

KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Diocese of Broken Bay

11 February 2024

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time ~ Year B

Lev 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mark: 1:40-45



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'.

Entrance Antiphon: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Communion Antiphon: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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
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 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 Favalaro

Vol. Sacramental Team: Peta & Phill

(Email: kccpsacraments@gmail.com)



A message from our Parish Priest ...

Dear Parishioners,

The Sunday before Ash Wednesday is traditionally **Catechist Sunday** in our Diocese and this year will be held today, Sunday 11 February 2024.

On this auspicious day, dear Catechist, I wholeheartedly greet and thank you all for your wonderful commitment.

St Paul Says, "For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you..." (1 Cor 11,23).

From the very beginning when Jesus handed the faith to the apostles, there has been a "handing down" of faith from generation to generation. Now, it is our responsibility to "hand down" this faith, to the next generation—our young children and youth.

Catechists have an integral role in handing on the faith. Our young children and youth need proper guidance and knowledge in their journey of faith throughout their lives. The Church provides both guidance and knowledge through catechism. The goal of catechists is to teach and to form our children and youth in faith. Leading them into fellowship with Jesus Christ and the church community.

Today, we all thank you, our dearest catechists, for saying 'yes' to God's call and becoming transmitters of our faith. Thank you for all the time, effort and sacrifice you put into teaching our kids and youth. You show them by your example the true face of Jesus. I am sure that this ministry is so important, beautiful, sometimes difficult but always incredibly rewarding, and we sincerely thank each of you.

At the 10am Mass today at St Patricks' Asquith, our Catechists will publicly renew their commitment to this most important ministry. They will also be hosting 'Coffee Corner' for the parish community after Mass. Everyone's welcome!

I wish you all a beautiful weekend!

Fr Biju Jose OSH



Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday

Lent begins this coming Wednesday (February 14), and the Season of Lent is a most important time of preparation for the celebration of Easter.

It is an annual pilgrimage of grace whereby we are drawn more profoundly into the mystery of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence from meat and is to be observed by those who have completed their fourteenth year of age. Those who are aged between 18 and 60 are to fast on these days. This Lenten practice is not to be a burden upon those who have health issues or special needs.



**Ash Wednesday
Mass Times:**

**Asquith 8am & 7.30pm
& Berowra 9.15am**



Parish Lenten Programme ~ Our 2024 Lenten Programme will commence on **Thursday 15 February** in the Fr McMaugh Hall, in the grounds of St Patrick's School. Please gather at **7.15pm for a 7.30pm start**, concluding at **9.00pm**. This programme will continue over 6 consecutive Thursday nights in the same location. I warmly invite you attend this group, however, if you would be more comfortable working through this Lenten programme on your own (or in a small group, perhaps in your home), then please contact the office who can provide you with the booklets.



Stations of the Cross during Lent will be prayed ...

@ St Bernard's Berowra Heights:
8.45am Friday mornings followed by 9.15am Holy Mass, except the 1st Friday of the month (1 March) when Stations will be at 10.30am.

@ St Patrick's Asquith: 7.30pm every Friday evening.

Project Compassion Boxes – available today from the back of our churches. Please take home a Project Compassion box to help support vulnerable people around the world.



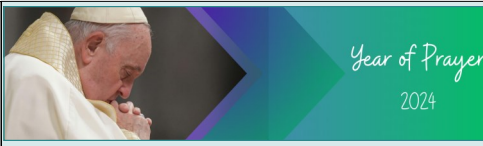
'Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic parish acknowledges the Darug and Guringai people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this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



Pope's intention for February:

For the terminally ill.

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.



The Holy Father has dedicated 2024 to be a Year of Prayer in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

He has said prayer is the royal road to holiness which enables us to be contemplative even in the midst of activity.

"The Christian, like Mary, is a pilgrim of hope. And this is precisely the theme of the Jubilee of 2025 'Pilgrims of hope' " Pope Francis has said.

The Year of Prayer, the Holy Father explained, is dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world."

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Ordinary Time ~ Year B

Monday 12/02

James 1:1-11; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday 13/02

James 1:12-18; Mk 8:14-21



Wednesday 14/02

ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday 15/02

(Thursday after Ash Wednesday)

Deut 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

Friday 16/02

(Friday after Ash Wednesday)

Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday 17/02

(Saturday after Ash Wednesday)

Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Dick Turner, Lia Cabrera,
Kathleen Mulligan

ANNIVERSARY:

Jan Szaikowski, Kevin Harant
Mary & Frank Jack,

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

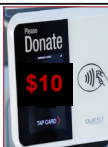
Freya F. Lor (baby), Sosefo Ali,
Fiona Loughland, Pat Bowden, Bill
Holmes, Margaret Patterson, Chris
Enright, Cita Del Rio, Philomena &
Rex D'Souza, Mary Mathew, Isabel
Henson, Chichi Datoc, Mary Burns,
Rey Hilario, Georgina Hughes,
Patrick Dorahy, Roger Okell,
John Cosgrove (Snr),
Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.



Parish 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, Fr Biju.



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

Readings & Reflection

First Reading Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 31:1-2,5,11. R. v.7)

(R.) You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **(R.)**

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.' And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. **(R.)**

3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Cor 10:31 - 11:1

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

We know that we will all have to face some kind of suffering, and so we try to prepare ourselves for it. Yet when it comes, as prepared as we try to be, it can overtake us with such fury that we fall back defenceless. We look to others for support and assistance, and if we are fortunate, we find it. However, even in the most supportive of communities, suffering tends to alienate us from those who are healthy and secure. Suffering reminds us of our own finitude and the contingent nature of all of life. It threatens our sense of order.

Jesus is not deterred by human suffering. He welcomes all who approach him; his healing touch reincorporates those who have been ostracised; his loving embrace reassociates those who have been alienated. In the reign of God, there are no outsiders. All belong to Jesus, and, therefore, all belong to each other. When the one afflicted is embraced by the community, the community is an authentic manifestation of the inclusive reign of God. In suffering we witness human vulnerability and our desperate need of each other and of God. There, at the edge of life and on the fringes of the community, we may experience the tenderness and compassion of God. The loving touch of Christ that can heal our souls, if not our bodies. It is there that we may most authentically participate in the cross of Christ. Joined to him we are anything but unproductive or worthless.

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Mandatory Parent Information Night for Reconciliation & Eucharist 2024

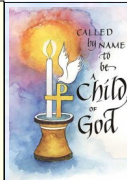
THIS Tuesday 13 February ~ 7.30pm to 8.30pm ~
at St Bernard's Church, Berowra Heights ~
at least one parent must attend.



If your child/ren made Confirmation in 2023 (or earlier) and have not already made Reconciliation and/or Eucharist then you will soon be able to enrol them.

Correct (2024) enrolment forms are now available on parish website
<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp/sacraments/reconciliation>

Our Sacramental Team can be contacted via: kccpsacraments@gmail.com

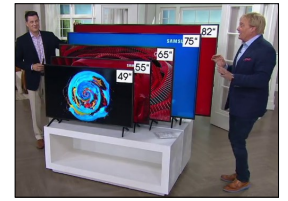


Welcome to our Faith Family

Baptism congratulations to

Kaia Grace Hutchinson
Rosie Toos Thompson
Aurora Wendy Thompson
Lola Marjorie Colquitt

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



Expressions of interest sought for the sponsorship of large electronic screens at

St Patrick's Church, Asquith

Technology has been moving along at quite a pace and it is time to consider changing the 'way we view things' at St Patrick's Church.

It would seem that 2 x 75" (minimum size) and 1 x 65" screen will be required.

If you are in a comfortable enough position to sponsor a screen this would be a great blessing for the parish.

Please consider and contact the office on 9456 2450 or email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

STOP PRESS:

Our thanks to one of our potential Paschal Candle sponsors who has instead donated their \$290 towards the cost of meeting our big screen TV project.
Thank you, so much !



Both our 2024 Paschal Candles have been sponsored.

The generosity of KCCP parishioners seems to be limitless with this years Paschal Candles again being sponsored, in fact we have had 4 offers of sponsorship ... amazing!

We sincerely thank the two anonymous sponsors of our 2024 Paschal Candles.

The candles have been ordered and will arrive in plenty of time for the Easter Vigil.



"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew:18:20

The World Day of Prayer is an annual, ecumenical service, where we collectively pray for a particular themed country. This year it is our turn ('the Catholics') to host the service and it will be held:

At: St Bernard's Catholic Church, Berowra Heights;
On: Friday 1 March 2024; At: 7pm.

All are warmly invited to come and join us in prayer and song. 'Voices from the Waters,' Berowra's acappella group will lead the congregation in deep, meaningful music. A light supper will follow.
Please mark your diary to join us.

Our parish needs volunteers very badly.

So we're asking you to give of your time ~ please can you help?

From Church Cleaners to Lawn Mower-ers, volunteers are very much needed & sought.



Almost every ministry in our parish could benefit from more volunteers. With more volunteers, our existing volunteers might even stay on a bit longer because ... sharing of the load with many, may prevent them leaving a ministry through burn-out! Just like the pleasure of a clean and tidy home, your time, effort and support will be greatly appreciated in the ongoing upkeep of your spiritual home.

Some of our Parish Ministries in need of great assistance are:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| † Readers | † Flower arrangers | † Computer Operator SBB |
| † Senior Servers | † Sacristy Care | And ... |
| † Junior Servers (<i>we need heaps more of these esp. at SPA !</i>) | † Maintenance folk (<i>mowing, gardening, odd jobs etc</i>) | † We'd love to bring back Children's Liturgy at both churches! |
| † Church Cleaners | † Communion to housebound | |

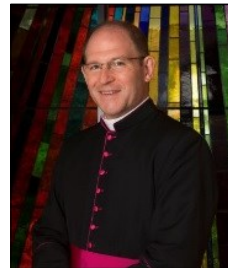
Please consider helping out by speaking to our priests or calling the office for more information on 9456 2450.



Communique from Bishop Anthony Randazzo: 24 Hours for the Lord and Lenten Penance Letter

"My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, I pray in these weeks ahead that our community of the Church of Broken Bay will be open to encounter new life in Christ. This Lent, may we humbly confess our sins, prayerfully perform our penance, and joyfully proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through words and deeds of charity, mercy, and compassion."

Bishop Anthony's Lenten Penance Letter can be found in full at <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/bishop>



The Vocations Office of the Diocese of Broken Bay request you to ~ Save the Date!

They are eagerly anticipating the coming year with hope and excitement and it is with great joy that they invite you to join them on **Friday, February 16, 2024, for their first Holy Hour and Discernment Evening of the year.** Venue and further details to be confirmed.

'Let us begin the new year together in faith, seeking God's guidance as we navigate the path before us.'



SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING ~ Fr David Ranson, VG and PP of Chatswood Parish, will celebrate Mass for Serra at 6pm, at **Our Lady of Dolours Church Chatswood** on **Thursday 22nd February 2024.** Parking is limited at the church but street parking is free on surrounding streets. A light meal and meeting follows Mass with Fr David as guest speaker. **Everyone is welcome.**

Please "come and see". Please remember to pray every day for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians, and novices and for the perseverance of existing vocations. For catering purposes kindly telephone Henry or Anna Leung on **0478 083 116** or email henrywk@yahoo.com.au or telephone Terry Scanlan on **0438 887 295** or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you are planning to attend.



Children's Choir @ St Patrick's

has begun its 2024 season and our regular Friday practices are underway. New people are welcome to join the Choir at any time: come along to practice at 4 to 5pm on Fridays, complete a registration form and that's all there is to it. The Choir sings at 10am Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Young singers from Year 3 to the end of high school are eligible to join. Contact Patricia Smith on 9482 7935 for further information.

Rosters & Readings for W/nd – 17th/18th February 2024 - First Sunday of Lent Year B - Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Matthew Waite	Paul Dryden	Mani Subramany	Phil Daidone	David Massa	Vicente Sanchez
Altar Servers Altar Servers	Martha Askew Piper Thompson	Verity Hartmann Miranda Tablizo	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed	Oscar Braga Mia Nguyen	Volunteer needed Volunteer needed
Reader (1)	Mary Dorahy	Zinta Hartmann	Edwina Subramany	Maria (Cris) Tolentino	Sue Newnham	Simone Noel
Reader (2)	Sophia Smith	Alena Hartmann	Penny Loughland	Jim Fitzgerald	Chris Newnham	Sue Lum
Sacristy/Cleaning/Flowers	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Cecilia (f) Tina Manti (s) <i>additional help needed</i>		Scott Smith, Anastasia Smith, Francis Lizardo, Tess Lizardo <i>additional help needed</i>			
Maintenance	Team A & B - <i>additional help always appreciated</i>		February: Luke Massa, David Mooney			

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*.



Do you hold a current Working With Children Check that needs to be renewed? Then we have some great news! It just got a whole lot easier !!

Working with Children Check renewals go digital.

A Working with Children Check (WWCC) lasts for five years and then needs to be renewed. **In great news for you, our wonderful volunteers, you can now skip the queue and digitally renew your WWCC in as little as 10 minutes.**

Online renewals remove the need for busy workers to visit a Service NSW Centre. The new process is streamlined, efficient and secure and will become the go-to renewal method for essential workers looking to easily meet their compliance obligations and reclaim valuable time.

Enabled by photo verification tech, the process delivers a high-level of security by ensuring the images are destroyed after the real-time check is completed, without the hassle of submitting physical documents. Since launching late last year, more than 3000 customers have successfully renewed their WWCC online and 98% of those who provided feedback gave a 'thumbs up' to the online experience.

For more information please visit: <https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/renew-working-children-check-wwcc>.

Of course, once renewed you still need to advise this office of the renewal so it can be verified internally and the parish's legal obligations are met.

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

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Rebecca Pincott
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