

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

KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 31st December 2023 ~

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph ~ Year B

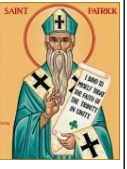
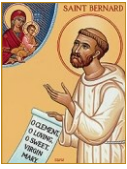
Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

Entrance Antiphon: The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Responsorial Psalm: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Alleluia Verse: Alleluia, alleluia! In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.



Thanks to 2023 and a warm welcome to 2024!

Dear parishioners,



2023 draws to a close tomorrow and we will begin a New Year, 2024. May it be a blessed and peaceful one for us all. Of course, we have many things to look forward to during this year. Each of us will have our own personal wish-list and expectations.

However, in the liturgical calendar of the Church, the first day of the New Year is dedicated to the Solemnity of the Mother of God, which commemorates Mary's role in the mystery of salvation.

The feast of Mary, the Mother of God, underscores that her son, Jesus, is one person, truly God and truly Man. In Jesus, God has assumed our humanity. He knows our pains and struggles and temptations. He is the throne of mercy to which we can turn as He is our Saviour.

Hence, the ushering of the New Year should not just be focused on merriment and festivity, but as Catholics, the New Year should be rich with spiritual meaning for us; one that gives us much gratitude and thankfulness for the past, hope and courage to face the future ahead. We face the future not alone but with Jesus and the intercession of our Blessed Mother.

Today, we also mark the World Day of Peace. Faith in Jesus as the Good News, the light of humanity is also the guarantee to world peace in this troubled and divisive world. He is the source of peace. Unless we are reconciled with God, we cannot find peace within us. The source of division lies in the divided and selfish hearts of humanity.

May Jesus be our future. Let Him be the centre of our lives and our relationships. Let us ground our faith and life in Jesus and on the Word of God as the path to truth, love, and life.

May Mary, the Mother of God, inspire us to a deeper faith and humility.

We wish you a Blessed and Happy 2024 and pray that God will always be our rock and our salvation. *Fr Biju and Fr Joy OSH*

On this Feast of the Holy Family we take time to give thanks *to and for* our Faith Family

Having experienced the wonderful and beautifully presented celebration of Our Saviour's Birth, the talents and gifts (freely given) by so many in our community deserve to be publicly acknowledged.

The only difficulty is where to begin and so, in no particular order, we thank God for His blessings of:

- * our wonderful clergy
- * our maintenance teams and altar societies
- * our cleaners, decorators and flower arrangers
- * our acolytes/senior servers
- * our readers, commentators and welcomers
- * our intercession writers
- * our musicians and cantors
- * our collectors and counters
- * our hospitality team
- * our catechists & helpers
- * our RCIA & RCIC teams
- * You! our amazing congregation and visitors
- * our office staff and volunteers.

Lord,
we thank you for our faith family. Bless each one of us in our uniqueness and let us use our gifts and talents to ensure unity and love within our faith family now and always. Amen.

Anniversary of Ordination Congratulations, Fr Joy & Fr Biju

Wednesday 27 December (Fr Joy) and Thursday 28 December (Fr Biju) were very special and significant dates for our priests.

Dear Fathers, our thoughts and prayers are with you always but especially on your Anniversaries of Ordination to the Priesthood.

May the Eternal Priest, give you both more wisdom and strength to carry out His mission towards the people entrusted to your Pastoral Care.

Fr Joy Thomas Kunnasserry ~ 29th Anniversary of Ordination (1994)
(Rev Dr) Fr Biju Jose ~ 25th Anniversary of Ordination (1998)

'You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek'



New Year Prayer ~ Thank you Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead. Help me live the way I should as each new day I tread. Give me gentle wisdom that I might help a friend. Give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend. The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things. Each new day filled with joy and the happiness it brings. **Amen.**



Are you travelling this New Year? You are important to us and so we ask you to take special care when travelling over the New Year. Enjoy your break, may it be relaxing and enjoyable but most of all please return to us safely.

PASTORAL CENTRE: 1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082; P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights
Hours: 9am - 3.30pm. P: (02) 9456 2450; E: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au; W: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp
 Parish Administrator Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH
 Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper Vol. Office Assistant Jan Favaloro
 Bookkeeper Karen Price Sacramental Team Peta & Phill - kccpsacraments@gmail.com

RECONCILIATION: Fridays: 9.30am at St Bernard's Berowra; Saturdays: 9.30 am at St Patrick's, Asquith
WEEKEND MASSES: St Bernard's, Berowra Heights: Saturday Vigil 5pm and Sunday 9am
 St Patrick's, Asquith: Saturday Vigil 6pm and Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm
WEEKDAY MASSES: St Bernard's, Berowra Heights: 9.15am Wednesday & Friday
 St Patrick's, Asquith: 9am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday



The Parish Office is essentially CLOSED until Tuesday 23 January 2024.

For **urgent assistance only** please E: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

(monitored sporadically for urgent matters only). Or, phone 9456 2450 and leave a message. This will be converted into an audio message and sent as an email to the office. **REMEMBER: If in URGENT NEED ONLY of a priest, call: 0468 341 841.**



Rosters & Readings for W/end – 6th/7th January 2024 ~ (Solemnity) The Epiphany of the Lord ~ Year B ~ Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Garth Graham	Paul Dryden	Mani Subramany	John Messina	Malcolm Cross	Robert Pesavento
Altar Servers	Martha Askew	Miranda Tablizo	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Oscar Braga	Volunteer needed
Altar Servers	Piper Thompson	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Volunteer needed	Lucy Henao Vila	Volunteer needed
Reader (1)	Sophia Smith	Volunteer needed	Edwina Subramany	Vivienne Schreiber	Elizabeth Fernandes	Les Fogden
Reader (2)	Donna Machado	Volunteer needed	Paul Worthington	Russell Schreiber	Susie Gates	Mary Stokes
Sacristy/Cleaning/Flowers	Gen Funk ~ <i>Help urgently needed with cleaning and flower arranging—please contact office.</i>		Meralyn Tarte, Lea Mead, Barbara Folkard, Leticia Wee, Michelle Blanco, Michelle Hwang (f)			
Maintenance	Team A & B - <i>additional help always appreciated</i>		January: Luke Massa, David Mooney <i>additional help always appreciated</i>			

LITURGICAL SERVICES & PASTORAL CARE

Rosary After weekday Masses both Churches
Visits to Housebound Fr Biju & Fr Joy - 9456 2450
Nursing Home Visits By request
Emergency Priest 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours only)
Clergy Days Off Fr Biju — Monday / Fr Joy — Tuesday
Home Visits For House Blessings/Pastoral Requests, please phone the office 9456 2450.
HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If admitted to hospital, please write your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.
 Please notify the Office, if hospitalised and would like our own priests to attend.



Pope's intention for January: *For the Gift of Diversity in The Church:* We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Felice Daidone, Shelly Schreiber; Teresa Ashton

ANNIVERSARY: Patricia O'Malley, David Huntley, Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Christopher Celestino

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Margaret Patterson, Pat Bowden, Sosefo Ali, Bill Holmes, Cita Del Rio, Chris Enright, Philomena & Rex D'Souza, Mary Mathew, Isabel Henson, Chichi Dato, Mary Burns, Georgina Hughes, Patrick Dorahy, Rey Hilario, Roger Okell, John Cosgrove (Snr), Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.

Please NOTE WELL: *It is our practise during January, to delete names from the Sick list whose situation hasn't been updated. Please send an email to: parishkccp@bbccatholic.org.au to have a name reinstated.*



We the people of the **Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay and in Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish**, are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.

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

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