



**KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH**  
 Diocese of Broken Bay  
 17 March 2024



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

**Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ Year B**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

**Communion Antiphon:** Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

**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 Patrick's, Asquith**

**8am** Wednesday and Friday  
**9am** Mon, Tues, Thurs, Saturday

**St Bernard's Berowra Heights**

**8am** Thursday  
**9.15am** Wednesday and Friday  
 (except 1st Friday of the month when Mass is at 11.30am @ St Bernard's)

**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 9.30am St Patrick's  
 Friday After 9.15am Mass St Bernard's

(Out of office hours **URGENT** only)  
**Emergency sick calls**  
**0468 341 841**

**HOSPITAL ADMISSION:**

If admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services. *Please, call the office if you would like our own priests to visit you in hospital.*

**PASTORAL CENTRE (Parish Office)**

**Opening Hours: 9am - 3.30pm, Mon-Fri**

**Phone: (02) 9456 2450**

**Website: [www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp)**

**Email: [parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au)**

1-19 Woodcourt Rd, Berowra Heights 2082 /

P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights NSW 2082

**Parish Priest: Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH**

**Assistant Priest: Fr Joy Thomas, OSH**

**Parish Secretary: Margaret Cooper**

**Parish Bookkeeper: Karen Price**

**Vol. Office Assistant: Jan Favaloro**

**Vol. Sacramental Team: Peta & Phill**

(Email: [kccpsacraments@gmail.com](mailto:kccpsacraments@gmail.com))

*A message from our Parish Priest ...*

*My dear Parishioners,*

On 17 March every year, the Catholic Church specially dedicates this date to St Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland. Since March 17 falls on a Sunday this year, **we celebrate the Solemnity on Monday March 18.**

St Patrick was born in Britain and had never planned to go to Ireland, yet it was in Ireland where he was destined to become a great missionary. The first time he went was against his will as a captive and the second time was in accordance with God's will. He appreciated that the whole awful experience of being a slave was not simply dumb suffering, but was, strangely, a preparation for the work that God had for him.

God has a definite plan for each of us. The life of St Patrick can teach us about God's will in our life. He saw himself as an agent of God who was instrumental in effecting the work of God with his people. His mission of bringing the message of the Good News to the people of Ireland, through his great love and compassion for them, is still a strong message for today because bringing the Gospel of Jesus to others is the same mission, we all have as Christians.

Now think of the worst moment of your life, the time you hit bottom. How do you read it? Pointless pain—or a moment of grace?

St Patrick is the heavenly Patron Saint of one of our Parish Churches and Schools and we all experience his powerful intercession in our daily lives. May his exemplary life and missionary zeal encourage us to continue the mission of Christ Jesus in our society.

I wish you all a very Happy St Patrick's Day.

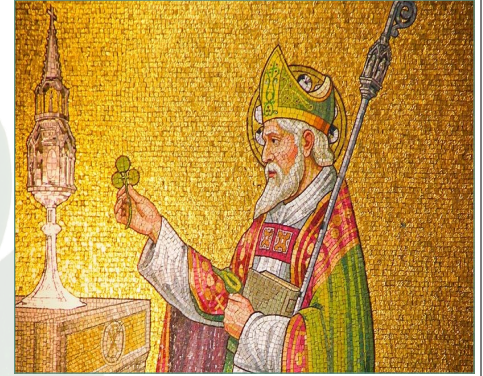
*Fr Biju Jose OSH, PP*

**Please join us for the Solemnity Mass for St Patrick on:**

**Monday 18 March 2024 at 9am in St Patrick's Church, Asquith**

**The students and staff of St Patrick's Catholic Primary School**

**will be joining us at this Mass to also celebrate their School Patron Saint.**



**Renovating our Parish**

In last week's Bulletin, I invited all our parishioners to join us at one of the pastoral discernment sessions we are planning in April.

At these gatherings, refreshments will be served, and all parishioners will be encouraged to listen and share their hopes and concerns about our parish and its work. The sessions will be held as follows:

**Asquith: Thursday 4 April, 7.00 - 8.30pm in Fr McMaugh Hall**

*(in the grounds of St Patrick's Primary School, Asquith).*

**Berowra: Friday 12 April, 7.00 - 8.30pm in Fr Denis Callaghan Hall**

*(in the grounds of St Bernard's Primary School, Berowra).*

Each session will be facilitated by Deacon Peter McCulloch, of the Hornsby Cathedral Parish, who is well known to many of us. The information collected at these local consultations will then be shared with everyone

**at a whole-parish gathering scheduled at Asquith on:**

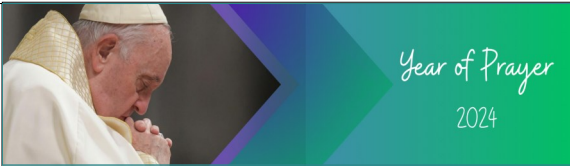
**Tuesday 23 April 7.00 - 8.30pm in Fr McMaugh Hall**

Please make note of these dates and join us at one of these sessions. Your comments and ideas will help us develop a new Parish Pastoral Plan that will guide our work into the future.

*Fr Biju Jose OSH*

 **Pope's intention for March:**  
**For the new martyrs.**

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



## Readings & Reflection

**First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34**

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

**The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God**

### Responsorial Psalm

**(R) Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt. and cleanse me from my sin. **(R)**
2. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R)**
3. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me, that I may teach transgressors your ways and sinners may return to you. **(R)**

**Second Reading Hebrews 5:7-9**

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

**The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God**

### Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel John 12:20-33**

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.



If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

### The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Reflection

'Today's Gospel invites us to turn our gaze to the crucifix,' Pope Francis once said, adding that it 'is not an ornamental object or clothing accessory.' Rather, it is something more: 'a religious symbol to contemplate and understand.'

This is a theme to which the Pope has repeatedly turned.

On another occasion he reminded his listeners that the image of the crucified Jesus is something newcomers first encounter: 'In churches, in the homes of Christians, even worn on their persons,' a cross is meant to symbolise the faith of those who display it.

That being the case, it is beholden on us as individuals and communities to show what being a follower of Jesus really means. Jesus responded to Philip and Andrew by speaking of the grain that dies to yield a good harvest and of the follower who serves. As Jesus' words suggest, real understanding comes from the witness of service and self-sacrifice.

Whenever people encounter a crucifix or cross, therefore, they should also see signs of servant discipleship.

Whether in our churches, homes or daily lives, we are all called to be authentic bearers of the cross. We should strive to offer the world what the Pope characterises as 'the witness of a life that is given in service, a life that takes upon itself the style of God – closeness, compassion and tenderness.'

'The important thing is that the sign be consistent with the Gospel,' says Pope Francis. Whenever or wherever people display a cross, they should also themselves be living signs of 'love, service, unreserved self-giving.'

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### THIS WEEK'S READINGS

**5th week of Lent ~ Year B**

**Monday 18/03 ~ Solemnity**

St Patrick, bishop

Jer 1:4-9; Acts 13:46-49;  
Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

**Tuesday 19/03 ~ Solemnity**

St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Sam 7:4-5, 12-14, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24

**Wednesday 20/03**

Dan 3:14-20, 24-25, 28;  
Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday 21/03**

Gen 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

**Friday 22/03**

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday 23/03**

Ezek 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

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

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Brian Gallagher, Marcia King

**ANNIVERSARY:** Gregory Cooper, Carol Pereira, Michael Capozzi, Rosemary Contreras, Carol Pereira, Esmie Braganza, Denis Mulligan, Karen Fitzgerald, Bill Coleman, Dr Michael Way, Dr Frances Maung,

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Margaret Browne, Millie Wong, Vince Hughes, Sosefo Ali, Cita Del Rio, Fiona Loughland, Pat Bowden, Bill Holmes, Margaret Patterson, Chris Enright, Philomena & Rex D'Souza, Mary Mathew, Isabel Henson, Chichi Dato, Mary Burns, Rey Hilario, Georgina Hughes, Patrick Dorahy, Roger Okell, John Cosgrove (Snr), Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.

**The 250 Club!**

Week 4 ~ 11/3/24;

Winning #: 875

Amt: \$25.00;

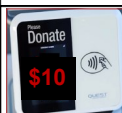
**Winner: Mark Dunkley  
Woohoo !!**

**OUR BANK  
DETAILS**

**Parish Bank Account  
Number:**

To obtain the details of our new bank account (for regular or ad hoc donations), please contact the office.

~ Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish.



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

Thank you for your support through these devices.

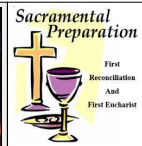
## Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On 19 March every year, the Catholic Church particularly devotes this date to St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church and of families.

God called St Joseph to be a unique mission: to be the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the earthly father of Jesus. He fulfilled his responsibility as a faithful husband and father. He provided the best he could for his family. Like Joseph, everyone has been entrusted with the role of protection—protecting all of creation and showing loving concern for each person. That is called safeguarding of the people.

May his exemplary life inspire us to be a good example to our family. *I wish you all a very Happy Feast. Fr Biju*

**Please join us for the Feast Mass for St Joseph on:  
Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 9am in St Patrick's Church, Asquith**



## Reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

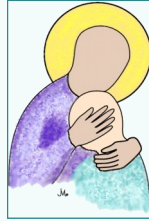
Our candidates will this week meet Our Lord in the beautiful sacrament of Reconciliation.

I ask that all parishioners keep these young children in your daily prayers. *Fr Biju.*

**Reception of Sacrament for candidates at St Patrick's  
Wednesday March 20, 6.30pm:**

**Reception of Sacrament for candidates of St Bernard's  
Thursday March 21, 6.30pm:**

The Season of Lent is the most appropriate time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation - a Sacrament of Healing - the Church truly helps her children to regain our good friendship with God and with others and thereby regain our peace of mind. **Please come and experience his mercy and compassion in this way too.**



**Easter Reconciliation  
2nd Rite  
THIS TUESDAY  
19 March 2024, 7.30pm  
St Patrick's Asquith only**



### SPECIAL LENTEN OPPORTUNITY ~

Fr Biju and Fr Joy have been busy arranging a special day out to the **Divine Retreat Centre at Somersby** to help us prepare for the great celebration of Easter.

**Please Save The Date:**

**Thursday 21 March 2024; DRC Somersby;**

**Arrive Somersby 10.30am; Depart 4pm**

**The day will cost \$25.00 p/p and will include Morning Tea~Lunch~Afternoon Tea**

**(Dietary restrictions need to be advised in advance)**

Car pooling is on offer from the carpark at St Bernard's Berowra Heights. A number of parishioners have offered to transport those who would prefer not to drive themselves, so please don't let anything stop you from joining in this special Lenten opportunity.

**RSVP is by Tuesday 19 March 11am** to the parish office.



The Chrim Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 26 March at **Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.**

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend this sacred occasion in the life of our Diocese.



### Easter is fast approaching

and we would like to have an abundance of fragrant fresh blooms in our churches to greet the Risen Lord.

A specially labelled donation box is now in each church to pay for fresh flowers, so if you are able, please consider popping a donation inside the box on your way past, *thanks.*

MUSIC  
PRACTISE  
HOLY  
WEEK

**All welcome, singers and instrumentalists! @ St Bernard's ~** calling all musicians and singers to help with Easter services. If you would like to help with music at any of these services

**Palm Sunday Vigil Mass ~ Palm Sunday ~ Holy Thursday**

**Good Friday Passion ~ Easter Saturday Vigil Mass ~ Easter Sunday.**

Please message or call me (or just show up an hour and a half before the service) and can just join us on the day.

We desperately need you and your talents. Moauli Griffiths 0451 664 592.

**@ St Patrick's ~** remaining practise to be held Monday: 18th March in the church from 7.30pm to 9pm.



### EASTER CHURCH CLEANING EASTER SATURDAY 30 MARCH

Please come armed and ready to clean and beautify our Churches for Easter on Easter Saturday.

**9am St Bernard's and after 9am Mass/Rosary at St Patrick's**

Please bring your own cleaning "stuff", thank you.

**"Many hands make light work"**

## Mass Times for Holy Week

MASS	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	THINGS TO NOTE	
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	Saturday 23 March 2024	5pm	St Bernard's		
		6pm	St Patrick's		
	Sunday 24 March 2024	9am	St Bernard's		
		8am; 10am; 6pm	St Patrick's		
Holy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper & Washing of the feet)	Thursday 28 March 2024	7.30pm	St Bernard's		(No morning Mass) Procession to Altar of Repose & private Adoration till 10pm Please return your Project Compassion Envelopes/Boxes
		7.30pm	St Patrick's		
Good Friday - Stations of the Cross	Friday 29 March 2024	10am	St Bernard's	<b>Day of fast and abstinence</b>	
		10am	St Patrick's		
Good Friday - Passion of the Lord	Friday 29 March 2024	3pm	St Bernard's		
		3pm	St Patrick's		
Easter Vigil	Saturday 30 March 2024	7pm	St Bernard's	(No morning Mass in the parish on Holy Saturday)	
		7pm	St Patrick's		
Easter Sunday	Sunday 31 March 2024	9am	St Bernard's	(No evening Mass in the parish on Easter Sunday)	
		8am; 10am	St Patrick's		

### Children's Choir @ St Patrick's

sings at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays and practises every Friday during school terms from 4-5pm in St Patrick's church. **Please note:** there will be no practice on Friday 29th March (Good Friday). Practices resume after Easter on 5th and 12th April, then there will be a break for school holidays. All singers are also invited to sing at 10am Mass on Easter Sunday, 31st March. The Choir continues to welcome new members from Year 3 and up. For further information contact Patricia Smith 9482 7935

**Rosters & Readings for W/end – 23rd/24th March 2024 - Palm Sunday Year B - Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1-15:47**

	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	Barbara McMullen	Mani Subramany	Sue Lum	David Massa	Vicente Sanchez
Altar Servers	Olive O'Keefe Penelope O'Keefe	Verity Hartmann Bronte Tonkin	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now	Oscar Braga Mia Nguyen	Volunteer Now Volunteer Now
Reader (1)	Sophia Smith	Zinta Hartmann	Sue Watts	Michael Halliday	Christine Vila	Volunteer Now
Reader (2)	Celia Cox	Alena Hartmann	Deborah Voss	Maria (Cris) Tolentino	David De-Fina	Volunteer Now
Narrator	Jerome Gomez	Peta Tonkin	Miguel Do Rego	Michael Halliday	David De-Fina	Volunteer Now
Other	Mary Dorahy	Isaac Tonkin	Volunteer Now	Cris Tolentino	Chris Newnham	Volunteer Now
Crowd	Celia Cox	Freya Tonkin	Deborah Voss	Jim Fitzgerald	Sue Newnham	Sue Lum
Sacristy/Cleaning/Flowers	GC (Church); Cecilia Datoc (f); Chichi Datoc (s)		Scott Smith, Anastasia Smith ~ * During Lent - No Flowers - just greenery pls.			
Maintenance	Teams A & B (help always needed & appreciated)		March: Malcolm Cross & David Chui (help always needed & appreciated)			

**Bernie's Ladies is pleased to announce plans for their first get-together for 2024.**

**'Save the Date': Saturday, April 6 @ 7pm.**  
**'Sushimee', 2/399-407 Pacific Hwy, Asquith.**

**Please RSVP to Gen by Tuesday April 2**  
**on 0418 866 250 / david@barnettsroad.com**



**All Ladies from St Patrick's ~ this time, the venue is in your 'neck of the woods' so please come, you're most welcome.**

*'The goal of Bernie's Ladies is to build community at our church'.*



World Day of Prayer 2024 was hosted by KCCP on 1 March at St Bernard's Church. It was a fantastic ecumenical gathering with folk from all the Christian Churches of Berowra in attendance. The "Voices from the Waters" a cappella choir filled the church with beautiful music and our parishioners filled everyone's tummies with a delicious supper. The specially made and stamped biscuits were a hit. Thank you to Val and Gen who organised the evening and all their numerous helpers.



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