



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 2283

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 21st: Mass - 9:00am

Mon 22nd: Social Group - 9:30am

Tues 23rd: Mass (Booragul) - 9:00am

Wed 24th: Mass (Boolaroo) - 9:00am

Thur 25th: Anzac Day - 9:00am

Fri 26th: 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 has been full of turmoil in our media. Take time however to turn off some of it. Whilst it is good to be informed and for us as Christians to know what we need to respond too in action and in prayer some of it is just too much. Played over and over way too much! *If the world ends someone will tell me if I happen not to be watching the news when it occurs.*

I was listening to some of the interviews in the street post the Bondi critical incident. One mum holding a small baby did say it made her stop and think just how precious life is and like many mums she said, she was hugging her baby a lot more often and just a little closer. I suspect parents of every age particularly were holding their kids a tad more tightly and watching them a little more closely.

We do get reminders occasionally about making sure that the people we care most about know just how much they are loved. Life at the end can be full of regrets, many of which were and are beyond our control. Saying to someone that they are loved shouldn't be one of them. Sometimes family members get estranged from each other and as time goes by forget exactly what caused it. Not taking the time to forgive or be forgiven shouldn't be one of them either. After death is to late to say the words, we should say when people are alive.

I knew two cousins in New Norfolk who lived next door to each other for most of their adult lives and for most of it hadn't spoken to each other. Same surname and almost the same first name. One had gone so far as to add another T to his last name, Cyril and Cedric. It seems they had an issue with the price of a car or maybe over a relationship, or maybe a slight given at the pub – they and others couldn't agree on the cause and now in their 80s were still not speaking.

Hurts run deep. You know though we get hurt sometimes over what feels like a magnitude 8 or 9 and to the one hurt intense. Sometimes the other hardly noticing. We feel the hurt for a long time even when we are not so clear on the cause as time goes by. With the two cousins, one carried the wound and one got on with his life hardly noticing and not remembering. A few timely sincere words could well have healed their relationship.

As that mum said life is precious – our loved ones are precious. I think that every time there is legislation before the parliament to shorten or end life whether from the womb or before the tomb. We have to keep reminding those around us of that reality. One way is to tell our loved ones they are loved no matter what. We stand together in solidarity in our good times and our bad, in our sickness and our health, for richer and for poorer. The marriage vows are drawn from a much deeper faith base than we sometimes give them credit. Not taken lightly at the wedding they shouldn't be taken lightly by any of us throughout our Christian life.

Go home this week and hug someone you love, ring someone you love you haven't spoken too for a while, forgive someone who needs it and remember as you do just how precious their life and your life is.

Greg

Parish Administrator

WE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Sick List: James Bennett, Silvi Bennett, Dakai Smith, Scott Massey, Lorraine Caldwell, Mary Anne Aganovic, Alec Aganovic, Ale Aganovic, Penny Jordan, Christopher Murray, Tamika Murray, Taylor Whalen, Brigitte Aganovic.

Recently Deceased: Therese Van Lier, Ellen Normoyle

Anniversaries: Mona Nelson

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>

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

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.

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>

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>

Our commitment

The Diocese is committed to making sure:

- 1 My community is a safe place where I feel respected and heard 
- 2 There are people around me who know how to keep me safe 
- 3 The grown-ups in my community check to make sure it is a safe place 
- 4 Everyone follows the rules* 

* NSW Child Safe Standards and the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards



officeofsafeguarding.org.au

Over 55's Social Group

St Joseph's Community Centre Dining Room.

Join us for a chat, a laugh and a cuppa.

Bring a plate to share

or a gold coin donation.

9:30 to 11:30am

2nd & 4th Monday of each month.

Join us next Monday: 22nd April

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MORE INFO ON 4959 2777

St Anne's Playgroup

PLAY & CONNECT 

@ St Joseph's Community Centre

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

Human Library at the Diocesan Library

On Friday 26 April, the Diocesan Library will hold its first Human Library event, the theme being War and Spirituality. Our books are 2 members of our Diocesan family, each has experienced war and the effects of war. One in the military and one as an innocent person living in a war zone. They are both people of faith. How have they maintained their faith in a space that can be so destructive to our belief in God? Did they ever struggle with their faith in the face of what they experienced? Do they ever feel fear now when they are safe from the physical aspect of war? What impact did their experience of war have on their family?

We invite you to come and listen to their stories, to ask the questions, to share and create relationships.

Date: Friday 26 April, 2024

Time: 10.30am to 12.30pm

Place: Diocesan Resource Centre Library - 12 Tudor Street, Cnr Parry Street, Newcastle West
Bookings Encouraged: <https://forms.office.com/r/1GEzWxaDiq>

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.