



# 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.*



## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 16th JULY 2023

### Reflection

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

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It's been a while since you last heard from us, but the WYD pilgrims are finally off to Italy and Portugal. We invite members of all three of our churches to join us at our **Commissioning Mass on Sunday 16th July, 6pm at St Leonards**, as we are blessed and bid farewell. We are looking forward to our pilgrimage, and to sharing all that we've learnt with our fellow youth and the parish community on our return. Arrivederci! Our regular youth group will be held as usual after Mass with a small farewell party for the five pilgrims.



Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
July 2023

Pope Francis instituted the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in 2021 to be held the fourth Sunday in July, close to the feast of Jesus' grandparents, Saints Joachim and Anne. The Day seeks to honour the valuable contributions that older individuals make to society. Recognizing the wisdom, experience, and guidance offered by grandparents and the elderly, this occasion raises awareness about their needs, rights, and roles within families and communities. It also encourages respect, understanding, and support for the aging population who may face various challenges including health issues, isolation, and marginalization.

**Let's join together in celebrating this special day in our community on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July with MORNING TEA after**

- 9.00am Mass at St Philip Neri Church Northbridge.
- 9.30am Mass at St Thomas' Church Willoughby.

## Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 16:15

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

## First Reading

Is 55:10-11

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

**(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **(R.)**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **(R.)**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

Rom 8:18-23

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was

made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mt 13:1-9

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'



### Feast & Memorial Days JULY

Thursday 13th—St Apollinaris

Friday 14th—St Lawrence

Saturday 15th—St MARY MAGDALENE



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**Recently Deceased:** Eris McEncroe

**Anniversaries:** Vito Di Miscio 11 year anniversary

**Sick:** Bishop Peter Ingham and Julie Wong

LOVE TO SING, MAKE MUSIC, HAVE FUN?

THEN  
COME AND  
JOIN THE



## ST PHILIP NERI COMMUNITY CHOIR 2023



JOIN US:

- OCCASIONALLY
- ONCE A MONTH OR
- WEEKLY

We sing traditional and contemporary church music styles.

Opportunities exist at the:

- 9am Sunday Masses
- 5pm Saturday Masses on the 1st and 5th Saturdays of the month

- 5pm 2nd Saturday Children's Choir
- Seasonal eg Easter, Christmas



COME AND GIVE US A TRY!

Monday 17th July

7.30pm @

St Philip Neri Church

**CHRISTMAS IN  
JULY SUPPER TO  
FOLLOW!**



The Diocese of Broken Bay is proud to be hosting one of Australia's most powerful Catholic Youth Conferences - Ignite Conference (Ignite Youth) - in the Cathedral Precinct, Waitara from 28 September to 1 October 2023. This conference is more than just a gathering for youth. It has something for everyone. It caters for creche-aged children through to parents, teachers and parishioners. Families, high school student groups, young adults as well as priests and religious from around the country travel to Ignite Conference every year to be inspired, experience Jesus, and leave with a renewed passion for their Catholic faith. The main sessions feature live worship from Emmanuel Workshop, the powerful preaching and life-changing encounters with God. Time to book your tickets now with the half-priced Early Bird Special. Only 5 days to go until this special deal closes. Email evangelisation@bbcatholic.org.au to request a 50% discount code to use when booking your ticket.



### 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@lns.org.au  
www.bbcatholic.org.au/lns

### Parish Office Hours

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

### Parish Secretary

Ursula O'Hare

### Monday - Friday

Dionne Soares

### Mon & Fri

### Children's 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

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# HISTORY IS CALLING

REFERENDUM ON A FIRST NATIONS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

Confused? Unsure?  
And wanting to do the right thing?  
A Public Information Evening

Fr Frank Brennan SJ

Together with Prominent Aboriginal Leaders  
Wednesday 19 July 2023  
6.45pm for 7pm  
Our Lady of Good Counsel School Hall  
9 Currie Road Forestville



Sponsored by: Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish Social Justice Group  
Forestville Terrey Hills Davidson  
Trybooking.....www.trybooking.com/CJLTC

## Confirmation

**ENROLEMENTS 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](mailto:sacraments@lns.org.au)



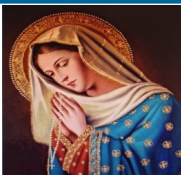
## Visiting housebound

For those who are unable to join our regular masses, community gathering and other church services, due to health conditions or other reasons, we want you to know that you are not alone.

Our priests and dedicated Communion ministers are available to visit your home, providing an opportunity for conversation, prayers, Holy communion. The priest will also be available to offer the Sacraments of Confession or Holy Anointing.



If you would like a visit, please contact the parish office at 9958 8846. We kindly request you to provide your name, contact information, and any specific preferences or needs you may have. Once we receive your information, we will be in touch with you to organise a suitable date and time for the visit.



## 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

**We will be kept safe by ADULTS who...**

## CARE

for us as we are a  
precious gift from God



COMMUNITIES OF SAFETY AND CARE



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

MASS/ SERVICE/ SCHEDULE	ST THOMAS' WILLOUGHBY	ST LEONARD'S NAREMBURN	ST PHILIP NERI NORTHBRIDGE
<b>Sunday Masses</b>	6pm Vigil Saturday 8am & 9:30am Sunday	10:30am & 6pm Sunday	5pm Vigil Saturday & 9am Sunday
<b>Weekday Masses</b>	9am Mon to Sat	9am Tue -Thu - Sat	9:15am Mon - Wed - Fri
<b>Royal North Shore Hospital Chapel</b>	Weekday Mass Thursday & Friday 1pm	Weekend Mass 4pm Sunday	
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday 5:15pm - 5:45pm	Saturday 9:30am - 9:45am Sunday 9:45am - 10:15am	Saturday 4.15—4:45pm
<b>Youth Mass</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 6pm	
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	During 9:30am Mass Each Sunday in school term.		9:00am on the 4th Sunday of the month
<b>Community Masses</b>		Italian Mass Any request please contact Irma 0437607918 PNGCCAA 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday 7pm	
<b>Healing Mass/ Anointing Novena to the Sacred Heart</b>	9am Mass 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	9am Mass 3rd Saturday	
<b>Adoration</b>	Tuesday after 9am Mass <b>ALL YEAR</b>	Saturday after 9am Mass <b>ALL YEAR</b>	
<b>Baptisms</b>	11:00am 2nd & 4th Sundays	12pm 4th Sunday	12pm 3rd Sunday
<b>Baptism Prep Parish Office</b>	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	
<b>Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group CCCR</b>	St Thomas' Parish Hall 7:15pm Tuesday Evenings Enquiries 0419 977 531		
<b>Legion of Mary</b>	Meets every Friday in the 'Blue Room' at the Parish Hall 9:45am All Welcome		

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**WilloughbyGlass**

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mobile: +61 432 320 701  
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LOVE TO SING, MAKE MUSIC, HAVE FUN?

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# ST PHILIP NERI COMMUNITY CHOIR 2023



## JOIN US:

- OCCASIONALLY
- ONCE A MONTH OR
- WEEKLY

We sing traditional and contemporary church music styles.

## Opportunities exist at the:

- 9am Sunday Masses
- 5pm Saturday Masses on the 1st and 5th Saturdays of the month
- 5pm 2nd Saturday Children's Choir
- Seasonal eg Easter, Christmas

## PREREQUISITES:

- Love to sing or play an instrument
- Commit to a 30 minute rehearsal prior to the Mass
- Join us for 1 monthly rehearsal

## USEFUL BUT NOT NECESSARY:

- Some ability to read music



COME AND GIVE US A TRY!  
Monday 17th July 7.30pm @  
St Philip Neri Church

CHRISTMAS IN JULY SUPPER TO FOLLOW!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME ALWAYS.  
ANY QUESTIONS?

CHAT TO ONE OF THE CHOIR OR  
EMAIL: [LYNDA.LEE1@ICLOUD.COM](mailto:LYNDA.LEE1@ICLOUD.COM)



# 2023/24 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM



## CONFIRMATION FROM YEAR 3 (MUST BE BAPTISED)



Registrations open now until 30th July 2023

Parent info sessions: 10th and 13th August

4 week preparation program

Celebration of Confirmation 16th September at St Thomas Willoughby  
10am or 11:30am



## FIRST RECONCILIATION FROM YEAR 4 – AFTER CONFIRMATION



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FROM YEAR 4 – AFTER CONFIRMATION + FIRST RECONCILIATION



### *Checklist before you submit!*

- ☒ All parts of the form completed
- ☒ Baptismal Certificate
- ☒ Digital photograph, jpeg or png format, not too closely cropped



**ENROL NOW!**  
**SCAN QR CODE**  
**OR VISIT**

[HTTPS://WWW.BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU/LOWER-NORTH-SHORE/SACRAMENTS/CONFIRMATION](https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/lower-north-shore/sacraments/confirmation)



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**Vox Populi**  
**06 July 2023**

There is a real buzz around the Diocese with students, young adults and leaders making final preparations for their pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal.

Many will journey with Bishop Anthony on a pilgrimage through Italy visiting the birthplaces of saints, and the Shrines and Basilicas dedicated to these holy men and women.

Others will fly direct to Lisbon where all our pilgrims will join hundreds of thousands of young people from around the world for moments of sharing and faith; a gathering and celebration of cultures, participating in catechesis, and a meeting with the Pope.

For those who have been to previous World Youth Days they know what a transforming experience this pilgrimage will be.

The Diocese is fortunate to have Chancery and Catholic Schools Broken Bay staff who have attended many WYDs and have been working for more than 18 months to ensure WYD23 is an exciting, rewarding and memorable time for our pilgrims.

This week the Vatican released the Official Schedule for the Apostolic Journey of Pope Francis. The Holy Father will spend from August 2-6 in Lisbon and Fatima.

He will meet Archbishops and Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Persons, Seminarians, and Pastoral Workers from every corner of the world. And of course thousands and thousands of young people.

Pope Francis will join the gathering for the Opening Mass, the Way of the Cross and then celebrate the Holy Mass Mass for World Youth Day on Sunday, 6 August at Campo da Graca on the outskirts of Lisbon.

The theme for this WYD is "Mary rose up and went with haste" (Lk 1:39). This quote opens the account of the Visitation (Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth), a biblical episode following the Annunciation (the angel's announcement to Mary that she would be the mother of the Son of God, and the theme of the last WYD, in Panama in 2019.).

It also inspired the name for the Diocese pilgrimage and theme song – Magnify - which in turn was inspired by the Magnificat, or Song of Mary, meaning my soul magnifies the Lord.

Our pilgrims have been practising the song for months which will no doubt be heard throughout Lisbon!

On Friday, 14 July Bishop Anthony will celebrate the Pilgrim Blessing Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara at 5.00pm.

The students, young people, leaders and their families are looking forward to this final gathering before departure.

However you are all invited to pray for our WYD pilgrims, for a wonderful, holy experience and a safe return.

# You're Welcome Here! –

## A Welcome and Hospitality Workshop for Parishes

Discover how welcome and hospitality can make your parish a warmer place and become a cornerstone of parish renewal

Contact us to discuss running the workshop tailored to your parish:

Pina Bernard 8379 1627 [faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au)



“You’re Welcome Here!” is a new workshop offered by the Parish Renewal and Discipleship Team and available to all parishes of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Each weekend, first-time attendees come to our Masses. Their experience of welcome can be a deciding factor as to whether they will return.

This workshop looks at a wide variety of aspects of hospitality in our parishes, including:

- The theology around hospitality from our sacred Scriptures and Church tradition
- Why we need radical hospitality today – inviting people to belong can be a first step towards discipleship
- A variety of suggested initiatives around:
  - Welcome at Mass (eg greeters, welcome desk etc)
  - Welcoming at all parish events
  - Ways to help everyone see their role as welcomers
  - Ensuring we have a welcoming environment (eg foyer, signage)
  - Reviewing our website to make it welcoming to outsiders
  - Practical formation for greeters at Mass
  - A list of resources

To discuss how this workshop could be used in your community, please contact Pina Bernard, Team Leader Parish Renewal and Discipleship, on 0432 682 239 or [pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au)



This year's Tri-Diocesan social justice event is on the topic of the current Australian Catholic Bishop's statement on domestic violence: 'Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse.'

This is an annual event organised by the Diocese of Broken Bay, the Diocese of Parramatta and the Archdiocese of Sydney, with Sydney hosting the event this year as follows:

- Date: Wednesday 26 July 2023
- Time: 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Venue: Catholic Institute of Sydney, Strathfield

Presenters on the evening include the organisers of a photographic exhibition recently held on the Central Coast to draw attention to this issue, which includes Commander Sharon Marshall from the NSW Police.

For other speakers and further details, please see flyer below.

This is a free event, and includes dinner. All most welcome to be part of this important conversation. Registration is essential at: <https://tinyurl.com/2wwy3ajm>

Enquiries: Email [pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au) or phone 0432 682 238



Society  
*of the* Catholic Apostolate  
Pallottine Fathers & Brothers - Australian Region

### **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](https://pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship)**

**Closing Date 4 August 2023**