

Funds raised will go towards assisting our clients suffering hardship for various reasons.

We also extend a big thank you to our regular donors through the poor boxes throughout the year.

Vinnies will provide material and emotional support to families experiencing immense hardship and struggling to feed their families, pay their bills and put toys under the tree at Christmas time.

If you or you know of anyone who needs assistance, please contact St Vincent de Paul office in Hornsby.

They will then contact your local area conference. Telephone 9477 5010.



**We're so sorry.
Attention all
Parish
Volunteers:**

The Parish **VOLUNTEERS THANKSGIVING MASS & BBQ HAS BEEN POSTPONED**

We are very sorry for any inconvenience.

A new date and venue will be advised and we hope to see you all then to properly thank you for all you do for our parish.



Preparing our Churches for the arrival of a Very Special Baby

Many expectant parents begin "nesting" or make everything clean and organised just before a little one arrives and; as a faith family excitedly awaiting the birth of the Infant Jesus; we are no different.

We therefore ask you to join together and give our two churches a good once over at our

CHRISTMAS CLEANING BEE — Saturday 17 December

From **9am at St Bernard's** and from **9.30am at St Patrick's** (straight after morning mass).

Extra help is always needed and appreciated at this time.

The rostered cleaning groups at SPA & SBB are requested to still attend

but we need EXTRA PEOPLE to come along with cleaning equipment for a SUPER CLEAN and to ensure the windows are at their sparkling best. Please bring your chosen cleaning paraphernalia on the day.

CALLING ALL

**Shepherds, Angels and Wisemen
NATIVITY PLAY**

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 5pm

@ ST BERNARD'S CHURCH

(well, the schoolyard actually)

Would your child like to be involved in the Christmas Nativity Play at the 5.00 pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Bernard's? Then, please come along to the rehearsal on Thursday 22nd December.

We will meet at 10.00 am outside St Bernard's Church.

Parents, please stay with your child for the rehearsal.

If you have any questions,

please contact us on 0422 093 594. Zinta H & Elaine D



Calling all volunteers!

Christmas Eve

Children's Mass 6pm -

@ ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Any children that would like to participate in the Christmas pageant are asked to attend 2 rehearsals at St Patrick's church.

Wednesday 21st Dec **AND** Friday 23rd Dec

Choir practice at 9am

Pageant rehearsal 9.45am

Parent volunteers are also most welcome!

If you have any questions please email Loretta and Cecilia

on ceciii@hotmail.com

**Come and take part in the Celebration of Christmas.
The more the merrier!**



Children's Choir @ St Patrick's

The children ended the year on a high note with

their final practice and Christmas party last Friday. **Children's Choir is singing for the last time this year at 10am Mass this Sunday**, before going into recess for the school holidays.

Thanks, everybody, for a wonderful year!

Please note: all Children's Choir singers will be taking part in the parish Carols Evening on

Wednesday, 21st December - please be at the church by 7pm. Further information:

Patricia Smith 9482 7935



**WHOLE
PARISH**



CAROLS EVENING
Wednesday 21st December,
7.30pm
St Patrick's Church, Asquith



Please come and celebrate the imminent arrival of our Infant Saviour with us. This is a whole parish event and we would like as many parishioners as possible to come **from both ends of the parish,**

to be united in solidarity and love of Our Lord and our one true faith.

Musicians are invited to come and perform, either singing or playing.

Community singing is what the evening is all about

so please bring your family and friends and let's celebrate together!

There'll be plenty of your favourite Christmas Carols, so don't miss this event!

Please bring along a plate of simple bite-sized morsels to share with a cuppa afterwards.



The 2022 School Year is just about done and dusted.

Where did the year disappear to?!

As schools across NSW break-up for the Summer Holidays this week, we take the opportunity to wish all students, parents and staff of our Parish Schools and our State Schools (who are visited by our Catechists),

a Holy and Blessed Christmas, and ask that the Good Lord blesses you abundantly in the

New Year with health, happiness and increased faith.

For those travelling, please go carefully and return to us safely in 2023.



Annual Ecumenical Christmas Event ~

Join us Live or Virtually

Please join others from our local Church Communities of Berowra

on: **THIS Thursday 15 December**

at: **Warrina St Oval, Berowra** (opposite our church carpark);

at: **5pm for the Pre-Show and at: 7pm for Carols.**

Each local church is seeking volunteers to deliver flyers before the event and to act as crowd controllers on the night. What a great way to show the Spirit of the Catholic Community of Berowra & Asquith!

If you can help (even for a short time) please call Gen on: 0418 866 250.

ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND – 17th December / 18th December 2022 — 4th Sunday of Advent — Year A
Is 7:10-14: Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Justin Berry	Paul Dryden	Mani Subramany	Sue Lum	David Massa	Darrin Patterson
Altar Servers	Archie Tod Harry Tod	Verity Hartmann Olive O'Keefe	Volunteer now Volunteer now	Volunteer now Volunteer now	Oscar Braga Lucy Henao Vila	Volunteer now Volunteer now
Reader (1)	Sophia Smith	Jeanette Neary	Paul Worthington	Simone Noel	Mary Stokes	Gabriel Henao
Reader (2)	Anne Marie Hutchins	Isaac Tonkin	Miguel Do Rego	Jim Fitzgerald	Jo Quinlan	Les Fogden
Sacristy/Cleaning/Flowers	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Cecilia Waite (f), Brenda Brooks (s)		Scott Smith, Anastasia Smith, Francis Lizardo, Tess Lizardo (f)			
Maintenance	Team A & B - <i>additional help always appreciated</i>		December: Malcolm Cross, David Chui			

Working in a child-related ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay: Paid and volunteer workers who have direct face to face contact with children (under 18 years) are required by law to obtain a Working with Children Check number. Please note though, exemptions may apply in some cases.

The Parish is the employer of the paid or volunteer worker and therefore is required by law to verify the Working with Children Check number. All paid or volunteer workers engaged in a child-related role must have a clear Working with Children Check to work in a child-related ministry. This disclosure references the legislation, *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.



Fiesta Viva

Holy Mass in honour of *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

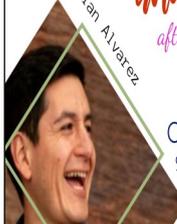


Hispanic Night of Celebration

ENTERTAINMENT

and Food
after the Mass!

Dec. 12, 2022 @ 7PM
Our Lady of Dolours
94 Archer St, Chatswood



Cristian Alvarez

Graduation Class 2022, St Bernard's Catholic Primary School, Berowra Hts. Congratulations Year 6 St Bernard's Berowra Hts on your Graduation with Mass on Monday 12th December 2022.

Our parish has watched many of you grow from tiny babies at Baptism to young recipients of the gifts of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Now you reach a different milestone as you graduate from Primary School and enter the grown up world of High School.

Our congratulations go with each of you and our prayer is that you keep God in your heart, strive always to do your best with the help of the Holy Spirit and have Jesus as your example in all you do. God bless you all!



SEND FREIGHT, PARCELS, DOCs – ANYWHERE ANYTIME

We pick-up, pack and send quickly, cheaply and safely. For friendly, efficient service contact James or Stuart (Berowra Heights resident), for a competitive quote for large and small packing and shipping needs for local and international deliveries. *Free pick-up for local residents.*

P: 02 9804 1544 or M: 0451 531 759; E: westryde@packsend.com.au

The businesses advertising in our bulletin support our parish financially allowing it to be published each week in full colour. Please support them in turn with your patronage.

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