



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Second Sunday of Advent – 10th December 2023

Gospel 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.

connectionsmediaworks.com



This year we will be hosting our annual Christmas Day Lunch for those in our parish and community who will be spending Christmas Day alone.

We will be serving an option of a sit down or take away picnic lunches to around 160 people.

To help make this a joyful and festive occasion we ask if you would like to donate goods for the Picnic Packs which will include...

- **Box of chocolates** – these will be given as gifts to our guests.
- **Cans of soft drink** – coke, lemonade, fanta.
- **Fresh Fruit** – watermelon, grapes, cherries, peaches.
- **Toiletries** – deodorants, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap
- **Cash donations** will be used to purchase the hams, turkey, salads, bread rolls, desserts and anything we are short of.

Please drop the chocolates and drinks into the Parish Office.

If you would like to assist with the Set up on Saturday 23rd December 9am – 11am please email the Parish Office manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December –For persons with disabilities - We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

ADVENT WREATH PRAYER



"May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women." – Pope Francis

The second candle on the Advent wreath represents **Peace**. Often called the "**Bethlehem Candle,**" the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus.

This second candle reminds us– Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. This light of peace shone forth from Bethlehem for all the world. Peace springs from within each of us. It is this light within us that reaches to the people around us.

Light 2 purple candles.

Priest: Lord Jesus, you call us to repent: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Christ Jesus, you walk the straight path of justice and peace: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Priest: Lord Jesus, you have promised a new heaven and a new earth: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

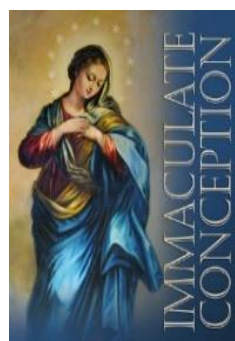


PASTORAL WORKS Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay. Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital.

PASTORAL WORKS APPEAL

Our Parish Quota for 2023/2024 is \$47,164.

Donation envelopes will be available in the pews. All donations over \$2 are 100% tax deductible. Thank you for your donation.



YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR Parish Feast Day & Thank You Celebration

This Friday 8th Dec at Manly, starting with 6pm Mass followed by dinner under the Big Tree in the School yard.

**LET US PRAY FOR
Recently Deceased:**

10th December 2023

Anniversary: Rody Sia; Sam Sia; Norma Sia Chua
Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage"

Margaret Burridge; 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

Dates to remember...

- **St Paul's Staff Mass** Friday 15 December 9:15am
- **Cenacle of Our Lady** SMM Tues 9:45am, SJB Wed 9:45am
- **Lectio Divina** Tues 7:30pm and Wed 10am
- **Eucharistic Adoration in Manly** Wed 6pm – 7:30pm



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.



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

CHANGES TO WEEKDAY MASSES 9:15am
Mass will be held on the following days...
Manly: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
Freshwater: Wednesday

Year of Yes Prayer... Today and every day I say Yes to you O Lord. In the same way that Mary said yes to your invitation, I say Yes to your Son's presence in my life. May my yes, by the power of your Holy Spirit, allow you to use all the talents, skills and gifts you have given me for the purpose of building up Your Body in our community. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. *Amen*



**Vinnies
Christmas
Appeal**

Our appeal begins this weekend.

With your support we will give families a better and happier Christmas.

If you would like to help please take a card from the giving tree and make up a hamper for a family.



There are also envelopes on the pews for you to use or the QR code in the bulletin if you would like to donate.

We would like to thank you for your generosity in the past, you have made a huge difference in the lives of the people we assist on your behalf.

Our families are amazed that a stranger is prepared to help them have a better Christmas, they appreciate it very much.

God Bless... Bruce and Mick



Youth Group Mass and Family Christmas Party hosted by the Manly Freshwater Catholic Youth will be held this **Sunday 10th December. Youth Mass at 6pm followed by supper at 7pm in St Mary's School Hall.**

All high school students and their families are welcome!

Come for **free pizza, table tennis, basketball, netball, party games** and new friends!!!

Email: manlyfreshwatercatholicyouth@gmail.com

Facebook: Manly Freshwater Catholic Youth

Instagram: manlyfreshwater_catholicyouth

Kind regards, Kieran Wan

PIETY STORE

Movie of the month – *Joyeux Noel (Merry Christmas)*. Based on a true story. On Christmas Eve, 1914. On a World War battlefield, a momentous event changed the lives of soldiers from France, Germany and England. Only \$10 @ the piety store.

CD of the month – *Advent – rethinking the season – 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.

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

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 **MANLYcommunity**.

Parish Craft Group Christmas Market Sunday 10 Dec 8:30am – 12pm



There will be beautiful items just right for gifts, including knitted and crocheted toys, baby clothes, blankets, coat hangers, doggy fashion, aprons and much more. All items are handmade by the parish.

You are welcome to join us for morning tea on Tuesdays at 10am in the Parish Centre



Fr David celebrated his 32nd Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood on Thursday 7th December, the feast day of Saint Ambrose. Please keep Fr David in your prayers.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES...

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

St Mary's Manly

Sunday 24th December

- 6pm Children's Mass
- 8pm Tongan Choir
- 10pm Parish Choir

Monday 25th December

- 8.30am & 10.30am

St John the Baptist Freshwater

Sunday 24th December

- 5pm Children's Mass

Monday 25th December

- 9am Parish Choir



Christmas Blessing Letterbox Drop – help required!!!

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.



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

- 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



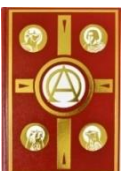
SCAN ME



FRESHWATER SUNDAY MORNING TEAS

Our last morning tea for the year will be Sunday 17th December, returning after Australia Day on Sunday 28th January 2024.

Special mention of thanks to Francis and his merry helpers who provide the hospitality every weekend.



READERS MINISTRY PROGRAM

Fr David will be offering a program for new and current Mass readers. Please contact the parish office if you are interested, date will be announced soon 9977 5822

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

Hosted by
Manly Freshwater Parish
Tel: 9977 5822



FRESHWATER CAROLS

Thanks to our wonderful band of Parishioners who volunteer year after

year, another successful event was held in conjunction with St Marks at Freshwater. Pre and post a lovely concert, our team was busy on the hot plates and serving more than 840 sausage sandwiches! And this year we picked up a new job in selling hundreds of candles!

No drama for this awesome team!

Not even when Tim and Francis turn up to Woollies at the Mall on Sunday, 2 hours before kick-off, to be told, after checking with the management twice during the week, including the day before that "There are no sausages"??? We just had 1200 slices of bread.

Thanks to some amazing help from the staff, the team packed up virtually every pack of sausages in the store for us, to save the day! And no one asked us why we had chicken, honey and garlic sausages this year!

Our volunteers:

On the BBQ: - Lou, Aurelia, Angelo and Giovanna
Runner: Toni Walsh

Well Being and Nutrition Manager: Tim Markwart.

Serving Team: Sally, Brigid, Ann and Nola.

Candle sellers: Paul and Jed on debut this year and welcome muscle!

And the busiest Tap n Go girl in Freshwater: Leanne Raymond.

We raised \$2,166 in total! After costs, around \$1,400 is heading to the Gawura Primary School for Indigenous Children and a small contribution to our great Christmas Day Lunch!

Thanks Everyone...Francis Raymond

The parish would like to thank all the volunteers who made the Freshwater Carols such a success.

A special thank you to their leader Francis Raymond, who again has done a fantastic job!!!



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay



ST MARY'S MANLY VACATION CARE

WELCOMING FAMILIES FROM

St Mary's Manly
St Cecilia's Balgowlah
St John the Baptist Freshwater
St Kieran's Manly Vale

HOURS

7.30am - 6.00pm
During school holidays

DEC 2023 & JAN 2024 PROGRAM



Located within the grounds of St Mary's, our vacation service offers a wide range of activities catering to children of differing ages and interests including fun incursions and local excursions each holiday period.

We provide a stimulating and enjoyable environment and activities which harness the children's interests and strengths whilst respecting their need for leisure.

Come and meet our fabulous educators who each bring their own skills, expertise and passions across a broad spectrum of activities.

St Mary's OSHC & Vacation Care
50 Whistler Street MANLY NSW 2095
P: 0409 455 359
E: oshc.manly@catholiccaredbb.org.au
W: www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/vacation-care/

MORE INFO & BOOKINGS

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST FRESHWATER
COMPASSION, COURAGE, HUMILITY



Limited spaces still available in our two Kindergarten classes in 2024.
Spaces in other grades also available.

- Strong parent partnership
- Direct teacher access
- The Resilience Project
- STEM opportunities
- Sporting pathways
- Targeted support including MultiLit Suite
- Before & After School Care
- Diverse, inclusive, welcoming community
- Ongoing teacher professional learning
- Language lessons coming in 2024

Priority feeder school for St Paul's College, Manly, secondary co-educational opportunities from 2025!

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE SJB DIFFERENCE!

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School

sjbf@dbb.catholic.edu.au
02 9939-6699

7 Johnson Street
Freshwater 2096




VACATION CARE DEC 2023 & JAN 2024

- Mon 18/12 Christmas Fun
- Tues 19/12 Christmas Picnic under the big tree
- We are closed for Christmas, see you in 2024
- Mon 8/1 Tie Dye
- Tues 9/1 Fun with Photography
- Wed 10/1 Cultures From Around the World
- Thurs 11/1 St Mary's Got Talent
- Fri 12/1 Camp Out!
- Mon 15/1 Henrietta Skate Extravaganza
- Tues 16/1 Karaoke Day
- Wed 17/1 Carnival Fun Day
- Thurs 18/1 Beyblades
- Fri 19/1 Drip Drip Drop
- Mon 22/1 Build your own Ukulele
- Tues 23/1 Slow Mo Splash Tastic Movie Making
- Wed 24/1 Nerf Guns
- Thurs 25/1 Scavenger Hunt Orienteering
- Fri 26/1 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- Mon 29/1 Gardening Club
- Tues 30/1 Movies Day

P: 0409 455 359

E: oshc.manly@catholiccaredbb.org.au

W: www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/vacation-care/

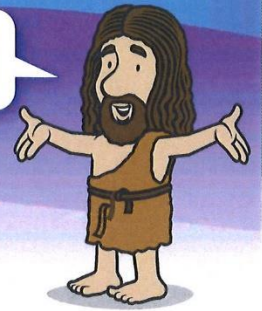
St John the Baptist School decorates bus...



The local bus operator Keolis Downer Northern Beaches engaged with local primary schools to decorate 3 of their buses for the Christmas Season. The first bus headed down to St John the Baptist School, Freshwater so students could decorate it with tinsel, ornaments and decorations. James Griffin MP also joined in on the fun.

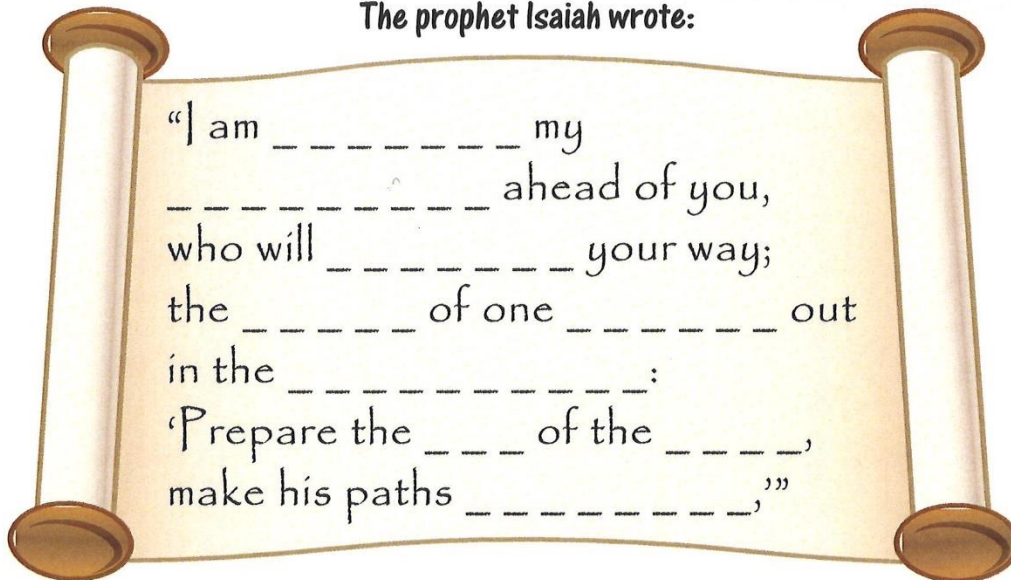


Make a straight path for the Lord



2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B

The prophet Isaiah wrote:



crying
straight
way
voice
sending
prepare
wilderness
messenger
Lord



What are three things you can do to be ready for Jesus during this second week of Advent?

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by telling people to turn back to God and baptising them. He wore clothes made from camel's hair and wore a leather strap around his waist. For food he ate grasshoppers and wild honey. Draw a picture of John baptising someone in the Jordan River.



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.



SOUTH STEYNE
medical CENTRE

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.



Address: 15 South Steyne, Manly
Phone Number: (02) 7209 2920
Fax Number: (02) 7209 2921
Website: southsteynemedical.com
Email: SSMAdmin@southsteynemedical.com


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7 Johnson St,
Freshwater
9939 6699


**St Mary's Primary
Catholic Schol
K – 6**
Denison Street, Manly
7256 2135


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Ph: 9977 5111
Fax: 9977 0959
www.stpaulsmanly.nsw.edu.au
E: stpauls@dbb.edu.au

Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr John Puliparambil
john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au

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: 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

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

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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