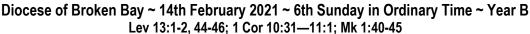


KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

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



Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Alleluia Verse: Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia Responsorial Psalm: I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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



HOMILY © Richard Leonard SJ

Sometimes translators of the Bible get it wrong for all the best reasons. We are used to hearing in today's Gospel that Jesus was 'filled with pity' when he encountered the leper, but the Greek word Mark uses is more accurately translated 'anger', not 'pity'. With the exception of the cleansing of the temple in John's Gospel, generations of translators found it hard to imagine Jesus angry. Jesus' anger, however, provides a wonderful insight into him, and a strong challenge to us.

Anger tells us that something is wrong. It is an important and valuable emotion. Anger is value-neutral. It's what we do with it that defines its effect in our lives. Some of us sit on it and stew. Others gain energy from their anger to right the

People who had any type of skin disease in first century Palestine were called lepers. They were treated shamefully. They had to live outside the villages and towns, call out 'unclean, unclean' when they came near others, could never attend the temple and were considered cursed by God and so excluded from the Chosen People. No wonder Jesus was angry when he encountered a man with leprosy. Here he also confronts a social class system that robbed this man of his human dignity and religious laws that robbed him of hope.

There are two details in this story that are especially important. The man with leprosy feels comfortable enough to go straight up to Jesus, to put his case, and ask for healing. We are told that Jesus touched him. Social and religious laws were being broken in this encounter. But Jesus' healing of the man isn't just about challenging social laws and taboos. Jesus tells the man to fulfil his religious obligations so that he can attend the temple again and re-join the community. Jesus was interested in converting all those he met to the higher laws of love and compassion.

We are challenged this Sunday to trust our anger. This is not only about fighting for our rights when we have been wronged, but more so, it's fighting for the dignity and rights of others. It can take many forms: taking the life of those yet to be born, or who are near natural death, fighting for future generations by calling for a just care of the earth. And it can be about standing up for those people in our home, parish, workplace, neighbourhood, country and world who are treated shamefully, excluded, derided, or declared unclean.

Why should we bother? Because this Sunday Christ comes to us, again, and declares that despite what we might think about ourselves, or what we have been told, there is nothing in us which cannot be healed or is beyond hope.

May this Eucharist give us the love and compassion of Christ to fight for others' dignity because of the dignity we have received from Him. May we trust our anger and pray that it be like that of Jesus, and so turn us into agents of change for a more just church and for a more just world.



Lectionary Art and Reflection

This is the second of three gospel readings about healing:

last Sunday a woman with fever was revived. today a man with leprosy

is cleansed and next week a paralysed man is forgiven and made whole.

It is apparent that God's work of creation is an ongoing process in which Jesus plays a part.

Through his hands the creative and nurturing power of God is at work in the world.

© Jenny Close

PASTORAL

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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 Fr Joy Thomas, OSH Assistant Priest

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.

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

RECONCILIATION

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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS and PRAYERS

ORDINARY TIME

Monday 15/02

Gen 4:1-15, 25; Mk 8:11-13 Tuesday 16/02

Gen 6: 5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday 17/02 ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2:12-18; 2Cor 5:20 - 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday after Ash Wednesday Deut 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday after Ash Wednesday ls 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday after Ash Wednesday Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Irene Berry, Eleanor Kent, George Thompson, Carmelita Avecilla Evangelista, Arlene Joson, Kevin Henderson, Rocco Castelnuovo

ANNIVERSARIES: Ray Longford, Hilda, Francis & Terrence Conlon, Neville Nicholson, Mary Treacy, Kevin Harrant, Jan Seage, Stach Romanowski, Pauline Bass. Maria

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Andrew Hood, 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, John Cosgrove (Snr), Marie O'Hare, Antonia Alvarado, Margaret Acret, Peter Nguyen, Nemia Camille Asiong, Rodney Porter

The 250 Club!

Membership fees now due.



Next 250 Club series will start 15th February 2021.

Avoid disappointment, we cannot pay you if you are unfinancial, and that would be sad :(New blocks of numbers available please call the office for details.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February: Violence Against Women ~

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Ash Wednesday Mass Times 17 February

Reconciliation Times during Lent:

Every Saturday at Asquith at 9.30am and

every Friday at Berowra

after 9am Mass



Berowra: 9am & Asquith: 8am and 7.30 pm

Stations of the Cross during Lent at
St Bernard's Berowra Heights:
8.30am Friday mornings followed by Holy Mass
Stations of the Cross during Lent at

Stations of the Cross during Lent at St Patrick's Asquith: 7.30pm Friday evenings

LENTEN PENANCE EXPLAINED © 2021 The Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

The Church's Canon law reaffirms the obligation to do penance – to interrupt the usual comforts of life, to rediscover in prayer the saving love of God, and to practice charity and justice towards those in need.

During Lent and on the Fridays of the year, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out.

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has not restricted our penance to fast and abstinence in all cases, it has left room for our own responsible choices. We should carefully select the form of penance that we consider most appropriate for our own circumstances and growth in the Christian life.

DAYS OF PENANCE ~

- 1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.
- 2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:
- (a) prayer for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.
- (b) self-denial for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.
- (c) helping others for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday to the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive. On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter fast is observed.

PASCHAL PRECEPT ~ Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.



Project Compassion 2021

Please take home a Project Compassion box this Lenten season and aspire to ... "Be More".

As Saint Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." Through your generosity and by aspiring to "Be More", you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for



themselves, their families and their communities. Thank you for being more!

KCCP ~ 2021 LENTEN PROGRAMMES ~ HAVE YOU DECIDED YET?

OPTION 1: Within our parish ~ "The question "how well do you know Jesus?", now and again arises in discussions. To help us prepare for Easter this Lent, our Parish is offering all parishioners, family and friends a series of dynamic talks on our Lord Jesus Christ. The creator of the successful 'The Mass' series - Bishop Robert Barron, has created a series called 'Priest, Prophet, King'. Priest, Prophet, King will be held at Saint Patrick's Parish Hall every Thursday at 7.30pm from 18th February to 25th March inclusive. A short 25 minute video will be shown, followed by a short discussion. If you have room in your car, bring a friend or volunteer to take a parishioner who doesn't like driving at night."

18th Feb	Lesson 1 - Adoration	11th Mar	Lesson 4 - The Word Made Flesh
25th Feb	Lesson 2 - The High Priest	18th Mar	Lesson 5 - Ordering the Kingdom
4th Mar	Lesson 3 - Challenging False Worship	25th Mar	Lesson 6 - King of Kings

OPTION 2: From the Diocese ~ "Our 2021 Diocesan Lenten Programme will explore Bishop Anthony's six priorities for our Diocese, and will feature reflections and personal testimonies from our Diocese's clergy and parishioners. The resource will comprise of a printed booklet, accompanied by audio recordings and will be available in parishes and for download in time for Ash Wednesday. We encourage you to gather in small groups in your homes or other meeting places, and use this resource to reflect and unpack the themes as we prepare for Easter."

Brian & Jeanette Neary have offered to host a daytime Diocesan Programme for 10 people in their home in Brooklyn.

To be held Thursdays at 11am during Lent, if interested, please call 0413003064.

AND FOR YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS we present ...

OPTION 3: Altaration ~ Starting February 21 2021, there will be 5 sessions during Lent

Why do we have to go to mass? The mystery of the mass revealed.

At the St Patrick's Asquith Parish Hall, 1 Royston Parade Asquith

For more details or to book your spot please contact the office on 9456 2450 or email Michelle at michelle.chahine@bbcatholic.org.au Places are Restricted, bookings are essential.

Today is Catechist Sunday ~ when we give thanks to and for the dedication of the few who take the Word of God to the many little folk in our State Primary Schools.

It is not a secret that we urgently need more Catechists to be involved in the wonderful work of this ministry. As you already know, there are seven Public Schools within our Parish with a total of 549 Catholic students as at December 2020. More often than not, our contact with these children is the only connection between them, their parents, and the Church.



We now have only **fourteen** Catechists. Catechists have a vital role in sharing our faith and love with these children. We need you to step up and please consider volunteering to join this important Ministry now.

In years gone by Catechists did one lesson/one class/one school and had the rest of the week to themselves. Many of you are now working from home, can you spare half an hour to become a helper at first? We need you **NOW**

as we have Catechists attending two to three schools in the week and this is only just covering all the classes. This cannot continue.

Please consider helping us in this valuable part of our Parish network.

Yes, there is the mandatory training topic to be done on Safeguarding Children, which is essential to enter the classroom and a NSW Department of Education legal requirement. But, this can be done online, with courses run by the CCD. Please make contact with the Parish Office on 9456 2450, for more information, as things are getting desperate.

The annual Blessing bestowed on our Catechists will take place during the 10am Mass at St Patrick's on Sunday 21st February.

Will you stand with them? ~ Will you answer when lesus calls you?



World Day of Prayer 2021 is for Vanuatu ~ Friday 5 March 2021, **7pm at St Bernard's Berowra** ~ Please mark your calendar to come along as we gather with members of our Anglican, Baptist and Uniting Faiths to pray for Vanuatu. **Build on a Strong Foundation**, is the theme, and this global ecumenical movement is led by Christian women who come together in prayer and action, for justice and peace. The movement aims to bring together people

of all races, cultures and traditions in a common day of prayer.



WE ARE NOW USING OR CODES

TO ENTER OUR **CHURCHES**

NO NEED TO BOOK ANYMORE

so please consider coming early to Mass to ensure admittance to Church. QR Codes are not only a directive of the NSW State Govt, but they also make entry into our Churches quicker and quieter and Mass will not be delayed or disrupted.

USHERS/WARDENS have a vital role to play to ensure we remain compliant with regulations, THEREFORE YOU MUST

- ♦ Show the Usher/Warden the QR Registration on your phone prior to entering the church, which will allow them to keep an accurate record of the total number of persons inside the church (*)
- ♦ Sign in with the Usher/Warden if you do not have a mobile phone or yours does not have QR ability You are asked to strongly consider
- ♦ Wearing a Face Mask when inside the Church for the added safety of all



(*) The current upper limit rule within a Place of Worship/Church is 2 square metres per person We can officially accommodate 202 people at Asquith and 122 people at Berowra.

YEAR of SAINT IOSEPH

As we advised in a recent bulletin, Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter 'Patris corde' (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal self a father, and guide us in the path of life" Church. During this "Year of St Joseph", we will hopefully bring you a monthly reflection on aspects of St Joseph's life and character provided to us by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. We are running a little behind, so the

following is the January reflection ... © Archbishop Mark Coleridge [Mark Coleridge is the Archbishop of Brisbane and president of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference] The Gospels of Matthew and Luke both have genealogies of Jesus Christ. They are not identical, in part because each seeks to make a different theological point. Each in its different way traces the lineage of Joseph.

The reasons for this are more Christological than biological. The fundamental promise of the Old Testament is the promise to Abraham and his descendants - a promise of life bigger than death, symbolised by offspring and patrimonial land, which were the symbols of life beyond death in the cultures that produced the Bible.

The question through time was: How is this blessing to be mediated in the life of the People of God? Different answers were given at different times. The God-given institutions were seen as mediating the Abrahamic blessing – the monarchy, the prophetic movement, the priesthood – depending upon which was in the ascendant at any given time.

Ancient Israel begins as a loose tribal federation with no centralised government. That changes once Israel faces the new kind of military threat represented by the Philistines. They were a formidable foe, culturally more advanced and with the latest in high-tech weaponry; and they seemed to have the tribes of Israel surrounded. The new peril demanded a new kind of military and political unity; and that's when you first hear in the Bible the cry for a king.

The decision to have an anointed king, a Messiah, came at the end of a slow and painful process, as we see in 1 Samuel 8-12. The theological problem was that God was supposed to be the only king of Israel; and any king on earth would seem to rival or reject the kingship of God. A compromise was eventually reached to satisfy everyone militarily, politically and theologically. There would be a king – but a different kind of king. He would be as much subject to God's law as anyone else in the community. Unlike the rulers of Egypt or Mesopotamia, he would be one of his brothers and sisters, like them a slave set free.

The first king, Saul, was deposed by the prophet Samuel because he had disobeyed God. He was succeeded by David, chosen by Samuel at a young age. David came to the throne in about 1000 BC and reigned for something like 40 years. It was a time when, unusually, both the Egyptian and Mesopotamian empires were weak at the same time. Usually one was strong and the other weak, with the strong becoming the dominant power in the region.

David took advantage of the situation to carve out a mini-empire. His military success was seen as a potent sign of God's blessing upon him and the people, as was his success in uniting the 12 tribes in a single kingdom with its united capital in Jerusalem. Eventually there came through the prophet Nathan a divine promise that the House of David would last forever. In other words, the Abrahamic blessing would be mediated eternally through the

This was fine until the Babylonian Exile in 587 BC, when the Davidic dynasty disappeared into the black hole of history because – the prophets said – the kings had disobeyed God's law. What then of God's promise of an eternal dynasty? Was God perhaps powerless or unreliable?

In order to save their faith in God's absolute fidelity to the promise, ancient Israel gave the promise to David and his descendants an eschatological twist. In the End-Time, they said, an ideal Davidic king, a Messiah, would appear to usher in the reign of God. He would finally mediate to the People of God the fullness of the blessing promised to Abraham and his descendants. This is what Judaism meant when it said that the Messiah would come from the House of David.

Christianity came to see in Jesus crucified and risen the ideal Davidic king mediating a life bigger than death, most especially through his resurrection from the dead. He was the long-awaited Messiah, mediating the fullness of God's blessing as priest, prophet and king.

The Gospels, therefore, are keen to stress Jesus' connection to David in order to make that point. They recognise that Joseph wasn't the biological father of Jesus, which is why in later tradition Davidic descent was often attributed to Mary as well as Joseph.

The New Testament says nothing of this - though it's not impossible, given the custom of bridegrooms choosing a bride from within their own tribe. But again the point is less biological than Christological. It is more about who Jesus is than who Joseph is, more about what God does through Jesus than what God does through Joseph. It is often said that Mariology is a form of Christology, and the same is true of Josephology.



ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 20th/ 21st Feb - First Sunday of Lent - Year B

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE; Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church				
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm	
Acolyte / Snr Server	Matthew Waite	Paul Dryden	Mani Subramany	Bill Martin	Malcolm Cross	Keith Fone	
Reader (1)	Mary Dorahy	Barbara Mc Mullen	Edwina Subramany	Sue Lum	David Massa	Fiona Fone	
Reader (2)	John Ryan	Peta Tonkin	Celia Cox	Jim Fitzgerald	Elizabeth Fernandes	Mary Stokes	
Usher / s	Jerome Gomez	Peter Collins	Chris Smith	Phil Daidone	Sue & Chris Newnham	Les Fogden	
Sacristy Care/ Church Cleaning	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Marlene Moloney (f) Gisela Muschal (s)		Scott Smith, Winston Rodrigues, Antony Davis, Mervyn Soares, Liz Soares				
Maintenance	Teams A & B		February: Matthew Tancred, Gerry Duffy - additional help appreciated please				

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.



MASS FOR SERRA: Father Geoff Bugden will be celebrating the next Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church, 2 Richard Porter Way Pymble on Thursday 18th February 2021. The evening commences with Mass at <u>6pm</u> followed by a light meal and a short meeting in the Marian Hall which is a short walk from the Church. Given the size of the Hall, social distancing is easily achieved.

Following the meeting we will be viewing a YouTube video recording of the third Lenten talk given last year by Bishop Greg Homeming OCD, Bishop of Lismore, on the subject of "Holiness".

Everyone is welcome. Please "come and see".

Please remember to pray <u>every day</u> for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians and novices and for the perseverance of existing vocations. Please telephone: Terry Scanlan on 0438 887 295 or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you would like to attend.

Working with Children Check

It is important to keep track of when your Working With Children Check is coming up to Expiry. If you got your Working with Children Check (WWCC) in 2016 it could be time to renew. You can go to the Office of the Children's Guardian website to update your details and renew your check. Click here to renew – www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check



Palms Australia The need is acute! Low-income communities

Low-income communities are not asking us for money or gifts.

They reject degrading dependence. They want you to share your skills to help develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty.

The call is to all trades and professions to assist build the ability of their people and the capacity of their organisations.

To properly prepare for a 2022 placement you do need to <u>enquire now</u>.

Visit <u>palms.org.au</u>, call Palms on 02 9560 5333 or email <u>palms@palms.org.au</u>



Parish Secretary, Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish – Full Time

Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish is seeking to recruit a full time Parish Secretary. This key role provides support in visitor and telephone reception, communications, records and archives maintenance, general administration, financial processes, meeting and event organisation, and compliance requirements.

The ideal candidate will have excellent people and office administration skills; excellent Microsoft Office skills and database experience. You'll also have a good understanding of, and commitment to, Catholic values and teachings. Previous experience in a similar position would be well regarded.

For further details, see the Diocesan website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant-Applications close: Monday, 8 March.

The successful applicant must have the right to work in Australia and will be required to undertake a National Police History Check and Working With Children Check.



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

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John & Moauli Griffiths
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