



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish



20th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
16 August 2020 – Year A/2

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE PRAY FOR:

Recently Deceased:

Mavis Johnson, Jose Ben Abarca

Deceased Anniversaries: Marija & Petar Sardelic, Marin Sardelic

Sick: Warwick Ellis

**Church - Cnr Kirk & Archer Sts,
Chatswood**
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Chatswood, 2067**
PO Box 1446, Chatswood, 2057
**Phone: 9410 9000 or for an after
hours' emergency call:
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chatswoodoffice@bbatholic.org.au

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

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**(Admin Assistant for Children's
Ministry)**

Bernadette Ho
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**(New Parishioner Engagement Co-
Ordinator)**



Memorial Mass: Last weekend we had a beautiful, gentle Mass to remember and pray for loved ones who have died during the past few months. Flowers and photos were placed with honour before the altar and we prayed together as a community, commanding them to the Lord, and praying God's peace for one another

Community Dinners: Sadly, one piece of parish life which we can't continue at present is our Community Dinners. Although we recognise the need for connection is all the more vital at this time, the present 1.5m distancing requirements will make gathering people from different households around a table impossible for the time being. We look forward to the time when we can recommence and relaunch this wonderful piece of parish outreach and community..

Sanitising the church: We are frequently sanitising all touch surfaces in the church including pews and door handles. Thank you to Andrew, Yvonne, Maureen, Chris, Rose and others who have been helping with this in recent weeks. You'll see bottles of sanitiser and both cloths and squeegees in the foyer and on the front pew – feel free to come and help any time you're able.

Cancelling a booking: Last weekend our vigil, 9am and 10.30am Masses were fully booked with one hundred people! This is wonderful, and a great sign of people's faithfulness and eagerness to celebrate the Eucharist together. Sadly though, it also means that other people who may have wanted to book are unable to. There are always some people who, although booked, cannot make it, often due to caution if they or someone they have been in contact with has virus symptoms. If you do know in advance that you will be unable to come to Mass which you have booked, please use the "return tickets" function so that someone else may take your place. It's near the bottom of your confirmation email from Trybooking.

WITHIN OUR PARISH



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Please continue to pray for the 75 children in our Parish who are preparing for their First Holy Communion.

PARISH MEETING ROOM TOILET CHANGES:

For everyone's protection, a change is being implemented immediately with the Toilets at the Parish Meeting Rooms.

Firstly, we must clarify that the 2 end toilets with signs Parishioner and Atrium Children are for the parish use and are the only toilets that can be used by church parishioners. The other toilets marked Mercy College Students Only are for the school use only and must not be used under any circumstances by parishioners or visitors to the Atrium.

In future, the parishioner and Atrium toilets will be locked at all times. If the toilet is needed and you are attending a group in a meeting room or the Atrium, keys to the toilets are available in each parish room. Please use these to open and lock again after use. The only exception to this is if a large group function is happening, the toilets may be unlocked by the Group Leader for the duration of that function but must be locked at the completion of the function. If you are attending the church, you must use the toilets at the rear of the church. You **must not on any occasion use the student toilets.** Student toilets will be locked after school finishes and on weekends.

We hope you understand the importance of this change in protecting everyone under the COVID-19 situation.

Finance and Facilities Officer

Michael.Mercer@bbcatholic.org.au

HALLELUJAH GROUP

Parishioners are warmly invited to join a new group in the parish – the Hallelujah group – which as the name suggests has as its purpose to praise God. The group meets on the third Friday evening of each month at 7pm in the Magnificat Room and shares a reflection on scripture, discussion and a light supper afterwards. If you are interested in learning more about this group and meeting and joining in fellowship with other members of the parish, please do not hesitate to contact either Fr John (using the contact details in the Bulletin) or Michelle (0425 246 315).

WHAT'S ON, WHAT'S NOT: Last Saturday we recommenced our Parent Connect gathering and Baptism Preparation gatherings in person. As you can see from the picture we kept physical distancing and wore masks.



During the week some bible studies met in person, some online. First Communion preparation groups met, again, some in person, some online. The Children's Atrium and Children's Liturgy are meeting again, though with smaller numbers. In recent weeks Fr Jim and Fr John have been able to celebrate Mass for the residents of St Peter's Green, Archbold House and Dougherty Centre, though these aged care centres are again closed down to visitors.

Our Ministers of Communion to the Sick are continuing to take Communion to people in their homes. And our Catechists are again teaching in all 6 of our local state schools.

DUTIES OF PEOPLE WITH A WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK: Nearly 200 of our parish volunteers have a NSW Govt Working With Children Check (WWCC), which is a background check to exclude people with certain criminal offences from working with children. Those volunteers have given their WWCC number to the parish for verification. New legislation means that all WWCC holders now have an obligation to report any suspicion that a child is at risk of significant harm, or that an adult has put a child at risk of serious harm. All WWCC holders are now "Mandatory Reporters" of such suspicions, just as clergy, teachers and social workers have been for some time.

Fr Jim will be writing to all WWCC holders to explain their obligations, which will also include a short online safeguarding course. If you do not receive a letter from Fr Jim by the end of the month please contact the parish office. For more information see bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding.

Baptisms:

Esther Silveira &
Liam Li



Task	Materials Required	No. of People Required	
Tennis Court Car Park - Trim Bushes, clean up branches and other rubbish and sweep car park	Green Bin, Garden Shears, Pruner, Rake, Gloves, broom and shovel	2	FULL
Clean Pews	Cloths, Spray and Wipe, Bucket and Rubber Gloves	2	
Clean Ledges on side walls of church (after painting done)	Cloths, Spray and Wipe, Bucket and Rubber Gloves	2	
Clean Window sills after windows cleaned	Cloths, Spray and Wipe, Bucket and Rubber Gloves	2	
Dusting of Church	Duster, gloves, cloth, spray and wipe	1	
Weed Spraying around church, office grounds and Presbytery	Pump Bottle and Zero Concentrate	1	
Remove Wax	Scraper	1	
Clean Stairs and Handrails of Meeting Room (levels 1 and 2)	Bucket, Detergent and sponge	1	
Polishing Floor Boards Under Pews	Gloves, Floor Polish, Polishing Mops	2	
Touch up painting of internal church walls.	Paint, Paint Brushes, drop sheet, terps	2	

PARISH WORKING BEE SATURDAY 29 AUGUST:

Our pre-Spring Working Bee will be on Saturday 29 August from 9am to 12 noon. Our goal is to have as many of our committed parishioners available to help us get the church and grounds sparkling ready for the new season. If you can make it on the day to help out, please give some thought to what tasks you would like to get involved in and then email Nicole on chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2020-21

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. In the Social Justice Statement 2020-21, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today*, the Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Download the Statement at http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020

WITHIN OUR DIOCESE

JOB VACANCY - Catechist Coordinator, Lower North Shore Parish - Casual Role: 4 - 10 hours per week

The Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore requires a committed person to lead the Special Religious Education (**SRE**) ministry in the Parish. This involves supporting the catechists; coordinating classes and resources; communicating with the various stakeholders at the schools, Parish and Chancery; and looking after the administration of the ministry in the Parish.

A PRO LIFE PERSPECTIVE

As we all know, the coronavirus epidemic has had a huge impact on society as it struggles to deal with the great danger to life and health of the community. Governments have responded with a raft of stringent measures designed to combat the virus, measures which in other circumstances would be regarded as quite intolerable.

At the same time the Black Lives Matter movement has emerged as a powerful influence on society. No reasonable person could argue against the premise that lives and welfare of black people are equally important to all other lives.

Red Nose Day has highlighted the devastating impact of sudden infant death syndrome (SID) in claiming the lives of many babies and infants.

All these matters are predicated on the premise of the primary importance of the lives and welfare of human beings.

But What About the Unborn?

A very good question. While the Government is busy instituting many measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus and to deal with its impact on the health and lives of the public as well as its economic repercussion, thousands of unborn babies are each year deliberately destroyed under legislation passed by Parliament to permit this very attack on human life.

History gives us many examples of instances of certain sections of the population being regarded as sub-human and dispensable. Instances of this include human sacrifice, slavery, the holocaust, ethnic cleansing and genocide all of which we would rightly regard as repulsive and utterly evil. Yet our contemporary society has seen fit to enshrine in law the right to terminate the lives of one of the most vulnerable sections of our population -why doesn't this place our contemporary society in a comparable situation to those mentioned above?

Catholics recognize the human person as being made in the "image and likeness of God", a body/soul composite endowed by God with enormous dignity and destined for eternal union with Him. This applies to all human beings from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death and allows for no exception based on development, physical or mental capacity, race or gender. For Catholics a death as a result of the coronavirus is a tragedy in the same way as the death of an unborn baby through abortion.

A Pro-Life Response

- Many if not all of us have complied with government-imposed restrictions and our own instinct to safeguard ourselves and others from the coronavirus. But as Catholics we should think about being just as vigilant and active in protecting the lives of the unborn. We warmly invite YOU to join our parish pro-life group in supporting actions to uphold the lives of ALL and in particular the lives of the unborn who have no capacity to protect themselves.
- Supportive action takes many forms including constant prayer, outreach to those facing difficulties as a result of unwanted or unplanned pregnancies, outreach to those who have suffered an abortion and who need God's healing in their lives or those of their loved ones (in this regard we highly recommend the loving ministry of Rachel's Vineyard – T 0400 092 555 – info@rachelsvineyard.org.au), standing up for laws that would protect the rights of the unborn and standing against laws that do not respect the lives of the unborn or the elderly or terminally ill. We ALL need to stand up and be counted if we want our contemporary society to truly recognize and safeguard the dignity, value and loving presence of God in all human beings from their moment of conception until their natural death.

To express your interest in this apostolate, please contact Maureen (0428 402 528) or Cecilia (0466 961 240) or come to our pro-life information session which will be advertised in future parish bulletins.