'Seek God, Find God, Embrace God in Jesus'



# **KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH**



Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 12th January 2025 ~ (Feast) The Baptism of the Lord ~ Year C Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Responsorial Psalm: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

Alleluia, alleluia! John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

# Where is baptism leading us?

I've had the privilege several times of leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. One of my abiding memories is of an immersion up to my thighs in the river Jordan, where I and all my pilgrim friends renewed the promises of our baptism. It was a moving moment, when one could envision the Spirit hovering and the Father confirming each of us as his son or daughter. All who took part will remember that moment with great emotion, and with a sense of renewed commitment.

The baptism of Jesus is a moment of special grace in our story of salvation. Not only did he join us in our human condition, seeking moral and spiritual renewal, but the Father and the Spirit were seen and heard to be present with him by the banks of the Jordan, for the renewal of our human race. The gospel uses the simple phrase that "the heavens were opened," but it is a powerful statement. Later on, when Jesus completed his life-journey on Calvary, we read how



"the veil of the Temple was rent in two." Now at last we were free to enter the Holy of Holies. Today's gospel is the beginning of a journey, which, through our own baptism, each of us is asked to travel. It is a journey full of purpose.

Each of us needs a sense of purpose and pattern to our Christian living. When I set out on a journey I need to have a definite idea of where I intend going, and how to make the journey.

Peter summarised the purpose and pattern of Christ's life when he said, "went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." We are invited to make his purpose our own.

A man was down the country travelling along by-roads where the signposts were few and far between. After a while, unsure of his directions, he decided to ask the first person he saw. When he came across a farmer driving his cows home for milking he stopped the car and asked if he was on the right road to Mallow. The farmer told him that he certainly was on the Mallow road.

The driver thanked him and was about to move forward when the farmer added, in a nonchalant way,

"You're on the right road, but you're going in the wrong direction!"

https://www.associationofcatholicpriests.ie/2018/01/07-january-sun-the-baptism-of-the-lord/

WEEKEND COLLECTIONS ~ Please consider carefully how the funds you place on the plate are administered ... 1st Collection: LEAVES the parish and goes to a common fund outside the Parish to support priests.

2nd Collection: STAYS in the parish to pay for all our costs, including insurance, maintenance, telecommunications, wages,

pastoral programmes, church and office expenses, the Priests' cars & petrol etc, etc and is ESSENTIAL for our PARISH to FUNCTION FINANCIALLY



WEEKDAY MASSES:

The Parish Office will re-open on 20 January 2025 ~ If you need assistance during this period please email the office on: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au (this will be monitored regularly for urgent matters only) or phone 9456 2450 and leave a message. Please note, messages will be CHECKED ONCE PER WEEK ONLY.

REMEMBER: If in urgent need of a priest, the emergency number is: 0468 341 841.

HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082; P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights **PARISH OFFICE:** 

Hours: 9am - 4pm. P: (02) 9456 2450; E: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au; W: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp Fr Joy Thomas, OSH Parish Priest ~ Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH Assistant Priest ~

**Catherine Hutchison** Vol. Office Assistant **Parish Secretary** Margaret Cooper Jan Favaloro

**Parish Secretary Bookkeeper** Peta T & Phill C - kccpsacraments@gmail.com Karen Price Sacramental Team

**RECONCILIATION:** Fridays: 9.45am at St Bernard's Berowra; Saturdays: 9.30 am at St Patrick's, Asquith

WEEK<u>END</u> MASSES: St Bernard's, Berowra Heights: Saturday Vigil 5pm and Sunday 9am St Patrick's, Asquith: Saturday Vigil 6pm and Sunday 8am, 10am, 6pm

St Bernard's, Berowra Heights: 9.15am Wednesday & Friday; 8am Thursday St Patrick's, Asquith: 9am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday; 8am Wednesday & Friday



	St Bernard's Church		St Patrick's Church			
	5.00pm	9.00am	6.00pm	8.00am	10.00am	6.00pm
Acolyte / Snr Server	Garth Graham	Barbara McMullen	Sandra Sparkes	Francis Lizardo	David Massa	Sue Lum
Altar Servers	Martha Askew Piper Thompson	Elliott Gow Joshua Rumble	Darius Ali Thomas Clarke	Volunteer now Volunteer now	Amy Francis Emillie Gunawan	Volunteer now Volunteer now
Reader (1)	Jerome Gomez	Sarah Rumble	Hayley Rodrigues	Michael Halliday	Chris Newnham	Volunteer now
Reader (2)	Sophia Smith	Paul Maher	Tina Laroco	Clare Bell	Sue Newnham	Volunteer now
Sacristy / Cleaning / Flowers	Glenn Shapter, Annette Shapter, Cora Marques (f), Gwen Wood (s)		Pat Smith, Marion Pahalawatta, Bernadette Or, Ellen Downey (f) (help always needed & appreciated)			
Maintenance	Team A & B - (help always needed & appreciated)		January: - Les Fogden, Graham Palmer, Richard Fellew, John and Sue O'Malley			

### NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR OUR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dear Parishioners. As per announcements at last weekend's masses, (see or take a copy of the announcement from back of church) we are seeking to fill two positions on the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC).

We urge you to consider nominating for one of the two positions. Nominations close January 31st 2025.

Nomination forms are available at the back of the church, and you can place your nomination form in the box provided. All nominees will be contacted to confirm nomination. Please contact the Parish Office on 9456 2450 or Michael Halliday on 0414 095 373 if you have any questions about this process. Thank you : Michael Halliday (PPC Chair)

Our New Year Wish List ~ Recently, the Holy Father proclaimed the upcoming Jubilee Year 2025 and all members of the Catholic Church will celebrate this milestone. Therefore, I would like parishioners to consider supporting the purchase of the following items:

† 6 x Altar Candlesticks at a cost of \$1,150 (+GST) per candlestick

† 1 x Altar Crucifix at a cost of \$1,600 (+GST) I thank you for considering this appeal to purchase items for our parish and ask that you contact the parish office to assist. Fr Biju, Parish Priest.



The businesses below support our parish by advertising here. Please give them your support in turn.

 $HARANT'S \sim Home & Office Improvements Pty. Ltd$ 

Builder's Licence No. 27126C and our own KCCP parishioner

# CHRISTIAN HARANT

Specialising in kitchens, bathrooms, decks, carports, gyprock, plastering, maintenance work.

Mobile: 0412 478 813

RECENTLY DECEASED: Barry Cox, Patrick (Pat) O'Donoghue, Fr Michael O'Toole, Kevin White

ANNIVERSARY: Michael Capozzi, Patricia O'Malley, David Huntley, Dario B Rossi

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Marie Perrott, Mason Maatouk, Sandra Sparkes, Lyn Beacom, Warren Beacom, Kyung Ja Ku, Gina Ku, Louise Tong, Nora Carrigan, Paul Lam, Ann Leslie, Ruth Carlos, Millie Wong, Sosefo Ali, Cita Del Rio, Bill Holmes, Pat Bowden, Mary Burns, Vince Hughes, Georgina Hughes, Chris Enright, Isabel Henson, Mary Mathew, Chichi Datoc, Philomena D'Souza, Patrick Dorahy, Rey Hilario, Roger Okell, John Cosgrove (Snr), Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.

Please NOTE WELL: It is our practise during January, to delete names from the Sick list whose situation hasn't been updated. Please send an email to: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au to have a name reinstated.

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#### SAVVY COFFEE

'vintage style cafe' (Formerly Bees' Knees Vintage Cafe, Hornsby)

381 Pacific Highway, Asquith

Open

Monday ~ Saturday 6am to 4pm Sunday 7am to 2pm

Fine coffee, superb latte art work, great cafe menu and ambience Come and join us for a unique and enjoyable cafe experience

> 'We set the standards!' CandL.SavvyCoffee1@gmail.con

ALBERT & MEYER FUNERAL DIRECTORS

24 Hour Personal Attention

Ph: 02 9484 3992 E: director@albertmeyer.com.au



Rebecca Pincott General Manager

SEND FREIGHT.

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for local and international deliveries. Free pick-up for local residents. P: 02 9804 1544 or M: 0451 531 759; E: westryde@packsend.com.au

Open 7 days ~ 8am to 4pm ~ Owned & operated by our own KCCP Parishioners John & Moauli Griffiths

Come by Car / Boat / Train

Faafetai fo'i ~ means 'You're Welcome' in Samoan

Delicious food, fabulous service & exceptional views await YOU! Hawkesbury River Marina, 9 Dangar Rd Brooklyn NSW

(02) 9985 7102