



ST MARY'S CONCORD – 10 November, 2019

CHRISTMAS CARDS The SVdP members will be selling Christmas cards after all Masses: \$7 for a packet of 10 or 3 packets of 10 for \$20.

ST MARY'S PARISH 150th ANNIVERSARY Next year, 2020, will mark the 150th anniversary of the establishment of St Mary's Parish Concord. A church and school had existed on the present parish site from the 1840s, however, Concord parish was established in 1870. The launch of the parish celebrations will be held on **Sunday 3 May 2020**. More information will be available later in the year.

NEW PLAYGROUP: An initiative of St Mary's School, the Playgroup is for all pre-school aged children and runs in the Parish/School Hall on Wednesdays during the school term from 9.30 am to 10.45 am. Parents/carers need to bring a snack for their own child which is nut, fish and egg free. All enquiries to St Mary's School: phone: 9744 0260. Email: info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au. Parents/carers will be required to complete an induction process and registration details on the first day of attendance.

FAMILY GROUPS: Fr Ray Sanchez CP will speak on "The Role of Family Groups in the Church of Today" in the Parish Hall on Thursday 14 November. See the church noticeboard for more details. You are invited to share a meal at 6.30 pm followed by the talk. For catering purposes please RSVP email: nswfamilygroups@gmail.com or phone 0412759912.

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL The second appeal for the 2019-2020 financial year continues this weekend. The funds raised by the CWF appeals support agencies of the Archdiocese of Sydney. Envelopes are available on the pews and may be placed on the parish second collection. **Your contribution to the CWF is 100% tax deductible.** If you wish to claim a deduction, please print your name and address on the envelope. If you wish to donate by credit card please include the current expiry date - without that date your contribution cannot be processed.

NOVEMBER MASSES: November is traditionally the month of the Holy Souls. Praying for those who have died is an ancient custom in the Church. It is also a long-established custom that all parish Masses during November are offered for those who have died.

November Mass envelopes are available on the table at the back and in the side porch of the Church for those who wish to have their deceased relatives and friends included in the November Masses.

The envelopes may be placed in the basket that remains at the front of the altar during November. The offerings that are made for November Masses are combined to determine the number of Masses to be offered.

In recent years many of the November Mass offerings given by parishioners have been sent to Bishop Miguel of Iquitos, Peru. Fr John Andersen, a Sydney priest, has been working in Iquitos for more than 25 years. Our offerings are distributed to the local priests working in poorer parish communities. In return for our assistance those priests pray for our deceased family and friends in their Masses.

PRAYER FOR RAIN: The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Rain during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The Bishops note that large parts of the country are directly affected by the drought, but the impact is national and calls for a national response. Access resources and find out more at www.catholic.org.au/drought

Prayer for Rain

God Our Father, You created our earth to nourish us and give us life, and Jesus told us to ask and it will be given to us.

We ask now in Faith, Hope and Love that you look with favour on our drought stricken land, our starving animals and our failing produce.

Sustain, strengthen and give new heart to our farmers and all those affected by this drought.

In your loving providence, send abundant rain soon and renew the faith of your people and the face of our land.

We make this prayer with many, through Jesus Christ who gives new life to all living things. Amen.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop - Pray for us.

*Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green,
Bishop of Wilcannia – Forbes*

WALK WITH CHRIST: Please join your fellow Sydneysiders in the *Walk with Christ* annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Sydney on the Feast of Christ The King on November 24 at 2.30pm. Thousands of people took part in last year's joyful public proclamation and act of worship to invoke Christ's blessing upon our beautiful city. Meet at the corner of Martin Place & Pitt Street at 2.30pm on November 24.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR DECEASED PRIESTS - Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria You are cordially invited to the Annual Memorial Mass for Deceased Priests, Celebrated by Bishop Terry Brady 12pm Wednesday, 13 November, at Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery, followed by refreshments in the Mary, Mother of Mercy Condolence Lounge. Please RSVP by 11 November to Nancy Murdocca on (02) 8713 8726 or nancym@catholiccemeteries.com.au

NATIONAL PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 The Plenary Council is a national project providing a platform for a broad discussion among parishes and Catholics across the country concerning the future of the Church in Australia and what we think God is asking of us at this time.

In Phase 2 we are invited to gather and to discern the way forward. Parishes will be invited to join reflections at various "Spiritual Hubs". All Hallows Parish at Five Dock will be a Hub in our area. More details will be available in coming weeks.

PLENARY COUNCIL Twilight Retreats As we continue our journey to the first Plenary Council in October 2020 and with Advent fast approaching, you are invited to share in a prayer and formation experience. This is a wonderful opportunity to share in nurturing your faith and spirituality with Catholics from parishes across the Archdiocese of Sydney. The first two retreats will be hosted by Hunters Hill and Peakhurst parish communities. All are welcome.

Retreat 1

WHERE: Holy Name of Mary, 3 Mary Street Hunters Hill
WHEN: Saturday, 16th November 2019
TIME: 2:30pm—5:30pm followed by 6pm Mass
FACILITATOR: Brother Graham Neist, Marist Brothers Sydney

Retreat 2

WHERE: Our Lady of Fatima, 825 Forest Rd, Peakhurst
WHEN: Sunday, 24th November 2019
TIME: 2:30pm—5:30pm followed by 6pm Youth Mass
FACILITATOR: Patricia Thomas, Counsellor
Please Register Your Interest And Attendance: plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org or contact Barbara Perry 0438 012 964

ST MARY'S PARISH 150th ANNIVERSARY The present parish site was acquired for a church and school in 1844 and in June 1845 Archbishop Polding blessed the foundation stone for the first church. The first church opened on 7 December 1846 and stood in the present Church Forecourt in front of the present hall. At first priests came from Parramatta to celebrate Sunday Mass. When the parish of St Thomas Becket was established at Petersham (now Lewisham) in 1851, the Burwood-Concord area became part of Petersham parish. By the mid-1860s a priest was residing in a rented house on Parramatta Road Concord. It was located where the present Kindergarten building stands. St Mary's Concord became a separate parish in 1870 and Fr Callaghan McCarthy was appointed the first Parish Priest.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

The full Archdiocesan Manual for safeguarding children in our parish communities is available on the Archdiocesan website at:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/>

We understand how difficult it can be for people who have experienced abuse to make a complaint. We have developed a *Listening to You* card, which is available in all our parishes to provide guidance for those wishing to make a complaint. We want to support you in this process and we can provide counselling and support services if needed. For assistance, please contact safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or visit www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/ All cards from the Safeguarding office can be found on the table at the back of the church.

BOOK LAUNCH 'Towards the Promised Land' in Kingsgrove Saturday 23 November 2pm Come to the book launch of the inspiring life and faith journey of Enza Di Franco Russo who came to our shores from Italy with her family at age 17 and made a home in Australia. Saturday 23 November – 2pm, Parish Hall, Our Lady of Fatima Parish, 89 Shaw Street, Kingsgrove. All Welcome! Enquiries: St Pauls Publications – 02 9394 3400.

RECOVERING FROM TRAUMA: Trauma affects us all differently. If you have been affected by trauma either recently or in the past, our counsellors have specialist experience working through loss. Call Catholic Care's Careline on 13 18 19 to be connected to our free counselling service today.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER 

St Marys@ParishConcord

SPIRITUALITY RETREATS AND COURSES

WOMEN'S ADVENT RETREAT DAY – 2019 Notre Dame Chaplaincy warmly invites women of all ages to join us for our annual Women's Advent Retreat Day on Tuesday, December 3, 09am to 4:30pm.

The day will include three inspiring spiritual talks, Holy Mass, time for reflection, opportunity for Reconciliation, and Holy Hour. Morning tea and lunch are provided. The retreat day is free of charge, but registration is

essential. Please visit www.trybooking.com/563903 call 02 8204 4189 or e-mail sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au

LOCATION: The University of Notre Dame Australia
104 Broadway, Corner Abercrombie Street and Broadway,
Chippendale, NSW 2008

ANNUAL LOURDES DAY MASS 7 December 2019 The Annual Lourdes Day Mass of the Order of Malta will be celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Fisher and the Chaplains of the Order on Saturday 7 December at 10am in St Mary's Cathedral. This is a very special event in our calendar, to offer Charism to the sick, the elderly and frail. There will be a Blessing from the Archbishop and Chaplains, and vials of Lourdes water will be distributed. A reserved area for those in wheelchairs or needing assistance is set aside and access to the Cathedral for wheelchairs is from St. Mary's Rd. Family and friends are welcome.

Parking for the general congregation is in the Enacon Car Park adjacent, at the end of Cathedral St. For any enquiries or should you need assistance please contact the Order at: info@smom.org.au; macolmi@bigpond.net.au or phone 9331 8477.

REFLECTION MORNINGS | 2019 *FIELD OF COMPASSION*

"We must engage the new vision that is emerging within and among us with urgency. We haven't much time to turn things around. And turnaround will come not from an extraordinary rescue by an extraordinary deity. As we may have heard before, we are the ones we are waiting for" - Judy Cannato. **Judy Cannato**, American Catholic author and spiritual director, wrote primarily of the new vision that arises from **the relationship between contemporary science and religion**. She writes of the perennial Christian challenge of building the Kingdom of God from the perspective of evolutionary science, in language that is fresh and full of new insights, but always filled with the gospel imperative of love. In our **6 reflection mornings** this year we will reflect on extracts from her last book, *Field of Compassion*. **Mothers with babies are most welcome!**

The reflection mornings will be held at the Grail Centre, 22 McHatton Street, North Sydney, on Tuesdays from 10 am to 12 noon. The Grail Centre is well served by public transport (bus and train) and 2-hour parking is available in McHatton Street from 9:30 am.

Last Date: 12 November.

For more information or to register your interest, please contact Patricia Gemmell pgemmell@tpg.com.au or the Grail Centre on 9955 3053. A donation to cover the cost of refreshments and the use of the facility would be greatly appreciated.

REFLECTION DAY FOR WOMEN - Preparing our Hearts for Advent, 23rd November

At: Mt Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, Mulgoa, Family Hall

\$25 Includes morning and afternoon tea - BYO lunch
RSVP by 20th November to info@schoenstatt.org.au or phone 02 4773 8338

MEN'S BREAKFAST AT MENAI All men are welcome to attend an invaluable experience of food, faith and fellowship on Saturday 30 November from 8 am – 12 pm at Holy Family Parish, Menai. The schedule will run as follows:

8:00 Adoration

8:30 Mass offered by Bishop Umbers

9:30 Cooked breakfast

10:00 Talk by Peter Holmes on the topic of *Prophet, Priest & King*, followed by small group discussion and Q&A

COST: \$10/head. Book now at

www.trybooking.com/BFULH

VOCATIONS CAMP FOR MEN – "Discover what the Lord wants of you" (Ephesians 5:10) Join us for a weekend camp of Mass, talks, good food, bush walks, sports and prayer for young men who are seeking an adventure and a deep exploration of their spiritual life.

DATE: Friday 15 – Sunday 17 November 2019

WHERE: Benedict XVI Retreat Centre

TIME: 5pm (Fri) – 3pm (Sun) COST: \$75 pp *Age: 18 – 30

*Registration closes: 6 November 2019

For more information and to register, please go to <https://www.vocationcentre.org.au/events/vocations-camp-for-men-2019/>

Contact us: www.vocationcentre.org.au, (02) 9307 8424 or vocations@sydneycatholic.org

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT Reflection Mornings are held on the third Wednesday of every month 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. For family and friends who grieve and for their companions. Morning tea provided. For further information please contact Bereavement Support: phone (02) 9646 6908 or email: bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au

UPCOMING RETREAT AT ST CLEMENT'S An explanation of what humanity is when it is in touch with God through Jesus Christ. Led by Carmel Moore rsj and Jan Wylie, NSW co-ordinator of Christian Meditation at St Clement's Retreat and Conference Centre, Galong.

Enjoy the benefits of inner silence as you continue your journey into self-knowledge. Attend for either the weekend or for six days

Weekend 6.00pm Friday 29th November to after lunch on Sunday 1st December. Cost: Ensuite room \$300.00, shared facilities \$260.00.

Six days 6.00pm Friday 29th November to after breakfast on Friday 6th December. Cost ensuite room \$650.00, shared facilities \$550.00.

Enquiries or to book email info@stclement.com.au or 02 6380 5222. If you would like to attend or need further information please contact St Clement's directly on 02 6380 5222 or email info@stclement.com.au

CAN I GET A MARRIAGE ANNULMENT? The Tribunal of the Catholic Church offers advice to all of those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and question the validity of their first marriage as understood by the Church. Inquiries: 9307 8300 or email: admin@sydneytribunal.org.au

UNDERSTANDING CHANGE, LOSS AND GRIEF This seminar is suited to individuals or teams who wish to help others in grief as well as those who wish to better understand their own grief experiences.

Monday 25 November 5.30 - 8.30pm, Polding Centre
To RSVP or for further information, please contact Leonie Duck on 0412 497 843 or email Leonied@catholiccemeteries.com.au

BEREAVED PARENTS GROUP Every first Monday of the Month at the Banksia Room, Dooleys Catholic Club 11 Church Street, Lidcombe, 10am - 12 noon. This is a space for your grief and a chance to connect with other bereaved parents. Morning tea is provided. The group is facilitated by the Bereavement Care Team. Please contact Patricia 0438 263 036 or Sigrid on 0412 811 206

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE – MONTHLY RETREAT SCHEDULES Divine Retreat Centre is the spiritual arm of the Vincentian Missionaries. The Diocese of Broken Bay invited the Vincentian Missionaries to establish the Divine Retreat Centre in April 2013 in Somersby, NSW. Every month, for the last six years, they have been conducting spiritual retreats and outreach ministries around Australia. This Retreat Centre is a Catholic entity run by Vincentian Priests.

These retreats are conducted by Fr. Roni George (Director) & Fr. Joby George (Assistant Director). For November schedule and further information see www.divineretreatcentre.org.au

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Are you planning to celebrate your Marriage in 2018 or 2019? Many couples begin their planning by booking a venue for the reception. If you are hoping to celebrate your marriage in a church, it is also important to confirm your date with the church and with a priest before committing yourself to a reception or any other booking. For information about celebrating your Marriage in St Mary's Church, please contact the parish office.

A Marriage Course is an essential part of your preparation for your wedding. Various groups and organisations offer courses. *CatholicCare* is the official welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Sydney and it offers Marriage and Relationship Education programs at centres across the Sydney region. Marriage education is not counselling and does not focus on specific issues. It does, however, help each couple to reflect on their relationship as they plan not only for their wedding but for a life together. Several programs are offered. For more details Ph: 9509 1234 or visit www.catholiccare.org

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HOW DO I BECOME A CATHOLIC? Adults who have not been baptized and wish to become part of the community of the Catholic Church receive the sacraments of Christian Initiation in the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA). The RCIA presumes that there is an extended period of formation and preparation, usually leading to the celebration of Baptism at Easter. Baptised members of other Christian Churches who wish to be become members of the Catholic Church do so through *Reception into Full Communion*. If you are interested, or if you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic, please contact Fr Paul or the Parish Office tel 9747 4210.

COURAGE IN SYDNEY Courage is a movement for those with same-sex attraction who desire to live chaste lives in accordance with the Church's teachings. Any interested person can call the Sydney chaplain on 0418 136 785. A men's group meets monthly in Sydney, privately, for fellowship, discussion & prayer, guided by the priest chaplain. Confidentiality assured.

ENCOURAGE IN SYDNEY Linked to Courage is the movement Encourage, for family members of those with same-sex attraction, who pray together for their loved ones and discuss the issues involved in confidentiality, in the presence of the priest chaplain. Encourage is committed to chastity as taught by the Catholic Church. If you have a family member with same-sex attraction, email encouragesydney@hotmail.com and give your phone number & say you are interested in Encourage. Confidentiality assured. The co-ordinator of the group will call you and invite you to the next meeting, which takes place on the first Monday of the month 10:45am. The meetings go for one hour, guided by the priest chaplain, and involve prayer, discussion, mutual support & fellowship, along with spiritual guidance.

VOLUNTEERING

SYDNEY STREET FEAST – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS On Friday November 15 2019 the Archdiocese of Sydney is hosting the Sydney Street Feast in response to Pope Francis' call to celebrate an annual World Day of the Poor. If you would like to volunteer for the day by helping to serve meals and drinks, welcome guests and hopefully share a meal with people who are sleeping rough in Sydney please get in touch with Ruth at the Justice and Peace Office as soon as possible via email: jpoinfo@sydneycatholic.org. We would need you to be available from 11am to 3pm at St. Mary's Cathedral Forecourt.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ST JOHN OF GOD HOSPITAL BURWOOD: St John of God is a private mental hospital in Burwood. There are many activities that will allow volunteers to assist patients. Please see the parish notice board for details or contact Maria Speissegger on 9715 9248 or email maria.speissegger@sjog.org.au

COUNTRY CARE LINK: VOLUNTEER DRIVERS Would you like to help Open Support to provide increased accessibility to health care services to our clients from regional NSW? Our Country Care Link Program does just that by providing free transport to health care services in Sydney. Country Care Link is a no-cost service provided by a team of volunteers to clients travelling to Sydney from rural NSW.

Open Support responds to community needs by providing greater access to healthcare services through our Country Care Link transport program.

For more information or to receive a volunteer information pack, please email

volunteer@opensupport.org.au or call 02 8382 6437

We are really excited to welcome new drivers to our friendly team, we look forward to hearing from you soon.

GIFT OF BREAD is a volunteer group that picks up unsold bread from bakeries and stores and redistributes the bread to those in need. A group has recently started in St Mary's Concord. They gather in the parish hall on Tuesdays from 7.00 pm for about one hour to repack the bread and distribute it. If you can help, please contact the parish office for further details: phone 9747 4210 email parish@stmarysconcord.org.au

PASTORAL CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CONCORD HOSPITAL Fr Graeme Malone SSS, Chaplain to Concord Hospital, is seeking new volunteers for the Catholic Pastoral Care team. Have you recently retired, or have some time available? The aim is that a Pastoral Care Visitor will make an initial visit to Catholic patients on behalf of the Chaplain within 24 hours of their admission. Pastoral Visitation is offered Monday to Friday.

For those with no regular parish contact a time of illness can be a real challenge to one's Faith. As a caring volunteer, you bring greatly needed comfort and a deep reassurance. If you, or someone you know, is in a position to assist as a member of the Catholic Pastoral Visitation team (Mon - Fri from 10am for a 1-1.5 hour period) please contact Fr Graeme Malone tel 9767 6228.

ST BAKHITA SUDANESE CENTRE at Homebush West is looking for volunteers to mind babies & preschool children. The centre teaches English to migrants at this Centre three mornings a week. To enable the women to attend English classes volunteers are needed to assist with childminding. Hours are from 9.30 to 12.30 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings.

VOLUNTEERING WITH CATHOLICCARE Volunteering with CatholicCare brings many benefits for the volunteer as well as for our clients and the organisation as a whole. Our Mission and Guiding principles guide us to care for individuals, families and communities from all backgrounds and cultures. We care for the wellbeing of staff and volunteers as we do for the vulnerable families and individuals who seek help from us. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the CCareline on 13 18 19.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Volunteers are needed to join the Concord Conference. Our SVdP members offer emergency assistance to those in need. **Members are asked to attend a fortnightly meeting on a Wednesday evening.** Meetings usually take about an hour. Volunteers also visit, always in a team of two, to provide those in need with emergency assistance. Training is available. If you can spare about an hour per week to help the poor and disadvantaged in our community, send an email to poppy@archb.com.au or call Poppy on 0438 430 347. Note meetings are held in the St Mary's Villa Caritas meeting room adjacent to the Bell Tower.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Do you have time to help people in your community? We need volunteers to provide much needed companionship to elderly people who feel lonely and isolated in South West and Inner West Sydney. If you have time to spend with someone who would truly appreciate it, please call CatholicCare on 13 18 19 and become a volunteer today. Visit their website: www.catholiccare.org

FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED The Archdiocese value the contribution that our volunteers make but more are needed to assist us from time to time. Our volunteers help us with the mailing of appeals and notices about our pilgrimages and special events as well as other duties. Please phone Amanda on 1800 753 959 or, for more information email: fundraising@sydneycatholic.org

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL IS RECRUITING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS If you have a love of history and architecture, these passions can be brought to life by becoming a St Mary's Cathedral Volunteer Tour Guide. St Mary's Cathedral welcomes thousands of visitors on a daily basis, and Volunteer Tour Guides play an important role in helping visitor groups and tourists to explore the largest Cathedral in the Southern hemisphere. All are welcome to apply, as previous experience is not required. Tour guide training and induction will be provided. If you are interested, please contact the Special Liturgies Officer via email jennifer.foo@stmaryscathedral.org.au or phone 02 9220 0453.

SISTERS OF CHARITY OUTREACH, based at St Vincent's Hospital, is seeking casual drivers for its Country Care Link program. Drivers must have their own fully comprehensively insured vehicle and volunteers can receive a kilometre allowance for trips undertaken. For enquiries phone 8382 6430 or Jo Moore at jmoore@outreach.net.au

DO YOU CARE FOR A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND? We are seeking volunteers who are carers in their personal lives and enjoy spending time online to participate in a pilot, online community providing peer support for carers and provide feedback on their experience. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL – REDFERN Over the last 20 years, St Vincent de Paul Society has been running the Sharing of the Meal at SVDP Catholic Church in Redfern - 117 Redfern St Redfern. Every Tuesday from 8.45am to 10.45am. We are looking for volunteers. If anyone is interested we would love to hear from you. It could be a once a month support or every week. Please call Jenny Carter on 0407 977 180 if you are interested. It is a gathering place for the homeless and disadvantaged in the community of Redfern.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL At the recent meeting of the Pastoral Council we welcomed Monica Darlow as a new member. It has been the policy of the Pastoral Council that the roles of chairperson and secretary change every year. We thank Vince Fragomeli and Jessica Di Bartolo who have stepped down from those roles after generously serving for an extended term of two years. We thank Ivo Favotto who has accepted the role of chairperson and Katia Naim who has accepted the role of secretary.

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body entrusted with the task of reflecting on the parish's Vision and Mission. In a spirit of service to the community, the Parish Pastoral Council works with the parish priest to foster and support appropriate pastoral actions. Members serve a four-year term with half the Council changing every two years. The Pastoral Council meets on the first Tuesday of every second month from February to December. Any parishioner 18 years of age or older may be nominated or may nominate his/herself. If you are interested, please contact Fr Paul.

ST CANICE'S KITCHEN, ELIZABETH BAY - Sunday Volunteer Teams Needed: St Canice's Kitchen has been an integral part of the Kings Cross community for the past 30 years. The kitchen is open 7 days a week for lunch and 1 night for dinner thanks to the generosity of its numerous volunteers and donors. For many years we have had a tradition where the Sunday lunch for the poor and homeless is provided by groups from other parishes throughout Sydney. It has proved to be a highly rewarding experience for them. The kitchen is currently in need of some new Sunday teams of volunteers (approximately 7 people) to run a shift providing around 120 lunches and desserts and be available from 9am to 1.30pm (the kitchen is open from 11am to 1pm). If your parish would be able to provide a team of volunteers (and meals) for a Sunday shift or if you would like further information would you please contact Lynelle Lembryk on 0403 795 381 to discuss.

CATHOLIC CARE

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR NDIS PLAN?

NDIS plans can be confusing, so we will work with you to help you understand and implement the services and supports in your plan.

Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

COUNSELLING AVAILABLE Several highly qualified relationship counselling professionals have recently joined the CatholicCare team in Fairfield, Liverpool, Bankstown, Lewisham and Sydney CBD. **Counselling available with no waitlist.** They offer services in family law, post-separation, parenting, domestic and family violence. Call CatholicCare Careline on 13 18 19 for further information.

VOLUNTEERING WITH CATHOLICCARE *Wellbeing callers* Interested in volunteering to help seniors? Based at our Liverpool office, we need callers to phone people waiting for government funded home care to check on their wellbeing. *HOPE helpers* Interested in volunteering to help children? Based at our Lewisham office, we need people to help at playgroups for young vulnerable mothers and their babies.

CATHOLIC CARE can assist families to navigate the world of the NDIS for their children with a disability. Our expert Customer Service Advisors can remove some of the complexity, working with people, their families and carers to put in place the support that is best for them. Contacting **CatholicCare** is as simple as emailing connect@catholiccare.org or phoning **13 18 19**

CATHOLICCARE provides services for people managing mental health issues that promote confidence and independence and help connect people to their community. We provide disability services, counselling and support for children, young people and families and deliver ageing services in the home. We can assist you to navigate the new world of the NDIS and My Aged Care. To find out more call **13 18 19**, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org

CATHOLICCARE's NDIS Therapy Team We help children 0-18 years living with a disability to access the therapy they need to reach their potential. We offer speech therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy at locations across Sydney. For more information, contact our friendly CCareline team on **13 18 19**.

Email: connect@catholiccare.org

Are you leaving school with 'School Leaver Employment Support' or 'Finding and Keeping a Job' in your NDIS plan? Our team can help you make a successful transition from school to a career. For more information call our friendly CCareline team on **13 18 19** or email us: connect@catholiccare.org

CATHOLICCARE CatholicCare's family-oriented disability Day Program. If you are seeking a small, person-centred disability day program for adults, then our family-orientated site in Lakemba may fit the bill. We pride ourselves in providing connections to community and fun activities for our participants. Contact our CCareline Team on 13 18 19 to find out more.

CATHOLICCARE is the social services agency of the Catholic Church in Sydney. CatholicCare provides a range of services that offer support for families, children and

young people, and older people. **A brochure outlining all their services is available from the table at the back of the church and in the side porch.** To find out more call 13 18 19, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org.

CATHOLICCARE PARENTING RESOURCES If you're looking for resources to help with parenting, try our online resource. It provides tips and strategies to help you build positive parent-child relationships. Visit catholiccare.org and look for the Parenting Hub icon or call our friendly **CCareline** team on 13 18 19.

CATHOLICCARE SYDNEY IS HELPING FAMILIES: Parenting Education groups can help parents develop positive strategies to manage their concerns in a friendly environment with other parents. Call our friendly **CCareline** team on 13 18 19 to find out more or email connect@catholiccare.org.

CATHOLICCARE Sydney There are almost 20,000 children and young people living in Out-of-Home-Care in NSW. We urgently need short or long-term foster carers who can provide safe and loving homes for children and young people. To find out more call our **CCareline** team on 13 18 19 or drop us an email connect@catholiccare.org

SENIORS: Do you know any seniors in your community who could use a little help at home? Our home care services help seniors to enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. Call **CCareline** on 13 18 19 to find out more.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

OPERATIONS MANAGER – St John Bosco Parish, Engadine New, full-time opportunity (with flexible hours). The role is responsible for the efficient operations of the Parish including financial, human resources, property and facilities management; information technology; marketing and communications. For further information, please contact Nevine Piperides at REACH Human Resources on 0418 698 327. Applications close Thursday 21 November 2019.

PILGRIMAGES

GERMAN CATHEDRALS AND OBERAMMERGAU PILGRIMAGE 2020 Fr Chris Dixon, from the Diocese of Parramatta, is leading a pilgrimage focussing on "German Cathedral Pilgrimage and the Passion Play at Oberammergau", for 13 days leaving 25th August 2020 and returning 6th September 2020. For more information and further details, contact Fr Chris at annangrove@hotmail.com.

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE: Journey through the Blue Mountains this January The Epiphany Pilgrimage is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way.

To register for all or part of the pilgrimage walk or join in the parish festivities, visit www.epiphanypilgrimage.org. To follow the journey see <https://www.facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage/>.

MAGI PILGRIMAGES Take a walk through history as this pilgrimage unfolds experiences, stirring faith with the little gems studded across **Germany & Austria in this 14-day pilgrimage** for an All-inclusive Price of AUD \$7,700. This pilgrimage features Cologne, Mainz, Heidelberg, Munich, Vienna and more. Witness the famous Passion Play 2020 which takes place once-a-decade in the village of Oberammergau that has been creating history for over 400 years. Limited Seats Only! Book Now with \$1500 Deposit. Contact Magi Pilgrimages 03 8839 6615 for further details. Email info@magiholidays.com.au for day-by-day itinerary.

VISITING ROME? Stay at Domus Australia.

Domus Australia is a 32 room guest house established by the Australian Catholic Church, welcoming travellers to Rome seeking comfortable accommodation and an ideal base from which to explore historical and cultural sites of the Eternal City. Centrally located with a magnificently restored Chapel featuring daily Mass in English, Domus Australia is the perfect oasis in the heart of Rome for Aussie pilgrims. See www.domusaustralia.org Enquiries: reservations@domusaustralia.org

OTHER

CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB. The club offers a choice of graded walks, abseiling, canyoning and camping for a variety of fitness levels. The club is seeking to welcome new members, in particular younger members. If you have a youth leader in the parish, we would appreciate their contact details.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY APP: The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney had released a Smartphone App (for iPhones and Androids only) for parishioners in the Archdiocese, featuring parish Mass times, the latest news from the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Catholic Church in Australia, information about upcoming Archdiocese events, as well as announcements from the Most Rev Anthony Fisher OP, Archbishop of Sydney. The App is available to download for free – search for "Archdiocese of Sydney" in the Google Play and App stores.

CHECK OUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY'S NEW WEBSITE The Archdiocese has launched a fresh new-look website with all the latest news and information from across the archdiocese and the Church in Australia.

The new site incorporates a number of new features and has been designed with the user experience firmly in mind to provide a more intuitive and efficient navigation.

From video to podcasts to links to social media where you can have your say on Catholic issues and share richer online content with friends and family, the new site also promotes major events across the archdiocese, regular updates from Archbishop Anthony Fisher as well as providing practical information for Catholics on Mass times, the sacraments and locating clergy and Catholic schools. Visit the new-look site at <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/>

PARKING BEHIND THE CHURCH The limited spaces behind the church, including the disabled space, are for short-term visitors to the Villa who are picking up or returning a resident and need to accompany the person to their room. A few parishioners coming to Mass who have genuine mobility problems have been given permission to park behind the church. **All others are asked to respect the parking restrictions.**

CAR ACCESS FROM BURTON STREET No parking is available in the area between the church and the Villa for Sunday Masses, Weddings or Funerals. The Burton Street entrance is the only access to St Mary's Villa for an ambulance and must be kept clear at all times. The driveway can only be used as a drop-off area for the Church. It is important that all car drivers respect the parking restrictions.

TELL YOUR STORY IN THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Do you have a local parish news story which would be of interest to the many readers of the Catholic Weekly? The Catholic Weekly is always looking for human interest, inspirational and faith-based stories for our weekly publication. If you have a story please send it to: cweditor@catholicweekly.com.au or call [\(02\) 9390 5407](tel:0293905407). We'd love to hear your story.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: Want to know what is happening in the Catholic Church here in Sydney, around the country and abroad? Then log on to the <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au>

The website has daily updates of breaking news, features, commentary and video from Australia and the world. The Catholic Weekly online has built a proud reputation as a news-breaking brand that sets the agenda on Catholic discussion. It is also mobile compliant so can be read anywhere, anytime at your convenience.