

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina. Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.

A warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us at Pittwater Parish -

Sacred Heart Church and Maria Regina Church



Thoughts of Blessed Francis Jordan
Oh Lord, Almighty One, strengthen me when the cold
North winds again blow through my heart.
For you know when You withdraw your help from
me than I sink powerless to the ground.



"There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit.

For every tree can be told by its own fruit."

Luke 6:43

## Prayer of Repentance

Have mercy on me,
O Lord,
according to your faithful
love and abundant mercy,
forgive my wrongdoings.
Wash me thoroughly from
my transgressions and cleanse
me from my sins.
Create in me a clean heart,
O merciful Father.
May your presence and the
Holy Spirit renew a light
within me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit to spread the Good News.

Amen.

#### **SAFEGUARDING**

We, the people of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay and the Catholic Parish of Pittwater 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.



# POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH For Family in Crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discoverb the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

### **MASS TIMES**

#### **Sacred Heart Church**

1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 9.30 am
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation
and Benediction from
8.30 am followed by Mass

Wednesday 9.30 am

Thursday 7 pm
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation
and Benediction from
7.30 pm to 9.00 pm

Friday 9:30 am
First Friday of the month,
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament,
Adoration, Reconciliation
and Benediction
from 9:30 am,
followed by Healing Mass/
Anointing of the Sick
at 10.30 am

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am & 6.00 pm (SOUL)

RECONCILIATION Saturday Vigil 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm

BAPTISM 4th Sunday of the Month 11.30 am

#### **Maria Regina Church**

7 Central Road, Avalon

**WEEKDAY MASSES** 

Monday 8.00 am

Wednesday 8.00 am

Thursday 10 am 9.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Adoration and Benediction at 9.45 am

Friday 8.00 am
First Friday of the month,
Healing Mass/
Anointing of the Sick
at 8.00 am

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm Sunday 9.00 am

RECONCILIATION Before Vigil Mass on Saturday

BAPTISM 3rd Sunday of the Month 11.00 am

## We Pray for

Recently Deceased

Angelina Zotti

**Deceased Anniversary** 

Timothy Bottero Frank O'Hanlon Noreen O' Hanlon Jonafe Macarayan

> Prayer for the Sick

Anna Śmigowska Lily Janosik Trish Newman Suzanne French Giannina Amore **Bruce Farr** Maureen Larios **Denise Wagner** Owen Graham **Elaine Boyes** Pauline Chipman Anna Svetlana Leonor Sofia Anna Katanec **Mother Pauline** Angela Miller Philip Khalifeh Joseph Khalifeh Heidi Taylor

## **BOOK REVIEW**

**Jesus of Nazareth** 

by: Pope Benedict XVI



This fine work by Pope Benedict XVI, a.k.a. Joseph Ratzinger, is a rich, compelling portrait of the central figure of the Christian faith.

Therefore, whatever you desire for men to do to you, you shall also do to them; for this is the law of the prophets.

Matthew 7:12

## **Liturgy for the Week**

03/03 Monday, Ordinary Time 8 Sir 17:24-29; Mk 10:17-27

04/03 Tuesday, Ordinary Time 8 Sir 35:1-12;Mk 10:28-31

05/03 Ash Wednesday (fast & abstinence) Joel 2:12-18; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

06/03 Thursday, after Ash Wednesday Deut 30:15-20; Lk 9:22-25

07/03 Friday, after Ash Wednesday Is 58:1-9; Mt 9:14-15

08/03 Saturday, after Ash Wednesday Is 58:9-14; Lk 5:27-32

# Scan to Give to our Parish of Pittwater

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**Scan** the QR code above with your camera app and follow the prompts

Use this App to support our Clergy through the first collection and our Parish through the second collection. Donations can be made weekly, fortnightly,monthly or one-off.

Thank you for your continued contributions and support. Your financial contributions and your generous donations throughout the year are greatly appreciated.











## We invite you to meet our staff and students and experience an evening at Mater Maria Catholic College.

"At Mater Maria Catholic College, we focus on supporting the academic growth of all students and recognising the gifts of the individual in order for all to thrive in our Catholic faith community." Marc Reicher, Principal

Waiting Lists for all Year Groups, 2025
Waiting list for Year 7, 2026
Applications close on Friday, 11 Apri.
for Year 7, 2027
Currently accepting applications for 2028







Tuesday 4 March

4PM - 7PM



Scan our QR code to register

## **Parish Directory**

#### **Pittwater Parish**

1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale NSW 2103 Tel 9157 0999

Parish Priest
Fr Richard Sadowski SDS
Tel 9157 0999 ext 10
pp@pittwaterparish.org

Assistant Priest
Fr Zygmunt Smigowski SDS
Tel 9157 0999 ext 12
ap@pittwaterparish.org

Parish Secretary
Belinda Cimino
Tel 9157 0999 ext 30
office@pittwaterparish.org

Administrative Assistant
Shereae Knight

Tel 9157 0999 ext 30 office@pittwaterparish.org

Director of Music Simon Morris Tel 9157 0999 ext 17 music@pittwaterparish.org

Media & Communications Coordinator Conille Felias

Tel 9157 0999 ext 31 media@pittwaterparish.org

Sacramental Coordinator
Sonia Samartin
Tel 9157 0999 ext 13
sacraments@pittwaterparish.org

CCD Catechist Coordinators Maureen Wooldridge Mobile 0421 907 469 Veronica Thomas Mobile 0417 061 534

**Sacred Heart Church** 1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale

Maria Regina Church 7 Central Road, Avalon

#### **SCHOOLS**

Sacred Heart School Mona vale Tel 8197 6900 Principal: Mr Jamie Wahab

Maria Regina School Avalon Tel 7256 2138 Principal: Ms Kirsty Thorpe

Mater Maria Catholic College Warriewood Tel 7256 2100 Principal: Mr Marc Reicher





#### Project Compassion Sunday 1st and 2nd March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a Project Compassion donation box or envelope, you'll be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable.

Your generous support this Lenten season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, and water shortages, while building resilience against future challenges. Together, through faith and action, we can bring compassion and opportunity to those most in need.





#### **PLEASE DONATE**

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia that will be placed at the back of both Churches on **Ash Wednesday**, **5 March.** 



A National Catholic Ministry for Men, founded out of a response to a great need in the hearts & lives of men & great need in the life of the Catholic Church.

**ALL MEN WELCOME** 

We Meet
First & Third Tuesday of every Month
At 7pm
Sacred Heart Parish Centre

## We will also be beginning a series on METANOIA

A video series & discussion, inviting everyone to a deeper more profound conversion - a metanoia - that moves us from something to someone, as metanoia ultimately turns us to Jesus.

Bringing men together, to renew their faith in God & encourage them to be an active force of renewal in the Church

For any questions contact Joe Cilia – 0418 863 814

#### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM UPDATE

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

This year the Sacrament of Confirmation will be on Saturday, 21 June 2025

Children in Year 3 and above are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation if they have been baptised.

For more information about the requirements, the preparation program, enrolments, etc. you <u>MUST</u> attend one

"Parent Information & Commitment" session which will take place at 7.00pm

Wednesday, 30 April Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale Thursday, 1 May Maria Regina Church, Avalon

We need facilitators for the four weekly preparation sessions.

You can share this role with another parent.

If you would like to be a group facilitator or would like to have more information about the role please contact

**Sonia** as soon as possible on **sacraments@pittwaterparish.org** 

## **ROCK FOR SOIBADA**

15 MARCH 2025 FROM 8.30PM AVRSI

THE MILES DV.

WALDING & CO. and VENTURA

Get ready for a night of epic proportions! Friends of Soibada, Avalon RSL, and bands 'Ventura' and 'Walding and Co.' are coming together to throw the ultimate concert for a cause. With live music, dancing, great drinks, and even better people, this is a show you cannot miss. Sydney band Ventura will kick off the night with their electrifying brand of original rock and roll music. Busy on the Sydney gig scene, these guys will bring serious energy and entertainment!

Then singer Anna Walding will be joined by her talented band of family and friends to play an irresistible mix of rock, funk, disco...and more! Formed specially for this event, band Walding and Co. brings together some of Sydney's finest professional musicians, and they are guaranteed to have you singing and dancing the night away!

All funds raised from ticket sales will support the work of Friends of Soibada in Timor-Leste, specifically the dental hygiene program and paying the salaries of the local teachers working hard in the community's schools.

If you'd like to learn more about the amazing work this charity does, check out their website 'Friends of Soibada'.

So, grab your tickets now and join us for an amazing night for a cause-see you there!









A CONCERT FOR A CAUSE. \$22 ONLINE, \$25 ON THE DOOR.



#### Parish Bulletin – Term 1, Week 4

Parents of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 attended an informative evening focused on student growth, engagement, communication, attendance and wellbeing through pastoral care.

Last Thursday and Friday, our Year 7 students experienced their first camp together at The Collaroy Centre on Sydney's northern beaches. The activities were designed to be enjoyable and to encourage students to take on challenges, push their personal boundaries and form friendships. A sense of community was fostered through shared meals, games nights, and talks about Catholics beliefs, encouraging students to explore their faith further.

This week marked the start of our term's sporting competitions, with many students participating in Peninsula Cup Touch Football, MWBA Basketball, and the Broken Bay U15's Touch Football Gala Day.

A mandatory staff meeting for Safeguard Training in Child Protection was held.

Every Friday, our prefects host Faith Fridays, an upbeat youth group gathering with faith and music in our Chapel and Courtyard, welcoming all students.

Join us for our College Open Day on Tuesday 4 March, from 4pm to 7pm. The Principal's Address will be held at 4:15pm, 4:45pm, 5:15pm, 5:45pm, or 6:15pm. Parking is available at the Pittwater RSL lower-level carpark, with shuttle transfers running to the College every 15 minutes from 4pm to 6:45pm. Please enter via the Jubilee Avenue entrance. Visit our website for a prospectus, enrolment application form, or more information. Applications for Year 7, 2028 close on Friday, 11 April 2025.

THEN HE SAID TO THE JUDGES,

"CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU

DO, FOR YOU ARE NOT JUDGING

FOR MAN, BUT FOR THE LORD, WHO

IS WITH YOU WHEN YOU RENDER

JUDGMENT.

- 2 CHRONICLES 19:6

# Important Things to Know about Ash Wednesday



#### Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent.

Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days in which the Church calls the faithful to conversion and to truly prepare to live the mysteries of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Roman Missal, which prescribes the ritual for Ash Wednesday, explains that at Mass the ashes made from the palms blessed on Palm Sunday of the previous year are blessed and placed on the foreheads of the faithful.

#### The ash has biblical significance.

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are meant to represent dust. When receiving ashes on their foreheads, parishioners hear the words: "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This is a reference what God says to Adam when exiling him from the Garden of Eden (in the Christian Bible, Adam is literally formed from dust). On Ash Wednesday, the saying is a reminder to be humble in the face of mortality.

#### The use of ashes developed over the years.

The tradition of placing ashes on penitents dates back to the early Church. Back then people placed the ashes on their heads and appeared before the community with a "penitential habit" to receive the sacrament of reconciliation on Holy Thursday. Starting in the 11th century, the Church of Rome placed ashes on all the faithful who would come forward at the beginning of this time.

#### Ashes remind us of the need for God's mercy.

"In the Roman rite, the beginning of the 40 days of penance is marked with the austere symbol of ashes, which are used in the liturgy of Ash Wednesday. The use of ashes is a survival from an ancient rite according to which converted sinners submitted themselves to canonical penance. The act of putting on ashes symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God.

#### Ashes have more than one meaning.

The word "ashes" represents the product of the combustion of something by fire. This takes on a symbolic connotation of death, the fleeting quality of temporal things, but also of humility and penitence. Ashes, as a sign of humility, remind the Christian of his origin and his end: "the Lord God formed the man out of the dust of the ground" (Gn 2:7); "until you return to the ground, from which you were taken" (Gn 3:19).

#### Ashes are made from palms used on Palm Sunday.

Per the instructions of the Roman Missal, ashes are typically supposed to be made from last year's Palm Sunday palm branches.

These branches are then burned down into a fine powder and are mixed with holy water or chrism oil to create a light paste.

## On Ash Wednesday fasting and abstinence are mandatory.

On Ash Wednesday, fasting and abstinence are mandatory — as on Good Friday — for those 18–59 years of age. Outside of those limits it is optional. "Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular mealtimes if necessary but combined they should be less than a full meal. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals."

by: Diego Lopez Marina, Catholic News Agency

## The *Living* Word

#### **Entrance Antiphon**

Psalm 17:19-20

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

Sirach 27:4-7 First Reading A reading from the book of **Ecclesiasticus** 

Do not praise someone before they have

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

#### The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

## (R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to

It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)

The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

#### **Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 15:54-58 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in

#### The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation** Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 6:39-45 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. 'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.

#### The Gospel of the Lord

#### **Communion Antiphon** Psalm 12:6

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

#### REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

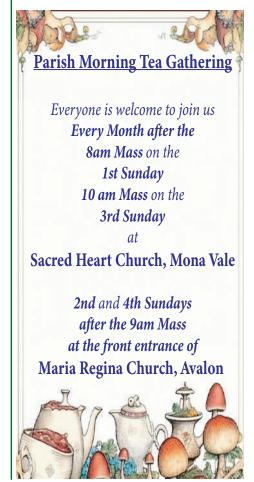
*In our post-modern world, the lesson of* the hypocrite seeking to remove the speck from their neighbour's eye before removing the log from their own has at times been taken too far and too literally. We are often confronted with a minimalist notion that nobody can be corrected or criticised because one person's opinion is just as good as the next person's. In this view, there is no room for universal truths; no room for authority; no room for an over-arching view of the world or a meta-narrative an underlying 'big picture' story for life. On the surface, the idea that one person's opinion is as valid as any other's seems very democratic and sociable. However, it is fundamentally not true. Someone who has spent a lifetime studying and practising in a particular field of endeavour cannot be lightly dismissed as 'that's just your opinion'. Yet, all too often, such learned knowledge and experience is given the same weight as ill-informed and sometimes mischievous opinion –

frequently in the name of 'balanced' discussion.

For some people immersed in the post-modern culture this wash of opinion dressed up as fact is not only confusing but sometimes dangerous. Social norms and even laws can be seen as just another opinion that differs from my own. The opinions of friends and complete strangers on the internet or social networks are held with the same level of legitimacy as established sources of social, moral, legal and religious authority. Whilst it is proper to question established authority and require accountability and justification, the absence of universal truths and meta-narratives lead us back to the proverb that begins today's gospel: the blind leading the blind.

© Greg Sunter

*Greg Sunter* has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the author of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.





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OUTSIDE. "EXPEL THE
WICKED MAN FROM

AMONG YOU."

- 1 CORINTHIANS 5:13

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Ephesians 4:32