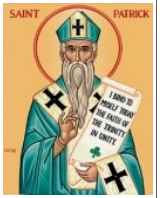


KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 20th December 2020 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent ~ Year B
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth the Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Alleluia Verse: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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'

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Candles ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: As the day of the Lord approaches very near, we light the 4th candle. We pray that, like Mary, our hearts may be open to receive the Son of God, so that we may bring joy and peace to our world.

Reader: O Emmanuel, Lord of might, come and spread your kingdom of justice and peace.

Response: Come, Lord, and do not delay.

Reader: O Radiant Dawn, desire of nations, come and bring your peace to all nations.

Response: Come, Lord, and do not delay.

Reader: O Root of Jesse and Key of David, rescue your people from selfishness and sin.

Response: Come, Lord, and do not delay.



RESERVATIONS ESSENTIAL ~ FOR ALL CHRISTMAS MASSES

and **MUST** be made **DIRECTLY** with the **PARISH OFFICE**

BOOKINGS CLOSE: Wednesday 23rd December at 3.30pm ~ so don't delay, book today!

Preferred booking option by email to: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au ~ Subject line: "Christmas Mass"

Please include the **NAMES of ALL** those requiring a seat and **CONTACT NUMBERS** for ALL names.

Alternatively, call the office on 9456 2450 (leave a message if not answered).

Attention: Those attending **St Bernard's Children's Outdoor Vigil Mass at 5pm**

Mass to be said in courtyard of St Bernard's School and the only entry will be via main gate to school.

PLEASE NOTE WELL:

Unlike our past outdoor Christmas Mass, please **DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR** -

Part of our Covid-19 Plan regulations to host this outdoor Mass is that

WE WILL PROVIDE ASSIGNED SEATING

No rugs / folding chairs from home are permitted.

We hope to see all our littlest parishioners dressed up for Jesus' Birthday, so... **Come All Ye ...**

Angels, Shepherds, Kings, Donkeys, Sheep-s, Camels, Cows ~ etc, etc, etc

Christmas Eve -

Thursday 24 December

5pm St Bernard's Children's Outdoor Vigil Mass ~ in courtyard of St Bernard's School ...
6pm St Patrick's Children's Vigil Mass
7pm St Bernard's Christmas Vigil Mass
9pm St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass

Christmas Day -

Friday 25 December

12 midnight St Patrick's Christmas Day Mass
8am St Patrick's Christmas Day Mass
9am St Bernard's Christmas Day Mass
10am St Patrick's Christmas Day Mass
~ **NO evening Mass Christmas Day**
~ **NO 9am morning Mass on Boxing Day**

PASTORAL CENTRE

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 4m² requirement]

St Patrick's: 100 persons
at St Bernard's: 60 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 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.**

THIS WEEK'S READINGS
and PRAYERS

ADVENT ~ Monday 21/12

Mass of 21 December ~ Preface II of Advent ~ Song 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday 22/12

Mass of 22 December ~ Preface II of Advent ~ 1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday 23/12

Mass of 23 December ~ Preface II of Advent ~ Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday 24/12

Mass of 24 December ~ Preface II of Advent ~ Evening Mass of Christmas 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Friday 25/12 ~ CHRISTMAS TIME

The Nativity of the Lord

Solemnity with octave, Gloria, Creed

~Preface of Nativity of the Lord I-III ~

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17,22-25; Mt 1:1-25

Night: Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7;

Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Saturday 26/12 ~ Feast Day

St Stephen, the first martyr

Mass of the Feast, Gloria

Preface of the Nativity of the Lord I-III

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Walter Ebenezar, Margaret Treacy, Karin Wisniewski, George Thompson, Pedro Celso, Colin Kenny, Mary Kathleen Levy, Anita M Jimenez

ANNIVERSARIES: Eliaz Maciejewski, Neil Mickelson, Mary Treacy, David Webster, Helena Noske, David Huntley, Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Frank and Mary Jack, Bill McDonagh, Julia Healy, Alison Hinton, Nancy Gomez

IN REMEMBRANCE: Michael Weir, Mary Ann Weir

THANKSGIVING: 38th Wedding Anniversary of Jorge & Norma Reyes

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Antonia Alvarado, Terry Treacy, Margaret Acret, Peter Nguyen, Anne Brady, Sr Tincy Thomas, Nemia Camille Asiong, Marie O'Hare, Stephen C C, Rodney Porter, Araceli 'Chichi' Datoc, Craig Sequeira, Shirley Kelynack, Judy Farrell, Dan Leavy, John Cosgrove (Snr), Pam Cosgrove, Pat Bowden, Alfredo R De Ramos, Doug Hawkins, Felicity Fone, Antonio, Anna Nicholson, Graeme Kachel, Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Erick Enriquez, Penny Rigor, Jaz Pitts, Elaine Estrellado, Jwona Nowak, Maureen Sharpe, Irena Fellmann, Elaine Longmuir, Jean Cook, Cathy Gleeson, Michael McGaulley, Estrellado, Georgia Meyers, Rosalinda de Ramos, Angela Smith, Matthew Franklin, Brian Neary, Jeanette Bakker, Betty Borg, Morrie Ramsden, Ellen Asistente, Edwina Subramany, Aiko Concepcion, John Buckley, Kath Lock, Arlene Joson, Sam Calacoci, John Macy, Barbara Jones, Cadia Maestri, Marcelina De Ramos, Matthew Conlon, Patrick Dorahy, Tom Dawson, Narelle Cartwright, Mary Fernandes, Patricia Sanders, Monique Leyden, Frederick Novak, Alfredo De Ramos Sr.

Please NOTE WELL: Beginning this January, it will become this parish's practise to delete from the Sick list the names of those whose situation hasn't been updated. Please contact the office after the 20th to have a name reinstated.

'Spirit Hovering' © Fr Michael Tate

Franco Zeffirelli was a great film director. In his film 'Jesus of Nazareth', he depicted the Annunciation in this way. Mary is asleep at night. A gust of wind opens a window. Mary, startled and a little afraid, gets up and prays. As she prays we see her face change and her body bend over. With tears in her eyes, Mary looks up through the window at the moonlit sky and simply says 'Yes'.



The swirling wind dies down at once. That is beautiful imagery, trying to portray this extraordinary creative act in human affairs – in the life of this young woman.

How can one portray it? Zeffirelli takes the Jewish tradition of the Holy Spirit as the Divine Wind. The Hebrew word we translate as Spirit can just as well be translated breath or wind. In fact the old term 'Holy Ghost' is an unfortunate morphing of the English 'Holy Gust'. So Zeffirelli uses the wind to symbolise the presence of the Holy Spirit.

St Luke's account of the Annunciation also draws on the Jewish tradition. Let us listen to the first lines of the Jewish scriptures and then hear how Mary discerned what was happening with her.

'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was a formless void.

There was darkness over the deep, *and God's spirit hovered over the water.*

God said "Let there be light", and there was light.'

What is Mary depicted as hearing in the depths of her soul? It echoes the passage from Genesis:

'The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.'

Once again, the Holy Spirit hovers, this time over a young Jewish woman, and the most stupendously creative act in human history will take place. With her consent, God assumes human nature to be gradually enfolded, embodied in Mary's womb.

How are we to respond to such a gospel? First, as a community.

Have you noticed that when we come together for the celebration of Mass, after the Holy, Holy, Holy the priest prays:

'And so, Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit.'

As he does so, the priest extends his hands so that they *hover* over the gifts of bread and wine. The symbolism is obvious. It alerts us to the fact that stupendous Divine creativity is about to transform material creation. With the words of consecration, what was simply bread and wine becomes the real presence of Our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

And individually, how can we respond to this gospel in our lives?

Mary knew her Jewish scriptures. A naturally bewildered young woman was able to respond to God's will because she understood the imagery and symbolism of the Genesis story.

So, we need to get to know the scriptures more intimately so that we will have the language skills to converse with God. God needs conversation partners in order to enter into human history and change the way things would otherwise pan out.

We need to read the gospels with all their Jewishness so that we can understand when God attempts to speak to our souls.

And during the next few days before Christmas let us be alert. To use Zeffirelli's imagery, if we hear the wind blowing, let us resist the urge to get up and close the window. Let it rattle a bit, however disconcerting.

Since our baptisms, the Divine Wind, the Holy Gust, the Holy Spirit, has been hovering over each of us wanting to do great things.

It may be that the time has come for a Marian response: **'Be it done unto me according to your word.'**

AN IMPORTANT change to MASS BOOKINGS from THIS WEEKEND Dec 19 / Dec 20, 2020

If you have PRE-REGISTERED:

Nothing changes—and we sincerely thank you for making this job much easier, Quicker, quieter and less disruptive for all.

If you have NOT REGISTERED:

Numbered lists will be placed in front of the church—you are to write your name and contact number on arrival - You must print clearly AND you MUST provide a contact phone number or email address! An Usher will oversee the process to ensure no lines are missed and no one enters the church without having registered and sanitised their hands.

Mass will begin ON TIME regardless of those waiting to register, this is why pre-registering is the much preferred option.

Thank you for your patience as we transition to a new way of registering for weekend masses. Fr Shaju.



Charitable Works Fund November Appeal 2020 ~ Thanks to all who have



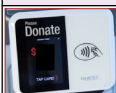
Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December: For a life of

prayer ~ We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



Wk 15: 07/12/2020; Winning No: 503; Amt: \$25; Stuart Fone

Wk 16: 14/12/2020; Winning No: 039; Amt: \$25; Justin Berry



Your 'Tap' Helps our Parish 'Go' on. We deeply appreciate the financial support of the parishioners and visitors to Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish. **No Cash? No problem!**

One machine at Asquith is set to \$5 per tap and the other is set to \$10 per tap. Our single machine at Berowra Heights is set to \$10 per tap. **Thank you for your generosity. Donations made help to cover ongoing church maintenance costs.**



Obligation to be present at the Sunday Eucharist RESUMED

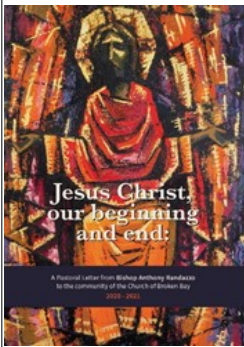
*A letter to the People of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay
~ [15 December 2020 ...extract only]*

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In my Decree of 18 March 2020, in response to the crisis of the pandemic, I dispensed the Faithful of the Diocese of Broken Bay from the ordinary obligation to be present at the Sunday Eucharist. Now, with the welcome situation that has developed, with gratitude to God, **I rescind that Decree, and call upon and encourage the Faithful to resume their obligations as part of the living Body of Christ. Under Canon 1247, the Faithful are now once more obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and the Holy Days of Christmas and the Assumption.**

Notwithstanding, those who are aged or have health conditions or are otherwise anxious about the risk of COVID 19 are free to remain at home, honouring the Lord's Day through the best way open to them. Some examples are participating in the live-streamed Mass, private prayer, reading the Scripture, praying the Rosary. ... + *Anthony*

To read the whole letter please email the office on: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au to request and



Jesus Christ, our beginning and end:
A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Anthony Randazzo to the community of the Church of Broken Bay 2020-2021

Bishop Anthony issued his first Pastoral Letter to the Diocese of Broken Bay on Sunday 29 November, for the First Sunday of Advent. Entitled **Jesus Christ, our beginning and end**, it outlines the Bishop's six priorities for the community of the Church in our Diocese.

Copies available today from our Ushers when you sign-in for Mass. If you did not receive a copy please approach either of our Father's after Mass or contact the parish office on 9456 2450.



The Pastoral Centre will be CLOSED from Friday 25 December 2020 until Tuesday 19 January 2021 (inclusive).

If you need assistance during this period please email the office on: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au (this will be monitored regularly for urgent matters only) or phone 9456 2450 - leave a message.

Please note, messages will ONLY be CHECKED WEEKLY.

REMEMBER: If in urgent need of a priest, the emergency number is: 0468 341 841.

Advance Notice

There will be **only ONE Morning Mass on weekdays** in our parish **from 28 December 2020 to 22 January 2021 (inclusive) ~ being...**

9am at St Patrick's Asquith ~ Monday-Tuesday-Thursday
9am at St Bernard's Berowra Heights ~ Wednesday-Friday.

[**Exception:** New Years Day ~ 8am at Asquith/9am Berowra Heights for Solemnity of Mary Mother of God].



Year of St Joseph ~ Patris Corde "With a Father's Heart"

On Dec 8 2020, Pope Francis proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph" in honour of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church. Accompanying this is a newly released Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde* ("With a Father's Heart") which aims "to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and zeal." **To read Patris Corde go to:**
http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html



New Podcast

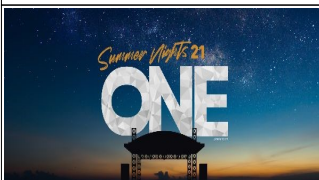
From Fr. Mike Schmitz:
The Bible In A Year

Catholic Bible In A Year Podcast

If you've struggled to read the Bible, this podcast is for you!

Ascension's 'Bible in a Year' Podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, guides Catholics through the Bible in 365 daily episodes starting 1 January 2021.

For more information and registration go to: <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>



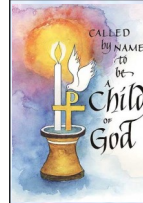
Summer Nights 2021 ~ The Summer Schools of Evangelisation that have been running around Australia for over 30 years have responded to the challenge of COVID, and are combining to run a program for young people at the Mt Carmel Retreat Centre in Varroville in January 2021.

There are two options (the retreat is run twice during the week):

Monday 11 - Wednesday 13 January & Thursday 14 - Saturday 16 January (both dates 3pm to 9pm).
COVID-safe dinner is provided each day.

For age 16-35 year olds. The retreat will feature excellent quality talks and teaching, night sessions with praise and worship, drama, preaching, testimonies, and prayer. Mass, adoration and reconciliation are available each day.

It will be held on the grounds of Mt Carmel Retreat centre. A stage will be brought in to hold all the sessions. Run by the Disciples of Jesus Community. For more information and to register: www.summerschool.org.au.



Welcome to our Faith Family
Baptism congratulations to...

Euno Drei Reforma

who is to be baptised this weekend.

Please keep Euno, his parents and Godparents in your prayers.



Latest Broken Bay News AVAILABLE NOW:

This December Christmas issue features:

- * Bishop Anthony's Pastoral Letter,
- * Celebrating Vocations with three diaconate ordinations,
- * A new look for Catholic Schools Broken Bay and much more!

Pick up a copy today, or read online at: https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken_bay_news_december_2020_issue_208

VINNIES stalls at our Churches

SVDP Society have the 2021 Columban Art Calendars and Christmas Cards in stock.

Prices are unchanged from last year at \$9.00 per Calendar and \$7.00 per pack of 10 Christmas Cards.

Thank you, Natasha & Les.



Thank you from Candela Peru

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Sisters of Mercy mission in Candela Peru.

From the sale of the goods at our home on Sunday \$2500 was raised. I believe that there have been some donations directly into Sister Patricia's bank account as well. All this money has been sent to Candela, so the women can continue to care for their families during this COVID emergency.

Thank you so much, Mary Rajca

ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 26th / 27th Dec – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph -Year B

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE; Gen 15:1-6, 21: 1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

	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	Sandra Sparkes	Malcolm Cross	John Messina	Darrin Patterson
Reader (1)	Donna Machado	Denise Harant	Paul Worthington	Vivienne Schreiber	Chris Newnham	Fiona Fone
Reader (2)	John Ryan	Jeanette Neary	Helen Chui	Russel Schreiber	Sue Newnham	Sue Lum
Usher / s	Volunteer needed	Moauli Griffiths	Chris Smith	Phil Daidone	Michael Halliday	Les Fogden
Sacristy Care/ Church Cleaning/	Cecilia Waite (f), Ning Biyo, Anne Bourke (s)		Lyn Vila, Cynthia Gilbertson, Editha Palmer, Yovana Castro Guerrero, Sue Watts, Cathy Gray			
Maintenance	Teams A & B		December: Les Fogden, Graham Palmer - additional help always 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*.

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 9842 4877

BACK PAIN INJURIES HEADACHES POSTURE
 NECK PAIN ERGONOMICS MUSCLE PAIN STRESS



We the people of the *Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay and in Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish*, are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.

Covid Caretaking ~ Caring for our Community & each other

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

Capacity of our churches
202 in St Patrick's, 122 in St Bernard's
 If unwell ~ **DO NOT** come to mass ~ please see your doctor



Volunteer to **disinfect pews** after Mass, OR **leave immediately and DO NOT** congregate outside the church

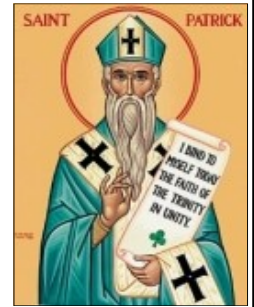
Covid-19 symptoms
 *Fever (37.5 or higher)
 *Sore/scratchy throat
 *Shortness of breath
 *Loss of smell
 *Loss of taste
 *Cough

The new **upper limit rule** within a Church is **2 square metres per person**

We can officially accommodate **202 people at Asquith and 122 people at Berowra. To avoid disappointment, it is still very MUCH PREFERRED that you BOOK IN ADVANCE please.**

This will make entry into the Church quicker for you and the ushers and Mass will not be delayed or disrupted.
 Thank you, Fr Shaju.

**SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ATTENTION OF ALL
PARISHIONERS OF KU-RING-GAI CHASE
CATHOLIC PARISH**



**Proposed Restoration & Repair Work
St Patrick's Catholic Church, Asquith**

As you can see from the following photos, St Patrick's Church is long overdue for major restoration and repair work. The Finance Committee has agreed that the parish needs to seek input from Parishioners for ideas to keep costs as low as possible.

Quotes for carpentry work for the rotten eaves and replacement of the external Vestry door are being sought.

A quote has been obtained from Reuben Decorators for \$40,800 for all painting work.

They were the lowest quote and did a very good job at St Bernard's Church.

As with the renovation work at St Bernard's, Berowra Heights, we are seeking donations towards the cost of this much need restoration from Parishioners.



