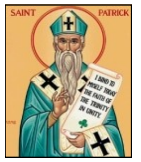


'Seek God, Find God, Embrace God in Jesus'
KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH



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

Responsorial Psalm: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

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

12th December 2021

Zeph 3:14-18;

Phil 4:4-7;

Lk 3:10-18:

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

St Bernard's	8am	Mon, Tues, Thurs
	9am	Wed and Fri
St Patrick's	8am	Wed and Fri
	9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs

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 the Christ-child. We light the third candle, coloured **rose for joy**, and 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, fill us with the fire of your love.**

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

Response: **Come, Lord, fill us with the fire of your love.**

Reader: He will exult over you with joy.

Response: **Come, Lord, fill us with the fire of your love.**



I want you to be happy

© Fr Michael Tate

I received a traffic infringement notice a little while ago. As you may know, it is the demerit points which are the real punishment because they accumulate and suddenly one finds oneself disqualified to drive.

Some people have an image of God as a Police Commissioner issuing demerit points for infringements of various rules. Break a major moral law and one loses twelve points straight off (mortal sin). But even minor infractions accumulate and one finds oneself disqualified to enter Heaven.

What a pathetic image of the Creator of the Universe. What a pathetic image of the Christian way of life.

The populace at Philippi had their own image of 'divinity'. About thirty years before Christ, Marcus Antony had defeated Brutus and Cassius at Philippi and many Roman soldiers settled there.

They and their households had an idea of the Divine as despotic absolute power, just as likely to throw you to the lions as put a garland around your head. The Divine was probably wishing the worst for you. The most you could do was some sort of deal to placate divine power, to get on the right side.

St Paul wrote to the populace at Philippi with a very different image of God in mind. Paul had become the apostle of God's attitude to human beings: **'I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord. I repeat, what I want is your happiness.'**

Paul is imitating or, better, expressing God's deepest desire for us. Does that sound like a God whom one has to placate out of fear, someone one has to appease by keeping the rules for fear of destruction?

No, God wants us to be happy. Thomas Aquinas says the goal of human life is Happiness, being flooded with bliss, beatitude. We are to image God as a Divine Lover who loved us into existence, sustains us in love, and destines us for love.

We can experience it even now. When that happens, then we are taken well beyond the realm of negativity, keeping the rules, doing deals.

[continues inside]



PASTORAL CENTRE (Parish Office) ~ Hours: 9am – 3.30pm, Mon-Fri only.

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

Phone: (02) 9456 2450 / **Email:** parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Parish Priest: Fr Shaju John, OSH

Assistant Priest: Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary: Margaret Cooper / **Vol. Office Assist:** Jan Favaloro

Bookkeeper: Karen Price / **Sacramental Team:** kccpsacraments@gmail.com



SEATING CAPACITY AT OUR CHURCHES

[applying the current 2m² requirement]

St Patrick's: 202 persons / St Bernard's: 122 persons

Physical Distancing - people from the same household may sit together.

Couples and families can be seated together however, social distancing is to be maintained between family groups.

Additional restrictions may be made from time to time at the discretion of the Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
and PRAYERS

Third Week of Advent
Year C

Monday 13/12 ~ Memorial

St Lucy, virgin, martyr

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

Tuesday 14/12 ~ Memorial

St John of the Cross,

priest, doctor

Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday 15/12

Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Lk 7:19-23

Thursday 16/12

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

Friday 17/12

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

Saturday 18/12

Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-24

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



CAROLS WHOLE PARISH EVENING

Tuesday 21st December, beginning at 7.30pm

please come and celebrate the imminent arrival of our Infant Saviour

at St Patrick's Church Asquith.

This is a whole parish event and we would like as many parishioners as possible to come along, **from both ends of the parish**, to be united in solidarity and love of Our Lord and our one true faith. Bring your family and friends and let's celebrate together!

If things don't change (restrictions wise) then we will be entertained by groups of cantors singing Carols for our entertainment and spiritual enjoyment, **BUT**, if things **DO** change and we can **ALL SING ALONG ...** then watch out, the roof will be raised in celebration and anticipation that unto us a special child will soon be born.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Peter Paul Raj, Elizabeth (Betty) Borg, Fr Thomas Kunnasserry (Fr Joy's uncle), Francisca Aloysius, Jess Formby

ANNIVERSARIES:

Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Irena & Iwona, David Huntley, Alfredo R, De Ramos, Jack & Marie McNamara

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

For those suffering around the world from Covid-19 - that this disease will be successfully brought under control and eliminated as a health risk for all.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Irena Fellmann, Mary Park, Sr Joel SVM, Mary John, Alex John, Bindu Alex, Joseph Alex, Antonia Alvarado, Dana Saleh, Chris Enright, Tom Dawson, Sally Agnew, Jola & Stach Uchman, Elaine Longmuir, Jean Cook, Roger Okell, Patrick Dorahy, Patrick O'Donoghue, Sr Mary Treacy, Marie Haag, Sr Tincy Thomas, Fr Thomas Philip OSB, John Gallagher, Dan Leavy, Felicity Fone, Anne Brady, Barbara Jones, Peter Brooks, Marie O'Hare, Brian Treacy, Stephen C C, John Cosgrove (Snr), Antonia Alvarado, Peter Nguyen, Nemia Camille Asiong, Rodney Porter.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December:

~Catechists~ Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The 250 Club!



The 250 Club is now in recess until February 2022 ~ but remember ~ You Have To Be In It To Win It !

Dear all, thank you for your amazing support of this long running and highly successful fundraiser for our parish.

From 2022, the 250 Club will have **TWO DEFINED SERIES** each year which will begin in February and in July.

When the office re-opens in mid-January after the Christmas break, reminders will be sent to those not financial. Numbers are available for anyone wanting to join or for additional sets of numbers. For more information contact the Parish Office.



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



NEW 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@bbccatholic.org.au ~ Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish, Fr Shaju.

'Keep Christ in Christmas'

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve December 24:

- St Bernard's Berowra 5pm ~ Children's Mass (outdoor Mass)
- St Patrick's Asquith 6pm ~ Children's Mass, 9pm ~ Youth Mass

Midnight Mass 12 midnight St Patrick's Asquith

Christmas Day December 25:

- St Bernard's Berowra 9am ~ Family Mass
- St Patrick's Asquith 8am ~ Family Mass, 10am ~ Family Mass

JOY LOVE PEACE BELIEVE CHRISTMAS



FRIDAY
17 December
7pm online
Carols under the Star event



SATURDAY
18 December 10am
Christmas Church Cleaning @ both churches

Friday 17th December at 7pm is the annual **Carols under the Star Event** - presented by the Combined Christian Churches of Berowra. This wonderful local initiative brings together the members of the Anglican, Uniting, Baptist and Catholic Faiths. In past years it has faced some challenges, from being wiped out by a huge and damaging hail storm, to going virtual last year due to Covid. It will be virtual again this year because Covid is still about and now Omicron is lurking in the wings. The churches are taking no chances, they are **...preparing...** for whatever may come! Why not jump online to join in the fun via <https://www.carolsunderthestar.com.au/>

Saturday 18th December at 10am is our **Annual Christmas Church Cleaning** day (both churches). Please meet outside the church armed with your preferred cleaning tool. Jobs to be done include: The inside of the church, the windows, the lawns and the gardens. This way everything will look its best for the arrival of our special little guest, baby Jesus.



Annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal this weekend



The core value of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is home visitation. Vinnies are the only Charitable Organisation that does this, however, during the Covid Lockdown we were unable to do so.

Vinnies took on the challenge to overcome this hardship by providing food parcels and frozen meals to the needy from our Welfare Store in Hornsby. This service enabled our clients to use their funds for Electricity, medical, rent, pharmacy items. Both our Asquith and Berowra Conferences have now resumed home visitation and the request for assistance is increasing.

Also during this time both our Vinnies conferences were requested to provide assistance to families escaping domestic violence issues. These families came only with their own personal possessions and Vinnies provided the basic items like beds, linen and other household items.

Vinnies has had a presence in this Parish since 1957 and the need to help those less fortunate than us is still as relevant now as it was then. The Parishioners from the Parish of Kur-Ing-gai Chase have always been generous in the support of the Society and we are very grateful for that.

This weekend Vinnies request that you donate only what you can afford to help us continue the work of supporting those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

There are envelopes before you in the pews, so please place your donation in the envelope, fill out the details and receipts will be issued if requested. Envelopes can be placed on either of the collection plates or the poor boxes at the rear of the church.

If you wish you can use the envelopes next week or any time of your choosing.

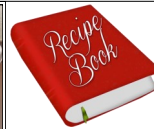
Thank you all very much for your past and future assistance and if any one wants to know more about the Society or would like to join us in our work of supporting the less fortunate contact the Parish Office .

POSITION VACANT **Altar Linen launderer required at St Patrick's Asquith**



After quite some time of having sole responsibility of laundering the Altar Linen at St Patrick's, Marion Pahalawatta has decided it is time to step back from this ministry alone. *Thank you Marion.* Marion has taken this decision so she can devote more time to her vital role as a Catechist ~ for which we are truly grateful.

Are you the person God is calling to launder the Altar Linen? A job description can be provided and training is offered. Please speak to either of the priests after any Mass or contact the office for more information. We hope very much to hear from someone very soon.



The St Patrick's School P&F

have put together a cookbook of recipes from around the world provided by school students and their families. There are also recipes from teachers and Fr Shaju. The cookbook is \$15 and would make great Christmas gift. Copies are available to purchase after all Masses at St Patrick's this weekend.

[continued from front page] Of course there are prohibitions. John the Baptist tells the tax collectors and soldiers: **'You must not use your position to exploit and financially ruin those vulnerable to your power.'** But that merely clears away the ugly side of life. It is a minimalist approach.

John the Baptist challenged his followers: **'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the one who has none. And the one with something to eat must do the same.'**

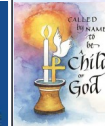
John the Baptist foresaw a time of extravagant generosity, outrageous generosity. But, he senses it needed an impetus beyond his role and power. **'There is one coming after me who will immerse you in the Holy Spirit and fire.'**

That is what happened at Pentecost. Our Risen Lord had immersed his followers in His Holy Spirit and the disciples experienced the Divine Will for their Happiness as if it were wind and fire, and we are told they sold all their possessions and distributed to such as had need.

I have seen this immersion in our parish during the year. Parishioners' generosity towards various appeals always exceeds the ordinary expected bounds.

But, how can we do less when, in two weeks' time, we will celebrate the unparalleled generosity of the gift of the divine baby in the manger? Why did Divine Love overflow in this way? The answer lies in St Paul's letter to the people at Philippi. God is not a despotic Caesar issuing arbitrary edicts. God is a Divine Lover with one message:

'I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord. I repeat, what I want is your happiness.'



Welcome to our Faith Family

Baptism congratulations to Kaia Villavicencio

~ **Hamish Arthur**

who are to be baptised this weekend.

Please keep them, their parents and Godparents in your prayers.

Conditions of Entry to our Churches

† All are Welcome in our churches - **vaccinated and unvaccinated** alike;

† **ALL attendees are required** to use either: **QR Code** or your **Covid Check-in Card** to sign in;

† **ALL attendees are required to wear a mask** – as per State Government regulation;

If you have any questions regarding the above please Email: parishkccp@bbccatholic.org.au or Phone: 94562450



COLUMBAN ART Calendars available at both our churches for \$10 each.

SVdP CHRISTMAS CARDS ~ available at **St Patrick's**: \$7.00 per pack of 10 Christmas Cards produced by SVdP. Proceeds go towards assisting those in need in our Parish.

CHRISTMAS CARDS ~ available at **St Bernard's Berowra**: \$2.50 for a pack of 8 - **but please note**, these cards are not the SVdP cards offered at St Patrick's Church.



Operation Christmas Child Thankyou!

Thank you to everyone who did a shoebox or donated. We ended up with a grand total of 876 shoeboxes for the area of Hornsby Heights to Cowan all to Gods glory. This means 876 children will have the opportunity to learn about Jesus and how much he loves us. Thank you once again for your support and generosity. *Louise.*



ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND - 18th/19th December 2021 - Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44
Fourth Sunday of Advent— Year C



	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	Denis Steiner	Janice Pasoquen	John Messina	David Massa	Darrin Patterson
Reader (1)	Natasha Steele	Barbara McMullen	Hayley Rodrigues	Michael Halliday	Sue Lum	Fiona Fone
Reader (2)	Alodie Wheeler	Jeanette Neary	Celia Cox	Jim Fitzgerald	David De-Fina	Mary Stokes
Usher / s	Jan & Joseph Favaloro <i>Sub requested</i>	Freda Alaalatoa Paul Dryden	Marion Pahalawatta	Cynthia Gilbertson Tess & Francis Lizardo	Peter Daly Susie Gates	Les Fogden
Sacristy Care/ Church Cleaning	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter (s), Marlene Moloney (f)		Pat Smith, Ellen Downey (f), Marion Pahalawatta, Francis Lizardo, Tess Lizardo			
Communion to Sick	Mt Wilga Rehab. Hospital	Unable to visit at the present time	Regis (KRG Gardens)	Unable to visit at the present time	Christophorus House	Unable to visit at the present time
Maintenance	Teams A & B - additional help always appreciated		December: Les Fogden, Graham Palmer, Richard Fellow - 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*.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY! Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL) works with Catholic entities to promote and oversee a nationally consistent, comprehensive, and sustainable framework for the protection of children and adults at risk within the Church in Australia. Learn more about [Safeguarding Standards, Audit and Review, Resource Hub and Complaints Response](#).



Vox Episcopi - The Voice of the Bishop - Tuesday 7 November 2021 My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, Last Sunday I celebrated our annual Mass of Inclusion at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara, to mark International Day of People with Disability – 3 December. Once more it was wonderful and inspiring to welcome people with disability and their families to celebrate their gifts and achievements.

To read the rest of this letter, please go to: https://mcusercontent.com/466af249e088db70ab864d088/files/fd7da020-2e0f-3848-465c-b2322b68f319/20211205_Mass_of_Inclusion_826642.1_.pdf



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

HARANT'S ~ Home & Office Improvements Pty. Ltd
 Builder's Licence No. 27126C and our own KCCP parishioner

CHRISTIAN HARANT
 Specialising in kitchens, bathrooms, decks, carports, gyprock, plastering, maintenance work.
 Mobile: 0412 478 813

King Tide Café / Restaurant
 Open 7 days ~ 8am to 4pm ~ *Owned & operated by our own KCCP Parishioners John & Moauli Griffiths*
Come by Car / Boat / Train
Faafetai fo'i ~ means 'You're Welcome' in Samoan
 Delicious food, fabulous service & exceptional views await YOU!
 Hawkesbury River Marina, 9 Dangar Rd Brooklyn NSW
 (02) 9985 7102

Now in Hornsby
Solutions for Mobility, Independence and Dignity
 Registered NDIS, My Aged Care, DVA and Insurance Provider

- Easy Under Cover Parking at the Rear on Ground Floor
- Easy access to the showroom from the Car Park
- Enter Parking from Jersey Street NORTH, north bound
- Corner of Jersey Street North and Bridge Road

9987 4500
 73 Jersey St North, Hornsby NSW 2077

www.comfortdiscovered.com

ratemyagent
 Agent of the Year - 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017
 Berowra and Berowra Heights

Francesca Parrino
 Upper North Shore Expert

M (+61) 0415 651 740 E francescaparrino@smileelite.com

Francesca Parrino Property
 Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn | YouTube | RateMyAgent
 Smile Elite
 Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn | YouTube
francescaparrinoproperty.com.au | smileelite.com

FRANCESCA PARRINO
 PROPERTY POWERED BY SMILE ELITE™

