

# KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH -

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 10 December 2023 ~ **Second Sunday of Advent** ~ Year B

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

**Entrance:** 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:** Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

**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.

*Seek God,*

*Find God,*

*Embrace God in Jesus'*

**Our Mission Statement:**  
*'Help others to recognise, through their experiences, that Jesus who died and is risen is the truth that lights up their lives'.*

**Our Vision Statement:**  
*'That the parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish grow as missionary disciples and live as community in Christ inviting all people into our Parish, welcoming them to our Parish life and embracing the rich diversity of our community'.*

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	5pm	St Bernard's
	6pm	St Patrick's
Sunday	8am	St Patrick's
	9am	St Bernard's
	10am	St Patrick's
	6pm	St Patrick's

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**St Patrick's, Asquith**

8am	Wednesday and Friday
9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs, Saturday

**St Bernard's Berowra Heights**

8am	Thursday
9.15am	Wednesday and Friday (except 1st Friday of the month when Mass is at 11.30am @ St Bernard's)

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday	9.30am	St Patrick's
Friday	After 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



**Celebrant:** As we continue our Advent Journey, travelling towards Bethlehem, we hope for a better world. Today we light the second candle, as a **Sign of our faith in God's promise so that we find peace in our lives.** 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.

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

**Reader:** Open to us the wellsprings of salvation.

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



## 'Keep Christ in Christmas'

### CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMES

**2ND RITE** ~ Tuesday 19 December ~ 7.30pm

St Bernard's, Berowra Heights

**1ST RITE** ~ unchanged ~ see left hand column for details

### CHRISTMAS-MASS TIMES:

#### Christmas Eve - Sunday 24 December

5pm	St Bernard's Vigil Mass (Outdoor in school grounds with Carols and Sausage Sizzle ~ bring a chair/rug).
6pm	St Patrick's Vigil Mass (Children may dress up as Angels & Shepherds etc)
9pm	St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass

#### Christmas Day - Monday 25 December

<b>12 am</b>	<b>St Patrick's 'Midnight' Mass</b>		
8am	St Patrick's Mass	9am	St Bernard's Mass
10am	St Patrick's Mass	NB:	<b>NO evening Mass Christmas Day</b>

## AN IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING

### Your usual Sunday obligation AND Christmas Day ~ Holy Day of Obligation

With Christmas Day falling on a Monday, the Vigil Mass on 24 December for Christmas **cannot** suffice for the **usual Sunday obligation** i.e. you **cannot attend one Mass for two obligations.**

**To fulfil both obligations please take note of the following:**

- ✠ Attend Vigil Mass on Saturday 23 December **OR** in the morning of 24 December to fulfil your **usual Sunday obligation**, then
- Attend Christmas Vigil Mass on 24 December **OR** Christmas Day Mass on 25 December to fulfil your **Christmas Day ~ Holy Day of Obligation**

### PASTORAL CENTRE (Parish Office)

**Opening Hours: 9am – 3.30pm, Mon-Fri only.**

**Phone:** (02) 9456 2450 / **Website:** www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

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

**Parish Office Email:** parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au



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

**Parish Administrator:** Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

**Parish Secretary:** Margaret Cooper

**Bookkeeper:** Karen Price / **Vol. Office Assist:** Jan Favaloro

**Vol. Sacramental Team:** Peta & Phill (kccpsacraments@gmail.com)

*'Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic parish acknowledges the Darug and Guringai people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.'*

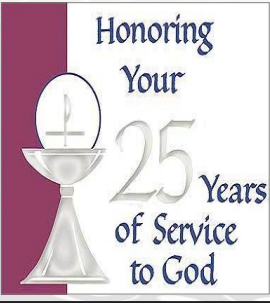
**Pope's intention for December: For persons with disabilities:**  
 We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



Fr Biju is back with us from his annual leave at home where he visited his mum, extended family and friends, celebrated his Silver Jubilee of the Priesthood (with batchmates from 1998) and somehow still managed to fit in a bit of relaxation. We missed you Fr Biju and are happy to have you back with us and lead us through the beautiful season of Advent and Christmastide.

**Weekday Mass Schedule returns to normal with the return of Fr Biju ~**  
**Our regular weekday Mass schedule returns from this Monday 11 December 2023. Please see front page for details.**

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS**  
 2nd Week of Advent ~ Year B  
**Monday 11/12**  
 Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26  
**Tuesday 12/12**  
 Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14  
**Wednesday 13/12 ~Memorial**  
 St Lucy, virgin, martyr  
 Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30;  
**Thursday 14/12 ~Memorial**  
 St John of the Cross, priest, doctor  
 Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15  
**Friday 15/12**  
 Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19  
**Saturday 16/12**  
 Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13



Please join us this Sunday **10 December** at **St Bernard's Church, Berowra Heights** for a celebratory **Morning Tea as we give thanks to God for Fr Biju's 25 Years of Service to God in the Priesthood**  
 If you can't make this Sunday don't worry, there will be a similar celebration held **NEXT Sunday, December 17 at St Patrick's, Asquith.**  
 It would be lovely if as many parishioners as possible could attend one or the other of these Masses to congratulate Fr Biju on such a wonderful and blessed occasion.



An annual part of Advent preparation is our traditional **Taizé evening**, please join us on **Friday 15 December, at 7.30pm at St Patrick's.** Come long to relax, reflect and pray in an atmosphere of beautiful reflective music.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**  
 Teresa Ashton, Martha D'Souza, Thomas Wynn, Sr Ellen Cahill RSM.

**ANNIVERSARY:** Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Christopher Celestino, Dario Bruno Rossi

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**  
 Margaret Patterson, Pat Bowden, Sosefo Ali, Bill Holmes, Cita Del Rio, Adele Ramos, Simon Riddett, Judith Ryan, Won Lee, Chris Enright, Maris Park, Philomena & Rex D'Souza, Mary Mathew, Fiona Loughland, Garth Graham, Yvonne Longham, Isabel Henson, Judy Farrell, Chichi Dato, Ann Leslie, Mary Burns, Georgina Hughes, Patrick Dorahy, Rey Hilario, Roger Okell, Barbara Jones, Brian Treacy, Josef, Marie Haag, John Cosgrove (Snr), Patrick O'Donoghue, Elaine Longmuir, Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.



**Wednesday 20th December, 7.30pm**  
**St Patrick's Church, Asquith**

Please come and celebrate the imminent arrival of our Infant Saviour with us. This is a whole parish event and we would like as many parishioners as possible to come **from both ends of the parish**, to be united in solidarity and love of Our Lord and our one true faith. Musicians are invited to come and perform, either singing or playing. **Community singing is what the evening is all about** so please bring your family and friends and let's celebrate together! There'll be plenty of your favourite Christmas Carols, so don't miss this event!  
**Please bring along a plate of simple bite-sized morsels to share with a cuppa afterwards.**

**Calling all ~ Shepherds & Angels to be part of our 5pm Christmas Eve Children's Mass Nativity Play @ ST BERNARD'S CHURCH (well, the schoolyard actually)**  
 Would your child like to be involved in the Christmas Nativity Play at the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Bernard's? **Then, please come to both rehearsals on Monday 18 December 10am & Friday 22 December 2pm.** On the 18th, we will meet at 10am outside St Bernard's Church before going into the school grounds. Parents, please stay with your child for the rehearsal. If you have any questions, please contact our Nativity Play Directors, Zinta H & Elaine D on 0422 093 594.

**Singers and actors needed—all welcome! Christmas Eve Pageant for 6pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass - @ ST PATRICK'S CHURCH**  
 Any children that would like to participate in the Christmas pageant are asked to attend **2 rehearsals at St Patrick's church. Wednesday 20th Dec AND Friday 22nd Dec** Music practice at 9am followed by pageant practice 9.45am. Parent helpers always appreciated. If you have questions please email Loretta and Cecilia on [ceciii@hotmail.com](mailto:ceciii@hotmail.com)  
**Come and take part in the Celebration of Christmas. The more the merrier!**

**RIP Teresa Ashton.**  
**Teresa's funeral will take place on Monday 11 December, 1.30pm South Australia time.** Teresa's family would like to thank all parishioners for contributing to their Mum's joy in the parish community she so loved. The funeral will be live-streamed from St David's Parish, Tea Tree Gully, SA. via YouTube.

**The 250 Club!**  
 Week 20 ~ 04/12/23;  
 Winning #: 366  
**Amount: \$500.00**  
**Winner: Unsubscribed**

**NB: The 250 Club is now in recess until February 2024 ~ Thank you for your support during 2023**

**We now have TWO DEFINED SERIES each year beginning in February and in July.**  
 When the office re-opens in late January after the Christmas break, reminders will be sent to those not financial. Number sets are available numbers. For more information contact the Office. We'll be back! *(in the New Year!)*

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

**OUR BANK DETAILS**  
**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](mailto:parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au)  
 ~ Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish, Dr Biju.



## AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL PARISHIONERS OF KCCP

Renovation/Building works have commenced at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Asquith and will continue for some time.

*As regular church goers, you will understand parking around St Patrick's Church has always been somewhat challenging, and this will become even more so throughout the duration of these important and necessary building works.*

**PLEASE NOTE: Once works begin NO PARKING will be available in the School grounds at St Patrick's Asquith.**

*These works need to be carried out with safety being the priority for all, including parishioners, students, staff and contractors. This is why the work is beginning now, to make use of the summer school holiday break. The Diocese, School, and Contractors all regret the impact this will have upon the Parish, especially with parking over the Christmas Season, however, all agree this is by far the safest way to proceed.*

*At every stage of the building works the parish and school will be in constant contact and every attempt will be made to minimise the impact upon parishioners and to keep parishioners apprised of progress.*

*I ask for your patience, consideration of others and flexibility during the challenges we will face over the months ahead.*

*I would also remind all parishioners (especially those who have mobility challenges) that St Bernard's Church, Berowra Heights, has a large carpark which provides easy and reasonably level access to the church. Thank you, Fr Joy.*

### John's challenge to us

© associationofcatholicpriests.ie/homily-resource/10-dec-2023-2nd-sunday-in-advent-b/

The call of John the Baptist is challenging but, ultimately, it is a consoling word, because the Lord to whom John calls on us to turn our hearts is not one who is here to judge us. Rather, he is one who has come to heal and renew us. The voice crying in the wilderness is, ultimately, a voice of consolation.

In the opening words of Isaiah in today's first reading, **'Console my people, console them. Speak to the heart of Jerusalem.'** At the end of that reading, Isaiah declares, **'Here is the Lord coming with power.'** The word **'power'** can have negative connotations for us. It can suggest some kind of overbearing presence or a determination to dominate. Yet the power of the Lord that Isaiah speaks about is of a different kind altogether. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast, and leading to their rest the mother ewes who are soon to give birth. This is a very tender power; it is the power of a faithful and enduring love, a love that gathers and nurtures and gives rest. This is the God whom John the Baptist invites us to rediscover this Advent. It is this God who comes to us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

In the gospel, the Baptist refers to Jesus as **'more powerful than I am.'** He is the more powerful one, in the sense that the first reading defines power. It is Jesus who gives full expression to God's tender love that brings healing to the broken, strength to the weak and rest to the weary. It is this adult Jesus, now risen Lord, whose coming towards us and present to us we celebrate at Christmas.

The Baptist calls us this Advent to prepare a way in our lives for the coming of this Lord, this Shepherd, in whom, as the Psalm says, mercy and faithfulness have met, justice and peace have embraced. This is the one we are called to meet this Advent, who can give meaning and depth to all our other encounters.



**Parish Vocations Volunteers Wanted!** The Broken Bay Vocations Team is seeking your help to

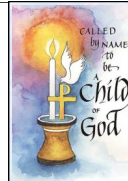


nurture a culture of vocations in our local Church. As a Parish Vocations Volunteer, you could play a vital role in promoting vocations awareness, encouraging prayer, and supporting local events in your parish. If you feel called to this rewarding service, your involvement would be greatly valued. To express your interest, simply scan the QR code provided and follow the prompts.



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** The 2024 calendar is now available at **BOTH** St Bernard's & St Patrick's for only **\$10.00**, and they make a cheap but quality gift for family and friends alike!

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** are available from **St Bernard's**. Packs of 8 for \$2.50 - these are religious themed but are not actual SVdP cards.



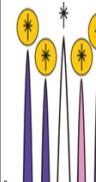
*Welcome to our Faith Family*

Baptism congratulations to

*Hope Wales  
Ryan Dahiya  
Mira Dahiya  
Henry Tran*

who are to be baptised this weekend.

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



**Simone Noel's Advent Group:**

will continue to meet at 7.30pm Thursday evenings, December 14 and 21.

You are welcome to come to any of the remaining evenings, just let Simone know by calling/texting her on: 0423 238 010.



**A big THANK YOU from Vinnies**

for supporting their **Christmas Appeal**

The **Asquith Conference** of the St Vincent de Paul Society sincerely thanks Parishioners for your generous donations to the recent Christmas Appeal. Over \$5,000 has been raised so far. A big thankyou to all those involved in organising, running and contributing the cakes to the cake stall. Funds raised will go towards assisting our clients suffering hardship for various reasons. **For Parishioners who donated at St Patrick's Asquith and requested receipts, could you please collect them from the box at the back of the Church.** Also a big thank you to our regular donors through the poor boxes throughout the year. Les Fogden - Treasurer.



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

*is officially in recess until 2024!*

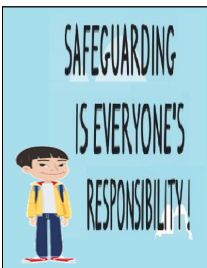
*Thanks to everyone for a wonderful year!*

**Rosters & Readings for Weekend 16th & 17th Dec 2023: Third Sunday of Advent Year B: Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,19-28**

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Paul Dryden	Barbara McMullen	Mani Subramany,	Francis Lizardo	Malcolm Cross	Vicente Sanchez
Altar Servers Altar Servers	Martha Askew Piper Thompson	Sophia Cottrell Miranda Tablizo	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed	Emma Daly Noah Daly	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed
Reader (1)	Celia Cox	Paul Maher	Paul Worthington	Vivienne Schreiber	Susie Gates	Les Fogden
Reader (2)	Genevieve Funk	Freya Tonkin	Sue Watts	Russell Schreiber	Sub requested	Michael Halliday
Sacristy/Cleaning/ Flowers	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Cecilia (f), Tina Manti (s)		Sue O'Malley, Mary O'Malley, Sue O'Malley, John O'Malley			
Maintenance	Teams A & B (help always needed & appreciated)		December: Malcolm Cross & David Chui (help always needed)			

**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*.

**How the experiences and circumstances of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) children and families influence child mental health**



There is emerging evidence to suggest that children from CALD backgrounds may have experiences, such as acculturation, incidents of racism or family conflicts, that uniquely affect their mental health.

There is also emerging evidence to suggest that families from CALD backgrounds can have different needs from non-CALD children or face barriers to service access (Guo et al., 2020).

Children from CALD backgrounds may also have hidden mental health difficulties because of the nature and presentation of their mental health conditions. Their family may not identify the child's behaviour or emotions as problematic, or they may be focused on meeting their basic needs (especially early in the migration process).

Discussion paper by Anagha Joshi and Pragma Gartoulla, Australian Institute of Family Studies, is available by copy and pasting the following into your browser: **How to support the mental health of CALD children - Emerging Minds**

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

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Rebecca Pincott  
General Manager



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**King Tide Café / Restaurant**

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Berowra and Berowra Heights

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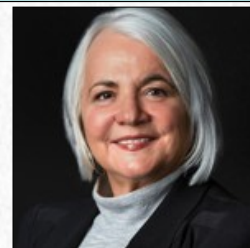
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