

# KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

23rd December 2018 ~ The 4th Sunday of Advent. ~ Year C

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

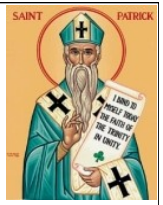
Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44

### Our Mission Statement

'Help others to recognise, through their experiences, that Jesus who died and is risen is the truth that lights up their lives'

### Our Vision Statement

'That the parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish grow as missionary disciples and live as community in Christ inviting all people into our Parish, welcoming them to our Parish life and embracing the rich diversity of our community'



On this the last Sunday before Christmas, our Gospel reading prepares us to witness Christ's birth by showing us how Jesus was recognized as Israel's long-awaited Messiah even before his birth. The Gospel turns our attention from the ministry of John the Baptist to the events that preceded John the Baptist's birth. The story of John the Baptist and his parents, Elizabeth and Zechariah, are reported only in Luke's Gospel. Luke pairs the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus, establishing John's early connection to the Messiah...

In Luke's Gospel the Holy Spirit helps reveal Jesus' identity as God to those who believe. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit and sings Mary's praise because she bears the Lord. We sing these words of praise to Mary in the Hail Mary. Even John the Baptist, the unborn child in Elizabeth's womb, is said to recognize the presence of the Lord and leaps for joy. Elizabeth describes Mary as the first disciple, as the one who believed that God's word to her would be fulfilled. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to everyone. Because of this, Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan for salvation. (Loyola Press)



## Prayers for Lighting the Advent Candles - 4th Sunday of Advent

**Celebrant:** As the day of the Lord approaches very near, we light the 4th candle. We pray that, like Mary, our hearts may be open to receive the Son of God, so that we may bring joy and peace to our world.

**Reader:** O Emmanuel, Lord of might, come and spread your kingdom of justice and peace.

**Response:** Come, Lord, and do not delay.

**Reader:** O Radiant Dawn, desire of nations, come and bring your peace to all nations.

**Response:** Come, Lord, and do not delay.

**Reader:** O Root of Jesse and Key of David, rescue your people from selfishness and sin.

**Response:** Come, Lord, and do not delay.



## ഫാ. ഷിജു, ദൈവം നിങ്ങളെ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കട്ടെ [God bless you Fr Shiju you will be missed]

Last weekend it was announced from the pulpit that our own Fr Shiju Simon will be leaving us to take up a new position, that of Assistant Priest to Frenchs Forest Catholic Parish, with particular responsibility for chaplaincy at Northern Beaches Hospital.

This will involve lots of additional study for Fr Shiju but no doubt he will excel at his studies as he does with all things he sets his mind to.

Ever ready with new ideas and initiatives to inspire this parish, such as Alpha, Alpha Kids, First Friday Night Vigil and for our growing youth group,

Frenchs Forest Parish can look forward to being guided by his quirky sense of humour, cheeky smile and gentle grace.

**Father does not want a big fuss and so we will hold a very quiet cuppa after his last Mass at each church:**

**Vigil, 5pm at St Bernard's on 19 January and 10am Mass at St Patrick's on 20 January.**

*Father, it is impossible to put into words the impact you have had upon the parish and how much you will be missed. Go with God's blessings and our prayers of thanks and for your future. Father takes up his new position on January 26.*

**The reason it hurts so much to separate is because our souls are connected.** (Nicholas Sparks)

### PASTORAL CENTRE

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082  
P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082  
Phone (02) 9456 2450  
Parish Email: parishkccp@bbccatholic.org.au  
Parish Website: www.kccp.dbb.org.au  
**Centre Hours: 9am - 3.30pm.**  
Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH  
Assistant Priest Fr Shiju Simon, OSH  
Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper  
Bookkeeper Karen Price  
Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine  
Parish/School Liturgy L. Patricia Smith  
Sacramental Team kccpsacraments@gmail.com



### 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 Bernard's          | 8am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday                                      |
|                       | 9am Wednesday                                                      |
|                       | 9am Friday                                                         |
| First Friday-         | <b>No First Friday Healing Mass or Night Vigil during January.</b> |
|                       | Usual Friday mass times apply                                      |
| <b>RECONCILIATION</b> |                                                                    |
| Every Saturday        | 9.30 am at St Patrick's                                            |
| Every Friday          | After 9am Mass at St Bernard's, (except First Friday—see above)    |

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS  
and PRAYERS**

**Advent 4th Week  
Monday 24/12**

Monday, 4th week of Advent  
Mass of the day  
Preface of Advent II  
Evening Mass of Christmas  
2Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14,16; Lk1:67-79

**Tuesday 25/12**

Christmas Time—Solemnity  
Mass of Vigil/Night/Dawn/Day  
Gloria, Creed  
Preface of Nativity of the Lord I-III  
Vigil: Is 62:1-5;  
Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25  
Night: Is 9:1-7; Titus 11:14; Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12;  
Titus 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

**Wednesday 26/12**

St Stephen, the first martyr  
Mass of the feast, Gloria  
Preface of Nativity of the Lord I-III  
Acts 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59; Mt 10:17-22

**Thursday 27/12**

St John, apostle, evangelist  
Mass of the Feast, Gloria  
Preface of Nativity of the Lord I-III  
1 Jn 1: 1-4; Jn 20: 2-8

**Friday 28/12**

The Holy Innocents, martyrs  
Mass of the Feast, Gloria  
Preface of Nativity of the Lord I-III  
1 Jn 1: 5-2:2; Mt 2: 13-18

**Saturday 29/12**

5th day in the Octave of the Nativity  
Mass of the day, Gloria  
Preface of Nativity of the Lord I-III  
1 Jn 2: 3-11; Lk 2: 22-35

**Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish  
REMEMBERS & PRAYS for...**

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Sr Patricia Barton (Sr Paul) RSM, Betty Patterson, Esther Griffiths, Angelo Conte, Pedring Alvarado, Marcelino Cantuba

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Samuel Fuda, Siew Kuan Wong, Wilson Long, Sylvia Holmes, Assunta Fraietta, Maria Lombardo, Eulalie Hailstone, Neil Mickelson, Deacon David Huntley, Bill McDonagh, Jack & Marie McNamara

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

Paula McGaulley, Michael Quinn, June Eileen, Patricia Smith (Carlton), William Fullilove, Jwona Nowak, Jude Maatouk, Ramona Estrellado, Cathy Gleeson, Rosalinda de Ramos, John Goudie, Peter Todd, Jaz Pitts, Georgia Meyers, Angela Smith, Greg Cooper, Matthew Franklin, Jeanette Bakker, Maureen Sharpe, Ewa Rakozy, Barbara Halliday, Jean Cook, Morrie Ramsden, Betty Borg, Brian Neary, Edwina Subramany, Darcy Green, Aiko Concepcion, John Buckley, Ellen Asistente, Sam Calacoci, Barbara Jones, Arlene Joson, Alfredo De Ramos, Kath Lock, Marcelina De Ramos, Patricia Pascuzzo, Cadia Maestri, Matthew Conlon, Patrick Dorahy, John Macy, Narelle Cartwright, Dn Jim Caulfield, Tom Dawson, Mary Fernandes, Patricia Sanders, Monique Leyden, Barbara & Frederick Novak, Maciej Maciejewski, Alfredo De Ramos Sr

Please advise if names can be deleted



Hebrews 7:17 For it is attested of him, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

**A SILVER JUBILEE OF ORDINATION COMMENCES**

We extend heartfelt congratulations and give prayers of thanks for our PP,

**FR SHAJU JOHN OSH** as he begins his Jubilee Year of Ordination.

Ordained on 27 December 1994 at Christ the King Cathedral, Kottayam, Kerala, the newly ordained Fr Shaju celebrated his first Mass in his home parish (where he received his Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation), Sts Peter & Paul Parish, Mrala, Kerala, and this Thursday marks the beginning of his 25th Year of Priestly Ministry.

**Fr Shaju will be celebrating 9am Mass at St Patrick's on Thursday 27 December 2018**

and you are invited to come along to this mass and give thanks for Father's dedication to his vocation and this parish. A more formal celebration of this Jubilee milestone will take place closer to the end of the Jubilee Year. Details will be published once they are formalised.

Fr Shiju will celebrate 13 years of Ordination on 29 January 2019 and we take this opportunity to also congratulate him giving thanks to God for the time he spent with us in the service of Our Lord.

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ."  
- St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests

He made them, the vicars of his love."  
- St. Ambrose

"The end for which God has instituted the priesthood has been to appoint on earth public persons to watch over the honour of his divine majesty, and to procure the salvation of souls."  
- St. Alphonsus Liguori

On January 26, we will welcome to our parish a new Assistant Priest, Fr Joy Thomas Kunnassery OSH. Fr Joy is currently Assistant Priest at Frenchs Forest Parish and has been in Australia for the last 8 years, ministering in the Diocese of Broken Bay, at various parishes. Please keep all our priests, past, present and future, in your prayers.



**Reflection © Dianne Bergant CSS**

There is always excitement at this time of the year. It is as if everything is filled with promise. Animosity is set aside; estrangement dissolves into reconciliation; the whole world seems gentler; and we are filled with the spirit of generosity. In the days just before Christmas, the possibility of newness is almost palpable. The spirit of the season has caught hold of us even before the actual day has arrived. Today we stand on the threshold of fulfilment. The future that God has prepared for us is open before us, even though we have not yet stepped out into it. The incarnation takes place in human history, thus affirming the fundamental goodness of human life and concerns, and sanctifying them even further. The child comes from simple people, from a place that is relatively insignificant, thus underscoring God's preference for what is ordinary. The body that was offered for our salvation, the body that consecrated us through having been offered up, was the body that grew in the womb of Mary. The extraordinary salvific deed of God was accomplished through his coming into the world as one of us. The obedience that Christ played out through his body fulfilled for us the promises made by God. We stand on the threshold of fulfilment, the fulfilment of an event that has already taken place. We ritually re-enact it so that we never take it for granted, so that we never forget that it is in and through human history that the marvellous deeds of God are accomplished.

**Carols Under the Star, Warrina St Oval, Berowra, was unfortunately washed out by several freak storms, including massive hail stones, which severely impacted upon Berowra residents (and parish offices!) on Thursday evening last.**

This was extremely disappointing for all involved after the months of planning and practising. Please keep all those affected in your prayers and give prayers of thanks for all members of the SES who braved the dangerous conditions to keep others safe.



Parish office hallway—broken skylights & hail stones followed by waterfalls of rain. View from office window—hail shredded trees and it only got worse!!!



**December Safeguarding Message:**

Each of us can make a difference. Each of us can help to protect one another. We are called to Step Up and to Speak Out for the protection of all.



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December Evangelization:**

**In Service of the Transmission of Faith**  
That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.



# 'Keep Christ in Christmas'

## CHRISTMAS-MASS TIMES:

### Christmas Eve - Monday 24 December

5pm St Bernard's Vigil Mass for Children,  
Carols & BBQ (Outdoors) bring a chair or rug  
6pm St Patrick's Vigil Mass for Children  
9pm St Patrick's Youth Vigil Mass  
12 midnight St Patrick's Midnight Mass

### Christmas Day - Tuesday 25 December

8am St Patrick's Mass  
9am St Bernard's Mass  
10am St Patrick's Mass  
*NO evening Mass on Christmas Day*  
*NO Mass on Boxing Day*

### Christmas Eve Children's Mass 6pm ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH ONE REHEARSAL TO GO !

We are inviting children to take an active part in the celebration and are looking for children who like to sing, read and/or act (Shepherds, Wise-Men, Sheep, Angels) for the 6pm Christmas Eve Kid's Mass.

Children can be in the choir, short Gospel play or both.

**Final Rehearsal at St Patrick's Church**

**Both choir and Gospel play: Mon 24 Dec 9.45-11.45 am.**

Lisa P. 0414 414 567, Bec D. , Julia M. 0419 141 028, or Pat Smith (Choir) 9482 7935.

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



January Office Hours

The Pastoral Centre will reopen between

**Monday 7 Jan.**

**and Fri 11 Jan 2019**

**from 9.30am to 12.30pm only.**

If you need assistance outside these hours please phone the office and leave a message (9456 2450) and we'll get back to you as soon as we can. **USUAL OFFICE HOURS** will resume on Monday 14 Jan. 2019 (9am to 3.30pm).

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

### Buckets will be left outside St Patrick's church

for donations of fresh flowers on **Sunday night Dec 23** so arrangements can be made up on **Monday Dec 24.**

This beautiful tradition of our parish, sees our Christmas Altars adorned with floral beauty from our own gardens to welcome the Christ child.



### Christmas Welcome Postcards

This Christmas you will find *Plenary Council Christmas Postcards* in the pews and it is hoped they will support a spirit of welcome and local outreach this Christmas as we 'listen to what the Spirit is saying' (Rev 2:7) in our Catholic community of Broken Bay and indeed across the Church in Australia at this time.

You are invited to complete the reverse side of the postcard and to share your experience of faith and Church. This is a way of inviting responses from people who may be less engaged with the Church or faith but who can nevertheless enrich the Church through their varied perspectives as we journey towards the Plenary Council 2020.



### Catechist's Connect Children with the Catholic Faith.

*The Catechists of our Parish would like to wish all students and their families, in our Public Schools, a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2019.*

As we come to the close of this year, we are still urging, Mums, Dads, grandparents and university students who can give an hour of your time once a week.

We'd love to hear from you. Remember **you** do not have to be a qualified teacher; you just need love for children and your Faith, **oh**, and a Working with Children clearance, but this is a simple exercise we can help you with.

These are the vacancies in our Public School Scripture classes, for **2019.**

|                      |                                                                        |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Berowra</b>       | <b>Wednesday 09.20 - 09.45am - Kindy - Teacher and helper required</b> |
| <b>Wideview</b>      | <b>Wednesday 10.45 - 11.15am - Kindy - Teacher required</b>            |
| <b>Hornsby North</b> | <b>Thursday 09.15 - 09.45am - Year 1 - Teacher required</b>            |
|                      | <b>Thursday 09.45 - 10.15am - Year 3 - Teacher required</b>            |

Just remember that – **"God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called"**

To find out more about this opportunity, please contact:

**Cynthia Gilbertson, Catechist Coordinator on: 9476 6215 or the Parish Office.**

**NB:** We are again appealing to Parishioner's from the Berowra area, to come forward to help out.



### All singers and musicians

are invited and welcome to participate in Fr Shiju's last Mass at St Pat's on 20th January, 2019 at 10am.

### Children's Choir at Asquith

is in recess until February 2019. However, all children are invited to sing at the Christmas Eve Mass on 24th December. (see practice time above). Many thanks to all parents and families for their support, and best wishes to Michaela de Souza, our outgoing Assistant Director, as she moves into full-time employment. We deeply appreciate all you have done for the Choir and wish you every happiness. Enquiries: Patricia Smith 9482 7935

# Rosters & Readings for weekend 29th / 30th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE

1 Sam 1:20-22,24-28 or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 or Col 3:12-21; Lk 2: 41-52



KU-RING-GAI CHASE  
CATHOLIC PARISH  
Diocese of Broken Bay, Australia

|                                       | St Bernard's Church                                                  |                                                       | St Patrick's Church (Sacristy Phone 9476 6904)                                                         |                                                 |                                                                                     |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                       | 5.00pm                                                               | 9.00am                                                | 6.00pm                                                                                                 | 8.00am                                          | 10.00am                                                                             | 6.00pm                           |
|                                       | Fr Shaju John                                                        | Fr Shiju Simon                                        | Fr Shiju Simon                                                                                         | Fr Shaju John                                   | Fr Shaju John                                                                       | Fr Shiju Simon                   |
| Acolyte/Snr Server                    | Justin Berry                                                         | Alex Jarominek                                        | Sandra Sparkes                                                                                         | Sue Lum                                         | Malcolm Cross                                                                       | Matthew Cross                    |
| Server                                | Karina Bednarz<br>Kyrah McMahon<br>Molly Summerhayes                 | Matthius McLoughlin<br>Levi McLoughlin<br>Alex Rogers | Aidon Hon<br>Ambrose Hon                                                                               | Nicholas Ward<br>Lachlan Onslow<br>Abbey McAdam | Jack Nilson<br>Lachlan McCredie<br>John Cosgrove<br>Holly Harmon<br>Pedro Rodrigues | Anika Campos<br>Olivia Ratcliffe |
| Reader                                | Jerome Gomez<br>Donna Machado                                        | Denise Harant<br>Paul Maher                           | Sue Lum<br>Penny Loughland                                                                             | Dan Leavy<br>Rosemary Pendlebury                | Hayley Rodrigues<br>Deborah de Voss                                                 | Fiona Fone<br>Sue Newnham        |
| Children's Liturgy                    | <i>Children's Liturgy in recess</i>                                  |                                                       | <i>Children's Liturgy in recess</i>                                                                    |                                                 |                                                                                     |                                  |
| Communion to Sick                     | Chichi Datoc, Kerrin Enright                                         |                                                       | Susie Gates, Sue Lum                                                                                   |                                                 |                                                                                     |                                  |
| Sacristy Care/Church Cleaning/Flowers | Paul Waite, Marlene Moloney(f), Sarah Jane Sibelja, Brenda Brooks(s) |                                                       | Pat Smith, Alison Henson, Teresa Schneider, Ellen Downey, Marion Pahalawatta, Fiona Rodrigues (Friday) |                                                 |                                                                                     |                                  |
| Maintenance                           | Team A & Team B:                                                     |                                                       | December: Bill Holmes, Bill Hester, John Hajduk, <b>More Volunteers Needed for Roster!</b>             |                                                 |                                                                                     |                                  |
| Counters                              | Genevieve Funk, Lyn Beacom, Luisa Gomez                              |                                                       | Malcolm Cross, Jessie Long, Graham Palmer, Col Gilbertson                                              |                                                 |                                                                                     |                                  |

**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*.

## LITURGICAL SERVICES & PASTORAL CARE

**Rosary** After weekday Masses both Churches  
**Visit Housebound** Fr Shaju John & Fr Shiju Simon 9456 2450  
**Urgent sick calls** Fr Shaju John 9456 7012 (Presbytery)  
 Fr Shiju Simon 9476 8843 (Presbytery)  
**Nursing Home Visits** By request  
**Clergy Days Off** Fr Shaju John – Monday  
 Fr Shiju Simon – Tuesday  
**Home Visits** For Masses, House Blessings & Pastoral Requests  
 Please call the Pastoral Centre 9456 2450.  
**HOSPITAL ADMISSION:**  
 If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services.  
*Be sure to notify the Pastoral Centre if hospitalised and you would like our own priests to attend.*



**The Jesse tree** helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: *"A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."* Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophesies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.

## 250 Club Results

Week 12 ~ 17/12/2018 ~ \$25 ~ Ticket # 449 ~ Winner: Upli Pahalawatta ~ Congratulations!!

NB: 250 Club Results drawn between Dec 20 and Jan 31 will be published in the 3rd February 2019 bulletin.

### ON THE NOTICEBOARD

— full details of:

- \* [Weekly] Life Marriage & Family Notice from the DBB
- \* Vocations Office DBB — opportunities for prayer, discernment and inquiry if considering a vocation to priesthood or diaconate. [Vocations.Ministry@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:Vocations.Ministry@bbcatholic.org.au)
- \* Aust. Pastoral Musicians Network National Conf. 1-3 Oct 2019 in Melbourne.

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

**King Tide Café/Restaurant**  
 Owned and operated by our very own  
**KCCP Parishioners**  
**John & Moauli Griffiths**  
 Open 7 days from 8am to 4pm  
 Come by Car by Boat or by Train  
 Delicious food, fabulous service & exceptional views await YOU!  
 Hawkesbury River Marina  
 9 Dangar Rd Brooklyn NSW  
 (02) 9985 7102

### Nick Berman



**Your Mount Colah Specialist**  
 P. (02) 8914 8804  
 M. 0411 216 332  
 E. [nickberman@mcgrath.com.au](mailto:nickberman@mcgrath.com.au)

**McGrath**

### Francesca Parrino



**Your Berowra / Berowra Heights Specialist**

P. (02) 9456 9999  
 M. 0415 651 740  
 E. [francescaparrino@mcgrath.com.au](mailto:francescaparrino@mcgrath.com.au)

**McGrath**