

## MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

## Fourth Sunday of Lent – 10th March 2024



## Come along to FR DAVID'S THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION this Sunday 10th March at 10:30am Mass followed by lunch.

We thank Fr David for his pastoral care and support to the parish over the last 15 years.

All welcome to join in our celebration!!!



## **Easter Ministry Roster**

If you are a reader or a senior server and are able to assist with our Easter Services please advise the Parish Office.



## FRESH PALMS OR OLIVE **BRANCHES NEEDED for Palm Sunday**. Please bring your Palms to the parish centre on Friday 22nd March between 9am -2pm. If you can

assist, please contact the Parish Office 9977 5822

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.





## Stations of the Cross

each Friday during Lent Freshwater at 9:45am and Manly at 7pm

For Christians, Lent is an important time of reflecting on the suffering and death of Jesus so as to enter into the joy of his Resurrection. Thursdays 7pm in the

Parish Centre until 21 March 2024, we will be having a Lenten prayer and reflection group.

In this group, we will reflect on the Gospel reading of the Sunday prior through the assistance of Bishop Robert Barron who invites us to enter more deeply into the prayerful nature of the season of Lent.



## Parish 2nd Rite of Reconciliation

St Mary's Church, Manly Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 6pm.

Parish Reconciliation is held at Manly each Saturday at 10am – 11am and also Wednesday 6pm – 7pm.

# We

## Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday 7pm at Manly only

would like to invite 12 parishioners to participate in the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday. If you would like to volunteer, please call the Parish Office on 9977 5822.

## **PROJECT COMPASSION**



As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

## Please donate to Project Compassion.



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes which are available in the Church or by visiting <u>caritas.org.au/project-</u> compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Long time parishioner Jim Turley died last Monday morning. His Requiem Funeral will be held at St Mary's Church. Manly on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 11:30am at St Mary's Church Manly.

10th March 2024

Please keep Jim and his family in your prayers.

## LET US PRAY FOR

**Recently Deceased:** Aaron Nable; Jim Turley **Anniversary:** Ellen Lawler; Steven Verghese; Magdalene Xavier

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; Rena Curll; Maria Vasile; John Santos; Shirley Ford

## Dates to remember...

- Sacramental Program Masses Sat 9 & 16 March Freshwater: 10am and Manly: 4pm
- Confirmation Parent Info Night Manly: Tue 12 March 7pm SJB: Tues 3 April 7pm
- Stations of the Cross during Lent on Fridays Freshwater: 9:45am; Manly: 7pm
- Parish Lenten Program Thurs 14th March 7pm
- Parish Reconciliation Wed 20 March 6pm Manly
- Spanish Prayer Group Fri 15th March 6pm
- Cenacle of Our Lady Manly: Tues 9:45am; Freshwater: Wed 9:45am



#### 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.

### TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE REQUIRED



An elderly parishioner living in Bonner Ave, Manly is asking for assistance to get to the 8:30am Sunday Mass at Manly.

If you are able to assist please contact the parish office 9977 5822



**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.

SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

- 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
- 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. Direct into Parish Bank Accounts
  - 2nd collection Parish Bank
    Account Funds the running of the
    Parish
    Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish



Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784

 1st collection Supports our Priests Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784



## HAS YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRED?

If you donate to the Parish using your credit card please let us know if

you have a new card or the card has expired by contacting the Parish Office 9977 5822 or email <u>manlyfreswaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au</u>



## DIRECT DEBIT FROM BANK ACCOUNT

Please consider changing your giving from a credit card

deduction to a direct debit from your bank account. Please contact the parish office to have this set up automatically for you.

## **POPE FRANCIS'** Advice for Lent

Fast from **hurting** words and say kind **words**.

Fast from **sadness** and be filled with **gratitude**.

Fast from **anger** and be filled with **patience**.

Fast from **pessimism** and be filled with **hope**.

Fast from **worries** and **trust in God**.

Fast from **complaints** and **contemplate** simplicity.

Fast from **pressures** and be **prayerful**.

Fast from **bitterness** and fill your heart with **joy**.

Fast from **selfishness** and be **compassionate** to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from **words** and be silent so you can **listen**.



**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 craft if you wish.

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.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS – 6pm – 7.30pm

Adoration Quiet Prayer, Adoration and reconciliation will be available 6pm – 7pm concluding with Benediction



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 March –For new martyrs

Pope Francis urges the faithful to pray during March for "those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world."







## CONFIRMATION 2024 Parents Meeting this Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 7pm at Manly

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Saturday 18th May 2024 at 10am & 12am. All sessions will be held at St Mary's Church, Manly.

The Catholic Community of Manly Freshwater invites you to enrol your child in this year's Confirmation program. In the Diocese of Broken Bay, children who have been baptised and are in Year 3 or above, are eligible to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This second Sacrament of Initiation confirms your child's Baptism through the anointing of the Holy Spirit, which is signified by the oil of Chrism and will lead your child to full initiation in the Catholic Church through First Holy Communion.

We will be holding our Parish Information Workshop Evenings on the following dates...

- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm at St Mary's Church, Manly
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm at St John the Baptist Church, Freshwater

Information and Registration forms can be found at the rear of the Church and also at the Parish Office.

## Sacraments of First Holy Communion

This weekend the children will continue the Preparation Masses for First Holy Communion. Please remember the children and their families in your prayers.



VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

On behalf of all the families that the Parish community helped at Christmas we would like to say a big THANK YOU.

Our appeal raised over \$9,570 which was fantastic and will be used to carry on our work of assisting those in need.

We would like to thank also the school communities of St Paul's, Stella Maris and St Augustine's Colleges and St Mary's and St John the Baptist primary schools for their support.

We would like to thank Blackmores and the Mounties group for their ongoing support as well.

Please keep all people in need in your prayers.

God Bless Bruce and Mick

## Manly Freshwater Parish Financial Report for the 6 months to December 31, 2023

Year	2022/23	2023/24	SIX MTHS TO DEC '23
	Actual \$'000	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000
Operating Revenue			
Planned Giving #	165	180	82.4
Unplanned Giving *	126	117	70.4
Total Parish Giving	291	297	152.8
Other Revenue	41	65	23.9
Rent Received (Net of utility costs & exp. prior to FY23)	83	79	40.6
Total Operating Revenue	414	441	217
Operating Expenditure			
Employment	109	130	34
Insurance	65	70	33.4
Repairs and Maintenance (parish use recurring)	38	39	16.6
Repairs and Expenses (rental properties)	6	7	0.2
Other	125	131	48.4
Total Operating Expenditure	343	376	133
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	71	65	85
CASH AND DEPOSITS @ 30 JUNE 2023/ 31 DEC 2023	244		379
Less CDF LOAN	-94		-84
Less OTHER NET LIABILITIES (incl leave & payroll)	-37		-97
NET FUNDS AVAILABLE TO PARISH	113	0	198

**GIVING**: These figures are "net" to the PARISH ACCOUNT, ie after allocation to the PASTORAL ACCOUNT and are separate to other campaigns such as PASTORAL WORKS FUND, SVDP, CARITAS etc

# Planned Giving: Includes envelopes, credit cards, Direct Debits, scheduled EFT's

\* Unplanned Giving: Includes loose cash, Tap machines, adhoc EFT's

As you will note in the above Parish Financial Update, parishioners have been very generous in supporting our parish income through your regular giving. This meets our expectations for our budget for the full financial year 2023/2024.

You will also note that on a pro rata basis our Expenditure is 'light' compared to the full year forecast. While we expect the two biggest items (Employment and Insurance) will be significantly more in the second half of the financial year, full year Operating Expenditure is likely to be less than budgeted and the Net Operating Surplus may exceed the Budget forecast of \$65k.

Of course this would be a welcome outcome, however, as mentioned many times in the past, the local conditions demand that the Parish buildings require constant maintenance and repairs.

Over the next three years we can expect the Operating Surplus to be used on bigger projects that include;

- Presbytery: repointing of bricks; verandah restoration (c\$125k)
- Manly Church: sandstone repair \$200k
- Manly Church: interior painting c\$50k
- Upgrade of former Freshwater Presbytery (leased out to tenants): \$50k+

Thank you again for your continuing financial support. With your help we can maintain this Church Precinct in the condition which reflects a vibrant Parish, offering Sunday and Weekday Masses, Sacramental programs for our children, baptisms, weddings, and funerals and always a quiet refuge for personal prayer with Our Lord.

## **Gospel Reflection**

Nicodemus is a Pharisee, a member of the ruling Sanhedrin. Like so many others who heard Jesus, he is fascinated by this Worker of wonders. So as not to attract undue attention, he arranges to meet Jesus at night.

In their meeting, Jesus tries to make Nicodemus understand the mission of the Messiah in a new light:

It is not Israel's strict adherence to the ancient Law but the love of God that is the vehicle of salvation. God is motivated by a love so great that he gives the world his only Son, not to destroy but to transform the world. Redemption is initiated God; reconciliation and healing are God's work, filled with possibilities that are as limitless as they are undeserved.

The God of Israel is not the God of condemnation and destruction but the God of forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation. The Messiah comes as a "light" to enable humankind to realize the great love and mercy of God.

Contrary to the image Nicodemus and Judaism have of a powerful, triumphant Messiah who will restore Israel's political fortunes, the real Messiah will suffer and die in order to conquer death and restore life. Jesus invokes the image of Numbers 21: 4-9: As Yahweh directs, Moses lifts up the image of a serpent on a pole to heal those who suffer from a deadly plague caused by the bite of serpents. The crucified Messiah, too, will be "lifted up" to bring healing and wholeness to this hurting world.

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## THE MESSAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

WEEK 1

## **About Divine Mercy**

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple.

It is that God loves us – all of us. And He wants us to

recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

**A** - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

**B** - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

**C** - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His mercy can only be received by our trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and lives to Him with trust, the more we can receive.



## SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING

Bishop Emeritus David Walker will be celebrating Mass for Serra at **Sacred Heart** 

**Church 2 Richard Porter Way Pymble** on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024. There is plenty of parking available in the Parish car park.The evening commences with Mass at **7.00 PM** followed by a light meal and a short meeting. *Following the meeting Bishop David will be our guest speaker, his topic will be "Being a Disciple of Jesus".* 

#### Everyone is welcome. Please "come and see".

For catering purposes kindly telephone Henry or Anna Leung on **0478 083 116** or email henrywk@yahoo.com.au or telephone Terry Scanlan on **0438 887 295** or email terry\_scanlan@bigpond.com if you are planning to attend.

## PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Cenacle of Our Lady: Tues 9:45am Manly Church
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Weds 6:00pm Manly
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm & Weds 10am Parish Centre
- Piety Store: open on weekends or call the Parish Office
- Prayer Group in Spanish 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday 6pm Parish meeting room
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary: Freshwater Tues Fri 8.45am in Church. <u>PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS</u>
- 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



# Register Now!

Wednesday 13 March 4.00pm - 7.30pm

- Tour the campus with a student ambassador.
- Listen to Principal's address (4.15pm, 5.15pm, 6.15pm)
- Talk with teachers, staff, students and Registrar.
- Enjoy subject area displays and hands-on activities.
  Experience the vibrant and inclusive Stella community.



Scan to

# God gave his only Son to save us

## 4th Sunday of Lent, Year B

Draw or write some of the ways we can see God's love in the world today.

# Jesus Saves Us 🐱



When he grew up he proclaimed the Good News



Jesus performed miracles

Write a prayer about how you would like God to help you.

Dear Lord.



Amen.

Jesus' disciples joined him for the Last \_\_\_\_\_





## Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year B

#### **First Reading** 2 *Chronicles* 36:14-16, 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 136 (Year B) (JB)

#### R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps. R.

For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' R.

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! R.

O let my tongue cleave my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! R.

Second Reading Ephesians 2:4-10 (Year B) (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord.

### All: Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Acclamation Joi

John 3:16 (Year B) (JB)

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### Gospel

John 3:14-21 (Year B) (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believed in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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



Parish Priest: Fr Chima Ofor manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au Assistant Priest: Fr Marek Woldan marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au Pastor Emeritus: Fr David Taylor Seminarian: Matthew French Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati 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 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: Michael McGrath (Chair); Ivica Covic (Deputy Chair); John Zemek (Deputy Chair); Val Buono; Patricia Carroll Margaret Dent; 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 & Freshwater Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Baptisms: please contact the parish office

Reconciliation: Manly Sat 10am - 11am

*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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