

### MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

## Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

#### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – 24th November 2024



#### **Gospel Reflection**

We celebrate the kingship of Jesus with the John's Gospel account of what is perhaps Jesus' most

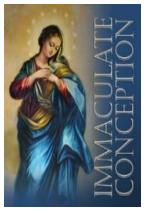
humiliating moment: his appearance before Pilate. It is a strange exchange: Pilate has been blackmailed by the Jewish establishment into executing Jesus for their ends; it is the accused who dominates the meeting and takes on the role of inquisitor; Pilate has no idea what Jesus is talking about when speaks about "the truth."

Pilate, a man of no great talent or exceptional competence, was under a great deal of political pressure. He had needlessly alienated the Jews of Palestine by his cruelty, his insensitivity to their religious customs and his clumsy appropriation of funds from the temple treasury for public projects. Reports of his undistinguished performance had reached his superiors in Rome. Jesus proclaims himself ruler of a kingdom built of compassion, humility, love and truth – power that Pilate cannot comprehend in his small, narrow view of the world. *Connectionmediaworks* 



The Pope's Prayer Intention for the month of November – For Anyone Who Has Lost A Child We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and

consolation from the Holy Spirit.



# YOU'RE INVITED TO our Parish Feast Day & Thank You Celebration

Sunday 8th December at Manly, starting with 10:30am Mass followed by lunch under the Big Tree in the School yard.

Please let the parish office know if you are able to join us by 2nd December on 9977 5822

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au



#### CHRISTMAS MINISTRY ROSTER

To help us plan for our Christmas Masses this year we ask that you let us know if you are available to assist in one of the ministries...Servers, Readers, Welcomers, Piety Shop Assistant. Please advise the Parish Office on 9977 5822

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

We welcome Fr Chima back from his annual leave and look forward to hearing about his travels.

Thank you to all the visiting priests who supported the parish at the weekend Masses. Their assistance is very much appreciated.





#### PASTORAL WORKS BROKEN BAY (PWBB) 2024/2025 APPEAL

**PWBB** supports two key charitable works in the Diocese:

our Catechists in the public schools (CCD) and our Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Program.

Our Pastoral Works Appeal connects everyone to the mission of Jesus Christ in our Diocese. Every gift or donation brings comfort, friendship or security and often opens the doorway to a faith-filled life.

Asking for donations is never taken for granted, especially in challenging economic times. Parishioners at Manly Freshwater have been extremely generous in supporting the Diocese's previous charitable works appeals and in the 2024/2025 financial year, the Diocese is asking us to **target** \$51,095 by 30 June 2025.

We will keep you informed as we progress towards June 2025 and remind those with taxable income that all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.



Appeal Envelopes will remain at the ends of the pews and at the 2 main entrances, or you may wish to donate online via

the QR code here or on our website. (Please remember to select Manly Freshwater as your parish).



## Break Open the Word for the 2025 Liturgical Year

Books are ready for collection. If you are a current Reader at Manly or Freshwater, please collect your book from the Sacristy and mark

off your name off on the list. If you are interested in becoming a Reader, please contact the parish office.

#### **DECEMBER MINISTRY ROSTER**

Please pick up a copy the back of the Church.

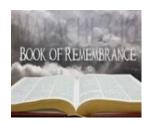
#### LET US PRAY FOR

24th November 2024

**Recently Deceased:** Ross Ryan; Therese (Terri) Howitt; Dace Kelly

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 Curll; John Santos; Shirley Ford; Ana Maria Saladana; Rita Hogan

## Only the names of recently deceased will be published in the bulletin during November.



During the month of November, we pray for our deceased family and friends. The **Parish Book of Remembrance** will be on display in the Churches during November. The book is updated every Friday.

#### The November Mass envelopes are available in



the Church. Please print the names of the deceased on the back and place in the collection plate or drop into the parish office.

#### Dates to remember...

- Craft Stall Sat 23 & Sun 24
- RCIA Tues 26 Nov 7pm
- SMM Class Mass Thurs 28 Nov 9:15am
- SJB Class Mass Friday 29 Nov 9:15am
- PPC Meeting Thursday 28 November 5:30pm
- Spanish Prayer Group Friday 22 Nov at 6pm
- Cenacle of Our Lady

Manly: Tues 9:45am; Freshwater: Wed 9:45am

• Children's Liturgy in Manly 2nd & 4th Sunday at 10:30am Mass



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

#### **Diocesan Mass Count during November**

As you are aware the Diocesan Mass Count takes place in May. This year there will be a Mass count during November as well. The figures from all the parishes are sent to the Diocese so that together, we may all better serve the People of God in Broken Bay.

#### THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE MASS

#### A Song Born in Bethlehem: The Gloria

Have you ever heard of Saint Felix of Cantalice?

...Perhaps not. He's somewhat obscure, but a favourite saint of mine; firstly, because I grew up watching Felix the Cat; and secondly because Felix the Saint never stopped praising God.

Seriously, St Felix praised God wherever he went. When children ran up to him in the streets, the friar would entertain them with a story, but not without first getting them to chant back to him: *Deo Gratias!* (Thanks be to God!). Indeed the saint praised God so much, he wasn't even known by Felix; people called him *Brother Deo Gratias*.



...So what's this got to do with the Mass?

Well, if there's a part in Mass I suspect St Felix would have loved, its the Gloria ("Glory to God in the highest"). The hymn is packed with praise for God – a hymn so beautiful, its inspired compositions over the centuries by Mozart, Vivaldi, Beethoven, Bach and more. So, our question this week is this:

...What is the Gloria, and why do we pray it?

+ + +

Firstly, the Gloria is a deeply Christian prayer. In the early Church, Christians would gather together and sing the Gloria, seeing Christ in the image of the rising sun that dispels all darkness. The hymn was traditionally sung at morning prayer, but around the year 500, it was introduced to the Mass – the pope's midnight Mass at Christmas. For centuries, the Gloria remained exclusively in this Mass; however, after time and many many requests, priests were eventually permitted to use it too – but only at the Easter Vigil and on their own priestly anniversaries. Finally, in the 11th or 12th century, in response to an overwhelming number of requests, the Gloria was extended to all Sunday and feast day Masses outside Lent and Advent; a practice that continues to this day.

And secondly, the Gloria is a prayer of lovers. As we Christians know, on the night Jesus was born, the angels appeared to shepherds near Bethlehem, proclaiming: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will." (Lk 2:14). Sound familiar? Of course, the angels' words are the very first words of the Gloria – the song of praise for God. Indeed, even at this very moment, the angels and saints continue singing the praises of God in Heaven, never tiring, but singing joyfully, because they delight forever in praising Him. Simply, the Gloria is a prayer for lovers. God delights in us as we praise Him, and He draws us ever closer to Himself.

+ + +

So then, what shall we do this Mass?

Well, just one thing today, and it might seem obvious...

**Simply... praise God.** Seriously. So often in our prayers, we ask God for many things we need and want, and that's fine...

...But still, how often do we simply... praise God?

Just praise Him. Not so much for the all the good things He does for us, or for what we need, but praise Him – for who He is. This utilitarian world of ours always has us asking – What benefit does this produce? ...And yet, somehow, that's not what God asks. He asks us simply to love and praise Him.

So this week, dear friends, lets do exactly that. Today, let us praise God with all we've got, and proclaim with joy: "Glory to God in the highest." -- God bless you. Seminarian Matthew.



**Vinnies Christmas Appeal** will begin next weekend 30th November.

Our giving tree will be in the church and envelopes will be available on the pews.

Thanking you for your support.

God Bless Bruce and Mick



## **COME AND SEE – INVITING YEAR 6**

Calling all Year 6 students to come along to our next Youth Group on Sunday 1st December at 6pm Mass followed by Youth Group with games, pizza, fun and great talks.

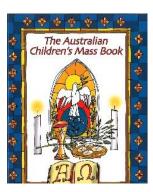
#### **PIETY STORE**

Movie of the month Saint Bridget of Sweden

A documentary on an incredible 14<sup>th</sup> century Saint. Wife, mother and mystic who received divine revelations on the afterlife. Only \$10 at the piety store.

**CD of the month** Purgatory – from the other side – Karlo Broussard

For thousands of years Saints and Holy souls have revealed a cleansing process before entering heaven and also the importance of prayers for the dead.. This is also supported by Biblical texts. Only \$5 at the piety store.



**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

#### **PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA**

<u>Parish facebook</u>: facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish <u>Parish website</u>: bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

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

**Livestreaming on Facebook** Sunday 8:30am Mass manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos



#### 25th December 11am - 1pm

It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas with only 5½ weeks

to go, so it is time for us to start planning for our Annual Christmas Day Lunch.

Each year the Parish hosts a Lunch on Christmas Day for those who will be spending Christmas Day alone with around 150 guests coming along to enjoy a festive lunch. This year we will be serving an option of a sit down or take away picnic lunch.

**If you would like to donate goods** for the Picnic Packs we will be including some of the following:

- Box of chocolates
- Cans of soft drink coke, lemonade, fanta, sugar free drinks
- · Fresh Fruit
- Cash donations will be used to purchase the Hams, Turkey, Salads, Bread Rolls, Desserts and anything we are short of

Please leave all donations in the Parish Office Monday to Thursday.

We thank you your generosity which enables the Parish to offer some Christmas joy for all who come along.



## 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



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS 6pm - 7.30pm

Quiet Prayer, Adoration and reconciliation will be available

6pm – 7pm concluding with **Benediction** 

#### **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.



We would like to recommnece Communion to our parishioners who are unable to attend Mass on Sundays.

This includes our local Nursing Homes and parishioners at home.

We look forward to hearing from you if you have previously been a part of this ministry or if you are interesed in being trained as a Minister to the Sick. Please contact the parish office 9977 5822.



The Young Adults attended *PraiseFest* last Friday night which was hosted by Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood.





We welcome all youth who are in High School (Yr 7 – Yr 12) to come along and join the Manly Freshwater Parish Youth Group

which is held every **1st and 3rd Sunday** following the 6pm Mass (7pm – 9pm). Join us for free food and drinks, table tennis, basketball, party games, talks and new friends! Feel free to check out our instagram or send us an email! Email: manlyfreshwatercatholicyouth@gmail.com

Instagram: manlyfreshwater\_catholicyouth



#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will be held on the 2nd and 4th 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.



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
- 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.



# CHRISTMAS CRAFT STALL THIS WEEKEND after each Mass Saturday and Sunday

Lots of new gift ideas this year including nativity sets, sheep, angels and so many more wonderful handmade favourites. Proceeds will be donated to Northern Beaches Women's Shelter. Join us for a cuppa and festive treat.

#### All Welcome















#### NORTHERN BEACHES REFUGEE SANCTUARY LTD ABN 98625737868

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#### **Welcome to the NBRS Summer 2024 Newsletter**

We had a slow start to the second half of the year. There were very few requests for help until September and then we had a huge increase in requests for help. We paid 279 airfares in the last six months. They have arrived from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Congo.

The Northern Beaches Refugee Sanctuary's first family arrived in June 2003. We have now helped 9064 people from 48 different countries.

The war in Gaza has spread to Lebanon. There is only one airline flying out of Beirut and they don't fly to Australia. You must change flights, which have become very expensive. We are limiting our assistance to \$2,000 per person, which is about 60% of the airfare. It is difficult as we have limited funds and large demand. The problem is that there are still refugees in other countries asking us for help. We are just trying to help as many as possible.

We have seen a big increase in requests from the Afghan community. They comprise 30% of the families we have helped over the past six months. They are all desperate to get to Australia. Afghanistan is clearly a very dangerous place especially for females. Sadly they are also unsafe when they leave Afghanistan and are often threatened with deportation. Refugees are also charged an exit permit to leave Pakistan or Iran. This can make the travel very expensive.

When we book the flights we often receive emails from the sponsor like this one. We helped to bring six family members including his parents.

"Hello dear David, I hope you doing well, I wanted to reach out to let you know that I have received the tickets and confirmed that the payment has been made. I am truly grateful for your support and assistance during this time. Your help means so much to me, and I cannot express enough how much I appreciate what you have done. Thank you once again for being such a wonderful friend. Your generosity has made a significant difference."

Today we paid for the airfare of a family of 8. The family is the sponsor's Mum and Dad, brother and his wife and their three children, as well as his sister. He visited them two years ago but they were separated nearly ten years ago.

He is really grateful as he is alone in Australia. He said that family are the roots in your life. A tree without roots just dies. He will have a welcome party for the family when they arrive in two weeks. He is so happy that the children will be able to attend school. They are young so English will be easy to learn. He also spoke about the chance for the women to be free to study or work, opportunities unavailable in Afghanistan. We paid \$16,000 towards the airfares.

We also helped a family of 16 travel from Iran. The airfares and exit permits were just over \$26,000. It was three generations of one family. We have a number of community groups that we work with. This family was assisted by one of them. The community worker was so worried by the situation the family was in and the difficulties the sponsor had raising the funds. The sponsor was so relieved. They arrive next week. The sponsor will have the support of the community to help them settle in Sydney. We fund the travel mostly by repayments of outstanding loans. A family this size takes about two weeks of current repayments.

We also helped a family of three orphan boys. They were sponsored by their uncle who we have helped before. This visa took over six years to complete. They were in a refugee camp in Kenya. It is one of the largest camps in Africa. They are not safe places as there is never enough food or water. Medical treatment is minimal. Education is basic. They have arrived and have been enrolled in school. It will be a big adjustment for them, but they will have the chance to get a great education. The uncle will provide a loving and safe home.

We assisted a family of eight coming from Democratic Republic of Congo. The sponsor had saved the airfares but the family was delayed due to a visa clearance issue. When they were finally cleared to travel the cost of the travel had increased as it was now a more expensive time of the year. It was unexpected and she didn't have the funds. We were able to help at short notice, which allowed them to travel.

Tomorrow we will pay the airfare of a family of four. Mum and three boys coming from Beirut. The sponsor is her sister. We had the funds allocated but the exit permit was delayed and so they moved down the waiting list. They are now ready but we only have half the money. One of her neighbors has offered to assist with some of the funds.

With the repayments we receive tomorrow we will pay the balance. We have no loans causing concern at present. Our only costs are the Centrelink fees. We are looking for donations. If you want to help, please transfer the money to our account.

The Northern Beaches Refugee Sanctuary Ltd

Commonwealth Bank./ BSB 062197 / Account 10993154

Please email me your details so that I can email you a tax receipt.

David Addington - 13/11/2024

#### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe- Year B

NOTE: Readings for the Manly Family Mass will be taken from the Children's Lectionary.

#### First Reading

Daniel 7:13-14 (JB)

A reading from the prophet Daniel

His sovereignty is eternal.

I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire be destroyed.

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

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 92:1-2, 5 (JB)

R. The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty. The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed; the Lord has robed himself with might, he has girded himself with power. R.

The world you made firm, not to be moved; your throne has stood firm from of old. From all eternity, O Lord, you are. R.

Truly your decrees are to be trusted. Holiness is fitting to your house, O Lord, until the end of time. R.

#### Second Reading

Revelation 1:5-8 (JB)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

The ruler of the kings of the earth ... made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God.

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the Firstborn from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Mark 11:9, 10 (JB)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel

John 18:33-37 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

You say that I am a king.

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **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 Joseph Men's Group: 1st Thurs of the month 7pm
- St Vincent de Paul Conferences:
   Manly 1st Mon each month 5:30pm
   Freshwater 2nd Mon each month 5:30pm





Finding guidance during a difficult time is comforting

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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

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Parish Priest: Fr Chima Ofor

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

Seminarian: Matthew French

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

Tuesday - Friday 9:15am

**Baptisms**: please contact the parish office **Reconciliation**: *Manly* Sat 10am – 11am

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 Head of College: Mark Robinson

**Stella Maris College** 9977 5144 Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie