

# **KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH**

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

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 7th March 2021 ~ 3rd Sunday of Lent ~ Year B Ex 20:1-17; 1Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25



Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

# Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! **Communion Antiphon:** The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever sing your praise.

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'



## Gospel Reflection ~ © Greg Sunter

The Temple in Jerusalem was (and still is) a powerful symbol of holiness and a symbol of the connection and relationship between God and the Hebrew people. It is often assumed that Jesus' anger was directed at the traders and moneychangers because their business had infringed on and desecrated the temple precinct. But the reality is a bit more complicated. The Temple was the holiest site for sacrifice to God. The tradition dictated that sacrifice made by a priest on the altar was the highest form of worship. The best animal to sacrifice was a healthy, properly formed creature. Rather than walking a lamb all the way from somewhere like Galilee to Jerusalem, the faithful would purchase their sacrifice animal at the Temple itself – thus the presence of the people selling cattle, sheep and doves. However, to further complicate matters, the Temple traders would not accept Roman coins to purchase the sacrificial animals as they bore the image of the deified emperor. Therefore, money changers were required to exchange Roman currency for acceptable coinage - so the money changers were also playing their part in the prayer life of the Temple.

Jesus' outrage is not so much with the traders and the money-changers as with the whole religious practice and hierarchical structure that has developed to a point where the only

way a person can pray in a 'valid' way is to purchase an animal and hand it over to a priest who goes behind a screened wall to sacrifice the animal. The only way to seek God's forgiveness and mercy was to 'buy' it at the Temple. This was what outraged Jesus. He could not stomach the injustice nor the barriers that had been erected between the people and their God.

Scriptural context ~ This episode of outrage in the Temple is recorded in all four of the Gospels. Interestingly, the three synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke place the event in the final days leading to Passion events while the Gospel of John places the event in the very early days of Jesus' public ministry. While the three synoptics are likely to be more chronologically correct, the Gospel of John uses the event very deliberately to make the point that Jesus is the new Temple – the new focus of God's presence in the world; the Word made flesh. Historical Context ~ In Jewish tradition, the Temple marked the point of physical connection between God and humankind and between the past and the present. It was where God's story and humanity's story met. However, in the year 70 C.E. - some 40 years after Jesus - the Temple was destroyed by the Romans. The gospel of John is written another 20+ years later and so the reality of the Temple's destruction is still trying to be absorbed by the people. It was a very powerful image for the gospel writer to suggest that Jesus was the new Temple - the new point of connection.

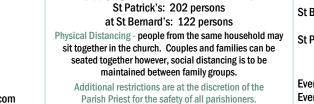
Different View – Just like Jesus ~ This gospel passage must be one of the most commonly misused passages in the Bible. So often it is used as justification for someone losing their temper, or worse, an outrageous temper tantrum, or 'dummy spit'. People will declare in their defence, 'Well, Jesus lost his temper and got angry in the Temple!' They fail to appreciate the difference between their own hot-headedness and the outrage against injustice that was being expressed by Jesus. They also seem to miss the significance of the fact that this was a 'one off' for Jesus!

#### PASTORAL

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 9am - 3.30pm. Centre Hours: Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH Fr Joy Thomas, OSH Assistant Priest

Parish Secretary **Margaret Cooper** Bookkeeper Karen Price

Youth Ministry Co-ord. **Michelle Chahine** Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com





**Lectionary Art** and Reflection

Herod's temple took years to construct and it was a masterpiece of human skills and energy. Even so, its stone structures proved to be as ephemeral as the life cycle of a small plant and as vulnerable to human violence as the body of lesus.

© Jenny Close

|   | WEEKEND MASSES                 |          |                           |  |
|---|--------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|--|
| t   | Saturday                       | 5pm      | St Bernard's              |  |
|   |                                | 6pm      | St Patrick's              |  |
|   | Sunday                         | 8am      | St Patrick's              |  |
| KU-RING-GAI CHASE<br>CATHOLIC PARISH<br>Diocese of Broken Bay, Australia                                  | -                              | 9am      | St Bernard's              |  |
|   |                                | 10am     | St Patrick's              |  |
| SEATING CAPACITY AT OUR CHURCHES  |                                | 6pm      | St Patrick's              |  |
| [applying the current 2m <sup>2</sup> requirement]  | WEEKDAY MASSES                 |          |                           |  |
| St Patrick's: 202 persons   | St Bernard's                   | 8am      | Mon, Tues and Thurs.      |  |
| at St Bernard's: 122 persons  |                                | 9am      | Wednesday and Friday      |  |
| hysical Distancing - people from the same household may St Patrick's 8am Wednesday a                      |                                |          | Wednesday and Friday      |  |
| sit together in the church. Couples and families can be   |                                | 9am      | Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat. |  |
| seated together however, social distancing is to be<br>maintained between family groups.                  |                                | RECO     | NCILIATION                |  |
| ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,   | Evon Coturdou                  | 0.20 ar  | n at St Datriali'a        |  |
| Additional restrictions are at the discretion of the<br>Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners. | Every Saturday<br>Every Friday |          |                           |  |
| Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.   | Every Friday                   | Aller 98 | ani wass at 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.

| THIS WEEK'S READINGS<br>and PRAYERS                                    |                               | Stations of the Cross Berowra | 8.30am Friday mornings followed by Holy Mass  |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 3rd Week of Lent   | ALA                           | Stations of the Cross Asquith | 7.30pm Friday evenings  |  |  |
| Monday 08/03<br>2 Kg 5:1-15; Lk 4:24-30                                | Glance                        | Reconciliation                | Berowra: Fridays after 9am Mass (on request);   Asquith: Saturdays 9.30am   |  |  |
| Tuesday 09/03<br>Dan 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35                          | What's on offer<br>for you at | Lenten Programme Option 1     | Bishop Robert Baron's ~ 'Priest, Prophet, King' -<br>Continues at St Patrick's Hall, every Thursday 7.30pm to 25 March  |  |  |
| Wednesday 10/03<br>Deut 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19<br>Thursday 11/03         | Ku-ring-gai                   | Lenten Programme Option 2     | Diocese Programme – small groups or individual journey undertake with booklet and audio – contact office from more information  |  |  |
| Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23<br>Friday 12/03<br>Hosea 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34 | during<br>Lent 2021           | Lenten Programme Option 3     | 'Altaration' (youth & young adults) ~<br>Why do we have to go to mass? The mystery of the mass revealed.<br>Continues at St Patrick's Hall, every Sunday 4.30pm to 21 March |  |  |
| Saturday 13/03<br>Hosea 5:15– 6:6; Lk 18:9-14                          |                               | ADVANCED<br>NOTICE:           | Last Friday night, our parish hosted this years<br>World Day of Prayer in St Bernard's Church.  |  |  |

Wednesday March 17

St Patrick ~ a Patron

Saint of our Parish.

~ Feast Day of

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Irene Berry, Eleanor Kent, George Thompson, Carmelita Avecilla Evangelista.

ANNIVERSARIES: Karen Fitzgerald, Winifred & William Colman, Joseph Treacy, Ray Longford, Hilda, Francis & Terrence Conlon. Neville Nicholson, Mary Treacy, Kevin Harant, Stach Romanowski, Maria

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Roger Okell, Andrew Hood, Patrick Dorahy, Elaine Longmuir, Sr Mary Treacy, John Gallagher, Fr Thomas Philip OSH, Sr Tincy Thomas, Marie Haag, Tom Dawson, Felicity Fone, Barbara Jones, Jean Cook, Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Dan Leavy, Terry Treacy, Stephen C C, Anne Brady, Marie O'Hare, John Cosgrove (Snr), Antonia Alvarado, Peter Nguyen, Nemia Camille Asiong, **Rodney Porter** 



|                                     | Request for<br>PALMS for |   | This annual ecumenical event was well attended by<br>members of all Christian denominations of the |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
|                                     | Palm Sunday              | * A 1731  | Berowra area who came together to jointly pray for;  |  |  |
|                                     | Do you have              |   | and to raise vital funds for; the people of Vanuatu.   |  |  |
|                                     | Cycad Palms in           | TOMA V MA   | THANK YOU Our sincerest thanks goes out to   |  |  |
|                                     | your Garden?             | OM A  | Natasha Steele of Berowra for her excellent  |  |  |
|                                     | Might you have           | The second  | organisation of this years event and for being a   |  |  |
|                                     | some fronds              |   | wonderful representative of KCCP.  |  |  |
|                                     | to spare?                | We also thank   | Jerome from his readings and support, Moauli   |  |  |
| We would love dona                  | ations of Cycad          |   | . for the evenings music and Cecilia Waite for her   |  |  |
| Palms for our Palm                  | Sunday                   | decorations and   | d for providing the "take-away" style supper <i>which</i>  |  |  |
| Services to decorate                | our churches.            |   | ing we could do during this time of pandemic.  |  |  |
| If you can help, please contact the |                          | All attending were suitably impressed with the initiative used to |  |  |  |
| office by 17 March                  | on 9456 2450.            | provide a supp  | er at all! Well done one and all!  |  |  |

Have you ever wondered... Is St. Patricks Day always during Lent?

The earliest Easter can be is March 22 as it was last in 1818 and will be next in 2285. Ash Wednesday would be on February 4 in that case.

The latest Easter can be is April 25 as it was last in 1943 and will be next in 2038. Ash Wednesday will be on March 10 that year.

Therefore, St. Patricks Day always falls within Lent.

# Restoration Work on St Patrick's Asquith.

Fr Shaju together with The Parish Finance Committee have once again engaged the services and expertise of Byron, from Reuben Decorators, to carry out this necessary work on our church.

Weather permitting Byron envisages starting the work towards the end of next week

He and his team will be working during part of the school holidays to avoid disturbing the children in the classrooms whilst sanding in preparation for staining/painting. It is estimated that the work will take around 3 weeks to complete.

The plan is, they will arrive and begin work early (around 6.30 to 7am) prior to weekday morning mass. They will then take a break whilst Mass is being celebrated and re-commence work as soon as Mass is finished.

In light of this, you are requested to leave the church as quickly as possible once work commences to enable Reuben Decorators to "get on with the job" of restoring St Patrick's for the 50th Anniversary later this year.

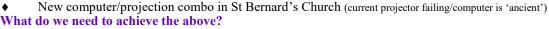
Thank you for your cooperation.

To contribute towards this much needed restoration, please see our "To Do" list below...

What's on our "TO DO LIST" this year? Restoration of St Patrick's Church in its 50th Anniversary Year - est. cost \$42,000

New amplifier for St Patrick's Church - est. cost \$1,800

New telephones in the office (current lease expiring and we are looking to purchase outright) What's on our "WISH LIST" this year?

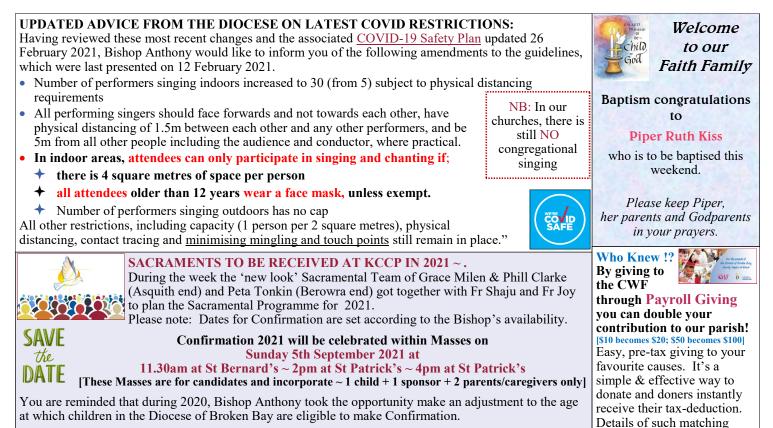


We suspect you know the answer already, but just in case... we seek your assistance financially. To contribute please:

- \* place an envelope on the plate marked with "TO DO LIST"
- \* use BPoint via our website-select the drop down option "Others (Including 1st Collection) and use "TO DO LIST" in the 'Purpose of Payment' area.

\* Simply place in the collection box at back of St Pat's Church. \* Call the office to make payment over phone with credit card

Thank you for giving whatever you can to help maintain your parish assets



The Bishop advised that from 2021 Confirmation will be... "celebrated with those who have reached the age of 8, and who are typically in Year 3." and that "Reconciliation and Eucharist will therefore be celebrated with those who are 9 and in Year 4."

In a nutshell, if you have a child who is in Year 3 this year and has turned 8 years old, they are eligible to make their Confirmation this year and then proceed to make Reconciliation and Eucharist in 2022. More information will follow later in the year.

Still seeking new volunteers at both our churches —please help if you can.



Church Cleaners urgently needed at St Bernard's to join our 4th Sunday of the month group. New Maintenance group members are needed at St Patrick's Asquith. Please help. For more information speak to Father or contact the office.



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schemes will be available from your employer. Don't

delay, check with them today

Setting up Payroll Giving is

easy. Contact your employer's

HR or Payroll team to set it up for you. CWF is registered with

www.good2give.ngo who

facilitate the Payroll giving scheme. Questions? Contact

David Armstrong on 8379 1664

David.armstrong@bbcatholic.org

and ask if they participate!

YEAR of

During this "Year of St Joseph", Patron of the Universal Church. we will bring you a monthly reflection on aspects of **SAINT JOSEPH** St Joseph's life and character provided to us by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

### REFLECTION - MARCH 2021 - © Robert Falzon

The Astonishing Life of St Joseph - Spouse of Mary and father of Jesus The astonishing life of St Joseph - Spouse of Mary and Father of Jesus Robert Falzon reflects on how St Joseph may have responded to his astonishing call to be the foster-father of Jesus and spouse of Mary. What does it mean for fathers and husbands in today's world? Joseph, son of Jacob, was born in Bethlehem and was a descendant of King David (Matt 1). He lived in Nazareth in Galilee, where he worked as a craftsman/tradesman, often referred to as a carpenter. He was married to Mary, daughter of Joachim; he had been to the father of Mary and paid the "dower" with the promise of marriage, but had not taken her into his home yet, as was the custom. Mary, a few months into her betrothal, rushed off to the high country in Judea just outside Jerusalem to visit her relative Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John. It was the first of several astonishing events. The rumors started. Why had she gone during her time of waiting for Joseph to come for her? What had happened? Was something wrong? Mary returned about three months later and the lifechanging news was brought to Joseph. His betrothed spouse was pregnant! 2 Can you imagine what he was going through and thinking? "How could she do this? What could have happened? Why? Who? What will I do?" He decided to divorce her quietly because he was unwilling to expose her to public disgrace and possible stoning (Matt 1:19). Then, in the midst of this drama, an angel appeared to Joseph and told him that the child was the Son of God! Conceived by the Holy Spirit. Remarkably, he obeys God's messenger and takes Mary as his spouse, into his home. Doing this, Joseph completes the marriage, gives Mary his name and becomes the father of the child in her womb. Before the birth of their child, Caesar Augustus called a census for the whole land. Joseph was obliged to take the very pregnant Mary with him and travel to Bethlehem in Judea to fulfil the requirements. A son was born and Joseph, his father, gave him the name Jesus, in accordance with the angel's instructions. So, this son was born in a manger in Bethlehem because there was no room in the town, to Joseph and Mary in the line of David, in accordance with the ancient prophecies. If the actions of Joseph and the birth of Jesus weren't astonishing enough, after the birth there were some amazing events. The shepherds came to visit, proclaiming the vision and the words of the angels. Then three rulers (Magi) visited this newborn "King" of the Jews. Can you imagine what was going on in Joseph's mind and heart? Having walked for 10 days, with no sleep that night and all the strange happenings, he must have been confused, awestruck, amazed and, in his quiet moments, wondering what he had got himself into. "I don't understand. Who is this woman? What about the mysterious son who is supposed to be the saviour of the world?! What were the shepherds going on about? Why did these rulers visit, prostrate themselves before my baby son and give us such incredible gifts?" Soon after, Joseph took the child and mother to the temple in Jerusalem and presented their first-born son, in accordance with the law. They encountered Simeon and Anna, who again disturbed Joseph and Mary. "What a strange prophecy! Who is this son and what will he be?" 3 It is already evident that this family is not destined for a settled life and, as if this is not enough, an

angel wakes Joseph up again and tells him to take his wife and baby and escape to Egypt because the most powerful man in the land wants to kill Jesus! Anyone would be forgiven for thinking: "Come on! Give me a break here. I did not sign up for this!" This good man gets up, wakes his wife Mary, explains the drama and the necessary urgency. He loads up the family and heads off on a flight into Egypt – except it was a long walk of hundreds of kilometres and would have taken weeks. As he walks, he wonders: "How will I provide and protect my precious family? How will I know which way to go? Did I really hear an angel, or was this just my lack of sleep? But it was the same angel that came earlier and told me to take Mary as my wife. [PTO]

# ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 13th/ 14th Mar – Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year B IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE; 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

| St Bernard's Church   5.00pm 9.00am |   | St Patrick's Church     |  |                    |                     |                  |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
|                                     | 5.00pm  | 9.00am                  | 6.00pm   | 8.00am             | 10.00am             | 6.00pm           |  |
| Acolyte / Snr Server                | Matthew Waite   | Michael O'Neill         | Mani Subramany   | Phil Daidone       | Malcolm Cross       | Darrin Patterson |  |
| Reader (1)                          | Mary Dorahy   | Peter Collins           | Penny Loughland  | Russell Schreiber  | David De-Fina       | Fiona Fone       |  |
| Reader (2)                          | Donna Machado   | Barbara McMullen        | Edwina Subramany   | Vivienne Schreiber | Mary Stokes         | Michael Halliday |  |
| Usher / s                           | Jerome Gomez  | Paul Dryden             | Chris Smith  | Cynthia Gilbertson | Sue & Chris Newnham | Les Fogden       |  |
| Sacristy Care/<br>Church Cleaning   | Marcia Wood, Gwen Wood, Elaine Maatouk,<br>Marissa Maatouk, Cecilia Waite (f), Tina Manti (s) |                         | Meralyn Tarte, Lea Mead, Barbara Folkard, Michelle Hwang (f), Leticia Wee, Michelle Blanco |                    |                     |                  |  |
| Maintenance                         | Teams A & B - additional  | help always appreciated | March: Bill Holmes, Bill Hester, John Hadjuk - additional help always 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.* 

