



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish



ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

15 August 2021 – Year B/1

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Luigi Agnese, Xavier Nitin
Dholakia, Pauline Doyle

Deceased Anniversaries:
Marija Sardelic, Petar Sardelic

**Church - Cnr Kirk & Archer Sts,
Chatswood**

**Parish Office - 94 Archer Street,
Chatswood, 2067
PO Box 1446, Chatswood, 2057**

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hours' emergency call 0473 046 906**
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chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au

**Parish Office hours:
Mon-Fri 9.30am-4pm
(Closed for lunch 1-1.30pm)**

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(Liaison with Aged Care Facilities)



This Sunday's Gospel is about Mary's visit with her cousin Elizabeth. Earlier in the chapter, Luke tells us that Elizabeth and Mary are both pregnant due to the direct grace of God. Elizabeth is an older woman who never had children, and Mary is a young virgin carrying her first child. After Mary says yes to Gabriel's invitation to be the mother of God, the angel tells Mary that Elizabeth is also pregnant. The Gospel says Mary goes to visit Elizabeth. The trip from Mary's home in Nazareth to Ain Karem, the village where Elizabeth lives, takes about four days. Imagine what the reunion between Mary and Elizabeth is like. Both women are filled with excitement and joy over what God has done in their lives. Mary's meeting with Elizabeth brings more joy: "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb" (1:41). Elizabeth is conscious that God is present among them: "Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit" (1:41). The Spirit of God comes upon Elizabeth and compels her, in true prophetic style, to proclaim, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (1:42). Elizabeth's humility is evident in her next words: "And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?" (1:43). Luke continues with the message that if we believe in the Word of God, we will see it fulfilled in our lives (see 1:45).

Verses 46–55 encompass Mary's canticle, or song, which is traditionally called the *Magnificat*, because that is the first word of the Latin translation. In this beautiful prayer, Mary praises and thanks God for blessing her by choosing her to be the mother of Jesus. When we examine the *Magnificat* closely, we can see that it is a mosaic of quotations and allusions from the Old Testament that interpret the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. This canticle is prayed or sung daily as part of evening prayer in the Liturgy of the Hours, a traditional prayer form of the Catholic Church.

The *Magnificat* is strongly influenced by the canticle of Hannah found in 1 Samuel 2:1–10. Hannah is unable to have children and prays earnestly to God so she can conceive and have a son. God answers her prayer, and she gives birth to Samuel—the last of the great judges of Israel and the person who anoints Saul and David, the first two kings of Israel. Both canticles proclaim how God exalts the lowly and brings blessings into the world in unexpected ways.

Within our Parish

CATHOLIC CARE CAN HELP WITH COLES OR WOOLWORTHS VOUCHERS

Times are tough. You might have lost work due to the lockdown, or you might be finding it hard to pay the bills or to put food on the table. Please call CatholicCare on (02) 9481 2600 or email them at info@catholiccaredbb.org.au. They are here to help our parish families.

Please note this support is able to be offered due to Government funding so they will require ID and some documentation to access assistance but they can walk you through the requirements.

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE – ONLINE ADORATION



SILENT ADORATION
Daily-8.45am to 8.45pm
Starting: 1st August

On Divine Healing & Retreat Centre Sydney, Australia, YOUTUBE CHANNEL
You are free to send prayer request during adoration

DAILY Holy Mass: 8.am
Guided adoration: 9.00pm-9.30pm

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE
160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
Tel: 02 4372 1598, 04 6848 6782, email drcsydney@gmail.com
• www.divineretreatcentre.org • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

The Divine Retreat Centre Somersby strives to promote the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.

SENIORS GROUP



We hope you are all staying well and safe. Keep up the stretching exercises we learnt to stay fit and strong. Although we missed celebrating Yulefest, we

hope we can welcome in Spring with a get together and singing with Louis. Stay safe and keep in touch with loved ones. Linda and Jan

VINNIES VIRTUAL SLEEPOUT

Dear friends, Team Chatswood Parish are joining the Vinnies virtual sleepout to shine a spotlight on homelessness and raise much needed funds for Vinnies Central Coast, an area servicing many of the most vulnerable people and families in NSW.

On Friday 27th August:

- *Fr. David,
- *Fr. Joey, and
- *Deacon Aldrin

will be sleeping on the couch, in the yard, or in the car.

Click “Give Now” and support the team to support those in need.

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-community-sleepout-central-coast-region-2021/chatswoodparish>



Thank you for your generosity,

God Bless,
Team Chatswood Parish
Fr. David, Fr. Joey, Deacon Aldrin,
Deacon Kevin



VINNIES COMMUNITY SLEEPOUT™

WILL YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

Join our Vinnies Community Sleepout or donate to help us rebuild lives for people experiencing homelessness.

Vinnies good works

**As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you.**

我的心切慕你，如鹿切慕溪水



From Fr David

Dear friends

We are fast approaching the date of the centenary of the opening of our church! Last year Bishop Anthony came and celebrated the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone for the new church. Now on Saturday 21 August of this year we celebrate 100 years since our church was opened. Though we are in lockdown and cannot gather, we do not want this moment to go uncelebrated. So, we are planning a number of online ways of commemorating this very special anniversary. On the evening of Friday, 20 August we will have a special online Vigil of prayer for our parish at this auspicious moment, and then on Saturday, 21 August we will have an online celebration of Mass for our Anniversary. Through next week we will promote these opportunities and we hope that as many as possible will be able to join us under the theme, Celebrating the Past, Building the Future. Let not the current restrictions prevent us from giving God thanks for the many ways in which he has nurtured our family of faith over such a long, long time. To mark this moment, we have had many of our sacred vessels in our church restored and renewed. Some of these are almost as old as our church itself and so it is very important that we have brought them back to their original splendour. May this be a sign of what is possible for our ourselves as living vessels of the life of Christ. A special thank you to Elizabeth Jung too for the beautiful gift of a new holy water holder now in the foyer of our church.

On Friday, 27 August, St Vincent de Paul Society seeks to raise awareness of the plight of homelessness - a particular issue for us here in Chatswood. Fr Joey, Deacon Aldrin and I are participating in this annual Vinnies Sleep Out by forming the Chatswood Parish Team to help raise money for those who are homeless. The information about this is in our parish bulletin and social media as well as the ways to sponsor us! Do support us over the coming weeks!

Then, on Sunday, 29 August, we celebrate Social Justice Sunday through Australia. This year the Bishops Social Justice Statement focuses on our care of creation and of the poor. Gail Gill is going to lead us in a series of reflections on these critically important matters through September. So do see these details in our parish bulletin (page 5) and website.

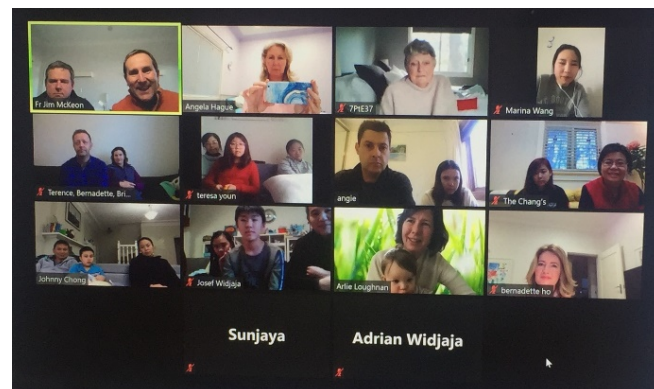
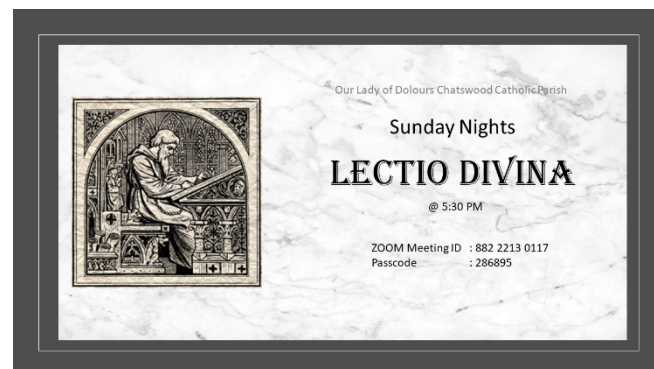
This Sunday we celebrate the very special solemnity of the Assumption of Mary, 15 August. This beautiful feast day which corresponds with the stirrings of spring in our hemisphere reminds us not only of the way in which Mary, the mother of Jesus is brought into the fullness of God's life but that the promise

made us by the Lord for a life fully lived cannot be thwarted even by all the events and uncertainties that we currently face. Let us keep our gaze on the Living Lord who is Master of all and who leads us through this experience if we are but attentive to the new opportunities the situation places before us. Do be sure to join us for our online liturgies at 9am or 5.30pm and for the praying of the Rosary at 11am. All the details are on our parish website.

Fr David

DO YOU SEE THE FACE OF JESUS IN THE HOMELESS AND THE HUNGRY?

We are a group of parishioners seeking to represent the hands of Jesus in our community by partnering with other churches and not-for-profits in actions of support for the homeless, the hungry and the heartsore. By joining us you will have the opportunity of providing practical assistance to those in need, building relationships with social organisations in the area and receiving leadership training from the Sydney Alliance, of which our parish is a member. Please contact Gail Gill, chair of the Social Justice committee Gail.Gill@bbcatholic.org.au or Jo Karaolis jokaraolis1@bigpond.com



As we continue to be in lockdown, we have moved our **Zoom Liturgy of the Word** back to weekly each **Sunday at 9am** and would love to have you join us. It is easy to join, just click on the link below at 9am this coming Sunday and follow along with us as we proclaim the word, listen to Fr. David's homily, pray and share together.

Join Zoom Meeting:-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85132386601?pwd=bEYrRlorWDE2Y3k2azM2ZFlzckFkdz09>

Meeting ID: 851 3238 6601/ Passcode: 903824



Rebrand of CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay

We are delighted to announce the Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is rebranding to **Pastoral Works Broken Bay** from July 2021.

The purpose of the new name is to better reflect the authentic, life-giving pastoral work you are helping to support, and provide a name that uniquely connects it to our Diocese of Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay will play a vital role in building on the **six Pastoral priorities** for the Diocese, including giving vital support to life-changing ministries, nurturing families, and parish communities.

Each year, about 20,000 families and friends - those in hospitals, schools, parishes, and the wider community - will be assisted through the generous support of parish communities to Pastoral Works Broken Bay.

Thank you for your support of this important and historic initiative for the Diocese of Broken Bay.

My prayer is the change from CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay enables us to reach further and wider in helping our local community, and more deeply connects us to the mission of Jesus.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL,
Bishop of Broken Bay

August Appeal

At this time, we appreciate support that can be given, no matter how big or small. Our ministries continue to operate and provide vital services. We encourage donations at your parish website or www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks.

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Collection envelopes for Masses will be available when parishes re-open.

**Thank you for helping to renew and rebuild lives.
Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.**





Unplash/Steve Brinzer

Cry of The Earth Cry of The Poor

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22 *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, was launched recently for distribution on Social Justice Sunday on 29 August.

In the Statement, the Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven *Laudato Si'* Goals.

The Statement especially encourages Catholic families, communities and organisations to: listen to the First Nations; reflect on the theological foundations offered in *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, and plan their next steps towards the *Laudato Si'* Goals.

BE PART OF A SHARED READING AND REFLECTION GROUP

Zoom Groups will be offered on:

Tuesdays from 10.30 to 11am

31 August; 7, 14 and 21 September

Thursdays from 8 to 9.30pm

2, 9, 16 and 23 September

Register with Gail at gail.gill@bbcatholic.org.au

A zoom link will be provided by return email

ACCESS A PDF COPY OF CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR NOW.

Go to:

<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2021/06/24/social-justice-statement-2021-22/>

Hard copies will be available in the parish later in August. At the above website, as well as a PDF of the Bishops' Statement, you will find a range of supporting resources which include a narrated version of the Statement in a podcast format.

When Pope Francis announced an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation at the



A Home for All? Renewing the Household of God

Pope Francis announced an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation at the beginning of an annual Season Creation in 2015, he wrote: *"This time for creation offers individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation; to thank God For the wonderful handiwork he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live."*

Each year, the Season of Creation begins on 1 September and concludes with the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. The theme for 2021 is *A Home for All? Renewing the Household of God*.

AN INVITATION TO BE PART OF A PRAYER AND REFLECTION GROUP

If you would like to come together with others over zoom for prayer during the Season of Creation, contact Gail gail.gill@bbcatholic.org.au

Two groups are planned:

Fridays from 10.30 to 11.30am

3, 10, 17 and 24 September

Wednesdays from 8 to 9pm

1, 8, 15 and 22 September

LAY PEOPLE AND SYNODALITY

Sr Nathalie Becquart

Sr Nathalie Becquart was recently appointed by Pope Francis as Under Secretary to the Vatican Synod of Bishops. She has previously worked as a youth minister in France and was responsible for youth pastoral work on behalf of the Bishops of France. Sr Nathalie studied theology at the Centre Sevrès in Paris and did further research on the theme of Synodality at Boston College.

The Australian Cardijn Institute will host a webinar with Sr Nathalie on the theme of Lay People and Synodality on:

Thursday 19 August at 7pm

Register at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84451200000?pwd=OWpScUo5aU9aSiUMCjFG6V6S-bexrv-9C>