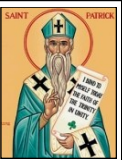


Seek God, Find God, Embrace God in Jesus

KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH



Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

Communion Antiphon: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Gaudete Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

The third candle is **pink** and symbolises joy. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is **pink** because rose is a liturgical colour for joy.

WEEKEND MASSES

| | | |
|----------|------|--------------|
| Saturday | 5pm | St Bernard's |
| | 6pm | St Patrick's |
| Sunday | 8am | St Patrick's |
| | 9am | St Bernard's |
| | 10am | St Patrick's |
| | 6pm | St Patrick's |

WEEKDAY MASSES

St Patrick's, Asquith

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 8am | Wednesday and Friday |
| 9am | Mon, Tues, Thurs, Saturday |
| 8am | Thursday |
| 9.15am | Wednesday and Friday |
| (except 1st Friday of the month when Mass is at 11.30am @ St Bernard's) | |

RECONCILIATION

| | |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| Saturday | After 9am Mass St Patrick's |
| Friday | After 9.15am Mass St Bernard's |

(Out of office hours **URGENT** only)
Emergency sick calls
0468 341 841

HOSPITAL ADMISSION:

If admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.
Please, call the office if you would like our own priests to visit you in hospital.

PARISH OFFICE

Opening Hours: 9am – 3.30pm, Mon-Fri
Phone: (02) 9456 2450
Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp
Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au
1-19 Woodcourt Rd, Berowra Heights 2082 / P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights NSW 2082
Parish Priest: Rev Dr Biju Jose, OSH
Assistant Priest: Fr Joy Thomas, OSH
Parish Secretary: Margaret Cooper
Admin Assistant: Catherine Hutchison
Parish Bookkeeper: Karen Price
Vol. Office Assistant: Jan Favaloro
Vol. Sacramental Team: Peta & Phill (Email: kccpsacraments@gmail.com)
Vol. Web Administrator: David Funk

Prayers for Lighting the Advent Candles ~ 3rd Sunday of Advent



Celebrant: As the Shepherds did, we hasten with joy towards the birth of baby Jesus. We light the third candle, coloured **rose** for joy.

We pray for the spirit of repentance, to purify us in readiness for His coming.

Reader: Let the wilderness and the dry lands rejoice; let the wasteland exult and bloom.

Response: **Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.**

Reader: Courage, be not afraid. Look your God is coming to save you.

Response: **Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.**

Reader: He will exult over you with joy.

Response: **Come, Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word.**



'Come Lord Jesus'

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION TIMES

2ND RITE ~ Wednesday 18 ~ 7.30pm St Bernard's, Berowra Heights

1ST RITE ~ unchanged ~ see left hand column for details

CHRISTMAS-MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve - 24 December

| | |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5pm | St Bernard's Vigil Mass (Outdoor in school grounds with Carols and Sausage Sizzle ~ bring a chair/rug). |
| 6pm | St Patrick's Vigil Mass (Children may dress up as Angels & Shepherds etc) |
| 9pm | St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass |

Christmas Day - 25 December

| | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 12 am | St Patrick's 'Midnight' Mass |
| 8am | St Patrick's Mass |
| 9am | St Bernard's Mass |
| 10am | St Patrick's Mass |
| NB: | NO evening Mass Christmas Day |



PARKING UPDATE
in SPA school grounds

Parking on the school grounds at St Patrick's Asquith can now resume on a Saturday evening or on Sunday. Most works have been completed but there may still be some equipment in the basketball court area so please take care. Thank you all for your patience during these vital renovations works.

A reminder to all who hold a key to this gate, please be sure it is securely locked after each Mass.

- Entry in now via the railway access lane **ONLY** and
- Exit is via the Royston Pde gate **ONLY**.



The Parish Office will be closed from 12md on Friday 20 Dec and reopens at 9am on Monday 20 Jan 2025.

If you **URGENTLY** need a priest during this period (e.g: if someone is close to or has passed away) please call the **priest emergency number: 0468 341 841.**

Emails and phone messages will only be checked sporadically and only FOR URGENT MATTERS.



'Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic parish acknowledges the Darug and Guringai people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.'



Pope's intention for December: For Pilgrims of Hope ~ We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Advent ~ Year C

Monday 16/12
Num 24:2-7, 15-17;
Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday 17/12
Gen 49:2, 8-10;
Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday 18/12
Jer 23:5-8;
Mt 1:18-24

Thursday 19/12
Judges 13:2-7, 24-25;
Lk 1:5-25

Friday 20/12
Is 7:10-14;
Lk 1:26-38

Saturday 21/12
Song 2:8-14;
Lk 1:39-45

Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish
Remembers & Prayers for...

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 Dato, Philomena D'Souza, Patrick Dorahy, Rey Hilario, Roger Okell, John Cosgrove (Snr), Rosemary Pendlebury-Grainger.



Use our Smart Terminals to Tap 'n' Go In fact, your 'Tap' is vital in helping the parish 'Go' Your donations help pay for regular parish expenses, eg Hosts, electricity, water, etc.

Our New Year Wish List

Earlier this year an appeal to support the purchase of new chasubles was met with a wonderful response from our parishioners. Thank you to all those who donated to their purchase for each of our church communities, your support is greatly appreciated. They arrived this week and are now awaiting their first use in both our churches.

Are you up for a little challenge? From the list below, draw a line to correct chasuble worn on each occasion (hint: the clue is in the crosses).



- ✚ Christmas
- ✚ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
- ✚ Pentecost
- ✚ Third Sunday in Lent
- ✚ The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- ✚ 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- ✚ Saints Peter & Paul
- ✚ Second Sunday of Advent

Recently, the Holy Father proclaimed the upcoming Jubilee Year 2025 and all members of the Catholic Church will celebrate this milestone. St Patrick's Church at Asquith is a most beautiful church, being opened in 1971 and as the bigger church in our parish will feature heavily in these celebrations.



I have no thoughts at all about changing it or adding on to it, however, I would very much like to acquire some sanctuary items which are most suitable to compliment the existing architecture.

The Altar as you know is located on the centre of the Sanctuary which is where we celebrate Mass, 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)



You may of course nominate which item you would like to specifically support OR contribute towards, and we will do our best to accommodate your request. I thank you for considering this appeal to purchase items for our parish and ask that you contact the parish office to assist.

(It is hoped that once these items have been secured that we will look to purchasing some seasonal banners to hang on the Sanctuary, Altar and Ambo which are approximately \$350 (+GST) per item).

Fr Biju

Embracing the Change Jesus Brings



The Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C shows how Jesus brings change. John the Baptist speaks of Jesus, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. He describes Jesus holding a winnowing fan to clear the threshing floor, separating the wheat from the chaff. This shows that Jesus will bring a new way of living, one that challenges the old ways.

Some of us feel comfortable with the way things are. Life is good, and we do not want it to change. We feel secure and happy. Others among us welcome change because we live in difficult situations. We hope for a better life and trust that change will bring it. Some of us are in between, wanting change but also fearing the loss of what we have.

We often hold tightly to our possessions and positions, wanting to secure our future. But God's vision is bigger. He dreams of a world where everyone has what they need. This is a good time to reflect on our lives. Are we helping to

build a world where everyone is cared for? Or are we part of systems that keep people down?

The 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C invites us to welcome the change Jesus brings. It encourages us to look beyond our comfort and seek God's bigger plan. By doing this, we prepare our hearts for Jesus' coming and help create a more just and loving world.

Prayer

Lord, fill our hearts with joy and peace as we prepare for Jesus' coming. Help us to rejoice in Your presence and trust in Your care. Guide us to share Your love with others. Amen.

The 250 Club!



250 Club in recess until Feb 2025

Dear all, thank you for your amazing support of this long running and highly successful fundraiser for our parish. **We now have TWO SERIES each year beginning in February and in July.** When the office re-opens in late January, reminders will be sent to those who are not financial. Number sets are available, and remember, you have to be in it to win it !! For more information please contact the Office.



CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEANING

Jesus is nearly here so..., it's all hands on deck! We need lots of help by folk who are ready to roll up their sleeves and get out the elbow grease!

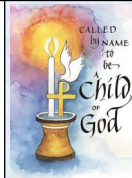
Unfortunately, not many folk turned up to help out last Christmas and none at all at Easter, so please, please come along and lend even 20-30 minutes of your time.

Remember, many hands make light work so please come armed and ready to get stuck in and prepare our Churches for the imminent arrival of the Infant Jesus.

Saturday December 21st ~ 9am at St Bernard's and 10am at St Patrick's

Please bring your own cleaning paraphernalia.

**Sure, baby Jesus was born in a stable with sheep and oxen, but ...
we don't want Jesus to be greeted by DUST BUNNIES do we!?**



Welcome to our Faith Family

Baptism congratulations to

Boston Enrique Agres

who is to be baptised this weekend.

Please keep him, his parents & Godparents in your prayers.



Preparing for Christmas? Thank you to all who have been attending this programme of preparation for Advent. Our sessions will conclude this Thursday evening December 19 with the Parish Christmas Carols in **St Patricks Church at 7:30pm.** Please see below.



The 2024 School Year is almost done and dusted!



CAROLS EVENING

Thursday 19th December, 7.30pm, St Patrick's Church, Asquith

Our whole parish Carols evening is almost here and it's not to be missed!

We would like as many parishioners as possible to come **from both ends of the parish**, to be united in solidarity and love of Our Lord and our one true faith.

A community **cuppa 'n' suppa** will follow the carols and you are invited to bring along a plate of your favourite bite sized festive nibbles to share. See you there!!

As schools across NSW begin to break-up for the Summer Holidays, we take this opportunity to wish all students, parents and staff of our Parish Schools and our State Schools (who are visited by our Catechists), a Holy and Blessed Christmas, and ask that the Good Lord blesses you abundantly in the New Year with health, happiness and increased faith.

For those travelling, please go carefully and return to us safely in 2025.

Calling all Shepherds and Angels to participate in our annual NATIVITY PLAY

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 5pm

@ ST BERNARD'S CHURCH

(well, the schoolyard actually)

Would your child like to be involved in the Christmas Nativity Play at the 5pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Bernard's?

Then, please come along to the rehearsals on

Friday 20th December at 3pm and

Monday 23 December at 10am.

Please meet outside St Bernard's Church.

Parents, please stay with your child for the rehearsal.

If your child would like to take part then please contact us on 0422 093 594. Zinta H & Elaine D

Singers and actors needed—all welcome!

Christmas Eve Play for

6pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass -

@ ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Any children that would like to participate in the Christmas play are asked to attend **2 rehearsals at St Patrick's church.**

9 to 11.30am on Friday 20th December and

9.45am to 12md on Monday 23 December

Practices start with singing then practise for the play. And just in case you are wondering, yes!, you can be just in the choir, just in the play or better yet ... you may be in the choir AND the play!

Parent helpers always appreciated. If you have questions please email Cecilia on ceciii@hotmail.com



Kids! Come and take part in the Celebration of Christmas. The more the merrier!

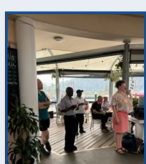
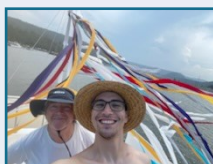


Inaugural Blessing of the Boats & Seafarers of Brooklyn ~ what an amazing success!

3 Priests, 100 vessels, 150 attendees, a school band,

boatloads of food, the weather wasn't bad, and the atmosphere was humming like a boat motor running!

This event has all the hallmarks to grow and grow and our parish is proud to have played a part in bringing this together, however, much of the hard work was put in by the Griffith Family who were the conduit between the parish and the greater community of Brooklyn and essential in making this new annual event take off.



Date Claimer Sunday 29 December 2024 Feast of the Holy Family and Opening of the 2025 Holy Jubilee

Bishop Anthony prayerfully welcomes clergy and the People of God in Broken Bay to join him on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday 29 December for 9.30am Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara and to officially mark the beginning of the 2025 Holy Jubilee.



Children's Choir @ St Patrick's

enjoyed a great Christmas party last Friday, which was also the final practice for the year in preparation for the parish Christmas carols on 19th December. We are officially in recess until school is back in February '25. Thanks everyone for an amazing 2024!

Rosters & Readings for W/kend – 21st Dec/ 22nd Dec. 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Advent –Year C– Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44

| | 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 | Mani Subramany | Phil Daidone | Volunteer now | Robert Pesavento |
| Altar Servers Altar Servers | Piper Thompson Volunteer now | Elliott Gow Miranda Tablizo | Darius Ali Volunteer now | Volunteer now Volunteer now | Joshua Almeida Vincent Huynh | Volunteer now Volunteer now |
| Reader (1) | Jerome Gomez | Paul Maher | Tina Laroco | Maria (Cris) Tolentino | Chris Newnham | Sub requested |
| Reader (2) | Anne Maree Hutchins | Freya Tonkin | Sue Watts | Clare Bell | Sue Newnham | David De-Fina |
| Sacristy / Cleaning / Flowers | Cora Marques (f), Chichi Datoc (s) (help URGENTLY needed & appreciated) | | Meralyn Tarte, Lea Mead, Barbara Folkard, Leticia Wee, Ben Edwards, Michelle Hwang (f) (help always needed & appreciated) | | | |
| Maintenance | Team A & B - (help always needed & appreciated) | | December: - Malcolm Cross, David Chui, John & Sue O'Malley (help always needed & appreciated) | | | |

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*.

Carols under THE star 2024 has come and gone but once again it was a faith inspiring coming together of all the Christians Churches of Berowra to celebrate in anticipation of coming of the Christ Child.

KCCP was ably represented by Gen Funk and Ela Krawczyk as they have been for the last several years, thank you ladies for all you do.

We hope you enjoy these photo's of the event and that they either remind you of the fabulous night you had OR perhaps what you might have missed out on but are inspired by to attend in 2025, after all it is less than a year away !!



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'vintage style cafe'

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(Opposite Station entrance at lights)

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King Tide Café / Restaurant

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