

Diocese of Broken Bay Under the Pastoral Care of the Discalced Carmelites since 2008

15 December 2019 - Third Sunday of Advent

Parish Mass Times:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 6:30am

Thursday: 9:15am

Saturday: 9:00am, 6:00pm (vigil)

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Public Holiday: 9:00am

Youth Mass: 6:00pm (4th Sunday of month)

Baptism: Fourth Sunday of each month by appointment

Wedding: Contact Parish Office at least 6 months prior notice

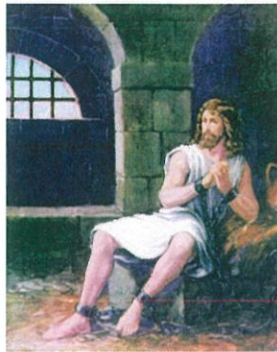
Morning Prayer: Monday - Wednesday & Friday: 6:10am Thursday: 8:40am

Anointing of Sick: 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:15am or by request

Eucharistic Adoration: Saturday 9:30 – 10am concluding with Benediction

Reconciliation: Saturday 9:30am

Rosary: Immediately after weekday Mass and Saturday (8:35am)



When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, “Are you the one who is to come?” (Gospel)

Dear Parishioners and Visitors to the Parish

The lectionary offers us a choice of two very different responses to today’s psalm: one is a cry for help, ‘Lord, come and save us’; the other a joyful outburst of praise, ‘Alleluia’. Which response will we choose?

Both responses are very appropriate for today’s psalm which is a rich expression of faith in God. The sacred writer praises God who keeps faith forever, who cares for the oppressed and marginalised, who heals the sick and who sees justice done. When we respond, ‘Lord, come and save us’, we are saying, ‘Lord, we believe you are such a God and we ask you to reveal your saving power and faithful love in our present difficult circumstances’. When we select the joy-filled response of ‘Alleluia’ we are saying, ‘Lord, we believe you are such a God because we are presently experiencing your wonderful saving love’.

Perhaps we are feeling a little of both, like today’s liturgy which intermixes the themes of joy and patient waiting. We rejoice in God’s saving presence in our lives and in our world as we witness progress, albeit slow, in human rights and justice. But we also recognise ongoing injustice and suffering, areas in which we remain unfree, and people still marginalised and abandoned. In the one prayer we mix ‘alleluias’ with ‘Lord, come and save us’.

Whatever our circumstances, faith in God who keeps faith forever is what is most important. As Jesus says in today’s Gospel, ‘Happy the one who does not lose faith in me’.

May God bless you.

Fr Greg Chee, OCD

**Every Friday
(during term time)**
Lectio Divina facilitated
by Fr Greg
10-11am, Hall Boardroom

**First Friday
of Every Month**
Exposition / Adoration at 7pm

Every Thursday
Morning Prayer prior to mass
8:40am

December

Sunday 15 December
Children’s Choir
9:00a—11:00am.

Wednesday 18 December
Parish Reconciliation 7-8pm

Christmas Eve Mass Times
6pm—Family Mass
9pm—New Mass Time
11:30pm - Carols followed by
midnight mass

CONTACT DETAILS

263 Mona Vale Road, St Ives

Phone: 9144 6998

Email: office@corpuschristi.com.au

In an emergency call 9144 6998

Web: www.bbcatholic.org.au/stives

Facebook: Corpus Christi Catholic Church

PARISH OFFICE TEAM

Fr Greg Chee, OCD, Parish Priest

Fr Johny Arattukulam, OCD, Assistant Priest

Belinda Camilleri, Office Manager

Michelle Miles, Office Secretary

Ed Wales, Parish Finance

Jennifer Perrott, Faith Facilitator

Gerri Hadwen, Sacramental Co-Ordinator

HALL BOOKINGS

John Huggett (Coordinator)

0412 882 263

Corpus Christi Parish School
Phone: 9988 3135, 9988 3136

17 Link Road, St Ives NSW 2075
Web: www.ccsidbb.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Jayne Wheen
Email: ccsi@dbb.catholic.edu.au



THE ADVENT WREATH—WHAT IS ITS MEANING?

One of the major symbols of the Advent season is the wreath. The encircling wreath is symbolic of God without beginning or end and the green foliage represents our hope in God.

There are usually five candles in the wreath, a central white candle representing the light of Christ that came into the world and then four outside candles that are usually purple and rose coloured. The first candle is generally symbolic of Hope and Expectation. The third candle – the rose or pink candle – celebrates the Joy that is anticipated in the coming of Christ. The progressive lighting of the candles marks the journey towards the Nativity.



You are invited.

McQuoin Park is a wonderful new retirement community in Wahroonga. Join us for our morning tea every Wednesday at 10.30am. Come to view the floor plans and our village model and decide whether retirement living is for you.

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or visit <https://www.catholiccareddb.org.au/aged-care/>.

Prayer Zone



Recently Deceased:
Carmel O'Connell

Please pray for the ill:

Bruce Wallace; Grace Cheah; Jan Davies;
Elizabeth Walsh; Joan and Tom Beram; Rebecca Anderson; Maria and Jack Garcia; Jose Mestres;
Meacheal; Estelle Sok; Lewis Criniti; Thi Nguyen; Victoria; Carmel Hadley; Anne Baillie, Carmel Hurrell, Mary Sanzone, Fergus O'Brien, Michelle Soumier, Jane Donnelly, Lisa Doherty, Carol-Anne Campbell, Jennifer Nancarro, Gina Jaksetic, Jeannie, Gracie Spencer, Brendan Stone, John Michael Walsh

If you know of anyone who can no longer attend mass due to illness; or if you have noticed one of our parishioners is no longer attending mass, could you please let the office know.



CHRISTMAS FAMILY MASS

The Children's Choir are preparing for

the Family Mass on Tuesday 24 December 2019. Please come along to our practices if you would like to join in. No experience required—just a love of singing. All are very welcome.

Rehearsals will be held after the 10am on: Sunday 15 December; and Tuesday 24 December at 4pm prior to the Family Mass.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

If you would like to be a lector or welcome our guests at Christmas, please register for the mass you will be attending.

The sign up sheet is in the foyer.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and show our respect to the Elders past and present. We also wish to pay our respects to all Aboriginal people.



PARISH SOCIAL CRAFT GROUP:

A happy group for a relaxing morning every fortnight - bring your own craft or handiwork if you wish. Next get together **Thursday 19 December 2019 @ 10.30am** in the Parish Hall. Enq.: Angela 9144 6553.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS VIGIL 6PM MASS

We need children for our Christmas Nativity Story. If your child would like to join please leave your name and details on the list at the back of the church.

Practice times include:

Sunday 22 December at 3:30pm.

Christmas Eve at 4pm

Email Rebecca Wehrhahn, becwehrhahn@hotmail.com or the Parish office, office@corpuschristi.com.au for more information.



Join the Christmas Midnight Mass Choir

No experience required just a love of singing! Please come along and join us!

You are more than welcome.

Rehearsals are from 7:30pm on:

Tuesday 17 December; and

Tuesday 24 December from 10-11pm followed by a break before carols and singing and midnight mass.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER



The Very Young

That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

Introduction of a new Christmas Mass Time

Following a suggestion from a parishioner we have introduced a new mass time at Christmas in-between the Family Mass and Carols. We will have a 9pm mass on Christmas Eve. Please come along and join us.

BREAK OPEN THE WORD BOOK

Books are now available in the Sacristy for Lectors.

OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

We the people of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Corpus Christi St Ives

Wednesday 18 December

7-8pm—Parish reconciliation with liturgy

Tuesday 24th December

6pm Family Mass

9pm Mass

11:30pm Carols in preparation for Midnight Mass.

Wednesday 25th December

8am & 10am Christmas Day Mass (no evening mass)

Thursday 26 & Friday 27 December

9am Morning Masses

Saturday 28th December

9am Mass
& 6pm Vigil

Sunday 29 December

8am, 10am & 6pm Mass

Wednesday 1 January

9am Morning Mass (public holiday)



Nearly two years ago, Fr Greg said he would like to bring Alpha to the parish.

I literally almost jumped for joy. I had heard about Alpha and the experiences people had were very encouraging, so naturally, I wanted to have the experience myself. In 2018, there were discussions about how we would go about implementing this program in our parish. By the end of 2018 we embarked on the journey of Alpha. We formed a pilot team of people who were willing to go on the journey! At the beginning of 2019 we began training this team to run

Alpha and by the beginning of Term 2 we were ready to bring it to our parish. This was no mean feat! There began, on the 14th May 2019, the first parish Alpha!

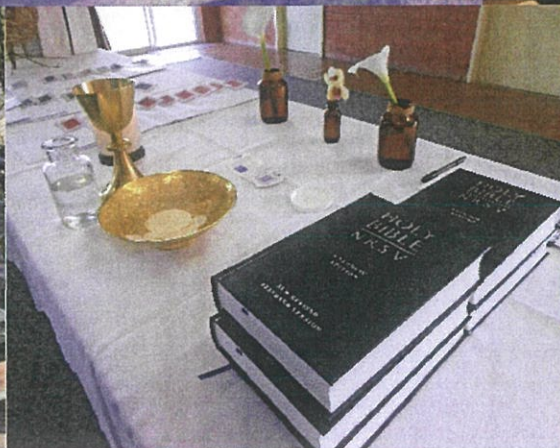
Fr Greg and Jen would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to everyone on team that has played a part in what has been an immensely successful Alpha journey this year. Some of the team have done 3 Alphas this year and we are very grateful for the generosity and commitment of the team in every way. Our hospitality team headed by Victoria Galcsik (who was also part of our pilot group) have done a wonderful job feeding everyone on a Tuesday night. Thank you to all those people who have

contributed food to Alpha and turned up to help. I understand some come for the food! That in itself is a great testimony to your efforts

What is the impact of Alpha in a Parish?

Alpha helps the parish to become an evangelising community. Those who have tried Alpha often want to share their experience with friends and invite them to the next course. The Alpha small groups model hospitality, which can permeate the entire life of the parish and for those who have been on Alpha this year, will attest to this.

Alpha 2019



Please register for Alp

www.bbcatholic.org.au

.. And what a year it has been...!!!

It also helps the parish to foster personal encounters and relationships with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit. Often this experience acts as a catalyst for people to begin or continue growing as disciples. Through the simple model used on Alpha for prayer ministry, people learn how to pray for one another and it becomes a normal part of life in the parish. In addition, they also begin to serve in other parish ministries, because they want to serve the Lord rather than it being an action.

Alpha and Missionary Discipleship

Alpha engages lay people in the life and mission of the Church. Often guests who have experienced Alpha go on to become effective and confident evangelisers as they share the impact that Jesus has had on their lives. It is therefore, not about whether you think you need Alpha or not. It is about how I can live out my baptismal promise and bring people to Jesus.

Alpha is for everyone despite where you may think someone is on their faith journey. Everyone needs friendships. It is a wonderful tool to bring people together. When community gathers, friendships are made. We have already

seen this happen in our Corpus Christi community this year.

Alpha 2020

Alpha will run twice next year in term 1 and term 3. If you would like to join us on Alpha next year, the website is open for new online registrations. The first Alpha will be run twice a week. One on Tuesday's beginning 18 February 2020 at 10:30am and the other one on Wednesday evenings beginning 19 February 2020 at 7:00pm.



Alpha 2020 at:
[www/stives-alpha](http://www.stives-alpha.com)



Ministry Rosters

15 December 2019

<i>(Week 4) 14/15 Dec</i>	<i>Vigil 6.00pm</i>	<i>8.00a.m.</i>	<i>10.00a.m.</i>	<i>6.00p.m.</i>
LECTORS	Isabel Hopping Michelle Biggs	Frank Bosci	Kevin Ruberu Nelson Gale	Majella Egan Rory Egan
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION	Andrena Brewer Andrew Brewer Patrick Brewer Maria Sapuppo	Aubrey Crawley Chris & Joy Pitts Sandy Mountfort	Linda Taneja Atat & Lise Li-Kim-Mui Nancy Seah Yuliana Brown	Beverly&Chris Hannan Nerissa Davey
WELCOMING MINISTRY	Alain & Kerry Latouche John Lenehan Minda Licuanan	Danielle Hadley	Kate Bizannes Morela Alfonzo Yuliana Brown	Ira Rozali Petty Bahramali
WARDENS		John Boland	Ken Lee	John Izzo
PIETY STALL				Marguerite Veyret
MUSICIAN	Martin/Gen Stebbings Miho Hachigo	Trevor Housley	Children's Choir	Martin Stebbings Daniel Full
CHILDREN'S LIT.			Bev Howie	
COUNTERS	Lou Lazzari	Frank Bosci	Colleen Bosci	
ALTAR LINEN	Beverley Hannan			
FLORAL ARRANGER	Judy Henville			
ALTAR SOCIETY	Judy Henville		MORNING TEA	Erik Pridgen

Turramurra Hs	Private Homes C	Private Homes D	Kari Court
The Carmelites	Raymond Tsui	Raymond Tsui	Wilfrid Paes

<i>(Week 5) 21/22 December</i>	<i>Vigil 6.00pm</i>	<i>8.00a.m.</i>	<i>10.00a.m.</i>	<i>6.00p.m.</i>
LECTORS	Minda Licuanan	Marie Lo	Abigail Wehrhahn Christian Hoogewerf	Daniel Anania
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION	Karen McEwen Minda Licuanan Andrew Sim	James Cheah Kathy Lee Greg & Tania Murray Raymond Tsui	Marina Albuquerque Gerry & Cheryl Hoy John & Betty Goh	O'KellyTam Petty Bahramali Noeleen McCormack Emma Lee
WELCOMING MINISTRY	Elizabeth Calnan John Lenehan	Jan Martin Margaret Summersgill	Jean Lee John O'Connell	Beverley Hannan Sara Figueroa
WARDENS		Frank Bosci	Charles Thomson	Sid Veyret
PIETY STALL	Cheryl Doyle			Ira Rozali
MUSICIAN	Miller Family	Tamaryn Harris Miho Hachigo	Parish Choir	Quiet Mass
CHILDREN'S LIT.			Bev Howie	
COUNTERS	Pat Dayton	Chris Dayton	Aub Crawley	Peter Jackson
ALTAR LINEN	Beverley Hannan			
ALTAR SOCIETY	Judy Henville		MORNING TEA	Erik Pridgen
FLORAL ARRANGER	Judy Henville			

Turramurra Hs	Private Homes C	Private Homes D	Kari Court
Geoffrey Gibbons	Jacqui Gooley	Jacqui Gooley	Jacqui Gooley

The Word

Sunday 15 December 2019: Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading

From the prophet Isaiah Is 35:1-6, 10

God himself will come and save us.

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended. The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. *(R.)*
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who protects the stranger and upholds the widow and orphan. *(R.)*
3. It is the Lord who loves the just but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. *(R.)*

Second Reading

From the letter of St James Jas 5:7-10

You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 11:2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.' The Gospel of the Lord.



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