



Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore

Serving the communities of
St Leonard's Naremburn, St Philip Neri Northbridge, St Thomas' Willoughby
Twinned with the Parish of Letefoho, Timor Leste

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Cammeraygal and the Wallumedegal peoples, 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.

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C – 7 August 2022



VOCATIONS WEEK 7th—14th August

This week we celebrate vocations week. We call to mind the great need of our world for Christian people to live out God's will on earth here and now, through marriage and family life, through single life, consecrated life and the priesthood. However we are called.

We currently have 7 seminarians on a path to the priesthood and 5 residents at Joseph House discerning their call. The ordained priesthood is not about a lone minister who possesses something different that others lack but is rather an expression of the priesthood of the human family that is called to become something explicit and active in the ordained minister.

The priest is called to tend the thresholds of life with expectation, great tenderness and compassion. Much of their work is done on the frontiers of people's lives, places of pain, illness and death. It is work of great intimacy where people often share with the priest parts of their life they have told no-one else about. Our priests work day in and day out, quietly, committedly, without drawing much attention to themselves. They enjoy the great privilege of celebrating the Eucharist, an event that opens ultimate presence.

I would encourage you to speak with your families about God's call and to pray for vocations in our Diocese. We need disciples to become prophetic expressions of God's will.

I would like to thank the parents of the sacramental program for their commitment to their children's formation, for attending workshops and joining in the Mass. Our tradition when fully understood has much to offer in our lives and families; great wisdom, compassion and hope, the sacraments are just one expression of this. If we learn and grow in our Christian tradition it has a way to "polish our lens" on the world and relationships and lead us to greater depth and understanding, something we are all in need of. Our communities are incomplete without your presence, we want you to share the particular wisdom of parents, the joy and love of families.

Fr Jose



CONFIRMATION 2022

Children across our Parish are midway through their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Diocesan confirmation program has selected 'Life in the spirit' and 'Confirmation' as the next two concepts to be studied. Here they will explore the fruits and the gifts of the Holy Spirit and what they mean. It also explains how and why they will be anointed and be blessed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Our Parish prays for all candidates and their families as they approach their upcoming Confirmation.

SAINTS & FEASTS

Monday 8th **St Mary of the Cross Mackillop**

Wednesday 10th **St Lawrence**

Thursday 11th **St Clare**

Monday 15th **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Recently Deceased: Amal Faraj, Rosa Romanowski, Dulcina Gois, & Kevin Sudradjat.

Anniversaries: Visko Petkovic (10th) Ralph Selwyn, Nora Chong, Doris Seeto, Lupo Guerrero, Salvatore Orsini, Luka Banicevic (10th) Belmonte Lucia, Giuseppe Parino & Rado Petkovic.

Please Pray For: Fr Martin Aye Ngwe, Remegio Sioson, Elipdio Jala, & Clifford Sun.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING

Wis 18:6-9

A reading from the book of Wisdom
Just as you struck our enemies, you made us glorious by calling us to you.

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage. This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you. The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers. ‘

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12

(R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own.

(R.)

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We will look for the city designed and built by God.

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going.

By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God. It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready: You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 12:32-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

See that you are prepared.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

‘Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

‘See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

Peter said, ‘Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?’ The Lord replied, ‘What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master’s arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, “My master is taking his time coming”, and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

‘The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.’



Parish Priest

Rev Fr Jose Philip OSH
jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priests

Rev Fr Biju Mathew
Rev Fr Chima Ofor

RNSH Chaplain

Rev Fr Peter Dowd

Deacon

Rev Dr. Anthony Gooley

Parish Missionary Council

Chair: Bev Jones

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Lisa Lewis

Catechist Co-ordinator

Henny Theodorus

Finance

Ilona Dudek

St Leonard's Church

Cnr Donnelly & Willoughby Rds
Naremburn

St Philip Neri Church

224 Sailors Bay Rd
Northbridge

St Thomas' Church

Cnr Horsley Ave & High St
Willoughby

St Philip Neri Primary School

67 Baringa Rd, Northbridge
Principal: Fiona Bylsma
9958 7136

St Thomas' Primary School

2 Horsley Ave, Willoughby
Principal: Enrica Bova
9958 7308

YOUTH GROUP GAMES NIGHT

Join us on 7 August after 6pm Mass at St Leonard's for LNS Youth and Young Adults' Games Night. Bring your favourite board game. Pizza dinner will be provided. **Adeline - Youth Leader**

SEMINARIAN BENEFIT DINNER

Please come and support our Broken Bay Seminarians and help bring awareness to the importance of vocations within our Diocese on Saturday 13 August at 6.30 pm at Harrington Hall at Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood parish, 94 Archer Street, Chatswood. Parking available along Kirk Street, St Pius X (entry through Kirk Street). For tickets: [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CBBGF](https://www.trybooking.com/CBBGF) or contact 9410 9000, email chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au OR vocationsministry@bbcatholic.org.au



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Will be celebrated at the following Masses.

Monday 15th there will be Mass at the following times:

9am St Thomas'

9am St Leonards

9.15am St Philip Neri, and 7:30pm St Thomas'.



We still have some students available for sponsorship. If you would like to sponsor a child and help them complete their education in Letefoho, please contact Lorna at admin@lets.net.au or Georgina at gcm.lough@gmail.com. Thank you again, for your wonderful support of the students of Letefoho. Your generosity is so greatly appreciated by the students and their families.



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

COMBATING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER

Please help us
fundraise for
CatholicCare's
homelessness
services across the
Diocese

Donor envelopes available during Mass
Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 August.
Or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/homelessness

NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS WEEK

There is no place like home – but for many having a home is not a reality. The causes may be diverse, but the impact is the same – a loss of dignity and a sense of hopelessness. Thank you to our Parishes for helping us fundraise for CatholicCare's homelessness services. A donation drive will take place during Homelessness Week on 6th & 7th August. Thank you in advance for supporting this important Diocesan initiative.



AUGUST 7-14 IS NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK.

This week we are called to pray for those who are searching for their vocation in life. Let us ask the Lord to enlighten them and give them the grace and courage to respond to His call. We are all called to a particular vocation (marriage, consecrated life, priesthood or a single life of service). May we have the strength to follow His will.

JESUIT MISSION BAZAAR (2022)

Parents & friends connected to the St Philip Neri school and parish run a fundraising BBQ at the Jesuit Mission Bazaar (aka the 'Indian Bazaar') to support the work of the Jesuit Mission's life changing programs in 12 countries, including India, Cambodia, Timor-Leste and Myanmar.

This year the Bazaar will be held at St Ignatius College Riverview on 10 September.

It is a fun day to connect with old friends and fellow parishioners for a great cause. Please sign up for a 1 hour shift with the BBQ team here: <https://signup.com/go/kmjCAWC>

Any questions? Send to northbridgebbq@gmail.com



CATHOLIC
PARISH OF
LOWER NORTH SHORE

SPECIAL SPEAKING EVENT 23 AUGUST

Liz MacKinlay, Mary's House

Our speaker this year is inspired by the Bishops Social Justice statement for 2023 **Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse** the full statement will be released on the 6th August and can be accessed [here](#).

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse points out that the roots of domestic and family violence "lie in the abuse of power to control and dominate others" and that "this stands in contrast to the relationships to which God calls us". Our relationships should be "marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control".

Liz has over 25 years' experience in the not-for-profit sector, with extensive senior executive experience internationally and in Australia. She has held roles with a variety of NFP's including with World Vision International as Global Vice President of Strategy, with World Vision Australia as Director of Indigenous development, with Australian Doctors International as CEO, International Red Cross Society in Cambodia as a gender specialist as well as serving on a number of NFP Boards in Australia.

Liz is a specialist in gender equity and reducing violence against women and children and is committed to children's rights to care, participation and protection. She is an advocate for unlocking the skills and experience of corporates globally and in Australia for the benefit of communities, with a focus on strengthening communities through business. Under Liz's leadership, Australian Business Volunteers is implementing an innovative approach to community-led recovery post the 2019-2020 Black Summer bushfires across NSW and Victoria.

Liz is CEO of Australian Business Volunteers and is a Founder and current Chair of the Board of Mary's House Services, a domestic violence service on Sydney's lower north shore.

PARISH BULLETIN

Receive the weekly bulletin directly to your inbox! The parish bulletin is available on the website each Friday afternoon <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/lower-north-shore/news-events/parish-bulletins> or you can provide the office with your email and we send out a copy directly to you. The online version is often filled with information and events we can't fit into the printed version.

LAUGHTER AND FRIENDSHIPS TO BE FOUND, EACH WEDNESDAY IN THE PARISH HALL

Each Wednesday between 9.30am and 11.00 am, you are welcome to drop in to the Parish Hall in Willoughby. There is fun, laughter and good company. Wheeled access is available. Enquiries Marie Harris 0417 077020.

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Sunday 07 Aug 2022

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the middle of Ordinary Time we discover a theme normally associated with the end of the liturgical year and the season of Advent – vigilance in anticipation of the return of the master. This vigilance demands that we live lives of faith. We do not know when God will open the door of our existence and call us into a deeper realisation of the sacred dimension of life itself. Vigilance is a characteristic of a Christian at all times, for all times. We must be ever vigilant.

While we live in the expectation of the coming of God in the future, we also live now in the presence of God. This means that God is present with us now, as a companion in our lives. It also means that this presence is the context within which our lives unfold. However, until all things are brought to fulfilment, we live in this presence by faith. Faith and hope are intimately joined. As believers we are called to trust in the promises of God, even when what is promised seems impossible.

We are assured that we will be blessed, but we can never be sure of the exact nature of the blessing. In faith, we put our trust in God and then carry out our responsibilities. In faith we wait for the Lord, who is our help and our shield, not really knowing under what guise he will come to us. Faith is both the cost of living as a disciple and the reward.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Dianne Bergant CSA was a Professor of Biblical Studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where she taught from 1978 to 2014. She holds a BS in Elementary Education from Marian College, Fond du Lac, WI; an MA and PhD in Biblical Languages and Literature from St Louis University. Amongst other things, she served as President of Catholic Biblical Association of America (2000-2001) and has been awarded honorary doctorates from several other universities. She was an active member of the Chicago Catholic/Jewish Scholars Dialogue (1988-2017) and sat on the editorial boards of *The Bible Today* (1979-2005), *Biblical Theology Bulletin* (1990-2014), *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* (1992-2001), *New Theology Review* (1997-2003), *Teaching Theology and Religion* (2003-2005), and *Chicago Studies* (2003-2009). She has taught and lectured in many places in the United States and abroad and has written numerous books, articles and chapters in books.

Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Rev Dr Christine Redwood is the Lead Pastor at Seaforth Baptist Church. She is actively involved in the Baptist denomination in NSW & ACT and has served on the Assembly Council and the Public Engagement Taskforce. Christine recently completed her PhD in preaching, the Old Testament and feminist hermeneutics. In 2011 she was the preaching intern for Morling College and works there as an adjunct lecturer. Outside of work, she loves spending time with her nieces. Christine loves being creative and is passionate about films, theatre, writing, and most of all, communicating God's story with others. [LISTEN HERE](#)

Vox Populi 04 August 2022

This week the Australian bishops released their annual Social Justice Statement. It is called *Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse*.

Sadly, domestic and family violence is still a scourge on our communities and although it affects people of all ages and backgrounds the Statement data clearly identifies women and children as those who are particularly vulnerable.

We also know domestic violence and abuse often results in homelessness. A person is homeless when they don't have a fixed, regular or adequate night time residence. They don't have the security, stability, privacy and safety of their own space. Perceptions of the homeless and poor are often inaccurate and don't reflect reality.

Two out of every five people experiencing homelessness are under 25, and there has been an increase in people aged 55 and over who have no regular place to sleep. We might not see many people sleeping rough in our Diocese – only 7% sleep on the streets, but people are couch surfing, sleeping in shelters, or in cars, especially women and children. Housing is a basic and fundamental human need, the lack of which can have cascading social and health complications. And if the vulnerable and disadvantaged are doing it tough now, basic cost of living increases must be fueling their financial stress. This week across Australia is Homelessness Week. In our Diocese, CatholicCare Broken Bay has launched a new annual initiative focusing on homelessness services. You will hear more about this initiative in your parishes and we encourage your support where possible. This campaign will culminate next Monday 8 August, the feast day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop who devoted her life to the poor, established schools and places of refuge for the working class and disadvantaged.

Perhaps we can remember this weekend some words of Australia's first saint: "Be a gift of love and compassion for one another."