



ST MARY'S CONCORD – February 23, 2020

LENT 2020

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (26 February). This year as we follow the Year A readings we begin with Matthew's Gospel. Then from the 3rd Sunday of Lent we turn to John's Gospel as we listen to three encounters that capture the great baptismal images that lead us to Easter: the woman at the well, the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus.

Grace is the gift of the Holy Spirit that we first received through the waters of Baptism. **Grace** is also the title of this year's Lenten program from the Diocese of Wollongong. The program is based on the Scripture readings of the Sundays of Lent. It is suitable for personal reflection or as a resource for a group reflection in your family or among friends.

Copies of *Grace* are now available from the table at the back of the church for your personal reflection during Lent. The suggested donation is \$5.00 per copy (the recommended price is \$9.00).

A Shared Reflection Program: St Mary's Parish is also offering the opportunity to join in a shared reflection in the Parish Hall on the Wednesdays of Lent from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm beginning on Wednesday 4 March and concluding on Wednesday 1 April 2020

Each week the program will focus on the Scripture readings for the following Sunday. We will hear a reflection on the Gospel and then have an opportunity to share our own reflections in table-groups. **All are welcome. Each week is self-contained and therefore it is possible to participate even if you cannot attend all five weeks.**

To assist the planning team we invite you to register now. Please send an email to parish@stmarsyconcord.org.au or add your name to the clip board on the table at the back of the church.

If you wish to participate in the group reflections, please take a copy of **Grace** from the table at the back of the church and bring it with you to the program.

PARISH & SCHOOL FAMILY MASS: We will welcome the Kindergarten children from St Mary's School and their families at the 9.30 am Mass next Sunday 1 March. There will also be the normal Parish Morning Tea after the Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2020

Masses: 8.30 am, 10.00 am (St Mary's School) and 7.30 pm. Ashes are distributed after the Gospel at each Mass.

PENANCE FOR LENT: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat. All those who have completed their 18th year and have not begun their 60th year are bound to fast on those two days unless health reasons prevent them. All those who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain from eating meat on those days. Please see the Notice Board for a fuller description of Penance for Lent.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Today is Project Compassion Sunday, marking the beginning of *Caritas Australia's* annual Lenten appeal. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support *Caritas Australia*. The theme for this Lenten season is **"Go Further Together"**. Your generosity will assist some of the world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we go further together in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

RESTORATION OF CHURCH ART WORK The project to restore the painting of the Blessed Virgin Mary that is the dominant image of Mary in the church continues. This project is part of our parish sesquicentenary (150 years) celebrations and is being funded by a bequest the parish received in 2019. To read more about the project please see the notice board or view Parish Bulletins for early January on the parish website: go to Publications/Bulletins/2020 Parish Bulletins
For public safety and to avoid the risk of anyone attempting to enter the work area the church remains closed when the workers are not present. On Saturdays the church will be open from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm and on Sundays from 8.30 am to 11.00 am and then again from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

LENTEN CONCERT: *ASHES TO EASTER* with Peter Kearney, Sunday 8 March, 3.00 pm in St. Mary's Church, Concord. Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter/singer and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House' and 'The Beatitudes'. His ***Ashes to Easter*** concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy. **Free admission.**
Comment: "A beautiful Lenten reflection ... prayerful and spiritual a worthwhile part of our Lenten journey".

THE SACRAMENTS OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Confirmation: There will be two sessions: Sat 6 June at 6.00 pm and Sun 7 June at 11.00 am. Enrolments will open on 20 March 2020.

1st Holy Communion this year will again be celebrated at a special 11.00 am Mass over three Sundays in August: 16, 23 and 30. Enrolments will open in June 2020.

PARISH DATES FEBRUARY 2020

Wed 26 Feb Ash Wednesday
Sun 1 March 9.30 am Mass – Welcome Kindergarten

PLAYGROUP: The St Mary's Playgroup has restarted. Please note that this year **the Playgroup's meeting has changed from Wednesday to Friday mornings in the Parish Hall from 9.30 to 10.45 am.** A Playgroup is not pre-school care. It is guided by Mrs Leeanne Favotto with the assistance of parents. All families from our community are invited to attend with their children. It is an opportunity for parents/carers and grandparents to meet other families with their children. We aim to provide a supportive and nurturing environment where you can all share like experiences and play opportunities for children as well as having some fun.

If you are interested in attending please phone St Mary's School on 9744 0260 or forward your contact details to St Mary's School at info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au and Mrs Favotto will contact you with further information. Unfortunately, this term due to school commitments the Playgroup will not meet on 6 March, 20 March and 3 April.

GIFT OF BREAD: The Gift of Bread Program that is facilitated by St Mary's School has recommenced in the Parish Hall each Tuesday evening from 7.00 to 8.00 pm. Volunteers collect, repackage and distribute bread that would otherwise be thrown out. For more information and to join as a volunteer please email St Mary's School info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au

ST THERESE RELICS: The National Pilgrimage of the Relics of Saints Thérèse, and her parents, Louis and Zélie Martin, will visit the Archdiocese of Sydney in February and March. Please see the parish notice board for the list of dates and venues.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The first meeting for the year is Tuesday 4 February at 7.30 pm in the Parish Office. New members are needed for 2020. 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. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office or talk to Fr Paul after Mass.

RECOVERING FROM LOSS: Bereavement Support Reflection Mornings - Third Wednesday of every month 10.00am – 1.00pm. for family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. For further information please contact Bereavement Support bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au or phone (02) 9646 6908.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD The Children's Liturgy is part of the parish 9.30 am Mass during the school terms. It commences this Sunday. The Children's Liturgy of the Word is not a catechetical class or Sunday school; it is a celebration of the Word of God.

The children listen to the Gospel reading of the Sunday and share prayers and reflections. All children of primary school age are invited to attend. The children leave the church after the Opening Prayer for a celebration of the

Word of God at a level appropriate for their age They return to the church at the Preparation of the Gifts. The Children's Liturgy is held in the chapel of St Mary's Villa. **The Children's Liturgy would not be possible without the help of the adult leaders. We thank all of the leaders and helpers.**

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICES supports struggling asylum seekers, both individuals & families, who rely on donations to survive. The JRS Foodbank supplies are often low; they are particularly in need of donations of coffee, tea bags, sugar, or salt. Over the coming weeks items can be placed in the box at the back of the Church. May you be blessed for your generosity! Thank you!

IS YOUR FAMILY FACING FINANCIAL STRESS? Connect with financial counsellors who can offer information, guidance and advocacy for people in financial distress who are at risk of or not able to pay bills or make repayments. Contact CCareline 13 18 19.

ENVISIONING THE CHURCH OF THE FUTURE: THEMES OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL We are pleased to announce that completing the short course, *'Envisioning the Church of the Future: Themes of the Plenary Council'*, will contribute six hours of NESA registered professional learning addressing standards 2.1.2 and 6.2.2 from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW (all four sessions of this short course must be attended in order to earn the NESA registered professional development).

Course completion also attracts six hours of currency according to the "To Work, Teach and Lead in a systemic Catholic school" framework (Categories A, B, C, D and E) for Sydney Catholic Schools and Wollongong.

Dates: Wednesday 4, 11, 18 and 25 March, 2020

Time: 6 – 8pm (refreshments from 6pm, lecture starts at 6.30pm).

Venue: ACU Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield (free parking is available on campus).

Cost: \$60 attendance only, \$100 attendance with a certificate of accreditation. Free for ACU Students and Staff (*For group bookings of 3 people or more, please email us: shortcourses.ftp@acu.edu.au)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

MARRIAGE: Are you or a member of your family planning to celebrate a Marriage in 2020? 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.

TRAUMA affects us all differently. If you have been affected by trauma either recently or in the past, CatholicCare counsellors have specialist experience working through loss. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to be connected to their free counselling service today

BUSHFIRE APPEAL Catholic Emergency Relief Australia (CERA) is a new collaboration of national Catholic organisations that will help coordinate the Church's ongoing response to the bushfire crisis and future domestic natural disasters. Find out more at www.cera.catholic.org.au

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 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 phone: 9747 4210.

OPEN DAYS

De La Salle College Ashfield Wednesday, 4 March, 3pm to 7pm.

Holy Cross College Ryde Sunday, 8 March, 10 am to 1 pm with Principal's address at 11.30 am

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER 

[St Marys@ParishConcord](https://twitter.com/StMarys@ParishConcord)

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.

SPIRITUALITY RETREATS AND COURSES

SILENT RETREAT TASMANIA We are promoting a 5 day silent retreat, offered in March by Fr Pius Mary Noonan of the Notre Dame Priory at the Benedictine Monastery at Colebrook.

The Retreat is open to men and women and will be hosted by the Palavra Viva community in the Emmanuel Centre, Newstead (Launceston).

The retreat will follow St Ignatius of Loyola's *Spiritual Exercises*, which are renowned as a school of prayer with a profound ability to facilitate a conversion to God. Each day of the retreat involves Holy Mass, a series of conferences to prepare you for the meditations proposed in the *Spiritual Exercises*, devotions and certain hours of the monastic Divine Office. There are plenty of opportunities to see a priest for spiritual direction and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Please email: palavravivatasmania@gmail.com or contact Cassia on 0418 183 511.**

ST MARY'S TOWERS RETREAT CENTRE, Douglas Park Retreats Gift of Ageing Awakening to God's Surprising Gifts 6 Day Retreat 6-12 March 2020 \$750 or \$250 for the weekend 6-8 March: Sr Kerin Caldwell sgs. Sr Kerin has a background in education and this interest strengthened her commitment to adult growth and development. Themes include: Less doing and more being; Surprising spiritual growth and new life; Retirement Today – is there such a thing? How am I coping with change? Living now. Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquillity at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, RSVP Ph:46300233 OR Email contact@towersretreat.org.au website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>

Mindfulness and the Presence of God – Retreat Weekend 13-15 March \$250: Presenters: Michelle Vass & Mr Lou Nulley. Topics include: Being Mindful in the Christian Tradition; Mindfulness practices; The effect of mindfulness on the brain; Mindfulness meditation; Using the body to help us to be mindful. Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquillity at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, N.S.W. RSVP Ph: (02) 46300233 OR Email contact@towersretreat.org.au website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>

Pauls Letter to the Galatians Paul's Letter to the Galatians: 6 Day 20-26 March \$750 or weekend 20-22 March \$250: Fr Michael Fallon msc. We will begin with Paul's life up to the time he composed this letter, and then we will explore the whole Letter reflecting on what Jesus meant to Paul, and how Paul understood Christian freedom, as well as faith, hope and love, and what it means to live a moral life as a follower of Jesus.

Men's Weekend 27-29 March 2020 Men's Prayer Weekend: 27-29 March \$250: Paul White and Fr Thang Nguyen msc. Transitions occur frequently in our work, relationships, spirituality and health. During this retreat

we will be reflecting on scripture and modern authors regarding the interaction between trust and discernment particularly at times of transition in our lives.

Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquillity at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, N.S.W. RSVP Ph: (02) 46300233 OR Email contact@towersretreat.org.au website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>

MISSIONARIES OF GOD'S LOVE HEALING RETREAT

Rev Fr Tony Alex MGL Healing Retreat

Date : 14 March 2020 (Saturday)

Time : 9.00am-4.00 pm

Venue : St Joseph's Parish Hall Entrance at : Parker St. Rockdale, NSW

Morning and Afternoon Tea PROVIDED.

Inquiries:

Ida -0424 267 500

Helen-0488 037 631

E: jlowcommunity@Gmail.com

www.jlowcom.org

The GRAIL CENTRE An open invitation to those seeking adult nourishment of their spiritual life. A series of gatherings on Tuesday mornings every second month, beginning 18th February, 10 am – 12 noon. Reading, quiet reflection and sharing insights on *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. Photocopies of chosen sections will be available. Location: The Grail Centre, 22 McHatton Street, North Sydney. Contact Patricia Gemmell pgemmell@tpg.com.au; or the Grail Centre on 9955 3053.

GRAIL LENTEN PROGRAM: We warmly invite you and your friends to join us for three evening reflections this Lenten season on the theme of - **Understanding Easter: a new way.** The program offers participants a process of reflection and discussion on different perspectives on Jesus' death and Resurrection and his teachings about the Kingdom of God. We will refer to contemporary theologians including Richard Rohr and Ilia DiLeo.

Wednesday 11 March

Session 1: How do we understand the death of Jesus?

Wednesday 18 March

Session 2: How do we understand the Resurrection?

Wednesday 25 March

Session 3: The Kingdom of God – The Easter celebration

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

MARRIAGE: Are you planning to celebrate your Marriage in 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.

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

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

RACHEL'S VINEYARD MINISTRIES - *Healing After Abortion* Rachel's Vineyard Ministries, Sydney offers healing retreats for those who have experienced an abortion. The retreat offers a sanctuary in which to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion in a safe, supportive, confidential and non judgmental environment. Information and a brochure can found at: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au or call us on our confidential voicemail number 0400 092 555 or email info@rachelsvineyard.org.au. The next retreat will be on 1-3 May 2020.

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.

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

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

VOLUNTEERING

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.

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

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.

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.

HOME CARE Do have a family member or a neighbour who could use a little help at home? CatholicCare can assist with Home Care packages to help seniors to enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. Call CCareline to find out more 13 18 19 or email connect@catholiccare.org

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 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 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. Do you need an NDIS plan? For more information call our friendly **CCareline** team on **13 18 19** or email us at 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 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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PART TIME POSITION Available At St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy Please see the attached job description for more information. Email Fr Andrew (Xiang) Feng at stchris@tpg.com.au to obtain a job description by 7th February, 2020 and the closing date for applications for the position is 24th February, 2020.

Vacant Position at the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney (Sydney NSW) Safeguarding Officer, Support and Compliance. An opportunity is available for a suitable qualified Safeguarding Officer, Support and Compliance to work for the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office. You can view this position at <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au/job/safeguarding-officer-support-and-compliance-sydney-nsw/> Applications for this position closes on Friday 28 February 2020.

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.

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.

WALK THE CAMINO! Two Catholic Mission Pilgrimages 2020. Small group led by an experienced guide. Sr Veronica Rosier OP (0451 387 906) www.catholicmission.org.au/camino2020

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 10N pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Crete, Santorini, Hosios Loukas, Delphi, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Kavala for an all-inclusive Land Package price of \$4490 + Tips. The fare includes Entrances & Sites as per itinerary + Local

Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + 3N Cruise with Lunch + All Breakfast & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. 2020 Departures Available: **12th May 2020** and **20th Oct 2020**. For inquiries & bookings call **03 8839 6615** or **1300721561** or email us info@magiholidays.com.au

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.

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.

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/>

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**. 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.