



**KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH**  
Diocese of Broken Bay  
18 February 2024

**First Sunday of Lent ~ Year B**



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

**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'.*

**Entrance Antiphon:** When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**Communion Antiphon:** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

**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**

**Email: 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)

**Lent**



*A Season of Renewal*

*A message from our Parish Priest ...*

*My dear Parishioners,*

With Ash Wednesday we entered to the Season of Lent, one of the most important periods of the liturgical year. During Lent, the Church asks us to do three things—to pray, to fast, and to give alms. It is activity oriented. This week I cordially invite you all to reflect something about prayer.

No doubt, we all pray and there are so many definitions of prayer. When I was in Rome for my doctoral studies, I lived in College of St John Damascene (*Collegio San Giovanni Damasceno*). St John Damascene gave a classic definition of prayer. **“Prayer is the raising of one’s mind and heart to God”** (*De Fide Orth.* 3,24). **We are all human beings and preoccupied with so many different things in our day. That’s okay. But the trouble is that when we are obsessed with all these things, we rarely raise our minds and heart to God.** So, in the busyness of our day, Lent invites us all to slow down and having a friendship with God or to pray more intensely.

The monk and the spiritual writer, Thomas Merton says the best thing I can do to improve my prayer life is **“to take the time”**. We all have friends. If you are trying to cultivate a friendship with someone, and you never spend time with that person, you never see him or her, you never call him or her, etc.... you are not really friends. Are you? It is same with God—spending time with the Lord by seeing him, calling him, and talking with him. So, Lent invites us **to take the time** to cultivate our friendship with God. There are a thousand ways to pray, and I make a couple of suggestions for you.

**Holy Mass** is the greatest prayer that we can offer. Maybe you are a Sunday Mass attender. Good! How about daily Mass during this Lent? Maybe you have been away from Mass for a long time. Okay. Come back to Sunday Mass and allow God to transform your life with Christ experience and communion with God.

**Stations of the Cross** is one of the most powerful prayers during Lent. It is a meditative prayer based on the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus for you and me. This prayer helps us to deepen our commitment to follow Jesus and his amazing love for us all.

**The Rosary Prayer.** It is also a Scripture-based and Christo-centric prayer, meditating on the mysteries of Jesus’ life. I am sure that you all have beautiful Rosary. Maybe it is safely, but alone sitting in a drawer somewhere gathering dust or hanging from the rear-view mirror of our car. Get that Rosary out during Lent and pray it every day.

**Meditation.** Take a small passage from the Bible and reflect on it. God speaks through His Word and through it He invites us to come to Him. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct you in meditating on His Word.

All these practices help you to raise your mind and heart to God and having a good friendship with the Lord. Make sure that becomes your practice this Lent.

*I wish everyone a fruitful Lenten Season.*

*Fr Biju Jose OSH*



**Parish Lenten Programme ~** Our 2024 Lenten Programme continues every **Thursday evening during Lent** in the Fr McMaugh Hall, (grounds of St Patrick’s School, Asquith). Please gather at **7.15pm for a 7.30pm start**, concluding at **9.00pm**. This programme will continue over 6 consecutive Thursday nights in the same location. I warmly invite you attend this group, however, if you would be more comfortable working through this Lenten programme on your own (or in a small group, perhaps in your home), then please contact the office who can provide you with the booklets.



**Stations of the Cross** during Lent will be prayed

**@ St Bernard’s Berowra Heights: 8.45am Friday mornings followed by 9.15am Holy Mass**, except the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month (1 March) when Stations will be at 10.30am.

**@ St Patrick’s Asquith: 7.30pm every Friday evening.**

**Project Compassion Boxes –**

available from the back of our churches. Please take home a Project Compassion box to help support vulnerable people around the world.





**Pope's intention for February:**  
**For the terminally ill.**

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**

**1st week of Lent ~ Year B**  
**Monday 19/02**  
 Lev 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46  
**Tuesday 20/02**  
 Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15  
**Wednesday 21/02**  
 Jonah 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32  
**Thursday 22/02 ~ Feast**  
 The Chair of St Peter, apostle  
 1 Pet 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19  
**Friday 23/02**  
 Ezek 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26  
**Saturday 24/02**  
 Deut 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
 Dick Turner, Lia Cabrera,  
 Kathleen Mulligan

**ANNIVERSARY:**  
 Karen Fitzgerald, Bill Coleman,  
 Dr Michael Way, Dr Frances Maung,  
 Jan Szaikowski, Kevin Harant  
 Mary & Frank Jack,

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

**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 parish office on 9456 2450 or via email to: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au ~ Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish, Fr Bijou.

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: Parking in the School Grounds at St Patrick's Asquith:**

**LIMITED PARKING! Sundays only**

- **LIMITED PARKING** is again available in the school grounds **ON SUNDAYS ONLY**
- Access to and from the school grounds is via Royston Pde **ONLY** ~ **do not use the railway access**
- Please leave vehicle and walk to the church via Royston Pde
- **The concrete steps from the playground to the church are not to be used**

**Readings & Reflection**

**First Reading Genesis 9:8-15**  
 God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

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

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10)**  
**(R.)** Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, He guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

**Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22**  
 Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

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

**Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
 No one lives on bread alone,  
 but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Gospel Mark 1:12-15**

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

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



**Reflection**

Discussing this Gospel, Pope Francis once said that 'Lent is a time of repentance, yes, but it is not a time of sorrow!'

The Pope wanted to remind Christians that Lent is a season of 'a joyous and serious commitment to strip ourselves of our selfishness ... and to renew ourselves according to the grace of our Baptism.' Note his emphasis on it being 'joyous.'

In one of his major teaching documents, *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Pope begins as follows: 'The Joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus.' He goes on to say that 'With Christ joy is constantly born anew.' This is the kind of Lent we should all strive for: a joyful one.

Later in the same document the Pope expresses concern about joyless seriousness. 'There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter.'

The Pope then reminds us that 'Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.' Our Lent should be a time of joyful response to that love. Fasts and penances should be helping us find joy in Christ, not misery.

After all, Jesus emerged from the desert proclaiming 'Good News'. © Nick Brodie

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## Catechists ~ a noble ministry for which we thank you

Last Sunday at the 10am Mass at St Patrick's Asquith, our Catechists publicly renewed their commitment to this most important ministry.

Our PP, Fr Biju, wholeheartedly and sincerely thanked our Catechists for their wonderful commitment and bestowed a beautiful blessing upon them.

A 'cuppa' was shared after this lovely Mass and guess what? It was the Catechists who again served others by hosting the morning tea, *thank you so much*. **Please keep our Catechists and their little pupils in your prayers.**

**St Paul Says, "For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you..." (1 Cor 11.23).**



A very well attended Parent Information Evening was held this week. The speaker for the evening was Dn Peter McCulloch and we thank him for his time and inspiring address. We also thank all the parents who attended on the evening and for making the Sacraments of their children a priority. In conclusion, we give grateful thanks to our Sacramental Coordinators, Peta & Phill for arranging not only this particular evening but for arranging the entire Sacramental Programme for 2024.

## You might ask: "Why has this piece been in our bulletin for several weeks and here it is again this week?"

**The answer is: "Because our needs have not yet been met!"**

We have had an enquiry about Children's Liturgy and have had a parishioner join the ranks of Readers at SBB, which is great but sadly not enough. **Our parish needs volunteers very badly.**

KCCP is your parish and everyone has a role to play in the vibrancy and responsibility of parish life.

In the reflection on the opposite page of this bulletin, **Pope Francis reminds us that:**

*'Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.'* and it goes on to say ...

*'Our Lent should be a time of joyful response to that love.'*

**We are asking that you now respond to that love by joining a ministry in your parish.**

**Please, please speak to our priests or contact the office for more information, thank you.**



**From Church Cleaners to Lawn Mower-ers, volunteers are very much needed & sought.**

Almost every ministry in our parish could benefit from more volunteers.

With more volunteers, our existing volunteers might even stay on a bit longer because ...

sharing of the load with many, may prevent them leaving a ministry through burn-out!

Just like the pleasure of a clean and tidy home, your time, effort and support

will be greatly appreciated in the ongoing upkeep of your spiritual home.

**Some of our Parish Ministries in need of great assistance are:**

† Readers	† Flower arrangers	† Computer Operator SBB
† Senior Servers	† Sacristy Care	And ...
† Junior Servers ( <i>we need heaps more of these esp. at SPA !</i> )	† Maintenance folk ( <i>mowing, gardening, odd jobs etc</i> )	† We'd love to bring back Children's Liturgy at both churches!
† Church Cleaners	† Communion to housebound	



*"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*  
**Matthew:18:20**

**The World Day of Prayer** is an annual, ecumenical service, where we collectively pray for a particular themed country. This year it is our turn ('the Catholics') to host the service and it will be held:

**At: St Bernard's Catholic Church, Berowra Heights;**  
**On: Friday 1 March 2024;**  
**At: 7pm.**

All are warmly invited to come and join us in prayer and song. 'Voices from the Waters,'



**Your sponsorship is sought (big or small) to get large**

**electronic screens into St Patrick's Church, Asquith.**

It is time to change the 'way we view things' at St Patrick's, and to realise this it seems that 2 x 75" (minimum size) and 1 x 65" screen will be ideal, but we might be able to get by with just 2 screens.

If you are in a position to donate any amount towards sponsoring a screen, it would be a great blessing for the parish.

Please consider and contact the office on 9456 2450 or email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

**Current total: \$290.00 ;)**



**Children's Choir @ St Patrick's**

has welcomed several new members and with the start of the new school year, from three different schools in the parish. If you've heard the Choir sing and you're thinking how wonderful it would be for your child/ren to be part of this group, now would be a good time to come along to a rehearsal and register them.

**Children's Choir sings at:** 10am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

**Children's Choir practises:** every Friday (except school holidays) in St Patrick's church from 4 to 5pm.

**Children's Choir is open to:** Anyone in Year 3 and above, from any parish or local state school in the parish.

**If interested in joining:** Please call Patricia Smith on 9482 7935.



**SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING ~** Fr David Ranson, VG and PP of Chatswood Parish, will celebrate Mass for Serra at 6pm, at **Our Lady of Dolours Church Chatswood** on **Thursday 22nd February 2024**. Parking is limited at the church but street parking is free on surrounding streets. A light meal and meeting follows Mass with Fr David as guest speaker. **Everyone is welcome.**

**Please "come and see". Please remember to pray every day for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians, and novices and for the perseverance of existing vocations.**

For catering purposes kindly telephone Henry or Anna Leung on **0478 083 116** or email henrywk@yahoo.com.au or telephone Terry Scanlan on **0438 887 295** or email terry\_scanlan@bigpond.com if you are planning to attend.



**Free Community Seminar**  
Wills, Enduring Guardianship  
and Powers of Attorney  
TUESDAY 12 MARCH 2024



To increase awareness in the Catholic Community of Broken Bay regarding Wills and how to include a charitable gift to the Church (the Diocese or a Parish), our Diocese is promoting a new Community Wills and Elder Law Seminar, with a specialist solicitor, Cecilia Castle from

Castle Lawyers, who has offered to be the guest speaker for 2024. She is an active Catholic, resident of Broken Bay and regular columnist on legal matters. All welcome across the Diocese. **Date:** Tuesday 12 March 2024, 10.30am-12.30pm; **Venue:** Fr Harry Davis Room, Building 2, Level 8, Caroline Chisholm Centre (CCC), 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills, NSW 2120; **Registration:** <https://www.trybooking.com/CPGPL> - For more information contact Nicolas Duran, Development and Relationships Manager on [nicolas.duran@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:nicolas.duran@bbcatholic.org.au) / 02 8379 1664.

**Rosters & Readings for W/nd – 24th/25th February 2024 - Second Sunday of Lent Year B - Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10**

	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	Sue Lum	John Messina	Malcolm Cross	Sue Lum
Altar Servers Altar Servers	Archie Tod Harry Tod	Sophia Cottrell Bronte Tonkin	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed	Noah Daly Lucy Henao Vila	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed
Reader (1)	Justin Berry	Isaac Tonkin	Sue Watts	Vivienne Schreiber	Jo Quinlan	Les Fogden
Reader (2)	Genevieve Funk	Peta Tonkin	Paul Worthington	Russell Schreiber	Sandra Maloney	Mary Stokes
Sacristy/Cleaning/Flowers	Cecilia Waite (f), Graham, Gwen Wood (s) <i>additional help needed</i>		Sue O'Malley, Mary O'Malley, Sue O'Malley, John O'Malley <i>additional help needed</i>			
Maintenance	Team A & B - <i>additional help always appreciated</i>		<b>February:</b> Luke Massa, David Mooney			

**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*.

the working  
with children  
check

Do you hold a current Working With Children Check that needs to be renewed?  
Then we have some great news! It just got a whole lot easier !!

Working with Children Check renewals go digital.

A Working with Children Check (WWCC) lasts for five years and then needs to be renewed. **In great news for you, our wonderful volunteers, you can now skip the queue and digitally renew your WWCC in as little as 10 minutes.**

Online renewals remove the need for busy workers to visit a Service NSW Centre. The new process is streamlined, efficient and secure and will become the go-to renewal method for essential workers looking to easily meet their compliance obligations and reclaim valuable time.

Enabled by photo verification tech, the process delivers a high-level of security by ensuring the images are destroyed after the real-time check is completed, without the hassle of submitting physical documents. Since launching late last year, more than 3000 customers have successfully renewed their WWCC online and 98% of those who provided feedback gave a 'thumbs up' to the online experience.

For more information please visit: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/renew-working-children-check-wwcc>.

*Of course, once renewed you still need to advise this office of the renewal so it can be verified internally and the parish's legal obligations are met.*

The businesses here support our parish by advertising, please support them in turn.

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