



# Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore



**St Thomas' Willoughby**



**St Philip Neri Northbridge**



**St Leonard's Naremburn**

*Twinning 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.*

## PARISH OFFICE

- 📍 182 High St, North Willoughby NSW
- ☎ (02) 9958 8846
- ✉ [office@lins.org.au](mailto:office@lins.org.au)
- 🌐 [www.bbcatholic.org.au/lins](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/lins)

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9:00am - 3:00pm

## CLERGY

- Fr. Jose Philip, OSH (Parish Priest)  
[jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:jose.philip@bbcatholic.org.au)
- Fr. Biju Mathew, AP  
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- Fr. Vincent Trung Nguyen, AP  
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- Fr. Emmanuel Obiche, AP  
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- Fr. Peter Dowd (RNSH Chaplain)  
[peter.dowd@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:peter.dowd@bbcatholic.org.au)

## PARISH STAFF

- ♦ **Secretary**  
Ursula O'Hare (Mon - Fri)  
Dionne Soares (Mon & Fri)
- ♦ **Children Sacrament Co-ordinator**  
Kristy Komadina (Tue & Wed)  
[sacraments@lins.org.au](mailto:sacraments@lins.org.au)
- ♦ **Catechist Co-ordinator**  
Henny Theodorus (Tue)  
[ccd@lins.org.au](mailto:ccd@lins.org.au)
- ♦ **Finance (bookkeeper)**  
Ilona Dudek (Fri)  
[accounts@lins.org.au](mailto:accounts@lins.org.au)

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- ♦ **St. Thomas' Primary School**  
📍 2 Horsley Ave, Willoughby NSW  
☎ (02) 7256 2104  
Principal: Enrica Bova  
[enrica.ova@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:enrica.ova@dbb.catholic.edu.au)
- ♦ **St. Philip Neri Primary School**  
📍 67 Baringa Rd, Northbridge NSW  
☎ (02) 9958 7136  
Principal: Fiona Bylsma  
[fiona.bylsma@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:fiona.bylsma@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

## TWENTY- FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

27th AUGUST 2023



## Reflection

The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the messiah. When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer? Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.

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## Confirmation

Last week we welcomed 120 candidates for Confirmation into our program. They kicked off their week 1 lessons by recalling their own Baptisms. They had to find photos, their white garment, their candle and their baptismal certificate and talk about all the things that happened that day. The children learned that their Baptism welcomed them into the Church and filled them with the Holy Spirit. Did you know that by our Baptisms we are all called to be Priests, Prophets and Kings? Let us keep our candidates for Confirmation in our prayers as they continue to deepen their knowledge and grow closer to the Holy Spirit.



**Please note that on Wednesday 30th August St Thomas' School will celebrate Fathers Day Mass commencing at 9.15am at St Thomas' Church.**

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### Entrance Antiphon: (Cf Psalm 85:1-3)

*Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.*

### First Reading: (Isaiah 22:19-23)

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

### Responsorial Psalm: (Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8)

**Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.**

### Second Reading: (Romans 11:33-36)

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could

ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

### Gospel Acclamation: (Matthew 16:18)

Alleluia, alleluia! You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

### Gospel: (Matthew 16:13-20)

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

## LITURGY of THE WEEK

Mon 28/08: St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church (Memorial)  
Tue 29/08: The Passion of St John the Baptist (Memorial)  
Wed 30/08: Weekday in Ordinary Time  
Thu 31/08: Weekday in Ordinary Time  
Fri 01/09 : Weekday in Ordinary Time  
Sat 02/09: Weekday in Ordinary Time  
Sun 03/09: 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Father's Day)

## In our prayers

**Recently Deceased:** Clifford Sun, Adrian Boccalatte, Nada Protich and Mary O'Hare.

**Anniversaries:** Lucia Cappello, Biaggina Boccanfuso, Robert Vas, Maria, Marko, Miko, and Ante Bacic, Jaka, Stipe and Ante Vezic, Jaka, Miko and Tomislav Bacic, Ante Petkovich and Zlatan Donjerkovic and Frank Attard.

**Sick:** Bishop Peter Ingham, Julie Wong and Elizabeth Dunn



MEMORIAL MASS  
*Concetta Maria Vaccarella*  
1 Month Anniversary  
Saturday 9th September 2023  
St Leonard's Church 11.00 am

**Next Weekend during all Masses  
we will be celebrating and  
honouring all our father's for  
Father's Day. Please join us for a  
BBQ at St Thomas' Church  
Sunday 3rd September after  
9.30am Mass.**

## Congratulations



*Sister Carmel Nipperess on  
your 70th Anniversary of your  
Profession. God bless and  
reward you for the faith-filled  
witness of your life and for  
your loving service to the  
Church.*

*Please come and join us to celebrate this  
special day on Sunday 3rd of September after  
9.30am Mass.*





help them build a better future



## LETS Information Night

**Where:** St Thomas Parish Hall  
**When:** 7:30 Pm Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> August  
**R.S.V.P:** [admin@lets.net.au](mailto:admin@lets.net.au)

- Come along and see what our Brothers and Sisters in our Twin Parish are up to.
- Hear all about current LETS projects and how your support continues to make a difference in the lives of both the students and the wider community of Letefoho.
- Listen to their beautiful songs and join our Parish Community as we pray for our Brothers and Sisters in Letefoho.
- For those who sponsor a Student, you can bring along a letter (no gifts please) for your Student, if you would like to.



CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF  
CREATION

## 'THE LETTER'

Join us for a free screening of  
Pope Francis' film, The Letter

\*\*\*\*\*

7:30pm Tuesday 19th September  
St Thomas' Willoughby

No need to book... just turn up!  
Coffee & Tea and a brief discussion of the movie  
to follow



**LAUDATO SI'**  
Action Platform

## CATECHIST AND HELPERS NEEDED

We are needing new catechists and helpers to join the Catechist Ministry. It is a wonderful opportunity to be part of something very rewarding. Come and share your faith with the children and pass on the Good News. All resources and training are provided. Our parish serves students from Northbridge Public School and Willoughby Public School. For more information please contact Henny Theodorus on 9958 8846 or email [ccd@lms.org.au](mailto:ccd@lms.org.au).

Bellow are the classes we need to fill.

### Northbridge Public School

	Catechist	Helper	Time
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Filled	Filled	9.10 - 9.40am
<b>Year 1</b>	Filled	Needed	9.10 - 9.40am
<b>Year 2</b>	Filled	Needed	9.10 - 9.40am
<b>Year 3</b>	Needed	Needed	10.50 - 11.20am
<b>Year 4</b>	Needed	Needed	10.50 - 11.20am
<b>Year 5 &amp; 6</b>	Filled	Needed	10.50 - 11.20am

### Praying for a respectful discussion about the Voice Referendum

Monday 7.30PM (sharp) to 8PM St Leonard's Naremburn we are reading and reflecting in silent prayer and then praying the rosary for the intention of a respectful and informed discussion on the Voice Referendum and for the unity of our nation.  
Please join us.



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

## HEALING MASS

*Including Anointing of the Sick and  
Novena to the Sacred Heart*

**SEPTEMBER**

- 9.00 am on Friday 1st September
- St. Thomas' Church

We will be kept safe by ADULTS who...

## CARE

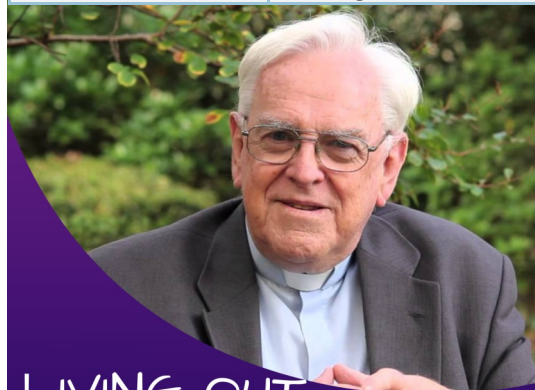
for us as we are a  
precious gift from God



COMMUNITIES OF SAFETY AND CARE

## PARISH SCHEDULE

	St Thomas' Willoughby	St Leonard's Naremburn	St Philip Neri Northbridge
<b>Weekend Masses</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Saturday <b>8.00am &amp; 9.30am</b> Sunday	<b>10.30am</b> Sunday <b>6.00pm</b> Sunday ( <i>Youth Mass</i> )	<b>5.00pm</b> Vigil Saturday <b>9.00am</b> Sunday
<b>Weekday Masses</b>	9.00am: Mon – Sat	9.00am: Tue, Thu, Sat	9.15am: Mon, Wed, Fri
<b>Adoration</b>	Tuesday: 9.30am - 10.30am	Saturday: 9.30am - 10.00am	
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Saturday: 5.15pm - 5.45pm	Saturday: 9.30am - 10.00am	Saturday: 4.15pm - 5.45pm
<b>Healing Mass</b>	9.00am on First Friday ( <i>Divine Mercy &amp; Adoration</i> )	9.00am on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	
<b>Baptism</b>	9.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday 11.00am 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday ( <i>outside Mass</i> )	10.30am on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	9.00am on 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	9.30am Sunday ( <i>during school term</i> )		9.00am 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday ( <i>Family Mass</i> )



### LIVING OUT OUR FAITH

SESSIONS WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER  
BISHOP DAVID WALKER

THE SESSIONS WILL BE HELD OVER THREE WEEKS

THURSDAY 24 & 31ST AUGUST & 7TH SEPTEMBER

9AM - MASS CELEBRATED BY BISHOP WALKER, 9.30AM - CUPPA  
10AM - FAITH SESSION

Mass at St Thomas' Church Willoughby  
Followed by the Faith sessions in the  
Parish Hall- Blue Room

ALL ARE WELCOME



RCIA or HOW TO BECOME A CATHOLIC Many adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church each year through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The RCIA takes place within a parish community in a relaxed and supportive environment to allow the candidate to share in the life of the Church expressed in a local faith community. It offers a way to grow in knowledge of Christ and the Catholic faith in company with others on a similar journey. The non-baptised who are suitably prepared are welcomed into the Catholic Church by the reception of the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. If you or someone you know would like to know more about the program please contact the parish office. Fr Jose will be speaking with candidates over the coming weeks, in preparation for a program to start in September

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DR MIRANDA MAW, MBBS,  
FRACGP, DCH  
DR SHEHNAZ KHAN,  
MBBS, FRACGP  
DR GERARD MCLAREN  
FRACGP, FAFRM (RACP,  
FACRM)

**SPECIALIST :**  
PROF. DAVID KANDIAH  
RHEUMATOLOGIST

**ALLIED HEALTH :**  
DR GEORGE DRAGASEVICH  
CHIROPRACTOR

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**PERSONAL TRAINER IN WILLOUGHBY  
DAMIEN GIARDINA**

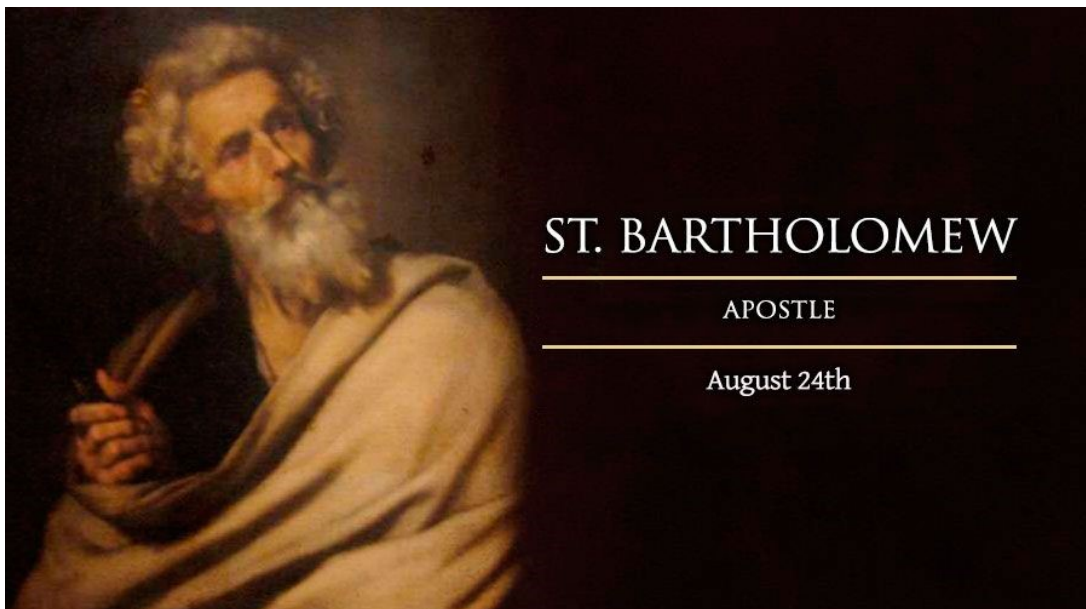
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## ST. BARTHOLOMEW

APOSTLE

August 24th

### **Vox Populi** **24 August 2023**

Today, 24 August, we celebrate the feast of St Bartholomew, one of the Twelve Apostles, mentioned in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke and also in Acts.

Besides being listed as an Apostle, he is not otherwise mentioned in the New Testament, at least not under the name Bartholomew: Many ancient writers, and Catholic tradition have identified Bartholomew as Nathaniel in the Gospel of John (John 1:45-51, and 21:2). Nathaniel is introduced to Jesus by his friend Phillip, and Jesus says of him "Here is a true child of Israel. There is no duplicity in him (1:47)."

We are presented with the Apostle's character in this brief and beautiful dialogue with the Lord Jesus. He is a good Jew, honest and innocent, a just man, who devotes much time to quiet reflection and prayer - "under the fig tree (1:48)" - and has been awaiting the Messiah, the Holy One of God.

Being "a true child of Israel," Nathaniel was a man well-read in the Scriptures and knew what they said of the Messiah and where he would come from. This is why he is skeptical of Phillip's claim that Jesus is the Messiah, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth (1:46)?"

But Nathaniel was lacking "duplicity" - that is, his heart was undivided, his intentions pure - his openness to reality was always ready to recognize and surrender to the truth when he encountered it. He remained open to his friend Phillip's invitation to "Come and see (1:46)."

In encountering Jesus and hearing His words, he found himself face to face with the Truth Himself, and in a clear and simple confession of faith said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus, in Matthew 5:8, says, "Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God." In Nathaniel we have an example of the pure man who sees - recognizes - God when confronted with Him, and on seeing Him believes in Him, and upon believing in Him, follows Him.

Nothing is known for sure about the life of Nathaniel/Bartholomew after the Ascension of Jesus, but tradition holds that he preached in the East and died a martyr's death in Armenia, being flayed alive for having won converts to the Lord Jesus.

This Saint shows us we can come to know God better in reflection through prayer

This day is also one for celebration and thanks for Bishop Anthony Randazzo who was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney, consecrated and installed on 24 August 2016, three years later being appointed Bishop of Broken Bay.

## Annual Seminarian Benefit Dinner

Calling all #BrokenBay faithful! Come join us for an amazing evening Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023. Enjoy delicious food, friendly company and musical performances put on by our very own seminarians. Most importantly, support our diocese's commitment to inspiring vocations! Seats are limited. Tickets are \$60pp, all are welcome! Secure yours now at the [link](#).

**Date:** Saturday, September 2, 2023, at

**Time:** 6:30pm, after the 5pm Vigil Mass.

**Venue:** Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood Parish – Harrington Hall, 94 Archer Street, Chatswood 2067

**Tickets:** \$60 per person

CHATSWOOD PARISH &  
CATHOLIC VOCATIONS BROKEN BAY  
INVITE YOU TO JOIN US  
FOR THE

*Seminarian Benefit Dinner*

Support our Broken Bay Seminarians and help raise  
awareness of the importance of vocations in our Diocese

SEPTEMBER  
SATURDAY | 2 | AT 6:30 PM  
2023

**\$60pp Bookings Essential**

FOR TICKETS: [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CJOUX](https://www.trybooking.com/CJOUX)  
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CONTACT: (02) 9410 9000  
EMAIL: [CHATSWOODOFFICE@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU](mailto:CHATSWOODOFFICE@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU)  
[VOCATIONS.MINISTRY@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU](mailto:VOCATIONS.MINISTRY@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU)



Ignite 2023 is fast approaching and now is the time to start making plans!

Have you considered volunteering and assisting to make this the best conference ever!

Opportunities exist to volunteer in either a part-time or full-time capacity. Click below to register for a volunteer role\* and use one of these Coupon Codes (enter in the 'enter coupon code' box to reveal the rego option):

For Full-Time (\$100 - rostered close to entire program) - vft23

For Part-Time (\$165 - rostered about half of the sessions) - vpt23

*Please note that you can choose the invoice option if payment is an issue*

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW](#)**

Shortly after registering and paying for your ticket, the Ignite team will send you an email to an online questionnaire enabling you to indicate the different roles you would like to serve in, and the time slots that you are available. Please note that **Mandatory Volunteer Training is on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2023, 6pm – 9.30pm, MacKillop Centre, St Leo's College, Wahroonga (enter the college via Unwin Rd)**

Contact **Angela Harris (Ignite Volunteer Co-ordinator 2023)** if you have any questions about Volunteering for Ignite.

For more information about Ignite visit: <https://igniteconference.com.au/sydney>

### **WYD Pilgrims have arrived home safely!**

Just over 4 weeks ago, an excited group of Broken Bay pilgrims departed Sydney for Italy and WYD in Lisbon. For most pilgrims this was their first experience of overseas travel and for many their first pilgrimage experience.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the success of the Broken Bay pilgrimage and the safe return of all our pilgrims.

As our pilgrims settle back into the regular rhythm of life, filled with much joy and gratitude, please invite pilgrims to share their stories over the coming weeks and months with their family and friends; at their schools and/or in their parishes, and beyond.