

THE BULLETIN

1 DECEMBER 2024 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



HOPE FOR THOSE WHO WAIT

Priest: Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.

All: How long, O Lord, how long?

Priest: For those waiting for answered prayer:

All: Grant your steadfast patience.

Priest: For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:

All: Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.

Priest: For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:

All: Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.

Priest: For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come:

All: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Candle Lighting

Priest: This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" (Psalm 27:14)

Closing Prayer

All: God of all creation, we declare that you are the Eternal One. We confess to you, O Lord,

that we easily grow impatient, when your word to us is to wait. Ignite within us a new

and everlasting hope. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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GLAD YOU'RE HERE

A very warm welcome to you, especially to anyone new and visiting our parish. It is good to have you with us! If you have any questions or would like to know more about our community at Our Lady of Dolours please contact us at 02 9410 9000 or email us at chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au - we would love to hear from you!

Join Jan in the PEW Garden after the 7:30am Mass for a cuppa and a friendly chat.

Please collect your remembrance candles this week. Uncollected candles will be removed and, where possible, repurposed for the church.

We're searching for a new youth minister! See details inside to apply or share this opportunity with someone who might be interested.

Help us make Carols at the Concourse welcoming and memorable! We need volunteers for light setup and to be a friendly face for attendees. To sign up, register using the details inside the bulletin, or email Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au

A few weeks in December are still available for flower sponsorship. Contact the parish office to sponsor in honour, memory, or thanksgiving of someone, or an event. Thank you to all who supported this ministry this year!

For any inclusions to next week's bulletin, please email your content to Olivia at Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au by the close of business on Wednesday.



On the sacred lands of God, under the faithful custodianship of the Cammeraygal people.

FROM FR DAVID

Dear friends,



I share the sad news of the **death of Fr Michael O'Toole**, former Assistant Priest here at Chatswood (1984-1986) and more recently Parish Priest of French's Forest (2008-2014). Fr Michael had also been Parish Priest of Northbridge/Naremburn (1996-2008). Fr Michael passed away peacefully in St Vincent's Aged Care facility in Bronte on Monday 25 November. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. Fr Michael will be buried from Mary Mother of Mercy Rookwood on Wednesday 4 December at 11am. However, we will also have a Memorial Mass for Fr Michael on Thursday 5 December at 7.30pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel church, Forestville.

As I shared last Sunday with our many volunteers who are associated with the ministry of our Piety Store, we are working to enhance and unify our parish's gift and retail ministry. To better serve our growing community, we are bringing the Piety Stall and PEW Team together under one united name: **the PEW Gift Shop**. This new arrangement will allow us to work more collaboratively, with a shared mission and vision, expanding the reach and impact of our parish offerings. The Pew Gift Shop will

now be under the guidance of Olivia Lee, our new Parish Services Lead, who will oversee its management and growth. As more people visit our church, drawn by our Carlo Acutis relic and our presence as a significant landmark in the area, it is important that the gifts and resources we offer reflect the beauty and purpose of our mission. The combined skills and dedication of both teams will allow us to create a welcoming and meaningful space for parishioners and visitors alike, offering items that inspire reflection and a deeper connection with God. We are also planning to refurbish the current piety stall space, making it even more inviting and conducive to its purpose. We express our enormous gratitude to all our many volunteers.

We congratulate our many participants in our **Journey into Truth series** that has been conducted each Tuesday over the past 24 weeks. The group met for the final time last Tuesday, and on Tuesday 3 December we will enjoy their 'graduation' with the presence of Fr John Flader, the author of the series. A special thank you to Catharine and Leonard, Margaret and Rita who brought the program together.

Through the month of November, we have conducted a **count of those attending our Sunday Masses.** We do this on a national basis in May of each year. However, this year. Bishop Anthony considered it advantageous for our Diocese to conduct a count also in November. In May, our average weekend attendance was 1100. However, in November of this year, it has **risen to 1350.** This is very encouraging for us all.

Over these weeks, I and a small group of our parishioners are **joining with members of the Jewish North Shore Temple Emmanuel community** in Chatswood for encounter and reflection. This has been a very rich experience. Together we have listened to a series of short podcasts reflecting on various human experiences and then shared our own insights on what we have heard. Those who have participated have found this to be personally very nourishing. However, it is also an important expression of our friendship with our brothers and sisters – a way of creating a circle of peace in an otherwise fractured world. Our meetings in these weeks is acting like a pilot for what we hope to expand next year so that the experience might be shared by more.

And so, we begin a new year in our Church's year with the **commencement of the season of Advent.** Our church is already looking splendid in preparation for Christmas and will continue to be decorated as our anticipation of Christmas grows over these weeks. We have some wonderful resources available in the foyer of the church to help us reflect on the Season and to grow in our faith and prayer. We look forward to the **launch of the Simbang Gabi on Friday 13 December at 7pm with Bishop Anthony** and indeed to our Novena of Masse each morning at 5.30am from 16 December to 24 December.

Again, a reminder we have a very **special event occurring on Saturday 14 December.** Just as we brought the Stations of the Cross to the Concourse last Good Friday, this Christmas we are bringing carols! And we will be joined by many of the other Christian Churches of our region, too. Already, we have 100 in the choir! This is a brandnew initiative and way of bringing Christmas into the city through song and prayer. The performance is on Saturday 14 December at 7:30pm, with a rehearsal from 10:00am-1:00pm in the church. The carols service will comprise a number of famous Christmas carols, plus two choral items: O Holy Night and Handel's Hallelujah Chorus. The choir will be accompanied by the Salvation Army band, and we are also blessed to have guest singer Marlisa Punzalan (former winner of the X Factor Australia) joining us! I will be conducting the event. If you have not signed up yet to sing with us, there's still time. Please reply by email to our Parish Director of Music, Titus Grenyer with confirmation + numbers. Titus' email is titus.grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au Please continue to invite more people to sing with us - even if they don't usually sing in choirs! The dress for the choir members is simple white and black clothing. White top / black bottoms or vice versa. Let's make this a memorable way of bringing the Light of Christ to our city!

Our community would love to pray for you. If you have an intention you would like to be included in this bulletin, e-mail
Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au by Wednesday.



Mother bereaved of thy Son, pray for us.

Sighing Dove, pray for us.

Mother of Dolors, pray for us.

GOSPEL REFLECTION



IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER:

Our loved ones who have recently passed away:

Ramon Calimbahin Sr (grandfather of Monty and Boppy Calimbahin); Fr Michael O'Toole; Terry Bowman msc; Robert Zoa Manga (husband of Kara); Thomas Cleary; Sr Angela Rodrigues.

Our loved ones who are sick:

Carmel Villanueva; Coral Coughlin (wife of Tom); Marianne (Binnie) Tan; Mr Gurung (father of Om Gurung); Colleen Baker (sister of Margaret Day); Delfin Mendoza; Karen Forbes; Irene Margaret; Ying Leong Fong; Laila Haddad; Dilia Ng; Linda Yip; Lonnie Chu; Minnie Walshe; Maria Taylor; Ban Le LLamas; Sally Luxton; Sr Marie Dayton; Giselle Clark; Judith Ryan; Jim & Ann Avery; Thomas West; Lucy Rodriguez; Gillian Hawkins; Donna Fernandez; Allison Roberts; Zac Vlasic; The mother of Fr Greg Skulski; Helen Coutts-Trotter (sister of Terry Meagher); Teddy Malapira; Kristen O'Loan; Mitch East; Victor Villanueva Herriquez; Johnson Siu; Joseph Bonnici; Bill Piper; Frank Hallissy; John O'Brien; Gerard De Leon; Carlos De Leon; Mary Kin-Soon Ng; Bonnie Leung; John Tiorg and family; Esther Grant and family.

Our loved ones, at rest with God, whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Bacic Mate; Phil Ryan (husband of Judith, father of Gerard); Chunguang Lin.

Our loved ones who celebrated their birthday recently:

Brenda Timp; Dani Montallana; Virginia Purpura.

Today begins the season of Advent, a time when we are encouraged to prepare for Jesus' coming.

Yet in the Gospel we have just heard we are told "They will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud."

So we are being asked to prepare for Jesus' coming both as a baby at Christmas and as the glorious Lord at the Second Coming.

Do you find it strange that today's Gospel reading would focus on the end times and not Christmas?

Confusing as this may seem at first, it really is quite appropriate. In many ways, there are a lot of similarities between Christmas and the Second Coming.

First, there is the obvious similarity that both events are marked by the coming of Jesus. It's true that he came as a baby at Christmas, and at the Second Coming he will come as a conquering king. But in both instances, it's still Jesus, the all-holy Son of God, who is breaking into our finite, limited world.

Second, in both instances Jesus comes to bring the kingdom of God. At Christmas, he came to inaugurate that kingdom through his birth, his preaching, his miracles, his death, and his resurrection. At the Second Coming, he will bring to fulfillment what he began at Christmas.

All sin and suffering will be wiped away, and we will enter into eternal life with all the angels and saints.

Finally, both Christmas and the Second Coming are times of excitement mixed with awe. At Christmas, we hear angels singing, see a magnificent star, and watch Herod tremble with fear. At the Second Coming, the heavens will open to reveal Jesus, shining like the sun, and all who are opposed to him will face his judgment. Both are times of great hope that call us to examine our own lives.

Advent is the perfect time to be more vigilant and to review where we are at with the Lord.

We could ask ourselves: If Jesus were to come back today, is there anything in my life that might cause me to be ashamed or uncomfortable? Are there attitudes in my heart that are not pleasing to the Lord? While today's readings may be a warning to the unprepared, those who are alert and strive to stay close to Jesus have nothing to fear. Remember God is for us, not against us!

Also remember that being prepared doesn't mean being perfect. Just being humble and trusting is enough to welcome Jesus into our daily lives. Mary humbly accepted the request of God to bear His Son and to welcome him into her life.

So as Advent begins, ask yourself who Jesus is for you. Is he just a little baby in a manger? Or is he also the Suffering Servant who gave up his life to set you free from sin and death? Is he the Lord of all creation, who is coming back to

bring his faithful people to heaven? We are entering Advent, a season of grace when God invites us to journey deeper into his love and his presence.

Over the next four weeks, you'll find numerous opportunities to connect with the Lord, whether it is at Mass, in prayer, or in your encounters with other people. Make the most of them. Trust that each situation is another opportunity for your redemption to unfold even more. May God open our eyes this season so that we can see Jesus in a new way and be transformed by what we see!



CAN YOU HELP AT THE CAROLS AT THE CONCOURSE?

We're looking for to volunteers to help bring to life the joy of Christmas with our Carols at the Conourse to help make it a wonderful experience for all!

Roles include:

- Crowd direction: Guiding attendees to seating and key areas.
- Resource distribution: Handing out programs or other materials.
- Event set-up: Assisting with light preparations before the event.
- Warm welcome: Being a smiling, approachable presence to help everyone feel the joy of Jesus in this season.

When: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

If you're available, please register by scanning the QR code below or going to https://forms.office.com/r/LxWaZE5rd1 form closes Monday 9 November



Additionally, if you have **First Aid certification**, we'd love your help as a point of support for minor injuries during the event. Please contact the same email if you can assist in this vital role.

Your support will help bring the Christmas spirit to life to the wonderful community in Chatswood and Willoughby city—thank you!

THE

REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL:

- Jesus speaks of great signs in the heavens and on earth. How do you respond to moments of uncertainty or fear in your own life?
- How does this Gospel invite you to prepare your heart for the coming of Christ at Christmas?
- Jesus warns against becoming weighed down by the worries of life. Are there areas in your life where distractions or anxieties prevent you from focusing on your spiritual journey?
- In what ways can you bring hope and light to others during this season?

JOB ADVERTISEMENT: YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICER (YMO)

Location: Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Parish, Chatswood

Hours: 30 hours per week (including Sunday evenings, 4:30 pm-9:30 pm)

Remuneration: \$30.00 per hour (excluding superannuation)

Contract: Fixed-term, concluding 31 December 2025 (potential for renewal)

Start Date: Tuesday, 28 January 2025

Are you passionate about youth ministry and looking for an opportunity to make a difference? Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Parish, Chatswood, is seeking a dynamic and enthusiastic Youth Ministry Officer (YMO) to lead and coordinate ministry programs for young people and young adults.

This pivotal role offers the chance to inspire and engage youth while helping to deliver significant initiatives during the Jubilee Year of 2025, with our church designated as one of three diocesan Shrines of Hope.

About the Role

Reporting directly to the Parish Priest, the YMO will:

- Coordinate youth groups and foster leadership among volunteers.
- Develop and oversee programs and events for young adults and youth, including the Passion Play, Carols on the Concourse, and school holiday activities.
- Collaborate on youth Masses, liaising with schools and ministry leaders.
- Facilitate communication with parents, ensuring clarity and engagement.
- Lead and support Jubilee 2025 events for youth, including week-long programs in April and July.
- Promote youth participation in broader events such as World Youth Day and the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.
- Manage administrative tasks, safeguarding compliance, and promotional activities.

About You

You will bring:

- Knowledge and Skills:
 - A solid understanding of Catholic teachings and values.
 - Proficiency in tools like Canva, Microsoft Office, and social media platforms.
 - Strong organizational and communication skills.
- Experience:
 - Previous involvement in youth ministry or working with children and teenagers.
 - Experience managing volunteers in a collaborative environment.
- Qualifications:
 - Relevant ministry qualifications or equivalent experience.
 - A valid and verified Working with Children Check.
- Attributes:
 - A warm, enthusiastic, and energetic approach.
 - Initiative, sound judgment, and the ability to prioritize tasks.
 - Exceptional interpersonal skills and the ability to build strong relationships.

What We Offer

- A collaborative and supportive parish community.
- Opportunities to lead transformative initiatives during the Jubilee Year.
- Flexibility in working days and hours based on role requirements.

How to Apply

Please send your application, including a cover letter and resume, david.ranson@bbcatholic.org.au.

Applications close COB Wednesday, 18 December 2024.

For further inquiries, contact <u>Bettina.ignacio@bbcatholic.org.au</u>. Interviews will be conducted on Friday, 20 December 2024.

Join us in shaping the faith journey of young people and making the Jubilee Year of 2025 a year to remember. Apply today!

REMEMBRANCE CANDLES ARE READY TO BE TAKEN HOME



Please take your remembrance candle home this week. These will be left on the first pews on the left wing of the church until Thursday night, then they will be repurposed for other church events such as Adoration etc. Thank you for your help!



Playgroup turned 1 this week! Thank you to all our families who have come together to make this such a memorable space. And a big thank you to our wonderful coordinator, Mona, who always has a great time planned for us!



Congratulations to all the Year 6 students who now look forward to



Cake after Family Mass for Fr David's Anniversary!





Happy birthday, Virginia!





Happy Anniversary

Fr. David. We love you!

Our catechists packing beautiful cards and gifts for their students.







LAUNCH OF CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES

Filipino Chaplaincy Broken Bay invites you to the Launch join Simbang Gabi (Night/Dawn Mass) on Friday, 13th of December at 7:00pm to be held at Our Lady of Dolours Parish Church. Our Bishop Anthony Randazzo will be the main Presider at this Mass.

The practice (9)celebrating Novena Masses is a Christmas tradition that started in the Philippines and is now embraced in many Catholic communities in Australia. It is a call to mission to prepare for the coming birth of Jesus and an opportunity to pray in joyful anticipation of the true meaning Christmas. **PAROLS** or Christmas Lanterns will adorn the church to symbolise the Light Christ for all to see. The Novena is celebrated over 9 consecutive dawn or evening masses 15th-24th December.

In our Diocese of Broken Bay, the novena will be held at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary in Waitara, Our Lady of Dolours in Chatswood, St Kevin's Church in Dee Why and Triduum Mass at St. Cecilia's Church in Wyong. Dates and times are indicated in the flyer.

In keeping with Filipino tradition, food and fellowship will follow at the end of Mass.

Please RSVP by Sunday 8th December using the QR code in the flyer for catering purposes. Everyone welcome!

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

First Sunday OF advent / C

1 decemBer 2024

YOUR LIBERATION IS NEAR! The early Christians expected the Lord's return in glory to be very soon. St Paul explained to them that the Lord was delaying in coming for a good purpose, to give them the opportunity to grow in love and make progress in the kind of life they were meant to live. May we also make good use of the present time to deepen our love for one another that we may be ready on the day Christ comes to set us free.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, (striking the breast) through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria is not said during Advent.

COLLECT

P. Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may

be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Jer 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from

See, the days are coming — it is the Lord who speaks — when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: 'In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,

who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v. 1

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

- 1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**
- 2. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**
- 3. His ways are faithfulness and love / for those who keep his covenant and will. / The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him: / to them he reveals his covenant. R.

SECOND READING

1 Thess 3:12-4:2

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and



the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times

for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

The Gospel of the Lord. R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HOMILY PROFESSION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our L ord. R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **R. It is right and just.**

PREFACE I OF ADVENT

After the Preface, we sing or say:
All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 84·13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ★ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

STAY AWAKE!

On this First Sunday of Advent we come into a new liturgical year with the Gospel of Luke, penned for urban Greco-Roman followers of Jesus, possibly living in Rome in the late first century of the Christian Era, around 85CE.

Today's Gospel proclamation comes from a particular literary style, called 'apocalypticism'. It is a style not to be taken literally. It is more like theological poetry intending its listener to recognise images that come from the writings and prophets of the First ('Old') Testament. Its fundamental insight is a reminder that, despite all the calamity and upheaval present in the world, God is present and liberating. Rather than being overwhelmed by global tragedies and disasters, Luke's audience is encouraged to 'stand erect ... with heads held high' and recognise that freedom and release are near. Jesus followers are to be confident in God's presence and care of them, themes that Luke will repeat throughout the year.

Sometimes we can be overwhelmed by global events. At the beginning of this new liturgical year, today's Gospel proclamation is timely. It is a reminder that a different, divine power is at work. Hence, Luke's injunction, 'Stay awake'. We need this reminder. We can forget or be lulled into a form of spiritual forgetfulness by the unimportant or ephemeral. Advent becomes this precious moment to allow ourselves to view the world with faith and confidence in the continual care of God.

Fr michael Trainor

WELCOME AND THANK YOU

Today we welcome Fr Michael Trainor as our reflection writer. Fr Michael is senior lecturer in biblical studies with the Australian Catholic University and parish priest of Lockleys in the Archdiocese of Adelaide. His area of specialisation is the study of the New Testament and its relevance for our contemporary world, ecology and pastoral life. We are very grateful and thank Dr Rosemary Canavan for her insightful reflections on the readings during the past liturgical year.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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7.30AM MORNING TEA

Please join us after 7.30am Mass this Sunday for a cuppa and a chat. This will be our final one for the year. Thank you to Deepak, Ian and Suan for their help during the year.

Jan H



Lunar New Year 2025 Raffle Prizes

Raffle drawn on 2 February 2025 around 12:00 noon at the forecourt of Our Lady of Dolours Church Chatswood

1st Prize: \$500 Coles Gift Card

2nd Prize: A night for 2 at Fairmont Resort Blue Mountain

3rd Prize: 1 Day Spiritual Retreat for 2 at JISA Pymble

4th Prize: \$300 Myers Gift Card

5th Prize: Whale Watch for 2 in Sydney

6th Prize: \$200 Uniqlo Gift Card

7th Prize: \$150 Voucher Mr Fat Duck Restaurant Chatswood

8th Prize: 1.5 hour Spiritual Retreat for 2 at JISA Pymble

Trybooking QR code for buying raffle available now



or head to https://www.trybooking .com/CWZKE

RAFFLE PRICES

\$10.00 FOR 1 | \$15.00 FOR 2 | \$20.00 FOR 4
VIA CASH AT PARISH OFFICE AVAILABLE NOW
AT CHURCH FOYER BEFORE AND AFTER
WEEKEND MASS FROM 16 NOV 2024

Contact: amelia.lee@bbcatholic.org.au or 9410 9032

FAMOUS CHINESE BIBLE QUOTE

所以,你們應當時時醒寤祈禱,為使你們能逃脫即將發生的這一切事,並能立於人子之前。 路加福音 21:36

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

Chatswood Chinese Catholic Association

CAN YOU HELP?

Lunar New Year: We're looking for volunteers to:

- Welcome and direct attendees, helping them navigate the event.
- Support stalls by assisting with supplies or other needs.
- Ensure safety by keeping an eye on the crowd and providing assistance as required.

Be part of the friendly team that spreads the spirit of celebration and community! If you're available and interested, please reach out to Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au.

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS **SAL**



LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary of Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood invites you to come and see. Our praesidium meeting is held every Saturday at 10.30am in the Magnificat Room. Active members attend the weekly meeting and do 2 hours of apostolic work in the parish during the week following the meeting. These works include the teaching of Special Religious Education in public schools, doing street contact work, visiting nursing homes, organising parish faith programmes, etc.

To find out more about our founder Frank Duff (1889-1980), Servant of God, please search on YouTube for: "Legion of Mary Founder and The One Who Met Five Popes - Frank Duff". info@legionofmary.org.au

IGNIGHTING YOUNG HEARTS





CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS NATVITIY PLAY

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 15th December.

We will allocate roles and have a quick first practise at this meeting. There will be two further practises as follows:

- Sunday 22nd December in the Blue Room after 9:00am Mass
- Monday 23rd December Rehearsal in the Church at 2:00pm

SINGING AT CHRISTMAS MASS

Any children and/parents who would like to be involved in the Choir for Christmas Eve, please contact Angela at the contact details below. We will arrange to send you the music and songs for the Mass to practise at home. We will also come together with the Nativity Play children for the rehearsal in the church at 2:30pm Monday 23rd December.

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

ATRIUM NEWS

This Term we have been spending time pondering the events surrounding the birth of Jesus. We have also been reflecting on the words of the prophets who gave messages of hope for the people of Israel as they awaited the coming of the Messiah...

Our 9-12 year old children also contemplated the call and vocation of the prophets;

- Who is called to be a prophet?
- What qualities do they possess?
- How do they respond?
- What is their message?

Next Monday afternoon Fr David will celebrate Mass with the children in the Atrium and we will finish the year with a special Christmas celebration for each group the following week.



Enrolments for 2025

Our 2025 Atrium sessions will recommence on Monday 10 February and we are now taking enrolments for 2025. To find out more about the atrium or to enrol your child, please contact Angela or Rose at old.childrens.atrium@gmail.com

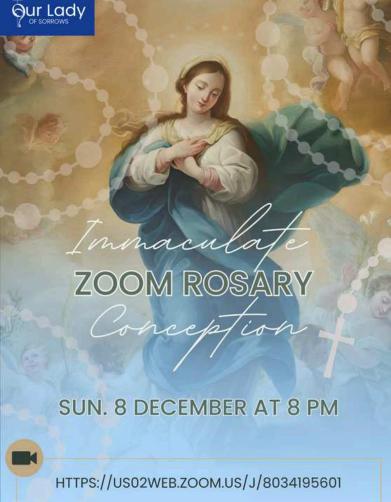
YEAR 6 END OF PRIMARY MASS

Last Sunday we celebrated our Year 6 End of Primary school Mass at the 5:30pm Youth Mass. We had 49 Year 6 children attend coming from the various schools across our parish. It was a wonderful way to mark this milestone and great to see them all being blessed as they move into the next stage of their lives.

After Mass many of the students stayed for youth group enjoying Games, Pizza and some formation with Bettina and the youth group leaders.

Feedback from a parent. I just wanted to say thank you for organising the Year 6 Mass on Sunday, it was such a lovely way to mark the children coming to the end of primary school.







MEETING ID: 803 419 5601 - NO PASSWORD

YCL Accounting & Tax Solutions Chatswood 02 8188-0292 (M) 0414-223-906



thank you for considering the services that support our community



You are invited to join our Combined Christmas Party with:

First Saturday Public Rosary Group
Parish Zoom Rosary Group
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotees Group
Cenacle Prayer Group

Saturday 7 December at 1.30 pm in the Magnificat Room

Please bring a plate and if possible indicate what you will be bringing.

Tea/Coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

Please RSVP by 30 November to Elaine on 0492 877 628 Or Lei on 0447 299 981 or email - mail@gotomary.com

CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER





We've received 80 requests for help since our Winter Appeal—more than double the usual number—and used over \$21,500 to meet urgent needs like housing, homelessness, and domestic violence support.

Your generosity allows us to continue helping those in crisis.

All donations are tax deductible.

Can you offer your time to help those in need? Because of this increase in demand for our help, our little group is in need of more helpers.

Contact

- El: El.Herlianto@vinnies.org.au
- John: 0439 783 956

Thank you for your support this Christmas season!





https://tinyurl.com/2s4st3ur



SEEKING VOLUNTEERS to participate in Befriending with Genie program This wonderful initiative is part of the work of our young parishioner Carissa! Are you or someone you know If so, join our 8-week Befriending with 65 years and above AND living Genie program which aims to reduce with diagnosed dementia or having loneliness, and increase social support for problems with their memory or people living with dementia, and caregivers thinking? from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. providing care to a family member/friend who is living with The project is being conducted by dementia? researchers at Edith Cowan University in AND Perth, National Ageing Research Institute in Are you interested in expanding Melbourne, and The University of Sydney in your social support network to Sydney. reduce loneliness? Want to learn more? We are looking for participants from Watch the project video http://www.youtube.com Chinese & Hindi speaking backgrounds (@BwG-Information-Consen Living at home (not in residential Scan the QR code aged care facilities) Available in Hindi http://www.youtube.com Living in Sydney /@BwG-Information-Consent Please discuss the information with a family member or close friend Interested? Contact the research team. Fill in this online form

GROWING IN FAITH

RECONCILIATION FOR CHINESE SPEAKERS

Our Lady of Dolours 天主教堂将由两位来访的神 父 (Fr.Santiago and Fr Harry Chan)提供普通话和粤语修和聖事。

日期: 12月7日

时间: 中午12: 00 - 下午1: 30

地点: Our Lady of Dolours 天主教堂, 地址: 94

Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067

对于那些说普通话或粤语的人来说,这是一个難得 的机会,可以用他们的母语接受修和聖事。

欲 了 解 更 多 详 情 , 请 联 系 Grace @ 0403345809。欢迎大家!我们期待您的光临!

SUSTAINING OUR COMMUNITY



PEW GIFT SHOP CHRISTMAS GIFT SALE

Looking for Christmas gifts that are meaningful, beautiful and affordable? Come and check out the PEW Christmas Gift stall on Sunday, the 8th of December from 9am-12:00noon at the Church forecourt.

Items for sale will include Nativity scenes, inspirational gifts, Christmas tree toppers, cards, God's

Word 2025, calendars and more! See you there!

MINISTRY CIRCLE: CARING FOR OUR WORLD

Email: bwgen@ecu.edu.au



ENJOY A TRADITIONAL AND HANDMADE CHRISTMAS FRUIT CAKE THIS



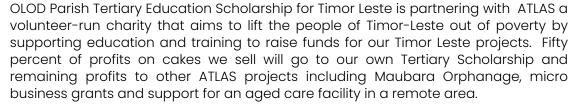
· https://redcap.link/bwgen-eoi

A researcher will contact you to chat about the project.

Approved by the Edith Cowan University Research Ethics Committee (REF: 2023-04072-BALDASSAR) and funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council Medical

Scan QR code

Research Future Fund (MRF2024420)



YEAR AND HELP OTHERS IN THE PROCESS!

Treat yourself or a loved one to a delicious 1 kg fruit cake—packed with flavor, festively packaged, and perfect for the Christmas season. Whether as a centerpiece for your family table or a thoughtful gift for friends or employees, these cakes are a meaningful way to celebrate and give back.

- Price: \$30 each
- Availability: Only 50 cakes, so pre-order now!
- How to order:
 - o Call Carla at 0402 373 728
 - Email carlagageler@outlook.com



Cakes will also be available for sale from Sunday, December 8th at after 7.30am, 9am, 10.30am and 5.30pm Masses. Support this initiative and make a difference for the people of Timor-Leste!



NEXT WEEK: CHURCH EVENTS, PRAYER, AND LITURGY

Monday 2 December

- 11:30am Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Rosary (Cenacle, MMP).
- 12:30pm Mass.
- 1pm Rosary.
- 1:30pm Organ practice SC.
- 4:30pm Organ Lesson BO.

Tuesday 3 December

Memorial:

St Francis Xavier

- 8:45am Morning Prayer.
- 9am Mass.
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
- 10:30am Organ practice SC.
- 12:30pm Mass.
- 1pm Rosary.
- 2pm OLOD Graduation Practice.
- 3pm OLOD Graduation Mass.

Wednesday 4 December

- 8:45am Morning Prayer.
- 9am Mass.
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
- 12:30pm Mass.
- 1pm Rosary.
- 3:30pm Organ practice BJ.
- 6:30pm Evening Mass of Hope.

Thursday 5 December

- 8:45am Morning Prayer.
- 9am Mass.
- 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
- 12:30pm Mass.
- 1pm Rosary.
- 2pm Organ practice OC.
- 3pm Organ lesson SC.
- 4pm Organ lesson TL.
- 7:00pm Holy Hour Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration with Reconciliation also available.

Friday 6 December

- 8:45am Morning Prayer.
- 9am Mass.
- 9:30am Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.
- 10:30am Funeral.
- 12:30pm Mass.
- 3pm Organ lesson BJ.
- 4pm Organ lesson AH.
- 4:45pm Organ practice BO.

Saturday 7 December

Memorial:

St Ambrose

- 8:45am Morning Prayer.
- 9am Mass
- 9:30am Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration, Reconciliation, Rosary.
- 10:00am Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help.
- 11am Choir practice.
- 12:30pm Organ practice SC.
- 4pm First Saturday Public Rosary.

- 5:00pm Vigil Singers.
- 5:30pm Vigil Mass.

Sunday Mass 8 December

- 7:30am Mass.
- 9:00am Mass.
- 10:30am Mass.
- 2nd Sunday of12pm Baptism.1:30pm Organ r
 - 1:30pm Organ practice SC.
 - 2:30pm Organ practice AH.
 - 4pm Youth choir AW.
 - 5:30pm Mass.









THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2024

For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Heavenly Father, We journey as pilgrims, trusting in Your guidance and love. Make us bearers of hope in a world longing for peace and healing. Strengthen our faith when the road is difficult, open our hearts to those we meet along the way, and remind us that our true home is with You. May we walk with joy, courage, and steadfast hope, always looking to Christ as our guide.

Amen.

NEXT WEEK IN THE MEETING ROOMS

Monday 2 December

- 1:30pm Friends & Fellowship (St Paul).
- 5pm JIT decor (Magnificat)

Tuesday 3 December

- 10am Bible Study (St Paul).
- 3:45pm Atrium for 3-6, 6-9 & 9-12 year olds (Atrium).
- 7pm Indonesian Legion of Mary (St Peter).
- 7pm Journey into Truth (Magnificat, St Paul) set up 9:30am.
- 7pm Filipino Choir (Harrington Hall).

Wednesday 4 December

- 9:30am English Lifestyle Conversations (Magnificat).
- 6:30pm MenAlive End of Year Mass (Harrington Hall).
- 7pm Exploring the Faith (St Peter).

Thursday 5 December

- 10am Atrium for 3-6 year olds (Atrium).
- 10am Seniors & Grandparents Christmas Party (Magnificat) set up 9:30am.
- 1pm Playgroup (Magnificat) set up 12pm.
- 6pm Altos choir practice (St Paul).
- 6pm P&W Volunteers debrief (Magnificat).
- 6:30pm Christmas Choir (Harrington).

Friday 6 December

- 9am CCD Reflection Day (Magnificat, St Paul).
- 10am Meditation and Sharing (St Peter) set up 9:30am.
- 6pm Dinner for PIC volunteers (Magnificat, St Paul) set up 3pm.
- 7pm Food Handling course (St Peter).
- 7pm Online Zoom Meditation and Sharing.

Saturday 7 December

- 10am Music Lessons (St Paul).
- 10:30am Legion of Mary Praesidium (St Peter) set up 10am.
- 11:30am Baptism prep (Magnificat) set up 11am.
- 1pm First Saturday Public Rosary (Magnificat, St Paul).

Sunday Mass 8 December

- 8:15am Children's choir (St Paul).
- 9am Choir (St Paul).
- 2pm Focolare Community Christmas Carols (Harrington Hall).
- 6:30pm Cornerstone & Keystone youth group (Magnificat, St Paul, St Peter) set up 4:30pm.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER MEMORIAL 3 DECEMBER



St Francis Xavier cofounded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) with St. Ignatius of Loyola in 1534.

- During his missionary work, Francis traveled extensively, including to India, Japan, and other parts of Asia, spreading Christianity.
- Francis Xavier mastered multiple languages, including Tamil and Japanese, to communicate effectively with the people he evangelized.
- It's estimated that he baptized around 30,000 people during his missions, making him one of the Church's most prolific missionaries.
- Francis Xavier was one of the first Christians to introduce Catholicism to Japan in 1549 and dreamed of bringing the Gospel to China, though he passed away before realizing this goal.
- His body is enshrined in the Basilica of Bom Jesus in Goa, India, and remains incorrupt centuries after his death in 1552.
- He is the patron saint of Catholic missions and missionaries, inspiring many to follow his example of spreading the faith.
- Francis often lived simply and focused his ministry on helping the poor and marginalized, bringing them both spiritual and material aid.



ST AMBROSE MEMORIAL 7 DECEMBER

Ambrose was unexpectedly elected
 Bishop of Milan in 374 AD while still a

catechumen (someone preparing for baptism). He was baptized, ordained, and consecrated all within a week!

- Ambrose was unexpectedly elected Bishop of Milan in 374 AD while still a catechumen (someone preparing for baptism). He was baptized, ordained, and consecrated all within a week!
- Ambrose wasn't afraid to confront powerful rulers. He famously excommunicated Emperor Theodosius for massacring citizens, demanding repentance before lifting the excommunication.
- Ambrose encouraged the use of hymns in worship and even composed several himself, leading to the style known as Ambrosian chant.
- Ambrose was a strong defender of Mary's role in salvation history, laying the groundwork for the Church's recognition of her as the Theotokos (God-bearer).

Parish Support Team:

Parish Priest: Very Rev Dr David Ranson VG PP

(Day off on Monday)

David.Ranson@bbcatholic.org.au Personal blog: davidranson.com.au

X (formerly Twitter): @FrDavidRanson

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Joey Frez (Day off on Monday)

Joey.Frez@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Anselam Lakra

(Day off on Friday)

Anselam.Lakra@bbcatholic.org.au

Deacon: Rev Richard Houwing (Sun)

Richard.Houwing@bbcatholic.org.au

Manager of Parish Operations: Olivia Lee (Mon - Fri)

Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au

Receptionist: Diana Tinambun

chatswoodoffice@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9000

Project Officer: Chloe Aylward (Mon - Wed)

Chloe.Aylward@bbcatholic.org.au

Director of Music: Titus Grenyer

Titus.Grenyer@bbcatholic.org.au

Children's Ministry Coordinator: Angela Hague

Angela.Hague@bbcatholic.org.au | (02) 9410 9033

Pastoral Support Worker: Mona Saouma

Mona.Saouma@bbcatholic.org.au

Youth Minister: Bettina Ignacio (Mon, Tue, Sun)

Bettina.lgnacio@bbcatholic.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Karen Forbes

Karen.Forbes@bbcatholic.org.au

Book-keeper: Amelia Lee (Mon, Tue, Thur)

Amelia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au | (02)9410 9032

Parent Engagement Co-Ordinator for Our Lady of Dolours Primary School:

Rebecca Molinaro

Rebecca.Molinaro@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Thursdays 8:00am - 4:00pm

Parent Engagement Co-Ordinator for Mercy Catholic Collegel:

Annette Leahy

annette.leahy1@dbb.catholic.edu.au Wednesdays 8:00am - 4:00pm

facebook.com/OLDChatswood

bbcatholic.org.au/chatswood

Want to receive the bulletin via e-mail? Contact Olivia at Olivia.Lee@bbcatholic.org.au **Regular Mass Times:**

Monday Mass 12:30pm.

Tuesday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Wednesday Mass 9:00am, 12:30pm & 6:30pm.

Thursday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Reconciliation: 7:00pm.

Friday Mass 9:00am & 12:30pm.

Saturday Mass: 9:00am

Reconciliation: 9:30am.

Vigil Mass: 5:30pm

Sunday Mass

• 7:30am

• 9:00am

• 10:30am

5:30pm





Chatswood Catholic Parish 94 Archer St Chatswood 2067

All babies, toddlers, infants, parents & carers are welcome to join our Playgroup in the Magnificat Meeting Room every Thursday from 1pm - 2:30pm.

An opportunity for the children to socialise and play, while the parents can come together in fellowship. To register, please email mona.saouma@bbcatholic.org.au or call Mona on 9410 9000



Child friendly weekday Mass every Thursday 12:30pm

Attending Mass can often be stressful for a parent, particularly while juggling the needs of your child. This Mass is an opportunity to gather with other parents, without judgement, with the support of the Priest and parishioners.



Our Lady of Dolours Parish is dedicated to ensuring a safe and caring environment for all, especially children and vulnerable adults.

For safety concerns, contact the parish office at 02 9410 9000 or the Office of Safeguarding at 02 8379 1605. Thank you for helping us keep our church welcoming and safe.