



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 18th December 2022

ADVENT WREATH PRAYER



Today we light the fourth candle—the candle of love. This signifies the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, and we recognize in a special way

in the Christmas story and in Mary's faithful response. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death.

We love, because God loves us.

Priest: Blessed are you, loving Father, Lord of heaven and earth: We give you glory and praise. For loving us as your children, and for sending your Son Jesus to save us. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

4th Candle is lit.

Priest: Lord Jesus you are Emmanuel; God with us. Lord have Mercy.

All: Lord have mercy

Priest: Lord Jesus you are son of God and son of Mary. Christ have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy

Priest: Lord Jesus you are the Word made flesh and splendour of the Father.

Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have mercy

May Almighty God have mercy on us and forgive us our sins and bring us to life everlasting.

All: Amen

Opening Prayer Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Farewell to Fr Eliseus...



Dear friends, I have just been advised by Bishop Anthony Randazzo that Fr Eliseus will be leaving us at the end of the month to take up the position of Assistant Priest to the Cathedral Parish, resident at Normanhurst, with special care of the Korean Catholic Community. We

will miss Fr Eliseus and his cheerful and happy personality. We wish him well in caring for the Korean Community at Normanhurst. Please keep him in your prayers.

Fr David Taylor



We invite you to join us at one of our Christmas Masses

St Mary's Manly 24 December

6pm Children's Mass

8pm Tongan Choir

10pm Parish Choir

25 December 8.30am & 10.30am

St John the Baptist Freshwater 24 December

5pm Children's Mass

7pm

25 December 9am Parish Choir



VINNIES CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you to everyone who kindly took a family's details from our Christmas giving tree to make up a hamper for a needy family. Envelopes will be on the pews this week if you would like to make a financial contribution to our Vinnies Christmas Appeal. With your help we will be able to carry on helping those in need. God bless you all.

Bruce - Manly and Mick - Freshwater



CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

There will be one Christmas collection at all Christmas Masses using cash or your card on the tap and go machines.

WARDENS NEEDED – if you can assist with the Christmas collections please contact the parish office.

FACE MASKS – please bring a face mask with you if you wish to wear it in the Church

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

LET US PRAY FOR

18th December 2022

Recently Deceased: Josef Gire de Guzman

Anniversary: Giuseppa Suppa

Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage" Wayne Smedley; Margaret Burrige; 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; Donnacha Donnelly; Paul Donnelly; Julie & Rodney Wallis

Dates to remember...

- **Christmas Day Setup** Wed 21 Dec @ 10am
- **Rosary** (zoom) Thurs 22 Dec at 7pm
- **Cenacle of Our Lady Manly** Tues 9:45am
- **RCIA** Tuesday 7pm Parish Centre
- **Lectio Divina** Tues 7:30pm and Wed 10am



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.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS - Quiet Prayer & Adoration 6pm – 7pm Scripture Reflection & Benediction 7pm – 7:30pm. Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said starting at 6pm



Our Christian Meditation Group has recommenced and will meet each Tuesday at 12.30pm in the Parish Centre. The group will follow the tradition of John Main. All are welcome to the join the group.



CHRISTMAS VISITS

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. We look forward to seeing you and wish you a Joy filled Christmas.

Christmas Blessing Letterbox Drop



This Christmas we are calling for volunteers to deliver a Christmas Blessing Card to every home in the parish, wishing all a Joyful Christmas and letting them know about our Christmas services. If you can assist, please contact the Parish office on 9977 5822 for further information.



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December: Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



There are currently no collections during Mass. If you would like to make a donation, we encourage you to use the Tap and Go Machines at the entrances of the Churches. Thank you for your support.

A note of thanks from Paul Pervan...



Hi everyone, for those who attended and those who helped out and enjoyed a beautiful Sunday Luncheon, thank you for the wonderful Feast Day celebration

for the Parish.

We took the opportunity to present Michelle with a "farewell retirement gift" and Fr's David and John spoke very appreciatively in thanking Michelle for her many years of service and commitment to the life of our Parish.

I also said some words of thanks on behalf of the PPC in covering the many important programs that Michelle has organised and led so brilliantly over all these years. The Parish cannot thank Michelle enough.

We are also very grateful to Michelle, Jenny and Paula for working so well together in performing their administration roles. They have been a constant support for our Priests and Parishioners in all their services, day in and day out and always with a welcoming SMILE on their faces...amazing...thank you.

We say farewell to Paula who is also sadly leaving us to attend to growing family commitments.

Please take time to send Michelle and Paula a word of thanks and let's not overlook Michelle's advice and assistance with financial matters and administering the MYOB program when required.

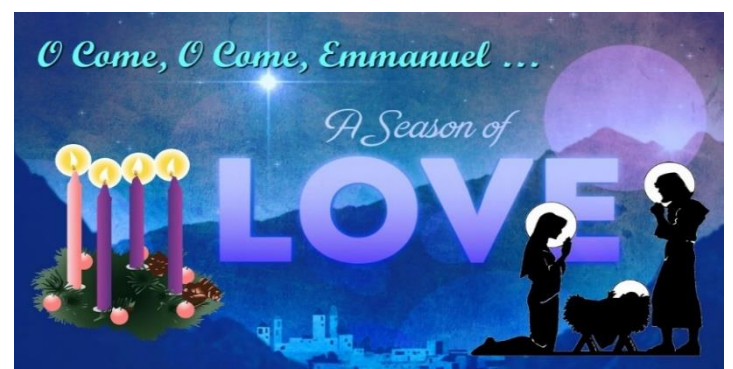
Michelle, you have fought the good fight (St. Paul's epistle) and can now enjoy your well-earned retirement and time to be with your family.

To you and your families and friends "MERRY CHRISTMAS and may OUR LORD continue to bless us in 2023".

Paul Pervan - Chair PPC Manly Freshwater Parish



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED from Friday 23 December and reopen Monday 9th Jan 2023. May you all have a Happy and Holy Christmas!





CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH FOR THOSE SPENDING CHRISTMAS ALONE

Thank you to all those who have donated goods and contributed towards this years Christmas Day Lunch

This year we will be serving a takeaway picnic lunch and will be preparing 150 Packs.

We are still needing some...

- Boxes of chocolates
- Toiletries
- Fresh Fruit - dropped off just before Christmas
- Cash donations will be used to purchase the Hams, Turkey, Salads, Bread Rolls, Desserts and anything we are short of

If you would like to volunteer to help on the day please call the Parish office on 9977 5822.

Baptisms at Freshwater last weekend..

Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.



Thank you from the Craft Group...



The Craft Group would like to extend a huge thank you to all who supported our Christmas charity fundraising this year. We are in awe of the

incredible work done by the Northern Beaches Refugee Sanctuary and are thrilled to have raised close to \$6000, \$3000 of which was raised prior to the stall by two incredible ladies.

We are taking a break over Christmas and look forward to meeting again in the New Year. Our group meets in the parish centre on Tuesdays 10am – 12noon and new members are always warmly welcome. You don't necessarily have to be a crafter, just come to enjoy a cuppa and friendship.

You're invited To CHRISTMAS

DAY LUNCH

St Mary's Catholic Church

Enter from Denison St, School Entrance

11am - 1pm

This year we will be providing a
Take Away Picnic Lunch and gift.

There will be some tables set up under
the big tree if you wish to enjoy your
Picnic with some other guests.

It's been a tough year for many, so no matter what your
circumstance, you are always welcome to come along!!

- ✓ COVID-19 Safe
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Tel: 9977 5822



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by using one of the following...

- 1. Planned Giving:** many parishioners support the parish through a monthly direct debit or credit card. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
- 2. Directly into Parish Bank Accounts**
 - **Church Account** Funds the running costs of our Parish
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784
 - **Pastoral Account** Supports our Priests
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784
- 3. Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or. **EFTPOS Terminals.**



Northern Beaches Review announcement

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to share with you that Mr Danny Casey, Director of Catholic Schools Broken Bay, announced on Friday the outcomes of the Northern Beaches Review into the provision of Catholic Education in the schools of our parish and those of the North Harbour parish.

Among the outcomes is that, from 2025, St Paul's will transition to become a co-educational school. Our Year 7 intake in 2025 will be our first co-ed enrolment (i.e. students that are in Year 4 this year). There will also be the option for girls to join Year 11, 2025. with the College to become fully co-ed by 2028.

It was also announced that St Mary's Manly will establish a specialised Stage 3 Hub, affording students in Years 5 & 6 access to specialist resources, staffing and learning spaces to shape their transition to secondary schooling and retain their enrolment in our system of schools.

Attached is the letter that was shared with the parents of the five schools within the review (St Mary's, St John the Baptist, St Kieran's, St Cecilia's and St Paul's) for your information.

This is a significant announcement and further communications from Catholic Schools Broken Bay will also detail how the recommendations of the review will play out at SJB, Manly Vale and Balgowlah.

The immediate task is for CSBB to develop both a detailed business and master plans for the St Mary's and St Paul's sites, which will be shared in due course with our parents, staff and parish communities.

With the school year concluding this Friday 16 December I take this chance to wish you a safe, happy and holy Christmas with your families.

Kind regards,



Michael Reid
COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

St Paul's Catholic College
Darley Road, Manly NSW 2095
02 9977 5111
www.stpauls.nsw.edu.au

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Announcement – Southern Peninsula of the Northern Beaches School Review

We are excited to provide an update on the status of the Southern Peninsula of the Northern Beaches School Review project.

This is a transformative, future focused initiative for Catholic education, and our families on the Northern Beaches, and with your input we are reimagining the way that Catholic education meets the needs of our community.

Your insights, feedback and ideas have directly informed the recommendations put forward to Bishop Anthony Randazzo by the Strategic Working Party and will be crucial to the long-term detailed plan that will be finalised next year.

These recommendations have received strong endorsement by Bishop Anthony and the CSBB Advisory Committee, and we are pleased to announce a summary of the outcomes of the review.

To strengthen and shape the future of our schools, Catholic Schools Broken Bay will:

- Progress a detailed education and business plan for the Northern Beaches
- Enhance opportunities for greater collaboration and learning across our system of schools
- Create a clear pathway from Preschool to Year 12 including:
 - exploration of additional preschool opportunities
 - creation of a K-12 co-educational precinct in Manly (K-6 St Mary's site and 7-12 at the current St Paul's site)
 - co-educational secondary school commencing in 2025 with Years 7 and 11, accepting enrolments from 2023
- Provide a Stage 3 (year 5 and 6) Learning Hub for Manly, giving our students greater access to specialist teachers and resources in preparation for high school.
- Commit significant investment in our schools and facilities to provide contemporary and innovative indoor and outdoor spaces for learning and sport.

In addition, the strategic working party will consider greater opportunities for student representative sports for CSBB schools. This will include the provision of improved sporting facilities for CSBB schools.

We are very grateful for your continued support and partnership in the future of Catholic Schools Broken Bay, as we inspire hearts and minds to know Christ, to love learning, to use their talents to be the very best they can be.

We look forward to progressing and delivering these recommendations.

Yours faithfully

Danny Casey - Director of Schools

9th December 2022

NORTHERN BEACHES REFUGEE SANCTUARY LTD

32 Aitken Ave Queenscliff NSW 2096

Website: www.nbrs.org.au Email address:
nbrs@optusnet.com.au ABN 98625737868

Welcome to the NBRs Summer 2022 Newsletter

We have had a busy six months with 253 airfares. They have arrived from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar, South Sudan and Congo. The largest numbers were from Syria and Iraq.

The Northern Beaches Refugee Sanctuary started assisting with airfare loans in 2003. In that time we have assisted 7886 people from 47 different countries.

We are still seeing strong demand for assistance. The cost of airfares has almost doubled in the last six months. It costs about \$3,000 per person so a family of 6 will be almost \$18,000. We are limiting our loans to \$2,000 per person as we just don't have enough money. We have a waiting list of about 4 weeks.

The other large loan scheme, which has operated for many years, has now stopped lending.

Australia's refugee program was cut during the COVID outbreak. The numbers were reduced from 18,750 to 13,750. The Labor party's policy was an increase in allocation to 27,000 by 2025. This will significantly increase the demand for our assistance.

Sadly, the number of refugees in the world continues to rise. The war in Ukraine has caused a large refugee movement in Europe. It will increase the demand on our services. We will continue to help as many as we can.

This week we helped a family of 5 from Iraq. The sponsor was unable to raise the airfare as she was supporting the family in Iraq. We were able to help, her joy and happiness was infectious. It is such a stress on the sponsor. They are often newly arrived in Australia and want to support the refugee family. It doesn't make it easy to save the airfare. When the family arrive, they will need to settle into Australia's way of life. It is foreign to them and difficult to learn English. They have support of their family and the community but more importantly no one is trying to kill them; they also have food to eat and availability of medical care.

We also helped a family of three from Afghanistan. It is the second time we have helped the sponsor. The sponsor was an interpreter for the Australian Defense Force. He said the following...

And not to forget David Thank you so so much for your support and help. Because it is your organisation that helps me brought my family here to Australia and my family member have great life here in Australia. So thank you so so much.

We also helped a family of seven. They are the sponsor's mother and his siblings. They are from South Sudan. The sponsor had saved for the flights but by the time the visas were granted the airfares had increased. We were able to help, and the family have now arrived. It will be a big celebration at Christmas.

We received an email which is below. I have removed the names.

I hope my email finds you in good health.

I would like to start by presenting myself. My cousin who has been talking to your good selves about our urgent need for your kind help and support regarding our tickets purchase which will enable us to arrive to Sydney Australia.

On Friday the 9th of September 2022, we received our IMMI Cards and Visas. In the visa grant notice was written that our prior entrance must be done before 14 October, otherwise it won't be possible to enter the country which we've been waiting for so long. Months ago, my cousin talked to your good selves asking the financial support for this issue, and your kind reply was to send you our Immi cards to start the required procedures but at that time we didn't have them, but were so happy that you agreed to help. Your kind assistance and support are so much needed since we are not able to pay the amount of 4 adults tickets in cash right now, because we don't own it, although since we received the acceptance phone call from the embassy we tried our best to start working for the sake of this, but as you know the circumstance in Lebanon and their strict employment rules for Syrian Citizens (we are not allowed to work - no one agreed to give us a chance to work even a part time job).

Honestly speaking we are afraid to lose this precious chance of arriving to Sydney if you don't accept to help us and we don't know anyone there who can.

Now we are looking forward to receive your kind approval of accepting to help us, as you've done once with my cousin when they needed a helping hand you did it without hesitation, we hope to receive the same help as well.

The email encapsulates our work and why we do it. Refugees who need help to escape and travel to Australia. They are so close to escaping but just need the airfare. They then repay it and we use it for the next family.

We are looking for donations if you can help. There is a large demand, and we don't have enough money to help everyone.

Donations are tax deductible and reused many times.

The average loan is outstanding for just over a year. Our bad debts are less than 1% of the cost of the airfare.

If you want to help please transfer the money to our account.

The Northern Beaches Refugee Sanctuary Ltd

Commonwealth Bank.

BSB 062197 Account 10993154

Please email me your details so that I can email you a tax receipt.

Have a very Happy Christmas.

David Addington

08/12/2022

Christmas Mass Roster 2022 - Manly



	6pm Christmas Eve	8pm Christmas Eve	10pm Christmas Eve	8.30am Christmas Day	10.30am Christmas Day
Servers	Martino Hoang	Richard Heasman	Louise Wareham	Ken Thompson	Louise Wareham
Readers	TBC	Val Buono Janie Fonua	Rita Bruzzese	Patty Thompson Jan Van Den Broek	Ron Gravolin Jean Halcrow
Ministers of Holy Communion	Assistance Required	Mary Prager	Assistance Required	Assistance Required	Ron Gravolin
Music AV Screens	Simon Hyland	Tongan Choir	Parish Choir	Gina & Robert Marshall	Bianca Zatz
Wardens	Dean Gale	Assistance Required	Paul Pervan	Peter Nacard	Michael McGrath

Christmas Mass Roster 2022 - Freshwater

	5pm Christmas Eve	7pm Christmas Eve	9am Christmas Day
Servers	Mick O'Farrell Amorina Wright	Joanne Druery	Lou Maruca Francis Raymond
Readers	Josh & Jasmine Wright	Assistance Required	Toni Walsh Vincent Bokanovic
Ministers of Holy Communion	Amanda Whitfield	Assistance Required	Assistance Required
Music AV Screens	Bianca Zatz	Pat Brown and Choir	Pat Brown and Choir
Wardens	Assistance Required	Assistance Required	Assistance Required

PARISH PIETY SHOP has a new selection of **Christmas and Advent items** on display. We have also received a **new range of Rosary Beads** (\$10 each). Come along and have a browse.

Movie of the month "The man who invented Christmas" (2018). A rather ill-chosen title, but an incredible and imaginative true story on Charles Dicken's creation of the book "A Christmas Carol". A film which inspires the Christmas spirit. Only \$10 @ the piety store.

CD of the month "Our Lady of Guadalupe" Luis Soto. Following the miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1531, the biggest rush to Christianity ever occurred. Priests struggled with around 9 million Aztec people baptised in 10 years. Only \$5 @ the piety store.

2023 Divine Mercy and Columban Art Calendars now available in the Piety Store Manly \$8

LIVING FAITH BOOKS Jan, Feb, Mar 2023 are now available in the Piety Store **\$6.50ea**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year A

First Reading *Isaiah 7:10-14 (JB)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

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

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 23:1-6 (JB)*

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. R.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. R.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. R.

Second Reading *Romans 1:1-7 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the

obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

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

Gospel Acclamation *Matthew 1:23 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

Gospel *Matthew 1:18-24 (JB)*

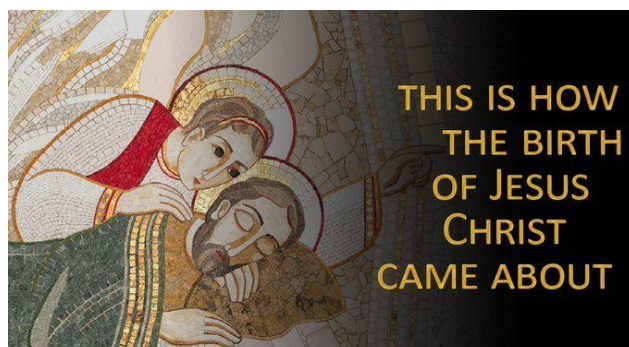
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



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Nestled between the pines at South Steyne – our Medical Centre born from the belief of looking from a fresh perspective towards healthcare. You will find highly trained, experienced GPs and Nursing Staff, with a range of skills to provide you with quality comprehensive care.



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E: stpauls@dbb.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor
Assistant Priest: Fr John Puliparambil
john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Eliseus Shin
eliseus.shin@bbcatholic.org.au
Parish Secretaries:
Jenny Beninati & Paula Martin
Pastoral Coordinator: Michelle Ellis
Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)
6 Raglan St, Manly 2095
St John the Baptist Church
cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096
Parish Office: 9977 5822
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au
www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater
Presbytery: 9977 2100
After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010
Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair),
Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent
(Secretary), Joanne Druery; Val Buono;
Ivica Covic; Robert Marshall; Michael McGrath;
Peter Nacard

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
Baptisms: please contact the parish office
Manly: 4th Sunday of the month
Freshwater: 2nd Sunday of month
Reconciliation: **Manly** Sat 10am – 11am
St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225
Principal: Paul McGuire p
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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