



## ST MARY'S CONCORD – 15 March, 2020

### LENT 2020

**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 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 every week.**

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** Thirty-two-year-old Sakun lives in a village in central east India. She developed polio as a child and has difficulty walking. Until now Sakun, an indigenous Gond woman, has been isolated in her community, unable to earn a livelihood and without knowledge of government schemes that could help her. After joining a Caritas Australia-funded program, Sakun has learned new skills and gained important mobility. Through their strategic guidance and support, Sakun now earns her own income and makes a small profit which goes towards her family's basic needs. She is more resilient, more confident and more independent. **Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, phoning 1800 024 413, or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

**GIFT OF BREAD:** The Gift of Bread Program 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](mailto:info@stmconcord.catholic.edu.au)

**SANTA MARIA VERGINE ANNUNZIATA,** a festival in honour of Mary of the Annunciation (Festa in Onore di Maria Santissima Annunziata), will be celebrated in St Mary's Church next Sunday 22 March: 1.30 pm Mass celebrated in Italian followed by a Procession. All are welcome.

**ITALIAN GOSPEL:** From this Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent, we begin to read from John's Gospel. Because the Gospel readings are longer than usual, we will be suspending the reading of the Gospel in Italian at 9.30 am Mass.

### HEALTH ADVICE: COVID-19 (coronavirus)

The following recommendations are based on advice from national health authorities:

- Individuals should consider their own health, including any potential to infect others with a contagious disease, before attending a public liturgical celebration.
- The faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday Mass or are at particular risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus are not obliged to attend Mass.
- Holy Water should be removed from stoups at the doors of churches to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus.
- When exchanging the **Sign of Peace**, individuals should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.
- Parishes should cease distributing Holy Communion from the Chalice until further notice.
- **Holy Communion:** The coronavirus is easily spread through saliva, It is therefore recommended that the **Body of Christ only be administered in the hand** because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on the tongue. Ministers of Communion should seek to avoid contact with the communicant's hands.

### THE GOSPEL OF JOHN IN LENT

From the earliest centuries the Season of Lent has been a time of preparation for those who are to be baptized at Easter. To guide them on their journey, three of the great stories from John's Gospel were read on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent: the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4), the healing of the man born blind (John 9) and the raising of Lazarus (John 11).

When the Lectionary was revised in 1969, those three stories were restored as the Gospel for those Sundays in Cycle A of the Sunday readings. In fact, they may be read every year when there are candidates preparing for Baptism.

Each story is about a central theme of John's Gospel: how do people come to believe in Jesus? That message is important not only for those preparing for Baptism but for all who are on the journey of the Christian life.

The first story, read on the third Sunday of Lent, is about an encounter between Jesus and a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. The initial hostility of the woman towards Jesus reflected the tension between Samaritans and the Jewish pilgrims who passed through Samaria on their way to Jerusalem.

What follows is a series of exchanges in which the woman misunderstands the words of Jesus. That allows Jesus to lead her to a deeper understanding of her own journey until finally she comes to believe in him.

Her thirst for living water is obviously linked to Baptism and to the call we have all received to share in the Mission of Jesus. The woman goes back to her village and shares her story and at the end we are told that the other Samaritans also came to believe in Jesus.

*Paul Crowley*

## 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.

**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. See the Notice Board for details.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** The Children's Liturgy is part of the parish 9.30 am Mass during the school terms. 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.**

**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. **HOME CARE** CatholicCare can also assist with Home Care packages to help seniors to enjoy living independently in their own home with comfort and confidence. Simply email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or phoning **13 18 19**.

**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 Email: [bereavenebtsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au](mailto:bereavenebtsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au) or phone(02) 9646 6908.

**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

**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.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The first meeting for the year was held on 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.

**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!

**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.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) or visit [www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/](https://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.

**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.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER   
St Marys@ParishConcord

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:contact@towersretreat.org.au) website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>

**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 18<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.au) or call us on our confidential voicemail number 0400 092 555 or email [info@rachelsvineyard.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 CATHOLICARE** 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or visit [www.catholiccare.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or visit [www.catholiccare.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

## 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 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and returning 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020. For more information and further details, contact Fr Chris at [annangrove@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.domusaustralia.org) Enquiries: [reservations@domusaustralia.org](mailto: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](mailto:cweditor@catholicweekly.com.au) or call [\(02\) 9390 5407](tel:(02)93905407). 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.