



The call to 'Encounter Jesus' is both an invitation and a mission.

*We are an open, welcoming community that seeks to share the life and love of Jesus with every person we encounter.
As a community, we strive to create those spaces where anyone can freely encounter the person of Jesus.
We are further challenged to encounter Jesus in each other, in the world and in the life of the Church.*

St Joseph's Catholic Church

- 140 Wangi Rd, Toronto 2282
- 4959 2777
- torparish@mn.catholic.org.au
- www.torontoparish.org

Weekend Mass Times: Sunday 9am

Reconciliation:

Before Mass on Sundays

This Week at St Joseph's

- Sun 14th: Mass - 9:00am
- Mon 15th Social Group - 9:30am
- Tues 16th: Mass (Booragul) - 9:00am
- Wed 17th: Mass (Boolaroo) - 9:00am
- Thur 18th: Mass (Warn/Bay) - 9:30am
- Fri 19th: Mass - 9:00am
- Playgroup - 10.00am
- Sun 21st: Mass - 9:00am

The Church will be open from
9:00am to 4:00pm daily.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office is currently operating from the Warners Bay Parish Office site (Shop 2, 24 Lake St, Warners Bay).
Parish Administrator: Greg Barker
0417321209
Administration : Leanne Hamilton
49592777
Accounts: Maryanne Barry
49473301
Emergency after hours
0493969362

The Office at Warners Bay is open from 9am to 3pm, Mon - Fri.

We acknowledge the Awabakal people as traditional custodians of this place.

Dear Parish Family,

This week we were given our dates for Confirmation. For all parts of our community this will occur during September (Warners Bay 3rd, Toronto 13th and Morisset 20th). A good number of families have been registering throughout the last few months in anticipation of the programs beginning. A couple of days back when sent notices through the Catholic Schools' compass platform to those classes at the right age to remind the families of the need and time to sign up.

These processes leading to Confirmation are great ways to make some strong links to our families on a more personal and intimate level. Some parish Sacrament team members would be awesome right now. Each year I try and work out with the families and other stakeholders what is the best practice for our parish. Each year we have tried something new or something slightly different. Tailoring to the needs of each child is the aim but recognising that families, schools, and parishes are *increasingly* busy places.

We try to encourage participation through the process to the Sacraments without making the process a burden. It should be tough enough to be valued but not so tough as to be avoided.

We utilise a really good support program out of the Broken Bay Diocese that is really user friendly. We know we have some non-Catholic parents who are the ones responsible for supporting their kids through this time and this program also supports what they need to share. I love it.

The prime teachers in the ways of faith are always the parents, supported by Godparents. I forget sometimes just how important the Godparents are in this process. They were chosen right at the beginning to be a support and to model faith. Each child in our program should encourage their Godparents to attend the process and to be present at their Confirmations as sponsors.

The prime place for modelling faith is the parish. We are supposed to be the biggest part of the 'village' that helps and protects our young people as they journey to a deeper understanding of their own value as loved by God. They need us. It is one reason we try and find leaders from amongst the faith community.

The prime support for the process in knowledge is the school. The Catholic curriculum at all its levels teaches the young people the foundations of what they need to know to be in Communion but also right relationship with all creation. Stewards, healers, proclaimers, and guides for faith. Children coming to the process from the Catholic School are already knowledgeable and have a great understanding of the outward signs of faith.

They work hard to be kind, generous, and empathetic people. Our village has taught them that, their parents have taught them that, our parish has taught them that. We together are all role models for good, faith-based living.

Sign up to be a leader today!!

Greg
Parish Administrator

WE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Sick List: James Bennett, Silvi Bennett, Dakai Smith, Scott Massey, Lorraine Caldwell

Recently Deceased: Terese VanLeer, Ellen Normoyle

Anniversaries: Kevin O'Leary

If you would like a loved one remembered in the Anniversaries, please let the Parish Office know by Thursday morning.

SSEC's Annual Conference: Paul, People and Places – Saturday 4 May, 8.30 to 5pm

Join the Society for the Study of Early Christianity (SSEC) for an enlightening journey into the world of Paul the Apostle at our upcoming conference, delving into the fascinating places Paul visited and the diverse array of people he encountered. Paul's letters are filled with people and allusions to their households and cities sit tantalizing in the background. How did these people come to be the early church? And what was Paul's role in shaping the house churches in so many cities across the Mediterranean? Whether you're a scholar, a history enthusiast, or simply curious about the life and travels of Paul, this conference promises to be an immersive and enlightening experience. Don't miss this opportunity to uncover the enduring legacy of one of history's most influential figures.

Registration link: <https://mq-ssec.org/2024-annual-conference>

Magdalene Award: Nominations are open

Nominations are open for the 2024 Mary Magdalene Award! For more information or to make a nomination, visit www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/mission-and-outreach/council-for-women/magdalene-award-2024

aMeN caMiNo Information / Walk & Talk

If you are considering attending one of the aMeN caMiNos this year and want more information, please join us for the Information / Walk & Talk on Saturday 27 April commencing at 8.30am at St Columba's Parish Hall, Lockyer St, Adamstown. After an information session, we will set off on our walk, returning around 1.30pm. Contact formed@mncatholic.org.au to register or for further information.

aMeN caMiNo 2024 Dates: 6-10 July, 3-7 August and 7-8 September.

BBI Short Course: Ethical Foundations: Human Dignity Mondays 20 & 27 May, 4pm -5:30pm

Human dignity is at the heart of all ethical and moral reasoning. What do we mean by human dignity? Why is it so important, that without it, we cannot properly act toward others, develop economic systems or know what is good or bad care of another human being?

Register to join us at the Diocesan Resource Centre, at home or as a parish group at <https://forms.office.com/r/7uMVUncy4f>

ANZAC DAY MASS TIMES

25 APRIL

**9.00AM - ST JOSEPH'S
TORONTO**

**9.30AM - ST JOHN VIANNEY
MORISSET**

**10.30AM - OUR LADY HELP
OF CHRISTIANS
BOOLAROO**

**LEST
WE
FORGET**



Finance

Thank you for your generous support of our parish.

Sunday Collections at Mass

Purple Collection Bags are for the support of the Clergy.

Green Collection Bags are for the support of the Parish.

Donations to the Parish

Parish bank details:	Account Name:	Toronto Parish
	BSB:	062 815
	Account Number:	0032 8161

Reference: (please use your initial and surname as a reference).



'Alpha is a friendly, informal environment for people with various beliefs to explore the meaning of life, faith and God. The program is simple: we start with dinner, watch a thought-provoking video exploring life from a Christian perspective, and then have time for sharing our perspectives in small groups. No cost, no pressure, no judgment. Feel free to invite your friends and family. All are most welcome.

Event Start Date & Time: Thursday, May 2nd, 2024, 18:30 - 20:30

Location: Mackillop Function Room - 7 Milson St, Charlestown NSW 2290.

RSVP: Please scan the QR code to register.

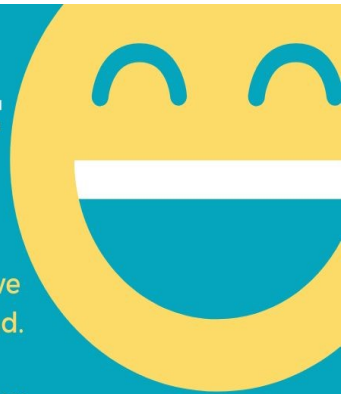
Feel free to contact Yvonne Rego, if you need assistance with registration or if you have any questions. Mobile: 0450 323 206 Email: yvonne_rego@hotmail.com

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Open Days

Have you heard of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

Operating out of the parish hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Beresfield in the Chisholm Parish region, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offers a child-focused program that meets in the specially prepared environment called "The Atrium". Following the Montessori philosophy, The Atrium is currently open on Wednesdays during the school term, with sessions for 3–6-year-olds in the morning and 6–12-year-olds in the afternoon after school. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd are holding open days during Term 2. If you would like the opportunity to visit and learn more, please register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/9KMf55C5nz>

JOKES OF THE DAY



The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Fishing Weekend: God for Blokes

If you're looking for an opportunity to think about God, hear from other men, do some fishing, and relax you should attend the God for Blokes Fishing Weekend from 3 to 5 May. You will travel from Newcastle to Forster, food and accommodation are included in the cost. For more information or to book, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1092382> or call Wayne Caruana on 0466 631 394.

Women of the Well: Weekend Retreat

Rest, reflect, release and reconnect at the next Women of the Well Weekend Retreat. It starts on Friday 19 April (ending Sunday 21 April) and will be hosted at St Joseph's, Kincumber. Cost is \$125. For more information or to register, visit www.womenofthewell.com.au/events/gatherings-at-the-well

PLACES TO CALL IF YOU NEED HELP

LIFELINE 13 11 14	BEYOND BLUE 1300 22 4636
1800 RESPECT 1800 737 732	HEADSPACE 1800 650 890
MINDSPOT 1800 61 44 34	KIDS HELPLINE 1800 55 1800
NATIONAL DEBT HELPLINE 1800 007 007	NATIONAL CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE 1800 020 080

St Anne's Playgroup
@ St Joseph's Community Centre

PLAY & CONNECT 😊

Fridays
10am-12pm
during school term

Find out more:
Claire 0413 044 382

MGL Sisters: Banquet – Pentecost Intensive at Carmel House

Discover the depths of God's love through our Banquet Intensive as we accept the invitation to radical intimacy with the Trinity. Feast on God's powerful love for you, open up to the gifts of the Spirit, savour times of powerful input, prayer, and practical workshops, and find the charismatic generosity of God unleashed in your own life of mission and discipleship.

Friday 17 May (6pm) to Wednesday 2 May (2pm) at Carmel House (345 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW) Single room (\$580pp) Bunk share (\$530pp) Student (\$500pp) Day Rate (\$420pp)

We would love financial means to never be a barrier to someone attending our retreats. Contact us about sponsorship options.

For more information, visit www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1155206

Sing to the Lord

Sing to the Lord is a cantor training and formation opportunity for all members of the faithful. We are looking for everyone who loves to sing and would like to have a go. To find out more and express Interest use the following link or QR Code: <https://forms.office.com/r/7CGYdeXGZw>

Music teachers and musical teachers in our school system use this link or QR code: <https://forms.office.com/r/kNi51xLrsb>



LOTTERY WINNERS FOR THIS MONTH

1st Prize Ticket 19 \$140 Bridget De Winter
2nd Prize Ticket 57 \$100 Peter Crompton
Please contact Maryanne Barry at the office 49473301 to arrange payment.

Walk by FAITH not by SIGHT – Day Retreat with Mother Mary

Join us on Saturday 13 April for our Day Retreat with Mother Mary. It'll start at 9am and finish at 5.30pm at the St Joseph's Parish Hall in Rockdale (Walz Street). Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided. Bookings are essential. Call Helen on 0433 455 114 or Ida on 0424 267 500.

Standing on the Shoulders: The Official Opening of the Diocesan Resource Centre and Library and the 2024 TWEC Dinner – Friday 31 May

It is with much excitement that you are invited to join us for the official opening of the Diocesan Resource Centre and Library. The Library, which stands on the site of the original Newcastle Central Catholic Library, offers our community access to resources relating to Religious Education, Scripture, Theology, Liturgy and more.

Following on from the official opening, the celebration continues with the reimagining of the TWEC dinner with guest speaker Kelly Paget, Chancellor and Director of Mission at the Diocese of Broken Bay. Kelly was amongst five Australians chosen personally by the Holy Father to participate in the General Synod of Bishops in Rome.

Library Opening – 4.30 PM

Free entry. All welcome

Dinner & Speaker – 5.30 PM

\$40 pp includes buffet meal and guest speaker presentation. Dinner Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/twec-dinner-library-opening-tickets-872278206597>

Living Prayer

As we journey through Lent inspired by the love of Jesus, we look forward to a change of heart that deepens our compassion for others, as we pray for:

Our parish Lenten groups, that participants can work at deepening their relationship with God and each other.

All members of our Parish that we have the generosity to share what we can with those in need, and for Project Compassion.

Families that they can continue to find ways to deepen relationships and to reconcile with each other.

Those who are sick or discouraged with life, that they may find faith and healing with a life in Christ.

All those who are grieving the loss of family and friends, and for people living in areas of conflict, that they can be comforted in their sorrow.

The survivors of abuse, that we hold them in prayer and walk with them.

We thank you Lord, for the wonderful response to Gifting Sunday in our Parish and for all the great works that are already happening in the various ministries.