

Our Lady of Dolours

Parish Established 1910

The Catholic Parish of Chatswood
Diocese of Broken Bay

8th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
3 March 2019 – Year C/1

“2019 focus: Relationship with God”

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**Ash Wednesday is
this Wednesday
March 6th**

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

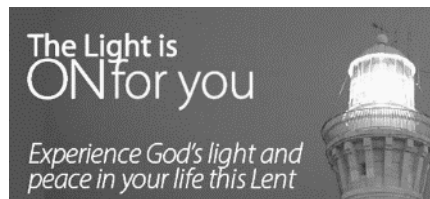
Parish Office hours:
Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm
Closed for lunch 1pm – 1.30pm

Fr. Jim McKeon (Parish Priest)
jim.mckeon@bbcatholic.org.au
Fr. Andrew Kim SJ (Assist. Priest)
andrew.kim@bbcatholic.org.au
Fr John Puliparambil (Assist. Priest)
john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au
Deacon Kevin Hale (Deacon)
kevin.hale@bbcatholic.org.au
Nicole Gorman (Parish Secretary)
nicole.gorman@bbcatholic.org.au
Gail Gill (Adult Faith Formation & Mission)
gail.gill@bbcatholic.org.au
Angela Hague (Pastoral Assoc. for Children's
Ministry) angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au
Adrian Brannan (Pastoral Assoc. for Youth
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Maricel Malapira (Catechist Coordinator)
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Pressy Braganza
pressy.braganza@bbcatholic.org.au (Admin
Assistant for Children's Ministry)
Bernadette Ho
bernadette.ho@bbcatholic.org.au
(Parishioner Engagement Coordinator)

Cardinal Pell: The conviction of Cardinal George Pell this week has shocked, angered and saddened Catholics around Australia. Fr Jim will address the impact of this and how we can respond at every Mass this weekend. A statement from the diocese is included in this bulletin. Fr Jim will be available in the St Peter Room in our new buildings in Kirk St after the vigil, 10.30am and 5.30pm Masses for people wanting to talk about the cumulative impact of clergy sexual abuse. The diocesan safeguarding manager Melinda Rixon is available on 8379 1605 safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au or visit www.1800respect.org.au for support.

The Season of Lent: The forty days of Lent are a time for us to be intentional about our Christian discipleship. We are invited by the Church to take up some prayer, fasting or almsgiving which will cooperate with God's grace to bring about the transformation of our lives. We offer you the following opportunities.

Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday March 6th. There will be Masses at 7am, 9am, 12.15pm and 7pm at which you will receive ashes on your forehead as a sign of your commitment to be transformed during Lent.



The Light Is ON For You is our diocesan Initiative to have the sacrament of Reconciliation available in every parish in our Diocese from 7pm – 8pm on Friday nights of Lent starting March 8th. We will also have Reconciliation available at 8am on Wednesdays in addition to the usual Saturday 9.30am and Sunday 10am.

Discerning the Way of Jesus

Based on the practice of *lectio divina* as a way of reading the Scriptures that is prayerful and transformative. The booklet includes an introduction and step by step guide to *lectio divina*; weekly reflection questions for you and reflections from: Fr David Callaghan MGL; Sr Elizabeth Brennan SGS; and David Ranson. The booklets are available for no charge at the entrances of the church. An audio CD can be purchased for \$5 from faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au.

The Stations of the Cross offer us an experience of praying with Jesus through the events of his passion. Stations of the Cross will be prayed in the church every Friday at both 11am and 7pm, with different groups and people offering a range of versions so that we can be enriched by many perspectives.

Project Compassion is the Lenten almsgiving challenge of Caritas Australia, the Australian Catholic aid and development charity. Project Compassion boxes will be available on Wednesday.

The Gospel of Luke with Bishop David Walker has attracted seventy people to the Tuesday morning and Thursday evening sessions. Bishop David is offering wonderful enrichment to the Gospel we are hearing proclaimed this year. The sessions will resume on Tuesday 12 March and Thursday 14 March after Bishop David enjoys a break.

Lawrie Crowley, a long time parishioner will be buried in a family-only service on Monday. We will celebrate the 12.15pm Mass on Monday as a memorial for him, and friends are invited to join us for this Mass.

Within the Parish

WELCOME TO BERNADETTE HO who is taking up the role of our parish's New Parishioner Engagement Coordinator. This is a new pastoral associate role, funded by the generosity of our planned givers, which allows us to be intentional about reaching out to and engaging with the many new people who come in contact with the parish, but who often slip through the cracks. Bernadette will be working particularly with families who are having their children baptised and with families with children coming into kindergarten.

Like each of our pastoral associates (catechist coordinator, children's ministry coordinator, youth ministry coordinator and adult faith formation coordinator), the *coordinator* part of this role is significant. Our pastoral staff don't do all the parish's ministry, but instead support and resource us as parishioners to do the work of ministry which is entrusted to us at our baptism. In the coming months Bernadette will be looking for people to get involved in these welcoming ministries, including greeting people at the door of the church at each Mass.

AUTHENTIC MEN What role models do men have today? Often there is dismay at the violence of some of our sporting heroes and the perceived corruption and indifference of leaders. Many men have had fathers who were absent or distant. But there are lots of good men around, and it is great to have the opportunity to get them together to inspire and support each other be the best man, the best husband, the best father and the best friend they can be. On Saturday March 9th they're having a breakout day here at the parish where they'll cook a BBQ and have a couple of talks about how to be "an authentic man" and they'd love you to join them. If you're looking for a place where you can talk about something more than just the cricket then this is for you. To RSVP or to find out more call or text Dave on 0401 560 693 or Albert on 0439 130 656.

FUNDRAISING At a recent Finance Committee meeting we decided to establish a fundraising committee to look broadly at how the parish encourages donations. We are looking for people with expertise in donor relations, strategy and communications. Contact Fr Jim if you can assist.

THE LITURGY COMMITTEE met for the first time this year and has begun to prepare our Easter liturgies so that they will be prayerful and engage us in the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection. Gerard Ryan accepted the role as chair of the committee for the year.

Fr Andrew Pilgrimage to Rome, Dubrovnik & Medjugorje. Departs 26 August 2019. Email Fr Andrew on andykim53@hotmail.com for details.

A WORD OF THANKS

Thank you very much for your prayers and generous support for the Kerala Flood Appeal, especially for the Archdiocese of Verapoly. We raised AUD \$6178.90. Fr John Puliparambil

SCHOOL ENROLMENT Many Catholic schools are beginning their enrolment processes in the coming month, and most Catholic schools require a parish reference. To obtain a parish reference we ask people to come to one of our enrolment workshops which gives Fr Jim and members of the parish team an opportunity to meet with you and to share the opportunities for parish involvement for you and your family. Our upcoming workshops for primary school are Sat March 9th at 10am and Sat April 6th at 2pm, and for secondary school is Sat April 3rd at 10am. These workshops are for parents, not children, and either or both parents are welcome to attend. Bring your school reference form with your section completed to the workshop. If your reference form does not have a section for you to describe your parish involvement please also download this form from the parish website. To RSVP or for more information contact

Bernadette.ho@bbcatholic.org.au

MERCY CATHOLIC COLLEGE
OPEN DAY
SUNDAY, 3 MARCH
11AM - 2PM

ST PIUS X COLLEGE, CHATSWOOD

OPEN DAY Saturday March 16

Chatswood 10am- 2pm,

Oxford Falls 8am- 12noon

- Meet the Principal, staff and students
- Principal's Welcome - 12 noon (Chatswood)

ALL WELCOME www.spx.nsw.edu.au



WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Michael Dignam, Jim Gallagher, Grazia Baldry, Sunarso Ali

Recently Deceased: Lawrie Crowley, Fr Patrick Walsh CSsR

Deceased Anniversary: Kathleen Noone, Leslie Noone, John Noone, Patricia Powis, Godofredo Abenales, Herminia Abenales, Policarpio Arias Diaz, Elvis Sebastian Arias Cauxtro, Francisco Ortiga

Deceased: Nunzia & Pietro Culicetta, Luigi & Nunzia Di Mauro, Pietro & Carmela Patane, Antonietta Aloisio, Antonino & Leonarda Fontana



ACCLAIM' YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



Wait, whaaaaaat just happened?!! Wasn't it Christmas like yesterday? 'Nek minnit' into the third month of the year, only feels like we just got back to school, Uni has started, Lent is about to start, summer is winding up, and a quarter of the year is almost gone.....Not to worry; the youth of the parish are making the most of our opportunities to truly **live and follow the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in fellowship**, with a range of social and formation activities to keep us spreading joy, and always hooked into Christ's saving message!

There is never ever a bad time to engage with our youth and young adult ministries and get plugged in to your faith further. We've got plenty of activities and opportunities to keep your faith life growing and active in friendship. **Come and see, plug in, get empowered! 'Get Lit' in the Light of Christ!**

Each Sunday the **5:30pm Youth Mass** gives us a weekly opportunity to come together and worship; **celebrating our faith, life and each other**. We would truly love to welcome anyone to join us in this celebration and for the social outings and dinners we share afterwards.

We would also love to help you involve yourself more in the Mass; there are a number of ministries we can assist you connect with. We are always very interested in any musicians or singers who would like to join us each Sunday (of any ability level...really). Please just approach us in the church or contact on the details below.

Our **Tuesday Evening: Conversation Circles; Word!** Rolls on for our young adults with Hamish and a small group of around 10 gleaning the wisdom of CS Lewis from **'Mere Christianity'**. It is not too late to join the conversation, meeting at 6:30pm to enjoy a light meal with the discussion starting from 7pm in the St Paul Room.

Our **Junior Acclaim teen; years 7 to 10 group** will hold another event next week the **10th of March** after forming the choir at the 9am Mass, morning tea and at around 10:30 we will go to the St Paul room for a **Lenten Reflection and then afterwards for a game of Ben Simmons style full court B'ball**. Bring ya water bottle!! ☺ On the evening of **Saturday April 6th** we are organising a **movie night** with the youth group of the Salvation Army, more details will be sent to parents about this event.

We now have a group of 6 young adults (20 +) rostered to occasionally supervise these monthly activities for the teenagers, we would love to hear

from any others, perhaps uni students, aspiring teachers? Contact Adrian on the details below if you would like to know more.

From this first Sunday in Lent, the **10th of March at 2pm** our young adults will commence a weekly **Lectio Divina; Discerning the Way of Jesus** this will give us some spiritual guidance through the season preparing ourselves for Easter. Please meet us in the St Paul room.

On **Sunday March 24th** there will be another of our **Mercy and St Pius X Students Mass**, seeing our local students contribute to the youth Mass in their parish and fulfil various ministries with our young adults. As always there will be a **BBQ hospitality for all parishioners after the Mass** and we look forward to celebrating this occasion every 4th Sunday of each month in school term.

On **Friday March 29th** the quarterly **Diocesan Praisefest** will take place up at The Light of Christ Centre Waitara. This is a vibrant regular event for youth of any age with Praise and Worship music and inspiring speakers. Let us know if you are looking to go as a group from the parish attends each one.

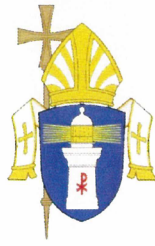
In **Term 2** we will be running **'Alpha for Youth' with Years 9 and 10 on Wednesday afternoons** starting on the 1st of May and running weekly right through the term up until the 26th of June. We would love to welcome any students associated with the parish in these year groups to join us each week in the new parish meeting room area. Please let Adrian know and we can get you permission forms and signed up. This is going to be **AWESOME**, don't miss it.

July 19-21 the Diocese is hosting a **Holy Spirit Retreat for Young Adults** at Canisius House, Centre of Ignatian Spirituality, Pymble. A fantastic opportunity for reflection in a tradition that has strengthened many!

A number of young adults have approached us about the **Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Perth, 7-11 December**. We are looking to take a large group of **16-30 year olds** for a celebration of the very best of our Catholic Faith. Attendance at ACYF will be subsidised by the parish. This will be an amazing and exciting event and we would like to hear from those who wish to join us in pilgrimaging to Perth with a group of young adults from Chatswood, please let us know that you're keen!

We would love to meet you! If you are interested in any of these events or just want to get involved please just approach us before or after Mass or contact on the deets below.

Peace, *Adrian Brannan, Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry*
Adrian@chatswoodparish.org.au or 0414 826 326



A Letter to the People of God of the Diocese of Broken Bay
Very Rev Dr David Ranson
Diocesan Administrator
28 February 2019

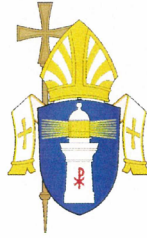
It is difficult indeed to fathom the ramifications of the dramatic and historic events that have marked these days, resulting in the remand into custody of Cardinal George Pell, subsequent to his recent conviction. The verdict of guilt will be tested now in the Court of Appeal and will either be validated or questioned, and this will take some months. When that time comes, we will be impelled to reflect again on events, one way or another. Now, our thoughts and our prayers go always to those who have been so greatly wounded by the crime of sexual abuse, particularly from within our own community of faith.

The verdict of guilt by a court of law is one thing, shocking enough as it is. Our reactions to this outcome will be diverse and complex. However, the social reaction and the widespread commentary to the verdict is another. We cannot ignore or underestimate the community's response to the verdict that has been given, and which further adds to our distress. In different ways, the energy of this social response highlights the remarkable collapse of the credibility of the institution with which we are identified - whether by our belonging to our local Catholic parish, or by our association with our Catholic schools or agencies. It places our affiliation under extraordinary stress. It is shameful for us to have to stand before the constant analysis, the critique, and the commentary about our Church, and the declarations of its failures and inadequacies. It forces us to address the question, "*Why would we wish to be identified with an institution condemned with such widespread disdain?*" We cannot avoid this question. This is the crossroad to which moments such as this bring us. We must answer the inevitable question put to us by the sad circumstances of this week with humility, integrity and courage, such that a new sense of purpose might motivate and guide us into the future, not with stoic resignation, but with genuine Christian hope. In this way, this dreadful moment in the life of our Church in Australia can act to purify and clarify our discipleship.

In this inevitable personal struggle, I am reminded of the words of the famous Scripture scholar, Walter Burghardt, who put it this way once in a homily he gave at a baptism. He said to the woman, being baptised,

"Sonia Maria, before we welcome you through symbol and ritual into this paradoxical people, this community of contradictions, let me make an uncommonly honest confession. In the course of more than half a century, I have seen more Catholic corruption than most Catholics read of. I have tasted it. I have been reasonably corrupt myself. And yet, I take joy in this Church, this living, sinning people of God; I love it with a crucifying passion. Why? In spite of all the

Very Rev Dr David Ranson
Diocesan Administrator



Catholic hate, I experience here a community of love. For all the institutional idiocy, I find here a tradition of reason. For all the individual repression, I breathe here an air of freedom. In an age so inhuman, I touch here tears of compassion. In a world so grim and humourless, I share here rich joy and earthly laughter. In the midst of death, I hear an incomparable stress on life here. For all this apparent absence of God, I sense here the presence of Christ. I pray, Sonia Maria, that your life within this community, your experience of a strange God and a still stranger people, will rival mine”.

For many, the paradox presents as a contradiction too difficult to reconcile. But there will be those of us who can enter the paradox and discover a new possibility there.

In all that is transpiring, we are challenged not to lose sight of what is actually happening around us locally. Can we see that love into which we are invited by Christ exercised in our local communities? Does my parish family demonstrate this for me? Do I see this love exercised in my school community, in my agency? I can find the resource to continue to belong to this parish, or to this school, or to this agency if I see there the mystery of Christ's sacrificial love being lived out in a way that calls me forth to the sense of what is really true, what is really beautiful, what is really good. I know that this truth, beauty and goodness is evidenced in abundance by the remarkable witness, generosity and faith of those who are present with us in our parishes and in our schools and in our agencies.

Through all this, we hold in our hearts all who are so deeply affected, in so many ways, by the crime of abuse in all its different manifestations and dimensions. The ripples of this wound at the heart of our life together stretch out in incalculable ways. Each time we are confronted with its reality is an opportunity for us to reaffirm our diocesan commitment to ensure the safety of our children and vulnerable adults. It is a commitment underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ in whom we hold the fundamental sanctity of every human person. It is our moral, legal, and spiritual obligation to safeguard all within our community. Only in this way can we genuinely foster communities of safety and care for our people and be the Church that we so desperately want and need to be. May the Lord of the future lead us there.

In these days let us care for one another, and especially all those who have been hurt by the crime of abuse. Be mindful of those resources available for our personal support, including those of CatholicCare. Please do not hesitate to call Melinda Rixon, Office for Safeguarding (Chancery) on 8379 1605 or by email safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au. Other supports include 1800 Respect – Call 1800 737 732 or visit www.1800respect.org.au or Lifeline on 131114 or www.lifeline.org.au

With my sincere good wishes during this difficult time,

Lent - a time to pause, see and return to the tenderness of God

Pope Francis suggests Lent as a time to pause a little from the many things that fill busy lives. The word Lent comes from an Old English word that means 'springtime'. That is obviously more relevant in the northern hemisphere than it is to us here. However, we know spring as a time of preparation for growth in creation, pruning away what will prevent growth, nourishing plants and trees to encourage flowers and fruit. The growth and flowering that we prepare for in Lent is growth in our relationship with the Risen Jesus at Easter.

In the fourth century, St Gregory of Nyssa wrote: 'So let us go forth, flowers for a day, from beginning to beginnings which never end.' This Lent may be your 20th or your 70th + Lent. It may become the time when you pause to form a fresh pattern of prayer during the days and weeks of Lent, or to engage with any of the suggestions on the front page of this bulletin. You might perhaps consider a short retreat as part of your preparation for Easter. There are a few suggestions below:

Mount Carmel Retreat Centre Retreats during Lent

Mount Carmel Retreat Centre at Varroville is easily accessible by train. Staff from the Centre offer a pick up service from Minto train station, which is on the airport line. For bookings or further information phone 8795 3400 or email: retreats@carmelite.com

Where To From Here?

March 22 - 24

Presenter: Bishop Greg Homeming OCD

The last ten years have been

the most difficult for the church in Australia.

We will spend time trying to find God in the midst of this crisis, and seek a way forward to become a more humble, open, transparent and Christ-centred Church.

Praying With The Doctors: St John of the Cross; St Teresa of Avila & St Therese of Lisieux

March 26 - 27

Presenters: Fr Aloysius Rego OCD & Mr Geoff Stumbles

Through gaining an understanding of these Carmelite mystics, can we relate to what they are teaching and locate our own experience within their writings?

Contemplating the Creative Process

March 29 - 31

Presenter: John Charadia & artist tutors

Through practical experience in creating artistic forms we will reflect on the spirituality of the creative process. Deep reflective thinking involves imagining, meditation and intuition allowing us to pay attention to our uniqueness and be fully present, trusting our responses and ways of knowing that arise in the creative process.

Praying with St John of the Cross

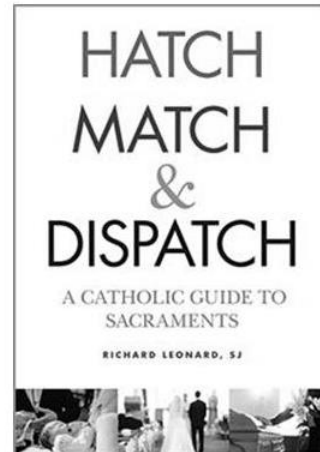
April 6

Presenter: Barbara Stenning OCDS

"For well I know the spring that flows and runs although it is night."

John of the Cross speaks of the song of the soul that rejoices in knowing God through faith.

A new book from Fr Richard Leonard SJ



This is a wonderful new book on the sacraments, carefully researched and accessible in Fr Richard's engaging style. He summarises complex history and debates that assists understanding. As Fr Richard says in his Introduction, books on the sacraments usually fall into three categories: catechetical material for children; material for adults in RCIA programs or scholarly theological texts. This book bridges these three categories and offers a refresher for Catholics or it could also be a basic text for catechists, teachers, co-ordinators, parents and facilitators of sacramental programs for children. It also offers understanding for parents seeking baptism for their children and couples preparing for marriage.

At first glance, the title may sound glib, however, Fr Richard refers to a prayer from the Rite of Ordination, and suggests that this should be sung at the celebration of every sacrament.

May God who has begun this good work in you, bring it to completion.

'May that be true of us as these Christ events hatch us into new life, match our lives to be more like Christ's, and actively prepare us for the moment when we are all dispatched into life eternal.' P.173

REMINDER

Submissions to the Plenary Council close at COB on Ash Wednesday, 6 March.

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

Children's Ministries



Calling young singers!

If you are in Year 2 to 6 in primary

school and you love to sing, we would love you to come and join our Kid's Choir!

We sing at the 9am Mass on the third Sunday of each month and would love to have new singers come and join us. The songs we sing are kid friendly and this is a great way to come and share your gift and love of singing with our parish community.

To join, just come along to the choir area about 8.45am and talk to Gillian who leads our choir. If you want to know more about the choir, please contact Angela in the parish office. angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au

News from the Children's Atrium



A place to be with God - for children aged between 3 and 12 years

Our parish Atrium has been in recess since the building work commenced last September – but the great news is that the

buildings are nearly complete!

We are currently preparing our new Atrium facilities and we are very much looking forward to welcoming all the children back to the Atrium in Term Two.

Our 2019 Atrium session times will be:

- 3-6 year olds** Mondays 10-11.30am
Tuesdays 3.45-5.15pm
Fridays 9.30-11am
Fridays 11.30am-1pm
- 6-9 year olds** Mondays 3.45-5.30pm
Tuesdays 3.45-5.30pm
- 9-12 year olds** Mondays 3.45-5.30pm

If you are interested in finding out more about the Atrium for your child, contact Angela at the parish office or

old.childrens.atrrium@gmail.com



Teen Youth Group

Meets Next

Sunday 10 March 2019 at 10.15am

Our next gathering of our teen youth group will begin in the forecourt of the church at 10.15am next Sunday 10 March.

If you are in years 7-9 please join us for a Lenten reflection followed by fun activities with your youth group leaders until 12.30pm.

For more details, please contact Angela at the parish office. angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au



Reconciliation Preparation Update



This week 106 children in our parish have begun preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

The focus of the sessions this week has been on God's unconditional love for each one of us, as taught to us through the Prophet Jeremiah (Jer 31:3) "I have loved you with an everlasting Love" and as described in the parable of the Forgiving Father (Luke 15:11-24).

This weekend, the children will be presented to the parish at the Vigil, 9.00am and 10.30 Masses. At the end of Mass please collect a prayer card to be that child's prayer partner.

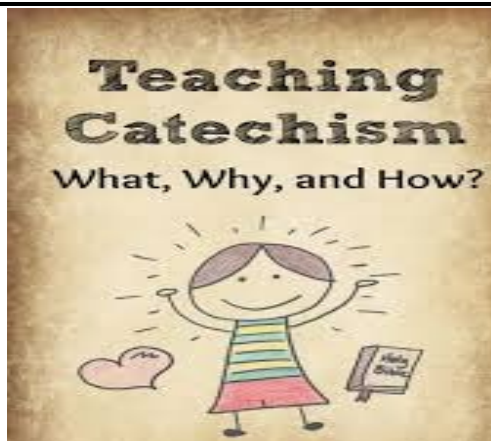
Your prayers of support will strengthen them on their journey and the children, parents and parish staff thank you for this support.

Kids Baptism Preparation Program



Twice a year, we run a preparation program for 6-10 year 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 31 March 2019**. If you would like your child to join this program, you can download the information and enrolment forms from our parish website. <http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/Chatswood> Click on **Sacraments** then **Baptism** and then **Kids' Baptism**. If you would like to discuss baptism for your child at any age, please contact **Angela at the Parish Office**.



The Catechist Ministry of Chatswood Parish
will be holding a

Parent Orientation Night

Thursday 7th of March at 7pm

in the Magnificat Parish Meeting Room.

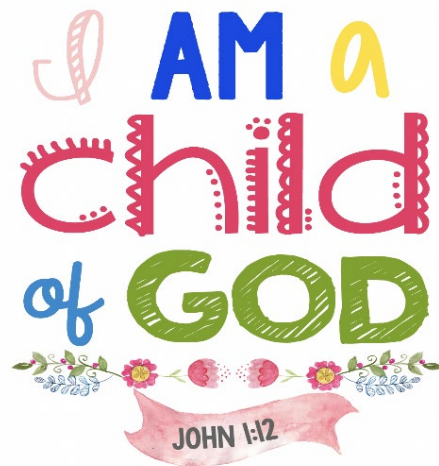
If your child attends one of the local State Primary Schools, we warmly invite you to this meeting to:

- Meet and greet the Kindy Scripture Teachers and other people involved in the State School Catechist Ministry
- Learn about how we teach Scripture in the State Schools
- Answer your queries with regards to Scripture in the State Schools
- Learn about the upcoming Kindy Blessing Mass (see right) and other ways we support you and your child's faith development in our Parish.

Please pass this invitation on to other Catholic parents in your child's school. We would love to see many of you at this meeting.

To help us with catering,
please RSVP by 6th of March to Maricel
maricel.malapira@bbcatholic.org.au
or Phone (02) 9410 90

Kindy Blessing Mass



The Catholic community of Chatswood
invites all the Kindy children and their
families to our:

'Kindy Blessing Mass'
On Sunday 17 March 2019
At our 9am Family Mass

A family-friendly celebration at
Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church
94 Archer St. Chatswood

During this Mass we will celebrate their
'starting school'
with a special **blessing**.

After Mass please join us at Our Lady of
Dolours Primary School playground where
we will have **morning tea** and a **jumping
castle!**

Please bring a plate to share!
All welcome!

