



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS
Chatswood Catholic Parish



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

6 December 2020 – Year B/1

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE PRAY FOR:

Deceased Anniversary:
Lance Charles Prior AMIE
(Aust), CPEng

Recently Deceased:
Col Kenny



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 John Puliparambil (Assist. Priest)
john.puliparambil@bbcatholic.org.au
Deacon Kevin Hale (Deacon)
kevin.hale@bbcatholic.org.au
Deacon Aldrin Valdehueza (Deacon)
aldrin.valdehueza@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
Michael Mercer (Facilities & Finance
Officer)
michael.mercer@bbcatholic.org.au
Amelia Lee (Bookkeeper)
amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au
Maricel Malapira (Catechist
Coordinator)
maricel.malapira@bbcatholic.org.au
Pressy Braganza
pressy.braganza@bbcatholic.org.au
(Pastoral Care Worker)
Bernadette Ho
bernadette.ho@bbcatholic.org.au
(New Parishioner Engagement Co-
Ordinator)

Vinnies Christmas Appeal. This weekend's Appeal will raise funds to assist local individuals and families experiencing financial difficulties through the provision of food vouchers, rent assistance and assistance with the purchase of white goods and removal fees. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Farewell Fr John: This is Fr John's last weekend as Assistant Priest here at Our Lady of Dolours Parish. We thank him for his priestly ministry to us this last three and a half years. Fr John has faithfully offered Mass and other sacraments for so many people over his time here. He also brought the gift of his cultural perspective and reinvigorated our parish feast day celebration. This weekend we will present him with a card signed by many parishioners and the gifts given to him.

Welcome Fr Joey: Fr Joey Frez takes up his new appointment as our Assistant Priest this week. Please make him welcome. His email is joey.frez@bbcatholic.org.au and his phone number will be 9410 9027.

Clergy moves: On Wednesday Bishop Anthony announced a number of clergy moves across the diocese, including that Fr Jim will be moving to Epping – Carlingford in January, and that the incoming Parish Priest here at Chatswood will be Fr David Ranson. Fr David is presently Parish Priest at Wahroonga. This may come as a shock to many people, and it is indeed a big transition for a parish to have both of their priests move in such quick succession. Let's focus on farewelling Fr John this week, and we'll have information about Fr Jim's finishing and Fr David's starting dates next week.

Parish YouTube channel: This week we have launched a parish YouTube channel, separate to Fr Jim's homily channel. This will provide parish news and updates from all the parish team. View it at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOuWB-xkzimV6TdjNbTbSnw> and subscribe to get all updates immediately.

Changes to Covid restrictions: The NSW Premier has announced that the 4sqm per person rule will be reduced to 2sqm pp from Monday, which is great news for our parish. It means that we can have up to 300 people at any Mass, 36 people in the Magnificat Room, 18 in the St Paul Room and 16 in the St Peter Room. At the time of writing we are unsure whether there will be any changes to the ban on singing or the requirement to wear masks which we will clarify next week. We anticipate that contact tracing will continue to be required, so please continue to use the trybooking portal on our parish website.

WITHIN OUR PARISH

FANTASTIC WORKING BEE

On behalf of Fr Jim and the Chatswood Parish, I would like to sincerely thank all those people who helped out at the Working Bee on Saturday 28 November. Your enthusiasm, commitment and hard work was outstanding (despite the heat) and has presented our church in a fantastic condition, ready for the busy Christmas period. It was nice to see a few new faces helping out alongside our usual committed parishioners.

Thanks also to the 'Men Alive' Group for constructing the Nativity Scene in the Forecourt. This was a big effort in the sweltering heat. Thank you to the anonymous ladies for preparing the beautiful morning tea as well. God Bless, Michael.



CHRISTMAS MASS BOOKINGS have opened. **Numbers are limited so please do not leave it until the last minute to book.** At this time, we are limited to 300 people per mass. Please log on to our website, <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood> then click on the Christmas Mass Times & Bookings tile half way down the page on the left. (as above). This will take you through to the booking page.

7.30AM MASS MORNING TEA

Please join us after the 7.30am Mass this week (Sunday 6/12/2020) for a cuppa on the forecourt. We will also be able to say farewell to Fr John.



NEW CHRISTMAS TREE

You will see we have a new Christmas tree this year to grace our church. This tree has kindly been gifted to the parish by a donation from The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 'The Atrium' through Angela Hague and a posthumous donation by Fr Barry Nobbs.



The December issue of **BROKEN BAY NEWS** will be delivered mid-December with the Christmas theme of gratitude for the challenges and blessings of 2020.

FAREWELL & THANK YOU FROM FR JOHN



Hello all, I am happy to meet you! I have been here in Chatswood parish for three and a half years; my first parish in Australia. I have been very fortunate to be in this multi-cultured parish to learn various cultures. Hence, this church and its parishioners have meant so much to me. You made it easy for me to feel at

home. Thank you for your belief in me, your love, support and your friendship. The successes we've enjoyed together have been the result of our mutual co-operation and collaboration.

However, I am going to miss you all, but not from the heart. You've been part of my journey for a long time. I've already packed memories of fun, collaboration, consultation, and friendship into my heart to take with me. This is not goodbye, but as we find in Jeremiah text, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you, plans to give you a hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29 :11). I will never be far away. Memories will be cherished by me always.

Thank you for listening to me; loving me, for smiling at me; for anything and everything,

Friends, Thanks with love... remembering you all in my prayers... John Puliparambil



PARISH MEETING ROOM BOOKINGS FOR 2021

Please email me your request for the use of the parish meeting rooms with the following information:

- All dates needed for 2021, including if you break for the school holidays.
- Time needed from and to
- Contact name, mobile & email of the leader
- Size of your group. We need this information so we can allocate you the correct sized room for the year.

Please put your request in writing and email it to Nicole.gorman@bbcatholic.org.au by Monday 14 December. **Your current booking will not automatically be rolled over to 2021.**

Parents....put CHRIST back into CHRISTmas for your children!

- make an Advent wreath out of leaves from the garden and appropriately coloured cardboard "candles"
- place on your Christmas tree at least one bauble that has a nativity message
- simple books on Saints and other Bible stories make good stocking fillers
- place a children's nativity set in a prominent position in your home



See the Piety Stall for more ideas! Open after all weekend Masses except 5.30pm Sunday.

Advent Week Two



Moses
Exodus 20:1-17



Ruth
Ruth 1:15-18



Aaron
Exodus 5:22



Jesse
Isaiah 11:1-2



Joshua
Joshua 6:20



David
Samuel 5:1-5



Samson
Judges 16:21-30

Jesse Tree

HOW SHOULD WE PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS?

Author Ann Voskamp writes:

“We’re ready for Christmas, not when we have all the gifts, but when we are ready for Christ—when we’re ready to give all of ourselves to Christ.”

Let us not allow ourselves, then, to be distracted by the busyness and commercialisation of Christmas season. During this time of Advent, the time for waiting and preparation for the coming of our Saviour, let us focus on how we can spiritually prepare ourselves. So, the “Young Adult Group” of our parish together with some members of our choir will organise a Taizé Prayer during the Benediction, and a celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It will be a night of meditative prayers, scripture readings, and periods of silence.



Please join us with your family and friends on the 10th of December, Thursday, 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Our Lady of Dolours Church.

Fraternally yours, Deacon Aldrin Valdehueza.

RECONCILIATION: The season of Advent is a time when many people approach the sacrament of Reconciliation. We have Reconciliation available in our renovated, Covid-safe confessional room every Thursday 7pm & Saturday 9.30am. Some additional times will also be available closer to Christmas.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED from 1pm
this Wednesday 9 December for our
Parish Office Christmas lunch.

Children’s Christmas Eve Nativity Masses

This year both the 4pm and 5:30pm Masses will have a family friendly focus and include a nativity



If your child would like to be involved in reading or the nativity play at either of these Masses, please contact Angela at angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au before 10 December.

Practises for the role play for both Masses will be held in the **Blue Room** (where Children’s Liturgy is held) after the 9am Masses on **13 & 20 December**. A **rehearsal** in the church will be held on Wednesday **23 December** from 2pm.

If you intend to be involved in either of these Masses, don’t forget to book your family tickets early to avoid missing out!

Christmas Carols at our local Nursing Homes

For several years a group of our parish families have been visiting our local nursing homes during Advent to sing Christmas Carols. This year some of the nursing homes have asked if we could do this in a different way, to remind our elderly that they are in our thoughts this Christmas.



So, this year we are going to share our festive spirit by recording a “Christmas Carols Concert” video to share with them.

We invite your family to sing a carol and record it and send to us so we can add it to our concert. An alternative to singing a carol is to record a 1 minute long Christmas message, which will be added to the Christmas Carols concert. Please send your video to Katya Polimeni at: kpolimenileung@gmail.com.

For more details please **contact:**

Katya at: kpolimenileung@gmail.com
or Josef at: josef.widjaja@gmail.com

We would love to have more families join us

Catechist Ministry

The 10:30am Sunday mass last weekend was highlighted with the Catechist presentation of Service Awards.



It was very inspiring to witness these wonderful and devoted volunteers of the Parish working behind the scenes each week in state schools for the children to build a relationship with Jesus.

All the awardees got a letter from Bishop Anthony Randazzo. The 5, 10, and 15 Year service awardee received a framed certificate and Adore Advent Daily Reflection Booklet. The 20 Year awardee received a Papal Blessing from the Pope and a candle. The 25 and 30 Year awardee received a framed certificate plus a Gift Card.

Two white roses were placed on the altar to remember Mavis Johnson and Sister Anne O'Brien who passed away over the last 12 months.

Let us continue to pray for continued blessings on the families of the Catechists.

WHAT TO BUY FOR CHRISTMAS? Many people are difficult to buy for because our affluence means that most of us already have everything we need. Still, there is pleasure in giving, and so a way to give which also does good is to buy a card from either Caritas Australia's "Global Gifts" or Aid to the Church in Need's "Gift of Faith". Each of these Catholic charities allow you to give an amount and receive a Christmas gift card (which you give to your loved one) showing that your donation has provided something specific such as a meal, or shelter, or school books, or support for a seminarian or religious sister. Go to www.globalgifts.org.au or www.thatcatholicshop.com by Dec 10th.



SOME FACTS

- Each week Jesuit Refugee Services (JRS) looks after the needs of over 900 families and individuals.
- JRS provides for critical needs such as medical care, medicines, food and emergency rent and housing payments.
- During September, refugees around our country were ordered to leave community detention. In the midst of a pandemic and high unemployment, they were given 3 weeks to find somewhere to live and employment.
- The October budget halved assistance for people who are seeking asylum.

How You Can Help

**TAP & GO ON
13 & 14 DECEMBER
TO DONATE TO JRS
ALL DONATIONS FROM THAT
WEEKEND WILL BE FORWARDED
TO JRS IN THE FOLLOWING
WEEK**



A Christmas Pilgrimage
In collaboration with St. Peter's Catholic College,
St. Leo's Catholic College, other schools, priests
and parishes from around Broken Bay with
SPECIAL GUEST appearances.

DECEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 24
Catholic Youth Broken Bay
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