



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th January 2025



Gospel Reflection

Today's Gospel is John's account of Jesus' first great "sign": the transformation of water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana. For the churches of the East, the miracle at Cana is the fourth great event of their

celebration of the Lord's **Epiphany** or **manifestation** to the world (the first three: his birth at Bethlehem, the adoration of the magi and his baptism at the Jordan by John).

Cana evokes two important Scriptural symbols that point to the Messiahship of Jesus:

First, wine in abundance was considered a sign for Israel of the Messianic age to come (one example: Isaiah 54: 5-14, Reading 4 for the Easter Vigil). The water in the six large stone jars used for the ritual washings mandated by the first covenant law is transformed by Jesus into Messianic wine, prefiguring the new covenant to be sealed in Jesus' blood (which we celebrate in the wine of the Eucharist).

Second, the limitless love of God for his people is described throughout Scripture in terms of marriage. Today's first reading from Isaiah is a beautiful example of this tradition. It is the strongest (yet still far from perfect) image we have to understand the depth of God's love for his holy people.

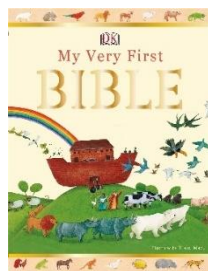
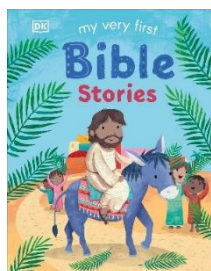
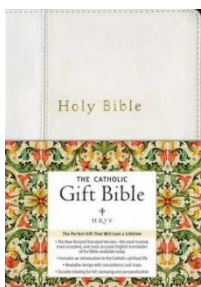
The evangelist John pulls together these two power Messianic symbols of wine and marriage together to introduce the public ministry of Jesus, the promised Messiah and bridegroom.

A final note: In verse 4 of today's Gospel, Jesus is not as brusque toward his mother as he sounds to us in the English translation of the text. The address "Woman" was a common courteous form of address in Jesus' time. We do not have in modern English an equivalent of this idiomatic expression.

Connectionmediaworks



Piety Store – Next weekend is **Sunday of the Word of God "Bible Sunday"** and the Piety Store at Manly and Freshwater will have a selection of bibles available to purchase.



Places of Pilgrimages Jubilee of Hope 2025

The three diocesan "Jubilee Shrines of Hope" which will form significant places of pilgrimage, worship, prayer, and hope for God's people in Broken Bay during the Jubilee Year

- The **Parish of Gosford** with the **Relic of Saint John Paul II** will be a **Shrine of Hope** for our families.
- The **Parish of Chatswood** with the **Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis** will be a **Shrine of Hope** for our young people.
- The **Parish of Manly Freshwater** with the **Relic of Saint John Vianney** will be a **Shrine of Hope** for our Priests and Vocations. If you are new to the Parish or are not currently registered, we warmly welcome you and ask that you complete a Parish Census form. This will assist us to connect with you and your family and advise you of any of our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate or emailed to the Parish Office - manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025



In our Parish, which is part of the Diocese of Broken Bay, children usually receive the Sacraments of Initiation (**Confirmation**, Reconciliation, and First Holy Communion) over a twelve-

month period, beginning in **Year 3** and concluding in **Year 4**.

Sacramental Dates for 2025

- **Confirmation** will be celebrated on **Thursday 1 May 2025** (time to be confirmed)
- **First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on **Saturday 21 June – 11.30am at both Churches**

If your child is in **Year 3** or above and is **Baptised Catholic**, he/she is eligible to enrol in the Sacramental program which begins with **Confirmation**.

Confirmation Parents Information Evenings

If you wish your child to be part of this program please attend one of the following Information Evenings:

- **Manly: Tuesday 18 February at 7pm**
- **Freshwater: Thursday 27 February at 7pm**

If you have any queries, please contact Michelle at michelle.ellis@bbcatholic.org.au.

LET US PRAY FOR

19th January 2025

Recently Deceased: Mary Fleming; Patricia Despas

Anniversary: Phillip Eric Arena; Laurence McEvoy;
Eunice McEvoy; Tom Prendergast; Doreen Mealy

Prayers for the sick in our parish: "Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage" Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; John Connors; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Paul Donnelly; Julie Wallis; Lyn Hillard; Ian Flynn; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady; Annette Frances O'Leary; Anna Kalayzich; Veronica Rinaldo; Chinnamma Puliparambil; Rena Cull; John Santos; Shirley Ford; Ana Maria Saladana; Peter Hoang Ngoc Thai

Dates to remember...

- **RCIA returns** Tues 21 Jan 7pm
- **Cenacle of Our Lady**
Manly: Tues 9:45am; Freshwater: Wed 9:45am

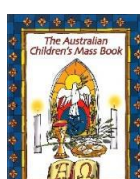


NEW DATES FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during the 10:30am Mass.

This will cater for children aged 3 to 8 years old. Each week a theme that correlates to the readings and Gospel is presented to the children using age-appropriate materials. The adult catechists incorporate prayer, song, group discussion, worksheets and other activities so the children can relate the Word of God to daily life. The children leave the church after a blessing from the priest, gather in the parish meeting room, and return during the offertory.

Children's Activity pages available at the entrance of the Churches.



Children's Mass books are now available at the entrances of the Church for use during the Masses. Please return after the Mass.

Mass booklets can be purchased from the Piety Store for \$10.00

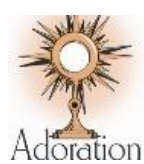


Sacrament of confession/reconciliation is available in Manly every Saturday from 10am to 11am and Wednesday from 6pm to 7pm.



If you are new to the Parish or are not currently registered, we warmly welcome you and ask that you

complete a Parish Census form. This will assist us to connect with you and your family and advise you of any of our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate or emailed to the Parish Office - manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS 6pm – 7.30pm

Quiet Prayer, Adoration and reconciliation will be available
6pm – 7pm concluding with **Benediction**



CAN'T GET TO MASS ON SUNDAY AND WANT TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

Many of you have not been able to come back to Mass on Sunday for different reasons. If you would like one of the Priest to visit you at home, please ring the parish office on 9977 5822



PARISH MORNING TEA

MANLY: 3rd Sunday after the 10:30am Mass hosted by the Tongan Community.

FRESHWATER: every Sunday after the 9am Mass in the parish hall.

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes **SAFEGUARDING** which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our MANLY community.

NEW LIFE
RETREAT
FOR YOUNG
ADULTS

CONTACT FR MAREK FOR DETAILS

24 - 27 January 2025
SOMERSBY RETREAT CENTRE



The Pope's Prayer Intention for the month of January – For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish facebook: facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Parish website: bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am Mass
[manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos](https://manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook.com/videos)



Confraternity of Christian Doctrine – CCD

A special invitation to you...

Become a Catechist teaching special Religious Education (SRE)

What is a Catechist?

A Catechist is a person who gives her/his time voluntarily to provide religious education to children in primary and secondary state schools.

Catechists are those who are called to serve through teaching, witness, prayer, service and building community.

Do you realise you have the qualities to be a Catechist?

A Catechist needs to be a person who:

- Is loving
- Cares for others
- Is fond of children
- Lives their faith
- Has common sense
- Enjoys a laugh
- Wants to contribute
- Can give 1 hour a week of their time

A Catechist does not need to be:

- Religious experts
- Qualified teachers
- Able to drive

Why be a Catechist?

- Jesus asked that we "...spread the Good News to the whole world"
- To be a Christian, is to want to share this 'Good News' of God's love with everyone.
- St Paul tells us that "Faith without good works is dead".

- There are around 500 Catholic children in our Parish, attending State Primary Schools, many of whom through no fault of their own, would otherwise receive little, if any teaching on the 'Good News' of God's love.
- To thank God in a tangible way for all He has given to you.
- It is a great way to use your God given talents to spread His word.
- New Catechists and assistants are urgently needed now to replace retirees.

What is involved?

Lesson materials comprising of comprehensive teachers' manuals and student workbooks are provided. A set curriculum is followed.

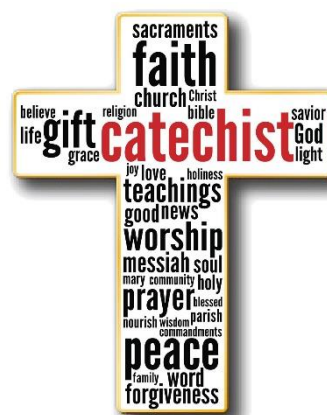
The Diocese of Broken Bay provide to catechists and helpers training sessions and fun workshops throughout the year to equip and give Catechists ideas with teaching in the classrooms. These training sessions can be completed on line or face to face free of charge.

How do I get involved?

If you think you would like to get involved and be a part of this enjoyable and rewarding ministry or you would simply like more information, please contact...

Manly: Laurie Riley 9949 7750

Freshwater: Toni Walsh 0418 862 410



This weekend at Manly and Freshwater we will hear from some of our current Catechists who will be asking for your help in this important ministry. Parishioners from the parish visit Manly West, Manly Village and Harbord Public Schools every

week in school time. They teach the children using an approved curriculum which is authorized by Bishop Anthony Randazzo.

We are looking for more Catechists as we have vacancies for teachers in 2025.

Please speak to one of our current Catechists who will be at the back of the Church after each Mass to answer any of your questions and how you can join this wonderful group.



Thank you for your generous support. We encourage you to use the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you prefer to use cash, there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.

PILOT PROGRAM –The Diocese has agreed for Manly to pilot a **ONE COLLECTION** at the weekend Masses. The Diocese will continue to monitor this.

The collection is for the First and Second Plates and will be allocated as follows:

- 25% to Supporting our Priests including the sick & retired in our Diocese.
- 75% to Parish operations and maintenance of building.

SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

- 1. Planned Giving:** through a monthly **direct debit** or **credit card**. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
- 2. Collection plates during Mass**
- 3. Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or **EFTPOS Terminals**.
- 4. Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page.
- 5. Direct into Parish Bank Accounts**
 - **Parish Giving (2nd collection)** Funds the running of the Parish
Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784
 - **Clergy Giving (1st collection)**
Supports our Priests
Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral
Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank
Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784

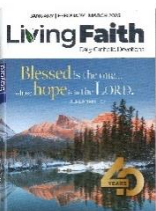


HAS YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRED?

If you donate to the Parish using your credit card please let us know if you have a new card or the card has expired by contacting the Parish Office 9977 5822 or email manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

DIRECT DEBIT FROM BANK ACCOUNT

Please consider changing your giving from a credit card deduction to a direct debit from your bank account. Please contact the parish office to have this set up automatically for you.



PIETY STORE
The Living Faith booklet is now available in the Piety Store.

2025 Columban Calendars,
Divine Mercy Calendars

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP

We were very happy to close the year 2024 with Eucharistic adoration and blessing of our group which now has a name and is called "**San Rafael Arcangel**".

We meet every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month from 6pm – 8pm in the parish meeting room.



"Vengan a mí todos los que están afligidos y agobiados y yo los aliviaré"
San Mateo 11, 28-30

WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS ON THE SECOND AND FOURTH FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH.

San Rafael Arcangel

6-8 PM

- Comunidad
- Cantos
- Crecimiento espiritual
- Estudio bíblico
- Oración
- Misión
- Sanación interior
- Espacio para niños

Prayer Group in Spanish
Parish Meeting Room - Mary Immaculate Church
6 Raglan St, Manly ☎ 0 484 847 690



Love. Grow. Serve.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

As we start a new year, we are looking to hold training for new Eucharistic Ministers and Readers. If you are interested in this very important and fulfilling ministry, please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to register.

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Cenacle of Our Lady: Tues 9:45am Manly Church
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am Parish Centre
- Christian Meditation: Tues 12:15pm Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Weds 6:00pm Manly
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm & Weds 10am Parish Centre
- Piety Store: open on weekends or call the Parish Office
- Prayer Group in Spanish – 2nd & 4th Friday 6pm Parish meeting room
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary: Freshwater Tues – Fri 8.45am in Church
- Youth Group (Yrs 7 – Yr 12): 1st & 3rd Sunday 7pm – 9pm

PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass: Manly & Freshwater 1st Friday 9:15am
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Vincent de Paul Conferences:
Manly 1st Mon each month 5:30pm
Freshwater 2nd Mon each month 5:30pm



The Craft Group meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring your knitting or other craft if you wish.



Lectio Divina Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Lectio Divina groups meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm and Wednesday mornings at 10am.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS

Quiet Prayer & Adoration
6pm – 7pm
Scripture Reflection & Benediction
7pm – 7:30pm.



**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH
THANK YOU TO ALL THE
VOLUNTEERS...**

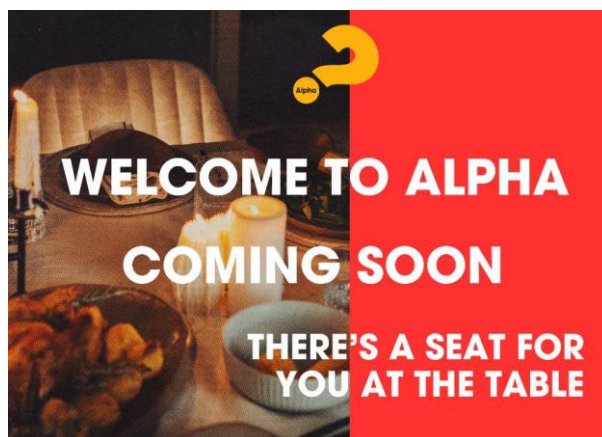
Many, many thanks for your assistance in giving others a wonderful Christmas day. Approx 160 people had an event to look forward to, were welcomed with a smile and enjoyed fabulous food and atmosphere as well as a thoughtful gift and food to take home. Maybe you helped with set up, made lovely treats for the volunteers to enjoy, donated items, helped on the day, cleaned up or even volunteered but you couldn't make it on the day... your generosity of spirit was truly wonderful and is much appreciated. A day like this isn't possible without your help and brings joy to many. Below are just some of the sentiments I received from our lovely volunteers that you might enjoy reading.

- I am sitting at home reflecting on Christmas 2024 and being able to assist in whatever capacity to make Christmas for those, who for whatever reason, needed to be there. I always go away feeling that life goes so quickly for everyone and maybe for some who do not have time to smell the roses, it is even quicker .
- My day was a sheer joy, catching up with old familiar volunteers, long time visitors (still doing it tough) and the extra bonus for me was to catch up with the lovely Michelle, Eleanor and Mike - keeper of the keys . For those colleagues that go the extra mile for others, it is so rewarding that whatever life throws at you, there is always someone who steps up.
- I just wanted you to know we had a wonderful time helping at lunch on Christmas Day. It was such a heart-warming experience. I could really see people benefiting from all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes (and on the day) to make it special for the luncheon guests. And it was so well organised!

Manly Freshwater Parish and the Christmas lunch team hope you had a joyous Christmas and wish you a wonderful new year.

Warm regards and thanks again,
Belinda and team

On behalf of our Manly Freshwater Christmas Day community lunch volunteer coordinating team



Last Sunday our Young Adults organized a car wash fundraiser to help those who would like to go to the New Life retreat at the end of January. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to this cause. Our young parishioners may be lacking in the professional touch, but the enthusiasm and teamwork was shining there along with the sun.

Our parish has once again shown its big heart and commitment to supporting our younger generation. Both the car wash and donations raised an impressive total of \$3,285.60. What's truly inspiring is that even some of those washing cars contributed financially, despite not being able to attend the retreat themselves.

Thanks to your generosity, we hope to send even more young adults on the retreat. Any remaining funds will go toward supporting the group's activities.

Thank you all for your kindness and support!

Blessings Fr Marek



**JOIN OUR
NORTHERN BEACHES**

YOUNG ADULTS

COMMUNITY

Every 2nd Saturday at pub/restaurant
Every 4th Saturday at Manly Parish
message: (6 Raglan St)
Fr Marek at 0422532173
or Cam at 0432895304

YOUTH ACTIVITY DAY

We invite all youth in High School (Yr 7 – Yr 12) to come along to our Youth Activity Day on Friday 31st January at St Mary's Manly from 9am – 8pm.

Contact: 0451 828 623

MANLY-FRESHWATER YOUTH GROUP PRESENTS

YOUTH ACTIVITY DAY!

JAN 31

- Fun Outdoor Games
- Friends & Conversation
- Food!
- Praise & Worship Singalong
- Prayer, Talks & Discussions
- Adoration & Confession
- Mass with Fr Sam French

9AM-8PM

ST MARY'S MANLY (6 RAGLAN ST)

Follow us
manlyfreshwater_catholicyouth

Contact Us
0451 828 623

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

First Reading

Isaiah 62:1-5 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch. The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer. You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken,' nor your land 'Abandoned,' but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1-3, 7-10 (JB)

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name. R.

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. R.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name. R.

Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness. R.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (JB)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

One and the same spirit distributes different gifts as he chooses.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing,

through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses. The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

cf 2 Thessalonians 2:14 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 2:1-11 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The first of the signs given by Jesus was at Cana in Galilee.

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now,' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from - only the servants who had drawn the water knew - the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



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Nestled between the pines at South Steyne – our Medical Centre born from the belief of looking from a fresh perspective towards healthcare. You will find highly trained, experienced GPs and Nursing Staff, with a range of skills to provide you with quality comprehensive care.



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Fax Number: (02) 7209 2921
Website: southsteynemedical.com
Email: SSMAdmin@southsteynemedical.com



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**St John the Baptist
Primary Catholic
School K – 6**

7 Johnson St,
Freshwater
9939 6699



**St Mary's Primary
Catholic School
K – 6**

Denison Street, Manly
7256 2135



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**Enrol
Today!**



**BE YOUR
BEST SELF
here**

Parish Priest: Fr Chima Ofor
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Marek Woldan
marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Sam French
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Seminarian: Mr Alfred Soliman
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)

6 Raglan St, Manly 2095

Phone: 9977 5822

After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010

Parish Office: Mon to Thurs 8:30am – 4:30pm

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096

Parish Pastoral Council:

Michael McGrath (Chair); Ivica Covic (Deputy Chair);
John Zemek (Deputy Chair); Val Buono; Patricia Carroll;
Robert Marshall; Peter Nacard; Ian Press

Weekend Masses:

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses: *Manly & Freshwater* Tues – Fri 9:15am

Reconciliation: *Manly* Sat 10am – 11am; Wed 6pm – 7pm

St Mary's Primary School 7256 2135

Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699

Principal: Alicia van der Merwe

St Paul's Catholic College 7256 2112

Principal: Gabie Stojanovski

Stella Maris College 9977 5144

Principal: Sharyn Quirk