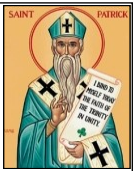


KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 11th April 2021 ~ Second Sunday of Easter ~ Divine Mercy ~ Year B

Acts 4:32-35; 1Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31



Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia!

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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'

Divine Mercy Sunday

"I shall sing forever the Lord's mercy." (Ps 89 [88])

Between 1930 and 1938 Christ appeared to Sister Faustina, a Sister of Mercy in Poland who initiated the Divine Mercy devotion.

"From all My wounds, like from streams, mercy flows for souls, but the wound in My Heart is the fountain of unfathomable mercy. From this fountain spring all graces for souls. The flames of compassion burn Me. I desire greatly to pour them out upon souls. Speak to the whole world about My mercy." Excerpted from

Diary of Sr. M. Faustina Kowalska.
<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2017-04-23>

The Divine Mercy image

is the image of the risen Christ on that first Easter, on the evening of the Resurrection, miraculously appearing there in the Upper Room and bestowing on the Apostles the power of the Holy Spirit to forgive sins. His hand is raised in blessing, he shows them His wounds, and Jesus is looking for their trust. He breathes on them and says "Receive the Holy Spirit, whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, what sins you retain are retained". (Gospel of John, 20:23)



Unlocking our doors

Most houses are well alarmed nowadays; the computerised alarm has become as basic an item as table and chairs. We also need to have good strong locks; long gone, at least in the cities and towns, are the days when you could just leave the key in the door, and let neighbours ramble in casually for a chat and a cup of tea. We are more fearful about our security than we used to be, and this fear and anxiety has led us to take more precautions to protect ourselves. Fear of what others can do to us tends to close us in on ourselves, not just in the physical sense of getting stronger door-locks, but also in other senses. We tend to be somewhat withdrawn around people whom we perceive to be critical. We are slow to open up to someone we think will judge us. We hesitate to share ideas and plans we might have with those who are known not to suffer fools gladly. Fear of others can often hold us back and stunt our growth.

In the gospel we find the disciples locking themselves into a room because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Even after an excited Mary Magdalene came to them from the empty tomb announcing that she had seen the Lord, this was not enough to overcome their fear. What had been done to Jesus could be done to them. . . which led to their hiding in self-imposed confinement. The turning point came when the risen Lord himself appeared to them behind their closed doors and helped them over their fear. He did this by breathing the Holy Spirit into them, filling them new energy and hope, freeing them from fear and releasing them to share in his mission. "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you," he said. In the power of the Spirit they came to life and went out from their self-imposed prison, to bear witness to the risen Lord. This is the picture of the disciples that Luke gives us in today's reading from Acts. He describes a community of believers, the church, witnessing to the resurrection both in word and by the quality of their living.

We can all find ourselves in the situation of those first disciples, locked in their hiding place. Any combination of the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" can water down our commitment to following the Lord. Like the disciples in today's gospel, we can be tempted to give up on our faith journey. The will to self-preservation can prevent us from doing what we are capable of doing with the Lord's help. The wounds we carry from earlier, failed initiatives make us hesitate to try again. Even when someone seems full of enthusiasm and hope like a Mary Magdalene, we shrug it off. We let them get on with it, while we hold back and stay safe. The gospel today suggests a way out of our self-imposed confinement. If Magdalene makes no impact on us, the Lord will find another way to enter our lives and to fill us with new life and energy for his service. No locked doors, nor even locked hearts, can keep him out.

[Continues next page...]

PASTORAL

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082
P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082
Phone: (02) 9456 2450
Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au
Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp
Centre Hours: 9am - 3.30pm.

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH
Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper
Bookkeeper Karen Price

Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine
Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com



SEATING CAPACITY AT OUR CHURCHES

[applying the current 2m² requirement]

St Patrick's: 202 persons

at St Bernard's: 122 persons

Physical Distancing - people from the same household may sit together in the church. Couples and families can be seated together however, social distancing is to be maintained between family groups.

Additional restrictions are at the discretion of the Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.

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

St Bernard's	8am	Mon, Tues and Thurs.
	9am	Wednesday and Friday
St Patrick's	8am	Wednesday and Friday
	9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat.

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday	9.30 am at St Patrick's
Every Friday	After 9am Mass at 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.*

2nd Week of Easter
–Year B

Monday 12/04

Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday 13/04

Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15

Wednesday 14/04

Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday 15/04

Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:16-21

Friday 16/04

Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday 17/04

Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Joaquim Victor D'Souza, Marie Napoli,
Jose Morales,

ANNIVERSARIES: Bronia & Wladek
Pieprzyk, Karen Fitzgerald, Winifred &
William Colman

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Angela Smith,
David Chee, Roger Okell, Patrick Dorahy,
Elaine Longmuir, Sr Mary Treacy, John
Gallagher, Fr Thomas Philip OSH, Sr Tincy
Thomas, Marie Haag, Tom Dawson,
Felicity Fone, Barbara Jones, Jean Cook,
Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Dan Leavy,
Terry Treacy, Stephen C C, Anne Brady,
Marie O'Hare, John Cosgrove (Snr),
Antonia Alvarado, Peter Nguyen, Nemia
Camille Asiong, Rodney Porter

The 250 Club!

Week 8 – 06/04/2021
Winning number: 838
Winner: *Unfinancial*
Amount: \$25.00



Saint Thomas,
Apostle ~ Thomas,
one of the twelve
apostles, sometimes
called Didymus, or
'the twin', is best remembered
for his refusal to believe that
Jesus had risen from the dead
until he saw and touched the
wounds of the crucifixion.
(Hence the phrase 'doubting
Thomas'.) According to
tradition, Thomas spent the
rest of his life evangelising,
particularly in India.

Pope Francis'
Prayer Intention
for April:
Fundamental Rights

~ We pray for those
who risk their lives
while fighting for fundamental
rights under dictatorships,
authoritarian regimes and even in
democracies in crisis.



Tap n Go
donation points
Available in
both Churches.
All taps are set to
\$10.

Thank you for your ongoing
support through these devices.



Between **Monday 12 April 2021 & Friday 23 April 2021**
all Monday to Friday morning Masses
will be celebrated at
9am at St Bernard's, Berowra Heights.

PLEASE NOTE

9am Saturday morning Mass will be celebrated as usual at St Patrick's, Asquith.

[from front page ...] He finds a way to enter the space where we have chosen to retreat and he empowers us to resist what is holding us back. He does require some openness on our part; at the least some desire on our part to become what he is calling us to be. The risen Lord never ceases to recreate us and to renew us in his love. Easter is the season to celebrate the good news.

Just as the disciples were unmoved by the hopeful enthusiasm of Mary Magdalene who had seen the Lord, so Thomas was unmoved by the witness of the disciples who told him they too had seen the Lord. Thomas, it seems, was an even harder nut to crack than the other disciples. He is one of those people who insist on certain conditions being met before he makes a move, "Unless I see, I can't believe." As he had done with the other disciples, the Lord takes Thomas on his own terms. He accommodates himself to Thomas' conditions and says, "Put your finger here." The gospel today implies that the Lord meets us wherever we are. He takes us seriously in all our fears and doubts.

The Lord is prepared to stand with us on our own ground, whatever that ground is, and from there he will speak to us a word suited to our personal state of mind and heart. We don't have to get ourselves to some particular place in order for the Lord to engage with us. He takes himself to where we are, wherever it is a place of fear or of doubt. We might pray this Easter season for the openness to receive the Lord's coming into the concrete circumstances of our own lives, so that we too might say with Thomas, "My Lord and my God." We might also pray that, like the Lord, we would receive others where they are, rather than where we would like them to be.

© <https://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2021/04/april-11-2021-second-sunday-of-easter/>

He is Risen! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

How wonderful Easter was this year when we could again come together to celebrate the Risen Lord!
Fr Joy and myself would like to

sincerely thank each one of our volunteers,
who made time in their own busy schedules to make our Easter Celebrations so blessed.

- We thank all our congregation, who came together so full of hope and faith to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord and who *lifted the rafters* with their wonderful voices in song.
- We offer gratitude and thanks to our Sue Newnham, our RCIA coordinator, who prepared our newest Catholic Luca to be Baptised and Confirmed in our Faith (see back page for pictorial tribute),
- To our Lenten programme facilitators, thank you for preparing us so well for the rewards of Easter Sunday.
- To our church cleaners and decorators for a job well done with everything sparkling,
- To our gifted florists who brought beauty and fragrance to our spiritual home,
- To the leaders of our liturgies including our
 - Readers, Senior Servers (Thurifers), Eucharistic Ministers,
 - Mark Dunkley who composed our Intercessions (Prayers of the Faithful)
 - Our amazing musicians and choirs at both churches.
- and ... To Our Risen Lord for abundantly blessing this parish with such wealth and diversity of talent.



Yishar (Aramaic) ~ **Nandi** (നന്ദി Malayalam) ~ **Thank you** (English)

Let us rejoice and be glad!



St Patrick's Church Asquith Restoration Work ~

The work on St Patrick's will get a good wriggle on this week and next with all **weekday** masses taking place at St Bernard's at 9am (see above). We are still working towards our financial target for this much needed restoration. Even the tiniest of contributions, are instrumental in helping maintain your church assets and the upkeep will be appreciated by many parishioners in the years to come.

Things you might like to contribute towards on ... Our "TO DO LIST"

- ◆ Restoration of St Patrick's Church - est. cost \$42,000 **currently \$11,300 has been contributed**
- ◆ New telephones in the office \$4,691.16 **a very generous contribution of \$1,000 has been received**
[We will purchase the phones outright and change suppliers to avoid exorbitant leasing fee's under the current contract]

Ways to contribute ... To contribute your options are:

- 1. You may place an envelope on the plate marked "TO DO LIST" or "WISH LIST"
- 2. You may use BPoint via our website - select the drop down option 'Others (Including 1st Collection)' and use "TO DO LIST" or "WISH LIST" in 'Purpose of Payment' or nominate specifically the area in which you wish your contribution to be used.
- 3. You may call the office to make payment over the phone with a credit card.
- 4. For the restoration of St Patrick's Church specifically, you may place your contribution directly into the collection box at back of SPA Church.

Our "WISH LIST" for New Audio Visual equipment in St Bernard's Church - has been realised
Sincere thanks to the anonymous contributors to our Wish List.



Thank you for contributing whatever you can afford, to help maintain your parish assets.

Parish Children's Choir - Expressions of Interest

Great news! After more than a year in recess, Children's Choir will be making a new start in the next few weeks, with some changes due to COVID safety measures.

Numbers will be restricted and check-in will be essential.

If your child is interested in being part of the new Children's Choir, please contact the Parish Office by phone or by email and provide:



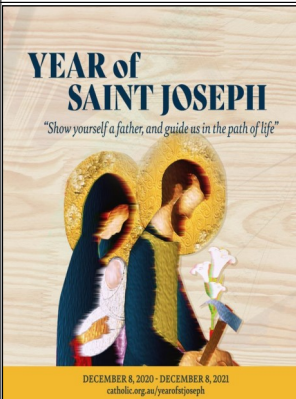
Children's Choir practises every week during school terms,

on Fridays at 4-5pm in St Patrick's church, and sings at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

Parent/carer volunteers are essential to assist with supervision, so please indicate your availability when you contact the Office, parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au or phone 9456 2450.

1. Child's name 2. School year

3. Parent's name 4. Email address 5. If you can help



During this "Year of St Joseph", Patron of the Universal Church, we will bring you a monthly reflection on aspects of St Joseph's life and character provided to us by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

REFLECTION - APRIL 2021 - © Michelle Vass -

St Joseph - Man of Dreams - Mt 1:20, Mt 2:13, 19, 22

Luke's Gospel speaks of a single visit of the angel Gabriel to Mary, setting her path for the rest of her life. In Matthew's Gospel, we hear of an angel visiting Joseph some four times, guiding him step by step through troubled times. Interestingly, these visitations come to the sleeping Joseph in his dreams.

As a carpenter, Joseph would have been no stranger to silence. We can imagine him spending time alone, honing his patience and concentration as he worked the wood. Perhaps there is a link between this silent way of Joseph and the silent way of dreams in which the angel communicates with him? We could be fooled in thinking that, as a man of dreams, Joseph lived in a fantasy world. Nothing could be farther from the truth. As a man of dreams, Joseph has much to teach us about the power of trust, the power of prayer and the power of discerning God's presence in our lives.

Joseph's dreams come to him at difficult times, when he is afraid and needs to make important decisions. The first dream comes after he finds out about Mary's pregnancy and has decided to dismiss her. The dream allows Joseph, the righteous man who knew the law, to interpret the law with love. He might have been angry and disappointed, yet he acts as if he is saying what his step-son would say to a woman about to be stoned almost thirty years later, "He who has never sinned, let him cast the first stone" (John 8:7).

Joseph's dreams are brief, or at least the snippets we hear are brief. In the second dream, the angel tells Joseph to get up, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt and stay there until further instructions. If we listen to the Scriptures and the saints, it would seem that brevity is a strong characteristic of spiritual experiences. St Teresa of Avila writes very clearly that the duration of a rapture is short, and any prolonged raptures are more often due to the sister not being in control of herself, than to God!¹

Joseph's dreams give clear instructions. In the third dream, again Joseph is told to get up, take the child and his mother and go to Israel, for those seeking the child's life are dead. They also give reason and encourage. In the first dream, Joseph is told to name the child Jesus because he will save his people from their sins. In the fourth dream, he is warned that Herod's son has replaced him and so to go to Galilee. Somehow Joseph knows to trust these messages. There is no fussing, no questioning or consulting other's opinions; he simply acts. Think how steadfast his trust in God must have been to know that what came to him in a dream was not to be questioned.

Do you trust your dreams? Dreaming is an interesting phenomenon and research continues into its function in our lives.

Dreams help our brains work through the myriad experiences of our day – a kind of mental processing and decluttering.² Scripture also attests to dreams as a powerful sign of the presence of God. God is believed to actively speak through dreams as we hear in the Book of Joel, "...your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions" (Joel 2:28).

Joseph's dreams offer us a lesson in discernment. When we are plagued by troubles, it can be very difficult to get to sleep, let alone rest enough to be aware of a dream. To do so, we must trust, surrendering all our cares to God. We might even say we surrender our cares in exchange for our dreams!

Joseph reminds us that rest is essential if we are to hear God's voice and understand what is being asked of us. He shows us what happens when we wait patiently even in fearful circumstances, trusting and remaining open to how Love might work in our lives. Just as Paul reminded the Romans to be transformed by the renewing of the mind so as to discern the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect (Rom 12:2) – Joseph reminds us to allow our minds to be renewed through our dreams.

The fact that we hear about four of Joseph's dreams reminds us too that discernment works in all aspects of our lives. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit and it is honed with experience. The Desert Fathers and Mothers prayed for the gift of discernment in all things. They knew that discernment in every aspect of life requires flexibility, constant self-examination and spiritual awareness.³ Just as Joseph's actions were constantly guided by the angel's instructions, we too need to adapt our spiritual practices to work, family and community demands, always alert to the need for change.

Finally, you are probably aware that Pope Francis has a special devotion to St Joseph. "I have great love for Saint Joseph, because he is a man of silence and strength. On my table I have a statue of Saint Joseph sleeping. Even when he is asleep, he is taking care of the Church! So when I have a problem, a difficulty, I write a little note and I put it underneath Saint Joseph, so that he can dream about it! In other words I tell him: pray for this problem! ..."⁴

Joseph, the man of dreams, reminds us that prayer and discernment are not about what we do, so much as how we keep our hearts open to the gifts of God. We must wait for what comes, inwardly attentive, always ready to live the messages of Love. So, happy dreaming tonight. Remember the Psalmist's advice (Ps 127) that your earlier rising and going later to rest are in vain, for gifts will be poured on you the beloved as you sleep, just like Joseph!

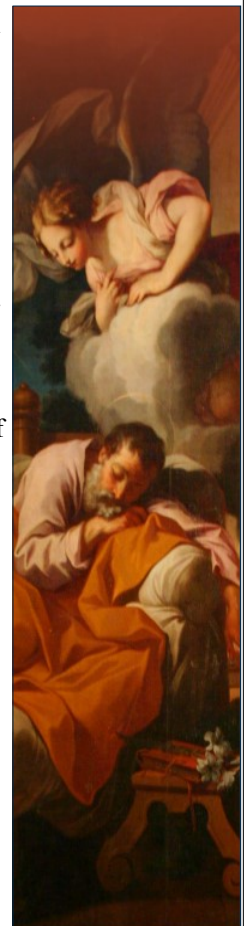
Michelle Vass is director of the St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, a work of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

¹ St Teresa of Avila, the Book of Her Foundations – A Study Guide, Marc Foley, O.C.D., ICS Publications, Institute of Carmelite Studies, Washington DC, 2012, pp83,84

² Kendra Cherry, 16/6/20, Why do we dream? <https://www.verywellmind.com/why-do-we-dream-top-dreamtheories-2795931>

³ Balance of the Heart – Desert Spirituality for Twenty – First Century Christians, Lois Farag, Cascade Books, Eugene OR, 2012, pp 173 – 186.

⁴ Sermon of Pope Francis, January 16, 2015 (Philippines)



ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 17th/18th April – 3rd Sunday of Easter- Year B

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE; Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5; Lk 24:35-48

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Garth Graham	Michael O'Neill	Mani Subramany	John Messina	David Massa	Darrin Patterson
Reader (1)	John Ryan	Denise Harant	Paul Worthington	Russell Schreiber	David De-Fina	Simone Noel
Reader (2)	Sophia Smith	Isaac Tonkin	Miguel do Rego	Vivienne Schreiber	Cora Cuasay	Fiona Fone
Usher / s	Jan & Joseph Favalaro	Peta Tonkin	Chris Smith	Cynthia Gilbertson	Sue & Chris Newnham	Les Fogden
Sacristy Care/ Church Cleaning	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Marlene Moloney (f), Chichi Datoc (s)		Pat Smith, Ellen Downey (f), Marion Pahalawatta, Francis Lizardo, Tess Lizardo			
Maintenance	Teams A & B - additional help always appreciated		April: Binoy Ponnachan, Ronnie Tan - additional help always appreciated			

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*.

RCIA

Easter Vigil
3rd April 2021



Luca Baraesi

Baptised in the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.
Nourished with The Body and Blood of Christ.

KCCP

The Church of
St Patrick, Asquith



The businesses below support our parish by advertising here. Please give them your support in turn.

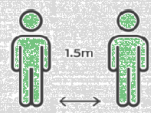


MOST IMPORTANT
and **No. 1 Rule** follow
ALL DIRECTIONS
of the **USHER/s & Warden/s**



Sanitise your hands

Stand apart



Church Capacities:
202 ~ St Patrick's,
122 ~ St Bernard's
If unwell ~ **DO NOT** come to mass ~
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