



# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish

EASTER SUNDAY – 12 April 2020 – Year A/2

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS  
WE PRAY FOR:

**Recently Deceased:**  
Enid Crogan



**Church** - Cnr Kirk & Archer Sts,  
Chatswood  
**Parish Office** - 94 Archer Street,  
Chatswood, 2067  
PO Box 1446, Chatswood, 2057

Phone: 9410 9000 or for an after  
hours' emergency call:  
0473 046 906

[www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood)  
[chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au)

**Parish Office hours:**  
Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm  
Closed for lunch 1pm – 1.30pm

Fr Jim McKeon (Parish Priest)  
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(New Parishioner Engagement Co-  
Ordinator)

**Happy Easter!** This will be a very different Easter for all of us, with the holidays, travelling and family get-togethers being no longer allowed. Even more strange will it be that we cannot celebrate in the church together. But we can do, as Christians around the world have done in challenging times, to pray together as a family, or on our own. Jesus' message is one of hope which shines ever more brightly in difficult times. [This page](#) on our parish website offers a number of prayer resources including the Stations of the Cross and a Good Friday afternoon ritual. [This page](#) has Fr Jim's message to the parish and a homily for Easter Sunday. And <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwfl7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ> is a link to Bishop Anthony celebrating Masses over Easter. We have also put an extra tile on the front page of our website which will take you straight to the live masses at the Cathedral.

Bishop Anthony has asked priests to pray the Easter liturgies this weekend for their parishes. Know that Fr John and I will be doing this, and holding you in our hearts while we do. Bishop Anthony wants to remind everyone that the dispensation from attending Mass and receiving Communion continues for as long as churches are unable to open.



**What's been happening?** Babies are being baptised! See page 4 for pictures of our most recent baptisms. People are praying. On Thursday night the parish Filipino Chaplaincy and friends held an online Maundy Thursday prayer reflection. Communion Ministers are taking Communion to the housebound and sick. The Sacrament of Reconciliation continues to be available on Thursday nights at 7pm, Saturdays at 9.30am and Good Friday at 11am. And our parish team are reaching out – in the past two weeks we have contacted more than 170 people. Make sure we have your details correct (see last week's bulletin) so we can contact you.

We are constantly updating our resources for your prayer life electronically, including materials for children.

To watch masses online over the Easter break, **Daily Mass Online - Hornsby Cathedral Parish** - Daily Mass on YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwfl7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ>

**Safeguarding:** The media coverage of Cardinal Pell's acquittal this week, and the ABC series *Revelation* in recent weeks may have stirred up painful thoughts for some of us. Fr Jim has posted a reflection about [this](#). Our diocesan safeguarding office is available to support anyone who needs to discuss or report an incidence of sexual abuse within the church – phone 8379 1605 [safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au)

*Open the attachment to get the full bulletin.*

# COMING UP:

**Congratulations** to Ken Iwata and Susan Low who will be getting married in our church next Saturday.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Dolours Church:** Bishop Anthony will celebrate his weekly Mass from our church on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> for the 100th anniversary and will either livestream or record and upload for people to watch. We'll have details of how to watch this in next weekend's bulletin.

And on a regular basis, rather than livestreaming Mass, which is very one way, we are going to experiment with holding an interactive Liturgy of the Word on Sundays via Zoom, and finding ways for people to take an active part. We'll be trialing this with a small number of people next weekend to get the technology right, and then putting the invitation out to everyone in the coming weeks.

**Book Clubs and Prayer groups:** In the weeks ahead we'll be moving forward some of our planned adult faith formation programs to May and June and finding ways to do these by Zoom or Skype. This will include offering the 5-week *First Spiritual Exercises retreats*, and we'll be offering both the first retreat again, and a second retreat for people who have already done the first. We'll have dates and times for you next week.

**Supporting your parish:** Even though we can't gather together for Mass on Sundays, much of the life of the parish is continuing, as you can see from some of the good news stories in the bulletin this week. To fund many of these activities your parish has relied on donations from you, the parishioners. Two-thirds of our parish income comes from cash given at Mass, either in envelopes or loose on the second collection.

As there are no Sunday Masses during the present shutdown our parish income has therefore dropped by two thirds. Like many organisations who are also struggling we are doing all we can to reduce our costs. For example, I personally have taken a pay cut, and we are looking at ways to reduce parish staff costs in conjunction with also assessing how the Government's JobKeeper program may assist. However, unfortunately most of our costs are fixed, such as insurance, utilities, IT contracts, phone lines and maintenance.

Therefore, if you are able to, I am hoping that you can update the way that you give to the parish by filling out and returning the **attached** giving form or by clicking [here](#). You can arrange a monthly EFT donation into the parish's account named Chatswood Parish:-

(Our Lady of Dolours), BSB 062-784, Account # 1073 8005 and use "PG" & your name as the reference, or you can phone Nicole in the parish office on 9410 9000 to authorise a credit card donation.

Of course, if you are one of the many people who has lost or significantly reduced your income in recent weeks then I am not asking you to give. But if you have a steady income and you are not already giving by either credit card or direct debit, I am asking you to make this commitment to support your parish so that we can keep going during this difficult time and also be ready to respond as soon as we are allowed to gather as a parish again.

Your monthly donation will give the parish a reliable income so that we can be here to support people who are in need right now, and to be ready for you when we can worship and celebrate together again.

- Fr Jim McKeon

## EASTER MESSAGE - 2020

A story is told of a child who began to read the Gospels. As her reading proceeded, she became more interested in the life of Jesus. Suddenly, she ran out of her



room crying hysterically. She ran into the arms of her mother. She burst out, "They killed him. They killed him." Her mother comforted her and then whispered to her, "Now go back and read what happened afterwards."

We are familiar with the rest. The death of Jesus is not the end of the story; there is one more chapter about victory and new life. Jesus rises from the dead in all glory and majesty. This is the Easter Good News, the core of our faith.

The apostle Paul reminds us: "The one who is righteous by faith will live" (Rom 1:17). Our faith in the risen Lord should be reflected in the way we live our life, the way we treat our brothers and sisters. Thus, when we live our faith, we proclaim the joy of the resurrection. Because we believe in the risen Lord, we are able to face any sufferings in our lives. And so, the Risen Christ assures us of our ultimate victory. Wish you all and your families a HAPPY EASTER. Fr John

"Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless."

Charles M. Crowe



## IMAGINE A CHURCH

# *Dynamic, vibrant, passionate* THE SPIRIT-FILLED PARISH GOD CALLS US TO BE

Imagine a church that causes guests to say, **“That was awesome. I want to be part of that. I feel welcome!”** We hear comments such as these often telling us we’re heading in the right direction.

We all want to belong to a parish where we feel alive and growing and it starts with small gestures of joyful hospitality, generous smiles and a whole lot of prayer. Working together to create space for belonging, we are striving to be the most *welcoming, dynamic, vibrant and passionate* family we can be.

**Holy Spirit**  
*Set our hearts on fire*

**Connect**

NAME

PHONE

EMAIL

SUBSCRIBE

**Welcome**  
TO CHATSWOOD CATHOLIC PARISH

Thank you for joining us today! We'd love to have you as part of our parish family where we do our best to welcome everyone to home.

Hand this card to a member of our welcoming team or add it to the collection basket at any of the weekend masses.

Upon receiving your card, we'll add your name to our weekly newsletter list, helping you stay connected with what's happening in our parish.

Our new parishioner engagement coordinator, Bernadette Ho, will be in touch to help welcome you to the life of our parish.

St. Barnabas Ho  
Call 84109001

*Welcome to our community!*

**Welcome**

HERE

us, hear your story, stay together.

Some of you've been glad to know you and parish family!

**Catholic Parish**  
www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood  
chatswood@bbcatholic.org.au

## We love you!

Even though our Church doors are closed for now, our Church family remains united in love for one another. Perhaps you’ve been searching for a place to call home and you’ve found us. Please know that if you are new to our parish, we’re delighted to have you with us. You can download a copy of our new parishioner welcome pack on our website [bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood](http://bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood). Fill out a connect card and we will be in touch, perhaps having a friendly chat over Zoom or WhatsApp.



## Good news stories to share

Baptism is the greatest gift parents can give to their child. Baptism is about initiation into God's family and the Church and an initiation into the best way to live. Baptism is the first step of the great life God desires for each one of us. It is unique because infant baptism, in many ways, is almost as much about the parents as it is the child - the parents are the one's taking the vows, after all. What a gift! Parents willingly giving their child over to God for heavenly adoption! Baptism provides the perfect space to re-engage parents in their own spiritual journey and develop a personal relationship with God.

We have welcomed and celebrated around 20 beautiful baptisms in our parish this year. Here are some beautiful photos of some of our recent baptisms, a glimpse of precious new life and belonging in the family of God. To all our baptism families, we welcome you with great joy and love into our parish family!



## Need a priest's reference for school enrolment?

Our Parent Connect Gatherings may be off for a while but we are still here and happy to help with providing school references. Various members of our friendly parish team are available to chat with you over Zoom, WhatsApp or phone and to help arrange the reference.

For enquiries, please contact [Bernadette.ho@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Bernadette.ho@bbcatholic.org.au)

*God bless you.* 



## *Noticing the Light of the Good News of the Risen Jesus*

*Illustration on the left is a Mandala of John's Gospel by Sr Ansgar Holmberg*

What are you noticing in these unusual times? Simply noticing or being attentive to the world around us and the people in it, is both a simple yet challenging spiritual practice in a world of so many distractions. It may be one of the paradoxical gifts of this time that you have a little more time to notice things and to recognise the Good News of the Risen Jesus in unexpected places.

Perhaps you have noticed the patient cheerfulness of the check-out person in a supermarket; the thoughtfulness of neighbours who are offering to pick up shopping; the courtesy of others when you are shopping or out for a walk. Maybe you are noticing the night sky and the moon building to its Easter fullness.

There is an Hasidic saying that *"When you gaze on something, you bring blessing to it."* As you notice signs of the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection this Easter, take what you notice into prayer and simply contemplate what you have noticed and give thanks for it.

I would like to recommend a wonderful book to you for reading over Easter. Written by Julia Baird, whom you may know from *The Drum*. It is called *Phosphorescence on awe, wonder & things that sustain you when the world goes dark*. It is widely available.

Julia is a woman of faith and this shows in her writing: *"Being awestruck dwarfs us, humbles us, makes us aware we are part of a universe unfathomably larger than ourselves... it even makes us kinder and more aware of the community around us."*

It is scientifically proven that each of us carries stardusts in our bones. That might be inspiration to find ways to be the light of Christ for others this Easter.

A mantra for prayer might be:

*Loving God, be in me so that I may be the light of the Risen Jesus for others.*

### *Coming Up*

Fr Jim has mentioned that we are thinking about offering the First Spiritual Exercises and a *Laudato Si* bookclub via Zoom. There will be details about this in future bulletins.

### ***An Easter Pilgrimage of Prayer***

From the second week of Easter, there will be a prayer resource in the Adult Faith Formation section of the parish website.

It will be in simple PDF format so you can print it if you would like to do that. A resource will be posted for each week of Easter time through to Pentecost. It will offer ways to pray with the Sunday readings from the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel. Guides for keeping a prayer journal and other simple prayers will also be included.

This time of Easter offers us a way to enter more deeply into the life, death and resurrection of Jesus that we have celebrated throughout Holy Week.

*Gail Gill*



**PROJECT COMPASSION –  
‘GO FURTHER TOGETHER’**

Thank you for supporting Project Compassion 2020

COVID-19 is affecting all of us. In these challenging times, your kindness and solidarity can make a world of

difference to the lives of the most vulnerable. Your support is life-saving.

**DO YOU HAVE PC BOXES AND CASH TO HAND IN?**

We know that many of you may not be able to hand in your PC Boxes, or cash, to parishes or schools at this time.

Did you know that you can go online at "lent.caritas.org.au" and securely donate with your credit card, or you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830 Sydney NSW 2001. Alternatively, if you require assistance with your PC Box or cash, please call our friendly team on 1800 024 413.

**ATTENTION ALL PARENTS!**

Here in the parish we are working to find good resources to help you enhance your family prayer life at home. A great Sydney based resource which is perfect for use at home is called ‘CathKids’. They are offering free access to their activities for Sunday readings and family prayer until the end of June this year. To sign up click on: <https://cathfamily.org/cathkids-faith-unlimited/>



**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Wednesday 1st April was the Parish Pastoral Council's third meeting for the year. Before discussing the impact of the coronavirus on our lives, parish life and the wider community, we first reflected on a section of reading from Gerard Moore's (SM) "A Spirituality for Justice": a sense of wonder, and the secrets by which we live. We identified with the author how interconnected we are to each other, our environment, and our past. Our reflection also filled us with a sense of humility, that we are not in control of our lives, and this prompted a greater sense of wonder and awe in our loving God.

We could relate to this in our discussion on the significant impacts we have felt in the last month. Mass is no longer available to the public, and the physical doors to our church have been temporarily closed. We have seen the suspension of a number of parish group meetings, and our schools have had to adapt to online learning in a matter of weeks! Also discussed were the many other negative social, financial and psychological impacts.

Two main priorities came out of our meeting: Firstly, we need to encourage and maintain our relationships with each other, regardless of physical distancing.

This will allow us to look out for one another, especially the vulnerable in our community. Over the coming months we will help facilitate communication between parishioners so we can be in better contact with each other (through electronic means for example). It is good to know that there are already groups in the parish supporting each other. We also encourage you to contact the parish to update your contact details if you know they are out of date, so our parish database is up to date.

Secondly, we as a parish need to encourage and maintain our prayer life. To assist, we are adding helpful links and resources on the parish website, plus be sure to look out for Fr Jim's homilies on Sunday readings. **Parish Pastoral Council**



**THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED** and will reopen on Tuesday 14<sup>TH</sup> April. We will then be closed again on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

for Anzac Day. If your matter is urgent, please ring the emergency mobile number 0473 046 906.

Please click here to download the [9-day Divine Mercy Novena](#) which begins on Good Friday.

