



KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH
Diocese of Broken Bay



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

31 March 2024
Sunday of the
Resurrection
of the Lord

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 After 9am Mass 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

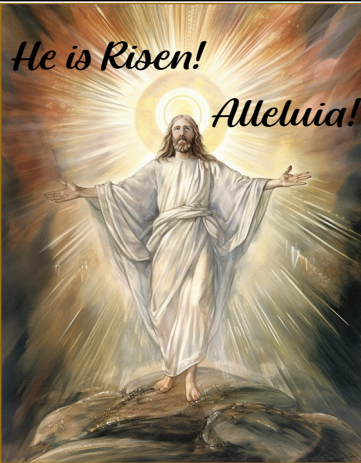
Parish Secretary: Margaret Cooper

Parish Bookkeeper: Karen Price

Vol. Office Assistant: Jan Favaloro

Vol. Sacramental Team: Peta & Phill

(Email: kccpsacraments@gmail.com)



A message from our Parish Priest ...

My dear Parishioners,

After a period of Lent and Holy Week, today, we celebrate with the universal Church the Easter which is the greatest and most important feast ("feast of feasts") in the Church for many reasons.

The Resurrection of Jesus lies at the centre of our Christian faith.

As St Paul reminds us: "And if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain, and your faith has been in vain" (1 Cor 15,14). And if he had not been raised, his teachings would have

resulted in nothing, and his promises would not have been fulfilled. But the Lord is alive, and he walks by our side. That is why we must rejoice, and full of joy sing with the psalmist: "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice in it and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).

Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection.

Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "I am the Resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" (Jn 11,25-26).

Easter gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrow, and tears.

We know by experience that our faith in the resurrection does not exempt us from trials or sufferings. Brothers and sisters, the reality of the cross will always be present in the world and in our own lives. But let us not forget that there is no glory without a cross, no victory without sacrifices. Our faith in the resurrection gives us the strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary anxieties and distress.

Easter gives meaning to our prayers. The writer of the Hebrews says: "We have such a high

priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens" (Heb 8,1).

God the Father hears our prayers and supplications through His Son and our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Heartened by this hope and infected with this shared joy, let us live from now on as a people already resurrected; new men and women who know how to find, amid the darkness of the world and of our own hearts, that light that never sets, the light that vanquishes every darkness: Jesus Christ, the Lord of history and the Lord of our own lives.

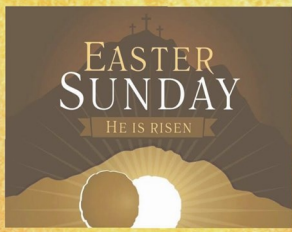
"We are Easter people and 'Alleluia' is our song," preached St. Augustine in the uncertain times in which he lived. He added, "Let us sing here and now in this life, even though we are oppressed by various worries, so that we may sing it one day in the world to come, when we are set free from all anxiety." *Fr Biju Jose, OSH, PP*



We wish you all

a Happy Easter!

Fr Biju & Fr Joy OSH



By dying He destroyed our death,
by rising again He restored our life.
1 Peter 1:3



**Pope's intention for April:
For the role of women.**

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Octave of Easter ~ Year B

Monday 01/04

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday 02/04

Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday 03/04

Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday 04/04

Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Friday 05/04

Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday 06/04

Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Phillip Broughton, Brian Gallagher,
Marcia King

ANNIVERSARY: Alfred De Ramos,
Analzade De Ramos, Bernard De
Ramos, Mary Pereira, Gregory
Cooper, Carol Pereira, Michael
Capozzi, Rosemary Contreras,
Carol Pereira, Esmie Braganza,
Denis Mulligan

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Barry Cox, 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 Datoc, Mary Burns,
Rey Hilario, Georgina Hughes,
Patrick Dorahy, Roger Okell,
John Cosgrove (Snr),
Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.

**The 250
Club!**

Week 6 ~ 25/03/24;
Winning #: 391

Amt: \$25.00;

**Winner: Phillip Parish
Happy Easter Phil !!**



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

Thank you for your support
through these devices.

Readings for Easter Vigil

Reading One Genesis 22:1-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' Rising early next morning Abraham saddled his ass and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He chopped wood for the burnt offering and started on his journey to the place God had pointed out to him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. Then Abraham said to his servants, 'Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there; we will worship and come back to you.' Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering, loaded it on Isaac, and carried in his own hands the fire and the knife. Then the two of them set out together. Isaac spoke to his father Abraham, 'Father' he said. 'Yes, my son' he replied. 'Look,' he said 'here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?' Abraham answered, 'My son, God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering.' Then the two of them went on together. When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I now you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. Abraham called this place 'The Lord provides', and hence the saying today: On the mountain the Lord provides. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

(R) Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

- O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R)**
- And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **(R)**
- You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R)**

Reading Two Exodus 14:15 – 15:1

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for

the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.' Then the angel of the Lord, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and to left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his own horsemen. In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. 'Let us flee from the Israelites,' the Egyptians cried 'the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!' 'Stretch out your hand over the sea,' the Lord said to Moses 'that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.' Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the very middle of the sea. The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and to left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant. It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:

The Word of the Lord All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

(R) Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

- I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea! The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation. This is my God and I extol him, my father's God and I give him praise. **(R)**
- The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name. The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea, the flower of his army is drowned in the sea. The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone. **(R)**
- Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power, your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy. In the greatness of your glory you crushed the foe. **(R)**
- You will lead your people and plant them on your mountain, the place, O Lord, where you have made your home, the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made. The Lord will reign for ever and ever. **(R)**

Reading Three Isaiah 54:5-14

Thus says the Lord: Now your creator will be your husband, his name, the Lord of hosts; your redeemer will be the Holy One of Israel, he is called the God of the whole earth. Yes, like a forsaken wife, distressed in spirit, the Lord calls you back. Does a man cast off the wife of his youth? says your God. I did forsake you for a brief moment, but with great love will I take you back. In excess of anger, for a moment I hid my face from you. But with everlasting love I have taken pity on you, says the Lord, your redeemer.

I am now as I was in the days of Noah when I swore that Noah's waters should never flood the world again. So now I swear concerning my anger with you and the threats I made against you; for the mountains may depart, the hills be shaken, but my love for you will never leave you and my covenant of peace with you will never be shaken, says the Lord who takes pity on you.

Unhappy creature, storm-tossed, disconsolate, see, I will set your stones on carbuncles and your foundations on sapphires. I will make rubies your battlements, your gates crystal, and your entire wall precious stones. Your sons will all be taught by the Lord. The prosperity of your sons will be great. You will be founded on integrity; remote from oppression, you will have nothing to fear; remote from terror, it will not approach you.

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

Responsorial Psalm

(R) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. **(R)**
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. **(R)**
3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. **(R)**

Reading Four Ezekiel 36:16-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, the members of the House of Israel used to live in their own land, but they defiled it by their conduct and actions. I then discharged my fury at them because of the blood they shed in their land and the idols with which they defiled it. I scattered them among the nations and dispersed them in foreign countries. I sentenced them as their conduct and actions deserved. And now they have profaned my holy name among the nations where they have gone, so that people say of them, "These are the people of the Lord; they have been exiled from his land." But I have been concerned about my holy name, which the House of Israel has profaned among the nations where they have gone. And so, say to the House of Israel, "The Lord says this: I am not doing this for my sake, House of Israel, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. I mean to display the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned among them. And the nations will learn that I am the Lord – it is the Lord who speaks – when I display my holiness for your sake before their eyes. Then I am going to take you from among the nations and gather you together from all the foreign countries, and bring you home to your own land. I shall pour clean water over you and you will be cleansed; I shall cleanse you of all your defilement and all your idols. I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead. I shall put my spirit in you, and make you keep my laws and sincerely respect my observances. You will live in the land which I gave your ancestors. You shall be my people and I will be your God."

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

Responsorial Psalm

(R) Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.

1. My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life; when can I enter and see the face of God? **(R)**
2. These things will I remember as I pour out my soul: how I would lead the rejoicing crowd into the house of God, amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving, the throng wild with joy. **(R)**
3. O send forth your light and your truth; let these be my guide. Let them bring me to your holy mountain to the place where you dwell. **(R)**
4. And I will come to the altar of God, the God of my joy. My redeemer, I will thank you on the harp, O God, my God. **(R)**

The altar candles are now lit, and the Priest intones the hymn Gloria in excelsis Deo (Glory to God in the highest), which is taken up by all, while bells are rung, according to local custom.

Epistle Romans 6:3-11

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him:

Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more.

When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

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

Responsorial Psalm

(R) Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' **(R)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. **(R)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R)**

Gospel Mark 16:1-7

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising.

They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back.

On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here.

See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia.

Readings for Easter Sunday

Entrance Antiphon

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism.

God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand.

Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

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

Responsorial Psalm

**(R) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.
(or Alleluia!)**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' **(R)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. **(R)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R)**

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

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

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 16:1-7

When the sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices with which to go and anoint him. And very early in the morning on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, just as the sun was rising.

They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' But when they looked they could see that the stone – which was very big – had already been rolled back. On entering the tomb they saw a young man in a white robe seated on the right hand side, and they were struck with amazement. But he said to them, 'There is no need for alarm. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here. See, here is the place where they laid him. But you must go and tell his disciples and Peter, "He is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him, just as he told you."'

Communion Antiphon

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Reflection ~ Dawn has Broken – The Son is Risen

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: 'Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.'

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was 'Apostle to the Apostles' because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen. Christ's body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ's victory over death. Alleluia!

© Fr Michael Tate

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THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT LOVE IS:
JESUS CHRIST
LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR US.

I JOHN 3:16





You are cordially invited to a very special parish event

The Installation of Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH
as Parish Priest of Ku-ring-Gai Chase Catholic Parish

When: Sunday 28 April 2024 **Where:** St Patrick's, Asquith

Time: 10am Mass

President: Bishop Anthony Randazzo

Very Important Person: Our very own Parish Priest, Fr Biju !

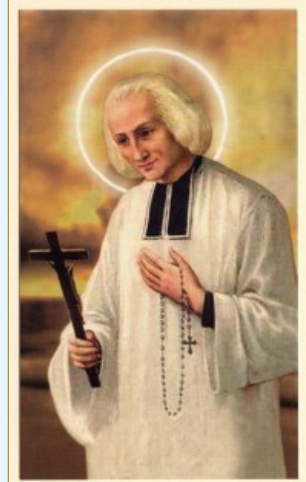
This Mass of Installation will be followed by a celebratory morning tea in the Fr McMaugh Hall and you are asked to bring along a plate to share please.

You may even drop off your plate to the hall on your way to Mass.

Fr Biju is very much looking forward to greeting you all on the day and to have you celebrate this milestone in his priestly life with him.

On the day, Fr Biju would love to have as many parishioners as possible attend this important celebration of unity and thanksgiving in our parish and to facilitate this ... please note that:

The usual 8am Mass at St Patrick's on 28 April 2024 will be cancelled on the 28th April only.



Receive, O my God,
all my thoughts and
all I am going to do today,
in union with all You bore
out of love for me
during Your life on earth."

St John Maria Vianney

Mass Times for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday

| MASS | DATE | TIME | LOCATION | THINGS TO NOTE |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| Easter Vigil | Saturday 30 March 2024 | 7pm | BOTH St Bernard's & St Patrick's | (No morning Mass in the parish on Holy Saturday) |
| Easter Sunday | Sunday 31 March 2024 | 9am | St Bernard's | (No evening Mass in the parish on Easter Sunday) |
| | | 8am; 10am | St Patrick's | |

WHICHEVER CHURCH YOU ATTEND ~ LET'S CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD TOGETHER



To those attending either of the Easter Vigil Masses in our parish, please be sure to stay for a little while afterwards to enjoy a bit of community over a cuppa, cake and some lively conversation.

If you are attending St Bernard's there will also be a frolicking egg hunt which our youngest parishioners are sure to enjoy (and our young at heart parishioners) and all can go home with a "hippity-hop" in their step.

If you are attending St Patrick's, then, after careful preparation by our RCIA coordinator Sue Newnham (whom we take this opportunity to thank most sincerely), you will be able to congratulate our newest Catholic having given witness to the

RECEPTION OF BEN EDWARDS INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC FAITH ~ CONGRATULATIONS BEN!

EASTER MESSAGE 2024 - MOST REV ANTHONY RANDAZZO DD JCL - BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY

My dear brothers and sisters,

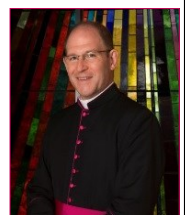
As we approach the solemn and joyous celebration of Easter, let us reflect on the profound message of hope and renewal that this sacred season brings a message that comes to us from the enduring promise of God's guidance and mercy. Baruch, a Jewish aristocrat who became the scribe of the prophet Jeremiah, wrote on the circumstances of Jewish exiles from Babylon, and addressed how important it is to live our lives with wisdom. Not being clever or overloaded with information, but wisdom that wraps itself into our lives and translates our days into something meaningful. When we begin and end each day in prayer, the fruit of wisdom becomes visible in our lives in our discernment, our understanding, and our decision making. The words of Baruch serve as a reminder of what is truly enduring in our world, namely the wisdom that God never fails, and that profound wisdom comes from walking in the way of God. It is a path that leads to peace, harmony, and everlasting life. Our Church uses Baruch as the sixth reading in the Easter Vigil liturgy because it is also a book of hope which reveals the transformative power of trusting in God with sincere repentance.

This Easter, in the Year of Prayer, as we commemorate once more the life, death, and resurrection Jesus Christ, might we embrace his spirit of compassion and service, reaching out to all people of goodwill, regardless of faith, tradition, or background.

Let us embody the love of Christ in our actions, bringing hope and healing to a world in need. May this most significant season in the Christian calendar be a time of renewal and transformation, as we walk hand in hand with God, guided by the light of His love.

May we all find peace and hope, wisdom and mercy in the embrace of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

May the hope of Easter fill your hearts with joy. *Bishop Anthony Randazzo*



Firstly, we would like to **acknowledge and show our appreciation** to those of the parish who have already contributed towards the cost of installing the new AV screens in St Patrick's, Asquith which benefits all who attend Mass at this church.

So far **\$2,050.00** has been donated but there is still a long way to go and so **we kindly ask for further donations, big or small, as every little bit will help.** To help, please contact the office on 9456 2450 or email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au **thank you.**



Anointing & Healing Mass



As Friday April 7th is the 'Friday within the Octave of Easter', ritual masses are prohibited, therefore, there will **NOT** be a First Friday Anointing and Healing Mass on this date, however, a normal weekday Mass will be offered at St Bernard's, Berowra Heights at 9.15am.

Anointing & Healing Mass



IMPORTANT

IMPORTANT

Parking is available in SPA School grounds across Easter



BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT - LIMITED PARKING will be available in the SPA school grounds on ~ **GOOD FRIDAY; EASTER SATURDAY & EASTER SUNDAY**

- Access to and from the school grounds is **ONLY** via Royston Pde ~ 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

Renovating our Parish:

Over the last few weeks, we have been encouraging all our parishioners to come along to one of the pastoral discernment sessions we are organising across our two parish communities.

The purpose of these sessions is to give everyone an opportunity to listen, discuss and share their thoughts, hopes and ideas for our parish. Refreshments will be served.

Asquith: Thursday 4 April, 7pm-8.30pm in Fr McMaugh Hall (grounds of St Patrick's School, Asquith).

Berowra: Friday 12 April, 7pm-8.30pm in Fr Denis Callaghan Hall (grounds of St Bernard's School, B.Hts).

The information collected at these consultations will then be shared with everyone at a **whole-parish gathering** scheduled at **Asquith** on: Tuesday 23 April 7pm-9pm in Fr McMaugh Hall.

Please join us at one of these sessions. Your comments and ideas will help us develop our new Parish Pastoral Plan.

If for some reason you are unable to attend, we are happy to receive written submissions. *Fr Biju Jose OSH*



~ When words are not enough ~

we share here in images our beautiful celebration of Palm Sunday last weekend along with a child being presented for Baptism in the near future.



Why Easter Eggs?

Fr John Flader responds to a question by a reader on March 31, 2015 to *The Catholic Weekly*

“My 10-year-old daughter was recently asking why we eat chocolate Easter eggs and bunnies, and sometimes lambs, at Easter and I wasn’t sure of the answer. Can you help me?”

Let us start with Easter eggs, which are probably the most common popular symbol of Easter. They can be chocolate, as your daughter mentions and which are so common in this country, or more commonly hard boiled and brightly coloured, as in some European countries.

But what do eggs have to do with Easter? The egg can be seen as a symbol of the sealed tomb from which Christ emerged after his resurrection, just as the chick emerges from the closed egg. From ancient times it was also seen as a symbol of new life. And since eggs were one of the foods from which people fasted in Lent in the early Church as they still do in the Orthodox tradition, people looked forward to eating them again and associated different customs with them.

It seems that as far back as the fourth century in the East eggs were blessed at Easter time. The *Benedictio Ovorum*, blessing of eggs, came to the West in the twelfth century, perhaps brought from the East by the Crusaders. In the East the eggs were stained red in memory of the blood Christ shed on the Cross. Red eggs, sometimes emblazoned with a cross, are still the custom in the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic traditions. They are blessed by the priest at the end of the Easter Vigil and distributed to the faithful.

In medieval times it was the custom to give eggs at Easter to one’s servants. It is reported that in 1290 King Edward I of England had 450 eggs boiled, dyed or covered with gold leaf before Easter to be distributed to the members of the royal household on Easter Day. Later the famous Fabergé workshops were well known for creating beautiful jewelled Easter eggs for the Russian Imperial Court.

In northern Europe the custom of painting eggs in bright colours at Easter, having them blessed and giving them as gifts goes back many centuries. The old Roman Ritual, the first edition of which dates to 1610, had a special blessing for Easter eggs. In countries like Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine and the Czech Republic eggs are decorated with magnificent intricate designs which are true works of art. They are often given as gifts to relatives and friends, with the design on the egg chosen to match the character of the person to whom it is given.

In Poland the so-called swieconka involves the blessing of baskets of Easter eggs and other symbolic foods in the Easter Vigil. A similar custom is lived in Ukraine. Upon returning home after the Vigil the family breaks the Lenten fast by eating the eggs and other foods.

In Germany thousands of brightly coloured emptied-out eggs are hung on the barren branches of outdoor trees known as Easter egg trees to give a very festive appearance. They are also hung on tree branches in flower pots and used as table decorations.

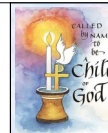
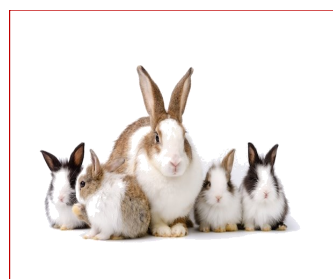
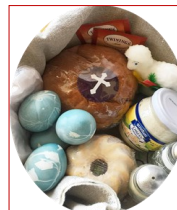
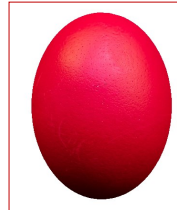
In some traditions Easter eggs are even offered to the deceased. After a memorial service the people go on the second Monday or Tuesday after Easter to take blessed eggs to the cemetery where they say the traditional Easter greeting “Christ is risen” in honour of those buried there.

As for Easter lambs, these too go back a long way. They are usually represented with the cross and the flag of victory, symbolising the resurrection of Christ. Just as the Jews ate a lamb in the annual celebration of the Passover, Christians took up the lamb as a symbol of Christ, the lamb of God who by his death and resurrection takes away the sins of the world.

The oldest prayer for the blessing of lambs is in the seventh-century sacramentary of the Benedictine monastery in Bobbio, Italy. Rome adopted it two hundred years later and for many centuries afterwards lamb was served in the Pope’s Easter dinner. In more recent times figures of a lamb made of butter, pastry or sugar – and yes, chocolate – have become popular.

And as for Easter bunnies, rabbits have always been seen as a figure of fertility and new life, and so they are associated with Easter. It seems that Germany was the origin of the legend that the Easter bunny brought eggs and hid them in the garden.

Naturally, there is no scriptural basis for Easter bunnies. © The Catholic Weekly 2023



Welcome to our Faith Family

Baptism congratulations to

Cora O’Driscoll & Poppy O’Driscoll

who are to be baptised this weekend. Please keep them, their parents & Godparents in your prayers.



The **March 2024 edition of the Broken Bay News (BBN)** is **available now** at the back of our churches. This edition features articles on:

- ✚ ‘The Lenten Journey—Prayer and Preparation for Easter 2024’
- ✚ ‘Inspiring Hearts and Minds—Eileen O’Connor Catholic School launch at Bishop’s Breakfast’
- ✚ ‘Rite of Election celebration for Catechumens’

Please be sure to take a copy home with you.



There will be practice as usual on Friday 5th April, with special guest conductors!

Children’s Choir sings at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month and practises from 4 to 5pm in St Patrick’s church every Friday except during school holidays.

Happy Easter, everyone!

Many thanks to all parish musicians for your heroic and wonderful efforts over Holy Week and Easter, to bring such outstanding, uplifting and moving music to all our celebrations.

Rosters & Readings for W/end – 6th/7th - 2nd Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) Year B - Acts 4:32-35; 1Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

| | St Bernard's Church | | St Patrick's Church | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | 5.00pm | 9.00am | 6.00pm | 8.00am | 10.00am | 6.00pm |
| Acolyte / Snr Server | Sub requested | Paul Dryden | Mani Subramany | John Messina | Malcolm Cross | Vicente Sanchez |
| Altar Servers Altar Servers | Archie Tod Harry Tod | Sub requested Joshua Rumble | Volunteer needed Volunteer needed | Volunteer needed Volunteer needed | Sub requested Lucy Henao Vila | Volunteer needed Volunteer needed |
| Reader (1) | Donna Machado | Peta Tonkin | Hayley Rodrigues | Maria (Cris) Tolentino | Jo Quinlan | Michael Halliday |
| Reader (2) | Genevieve Funk | Paul Maher | Paul Worthington | Jim Fitzgerald | Susie Gates | Mary Stokes |
| Sacristy/Cleaning/Flowers | GC, Genevieve Funk, Anne Bourke (s) | | Cynthia Gilbertson, Sue Watts, Cathy Gray, Maria Hon (Flowers) | | | |
| Maintenance | Team A & B -(help always needed & appreciated) | | April: Les Fogden, Graham Palmer, Richard Fellow -help always needed & appreciated) | | | |

Working in a child-related ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay: Paid and volunteer workers who have direct face to face contact with children (under 18 years) are required by law to obtain a Working with Children Check number. Please note though, exemptions may apply in some cases. The Parish is the employer of the paid or volunteer worker and therefore is required by law to verify the Working with Children Check number. All paid or volunteer workers engaged in a child-related role must have a clear Working with Children Check to work in a child-related ministry. This disclosure references the legislation, *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012*.

Autumn Garden Extravaganza !

Clare Bell, a parishioner of the parish and avid gardener, has again kindly offered to open her one acre garden for all to visit as a Parish activity! Clare's garden was once part of Open Gardens Australia, and is coming into full Autumn splendor which she is happy to share will all parishioners of KCCP.

Sturdy shoes are recommended, or you may prefer to simply sit and view the garden.

Please note: The garden has gravel paths so it really isn't suitable for wheelchairs or similar. **The garden will be open between 10am and 1pm on Monday April 8th. Early birds, you are invited to 'bring a plate' for 10am morning tea to share while Clare will provide a warming cuppa.** Please RSVP to Clare as soon as possible please on 0416 094 396 to get the address. **We hope this extremely kind offer will be of interest to many!**



**Bernie's Ladies ~
first get-together for 2024.**

'Save the Date':

NEXT 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'.*

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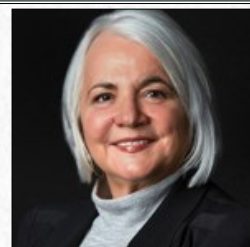
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