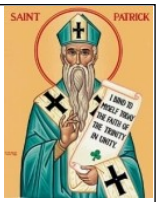
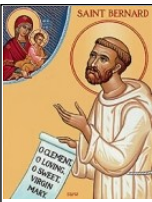


KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 24th May 2020 ~ The Ascension of the Lord ~ Year A
God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.
Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Jn 28:16-20



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'*



The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference announced that our Nation would be entrusted to Our Lady on her Feast day. On Sunday 24 May Bishop Anthony Randazzo, will also entrust our Diocese of Broken Bay to the Immaculate Heart of Mary under the title Our Lady Help of Christians.

You can join Bishop Anthony as he prays for the entrustment of our Diocese during Livestreamed Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral 8.30am Sunday 24 May and at 7am on Monday 25 May. Join Mass at <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/hornsby>



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Jesus' Ascension is both an ending and a beginning. The physical appearances of Jesus are at an end; his revelation of the 'Good News' is complete, the promise of the Messiah is fulfilled. Now begins the work of the disciples to teach what they have learned and to share what they have witnessed.

Jesus came on earth to carry out his Father's eternal plan of salvation for all mankind.

Having fulfilled His Father's will, He returned with His risen, glorified body to take His place of honour in Heaven as God and man. Jesus, the Son of God, not only won salvation for all men, He put the means of salvation, within easy reach of us all at all times. When commissioning His Apostles, He told them to go about the world and to Baptise "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit".

The risen Lord, conscious of the authority he has received from God, commissions his Apostles to make disciples of all nations. They are to do this by baptising them and by teaching them to observe the teaching of Jesus. They are promised the supportive presence of the risen Lord until the end of time.

When we were baptised we assumed the duty of spreading the faith. His last words on earth, immediately before his Ascension to Heaven, were a missionary statement. This divine mission continues to this day. We are not alone in this work. Jesus assures us that he is with us always, until the end of the age.

If one is not doing or neglecting this mission – he is not fulfilling his baptismal obligation and purpose.

To evangelise means to help someone recognise through his own experience that Jesus, dead and risen, is the truth that lights up his own life. That is what Jesus did with His Apostles. This is what the church must do for people in the midst of life, tensions and trials. On this day, Jesus calls us to continue His work. Work that has been vindicated and perfected in the Father's raising Him from the dead.

Jesus' Ascension is an anticipation of our own Ascension.

In the present time, we, who have seen and heard the story of Jesus, are now called to bring that ascension hope into the life of others and into the life we share as families, as the church, as the human community. In every kindness we offer, in every word of encouragement and comfort we utter, in every moment we spend listening and supporting, we proclaim the Gospel of the Risen Jesus. Every good work – however small or hidden, is a sign of Christ in our midst. This commission is a work in progress for the disciples of today, including you and me! This may seem like a daunting task for us, but Jesus puts his faith in us, and that should give us great courage for what we need to do.

We are empowered in our mission only when we discover that God is with us in our innermost being.

"AND KNOW THAT I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS; YES, TO THE END OF TIME."

Fr Shaju.

PASTORAL CENTRE: 1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082 P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450

Parish Office Hours: 9am – 3.30pm

Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Ku-ring-gai-Chase-Catholic-Parish-1789189034642054/ **Parish Priest:** Fr Shaju John, OSH; **Assistant Priest:** Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

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

**THIS WEEK'S READINGS
and PRAYERS**

EASTERTIDE

Monday 25/05

Mary, Help of Christians

Mass of the Solemnity
Preface 1, of the Blessed Virgin Mary;
Sir 4:11-18; 1 Cor1:18-25;
Jn 19:25-27

Tuesday 26/05

St Philip Neri

Mass of the Saint
Preface of Easter I-V
Acts 20:17-27; Jn17:1-11

Wednesday 20705

Mass of the day/Preface of Easter I-V
Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19

Thursday 28/05

Mass of the day/Preface of Easter I-V
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday 29/05

Mass of the day/Preface of Easter I-V
Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday 30/05

Mass of the day/Preface of Easter I-V
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25

**Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish
Remembers & prayers for...**

RECENTLY DECEASED: Eve Davis (baby),
Angelo Marson, Emilia Corpuz,
Eddie Mulligan

ANNIVERSARIES: Dave Longford, C J John,
Donna & Peter O'Donohue, Ida O'Halloran,
Peter O'Halloran, Kevin & Nancy Hester,
Jim Treacy, Joseph Treacy, James Treacy

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Maureen Brophy,
John Cosgrove (Snr), Marie Mickelson,
Margaret Hinton, Dan Leavy, Alfredo R De
Ramos, Marie Mickelson, Doug Hawkins,
Felicity Fone, Graeme Kachel, Antonio,
Anna Nicholson, Pat Bowden, Peter
Brooks, Brian Treacy, Erick Enriquez,
Charles Abela, Elaine Estrellado, Maureen
Sharpe, Penny Rigor, Jwona Nowak, Irena
Fellmann, Elaine Longmuir, Michael
McGaulley, Estrellado, Cathy Gleeson,
Rosalinda de Ramos, Jaz Pitts, Georgia
Meyers, Angela Smith, Matthew Franklin,
Jeanette Bakker, Ewa Rakozy, Jean Cook,
Betty Borg, Morrie Ramsden, Brian Neary,
Edwina Subramany, Aiko Concepcion,
John Buckley, Ellen Asistente, Sam
Calacoci, Barbara Jones, Arlene Joson,
Kath Lock, Cadia Maestri, Marcelina De
Ramos, Matthew Conlon, Patrick Dorahy,
John Macy, Tom Dawson, Narelle
Cartwright, Mary Fernandes, Patricia
Sanders, Monique Leyden, Frederick
Novak, Barbara & Maciej Maciejewski,
Alfredo De Ramos Sr.



**Pope Francis'
Prayer Intention for
May 2020: For
Deacons ~ We pray**

*that deacons, faithful in their
service to the Word and the
poor, may be an invigorating
symbol for the entire Church.*

The 250 Club!

**Week 04:
19/05/2020 ~**

**Number: 099 ~
Winner: Fr Shaju ~
Amount: \$25.00...
& he donated it back awww**

LIVING THE GOSPEL – YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

A witness in a court of law is called to give evidence about a matter; to 'testify' to the truth of what they have seen or what they know to be true. Some people are very good at being a 'witness' to their faith by testifying to others about what they believe.



Many others provide witness to their faith by simply living what they believe. Living a life based on Christian principles, including regular prayer and worship in your life, working for justice in the world and taking time to celebrate the beauty of everyday life is a powerful witness to others.

© Greg Sunter

All are welcome to our
Taizé prayer zoom evening
Fri 29th May 7.30-8.10pm



RSVP to Sarah on email
sarahfoleymassa@gmail.com
to receive a zoom link



TEMPORARY CLOSURE of ST BERNARD'S CHURCH,

Restoration works have begun at St Bernard's Church, Berowra. We ask your patience during the church closure and that you focus on the bright side ..., it is a blessing that this vital work can be carried out safely, whilst attendance at Mass is still restricted. The church will re-open as soon as it is safe to do so. *Fr Shaju.*

Dear Saint Joseph,

As a carpenter and builder you supported the Holy Family in Nazareth. As we embark on the major repair works at St Bernard's, please intercede on our behalf and ask the Lord to provide us with the faith, strength and resources to complete the task. St Joseph, pray for us, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us. Amen.

In the meantime, additional Masses have been scheduled at St Patrick's Asquith as follows:

Vigil Masses: 5pm and 6pm

Sunday Masses: 8am and 9am and 10am

Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday — 8am and 9am ~ // ~ **Saturday Mass:** 9am

A limit of 10 people per Mass (plus the priest) currently applies and **bookings MUST be made.**
To book, contact the Parish Office via phone: 9456 2450 or email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au
Thank you for your understanding during this time. *Fr Shaju & Fr Joy.*

KCCP BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

We are delighted that we are able to support the faith needs of our Catholic community and grateful we are still here and able to assist you. Please show your support for your parish and the commitments we have made, by giving whatever you can.

As Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also". (Matthew 6:21).

BSB: 062 784 **Account:** 1238 8001 **Name:** Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish—Church Account

When making donations to our bank account please be specific if you wish to split your donations between the 1st and 2nd collections.

Perhaps send us an email with your wishes clearly indicated, so we may honour your intentions exactly.

1st Collection: Goes to Pastoral Revenue and is used to support the welfare of our priests, both active and retired. **2nd Collection:** Is retained in the parish and used to pay regular outgoings and honour commitments to maintain and improve parish life. *More information: Call 9456 2450.*

A letter to the People of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay ~ [Bishop Anthony 20 May 2020]

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, In 1844, Australia became the first country in the

world to adopt the patronage of Mary, Mother of God, under the title Help of Christians. For 176 years, Australians have invoked Mary's heavenly intercession, in joyful times and in times of suffering.

It is with confidence in Mary's love and fidelity that the Catholic Bishops of Australia have turned once more to her intercession in a particular way during the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, on Sunday 24

May at the conclusion of the 8.30am Mass at our Cathedral, I will entrust the community of the Church of Broken Bay to the protection of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Help of Christians. I will also

celebrate the Mass of the Solemnity of Mary Help of Christians at the Cathedral on Monday 25 May at 7am. I hope that people all around the diocese will be able to participate in these Masses, as they will be

livestreamed. To assist you in your families and homes, I have asked our Office for Evangelisation to prepare a prayer resource for use in families and in Parish communities. I commend this beautiful

resource to you for your use. The link to access the resource in this week's BBNeighbourhoods. As our children are returning to school, we entrust them in a particular way to the maternal protection of

Our Lady. I am conscious too of so many teachers and staff at our Catholic Schools, as well as many who work in our Public Schools. You too deserve our thanks and our prayers.

Finally, I am always conscious of the many women and men from around our Diocese who are involved in essential services. Your ongoing dedication and service to the community during this health crisis is greatly appreciated. I pray that through Mary's intercession, the Lord will guide and protect you.

Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us. + *Anthony*



Did anyone else notice; while watching mass on our Facebook page last weekend; **the massive smiles upon the faces of Fr Joy and Fr Shaju** as they celebrated Holy Mass?



Of course, the lucky few among us who were quick off the blocks to reserve a place at Mass, got to see those smiles in person!



Our wonderful Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council, Mr Michael Halliday, even had the presence of mind to take a snapshot to mark the moment when our parish began to emerge from the **"Confines of Covid"**. Sláinte Michael.

Please note: For your convenience and safety, we will not be passing the plate for collections, instead there are two boxes beside the entry door for collections, or you may prefer to use our 'Tap and Go'. Boxes will be emptied after each mass.



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.

The latest from the Diocese:
A Message from Bishop Anthony
~ see previous page.

The latest information from KCCP:
Please join us for Mass, live-streamed to your home via our Facebook page at your choice of time and venue.

5pm Saturday evenings
@ St Bernard's

9am Sunday mornings
@ St Patrick's

To live-stream Mass from our parish, simply 'like' our Facebook page and you'll be all set.
<https://www.facebook.com/Ku-ring-gai-Chase-Catholic-Parish-1789189034642054/>

Please stay in touch with us ~ we miss you!

Contact us via: **Phone:** 9456 2450

Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au;

And we will stay in touch with you ~ using our:

KCCP Website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp/>;

KCCP Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Ku-ring-gai-Chase-Catholic-Parish-1789189034642054/>;

Diocese of Broken Bay Website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/>;

Friday mailouts: Not receiving yours?

Please send us an email to parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au and insert

"Please add this email to the Friday Mailout List", in the subject line.

We're in this together and we're still here for each and everyone of you!
KCCP Staff.

WHO misses you?



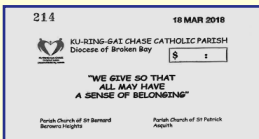
The July 2020 - June 2021 Planned Giving Envelopes.

Seriously folks, this 'won't happen over night, but it will happen', I just need a little more time.
[Did you know by switching over to monthly credit card giving you would be saving the parish money?]

For more details or to make the switch please call the office on 9456 2450]

As soon as we have them sorted, prepared and available for distribution soon, we will give the details of "how" you may collect these effectively and safely. Fewer boxes have been ordered this year to **"close the gaps"**, so you may not have the same number as last financial year.

Please DON'T PANIC if your number changes, our recording process seamlessly takes care of the transition and be reassured that whatever you give is definitely recorded against your name.



ART SPACE:

Passion Series: Ascension, Rembrandt van Rijn, Alte Pinakothek, Munich 1636

Rembrandt's final painting in the Passion series, this painting shows Jesus, with open arms lifted up to the Holy Spirit depicted as a white dove amidst striations of golden light reflected on the faces of the disciples. The angels surrounding Christ, look up at Him adoringly. They are playful and enraptured, with the angels with the blue and white wings "pushing" up the cloud upon which Jesus stands.

Whilst the painting is lit from above, the light that surrounds Christ is the almond shaped halo or Mandorla.

Many artworks depict the Ascension of Christ in a Mandorla. This symbol was used by early Christians in medieval times, and later reappropriated (and reorientated horizontally) as the Christian fish symbol. The Mandorla has been said to have a "healing encouraging function" and as we gaze upon Christ in His Ascension to Heaven, may you feel safe and at peace.

For more information on this image go to, <https://www.artbible.info/art/large/609.html>

To see another artwork of the Ascension go to <https://www.artbible.info/art/large/1051.html>

For more information on Mandorla Art go to

<https://carljungdepthpsychologysite.blog/2019/09/04/the-mandorla/#.XsUZLmgzbIV>





Our Lady Help of Christians
Patroness of Australia

Bishops to entrust Australia to the protection of Mary Help of Christians

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect Australians' lives, including their worship, the Catholic bishops will entrust the country to the care of Mary Help of Christians on her feast day next week.

The bishops approved the entrustment of the country to Mary Help of Christians during last week's plenary meeting, conducted using videoconference technology.

The motion read:

"That the Australian Bishops entrust Australia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary under the title Our Lady Help of Christians, seeking her intercession for the safety of all our people especially in this time of COVID-19 pandemic."

Mary Help of Christians has been the official patroness of Australia since 1844. Her feast day is celebrated on 24 May, which this year coincides with the Feast of the Ascension.

The entrustment of Australia to Mary Help of Christians can therefore take place on the 24th or the 25th, the bishops agreed.

The week between the Ascension and Pentecost Sunday is dedicated each year to praying for Christian Unity.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:
24 - 31 May 2020



This coming week is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a week to remember our common faith in Jesus Christ and pray for unity with each other through the Holy Spirit.

The theme this year is:

"They showed us unusual kindness"
(Acts 28:2).

It calls us to move from shared prayer to shared action, which is taken from the kindness experienced by St Paul when shipwrecked in Malta and calls us to a greater generosity to those in need.

We recognise that we cannot face the storms of life alone. A boat moves forward when all row together. In the face of difficulties, we recognise the need to pull together and to unite our efforts.

We pray that all churches fix their course on Christ, the True Light, and that God will transform the many separations amongst our churches and faiths into harmony and our mistrust into mutual acceptance.

Entrusting our Family to Mary Help of Christians

O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender mother of all humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our family (name the members of your family here);

Response: Mary Help of Christians, we entrust our family to you.

We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick the disabled and the elderly;

Response: Mary Help of Christians, we entrust our family to you.

We commit to you, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious;

Response: Mary Help of Christians, we entrust our family to you.

We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who around us who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time;

Response: Mary Help of Christians, we entrust our family to you.

We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis;

Response: Mary Help of Christians, we entrust our family to you.

Reign over our family, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you!

Response: Mary Help of Christians, we entrust our family to you.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Sunday 24 May 2020
The Ascension of the Lord - Year A

Entrance Antiphon: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

Penitential Act:

(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, (and, striking their breast, they say): through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; (then they continue): 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.

The Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11 ~ A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The Word of the Lord (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. (R.)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

Second Reading: Eph 1:17-23 ~ A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The Word of the Lord (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 28:16-20 ~ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

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

The Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

(At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow).

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.

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.