



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
- 🌐 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
- Fr. Biju Mathew, AP**
biju.mathewK@bbcatholic.org.au
- Fr. Vincent Trung Nguyen, AP**
vincent.nguyen@bbcatholic.org.au
- Fr. Emmanuel Obiche, AP**
emmanuel.obiche@bbcatholic.org.au
- Fr. Peter Dowd** (RNSH Chaplain)
peter.dowd@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH STAFF

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

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- ♦ **St. Thomas' Primary School**
📍 2 Horsley Ave, Willoughby NSW
☎ (02) 7256 2104
Principal: Enrica Bova
enrica.bova@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

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

10th SEPTEMBER 2023



White elephants

I'd like to thank everyone who came to our public meeting last Wednesday on our proposed Naremburn project. Emma McDonald, our Diocesan Financial Administrator, updated us on recent actions, including our appeal to the Land and Environment Court against the Interim Heritage Order that has been imposed on the site. It's important to remember that this project is vital for the future health and sustainability of our parish. We are currently working on our new Parish Pastoral Plan, and it will be shared with you all sometime soon. But this plan, and our vision for the parish, will need to be resourced because there is so much work for us to do in our community. At last week's meeting White Elephants were mentioned. What is a white elephant? It's something that costs a lot of money but has no useful purpose. History tells us that white elephants were considered sacred and incredibly valuable in ancient Siam (now Thailand). White elephants were so highly prized that when one was born, it immediately became the property of the king. And sometimes, when the king wanted to reward someone, he gave them a white elephant. This was a great honour, of course, but also a terrible burden because what can you do with a white elephant? They are expensive to keep and economically useless. Today, a 'white elephant' is any burdensome, expensive and useless possession that's much more trouble than it is worth. Our decrepit buildings at Naremburn will be a permanent white elephant, and a huge drain on parish funds, if our project is not approved. Please tell your local Willoughby councillor that you support our project.

Fr Jose Philip OSH Parish Priest



Confirmation

This week our topic for learning was titled **"Life in the Spirit"**. We learned all about how we grow and mature in many ways over our lives - physically, mentally and importantly, spiritually. We read from the Scriptures including "The Parable of the Sower" and the "Parable of the Mustard Seed" that teach us that to truly grow in Spirit, we need to nurture our faith through living more like Jesus and through a personal relationship with Him. There's now less than one week to go until our candidates are Confirmed! Please pray for them and their families at this time.

Please keep Fr Vincent in your prayers as he takes 2 weeks of annual leave.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon: (Psalm 118:137, 124)

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading: (Ezekiel 33:7-9)

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm: (Ps 94:1-2.6-9. R. v.8)

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

Second Reading: (Romans 13:8-10)

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up

in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation: (2 Corinthians 5:19)

Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

Gospel: (Matthew 18:15-20)

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Please Pray for all of our Broken Bay Priests that will be attending the annual Diocesan Retreat this week at Douglas Park.

LITURGY of THE WEEK

Wed 13:9 St John Chrysostom, MEMORIAL
Thur 14:9 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, FEAST
Fri 15:9 Our Lady of Sorrows, MEMORIAL
Sat 16: 9 Sts Cornelius & Cyprian, MEMORIAL

HEALING MASS- SEPTEMBER

(With the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick)
Saturday 17th September St. Leonard's church -
Naremburn
9am Mass followed by
Adoration & Reconciliation

IN OUR PRAYERS

Anniversaries: Sheldon Jannigs, Concetta Maria Vaccarella, Tanya Brookes, Barbara Smith, Brendan Crumpton, Angelina and Belmonte Lucia.

Deceased: Marin, Pama, Ivica, Marin (Junior) Branko & Jenny Petkovic. Donat, Maria, Ante, Jelisava, Zlata & Maria (Junior) Milat. For the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Sick: Bishop Peter Ingham, Peter Champion, Julie Wong, Elizabeth Dunn and Barbara Sunne



HOLY HOUR EVENING



You are warmly
invited to join us
for an hour of
guided Eucharistic
Adoration.

TIME

7.30pm

DATE

12 SEP

LOCATION

ST LEONARDS
NAREMBURN

ARRIVE FROM 7PM FOR A CUPPA

Discover Peace in His Presence
Uplifting Melodies that Stir the Soul
A Moment for Your Innermost Prayers
Escape and Encounter





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 come along to our **first meeting on Tuesday 19/09/2023 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Office.**

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.

LSAP group

On Saturday 2 September the Parish's LSAP group took to the streets of Naremburn, collecting all sorts of rubbish, much of which would have found its way into Middle Harbour and potentially our food chain. The group collected in a separate bag vaping material a 10kg dumbbell and garden shears left lying in the bush and literally hundreds of cigarette butts made of micro plastics on the ground near gutters. **Our next clean-up day is Saturday 7 October 2023 at Willoughby**, following the 9AM Mass at St Thomas' Church. Feel free to join us.



Please note: Parishioners who normally attend Mass on Saturday morning at 9am at St Thomas' Willoughby, on the date of our Confirmations, **16th September**, Mass will be half an hour earlier at 8.30am to ensure enough time between the morning Mass and the Confirmation ceremonies. Thank you for your understanding.



help them build a better future

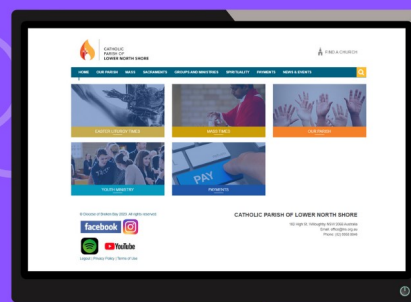


LETS Information Night

LETS Information Night was held on Wednesday 30th September. Members of our parish came together and heard about what our brothers and sisters in Letefoho are up to. We shared experiences, listened to songs, watched recordings, read letters, viewed photo displays and ate some Timorese food.

LETS would also like to thank Fr. Vincent for his assistance and support during LETS Information Night.

If any member or our Parish would like to hear more about LETS projects or would like to join the LETS team, please email us at admin@lets.net.au



Are you a website designer?

The Parish is looking for a website designer from within our parish community to help refresh our website. If you can help please email or call the parish office.

office@LNS.org.au or 9958 8846

PARISH SCHEDULE

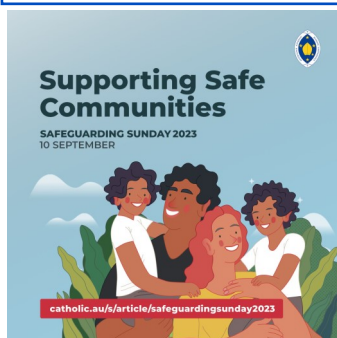
	St Thomas' Willoughby	St Leonard's Naremburn	St Philip Neri Northbridge
Weekend Masses	6.00pm Vigil Saturday 8.00am & 9.30am Sunday	10.30am Sunday 6.00pm Sunday (<i>Youth Mass</i>)	5.00pm Vigil Saturday 9.00am Sunday
Weekday Masses	9.00am: Mon – Sat	9.00am: Tue, Thu, Sat	9.15am: Mon, Wed, Fri
Adoration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



Congratulations Sr Carmel

Last weekend at St Thomas' we celebrated Sr Carmel's 70th Anniversary as a Professed Religious Sister. It was such an honour and joy to witness Sr Carmel recommit and profess her vows once again!

A big thank you to Marie Harris & the hospitality team for your wonderful BBQ



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people.



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

SPECIALIST :
PROF. DAVID KANDIAH, RHEUMATOLOGIST

ALLIED HEALTH :
DR GEORGE DRAGASEVICH, CHIROPRACTOR

OUR LOCATION :
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**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



Vox Populi
30 August 2023

Young people, teachers, ministry leaders and adults of all ages are preparing to attend the exciting four-day Ignite Conference hosted in Sydney by our Diocese of Broken Bay.

With this year's theme being "Wonder", Ignite is truly a dynamic conference for everyone, from primary aged children to adults.

Between 28 September and 1 October, the Broken Bay Cathedral Precinct, Waitara will feature inspiring workshops, powerful preaching, music rallies, games, creative arts, dance, the sacraments, and opportunities to meet, mix and explore faith formation and encounters.

Parishes, schools and universities have already organised groups to attend, while many more have registered individually.

The Ignite Conference is run by Ignite Youth, a national youth ministry, and over the past 20 years it has built a reputation as a leading and powerful Catholic festival in Australia.

If you were one of the fortunate pilgrims to attend World Youth Day in Lisbon then you can now continue your faith journey in your own backyard.

However this vibrant conference is accessible to everyone.

Many families attend together, with parents joining the adult sessions while their children enjoy their own age-appropriate streams and sessions.

There will be dozens of topline presenters including Bishop Anthony and our Director for Vocations, Fr Sam French.

There is still the opportunity to register and experience the Church fully alive in faith. A conference that is innovative, passionate, authentic and animated by the Holy Spirit.

For further information visit <https://igniteconference.com.au/>



The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8 SEPTEMBER

The Catholic Church celebrates the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary on its traditional fixed date of September 8, nine months after the December 8 celebration of her Immaculate Conception as the child of Saints Joachim and Anne.

The circumstances of the Virgin Mary's infancy and early life are not directly recorded in the Bible, but other documents and traditions describing the circumstances of her birth are cited by some of the earliest Christian writers from the first centuries of the Church.

The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac."

Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves extensively and rigorously to prayer and fasting, initially wondering whether their inability to conceive a child might signify God's displeasure with them.

As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah, as an angel revealed to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honour their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth, and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the Protoevangelium of James, Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when she was one year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel."

"And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' . . . And he brought her to the chief priests, and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be for ever.'"

The protoevangelium goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life, and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph.

HOLY HOUR EVENING

You are warmly invited to join us for an hour of guided Eucharistic Adoration.

TIME

7.30pm

DATE

12 SEP

LOCATION

**ST LEONARDS
NAREMBURN**

ARRIVE FROM 7PM FOR A CUPPA



Discover Peace in His Presence
Uplifting Melodies that Stir the Soul
A Moment for Your Innermost Prayers
Escape and Encounter



IGNITE CONFERENCE 23

**28SEP
1 OCT SYDNEY**

CATHEDRAL PRECINCT, WAITARA

Wonder



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 31st 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>



POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

FOR PEOPLE LIVING ON THE MARGINS

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

SO FLEE YOUTHFUL PASSIONS AND PURSUE RIGHTEOUSNESS, FAITH, LOVE, AND PEACE, ALONG WITH THOSE WHO CALL ON THE LORD FROM A PURE HEART.
2 Timothy 2:22

YOUTH RETREAT

15th-17th September 2023
Starts on Friday 5.30pm & ends on Sunday 4.00pm

For more info & bookings please contact:
02 43721598 or email: drcretreatrego@gmail.com

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE
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The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

SEPTEMBER 2023 PROGRAMS

1st (Friday)	1ST FRIDAY HEALING SERVICE, CHATSWOOD Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067, Tel 02 9410 9000 6:30pm - 8:30pm	
2nd (Saturday)	ONE DAY MALAYALAM RETREAT 10:00am - 2:30pm	
15th-17th (Fri-Sun)	YOUTH RETREAT (LIVE-IN) "So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:22 with Fr. Roni George VC and Fr. Jubey Varghese VC Friday 5:30pm - Sunday 4.00pm BOOKING: drcretreatrego@gmail.com	
18th (Monday)	SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. PATRICK WALLSEND 7:00pm - 9:00pm, 11 Macquarie St, Wallsend 2287	
19th (Tuesday)	SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. LUKE'S REVESBY 7:00pm - 9:00pm, 1 Beaconsfield St, Revesby, NSW 2212	
24th (Sunday)	ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (LAST SUNDAY RETREAT) ST VINCENT DE PAUL FEAST 9:00am - 4:00pm with Fr. Roni George VC and Fr. Jubey Varghese VC • Praise and Worship • Preaching The Word • Eucharistic Adoration • Holy Mass	
KID'S MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 5 - 8 YEARS	CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 9 - 12 YEARS	TEENAGER'S MINISTRY FOR TEENAGERS AGED BETWEEN 13 - 17 YEARS

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