



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.

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C – 16th October 2022



THE URGENT WIDOW

The judge in this story only gives in to the distraught widow when she threatens 'to give him a black eye' (in the Greek)! Jesus is *not* saying God is like the judge who needs to be battered into submission. Jesus *is* saying we need to pray like that widow. Think of what widows in Syria or Iraq are praying for tonight. Then think of one's own prayer. God is not the slightest bit interested in my usual trivial, self-promoting prayers. But He is interested in my being such a woeful pray-er and wants to change me.

Recall an incident of really urgent, intense prayer. Most likely, it was to do with a traumatic accident or fatal disease of a baby, of a spouse, of a parent too young. Apply that intense urgency to those in the world crying out: 'give us this day our daily bread'. In short, pray The Lord's Prayer with meaning.

We could pause for a moment to pray to live out the consequences of the 'Our Father' lest we are threatened with a black eye!

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Farewell Jessica and Caitlin: After 7 wonderful years guiding the Sacramental program at Lower North Shore, Jessica has made the difficult decision to step away from her ministry in November. In her time with us Jessica has brought great creativity and flair to the sacramental program, working with the tensions of busy parish families and a heart felt desire to have children and parents grow in their love of God, and knowledge of our faith as they approach each sacrament. Jessica has also had responsibility for all weddings and Baptisms in the Parish, ensuring each family is prepared and known and that the clergy are supported in every aspect of the families preparation and that families have everything they need from candles to certificates before they ever turn up to one of our churches. Her knowledge of processes and attention to detail is amazing.

What you may not be aware of is Jessica is most admired in her role as "Head of Catering" from the amazing cakes she roles out for every staff birthday or Clergy departure, to catering the Parish Volunteers Thank You Cocktail Party, to throwing together a mouth-watering lunch for whoever is in the Parish Office, with 3 ingredients and 15minutes to prepare.

Catlin has been here in our parish for the past 5 years as our wonderful parish secretary. Catlin has been the extraordinary face of our parish fulfilling this role with her pastoral and administrative skills. We thank you Catlin for faithfully serving this community with your caring and compassionate nature. I would also like to acknowledge her dedication to organising the various maintenance works within our parish buildings, this is no small task and Catlin made sure nothing was missed. We will all miss your friendly presence and your kind and caring personality.

Catlin and Jessica the richness you have both contributed to our parish community is greatly appreciated, we wish you every blessing for your future endeavours. To celebrate their time with us please join us in saying goodbye on the 13th of November at St Thomas' 9.30am Mass with a special morning tea.

Fr Jose

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Recently Deceased: Frances "Norma" Kearney, Dr Raymond Asprey, Veronica Walsh & Frana Zaknic.

Anniversaries: Michael Dunn (2nd), Petar Pavisic (2nd) & Giuseppe Simeti.

Please Pray For: Clifford Sun & Kathleen Joseph.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 16:6,8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING

Ex 17:8-13

A reading from the book of Exodus

As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage.

The Amalekites came and attacked Israel at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, 'Pick out men for yourself, and tomorrow morning march out to engage Amalek. I, meanwhile, will stand on the hilltop, the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him and marched out to engage Amalek, while Moses and Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. As long as Moses kept his arms raised, Israel had the advantage; when he let his arms fall, the advantage went to Amalek. But Moses arms grew heavy, so they took a stone and put it under him and on this he sat, Aaron and Hur supporting his arms, one on one side, one on the other; and his arms remained firm till sunset. With the edge of the sword Joshua cut down Amalek and his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 120. R. v.2

(R.) Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes to the mountains: from where shall come my help?

My help shall come from the Lord who made heaven and earth. (R.)

May he never allow you to stumble!

Let him sleep not, your guard. No, he sleeps not nor slumbers, Israel's guard. (R.)

The Lord is your guard and your shade; at your right side he stands. By day the sun shall not smite you nor the moon in the night. (R.)

The Lord will guard you from evil, he will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming both now and for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

2 Tm 3:14 – 4:2

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

This is how the people of God become equipped and ready for every good work.

You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true; remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the holy scriptures – from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people's lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work.

Before God and before Christ Jesus who is to be judge of the living and the dead, I put this duty to you, in the name of his Appearing and of his kingdom: proclaim the message and, welcome or unwelcome, insist on it. Refute falsehood, correct error, call to obedience – but do all with patience and with the intention of teaching.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Heb 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of God is living and active; it probes the thoughts and motives of our heart.

Alleluia!



Friday 4th November at St Philip Neri a small group will be offering a chance to experience a service in the style of Taizé. Take 40 minutes out from your busy week to sit in stillness and hear the beautiful music of Taizé. Pray with other Christians from our local community. Hospitality from 6:30pm in the Hall.

GOSPEL

Lk 18:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

God will see those who cry to him vindicated.

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and never lose heart. 'There was a judge in a certain town' he said 'who had neither fear of God nor respect for man. In the same town there was a widow who kept on coming to him and saying, "I want justice from you against my enemy!" For a long time he refused, but at last he said to himself, "Maybe I have neither fear of God nor respect for man, but since she keeps pestering me I must give this widow her just rights, or she will persist in coming and worry me to death."'

And the Lord said, 'You notice what the unjust judge has to say? Now will not God see justice done to his chosen who cry to him day and night even when he delays to help them? I promise you, he will see justice done to them, and done speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?'



MOST HOLY ROSARY

We have a special 10 day rosary celebration in our

parish from 22nd Oct– 31st Oct 7pm at St Thomas' Church. I would like to invite you and your families to join us during this 10 days of rosary prayer.

Fr Jose





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

Parish Missionary Council

Chair: Bev Jones

Parish Office

182 High St, Willoughby
P: 9958 8846
E: office@lins.org.au
www.bbcatholic.org.au/lins

Parish Office Hours

Mon, Tue - Thur, Fri: 9:00am -
3:00pm

Parish Secretary

Caitlin Douglas

Sacramental Co-ordinator

Jessica Bousimon

Director of Liturgical Music

Lisa Lewis

Catechist Co-ordinator

Henny Theodorus

Finance

Ilona Dudek
Tuesday Only

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

VACANCY

Parish Secretary – Lower North Shore Parish

Permanent, part-time role

Could you see yourself as the face of our Parish community, providing a sense of warmth and welcome to visitors?

The Lower North Shore Parish is seeking to recruit a part-time Parish Secretary, Monday to Friday 9am – 3pm. This role plays an important part in the Parish team, providing support for Parish communications, administration, financial processes, Parish property, compliance and Diocesan support.

The ideal candidate will have excellent people skills, a comprehensive knowledge of office administration processes and procedures and a sound understanding of Microsoft Office Suite, MYOB, bookkeeping or accounting practices.

An ability to work autonomously while remaining a team player, with a commitment to be accountable for performance, and an ability to work collaboratively across a wide spectrum of stakeholders, supported by a good understanding of, and commitment to, Catholic values and teachings will be crucial to your success.

If you have high developed administration skills coupled with well-developed relational and rapport building skills and this role interests you, please email a brief cover letter and CV to jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au.

Applications close **31.10.2022.**

VACANCY

Sacramental Coordinator

Permanent, part-time role

Up to 15 hours per week (must have availability for after-hours and weekends)

The Lower North Shore Parish is seeking to recruit a part-time Sacramental Coordinator, up to 15 hours per week. This role plays an important part in the Parish team, coordinating support services to enhance the Sacramental program ministry within the Parish.

The ideal candidate will have relevant experience and/or qualifications in Sacramental Programs, experience working with volunteers in a Catholic environment, comfort working autonomously and an understanding of the need for accountability and ownership in a role, excellent administration and time management skills and proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite. You'll also have a good understanding of, and commitment to, Catholic values and teachings.

The role does allow for flexibility with the working schedule, however you will need to have availability for after-hours and weekends.

You will be working closely with Parish schools and those schools within the Lower North Shore community to strengthen the relationship between school and Parish.

If this role interests you, please email a brief cover letter and CV to

jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au.

Applications close **31.10.2022.**

As you might have heard, the Laudato Si' Movement in partnership with Off the Fence Productions has collaborated with the Vatican to release the long awaited Laudato Si' film – The Letter. The film hopes to bring Pope Francis' vision of integral ecology to life!

On **October 24th at 6pm AEST/ACDT, 5pm AEDT and 3pm AWST** we invite you to attend an online screening and discussion hosted by **Caritas – Catholic Earthcare, ISMAPNG and Being with God in Nature.**

Join us in celebration of the release of the film! Afterwards, a discussion will take place on what our call to action is. Representatives of all host organisations will be present at the discussion.

Registration via the trybooking link is essential: <https://www.trybooking.com/CDIYI>

You can view the trailer here: [Official Trailer](#) | [The Letter: Laudato Si Film](#)

MASS/ SERVICE/ SCHEDULE	ST THOMAS' WILLOUGHBY	ST LEONARD'S NAREMBURN	ST PHILIP NERI NORTHBRIDGE
Sunday Masses	6pm Vigil Saturday 8am & 9:30am Sunday	10:30am & 6pm Sunday	5pm Vigil Saturday & 9am Sunday
Weekday Masses	9am Mon to Sat	9am Tue -Thu - Sat	9:15am Mon - Wed - Fri
Royal North Shore Hospital Chapel	Weekday Mass Thursday & Friday 1pm	Weekend Mass 4pm Sunday	
Reconciliation	Saturday 5:15pm - 5:45pm	Saturday 9:30am - 9:45am	Saturday 4:45pm
Youth Mass		1 st & 3 rd Sunday of the month at 6pm	
Children's Liturgy	During 9:30am Mass Each Sunday in school term.		9am- 23rd October 9am- 27th November
Community Masses		Italian Mass- 1st Friday 7pm PNGCCAA 1 st Saturday 7pm	
Healing Mass/ Anointing Novena to the Sacred Heart	9am Mass 1 st Friday	9am Mass 3rd Saturday	
Adoration	Tuesday after 9am Mass During School Term		
Baptisms	11:00am 2nd & 4th Sundays	12pm 4th Sunday	12pm 3rd Sunday
Baptism Prep Parish Office	2nd Tuesday of the month 11am 3rd Tuesday of the month 7pm		
Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group CCCR	St Thomas' Parish Hall 7:15pm Tuesday Evenings Enquiries 0419 977 531		
Legion of Mary	Meets every Friday in the 'Blue Room' at the Parish Hall 9:45am All Welcome		

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Email: info@willoughbyglass.com.au
Web: www.willoughbyglass.com.au
Tel: (02) 9882 3648
Fax: (02) 9882 3649

WilloughbyGlass

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France Booth
9 High St, Willoughby NSW 2068
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mobile: +61 432 320 701
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**THE ARETE PROGRAM, FOR 2023 ,
SYDNEY BASED - EXPLORE THIS OPPORTUNITY, IT IS OPEN TO YOU.**

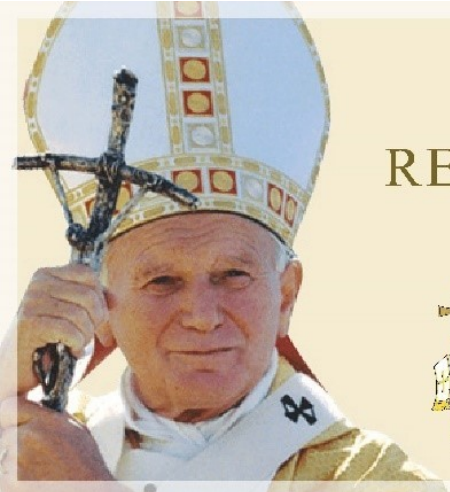
Would you love to see our parish renewed, thriving and a hub of faith filled disciples bringing Christ's love to all? Wondering if there are any others in our parish community who feel the same way? Well there are!

Visit their website to learn more- [applications close on October 31st](https://aretecentre.org) .

<https://aretecentre.org>

Have a listen to their recent information night.

[View the video recording of the Areté Centre Virtual Open Night: 'Unless the Lord Builds the House'](#) If any of these rings bells for you please get in touch with the parish office and connect with others in our community with the same passions.





INSTALLATION MASS

RELIC of SAINT POPE JOHN PAUL II

**at St PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
EAST GOSFORD**

TIME: 11:00am
DATE: 22nd October 2022



On October 22, Bishop Anthony will be installing a relic of Saint Pope John Paul II at St. Patrick's Church, East Gosford. At this Mass, St. Patrick's will be established as a Shrine, with a blessing of the associated Pastoral Centre. The Shrine aims to invoke new inspiration for evangelisation, offering pilgrims a form of devotion that is not common in the Australian context. Those who attend the Mass are eligible to receive a partial indulgence, and the Shrine will be open during the day for prayer and veneration. A celebration with refreshments will follow.

All are warmly welcome to join in this wonderful event. Please register your attendance at JP11.Centre@bbcatholic.org.au, including your full name and the number of people attending with you. Large groups (especially bus groups - e.g., from parishes and schools) are asked to make contact early to ensure arrangements can be made.

Date: Saturday 22 October 2022

Time: 11:00 am

Venue: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 76 York Street, East Gosford

More information is available at: www.bbcatholic.org.au/gosford/JP11



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

Save the date!!! Our Christmas Mass and Celebration will be Wednesday 14th December from 11am.
Enquiries Marie Harris 0417 077020.

JOIN US AT THE LORETO NORMANHURST SPRING FAIR!

Spring Fair will be held on Sunday, 30 October 2022 from **10am - 4pm**.

The day will be filled with rides, food and market stalls, Battle of the Bands entertainment, Boarders' Farmers Market, Build-a-Bear, games, activities and more! Visit our website to see how you can win a 2022 Hyundai Kona as well as some other terrific raffle prizes!

All members of the community and local area are invited to join in the fun of the day.

Please visit www.loretonh.nsw.edu.au for more information about the Fair.



A Second Gaze

The first gaze is seldom compassionate. It's too busy weighing and feeling itself: "How will this affect me?" or "What reaction does my self-image demand now?" or "How can I regain control of this situation?" Let's admit that we all start there. Only after God has taught us how to live "undefended" can we immediately stand with and for others, and for the moment.

It has taken me much of my life to begin to have the second gaze. By nature I have a critical mind and a demanding heart, and I am so impatient. These are both my gifts and my curses, yet it seems I cannot have one without the other. They are both good teachers. A life of solitude and silence allows them both, and invariably leads me to the second gaze. The gaze of compassion, looking out at life from the place of Divine Intimacy, is really all I have, and all I have to give, although I don't always do it.

I named my little hermitage "East of Eden" because of its significance in the life of Cain, after he killed his brother Abel. God sent Cain to this place after he had failed and sinned. Yet ironically God gave him a loving and protective mark: "So YHWH put a mark on Cain so that no one would do him harm. He sent him to wander in the land of Nod, East of Eden" (Genesis 4:15–16). I have always felt God's mark and protection.

By my late 50s I had plenty of opportunities to see my own failures, shadow, and sin. The first gaze at myself was critical, negative, and demanding, not at all helpful to me or to others. I am convinced that such guilt and shame are never from God. They are merely protestations of the false self when shocked by its own poverty. God leads by compassion, never by condemnation. God offers us the grace to weep over our sins more than to perfectly overcome them, to humbly recognize our littleness rather than to become big. This kind of weeping and wandering keeps us both askew and awake at the same time.

My later life call is to "wander in the land of Nod," enjoying God's so-often-proven love and protection. I look back at my life, and everybody's life, the One-and-Only-Life, marked happily and gratefully with the sign of Cain. Contemplation and compassion are finally coming together. This is my second gaze. It is well worth waiting for, because only the second gaze sees fully and truthfully. It sees itself, the other, and even God with God's own compassionate eyes. True action must spring from this place. Otherwise, most of our action is merely *reaction*, and cannot bear "fruit that will last" (John 15:16).

Adapted from Richard Rohr, "Contemplation and Compassion: The Second Gaze," *Radical Grace* 25, no. 4, *The Eight Core Principles* (Fall 2012): 13–17.

Many years ago I remember hearing the story of a charismatic prayer meeting which went all night. Apparently the leader was convinced that, 'God wants to do a strong and powerful work here tonight and we have to show we are worthy.' So he insisted that everyone stay until it happened. By dawn nothing had overtly occurred, so the leader declared, 'God has worked hundreds of miracles here tonight – on the inside.' He may have been right, but it sounded like mystical spin doctoring to me! What worries me about his story is that it can portray God as a remote and severe figure whom we need to convince that we are serious about him before he will be moved by our plight.

Today's Gospel is often used to support this idea. The persistent widow gets her way because she nags the judge into submission. While Jesus praises her endurance, he tells the disciples that God is NOT like the judge, but rather that God will quickly attend to our needs, rather than see us cry out all night.

There is a long and venerable tradition in the Church that prayer can influence God's will. Our belief in the power of intercession is predicated on it. This tradition holds that God regularly and actively intervenes to effect good outcomes in the world. In this school God is waiting to be asked or have us ask others to petition him.

The problem with this school is how much an all-knowing, unchanging God changes his mind in regard to our petitions. Furthermore God's interventions in the world are fine if all the decisions are running our way, but what happens when they run against us?

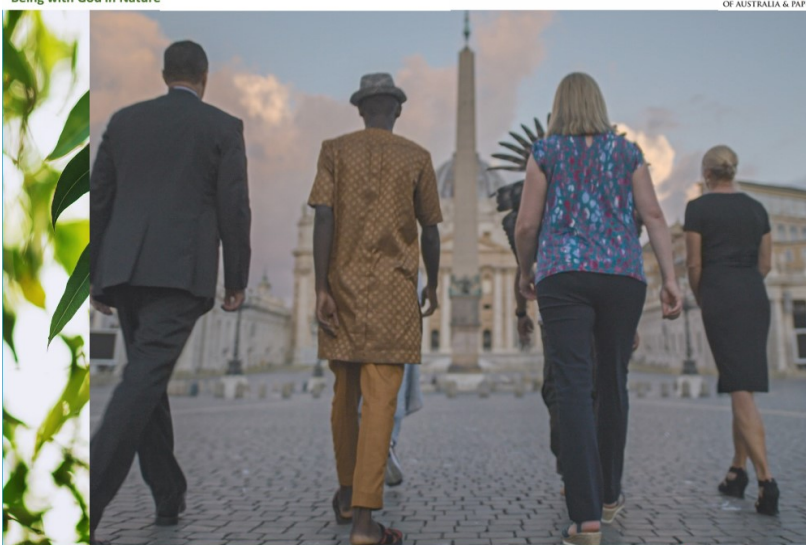
This approach can downplay free will. It can minimise our role, with God, to discern our options and choose carefully. If most of our petitions are focused on what God can do, it shifts all the responsibility (and the blame) on to God.

An equally long and venerable tradition in the Church, however, is that prayer changes us. This tradition has had less airplay. Fasting, abstinence and pilgrimages, for example, do not change God, but are meant to change the person who undertakes them. These things can enable us to be more responsive or receptive to whatever happens in life. I think this tradition needs to be reclaimed.

The idea of prayer changing us, changes our prayer – giving it greater dynamism and urgency. While we may not know the mind or will of God, we often know our own thoughts and desires. We can usually pinpoint what needs recrafting or reshaping in us so that we may live out the goodness and love of God more clearly. Confronting and converting these obstacles, with God, can see our prayer at its boldest and bravest. At these times we can enjoy God's healing and forgiveness. And because conversion is a lifetime process, Jesus encourages us not to lose heart but to pray always and hold on to faith even when the going gets tough.

John Powell once said, 'God knows what we want and need before we open our mouths. In prayer, then, he does not need a performance from us. He longs for an act of love.' May this Eucharist help us to move away from demanding that God change his mind or will to allowing his love to keep converting and changing us.

© Richard Leonard SJ



As you might have heard, the Laudato Si' Movement in partnership with Off the Fence Productions has collaborated with the Vatican to release the long awaited Laudato Si' film – The Letter. The film hopes to bring Pope Francis' vision of integral ecology to life!

The film features frontline champions from around the world. The protagonists represent 4 key voices that are not being heard – the voice of the Indigenous, the voice of the young, the voice of the poor and the voice of nature. The movie shows the coming together of these voices with Pope Francis.

On **October 24th at 6pm AEST/ACDT, 5pm AEDT and 3pm AWST** we invite you to attend an online screening and discussion hosted by **Caritas – Catholic Earthcare, ISMAPNG and Being with God in Nature.**

Join us in celebration of the release of the film! Afterwards, a discussion will take place on what our call to action is. Representatives of all host organisations will be present at the discussion.

Registration via the trybooking link is essential:



Caritas Australia, Catholic Earthcare, Being With God In Nature and ISMAPNG invites you to an online screening of 'The Letter' on Monday October 24th from 5pm AEST/ACDT, 6pm AEDT, 3pm AWST. Bookings are essential via the link <https://www.trybooking.com/CDIYI>

POSITIONS VACANT AT THE DIOCESE

Administration Assistant to Director, Evangelisation Broken Bay

The Chancery is recruiting for a permanent full-time highly skilled Administration Assistant to provide executive support to a busy Director. You'll be providing support to a dynamic, faith-driven, purposeful manager, with a wide range of responsibilities from the general administrative to in-person support for team meetings, communications and conferences and events – you'll see it all! If you have experience providing personal assistance to a senior executive coupled with sound administration experience, this might be the role for you.

This role is noted as full-time, however there is flexibility with the working schedule for the right candidate. Applications close **Friday 21 October 2022**.

Clergy Administration Officer

The Chancery is seeking to recruit a permanent full-time Clergy Administration Officer. You'll be responsible for maintaining clergy records including personnel files & clergy databases, process visa applications, marriage celebrant registrations, clergy private health insurance membership, coordinate clergy vehicle arrangements, administer arrangements for international clergy and those departing the Diocese, clergy retirement and deceased estates. The role works collaboratively with clergy, Chancery and parish staff providing administrative support for clergy events. Comprehensive administration experience coupled with excellent organisational skills and an ability to manage priorities are crucial to success in this role.

This role is noted as full-time, however there is flexibility with the working schedule for the right candidate. Applications close **Friday 21 October 2022**.

Development & Relationships Manager

The Chancery is seeking a results-driven Development & Partnerships Manager working in our Office for Communications to cultivate and grow fundraising income streams and to promote the Diocese of Broken Bay across a range of activities.

The role is responsible for transforming the Diocese's fundraising and community engagement programs, achieving uplift in current financial support and adopting a best-practice approach to supporter experiences. You'll work with clergy, Chancery and parish staff to build on existing relationships, developing strategy and driving engagement and lifetime value from donors & supporters. The role is broad and will suit someone looking to build on their solid knowledge in individual giving/bequests fundraising with strong relationship and collaboration skills, you will be strategic, have good judgement and ability to meet targets and manage budgets. Strong empathy and compassion with a genuine passion for the Catholic Church is essential, supported by your strategic mindset and ability to analyse information to produce fundraising strategies.

If you're tenacious and adaptable with a solution-focussed attitude, have an ability to take initiative and a positive can-do attitude with strong work ethic we'd love to hear from you. Applications close **Friday 21 October 2022**.

CCD Administration Assistant - Central Coast location

This permanent full-time role provides general administrative, clerical, database and Parish CCD training support as well as compliance and legislative support. A personal commitment to Catholic teachings, ethos and values, an ability to quickly develop an understanding of Special Religious Education (SRE) ministry in a Catholic context, supported by a comprehensive knowledge of office administration processes and high level skills in contemporary applications including Microsoft Office Suite will be essential to your success.

This role is noted as full-time, however there is flexibility with the working schedule for the right candidate. Applications close **Friday 14 October 2022**.

For further information on these roles including to obtain a copy of the position description and details on how to apply, please contact recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au.

Join the MGL Sisters on retreat as we deepen in God's love, receive restoration and be empowered to live life wide open to the Holy Spirit! The retreat will include inputs, the sacraments, prayer times and times for spiritual conversation with others. It's for men and women aged 18+ and is a great chance to rest and restore before the final two months of the year are upon us.

Date: 28th to 30th October

Venue: Carmel House (345 St. Andrews Rd, Varroville)

[More info and register](#)