OUR LADY OF DOLOURS Chatswood Catholic Parish











SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT 8 December 2019 - Year A/2

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2019: Christmas Eve 24 Dec -

Children's Mass – 5:30pm, Vigil Mass – 8:30pm; Midnight Mass – 12:00am Christmas Day 25 Dec – 7:30am, 9:00am and 10:30am

Parking via Kirk Street. There is no evening Mass on Christmas Day.

<u>Church -</u> Cnr Kirk & Archer Sts, Chatswood <u>Parish Office</u> - 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 Sam French (Seminarian) Sam.french@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@bbcatholic.org.au (Admin

Bernadette.ho@bbcatholic.org.au (New

Parishioner Engagement Co-Ordinator)

Assistant for Children's Ministry)

Pressy Braganza

Bernadette Ho

Working Bee: Fr Jim and the parish would like to thank those who helped out at the Working Bee last Saturday. A lot of you went over and beyond to make the church look fantastic for Christmas. We really appreciate your outstanding efforts.

Christmas Ministries: Our 6 Christmas Masses are an expression of our communal life as a parish. What ministry will you do at Christmas? Our musicians are already practicing, and some roles are already allocated, but we have need of the following:

- Parking attendants for the 5.30pm & 8.30pm vigils, and the 9am and 10.30am day Masses
- First aid officers for the 5.30pm vigil Mass
- A Minister of the Word for 10.30am Mass

Volunteer sign-up sheets for these as well as for Welcomers are in the foyer. See notice below to contact Gerard Ryan if you would like to serve or give Communion at a Christmas Mass or Susanna if you would like to take up the collections.

Christmas roster for Altar Servers and Ministers of Communion: Christmas day falls on a Wednesday this year. The Christmas Masses are 5.30 pm and 8.30 pm on Christmas Eve, Midnight and 7.30 am, 9 am and 10.30 am on Christmas Day. There is no evening Mass on Christmas Day. Please contact Gerard Ryan (9419-8310 or gerardryan@bigpond.com) if you wish to be an Altar Server or distribute Holy Communion at any of the Christmas Masses.

Wardens (those who take up the collections during mass): We are looking for wardens for the following Christmas masses; Christmas Eve 5.30pm, 8.30pm & midnight and Christmas day 7.30am, 9am and 10.30am. Please contact Susanna Siu on sansusanna@gmail.com if you can help.

Reconciliation: The season of Advent is a time when many people approach the sacrament of Reconciliation. In addition to our usual weekly time of Thursday 7pm & Saturday 9.30am, during December there will also be Reconciliation available at 12.45pm Mondays and 9.30am Fridays.

Children's Christmas Eve Nativity Mass

All children who would like to be involved in the Nativity play at the 5.30pm Christmas Eve Mass, please come to the **Blue Room** (where we hold Children's Liturgy) after the 9.00am Family Mass on Sunday 15^h December. We will allocate roles and have a quick first practice at this meeting.

There will be two further practices as follows; **Sunday 22 December:** in the Blue Room at 10.15am **Monday 23 December:** Rehearsal in the Church at 3.00pm

Any enquiries about the Children's Christmas Mass please contact Angela in the parish office on 9410 9033 or Angela.Hague@bbcatholic.org.au

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND

WITHIN OUR PARISH

MEETING ROOM BOOKINGS FOR 2020

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

- All dates needed for 2020, 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 Friday 20 December. Your current booking will not automatically be rolled over to 2020.

FAREWELL SAM

Sam French will conclude his placement as a seminarian in our parish on Christmas Day. Sam will return to the Seminary of the Good Shepherd for semester 1 next year. After this he expects that the Bishop will appoint him to a parish and ordain him as a Deacon in the second half of the year. We will have the opportunity to farewell him at Masses on Dec 21st and 22nd, and with morning tea after the 9am Mass.

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION FOR ST PETER'S GREEN Catholic Healthcare is looking for additional volunteers to take Holy Communion to residents at St Peter's Green in West Chatswood on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday afternoons each month. This might involve 2 hours of your time once a month. Please contact parishioner Magdalene Yu (0409603338 or magdalene_yu@yahoo.com) for further information. Catholic Healthcare will assist you with the necessary police check and WWC check.

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION GENERALLY

We are always grateful for additional volunteers to be Ministers of Communion visiting the sick in private homes and nursing homes (usually on) Sundays. Perhaps your New Year's resolution might be to spend some time caring for the sick and elderly by taking Holy Communion to them once a month. But you need to be genuinely committed.

We could also do with additional Ministers of Communion at the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses. Please contact Gerard Ryan (9419-8310 or gerardryan@bigpond.com) for further information.

WITH OUR LADY OF DOLOURS WE PRAY FOR:

<u>Deceased Anniversaries</u>: Mate Bacic, A. Costa and F. Tripodi, Ng Wee Yeam and Liang Yap, Bill Carroll, Mary Carroll, Kerry Carroll, Siew Hiew, Hiew and Chong families, Lance Charles Prior AMIE

<u>Sick</u>: Helen Shortall, Rose Medina, Maria Schiavo

This year the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Monday 9th December, 8th being a Sunday. Please come and honour Our Lady on her special Feast day by joining in the rosary (Cenacle) at 11.30am with Mass at 12.15pm.

FAREWELL ADRIAN

Adrian Brannan will be leaving us at the end of the year to take up a new position with Coffs Harbour Catholic Parish where he will lead youth ministry in both the parish and school.

We will have the opportunity to farewell Adrian at the 5.30pm Mass on Sunday Dec 22nd and a pub meal afterwards. We're inviting back all the young adults who have been part of youth ministry with Adrian over these past 7 years. Please RSVP to imm.mckeon@bbcatholic.org.au for this meal. If you cannot be here you may like to sign an Acclaim T-Shirt for Adrian this Sunday night or next.

POPE FRANCIS' RELECTION ON THE MEANING OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

Pope Francis recently travelled to Greccio, where St Francis of Assisi established the first nativity scene in 1223. While there he wrote an extended reflection on the meaning of the nativity scene. It is available at www.vatican.va Go the front page, click on Apostolic Letter, then click on Admirabili Signum on the meaning and importance of the nativity scene.

PLAYGROUP: We have the opportunity to offer a playgroup for 0-5 year olds and their parents and carers on Monday mornings next year. This will be supported by the parish and OLD School, but mostly parent-run. If you would like to help support this, please contact Fr Jim on 9410 9022 or jim.mckeon@bbcatholic.org.au

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT O.L.D.

Monday

7pm Indonesian Legion of Mary in St Peter

<u>Tuesday - 9.30am</u> Bible discussion in St Paul
6.45pm Filipino Chaplaincy Choir practice in church

<u>Wednesday - OFFICE CLOSED FROM 1PM TODAY</u>

7pm Midnight Choir practice in Church

7pm MenAlive in St Paul; 'Slippery Slope of Gambling'

<u>Thursday</u>

6.30pm English Conversations Club in St Paul
7pm Faith Enrichment Group in St Peter
Friday – 9am Mercy College Advent Mass
10am Meditation in St Paul, Topic: Spiritual Journey 2
4pm OLD Primary Christmas Concert in Church
7.30pm Home Rosary 45 Park Road, Naremburn
Saturday - 9.45am Chinese RCIA in St Paul
11am Bible Discussion in St Paul
4pm Chinese RCIA in Magnificat
6.30pm Community Dinner in Harrington Hall
7pm Korean reading & discussing in St Paul

Getting ready for company

Seasonal hospitality

It is amazing how often people, including non-Catholics, tell us that the reason they come to our parish is because of the welcome they receive here. Sometimes we underestimate just how important it is to reach out to others and to make them feel welcome and valued. It is something we should never take for granted. In the Gospels, Our Lord tells us that whenever we welcome a stranger we welcome Him.

We want to be a welcoming community every week of the year, however we expect many more guests during the Christmas season and we want to be ready to welcome them. Christmas is a huge opportunity to reach the lost and we have already begun by creating a space for belonging here in our parish family.

Everyone knows that many people who do not normally go to church, show up at parishes at Christmas - a time when many people, even those who aren't religious, feel a tug on their hearts calling them back to church. Some might have grown up practicing their faith but now go to church only a couple of times a year. Others are visiting family from out of town and may or may not attend church at

home. Still others have never really had a strong connection to the church and yet may be joining us for the first time or the first time in a long time. If you are reading this and you are one of those guests, we would like to say: Welcome!

Nothing beats the personal invitation

We dream of being the kind of church that has an outward focus, an "Invitational Church". This includes two main dynamics:

- 1. We go out and invite, and
- 2. We welcome guests with love.

If there's someone in your life (friends, family members, coworkers, neighbours) who might be interested in joining us for Christmas, invite them - and come along! Stepping back into church after a time away can be intimidating, so accompanying your friends will make them feel much more welcome – and there's a good chance you'll have lots of fun and learn something too! God is doing great things here in our parish and we want others to share those blessings. Prayerfully consider who you will be inviting to our parish this Christmas and start inviting!



Delivering Christmas invitations

We have printed 7500 Christmas cards inviting people to join us for Christmas Mass which we are hoping to deliver to every household in the parish. Starting this weekend we invite you to simply take a bunch of cards from the foyer and cross the street, to which you will deliver, off the list. Note that we can only deliver within the parish's official boundary. Deliver to your own street, or to a street near you to get some Advent exercise!

Looking for enthusiastic Christmas Welcomers - A great way to serve!

Many of our regular parishioners will be away at Christmas which in some ways gives us a great opportunity to ask for more volunteers to help with hospitality at the doors of the church and greet our guests as they arrive at Mass.

Can you help this Christmas? Please think about which Mass(es) you will be attending and put your name down on the lists in the foyer – we would love to see you welcoming this Christmas!



To sum it all up, here's what we need to do to prepare:

Together we pray as an entire parish that we will strive to be truly intentional about hosting our Christmas guests, that we will be warm and hospitable and welcome guests with love. For those who will be walking through our doors at Christmastime, we pray that they will hear the first and most important message that God loves them and so do we! May the Holy Spirit encourage us to connect with unconnected people in our community, show them love and hospitality and build a bridge to our parish.



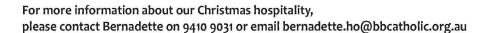
Invite

Let's be a parish that reaches out and invites others to join us as we celebrate Jesus' birth. Please start inviting and help deliver Christmas cards.



Welcome

Please do consider the call to help be a Christmas Welcomer and greet our guests as they arrive for Christmas Masses.







PARISH MASS & DEVOTIONS TIMETABLE

Monday to Friday – Monday 12.15pm, Tuesday & Wednesday 9am, Thursday 9am & 12.15pm, Friday 9am

Saturday - 9am and 5.3opm (Vigil)

Sunday - 7.30am, 9am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

Filipino Mass (in English) 12noon; 1st Sun of month Indonesian Mass; 7pm; 3rd Sun of month Family Mass - 9am each Sunday

Children's Choir at 9am Family Mass on the 3rd Sunday of the month (Please arrive at 8.30am for setup and practice.)

Teen Choir at 9am Family Mass on 2nd Sunday of the month.

Kids' Word - Children's Liturgy of the Word for ages 3-6 & 6-10. Meet in Church at 9am every 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays. (Except long weekends & school holidays.)

Youth Mass - 5.30pm each Sunday

Reconciliation - 9.30am - 10.30am each Saturday & 7pm-8pm each Thursday. Any time by request.

Morning Prayer - 8.45am Tuesday to Saturday

Rosary - 9.30am Monday to Saturday;

Cenacle - each Monday at 11.30am

Exposition - 9.30am - 10.30am each Saturday

Adoration: Thursday after 9am mass. Ends with Divine Mercy Chaplet. Also, on Thursdays 7-8pm.

Novena - Our Lady of Perpetual Help – Saturday 10.00am with **Benediction** 10.30am

Anointing of the Sick - 3rd Thursday of month at 12.15pm weekday Mass, before surgery or medical treatment, or by request.

Baptisms - Go to our website to book or contact Bernadette Ho. (details on front page)

Weddings - Contact the parish secretary.
For a Marriage/Anniversary Blessing at a Saturday/
Sunday Mass contact Nicole in the Parish Office on
94109000 (at least 1 month before requested
Mass)

SUNDAY MASS READINGS:

Entrance: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

1st Reading: Is 11:1-10 He judges the poor with justice.

Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

2nd **Reading:** Rom 15:4-9 Christ, the hope of all people.

Gospel: Mt 3:1-12 Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

READINGS FOR WEEK DAYS:

MON: Gen 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

TUES: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

WEDS: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

THURS: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

FRI: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

St Lucy

SAT: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:10-13

St John of the Cross

CELEBRANTS FOR SUNDAY MASSES

Vigil	5.30pm	<u>7/8 Dec</u> Fr John	<u>14/15 Dec</u> Fr John(K)
Sun	7.30am	Bishop David	Fr John
	9.00am	Fr Jim(K)	Fr Jim
	10.30am	Fr John(K)	Bishop David
	5.30pm	Fr Jim	Fr Jim(K)

	5.30 pm Saturday	7.30 am Sunday	9 am Sunday	10.30 am Sunday	5.30 pm Sunday
Week 3	Junior Server:	Senior Server:	Junior Server:	Junior Server:	Junior Server:
14 & 15 December	Welton Ang	Mike Kilkeary	Angelo Fernando	Angeline Dizon	Ken Braganza
	Jenevieve Liem		Adrian Kan	Jasmine Dizon	Beniz Macapagal
	Kasy Tabalon		Max Lei	Anthony Duka	McKayla Tan
	Kody Tabalon		Laureen Talao	Aaron O'Connell	Thiik
			Andrew Yip	Arwen Taqueban	
	Senior Server:			Senior Server:	Senior Server:
	Joseph Liem		Senior Server:	Kenneth Dizon	Carl Braganza
			Jasmine Chan	John Paul Maiorana	Fernanda Carrillo
			Gerard Ryan	Ditas Naguit	James Godfrey
			Gabriel Yi	Paul Taqueban	

Working in a child-related ministry in the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay

Paid and volunteer workers who have direct face to face contact with children (under 18 years) are required by law to obtain a Working with Children Check number. Please note though exemptions may apply in some cases. The Parish is the employer of the paid or volunteer worker and therefore is required by law to verify the Working with Children Check number. All paid or volunteer workers engaged in a child-related role must have a clear Working with Children Check to work in a child-related ministry. This disclosure references the legislation, *Child Protection (Working with Children) Act* 2012.