

ANT HAND

KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Entrance Antiphon: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

5th December 2021 Second Sunday of Advent Year C Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6:

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 Bernard's 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs 9am Wed and Fri St Patrick's 8am Wed and Fri

9am Mon, Tues, Thurs

RECONCILIATION

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

Emergency sick calls 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours URGENT 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.

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Candles ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent

As we continue our Advent Journey, travelling towards Bethlehem with Mary and Joseph,

we light the second candle. Sign of our faith in God's promise. We pray that we will be

blessed with the baptism of repentance.

Reader: Lord, giver of life, stir up our hearts to prepare for the

coming of your Son.

Response: Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.

Reader: As a dry and weary land thirsts, so we long for you.

Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.

Reader: Open to us the wellsprings of salvation.

Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.

ur Word.

HOMILY © Richard Leonard

Celebrant:

Response:

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist encourages his followers to be patient, as the wait for salvation will soon be over. The Israelites longed to see the day when the Messiah would come. Each generation hoped and prayed that they would be the one to witness the appearance of God's anointed. The Jewish people still hope and pray for this event in every generation.

But Jesus did not come as many expected. Some thought he would arrive in a dramatic event and the end of the world would occur. Others expected a regal entrance or a political overthrow of the Romans. Luke's Gospel repeatedly points out that the very people who longed for the day to see the Messiah missed out because they were looking for the wrong signs.

John the Baptist is the first to see Jesus for who he really is for the world. He recognises that Jesus' sacrificial love can fill our valleys, lay mountains low, make crooked paths straight and rough ways smooth.

Advent is not a season where we have to pretend that we do not know Jesus is coming and then put on mock surprise at Christmas. Advent is the season which celebrates a 'patient yes'. Every year all of us in the Church stand in a queue and remind ourselves of how blessed we are to have seen our salvation in Jesus. We remember the faith of those who longed to see what we see and to know what we know. And we cultivate our patience for life's valleys, mountains and crooked paths where sometimes we can feel Jesus' absence more than his presence, where only when we look back we can see he was with us all the way.

So, as we all wait together in line this Advent let's say yes to all that salvation holds for us: yes to God's personal love; yes to Jesus' kingdom of justice and peace; yes to every opportunity to serve the Gospel and yes to knowing that our God is a companion to us at every step of our journey, even in the most unexpected ways.

Scottish poet John Bell expresses it this way:

'Light looked down and saw the darkness.

"I will go there", said light.

Peace looked down and saw war.

"I will go there", said peace.

Love looked down and saw hatred.

"I will go there", said love.

So he,

the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace,

the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us.

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PASTORAL CENTRE (Parish Office) ~ Hours: 9am - 3.30pm, Mon-Fri only.

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082 / P.O. Box 335, Berowra Hts 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450 / Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp Parish Priest: Fr Shaju John, OSH Assistant Priest: Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary: Margaret Cooper / Vol. Office Assist: Jan Favaloro

Bookkeeper: Karen Price / Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com



[applying the current 2m² requirement] St Patrick's: 202 persons / St Bernard's: 122 persons

Physical Distancing - people from the same household may sit together.

Couples and families can be seated together however,
social distancing is to be maintained between family groups.

Additional restrictions may be made from time to time at the discretion of the Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.



THIS WEEK'S READINGS and PRAYERS

Second Week of Advent Year C

Monday 06/12 Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday 07/12 ~ Memorial St Ambrose, Bishop, doctor ls 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday 08/12 ~ Solemnity The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Gen 3:9-15, 20; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday 09/12 ls 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15 Friday 10/12

ls 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19 Saturday 11/12 Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Elizabeth (Betty) Borg, Fr Thomas Kunnasserry (Fr Joy's uncle), Francisca Aloysius, Jess Formby

ANNIVERSARIES:

David Huntley, Alfredo R, De Ramos, Jack & Marie McNamara

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

For those suffering around the world from Covid-19 - that this disease will be successfully brought under control and eliminated as a health risk for all.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Irena Fellmann, Mary Park, Sr Joel svm, Mary John, Alex John, Bindu Alex, Joseph Alex, Antonia Alvarado, Dana Saleh, Chris Enright, Tom Dawson, Sally Agnew, Jola & Stach Uchman, Elaine Longmuir, Jean Cook, Roger Okell, Patrick Dorahy, Patrick O'Donoghue, Sr Mary Treacy, Marie Haag, Sr Tincy Thomas, Fr Thomas Philip OSH, John Gallagher, Dan Leavy, Felicity Fone, Anne Brady, Barbara Jones, Peter Brooks, Marie O'Hare, Brian Treacy, Stephen C C, John Cosgrove (Snr), Antonia Alvarado, Peter Nguyen, Nemia Camille Asiong, Rodney Porter.

Pope Francis' Prayer **Intention for December:** ~Catechists ~ Let us pray

for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The 250 Club!



Week 20 - 29/11/21 Winning #: 245 Winner: Lea Mead Amount: \$500.00

(NB: The 250 Club is now in recess till February 2022)



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

The Oblates of the Sacred Heart thank you ...



Dear Parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish in Australia, I write to thank you most sincerely for your generous donations towards the

Missionary Works of the Oblates of the Sacred Heart. I understand that you generously donated more than \$7,500 last Sunday. I hope you know how many great works this will

help us to achieve in India and to help those who are poor, uneducated and struggling every day. May the Good Lord Bless you all.

Fr Stephen Muriamkottunirappil, Superior General OSH, Kottavam, Kerala, India.



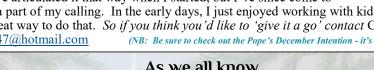
Sanctuary ~ S.H Mount Monastery, Kottayam, Kerala, India

More Top Reasons to Become a Catechist

Fellow catechist Denise sends along these top reasons for becoming a catechist. A common recruitment answer is that you'll learn more about the Catholic faith by teaching it. That's certainly true, but my experience has been more that I gain new insights on knowledge already floating around my brain, new ways of looking at faith. The kids draw out those insights, and do it in such entertaining ways! Being involved has been a great way to learn more about what happens in a parish outside of Sunday Mass and my fellow catechists are great people to talk to. I volunteered to be a catechist to share my teaching heart – not a teacher by training, but by calling. I wouldn't have articulated it that way when I started, but I've since come to

see my catechist work as a part of my calling. In the early days, I just enjoyed working with kids and thought teaching was a great way to do that. So if you think you'd like to 'give it a go' contact Cynthia Gilbertson on cinders51047@hotmail.com

(NB: Be sure to check out the Pope's December Intention - it's "Catechists")



THURSDAY 16 December

3pm Christmas Mass at Regis



FRIDAY 17 December 7pm online Carols under the Star event



SATURDAY 18 December 10am Christmas Church Cleaning (a) both churches

& the pièce de résistance



CAROLS St Patrick's

Church

As we all know, Advent is a time to Prepare

and prepare we must, as there is much to do and to attend. Please mark your diaries and save the dates for these upcoming events: ***********

Thursday 16th December at 3pm sees the long awaited return of our access to the residents of Regis Hornsby and what better way to start afresh than with the Annual Christmas Mass. Fr Shaju will celebrate the Mass and Pat Smith will provide the music (both of whom have met the new requirements to attend Regis). We are told the residents are very excited and even thrilled at the prospect of visitors again from our Parish.

Friday 17th December at 7pm is the annual Carols under the Star Event presented by the Combined Christian Churches of Berowra. This wonderful local initiative brings together the members of the Anglican, Uniting, Baptist and Catholic Faiths.

In past years it has faced some challenges, from being wiped out by a huge and damaging hail storm, to going virtual last year due to Covid. It will be virtual again this year because Covid is still about and now Omicron is lurking in the wings. The churches are taking no chances, they are ...preparing...for whatever may come! Why not jump online to join in the fun via https://www.carolsunderthestar.com.au/

Saturday 18th December at 10am is our Annual Christmas Church Cleaning day (both churches). Please meet outside the church armed with your preferred cleaning tool. Jobs to be done include: The inside of the church, the windows, the lawns and the gardens. This way everything will look its best for the arrival of our special little guest, baby Jesus.



Tuesday 21st December, beginning at 7.30pm please come and celebrate the imminent arrival of our Infant Saviour at St Patrick's Asquith. This is a whole parish event and we would like as many parishioners as possible to come along from both ends of parish to, be united in solidarity and love of Our Lord and our one true faith. Bring your family and friends and let's celebrate together!

If things don't change (restrictions wise) then we will be entertained by groups of cantors singing Carols for our entertainment and spiritual enjoyment,

BUT, if things DO change and we can ALL SING ALONG ... then watch out, the roof will be raised in celebration and anticipation that unto us a special child will soon be born.



NEW 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.

All are Welcome in our churches - vaccinated and unvaccinated alike;

- ALL attendees are required to use either: OR Code or your Covid Check-in Card to sign in;
- The 2sqm rule now applies allowing up to 124 individuals in St Bernard's Church and allowing up to 202 individuals in St Patrick's Church at any one time;
- **ALL attendees are required** to wear a mask as per State Government regulation;
- **NO** congregational singing allowed;
- Mass / Reconciliation / Baptism schedules have resumed as they were before lockdown; If you have any questions regarding the above please E: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au or P: 94562450

ADVENT By Gerard Moore

Chapter 5 taken from Earth Unites with Heaven: An Introduction to the Liturgical Year. Northcote, Victoria: Morning Star Publishing, 2014, pp 33-35. Used with permission.

The season of advent signals to the faithful that Christmas is approaching. In doing this it also reveals the deeper liturgical understanding of the celebration of the nativity, providing a theological and spiritual reference point for the many cultural, social and devotional meanings and practices attached to this joyous feast.

There are two themes underpinning Advent. The first is the mystery of the incarnation. Christ, the light, has come into our world and dwelt among us as one like us, fully human and yet fully divine: And the word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory (Jn 1:14). The second is that Christ will return and complete the renewal of all things in grace. The sense is that our celebration of the incarnation fills us with hope as we await with anticipation his definitive coming when the entire creation is taken up into the full glory of God. The season reflects a wonderful play on words that we find at the close of Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, where the translation reads: Our Lord, come! (1 Cor 16:22). Yet the text is ambiguous and either can mean 'the Lord has come' or be an invitation to the Lord to come. This double sense is captured in Advent.

THE ORIGINS OF ADVENT There are a number of aspects to the history of Advent that allow us to understand its current form. The name comes from the Latin verb 'to come to', advenire. The term adventus was well established in pagan Roman religion to refer to the annual visit of a god to his or her shrine to be present to the people and was quickly taken up by Christian theologians to convey belief in the incarnation and second coming of Christ.

There is evidence from the late fourth century that in parts of Gaul the custom was to hold baptisms during Christmas, and consequently the weeks leading up to time were given over to baptismal preparation. This is our first hint in the development of the season of Advent and gave the time a slightly penitential character since it involved fasting, prayer and self reflection. Some two centuries later the season was established in the city of Rome. However, there it was not related to baptism, and so the penitential aspects were not present. Rather the celebrations were focused on the feast of the incarnation and joyful anticipation of the Second Coming of Christ. Nevertheless, during December in Rome there was a fast in preparation for the olive harvest, and so the month had something of a penitential flavour. In sum, we can see here the origins of our current focus on waiting and expectation, as well as the muted penitential spirit that is part of our sense of the season.

The mention of the olive harvest is a reminder that Advent coincided with the onset of winter, the shortening of the days, the coming of difficult and dangerously cold weather, and a general sense of the precariousness of life and the power of death. All these are at play in the spirituality of the season but make this liturgical period somewhat difficult to embrace when celebrated outside the northern hemisphere.

THE FOUR WEEKS OF ADVENT The four weeks that make up the season are divided along the two emphases. The readings and prayers for period from the First Sunday up until the 16th of December lead us to meditate the second coming of Christ. The Preface for this time says it well: Now we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ our Lord will come again in glory (Preface of Advent I). Across the three year cycle the Gospel reading for the first Sunday reminds us to stay awake because our salvation is near at hand. The Gospels for the Second and Third Sundays speak of John the Baptist and his message that salvation is immanent. The first readings on these Sundays deal with prophecies of the coming of the messiah, and are taken mainly from the prophet Isaiah, though Jeremiah, Baruch and Zephaniah are called upon in Year C. The second readings carry themes that fit the meaning of Advent. The readings for the weekdays feature prominently the prophet Isaiah, with his promises of the salvation that will come.

From December 16th the focus is directly on the celebration of the Nativity. Again we find this clearly in the preface: In his love Christ has filled us with joy as we prepare to celebrate his birth, so that when he comes he may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise (Preface of Advent II). Each of the Gospel readings in the three year Sunday cycle prepares us for the birth of the Lord. Similarly, the weekday Gospels are concerned with the events that led up to the nativity, while the texts for the first reading open up a series of Old Testament prophecies about the coming of the messiah. The season closes with morning Mass on Christmas Eve.

The liturgical colour for Advent is violet, signifying a combination of preparation, penitence and expectation. Often blue is used, moving away from the penitential aspects and looking into the sense of the depth of night which will give way to reveal the coming of salvation.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS The most popular Advent devotion is the wreath containing four candles, one for each of the Sundays leading up to Christmas. There can be variations in the number of candles, but the sense is to mark the time until the birth of Christ, and all the celebrations and gifts that follow. Wreathes and candles carry a strong sense of a season entering more deeply into winter, and a community looking to break the hold of darkness and the cold. The sense of the second coming of Christ seemingly has not found a devotional base. Moore, Gerard. "Advent." Pastoral Liturgy 52, no. 1 (2021): 1-2. https://researchonline.nd.edu.au/pastoral-liturgy/o152/iss1/5



to our Faith Family **Baptism** congratulations to Harvey Jackson Sebastian McLoughlin Madelyn Grant **Oliver Grant**

Welcome

who are to be baptised this weekend.

Please keep them, their parents and Godparents in your prayers.



Mass of **Inclusion** -Sunday 5 **December** 2021

All are warmly invited to our Diocesan "Mass of **Inclusion**" to be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara on Sunday, 5 Dec. at 9:30am.

This Mass marks the International Day of Disability (on 3 December) and recognises the ability and dignity of all. The mass will also be livestreamed, and we encourage you to join at https://www.youtube.com/

channel/ UCNenwlfI7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ



COLUMBAN ART Calendars available at both our churches for \$10 each.

SVdP CHRISTMAS

CARDS ~ available at St Patrick's: \$7.00 per pack of 10 Christmas Cards produced by SVdP. Proceeds go towards assisting those in need in our Parish.

CHRISTMAS CARDS ~ available at St Bernard's Berowra: \$2.50 for a pack of 8 but please note, these cards are not the SVdP cards offered at St Patrick's Church.





ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND - 11th/12th December 2021 - Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18 Third Sunday of Advent— Year C



	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	Sub requested	Sue Lum	John Messina	Malcolm Cross	Vicente Sanchez
Reader (1)	Anne Maree Hutchins	Peter Collins	Paul Worthington	Michael Halliday	Simone Noel	Fiona Fone
Reader (2)	Francesca Parrino	Paul Maher	Penny Loughland	Volunteer needed	Mary Stokes	Volunteer needed
Usher / s	Jan & Joseph Favaloro Jerome Gomez	Freda Alaalatoa Paul Dryden	Marion Pahalawatta Volunteer needed	Jim Fitzgerald Cynthia Gilbertson	Peter Daly Susie Gates	Les Fogden Volunteer needed
Sacristy Care/ Church Cleaning	Marcia Wood, Elaine Maatouk, Marissa Maatouk, Cecilia Waite (f), Gwen Wood (s)		Cynthia Gilbertson, Editha Palmer, Yovana Castro Guerrero, Sue Watts, Cathy Gray			
Communion to Sick	Mt Wilga Rehab. Hospital	Unable to visit at the present time	Regis (KRG Gardens)	Unable to visit at the present time	Christophorus House	Unable to visit at the present time
Maintenance	Teams A & B - additional help always appreciated		December: Les Fogden, Graham Palmer, Richard Fellew - additional help always appreciated			

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY!

Learning Hub – Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd (ACSL): works with Catholic entities to promote and oversee a nationally consistent, comprehensive and sustainable framework

for the protection of children and adults at risk within the Church in Australia. Click on the link to learn more about Safeguarding Standards, Audit and Review, Resource Hub and Complaints Response - https://www.acsltd.org.au/





Disability & NDIS Supports:

The NDIS has opened up possibilities you may not have thought about. However, it's not always straightforward.

Let CatholicCare (our dedicated social services agency in the Diocese) work with you to develop the skills and access the

support you need to maximise your independence, get out and about in the community, and achieve your personal goals.

CatholicCare is an NDIS registered provider with the Quality and Safeguards Commission. Our dedicated staff pride themselves on developing strong relationships with the people we support along with their families and carers.

We work with you to create a world where people living with a disability are valued equally, listened to and included. Our Support Coordination services help you organise your NDIS plan and maximise your funding.

CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay offers:

Tailored Individual Programs	After Schools & Vacation Care Programs			
Flexible Group Programs	Sports & Dance Academies			
Recreational Activities	Creative Arts Programs			
Social & Skills Development	Support Coordination			
Independence & Life Skills	Supported Independent Living Services			

For more information visit <u>www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/</u> disability-futures/ or call (02) 9488 2500.

Catholic Cemeteries + Crematoria

Warmly invites you and your family to join us at our special interfaith



to remember those we have lost during 2021 and past years.

Sunday 12th December, 2021 7.30pm at St Mary's Cathedral

Presided by Bishop Terence Brady, with live music performances. After the service, please join us to view the Lights of Christmas.

All visitors to the Cathedral must check in with a QR code and wear a mask. www.catholiccemeteries.com.au Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in



support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Broken Bay Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information, please phone the Tribunal Office on **9307 8309** or email tribunal@bbcatholic.org.au

POSITION VACANT

Nursing Appointment: Arrupe House Pymble is a small community of retired Jesuits, priests and brothers.

An experienced registered nurse is required to work with a small team of nurses. This position is on a permanent part-time or casual basis with AM duties.

Please email your CV to Drupathi: <u>arrupehouse@sjasl.org.au</u>

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

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