



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.



TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 25TH JUNE 2023

FEAST OF ST THOMAS' PATRON SAINT OF ST THOMAS' CHURCH AND SCHOOL

ST. THOMAS was born a Jew and was called to be one of the twelve Apostles. His birth and death dates are unknown, but his **feast day is celebrated July 3**. He lived before the formal establishment of the Catholic Church but is recognized as the patron saint of architects.

He was a dedicated but impetuous follower of Christ. When Jesus said He was returning to Judea to visit His sick friend Lazarus, Thomas immediately exhorted the other Apostles to accompany Him on the trip which involved certain danger and possible death because of the mounting hostility of the authorities. At the Last Supper, when Christ told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them to which they also might come because they knew both the place and the way, Thomas pleaded that they did not understand and received the beautiful assurance that Christ is the

Way, the Truth, and the Life. St. Thomas is best known for his role in verifying the Resurrection of his Master. Thomas' unwillingness to believe that the other Apostles had seen their risen Lord on the first Easter Sunday earned him the title of "doubting Thomas." Eight days later, on Christ's second apparition, Thomas was gently rebuked for his scepticism and furnished with the evidence he had demanded - seeing in Christ's hands the point of the nails. Thomas even put his fingers in the nail holes and his hand into Christ's side. After verifying the wounds were true, St. Thomas became convinced of the reality of the Resurrection and exclaimed, "My Lord and My God," thus making a public Profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus. St. Thomas is also mentioned as being present at another Resurrection appearance of Jesus - at Lake Tiberias, when a miraculous catch of fish occurred. This is all that we know about St. Thomas from the New Testament. Tradition says that at the dispersal of the Apostles after Pentecost this saint was sent to evangelize to the Parthians, Medes, and Persians. He ultimately reached India, carrying the Faith to the Malabar coast, which still boasts a large native population calling themselves "Christians of St. Thomas." According to tradition, Thomas was killed in an accident when a fowler shot at a peacock and struck Thomas instead. Following his death, some of his relics were taken to Edessa while the rest were kept in what is now known as India. They can still be found within the San Thome Basilica in Chennai, Mylapore, India.

Taken from Catholic Online website.

PRAYER

O Glorious St. Thomas, your grief for Jesus was such that it would not let you believe he had risen unless you actually saw him and touched his wounds. But your love for Jesus was equally great and it led you to give up your life for him. Pray for us that we may grieve for our sins which were the cause of Christ's sufferings. Help us to spend ourselves in his service and so earn the title of "blessed" which Jesus applied to those who would believe in him without seeing him. Amen.

Please join us to celebrate the feast of St Thomas' along with our local St Thomas' Willoughby School community for 9.30 mass followed by a family BBQ.

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 27:8-9

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

First Reading

Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
Jeremiah said: 'I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, "Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!" But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14

(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face, that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons. I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me. **(R.)**

2. This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**

3. The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rom 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses,

even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses.

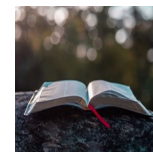
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the rooftops. 'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. 'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'



Online Prayer and Reflection Program

Looking to further your faith and spiritual development now that Pentecost is over? Come and join a small friendly group to reflect on the six weekly Heartbeat Resources Post-Pentecost program on Thursday evenings 6-7pm online, commencing on 29th June. The program uses Lectio Divina to gently break open each of the Sunday gospels in the series to reveal the word of God. Once this program has finished, we will continue with further programs for the rest of the year and we also occasionally meet in person for a meal in the local area.

For further information, please contact Suzy Teutsch on 0418 601181 or email: suzyteutsch@hotmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Recently Deceased: Angelina Lucia, and Mary Winifred O'Neill
Anniversaries: Jakica Petkovic, Marica-Mara Anic, Kuzma Marinovic and Audrey Hurrel

Sick: Bishop Peter Ingham and Julie Wong

Cuppa N' Conversation

We gather in the Front Room of the Parish Hall

every Wednesday between 9.30am and 11.00am.



All welcome.

Marie Harris
0417 077 020

Missing keys. Left in St. Thomas Church 3 keys on a green lanyard with a Leggo figure. Please return to parish office.



St Vincent de Paul Society

Winter Appeal



"What if your Mum, Grandma, or sister became homeless?"

women over 55 are one of the fastest growing demographics of people at risk of or experiencing homelessness across Australia!

Your Donation has an Impact

Sleeping rough on the streets on long, cold nights can put older women at increased health risks. Vulnerable and lonely, they need your help. Donate now and you'll help give older women the support they desperately need to feel safe and escape the terrifying cycle of homelessness.

"You really can't express how grateful you are and how happy you are, to think you're on the street one minute and 12 months later you've got a home, somewhere to call your own again," - Joan, who became homeless at 70 years old.



Is your child in year 3 in 2023?

CONFIRMATION

TERM 3



Parish Priest

Rev Fr Jose Philip OSH

jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priests

Rev Fr Biju Mathew

Rev Fr Vincent Nguyen

Rev Fr Emmanuel Obiche

RNSH Chaplain

Rev Fr Peter Dowd

Parish Office

182 High St, Willoughby

P: 9958 8846

E: office@lms.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/lms

Parish Office Hours

Mon - Fri: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Parish Secretary

Ursula O'Hare

Monday - Friday

Dionne Soares

Mon & Fri

Children Sacramental Coordinator

Kristy Komadina

Tuesday & Wednesday

Catechist Co-ordinator

Henny Theodorus

Finance

Ilona Dudek

Friday 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

7256 2104

Confirmation is conferred after Baptism to strengthen the work of the Holy Spirit begun in Baptism. **Confirmation** assists the person to conform more closely to Christ. It calls the person to accept a sense of mission to be sent out to the world to be a living vital witness to the teaching of Jesus, the Lord.

In our Parish, which is part of the Diocese of Broken Bay, children usually receive the Sacraments of Initiation (**Confirmation**, Reconciliation, and First Holy Communion) over a twelve month period, beginning in **Year 3** and concluding in Year 4.

If your child is in **Year 3** or above and is **Baptised Catholic**, he/she is eligible to enrol in the Sacramental program which begins with **Confirmation**.

ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN. PLEASE ENSURE

YOU HAVE ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

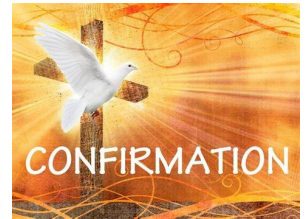
BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR ENROLMENT. Use

the QR Code to enrol Now for more information

please contact our Sacramental Co-ordinator Kristy

at the Parish Office on 9958 8846 or

email: sacraments@LNS.org.au



LEGION OF MARY

Are you interested in devotion to Mary? Want to take it to a deeper level? Feel called to spiritual works of Mercy Join the Legion of **Mary** **WHAT IS THE LEGION OF MARY?** The Legion of Mary is the largest apostolic organisation of lay people in the Catholic Church, with well over 3 million active members in almost every country in the world. **WHAT DOES THE LEGION OF MARY DO?** Members become instruments of the Holy Spirit through a balanced program of prayer and service. Works include door to door evangelisation, parishioner visitation, prison ministry, visitation of the sick or aged care, religious education, visiting the newly baptised, Pilgrim Virgin rotations. Legionaries are under the guidance of a spiritual director named by the Pastor. **HOW DOES THE LEGION OF MARY WORK?** Members meet once a week for prayer, planning and discussion in parish hall setting. Then they do two hours of definite work each week in pairs and under the guidance of their Spiritual director. **HOW CAN I GET MORE INFO?** Please contact Members of the Legion of Mary will hold a recruitment drive after mass on the **16th of July 2023 at St Thomas Church after 9:30 am Mass and St Leonard's Church after 10:30 am Mass.** Come and see what the Legion of Mary has to offer you in exchange for a few hours a week of your time, effort and prayers. Enquires call the Parish office 9958 8846

Feast & Memorial Days June

Wednesday 28th -St Irenaeus

Thursday 29th -Sts Peter and Paul, apostle



We are committed to the
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**

*Each of us can make a difference. Each of us can help to protect one another.
We are called to Step up and to Speak Out for the protection of all.*

We the people of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay 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 who teaches the fundamental sanctity of each human person, and by our dedication to sustained education, practice, and conversation about our moral, legal, and spiritual obligation to safeguard all those within our community.

Safeguarding in our Parish is everyone's business.

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 Sunday 9.45am - 10.15am	Saturday 4.15—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.		9:00am on the 4th Sunday of the month
Community Masses		Italian Mass Any request please contact Irma 0437607918 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 ALL YEAR	Saturday after 9am Mass ALL YEAR	
Baptisms	11:00am 2nd & 4th Sundays	12pm 4th Sunday	12pm 3rd Sunday
Baptism Prep Parish Office	1st Friday of the month 11am 2nd Thursday of the month 7pm	3rd Friday of the month 11.00am 4th Thursday 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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Enduring Guardian - Leasing

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SPN

KID'S CHOIR

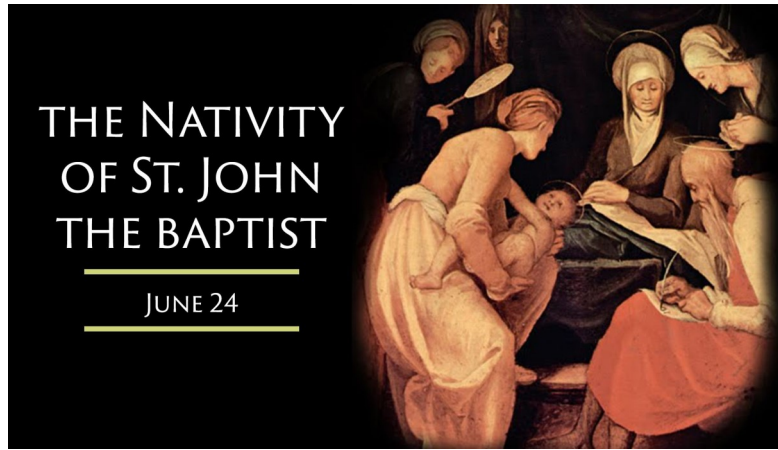
4:30pm practice | 5:00pm Mass

**Come and join the kid's choir at our
monthly Saturday night Family Mass.
Our first Mass is:**

SATURDAY 8 JULY

**Contact Lynda Lee with any questions
lynda.lee1@icloud.com**





THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

JUNE 24

Vox Populi

21 June 2023

This week we remember three martyrs, renowned for their preaching, pastoral care, integrity, courage, and steadfast faith.

During the 1400s, the Catholic Church played a key role in the religious, cultural and political fabric and life of many in England. This period saw the Catholic Church collaborating with the state, in union with Rome. However that all began to change during the rule of King Henry VIII (1509-1547). The king severed ties between the Church of England and Rome to secure his divorce and remarriage.

One year later, in 1535, King Henry VIII martyred two of England's greatest Catholic saints who opposed him: St John Fisher and St Thomas More. And this week we celebrated their feast day, 22 June.

They were martyred for the same cause, religious freedom; on the same occasion, defending the sanctity of marriage and Papal authority; at the hands of the same King, and within two weeks of each other.

Once King Henry's friend and former Lord Chancellor, More was imprisoned in the Tower of London where he was eventually condemned and beheaded. Fisher also had a close connection with King Henry VIII until he refused to recognise him as sovereign of the Catholic Church in England.

At the time of his impending death, the people of England rightly saw a strong resemblance between John Fisher's martyrdom and that of St. John the Baptist, who was also beheaded for speaking out against a ruler's unlawful divorce and remarriage. Because of this strong resemblance, King Henry VIII was afraid to let Fisher live until the feast day of St. John the Baptist on 24 June, and had him killed two days before. The irony is that John Fisher was due to be hanged, drawn, and quartered, but because the King hastened his death ahead of the popular feast day, he was beheaded instead . . . just like St. John the Baptist.

On Saturday, 24 June we celebrate the Nativity of St John the Baptist.

John the Baptist spent his adult life preparing the way for Jesus, and proclaiming that "the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.". He was born to Zachary and Elizabeth, an elderly married couple. The Angel Gabriel had visited Zachary and told him that his wife would bear a child, even though she was already past the child-bearing age.

Elizabeth was Mary's cousin and Zachary was a priest of the Temple in Jerusalem. As a baby in the womb, John recognized Jesus' presence in Mary's womb when Mary visited Elizabeth soon after the Annunciation. Both women were pregnant at the same time.

John was probably born at Ain-Karim, which is southwest of Jerusalem. As a young adult, he lived as a hermit in the desert of Judea until about A.D. 27. When he was 30, he began to preach on the banks of the Jordan, calling for repentance and baptizing people in the river waters. When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John recognized Jesus as the Messiah and baptized Him, saying: "It is I who need baptism from you."

John continued to preach after Jesus was baptized, but was imprisoned not long after by Herod Antipas, after he denounced the king's adulterous marriage with Herodias, wife of his half-brother Philip.

John was beheaded at the request of Salome, daughter of Herodias.

SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING

Father Aldrin Valdehueza, our Chaplain and Assistant Parish Priest of the Catholic Parish of Epping & Carlingford, will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church Pymble on Thursday 22nd June 2023.

The evening commences with Mass at **6.00 PM** followed by a light meal and a short meeting.

Following the meeting Father Aldrin will be our 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.

Please telephone: Terry Scanlan on **0438 887 295** or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you would like to attend.

Peace

Terry

0438 887 295

9th June 2023

National Liturgy & Liturgical Music Conference

The National Liturgy & Liturgical Music Conference is being held at the Hilton Brisbane from 28 - 30 September. The conference is a joint initiative of the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network and the National Liturgical Council of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

Featuring five keynote presentations, 50 wide-ranging breakout workshop options, facilitated discussions, conference Mass, daily prayer and ritual experiences, optional conference dinner, along with broad networking opportunities and resource displays, this “not-to-be-missed” event invites all involved in liturgy and liturgical music in parishes, schools and other Catholic agencies to participate in the premier liturgy-focussed gathering in Australia.

Keynote Speakers:

Prof Timothy O’Malley (Liturgical & Sacramental Theologian, University of Notre Dame, USA)

Sarah Hart (Acclaimed Contemporary Catholic Composer, USA)

Assoc Prof Maeve Louise Heaney (Theologian & Composer, ACU)

Rev Dr Tom Elich (Renowned Liturgist, Liturgy Brisbane Director)

Expert Local Workshop Presenters include:

Liturgists: Bishop Paul Bird, Bishop Ken Howell, Dr Carmel Pilcher, Fr Vincent Glynn, Fr Peter Williams, Sr Louise Gannon, Clare Schwantes, Sr Kari Hatherell, Sr Judy Foster, Sr Ursula O’Rourke

Composers, Musicians, Liturgists: Paul Mason, John Burland, Dr Jenny O’Brien, Sophy Morley, Dr Paul Taylor, Genevieve Bryant, Fiona Dyball, Michael Mangan, Dr Anthony Young

For full conference information go to: <https://mysteryandmission.com.au/>

Vocations Holy Hour & Discernment Evening

Young Adult Event

Calling all young adults to join us at Holy Name Parish in Wahroonga on Friday, June 23 at 6pm! Come for a special time of reflection and prayerful discernment as we adore the Blessed Sacrament during Holy Hour, with a special talk by our guest speaker Fr Stephen Wayoyi Omwanda on the importance of spiritual direction. You won't be alone – meet other young adults just like you who are on the journey of discovering their faith and vocation. And don't worry about dinner – we'll take care of that before you go home! Don't miss out! #YoungAdults #Discernment #HolyHour #Wahroonga #CatholicVocations #HolyNameParish #DinnerProvided #SpiritualDirection

~RSVP'S essential for catering purposes~

Date: Friday June 23

Time: 6pm

Venue: Holy Name Parish Wahroonga

RSVP to 0418 522 449 or vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au



CATHOLIC VOCATIONS
BROKEN BAY
PRAY, DISCERN & ACT

Pray, Discern & Act

YOUNG ADULT EVENT
HOLY HOUR
& DISCERNMENT EVENING

THE IMPORTANCE
OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION
Speaker: Fr Stephen Wayoyi Omwanda

FRIDAY JUNE 23
6PM HOLY NAME PARISH
35 BILLYARD AVE WAHROONGA

RSVP TO 0418 522 449 OR
[VOCATIONS.MINISTRY@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU](mailto:vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au)

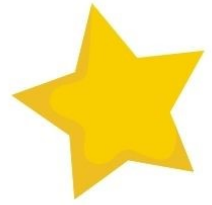
ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice, and pastoral care.

More information and Applications Forms
are available on our website.

pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship

Closing Date 4 August 2023



St Thomas Catholic Primary School
invites all families to join us for

**Winter
2023**

Little Stars

PLAYGROUP



Thursday 29 June 2023

9:30am to 10:15am

St Thomas Church Hall,
Cnr Horsley & High Streets North Willoughby

Free event for all children aged 0-5 years.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Booking is essential.

QR code to book

