

KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 26th July 2020 ~ 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ Year A

1 Kg 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

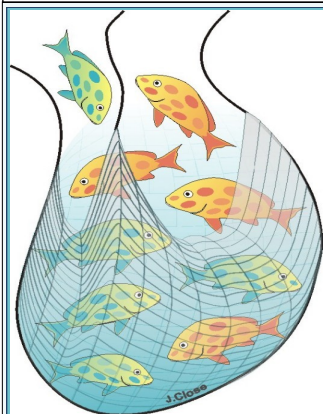
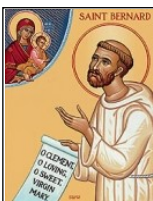
Entrance Antiphon: God is in his holy dwelling; he will give a home to the lonely, he gives power and strength to his people.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, I love your commands.

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget his benefits.

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 Kingdom of heaven is like...'

Jesus likens heaven to a hidden treasure, a pearl of great price and a fishing net.

In this image, heaven is described as a grab bag containing a jumble of marine life.

The net drags everything in and then the catch is sorted.

No rubbish gets into heaven!

The Language of Heaven © Fr Michael Tate

Have you ever seen on TV those huge rubbish tips that exist on the edge of great cities in South America, Asia and Africa? The shanty town dwellers and the poor constantly pick over the tips to salvage what they can. A pall of smoke hovers over such tips which are often generations old, so there is not a time when fire is not doing its destructive work.

In Our Lord's time, there was such a tip in a small ravine only a short distance from the Temple Mount of Jerusalem. It had been smouldering and burning in this way for centuries. It was a particularly terrible place called the Valley of Gehenna.

That is an image which Jesus used when speaking about Hell. Jesus taught that we can by our choices and actions end up in a state of endless suffering like being trapped in ever smouldering rubbish tips.

That would be Hell.

We must remember it is an image or metaphor – but especially powerful. It has a real hold on our imagination: the stuff of paintings and sermons: 'souls burning in hell', (but of course the soul is not material – so cannot 'burn' in any literal sense).

Let us try another image.

Have any of you travelled to a foreign country and been unable to communicate – can't speak the language – don't understand the customs and culture of the people? It is not only frustrating but you feel less human. In the midst of other people you feel a terrible loneliness, a-lone-ness. There is lots of weeping and gnashing of teeth in frustration.

Now, what if you were born with a good ear for languages, knew you had the opportunity to go to that other place, but had deliberately never learnt the language of that other place, had deliberately done things which made you a person who could not reach out the hand of friendship to the people of that place? You would only have yourself to blame if you were suddenly transported and marooned there.

It would be a living hell.

That is what happens at death. Your soul is suddenly transported to a different dimension of existence, and it can be either heavenly or hellish depending on the choices and actions of a lifetime. So, our lifetime project is to 'learn the language of heaven' otherwise we will end up mute, speechless, at the crucial moment.

Of course, God is merciful.

At death, God can take the stutters and the stammers and the half-sentences and coach us and tutor us out of our self-centredness and bring us to the ability to wholeheartedly converse with God and others. This is what Catholics call 'Purgatory', the purging of self-ishness. But, there is the very real danger that, at death, we may have rendered ourselves totally incommunicado, unable to benefit from the saving grace of purgatory.

So, we must try, now, to learn the language of Heaven. How can we learn the language of Heaven?

First, by following the story of Jesus. After all, Jesus is the Word of God, the perfect conversation between humanity and God. We can try to translate his story into our own lives.

Secondly, we can observe those who seem to love unreservedly, ranging from Mother Teresa to a person you may know quite well.

Thirdly, when the opportunity comes, move out of self-centredness, especially as Pope Francis says, by touching the wounds of Christ in others.

So let us move from incommunicado to communion by learning and practising the language of Heaven.

There is only one lifetime to do it.

PASTORAL CENTRE

1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082

P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082

Phone: (02) 9456 2450

Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp

Centre Hours: 9am – 3.30pm.

Parish Priest Fr Shaju John, OSH

Assistant Priest Fr Joy Thomas, OSH

Parish Secretary Margaret Cooper

Bookkeeper Karen Price

Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine

School/Parish 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	Mon, Tues and Thurs.
	9am	Wednesday and Friday
St Patrick's	8am	Wednesday and Friday
	9am	Mon, Tues, Thurs and Sat.

[NB: First Friday Healing Mass @ St Bernard's and Night Vigil @ St Patrick's, not yet restored to schedule]

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday	9.30 am at St Patrick's
Every Friday	After 9am Mass at St Bernard's

SEATING CAPACITY AT OUR CHURCHES

[applying the current 4m² requirement]

St Patrick's: 100 persons

at St Bernard's: 60 persons

Physical Distancing - people from the same household may sit together in the church. Couples and families can be seated together however, social distancing is to be maintained between family groups.

Additional restrictions are at the discretion of the Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.


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

ORDINARY TIME
Monday 27/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Jer 13:1-11; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday 28/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday 29/07
 St Martha
 Mass of the Saint
 Preface of weekday or saint
 1Jn 4:7-16; Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Thursday 30/07
 Mass *ad libitum*
 Jer 18:1-6; Mt 13:47-53;
Friday 31/07
 St Ignatius of Loyola, priest
 Mass of the Saint
 Preface of weekday or saint
 Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13:54-58;
Saturday 01/08
 St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop, doctor
 Mass of the Saint
 Preface of weekday or saint
 Jer 26:11-16, 24; Mt 14:1-12

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jacob George, Wilhelmine (Wilma) Brayshaw, Jocelyn Ibanez, Antonietta (Toni) Dal Pozzo, Wilfreda Attilo, Sally O'Donoghue, Ester Filart, Gabrielle Kirby, Denise Plumber, Noelene Smith, Fely Ocampo
ANNIVERSARIES: Lynette Maguire, Anthony Gerard Smith, Pastor Alvarado, Dr Ken Gray, Eric Geoffrey Warren, Jim & Marie White, Vicente & Filomena Bañaga, Ruby & Reginald Warren, Herminia Bañaga, Elde & Andrea Daria,
PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Araceli 'Chichi' Datoc, Barbara McMullen, Alan Brooke, Leslee (Joy) Mustey, Craig Sequeira, Shirley Kelymack, Judy Farrell, 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 Josen, 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 June: The Way of the Heart.

 We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

(Another) **CHANGE TO MASS RESERVATIONS:**
 We just had to find a better way! (NB: No more monthly bookings are being taken)
When you attend Mass this weekend, you will be asked if you wish to reserve a seat for THE FOLLOWING WEEK ONLY
 This change has become necessary as, many reservations were being made and then people not attending (for various reasons) or wanting to change masses etc. So, to simplify the procedure from today, when you attend mass you may re-reserve for the following weekend ONLY.
Individual Masses may still be reserved via the office email, parishkccp@bbatholic.org.au.
Hopefully this new system will work more efficiently and allow a fairer opportunity for all to attend Mass, so please come back, we really miss you!

UPDATED YET AGAIN: Australian Government and DBB Guidelines.
 * **The number allowed to be present in any place of worship is now limited to 100 persons maximum.**
 However, we still need to use the **one person to each 4m² rule**, so we can now accommodate **ONLY 100 persons in St Patrick's and 60 persons in St Bernard's.**

- * Once the capacity in numbers is reached, the doors of the church will be closed.
- * If unwell - **DO NOT** come to mass and please, see your doctor;
- * Sanitise your hands on arrival and departure;
- * Follow **ALL** directions from the **USHERS**;
- * The collection plate will be brought to you—please **DO NOT TOUCH** the plate.
- * Tap n Go is available at the back of the church for those who do not want to handle cash.
- * **Normal Social Distancing is required in and around the church at all times.**
- * When Mass is concluded please **leave the church quickly to allow for cleaning**—please disperse immediately and **DO NOT** congregate outside the church after mass;
- * **Weekday attendees MUST** write your name and contact details in the book (please use your own pen);
- * **Weekend** masses can be booked one week in advance via the parish office (please email).
- * Your health is important to us. To ensure your safety and that of each other, please help us by following all the above points. **Take care, stay safe, stay well.**

AFTER MASS CHURCH CLEANING
 We are in need of volunteers to remain at the end of weekend masses to disinfect the pews prior to the next Mass. **Please consider giving 5 minutes of your time to keep everyone safe. Thankyou.**

St Bernard's Restoration Appeal:
Your continued financial assistance to pay for this much needed restoration is appreciated.
In this Golden Anniversary Year we ask that you consider making even a small contribution towards the works done to preserve St Bernard's Church, Berowra Heights. Donations can be made over the phone with a credit or debit card, by cheque or direct deposit and even cash. For assistance or more information please call the office.

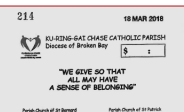
KCCP BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:
BSB: 062 784 Account: 1238 8001
Name: Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish - Church Account

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

Important Notice about Music at our Masses
 For pastoral reasons it has been decided, in response to parishioners' concerns, there will be
NO SINGING AT:
5pm Vigil Mass at St Bernard's, Berowra Heights & 8am Mass at St Patrick's, Asquith.
 Congregational singing will continue at other masses for the time being and until further notice.

First Eucharist 2020 preparation has at last begun.
 Workshops started last week after much planning by the Sacramental Team and facilitators. Things are certainly a little different to usual, however, I take this opportunity to thank all involved especially the children and their parents for working together to ensure the reception of this Sacrament takes place under very different circumstances. To ensure the safety of all, we are taking every possible precaution to ensure the rules and regulations surrounding Covid-19 protection, are maintained.
The children will receive First Holy Communion at
Asquith: over the weekend of August 22nd & 23rd and at
Berowra Heights: over the weekend of August 29th and 30th.
Please keep all the children in your valuable prayers.

TAX RECEIPTS AVAILABLE



214 19 MAR 2019
 KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLIC PARISH
 Diocese of Broken Bay
 \$ 1
 "WE GIVE SO THAT ALL MAY HAVE A SENSE OF BELONGING"
 Parish Office of St Bernard Berowra Heights Parish Office of St Patrick Asquith

Tax Receipts now available:
 Tax Receipts for the 2019/2020 Financial Year are now available. If you have not already received yours via email please check the back of the church. **Also, some Planned Giving Envelopes are still awaiting collecting from our Churches.**
 Please collect yours *as soon as possible.*
[To make the switch to credit card giving, please call the office on 9456 2450].

The 250 Club! **Week 15: 21/07/2020**
Winning number: 441 ~
Amount: \$500.00 ~
 **WINNER**
Winner: Angie Pulanco

Please BE THERE FOR ME - CCD (Catechists / Scripture Teachers) Recruitment Campaign



Last week, most Catechists returned to classes in public schools, to share the Gospel message of love, service and hope. Some of our dedicated Catechists are unable to return at this time due to Covid-19 concerns, **and our parish is looking for a couple of relief catechists to fill in.**

CCD has developed a short recruitment video as part of the campaign: *Be There For Me.*

YouTube link is <https://youtu.be/IONdRTBJwxo>

It really is worth a look !



A special celebration during 6pm Mass next Sunday

Fr David Ranson will preside at our **6pm Mass next week, 2nd August**, at which Isabelle McCloughry will be welcomed into the Catholic Faith with Baptism, Confirmation and receive Our Blessed Lord in the Eucharist.

All parishioners are invited to attend this mass (up to our maximum 100 person limit) to witness the final stage of Isabelle's journey and to warmly welcome her into our Faith Family at Ku-ring-gai Chase.

A letter to the People of God in the Diocese of Broken Bay ~ [Bishop Anthony 21 July 2020]

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ.



This image of the Penitent Magdalene painted in 1594-1595 by the Italian Master, Caravaggio, is worth contemplating as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene, the Apostle to the Apostles, on Wednesday this week.

Caravaggio was not the first artist to depict Mary Magdalene in this manner. He makes the assumption that the woman in Luke's Gospel who washes Jesus' feet with her tears and dries them with her hair is Mary of Magdala (Luke 7:36-50). In the painting, we can see a glass bottle of oil representing the alabaster jar of perfume with which she anointed Christ's feet. Scattered on the floor next to Mary we can also see gold, pearls, and jewels that are symbols of earthly gain. Whatever the background of Mary Magdalene, what calls out to us for contemplation is not so much her past life but rather that, as the reading from the Song of Songs suggests, she found whom her heart loves (Song of Songs 3:1-4). Only after having found Jesus in her life was Mary Magdalene able to bear witness to God's mercy and love. Traditionally this has been depicted, as this picture by Caravaggio suggests, as a penitent fallen woman. However, there is something much deeper here for our thought, and it can be found in the passage from John's Gospel (John 20:1-2, 11-18). Having known Jesus in both life and death, Mary seeks the fullness of knowledge in his resurrection. There are two levels at which she seeks. The first is the most obvious and we would probably sum it up as the paschal mystery – the life, death, and

resurrection of Christ. However, the second is far more subtle, in that by faith, Mary demonstrates the real presence of Jesus in her own life. That is, through her living with Christ and her dying to sin, a new life is possible.

Through her belief in the risen Christ, the Paschal mystery is enacted in her life. This Good News then impelled her to go and tell the Apostles that the Lord is indeed alive! Because of this, we know her as the Apostle to the Apostles. Each one of us, like Mary Magdalene, is invited to seek Christ in faith. Life in Christ will bring death to sin. Life in Christ is not just to be hoped for; it is something to be enacted now. Christ changes our hearts by making his home within us. My sisters and brothers, this week be inspired by the life of Saint Mary Magdalene and by the words from the Song of Songs, to seek him whom my heart loves. Moreover, having found that love go and tell others that the Lord is indeed alive! This is the Good News for each of us. Happy evangelising. + Anthony

[Extract from a ...] HOMILY © Richard Leonard SJ

After being nearly snowbound for two weeks, a Seattle man departed for his vacation in Miami Beach, where he was to meet his wife the next day at the conclusion of her business trip to Minneapolis. They were looking forward to pleasant weather and a nice time together. Unfortunately, there was some sort of mix up at the boarding gate, and the man was told he would have to wait for a later flight. He tried to appeal to a supervisor but was told the airline was not responsible for the problem and it would do no good to complain.

Upon arrival at the hotel the next day, he discovered that Miami Beach was having a heat wave, and its weather was almost as uncomfortably hot as Seattle's was cold. The desk clerk gave him a message that his wife would arrive as planned. He could hardly wait to get to the pool area to cool off, and quickly sent his wife an e-mail, but due to his haste, he made an error in the e-mail address.

His message therefore arrived at the home of an elderly preacher's wife whose even older husband had died only the day before.

When the grieving widow opened her e-mail, she took one look at the monitor, let out an anguished scream, and fell to the floor dead. Her family rushed to her room where they saw this message on the screen:

Dearest wife,

Departed yesterday as you know.

Just now got checked in.

Some confusion at the gate.

Appeal was denied.

Received confirmation of your arrival tomorrow.

Your loving husband.

P.S. Things are not as we thought. You're going to be surprised at how hot it is down here.

“You don't stop laughing because you grow older. You grow older because you stop laughing.”
Maurice Chevalier



CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay: To mark Homeless Persons Week last year, CatholicCare launched their Shout a Mate a \$6 Plate campaign in support of Mary Mac's Place in Woy Woy which is open to anyone who is homeless, needing a helping hand or is lonely.

They are currently sitting at just over \$15,000 of a \$30,000 target! Mary Mac's costs over \$150,000 a year to run. Over 20,000 meals a year are provided a year to those in need and they rely 100% on community support.

Every \$6 donation goes straight to providing much needed meals and resources to the most vulnerable in our local communities – and every donation is 100% tax-deductible. Please help us mark Homeless Persons Week (2–8 August) and provide a hot meal to those in need.

www.shoutamateaplate.org.au

ROSTERS & READINGS FOR WEEKEND 1st/2nd August – 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND FOR YOUR ROSTERED DATE PLEASE ARRANGE A SUBSTITUTE; Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

	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	Alex Jarominek	Mani Subramany	Sue Lum	Malcolm Cross	Darrin Patterson
Reader (1)	Mary Dorahy	Peter Collins	Nuria Gonsalves	Michael Halliday	Deborah de Voss	Youth Reader 1
Reader (2)	Sophia Smith	Peta Tonkin	Rionah Gonsalves	Rosemary Pendlebury	David De-Fina	Youth Reader 2
Usher / s	Jerome Gomez	Vince & Georgina Hughes	Chris Smith	Michael Halliday	Peter Daly	Les Fogden
Sacristy Care/Church	Natasha Steele, Genevieve Funk, Ted Cook,		Imm Lui, Jeanette Hester, Anthony Drake, Mia, Fiona Fone (f)			
Maintenance	Teams A & B		August: Sydney Fernandes, Richard Fellow, Helper needed			

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*.

Media Release

16 July 2020

Bishop Randazzo announces change to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Anthony Randazzo has made adjustments to the age of children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

In a letter to clergy of the Diocese last week, Bishop Randazzo acknowledged the crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the course of Sacramental Preparation Programmes across all parishes.

“I have been unable to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the parishes of the Diocese at all this year,” said Bishop Randazzo,

who has decided, due to ongoing uncertainty and for the sake of clarity for parents and families, parishes and personnel involved in preparing children for the Sacraments that he will not celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at all in 2020.

Formerly, children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation were seven years old, typically those in Year 2. For the future celebration of the Sacrament, Bishop Randazzo has announced that candidates will be at least eight years old, those who are in Year 3.

The change has been made after Bishop Randazzo consulted and received feedback about the Sacrament of Confirmation and after discussions with the Council of Priests.

“The practice of celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with those who have reached the age of seven, typically those in Year 2, seems early for the most meaningful reception of the Sacrament,” said Bishop Randazzo.

“Therefore, I wish to use the circumstances afforded us negatively by the pandemic to place our practice of Sacramental preparation, positively, on a new footing going forward.”

The Bishop has not changed the order of the Sacraments of Initiation being Baptism, followed by Confirmation and Eucharist. Under the new program, Reconciliation and Eucharist will therefore be celebrated by those who are aged nine and in Year 4.

“I regard this as the best and most sustainable way forward to address both the suspension of the celebration of Confirmation for the rest of this year, and to engage the unique opportunity with which we are now presented to bring Sacramental Preparation Programmes into the future on a different footing for children who are older and more able to appreciate the significance of their Christian Initiation.”

The letter to clergy announcing the changes, explained some of the implications on Sacramental Preparation Programmes. With the various timings of the programmes across parishes throughout the Diocese taking place either in the first or second halves of the year, it will take the course of 2021 to 2022 to establish the consistent foundation of the preparation programme for children who are aged eight and older.

Bishop Randazzo also explained norms around who has the faculty to Confirm, especially regarding the various circumstances arising for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. With some exceptions, the Bishop clarified particularly regarding the Confirmation of children, *“I am the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation and I do not wish this to be compromised by widespread delegation of this faculty”*. The Bishop explained he is aware of the practical implications for parishes during a period of adjustment but looks forward to achieving consistency across the diocese as soon as is practicable.

“We have been through a great disruption that has affected parish communities in numerous ways,” said Bishop Randazzo, *“and I acknowledge the many creative and innovative initiatives adopted by our people to keep the faith flourishing”*.

“I am grateful for the way in which parishes will bring to completion this year sacramental preparations commenced in 2019, so that in the new year, we can resume the programme for new cohorts on a new premise.”

For more information please contact Selina Hasham, Director, Office for Communications on 02 8379 1622 or email Selina.hasham@bbccatholic.org.au



Have you heard of the Memory Innovations Centre?

Programs focus on having fun, connecting with others and stimulating your brain.

Cooking, exercise, dance, art and mind exercise programs available. Visit us for a free trial session in Waitara or join our online programs – open to all in the Diocese!

Call Jessica on (02) 9481 2659 or visit www.catholicreddbb.org.au/mic



Catholic Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation Weekend.

We are open for a face to face marriage preparation weekend August 1-2 at St Joseph's Baulkham Hills. Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and married life. Spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. Further information and registration: www.engagedencounter.org.au