



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
14 February 2021 – Year B/1

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE PRAY FOR:

Deceased Anniversary: Dr Franko Stanich Marko & Mara Stanich, Siegfried & Michaela Korb Maria Gussnig, Josef Egger Hubert Gussnig Diana Carson, Earl Jason De Joya, Shirley Greathead,
Sick: Andrew Hood

Happy Lunar New Year



Ash Wednesday and the Season of Lent

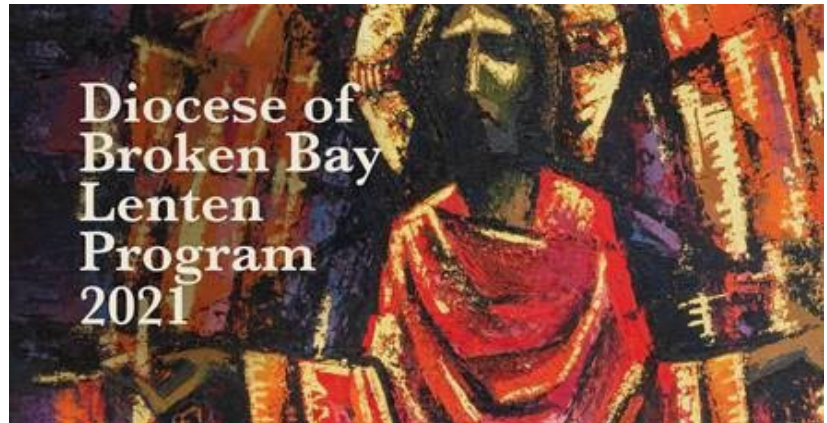
This year we will offer four Masses on Wednesday 17th February: 6.45am, 9am, 12.15pm and 8pm. At this time, you still need to book in for these masses via our website www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood, under mass times/easter mass times.

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
chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

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

Rev Dr David Ranson VG (Parish Priest)
David.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au
[Blog: davidranson.com.au](http://davidranson.com.au)
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Fr Joey Frez (Assistant Priest)
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Deacon Kevin Hale (Deacon)
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Maricel Malapira (Catechist
Coordinator)
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Pressy Braganza
pressy.braganza@bbcatholic.org.au
(Pastoral Care Worker)



The Program will reflect on Bishop Anthony's six priorities for our diocese and will feature reflections from Fr David Ranson, Tomasz Juszcak, Kelly Paget, Deacon Sam French, Sr Josepha Mabini & Pina Bernard.

Join a parish group, form a group with friends
or follow the program with your family.

Parish Groups:

Thursdays: 18 February to 18 March 10 – 11.30am in St Paul Room

OR

Thursdays: 18 February to 18 March 7 – 8.30pm via Zoom

Register with Gail gail.gill@bbcatholic.org.au or 9410 9021.

**We have our 1st Spanish Mass Sunday 21st February.
This mass will be celebrated in the Parish
@ 12noon every 3rd Sunday.
Please book online, via our website.**

Within the Parish

MORNING PRAYERS are back on **Thursday after Ash Wednesday at 8.45am** - Morning prayers can refresh and recharge your soul as you get ready to take on the day with help from the best place possible: Our Creator!

SENIOR'S COFFEE MORNING BEGINS 4TH MARCH



We are back. After a false start last year, we are going to start up our Senior's Coffee Mornings. The first one for 2021 is 10am on Thursday 4th March in the Magnificat Room. Please join us for a chat and some morning tea. Fr David will be joining us, so

come and have a chat with him. If you would like any more information please contact Jan Hunter at gfiadino@bigpond.net.au.

PROTECTING LIFE PETITION

Parishioners are urged to sign the petition to protect life which is in the two main entrances of the church this weekend. This is a most important petition because it asks the Government to act to protect the lives of the unborn and the elderly with the same vigour that it is exhibiting in the fight against Covid19.

(Marian Catholic Action Group)

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

It is important to keep track of when your Working With Children Check is coming up to Expiry. If you got your Working with Children Check (WWCC) in 2016 it could be time to renew. You can go to the Office of the Children's Guardian website to update your details and renew your check. Click here to renew – www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check



MERCY COLLEGE UPDATE

Congratulations to Cailin Geraghty, who graduated from Mercy Catholic College in 2020 who is continuing to show her contribution to the community by taking on a role in Vinnies Youth for school leavers.

Cailin is part of the excited and bright group of young adults, who are keen to continue their support and involvement with Vinnies. They hit the ground running by participating in Chatswood Region Christmas Appeal fundraisers and are inspired to give back to their community following in the footsteps of so many strong Catholic ambassadors.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Lev 13:1-2,44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45

The first reading (Lev 13:1-2,44-46) and gospel (Mark 1:40-45) both touch on a primal fear concerning some types of disease. In today's passage Jesus breached the fearful and lawful separation of lepers by reaching out to touch the man; and the man is set free from his disease and is sent to comply with the Law so as to be able to return to his family a renewed man. He also becomes the first to do what Jesus tells him not to do: he tells everyone about it. There is a cost to Jesus again such that he then cannot go anywhere openly.

Mark says he now had to stay outside the towns, in places where nobody lived; he becomes something like a leper himself in having to live apart. Perhaps last Sunday's gospel acclamation would have worked better today: "He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering" (Matthew 8:17, adapting Isaiah 53:4).

But, to be honest, it was the short second reading (1 Cor 10:31-11:1) that caught my attention as the question popped unbidden into mind: How does one eat or drink for the glory of God? What can this mean? Almost immediately there came to mind flashes of scenes from the movie based on Karen Blixen's short story "Babettes Gaestebud".

French refugee Babette had found sanctuary with two kindly Puritan sisters on the Jutland peninsula, becoming their cook and catering also to the ill to whom the sister took meals. It seems she was oblivious to how her handling of the stuff of this world, food, even in the bland cuisine of the region, affected people. Winning France's national lottery enabled her to give a gift that was not wanted: a feast to celebrate the centenary of the birth of the sisters' father, the founder of their peculiar sect. When some idea of what she was doing came to the attention of the sectarians who would be feasted, they kindly, not wanting to give offence in return, determined to eat and drink as if all were tasteless, all without merit. At the meal, however, not only were they conquered by what they received, slowly learning to delight in it all (even the cheering wine), but their reciprocal wrongdoings and hurts that had earlier been exposed were both acknowledged and set aside. For the first time in a long while, they were at one with one another, forgiving each other, even to the extent of sedately dancing their aged frames in a ring around the town's well—a scene that calls to mind Fra Angelico's "Day of Judgment" altarpiece that now resides in Florence's Museo del Convento di San Marco.

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

From Fr David

Dear friends

Our warmest new year greetings to our many brothers and sisters from our Asian cultures! This weekend is one of very special celebration and we pray that the new year will bring many blessings to us all. We are delighted to acknowledge this important occasion at the entrance to our church, and next year we will find ways to enter the celebration more fulsomely. Hopefully, many of us will be able to enjoy the festivities taking place in our city.

It was a privilege to acknowledge our Readers last weekend on Word of God Sunday. This weekend we salute our Catechists who take the Word of God to the many Catholic children at our five government schools. We have over 40 Catechists and it was a delight for me to meet many of them last Monday. We have a number of new catechists this year, too, which is a wonderful sign of the spiritual health of our community. Our special thanks to our marvellous Catechist Coordinator, Maricel Malapira who brings great care and professionalism to this ministry.

From time to time, it is important for us to be mindful of those trends and practices in our society that are not reflective of God's dream for us. We see these in such legislative developments around matters regarding abortion and euthanasia and the lack of care for creation. This week our Marian Catholic Action Group brings to our attention possible developments in euthanasia. There is also a petition in the foyer of the church for us to register again our objection to abortion. This is an opportunity for us to ensure that our voice is heard in a context in which the religious perspective becomes easily marginalised.

This week we begin our season of annual renewal and conversion in preparation for the great Festival of Life, Easter. **Lent commences on Wednesday 17 February with Ash Wednesday.** We will offer four Masses for Ash Wednesday at **6.45am, 9.00am, 12.15pm and 8.00pm.** From Ash Wednesday we will have available a brochure that outlines the Season of Lent and the many ways our parish is engaging its opportunity. Amongst the various ways will be Praying the Stations of the Cross. **These will take place during Lent on Wednesdays at 11am (prior to the 12.15pm Mass) and on Fridays at 7.30pm.** On Thursday evenings during Lent, beginning 18 February, we will also pray a special Holy Hour with special music and during which I will share a Lenten Reflection.

Do be sure to collect one of the brochures "Celebrating Lent at Our Lady of Dolours" that will be available through the coming weeks. From next Sunday we will also introduce a new Sunday resource, "Our Sunday Celebration." This will be available for everyone attending Mass to use whilst in the church and to take home with them. It will contain all the parts of the Mass along with the Readings for the Sunday, and inside will be formative reading for our spiritual nourishment.

This week, from Thursday 18 February we will reintroduce in our church Morning Prayer from the Church's Liturgy of the Hours. This will be prayed at 8.45am before each weekday 9am Mass.

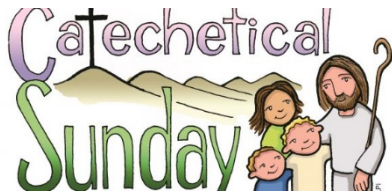
Our schools are celebrating their Commencement Masses this week. Our Lady of Dolours Primary celebrated on Friday 12 February, Mercy College on Monday 15, and Pius College (at Oxford Falls) on Tuesday 16 February.

Thankfully, from last Friday the COVID restrictions have been further eased by the NSW Government. We can now receive up to 300 people in our church, and masks are no longer mandatory in our church. We have also removed all the cords on every second pew so that every pew is now available. As I write this, we are awaiting clarification about singing at church. Let us pray that we will be able to maintain this level for some time without 'going backwards' as it will enable us to return to much of our community life!

Fr David



Our Youth Group for Years 7-9 begins this Sunday. We are gathering after the 9am mass on the Church forecourt. If you are in Years 7-9, please come along and join us. Look out for Deacon Aldrin.



Catechetical Sunday is an annual event which originated in 1935 when the Vatican published a document on the Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education. It acknowledged the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and asked every country in the world to honour catechists and teachers who serve within their parish communities.

The Sunday before Ash Wednesday is traditionally Catechetical Sunday in the Diocese and this year it will be held on Sunday 14 February 2021.

As catechists begin another year of ministry, we are invited to stop and think about the dedicated work of these volunteers in the public schools of parishes of the Diocese of Broken Bay.



If you think you would like to get involved in sharing your faith to all the children in State Schools, or you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact Maricel by phone 9410 9029 or email at maricel.malapira@bbcatholic.org.au



Our playgroup will be held every second Tuesday
In the Magnificat Meeting Room
Between 9.30-11.30am

Our next session will be **THIS Tuesday 16th February**. We are also looking for caring parishioners who would be interested in helping to host our playgroup parents, carers and children on a rostered basis.

If you would like to join playgroup, or are interested in being a helper please contact Angela in the parish office.



Twice a year, we run a preparation program for 6-12 old children who would like to be baptised. This program includes the parents and child attending preparation sessions together in a small group with other children and families.

Our next Kids' Baptism Program will begin on **Sunday 7 March 2021**. If you would like to know more about this program, or would like your child to join, you can download the information and enrolment forms from our parish website.

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood>

- Click on **Sacraments**
- Click on **Baptism** and then **Kids' Baptism**

Complete the enrolment form and email to angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au

ALL SCHOOL REFERENCES

Please drop your school reference form requests into the Parish Office with a stamped envelope addressed to the school in question, and these will be handed to Fr David Ranson. Fr David will be in contact with you if needed. Parent Connect Gatherings for 2021 are on hold at this time.

WITHIN OUR DIOCESE

SERRA VOCATIONS MASS AND DINNER MEETING



Father Geoff Bugden will be celebrating Mass for Serra at Sacred Heart Church, 2 Richard Porter Way Pymble on Thursday 18th February 2021.

The evening commences with Mass at 6.00 PM followed by a light meal and a short meeting in the Marian Hall which is a short walk from the Church. Given the size of the Hall, social distancing is easily achieved.

Following the meeting we will be showing a YouTube video recording of the third Lenten talk given last year by Bishop Greg Homeming OCD, Bishop of Lismore, on the subject of "Holiness".

Everyone is welcome. Please "come and see".

Please remember to pray every day for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, ecclesial women, all seminarians and novices and for the perseverance of existing vocations.

Please telephone: Terry Scanlan on 0438 887 295 or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you would like to attend.