



# MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 28th January 2024



### Gospel Reflection

For the poor Jews of Jesus' time, the scribes were the voices of authority, the final arbiters of the Law in which God had revealed himself. Their interpretation of the Law was considered absolute.

"Demons" are encountered several times in Mark's Gospel. Anything that the people of Jesus' time could not understand or explain, such as disease, mental illness or bizarre or criminal behavior, were considered the physical manifestations of the evil one – "demons" or "unclean spirits."

Both demons and scribes are silenced in today's Gospel. Jesus' casting out the unclean spirit from the man possessed silences the voices of the demons that plague humanity. In his compassionate outreach to the poor and sick, Jesus "silences" the scribes by redefining the community's understanding of authority: whereas the "authority" of the scribes' words is based solely on their perceived status and learnedness, the authority of Jesus is born of compassion, peace and justice. The casting out of the demons and his curing of the sick who come to him are but manifestations of the power and grace of his words.

Note that the people of the Bible viewed miracles differently than we do. While we, in our high technology, scientific approach to the world, dismiss miracles as some kind of disruption or "overriding" of the laws of nature, the contemporaries of Jesus saw miracles as signs of God's immediate activity in his creation. While we ask, *How could this happen?* they asked. *Who is responsible?* Their answer was always the same: the God of all creation. Those who witnessed Jesus' healings, then, saw them as God directly touching their lives.

[connectionsmediaworks.com](http://connectionsmediaworks.com)



### INVITATION!!!

We are about to commence a NEW YEAR with the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC).

Our first meeting for 2024 will be held next Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 5.30pm in the

Parish Centre.

We are inviting YOU to consider joining us and make your contribution to the life of this wonderful Parish. There is much to be done and yet so few to commit and help out.

Here is your opportunity. Please ask the likes of Robert Marshall, Michael McGrath, Ian Press, Val Buono, Margaret Dent, Peter Nacard, Ivica Covic and Patrica Carroll of their experiences serving on the PPC. I am pleased to be Chair of this terrific group of Parishioners, and you too could become part of this.

Please contact any of us to discuss joining and becoming part of our Parish Leadership Team or discuss with Jenny in our Parish office 9977 5822.

*Kind regards Paul Pervan – Chair PPC*

### Anointing Mass at Manly

Friday 2 February at 9:15am



### ST JOSEPH'S MEN'S GROUP

Monthly meeting will be held on Thursday 1 February at 7pm in the parish centre. All Welcome.

### RECENTLY DECEASED



Betty Horne, Tricia O'Farrell's mother passed away last Wednesday.

Betty was a long-time parishioner of Freshwater. With her husband Brian they raised 5 children and were active in the parish, before they moved to Forster.

Please keep Betty in your prayers.

**Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am**  
**Mass [manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos](https://www.facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish/videos)**



**Manly Freshwater Catholic Youth** will be hosting their usual Youth Group this Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January from 7pm -9pm at St Mary's School Hall.

Come for free food and drinks, table tennis, basketball, party games, talks and new friends!  
Email:

[manlyfreshwatercatholicyouth@gmail.com](mailto:manlyfreshwatercatholicyouth@gmail.com)

Facebook: Manly Freshwater Catholic Youth

Instagram: manlyfreshwater\_catholicyouth

### PARISH FINANCES

For your information our Annual Insurance Premium is \$79,030.17. The Diocese of Broken Bay has paid the this amount and the parish will reimburse the Diocese in 4 instalments over the next 8 months.  
*Fr David Taylor PP*



### CAN'T GET TO MASS ON SUNDAY AND WANT TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

Many of you have not been able to come back to Mass on Sunday for different reasons. If you would like one of the Priest to visit you at home, please ring the parish office on 9977 5822.



If you are a new parishioner to Manly Freshwater Parish, we invite you to complete a Parish census form. This will assist us in updating our records to include you and your family in our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate.



### Pope Francis Prayer Intention for January – For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

### CHANGES TO WEEKDAY MASSES 9:15am

**Mass will be held on the following days...**

**Manly:** Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

**Freshwater:** Wednesday

*Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our MANLY community.*

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** Service will be held at Seaforth Anglican Church, 3 French's Forest Rd Seaforth at 10 am on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024**. This year the service theme "Bear with one another in love" has been written by the Christian women in Palestine, written years before the current conflict.



### St Mary's & St John the Baptist Primary Schools, St Paul's & Stella Maris Colleges

We welcome the students and their families to the 2024 School Year.

We especially welcome our Kindy and new students as they join us at our parish and school communities. Please keep the students in your prayers.

We also welcome all the new and returning teachers and staff of the Schools. We look forward to working together as a Parish and School Community.

### LET US PRAY FOR

28th January 2024

**Recently Deceased:** Betty Horn

**Anniversary:** John Diggin

**Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage"** Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; Pat Smith; John Connors; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Sheila Lee; Paul Donnelly; Julie Wallis; Lyn Hillard; Ian Flynn; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Shirley Ford; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady; Annette Frances O'Leary; Anna Kalayzich; Bill Hipkiss; Veronica Rinaldo; Chinnamma Puliparambil; Paul Gallagher; Jim Turley; Rena Curll; Maria Vasile

### Dates to remember...

- **School Staff Mass** Tues 30 January at 9:15am
- **School Returns** Wed 31 January
- **PPC Meeting** Wed 31 January at 5:30pm
- **St Joseph Men's Group** Thurs 1 February at 7pm
- **Cenacle of Our Lady** SMM Tues 9:45am, SJB Wed 9:45am
- **Eucharistic Adoration in Manly** Wed 6pm – 7:30pm



**PARISH GIVING** – thank you for your generous support. We encourage you to use

the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you prefer to use cash there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.

**PILOT PROGRAM** –The Diocese has agreed for Manly to pilot a **ONE COLLECTION** at the weekend Masses. The Diocese will continue to monitor this.

The collection is for the First and Second Plates and will be allocated as follows:

- 25% to Supporting our Priests including the sick & retired in our Diocese.
- 75% to Parish operations and maintenance of building.

- 1. Planned Giving:** through a monthly direct debit or credit card. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
- 2. Collection plates during Mass**
- 3. Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or. **EFTPOS Terminals.**
- 4. Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page.
- 5. Directly into Parish Bank Accounts**
- 6. 2nd collection Parish Bank Account**  
Funds the running of the Parish  
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish  
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank  
Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784
- 7. 1st collection** Supports our Priests  
Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral  
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank  
Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784



## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM



**The Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation Program** will commence with our Presentation Mass on the weekend of 10th and 11th February.

Our Program commenced last November with our Parent Information Session and the children, and their parents are now working through the workbooks in preparation for the Sacraments. We are unable to accept late registrations.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

will be celebrated in late March.

### The Sacrament of First Holy Communion

will be celebrated on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 11am** and will be held at both Mary Immaculate Church Manly and St John the Baptist Church Freshwater.

### The Sacrament of Confirmation

will be celebrated on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May** and will be held at Mary Immaculate Church Manly. This Program is for children in year 3 and over who have been Baptised.

Details of the of the Confirmation Program are still to be finalized and will be distributed through the Parish Catholic and State Schools and published in the Parish Bulletin.

Please remember the children and their families in your prayers.

### Position Vacant

Parish Secretary – Frenchs Forest Parish  
Mon – Fri 8.30am – 2.30pm

For more information about the role and how to apply please go to

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/contact-us/positions-vacant>



**The Craft Group** meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring your knitting or other craft if you wish.



**Lectio Divina** Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Lectio Divina groups meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm and Wednesday mornings at 10am.



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS

**Quiet Prayer & Adoration** 6pm – 7pm  
**Scripture Reflection & Benediction** 7pm – 7:30pm.

### PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Cenacle of Our Lady: Tues 9:45am Manly Church
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Weds 6:00pm – 7:30pm Manly
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm & Weds 10am Parish Centre
- Piety Store: open on weekends or call the Parish Office
- Prayer Group in Spanish – contact Parish Office 9977 5822
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary: Freshwater Tues – Fri 8.45am in Church.

### PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass: Manly & Freshwater 1st Friday 9:15am
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Joseph Men's Group: 1st Thurs of the month 7pm
- St Vincent de Paul: Manly & Freshwater Conferences 2nd Mon each month 5:30pm



**St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School Freshwater**



# OPEN DAY

**FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2024**

**9.15am - 10.45am**

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## Confraternity of Christian Doctrine – CCD

# A special invitation to you...

Become a Catechist teaching special Religious Education (SRE)

### What is a Catechist?

A Catechist is a person who gives her/his time voluntarily to provide religious education to children in primary and secondary state schools.

Catechists are those who are called to serve through teaching, witness, prayer, service and building community.

### Do you realise you have the qualities to be a Catechist?

A Catechist needs to be a person who:

- Is loving
- Cares for others
- Is fond of children
- Lives their faith
- Has common sense
- Enjoys a laugh
- Wants to contribute
- Can give 1 hour a week of their time

A Catechist does not need to be:

- Religious experts
- Qualified teachers
- Able to drive

### Why be a Catechist?

- Jesus asked that we "...spread the Good News to the whole world"
- To be a Christian, is to want to share this 'Good News' of God's love with everyone.
- St Paul tells us that "Faith without good works is dead".

- There are around 500 Catholic children in our Parish, attending State Primary Schools, many of whom through no fault of their own, would otherwise receive little, if any teaching on the 'Good News' of God's love.
- To thank God in a tangible way for all He has given to you.
- It is a great way to use your God given talents to spread His word.
- New Catechists and assistants are urgently needed now to replace retirees.

### What is involved?

Lesson materials comprising of comprehensive teachers' manuals and student workbooks are provided. A set curriculum is followed.

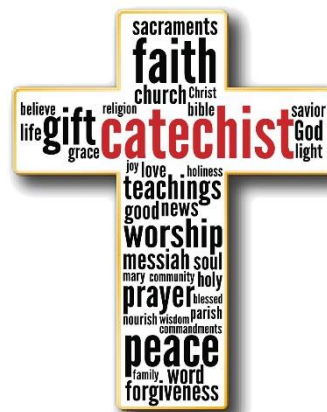
The Diocese of Broken Bay provide to catechists and helpers training sessions and fun workshops through out the year to equip and give Catechists ideas with teaching in the classrooms. These training sessions can be completed on line or face to face free of charge.

### How do I get involved?

If you think you would like to get involved and be a part of this enjoyable and rewarding ministry or you would simply like more information, please contact...

Manly: Laurie Riley 9949 7750

Freshwater: Toni Walsh 0418 862 410



This weekend at Manly and Freshwater we will hear from some of our current Catechists who will be asking for your help in this important ministry. Parishioners from the parish visit Manly West, Manly Village and Harbord Public Schools every

week in school time. They teach the children using an approved curriculum which is authorized by Bishop Anthony.

We are looking for more Catechists as we have vacancies for teachers in 2024.

Please speak to one of our current Catechists who will be at the back of the Church after each Mass to answer any of your questions and how you can join this wonderful group.

# CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH UPDATE



This years Christs Day Lunch was a fun filled day with the sun shining which allowed us to hold the event under the big tree.

We had 165 guests and around 50 volunteers join us for a festive lunch. Each guest received a Christmas Picnic Hamper with a box of chocolates. We also had a stall of donated groceries and toiletries which our guests were able to take home.

Thank you to all our volunteers and workers behind the scenes, as well as those who made a dontation. We especially thank the Dee Why RSL and Manly Legues Club and One Meal Community Group.



## MINISTRY ROSTER – FEBRUARY 2024 – MANLY

	Ministry	Week 1 3 – 4 February	Week 2 10 – 11 February	Week 3 17 – 18 February	Week 4 24 – 25 February
		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	6 <sup>th</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent
6pm Vigil Mass	Server	Kazuko Fischer	Louise Wareham	Louise Wareham	Louise Wareham
	Readers	Freya Zemek Jean Halcrow	Bill Tango	Rita Bruzzese Jean Halcrow	Bill Tango
	Music	CD'S	CD'S	CD'S	CD's
	Warden	John Zemek	John Zemek	John Zemek	John Zemek
	Piety Store	Merle Zemek	Merle Zemek	Merle Zemek	Merle Zemek
8:30am Mass	Server	Ken Thompson	Ivica Covic	Ken Thompson	Ivica Covic
	Readers	Jan Van Den Broek	Patty Thomas	Patty Thomas	Jan Van Den Broek
	Music	Parish Choir	Parish Choir	Parish Choir	Parish Choir
	Warden	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>
	Piety Store	Jan Dorsen	Jan Dorsen	Jan Dorsen	Jan Dorsen
10:30am Mass	Server	Louise Wareham	Louise Wareham Teresa Hearn	<b>Assistance Required</b> Bernie Lawler	Louise Wareham
	Readers	Katalina Taefotu Ron Gravolin	Rita Bruzzese Janie Fonua	Carmel Lawler Katalina Taefotu	Rita Bruzzese Janie Fonua
	Music	Tongan Choir	Gina Marshall Bianca Zatz	Tongan Choir	Gina Marshall Bianca Zatz
	Warden	Paul Pervan	Paul Pervan	Paul Pervan	Paul Pervan
	Morning Tea			Tongan Community	
	Piety Store	Kim McGrath	Jenny Tucker	Kim McGrath	Jenny Tucker
6pm Mass	Server	Richard Heasman	Gabriele Wan	Ivica Covic Richard Heasman	Gabriele Wan
	Readers	Dean Gale	Sandie Cornish Richard Heasman	Youth Group	Family Mass
	Music	Simon Hyland	TBC	Simon Hyland	Family Mass
	Warden	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>
	Piety Store	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>	<b>Assistance Required</b>

## MINISTRY ROSTER – FEBRUARY 2024 – FRESHWATER

	Ministry	Week 1 3 – 4 February	Week 2 10 – 11 February	Week 3 17 – 18 February	Week 4 24 – 25 February
		5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	6 <sup>th</sup> Sun in Ordinary Time	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent
5pm Vigil	Server	Mick O'Farrell	Ian Press	Mick O'Farrell	Ian Press
	Readers	Amanda Whitfield	Amanda Whitfield	Amanda Whitfield	Jessica & Joseph Press
	Music	CD's	CD's	CD's	CD's
	Server	Joanne Druery	Lou Maruca	Francis Raymond	Amorina Wright
9am Mass	Readers	Patricia Brown Luke Campbell	Vincent Bokanovic Luka Bokanovic	Toni Walsh Pam Brown	Josh Wright Jasmine Wright
	Music	Pat Brown	Pat Brown	Pat Brown	Pat Brown
	Altar Society	Isabella & Phillip D'Souza	N/A	Amanda Whitfield	N/A
	Morning Teas	Assistance Required	Tim Markwart	Angelica & Michael Rosatto	Wright family

If you would like to take part in one of these ministries, please contact the parish office 9977 5822

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B

### First Reading *Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (JB)*

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.*

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."'

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm *Ps 94:1-2, 6-9 (JB)*

**R. If today, you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. R.

Come in, let us kneel and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. R.

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' R.

### Second Reading *1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (JB)*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.*

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to

pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 4:16 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light: a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.

Alleluia!

### Gospel *Mark 1:21-28 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.*

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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E: [stpauls@dbb.edu.au](mailto:stpauls@dbb.edu.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr David Taylor  
[manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr John Puliparambil  
[john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Jenny Beninati  
[manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)**  
6 Raglan St, Manly 2095  
Parish Office: Mon to Thurs 8:30am – 4:30pm  
Phone: 9977 5822  
[manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)  
[www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater)

**St John the Baptist Church**  
cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096  
**Presbytery:** 9977 2100  
**After Hours Sick Calls:** 0499 910 010

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Paul Pervan (Chair);  
Michael McGrath (Deputy Chair); Margaret Dent  
(Secretary); Patricia Carroll; Joanne Druery;  
Val Buono; Ivica Covic; Robert Marshall;  
Peter Nacard, Ian Press, Katalina Taefotu

**Weekend Masses:**  
*Manly:* Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm  
*Freshwater:* Saturday Vigil 5:00pm & Sunday 9am

**Weekday Masses:**  
*Manly:* Tuesday – Friday 9:15am  
*Freshwater:* Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

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**Baptisms:** please contact the parish office  
*Manly:* 4th Sunday of the month  
*Freshwater:* 2nd Sunday of the month

**Reconciliation:** *Manly* Sat 10am – 11am

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**St Mary's Primary School** 7256 2135  
Principal: Paul McGuire

**St John the Baptist Primary School** 9939 6699  
Principal: Alicia van der Merwe

**St Paul's Catholic College** 9977 5111  
Principal: Michael Reid

**Stella Maris College** 9977 5144  
Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie



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