



# MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Second Sunday of Advent – 6th December 2020

(Feast Day of St Nicholas – Santa Claus)

Dear Friends,

**Great news!** The Covid restrictions for Churches have been eased and we can now accommodate 150 people in the Church at Freshwater and 400 in the Church at Manly both with 2sqm social distancing. We look forward to welcoming all of you back.

This coming Tuesday 8th December at 6pm we will be celebrating our Parish Feast Day Mass of Mary Immaculate at Manly with Bishop Anthony Randazzo and Fr John (our new assistant priest). We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible, and then meeting with Bishop Anthony and Fr John, for light refreshments afterwards. This Mass will also conclude our 150th Anniversary Celebration of the first Mass celebrated in the first Church at Manly.



We thank you very much for the wonderful response we have had to your booking-in for Christmas Masses. Due to the large number of bookings for Christmas Eve, we have had to reconsider how we do the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass at Freshwater. **By using the undercroft area of the school for an outdoor Mass we can accommodate approximately 285 people seated, whereas the Church is limited to 150 persons. Please book now.**

If you wish to change your Christmas Mass booking please contact the Parish Office on 9977 5822 as soon as possible.



**Reflection...** John's brief appearance in Mark's Gospel begins a new era in the history of salvation. Mark's details about John's appearance recall the austere dress of the great prophet Elijah (2 Kings 1: 8). The Jews believed that Elijah would return from heaven to announce the long-awaited restoration of Israel as God's kingdom. For Mark and the synoptics, this expectation is fulfilled in John the Baptizer. In the Baptizer's proclamation of Jesus as the Messiah, the age of the prophets is fulfilled and the age of the Messiah begins. John's baptism with water is an act of hope and expectation in the Messiah's baptism in the very Spirit and life of God.

Each one of us is called to be a prophet of Christ. The word **prophet** comes from the Greek word meaning "one who proclaims." Not all prophets wear camel skins and eat locusts – there are prophets among us right now who proclaim in their ministries, in their compassion and their kindness, in their courageous commitment to what is right that Jesus the Messiah has come.

To be a prophet of God's justice begins with embracing God's vision of what the world can and should become and then giving one's self totally and unreservedly to realizing that vision. In the baptismal call to become prophets of the God who comes, we are to do the work of transforming the wastelands around us into harvests of justice and forgiveness, to create highways for our God to enter and re-create our world in charity and peace.

As an "Advent people," we are caught (like the Israelites returning to Jerusalem – Reading 1) between a world that is dying and, at the same time, a world waiting to be reborn. The work of Advent is to bring about that rebirth: to prepare a world that is ready for the Lord's coming.

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



**Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December – For a Life of Prayer** We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

We're COVID SAFE



**Facebook – manlyfreshwaterparish** Sunday 8:30am Mass

LET US PRAY FOR

6th December 2020

Recently Deceased: John Thorpe

Anniversary: Roddy Sia

Prayers for the sick in our parish: Gavin Greenwood, Zacchaeus Emmanuel Joseph Ratnam; Mark Taylor; Kay Flenady; Leon Cochrane; Robina Dwyer; Prionsias Kearney; Brian Davies; Debbie Vernon; Lauren Hannahan; Rosalba Galuis; Vanessa Squirrel; Judith McKenzie; Jonathan Keil; Les Reilly; Wayne Smedley; Margaret Burrige; Jill Carmichael; Stephen Robertson; Richard & Cynthia Connolly; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Kathleen Hudson; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Jacqui Dawson; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty

December 2020

Year B

Mon 7/12 – St Ambrose Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tue 8/12 – Immaculate Conceptions of the Blessed Virgin Mary Gen 3:9-15,20; Eph 1:3-6,11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wed 9/12 – 2nd week of Advent Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
Thurs 10/12 – 2nd week of Advent Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
Fri 11/12 – 2nd week of Advent Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Sat 12/12 – 2nd week of Advent Sirach 48:1-4,9-11; Mt 17:10-13
Sun 13/12 – Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1-2,10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,19-28



The Season of Advent restores the horizon of Hope. A hope which does not disappoint for it is founded in the Word of God.

Pope Francis 2013

Priest: In today's readings we shall hear about the mission of John the Baptist, who was sent to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus, the light of the world. We, too, are sent to prepare the way. As we light the second candle on the Advent wreath let us pray that we may be worthy of our mission to spread the light of Christ in the world so that all may acknowledge Jesus as Lord. With love, may we prepare in this season not just with decorations and colourful lights but with acts and deeds of love and service to one another and especially to the poor. May our candles of kindness shine brightly in a shadowy world.

Light the second candle on the wreath

Priest: We are called to "prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord."

All: Come Lord Jesus

Priest: The Lord coming with power.

All: Come Lord Jesus

Priest: You are the one whom John proclaimed.

All: Come Lord Jesus

Collect: Priest: Let us pray.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION The call to repentance lies at the heart of the Advent season. Like the people in today's readings, we, too, are called to a change of heart, as we long for a better world where injustice will cease.

Today's First Reading is full of hope and consolation for a nation weary of suffering. God is seen by the prophet Isaiah both as a warrior who fights for his people, and as a shepherd who nourishes and guides them to rest.

The Psalm reveals God's inner ways and intentions; he is a God of peace, mercy, faithfulness and justice, who longs to help us.

One of the themes of Advent is that of looking forward to the second coming of Jesus. St Peter advises us to wait patiently. We are to live in a way worthy of our Christian calling; living lives that please God as we allow his peace to fill us. (Second Reading).

The Gospel underlines how radical John the Baptist was in his calling, just like the Old Testament prophets. His focus was on the need to repent, for people to change their world view and live accordingly. In this way, they will be more open to the teachings of Jesus, so that 'the glory of the Lord shall be revealed' (Isaiah 40: 5).

This week, we might ask for the grace of trust, and to receive the deep love of God into our hearts. God is offering us new life in Christ, empowering us to be his instruments for change in a world torn apart by self-serving actions and fear. Pathways to God



Home Delivery – If you know someone who would like a bulletin delivered please call the Parish Office on 9977 5822.

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish facebook:

facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Parish website:

bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Visiting sick at home - If you, or if you know of anyone who are unwell and would like a home visit please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to organise for Communion or Anointing



If you are feeling unwell please do not come into the Church.

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 community



Now available at the Church entrances.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.





## Christmas Masses

Due to Covid 19 restrictions our Christmas celebrations will be a little different. Below are the Mass times and you will see that we have extra Masses.

### Manly

24/12 – 4.30pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm

25/12 – 7.30am, 9am, 10.30am & 6pm

### Freshwater

24/12 – 5pm (outside Mass), 6.30pm

25/12 – 9am

Booking for the Mass you wish to attend is essential. Book by calling the Parish Office on 9977 5822, by emailing [manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au) or by using the sign on Christmas Mass Sheet at the Masses this weekend 5th/6th December.



To assist us with maintaining our attendance registers you now have the option of scanning the QR code with your Phone to register your details to enter the Church at Manly. At the Church please hold your phone over the code with your camera and internet on and follow the link to complete your details. **Sign in sheets** will

still be available at both Churches. **There is need to register** to attend Mass each week. **The limit is 189 people attending Mass at Manly and 74 people attending Mass at Freshwater.**

**USE OF FACE MASKS IS NOW RECOMMENDED BY THE NSW GOVERNMENT AT RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

**PRIVATE PRAYER** Churches will be open for private prayer. Parishioners and visitors are asked to **'sign in'** each time they visit on the sheet provided or advise the Parish Office. Please follow social distancing rules, and use hands sanitiser on arrival and departure.

**Singing at Mass** We will continue to have music with a cantor/s at Masses at the weekend but due to the latest recommendations from the NSW Government we ask that the Congregation refrain from singing.



### Pope Francis @ Pontifex

I want to assure my prayers for Nigeria. Last Saturday more than one hundred farmers were brutally killed. May God welcome them in His peace and comfort their families and convert the hearts of those who commit similar atrocities which gravely offend His name.



YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

*Parish Feast Day Celebration and Celebration of our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of our First Church at Manly*

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December @ 6pm**

Bishop Anthony and Fr John our new assistant priest will be joining us to celebrate our 150th Anniversary of the opening of our first Church (wooden) on the feast day of Mary Immaculate, Tuesday 8th December at 6pm. Following the Mass, we will have light refreshments. So, come along and meet Bishop Anthony and welcome Fr John to our parish community.



### St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal

Our giving tree is available if you would like to make up a hamper for a needy family. There will also be envelopes at the entrances of the Churches.

*Mick O'Farrell  
President Freshwater  
Conference*

*Bruce Whittet  
President Manly  
Conference*



### Craft Group Christmas Market This Sunday

Come along and do your Christmas shopping at the Parish Craft Group Christmas Market on this Sunday from 9am – 12.00 noon.

There will be beautiful handmade items, including knitted and crochet toys, baby clothes, blankets, coat hangers, aprons, face masks and much more.

You will be amazed by the beautiful work done by the Craft Group ladies. Come along and join us for morning tea on Tuesdays, 10am in the Parish Centre.



## CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH FOR THOSE SPENDING CHRISTMAS ALONE

We are happy to advise that we have been given permission by the NSW Government to host our annual Christmas Day Lunch this year. Due to the regulations our Christmas Day will look different with only 76 guests being able to be seated for lunch in the hall. We will also have Picnic Packs available for collection throughout the day to enjoy at the beach or at home.

If you would like to donate goods for the Picnic Pack or the meal we will be including some of the following as well as the take away meal...

- Bottle or can of soft drink
- Box of chocolates
- Beach towel
- Sun cream
- Hat
- Drink Bottle/Cup
- Ham
- Fruit



# Come together and join us for CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH!

St Mary's Church Hall, 50 Whistler St, Manly  
11:00am - 2:00pm

This year we are ALSO providing a FREE take-away picnic and gift!!

### Sit-down Christmas Lunch

Free delicious sit-down lunch  
Free Gift Bag  
Live Music  
Limited Seating due to COVID-19

### Take-away Picnic Lunch

Free delicious meal to take-away  
Take-away available from 10:00am  
Free Gift Bag

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

- ✓ COVID-19 Safe
- ✓ Free
- ✓ Special Gift Bag for all guests
- ✓ Family friendly
- ✓ Non-alcoholic
- ✓ Friendly Community

Hosted by Manly Freshwater Parish ph: 9977 5822

Walk-ins welcome, however please contact us if you would like to reserve a seat.



### EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

is held at Manly Church on Wednesdays from 6pm with Divine Mercy Hour held from 7:00pm – 8:00pm. To assist us on Wednesdays and present before the Blessed Sacrament, a Guard of Honour

Roster has been placed on the notice board. We invite you to place your name in a time slot which suits you.



A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all who have continued to support the Parish

To help you to make your offering you can use one of the following options:



1. Use the **tap and go machines** at the Church entrance **Now at Freshwater and Manly**
2. Place envelopes and cash in the **collection plates** (1st collection and 2nd collection) at the Church entrances.
3. Continue to use direct debit with your **credit cards**

To make a **credit card donation** via the internet please right click below to open hyperlink <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/manlyfreshwater>



### EUCHARISTIC & DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR

Manly each Wednesday at 6pm with Divine Mercy Hour from 7pm to 8pm

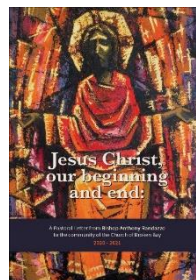


**Craft Group** meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring along your knitting or other craft if you wish.

**Lectio Divina** Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Lectio Divina groups meets Tuesday 7.30pm in the Parish Room and Wednesday mornings at 10am in the Parish Centre.



**PLAYGROUP** Leap into Learning Playgroup Mondays 9am -10am in the Hall.



**Jesus Christ, our beginning and end: A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Anthony Randazzo to the community of the Church of Broken Bay 2020 – 2021** Bishop Anthony issued his first Pastoral Letter to the Diocese of Broken Bay last Sunday 29 November, for the First Sunday of Advent. Entitled **Jesus Christ, our beginning and end**, it outlines the Bishop's six priorities for the community of the Church in our Diocese. Hard copies will be available shortly. *You may wish to also view the publication online here*





**PIETY STORE will be open after the 8:30am Mass this weekend.**

There is a large selection of Christmas stock now available as well as Columbian and Divine Mercy Calendars. Come in and take a look

**Movie of the month** The Christmas Candle - a timeless Christmas tale for the whole family. Set in the English countryside. A story about a Christmas miracle, the power of good deeds and acts of kindness. Only \$15 @ the piety store

**CD of the month** - Advent - rethinking the season by Dr Tim Gray

Advent is a season not about itself, but about preparing for Christmas. Learn a deeper appreciation of this "pre-season" and get the most out of this Christmas. Only \$5 @ the piety store.

**St Mary's School News...**



This week our Kindergarten children for 2021 began their journey to big school with their orientation days. It was so lovely to see the excited smiles of the children as they walked through the front gates.

This week we also held our Christmas Carols Concert-Covid style! The children were decked out in their best Christmas outfit and moved and grooved to the festive Christmas beats which were filmed and will be shared with our parents.

Lions and tigers and bears oh my! Taronga Zoo came to St Mary's and our Kindergarten children were treated a wonderful zoo experience organised by our amazing Kindy teachers Miss Gradwell and Miss Searl. The children were able to view the seal show and tiger enclosures and hunted for wild animals in our playground. The highlight of the day was the mobile zoo where the children got up close and personal with some furry and scaled friends.



Our Year 6 Mission leaders led us in a reverent Advent liturgy so start our Advent journey as we wait in hope for the birth of Jesus. What a busy week we've had!

*Kind regards Alexis Conn (REC)*

**St John's School News...**



In lieu of our 2020 Athletics Carnival, our wonderful P.E. teacher Mrs Frost organised an SJB Athletics Day for our students to participate in at Jacka Park this week. All classes were scheduled to participate in a carousel of sports activities throughout the day. The Year 6 students demonstrated exemplary leadership in their assistance with the running of the day's events. Children participated in a variety of activities such as relay races with batons, hurdles and ladder obstacle runs, egg and spoon races and even a chicken throwing competition!

The emphasis on the day's activities was all about participation and having fun! *Kind Regards Sharna Taranto (Acting REC)*

**MANLY**

|                | 3rd Sunday of Advent | 12/13 December                                                   |
|----------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6pm Vigil Mass | Server               | Louise Wareham                                                   |
|                | Readers              | Jean Halcrow                                                     |
|                | Music                | Josh Willard                                                     |
|                | Welcomers            | John & Merle Zemek<br>Lynne Parks                                |
|                | Flowers              | Hazel Cottee<br>Carole O'Donnell                                 |
| 8:30am Mass    | Server               | Louise Wareham                                                   |
|                | Readers              | Rita Bruzzese                                                    |
|                | Music                | Robert & Gina Marshall<br>Organist                               |
|                | Welcomers            | Veronica Renaud<br>Claire Carmody<br>Laurie & Liz<br>de Ambrosis |
| 10:30am Mass   | Servers              | Ron Gravalin<br>Iona & Theresa Hearn                             |
|                | Readers              | Janie Fonua                                                      |
|                | Music                | Gina Marshall<br>Bianca Zatz                                     |
|                | Welcomers            | Paul & Nicola Pervan                                             |
| 6pm Mass       | Server               | Kieran & Michael Wan                                             |
|                | Readers              | Sandie Cornish<br>Dean Gale                                      |
|                | Music                | TBC                                                              |
|                | Welcomers            | Marianna Gale<br>Assistance Required                             |

**FRESHWATER**

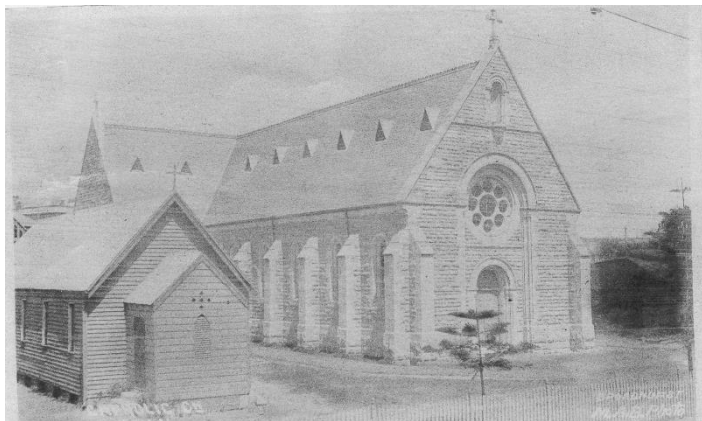
|           | Ministry      | 12-13 December               |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 5pm Vigil | Server        | Ian Press                    |
|           | Readers       | Amanda Whitefield            |
|           | Welcomers     | Amanda Whitefield            |
| 9am Mass  | Server        | Joanne Druery                |
|           | Readers       | Toni Walsh<br>Patricia Brown |
|           | Music         | Pat Brown                    |
|           | Altar Society | Isabella & Phillip D'Souza   |
|           | Welcomers     | Assistance Required          |

**PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS**

- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am in the Parish Centre
- Divine Will Prayer Group: Mon 11:00am in the Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Manly Adoration on Wed 6pm with Divine Mercy Hour from 7pm – 8pm
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm in the Parish Room and Weds 10am in the Parish Centre
- Parish Playgroup: Manly on Mon 9am – 10:30am
- Piety Store: call Parish Office
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822

**PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS**

- Baptisms: By appointment enquires to Parish Office
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Vincent de Paul: Manly 2nd Mon each month at 4:30pm & Freshwater Confernces 2nd Mon each month at 5:30pm



## Manly Catholic Church: An Overview

by Patty. Thomas

In 1865 the Mission of Manly Beach was under the control of North Shore Deanery. Fr Bruno Powell from St Leonards (established 1855) was able to visit the Mission only once every three months as his area to cover was from Parramatta to the Hawkesbury and Broken Bay. He called for the creation of a church in Manly as Mass was being celebrated in the Steyne Hotel and private homes ("Strathspey" on Ocean Beach Esplanade and "The Pines" boarding house Denison St and Ocean Beach).

**Freemans Journal 6 May 1965:** stated Dr Powell from St Leonards will be celebrating Mass today on a beautiful site, facing the Pacific that has been liberally donated by Mr Gilbert Smith for the new Catholic Church in Manly.

Dr Powell commented in the homily that this planned Church was due to the earnest zeal of the Catholics of Manly to have a church. The Catholic Mission of Manly Beach has a wide, scattered population of the labouring class, who have limited funds in the erection of their church, however, the mission is visited frequently by day-trippers and holidaymakers to the village of Manly. He saw its potential as a growth area especially as a ferry service had commenced in 1857 from Sydney to Manly.

Fr Callaghan McCarthy, (1826-1894) an Irish priest, came to Manly as a priest in residence in 1866 for a sea change after extensive parish development in the Mudgee parish which at the time reached to the Queensland border. He took upon himself to complete Dr Powell's vision. He set to work building a Church in 1868 and opened in 1869 with the first Solemn Mass on 8 Dec 1869, the feast of Mary Immaculate. He also built the first presbytery at 87 Ocean Rd Manly in 1867.

The small weatherboard church was tendered on 15 Feb 1868 at the cost of one thousand, two hundred and 31 pounds drawn up by Fr McCarthy and builders John Wilson and William Bagnall. The size of the Church was 40 feet length, 18 feet wide and 10 feet high walls. The catholic population in 1869 was under 100 people.

William Bede Dalley (Premier of NSW) commenting on the old Church in 1877. "Here the Holy Sacrifice had been offered for twenty years. Time and the storms, however, had done their work and by 1887 it had become a decaying edifice, - yet dear to the hearts of the people, for not only had it rendered noble service, but it was associated with the spiritual labours of the priests who had served so willingly in the colony."

In 1876, Manly was recognised as a parish in its own right under the auspices of the North Shore deanery. The parish covered from The Spit to Broken Bay. The first official parish priest was Rev P Hallinan.

By 1887, the little wooden church was full, so plans were drawn up for a new Church to accommodate the growing population. Fr George Tuckwell had purchased land on the Ocean Beach-Steyne Rd Manly and Cardinal Moran blessed the foundation stone on 12 June 1887. He proposed to call the new Church Mary Immaculate, St Brigid and St Athanasius. Mary Immaculate, because he had been in Rome when the feast of the Immaculate Conception was promulgated, St Brigid, in honour of all the Irish priests who had served the Colony of Sydney (and it was his mother's name) and St Athanasius, a doctor of the Church, in honour of all the priests and seminarians at St Patrick's and their caretaking of the Manly Church.

The site, however, proved too small and another site was found for the new church next to the wooden church linking Whistler St and Francis St. This foundation stone was also blessed by Cardinal Moran on 1 Feb 1891. The nave was completed, and the Church blessed and opened 4 Dec 1892. (Nave was 80ft long x 30ft wide with walls of 25ft). Moran declared in his homily "It is one of the finest most beautiful buildings in Sydney and surrounds....a noble ornament for the village of Manly... faithful to the vision of William Bede Dalley."

A baptistry on the western wall was added in 1896. Altar rails, a confessional and vestment press were added in 1897. It was not until 12 June 1908, that the next foundation stone was blessed for the addition of the transepts, sanctuary and sacristy. The Church was finished thanks to the generosity of a parishioner, Mrs Isabella Dwyer. The Stone Church was blessed and opened 6 June 1909 by Cardinal Moran. The capacity of the Church was 600 persons.

Manly continued growing and in the 1940's Mons John McDonald had plans drawn up to extend the Church again but due to the war and cost building was delayed. The expansion extended the nave to include two side aisles, a narthex, baptistry and mortuary chapel and now accommodated 900 persons. This work was completed and blessed in Sept 1963.

In 1971, Fr Denis Ryan updated the sanctuary adding a freestanding altar, ambo and baptism font all in marble and converted two confessionals into shrines for the Sacred Heart and Mary Immaculate. In 1986, Fr Ryan's dream of a pipe organ was realised with one of the largest pipe organs in NSW by the courtesy of two main benefactors.

In 1995, Fr Phillip Murphy redesigned the sanctuary removing the old high altar to a side altar (previously a side altar to the Sacred Heart) and creating a Blessed Sacrament Chapel with a quote from John 15: "I call you friends". The sanctuary was made one level covering the marble floor and steps and carpeted. The last remaining marble altar rails at the front of the sanctuary (in front of the Blessed Sacrament chapel) were removed. It was at this time 24 Sept 1995 Bishop Murphy first Bishop of Broken Bay blessed and dedicated as now complete.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year B

### First Reading *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (JB)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*Prepare the way for the Lord.*

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

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

### Responsorial Psalm *Ps 84:9-14 (JB)*

**R. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. R.

Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. R.

The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. R.

### Second Reading *2 Peter 3:8-14 (JB)*

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

*We wait for new heavens and a new earth.*

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to

change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

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

### Gospel Acclamation *Luke 3:4, 6 (JB)*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

### Gospel *Mark 1:1-8 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
*Make straight the paths of the Lord.*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.  
A voice cries in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



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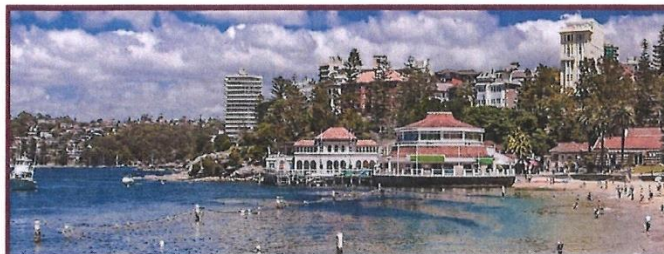
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**Parish Priest:** Fr David Taylor

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Paul Kim

**Parish Secretaries:** Jenny Beninati & Paula Martin

**Pastoral Coordinator:** Michelle Ellis

### Mary Immaculate Church

6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

### St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater NSW 2096

**Administration Office:** 9977 5822 (Parish Office)

[manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

[www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater)

**Presbytery:** 9977 2100

**After Hours Urgent Sick Calls:** 0499 910 010

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Paul Pervan (Chair),  
Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent (Secretary),  
Ivica Covic; Laurie de Ambrosis; Joanne Druery;  
Robert Marshall; Michael McGrath

### 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

**St John the Baptist Primary School** 9939 6699

Acting Principal: Fiona Dignan

**St Paul's Catholic College** 9977 5111

Principal: Chris Browne

**Stella Maris College** 9977 5144

Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie