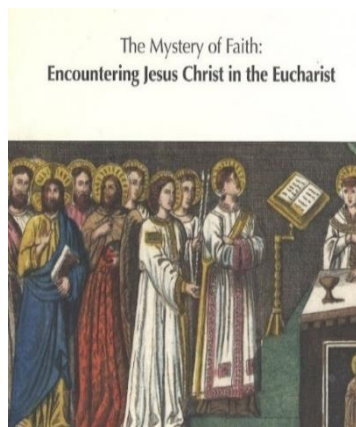




MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – 14th September 2025



A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Anthony Randazzo to the Community of the Church of Broken Bay. 2025

The Mystery of Faith: Encountering Jesus Christ in the Eucharist

Bishop Anthony has released a powerful and timely Pastoral Letter, *"The Mystery of Faith: Encountering Jesus Christ in the Eucharist,"* calling each of us to a deeper reflection on what it truly means to be a Eucharistic people.

As the Church in Australia prepares for the Eucharistic Congress in 2028, this letter invites us to pause, pray, and rediscover the heart of our faith—the living presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Bishop Anthony encourages us to consider not just what we believe about the Eucharist, but how that belief shapes our lives, our worship, and the way we receive Communion.

In that spirit of renewal, and after broad consultation, the Diocese will resume the reception of the Precious Blood from the chalice at Mass beginning on the Solemnity of Christ the King, Sunday 23 November 2025—a significant and welcome step following the suspension during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I warmly encourage you to take a copy of the Pastoral Letter for your prayerful reading. Let it be a source of inspiration and renewal as we walk together toward a deeper encounter with Christ in the Eucharist. *Fr Chima*



Formation Day for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Join us for a special Formation & Reflection Day designed to help you both proclaim the Word with clarity and confidence and deepen your understanding of the sacred role you serve.

Whether you are already part of these ministries or have recently signed up, this is a valuable opportunity to be refreshed, encouraged, and inspired in your service.

Date: Saturday, 20 September **Time:** 11:00am – 12:30pm

Location: Mary Immaculate Church, Manly

Please register via the QR Code or the link <https://www.trybooking.com/DFJLR>



NEW PARISH WEBSITE
manlyfreshwaterparish.org
or scan the QR Code



Our Spiritual Journey

A Faith Formation Series on Prayer and the Spiritual Life (7 Weeks)

Come join us as we embark on a journey of exploration of the spiritual life. This course is not only for beginners, but also for those who have been praying a long time!

MONDAYS 7:30 – 8:30PM
IN PARISH MEETING ROOM
START: 1 SEPTEMBER

FREE REGISTRATION
Email: alfred.soliman@bbcatholic.org.au
Call or Txt: 0491 119 553
QR Code and Website:
<https://www.trybooking.com/DEKOF>



MONDAY 15th September
7:30pm – 8:30pm

Our Spiritual Journey is a Faith Formation Series that will look at how we can grow in our spiritual life through prayer and the sacraments. Each session will include a short video followed by group discussions and sharing. At the end of this series participants will be able to have a clear understanding of the spiritual life and the various methods the church provides to help them develop a daily routine of prayer.

LET US PRAY FOR

14th September 2025

Recently Deceased: Julie McMahon; Allan Jacobson; Sr Therese Marie Fleming, sgs (Mollie Fleming); Antonio Paolo;

Anniversary: Elaina Lewis; Ramon Sy; Sarah Lao; Arnold Sia; Alan Magbuhos; Jim Hurman; June Hurman

Prayers for the sick in our parish: *"Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage"* Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Paul Donnelly; Julie Wallis; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady; Annette Frances O'Leary; Anna Kalayzich; Veronica Rinaldo; Rena Curll; Shirley Ford; Ana Maria Saladana; Peter Hoang Ngoc Thai; John Santos; Garry Kirkman; James Douglas; Fiona Hipkiss; Shirley Stapleton

Dates to remember...

- **Our Spiritual Journey** Mon 15th Sept 7:30pm
- **Parish Office Closed** Wed 17th Sept
- **SJB Class Mass** Fri 19th Sept 9:15am
- **Spiritual Conversations Group** Thursday 7pm
- **Cenacle of Our Lady**
Manly: Tues 9:45am; Freshwater: Wed 9:45am



Sacrament of confession/reconciliation is available in Manly every Saturday from 10am to 11am and Wednesday from 6pm to 7pm.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY

ON WEDNESDAYS 6pm – 7.30pm

Quiet Prayer, Adoration and reconciliation will be available

6pm – 7pm concluding with **Benediction**

"Hours of Mercy" every First Wednesday from 6:00 pm to midnight, we will hold a special time of grace and prayer. The evening will begin with **Mass**, followed by **Eucharistic Adoration**. This extended time of prayer allows us to deepen our relationship with God and receive the gift of **Plenary Indulgences**.

Welcome to Our Parish!

If you are new to the Parish or are not currently registered, we warmly welcome you and ask that you complete a Parish

Census form. This will assist us to connect with you and your family and advise you of any of our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate or emailed to the Parish Office manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au



CAN'T GET TO MASS ON SUNDAY AND WANT TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

Many of you have not been able to come back to Mass on Sunday for different reasons. If you would like one of the Priest to visit you at home, please ring the parish office on 9977 582



Our Spiritual Journey Week 2 – The Power of Prayer

In the first week of *Our Spiritual Journey* series, we looked at the topic of **'The Search for Happiness'** and the importance of seeking real joy and peace – not merely the "emotion" of happiness – through a silence that is

focused on attuning ourselves to God. This past Monday we then explored **"The Power of Prayer"**, in other words, what is prayer, and does prayer really make a difference?

Prayer is simply the **"raising of one's mind and heart to God... a personal and living relationship of the Children of God"** with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who dwells in their hearts (Compendium, 534). As such, any time I think of God, whether to ask Him for help with something, or to thank Him, or to even take a moment to admire His creation, I am communicating with God.

In this sense, then, prayer can be quite **spontaneous and informal**: it can happen in the privacy of one's bedroom, while driving or on public transport, or walking to the shops, etc. However, often when people think of prayer, they think of the **formal and solemn** form: like attending liturgical celebrations, and listening to beautiful hymns. As we go with this series, we will discuss how both forms – spontaneous and formal – are actually important aspects of our prayer life.

The other question we explored last Monday was whether prayer really makes a difference? Does God always answer our prayers? And the answer is: **sometimes, but not always!** Oftentimes when we pray we will feel close to God, and we will experience peace in the knowledge that we have entrusted our cares to a higher power, who loves us and wants what's good for us. However, at other times we will feel our prayers are not answered, and that God almost feels distant. It is through this experience that God is calling us to have faith in the **"darkness and mystery of silence"**; that His ways are beyond our ways, and we do not always understand the full picture, so we are called to trust in God's providence (Is 55:8-9).

We must never doubt, though, in the efficacy of prayer, because Christian prayer always unites us with God the Father through the prayer of Jesus. As such, when we make our petitions in the name of Jesus we can be sure that they are always heard. Though, like Abraham, we are called to continue to believe in the fidelity of God even during times of Trial (Compendium, 536, 545).

Indeed, it is precisely during times of trial that we experience the most fruitful growth in our spiritual lives. As such, we must not allow ourselves to become discouraged in the face of difficulties or the multitude of distractions in our modern lives. Rather, perseverance in prayer with trust and humility, despite feelings of spiritual dryness and without feelings of consolation, will increase our faith and strengthen our spiritual lives in ways we may not perceive (Compendium, 572-5).

Next week we will explore the topic of **"How to Pray"**.

May **Our Lady Mediatrix of All Graces** teach us to pray, and intercede for us with all the graces we need. Amen!

Alfred Soliman Seminarian

SHRINE OF HOPE FOR PRIESTS AND VOCATIONS

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE
2025

6 RAGLAN ST, MANLY 2095

9977 5822



Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed Wednesday 16th September due to Clergy and Parish Staff Personnel Day.



SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS GROUP

While Fr Sam is away on leave during September, Michael McGrath will lead the group in a 4-week series on the importance of baptism. If you have any no-Catholic friends or family who might be interested in this, it's a great time to jump on board.

Do you know someone thinking about becoming Catholic?

A new group is starting up for those who are not baptised, or not fully initiated into the Church, and are **interested in exploring the Catholic faith**. This is *not* a general prayer group or ongoing formation class, but a space specifically for those **discerning entry into the Church**.

The group is informal and begins with conversation, a short reflection from Fr Sam, and time for open questions. It's the first step before the formal RCIA program kicks off in September.

The group meets on **Thursday evenings at 7:00pm** at **St Mary's Parish Centre**.

If you or someone you know is curious about becoming Catholic, feel free to get in touch with **Fr Sam** at sam.french@bbcatholic.org.au.



St Vincent de Paul Manly Conference Regional Mass Tuesday 7th October

The conference will be sponsoring a Festival Mass for the eleven SVdP conferences in the Northern Beaches Region followed by a light supper in the hall. Parishioners are also invited to attend both the Mass and the supper. Fr Sam will be saying the Mass which will start at 7pm. *Bruce Whittet*



Office of the Bishop Broken Bay

Vox Populi

4 September 2025

On Friday, 12
September, Bishop

Anthony Randazzo will ordain Shayne D'Cunha, Huy Tran and Tan Nguyen to the Order of Deacons at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

An ordination always presents a moment of joy for the Diocese, as Holy Orders are conferred on a man who has chosen to offer himself in service to the Church, either as a priest or as a deacon.

But the ordination of three men at once is a particular joy and one that most Dioceses across Australia have not experienced in decades.

The Diocese has been blessed in the past few years to have had many young men respond to God's call and offer themselves in service to the People of God in Broken Bay.

But it hasn't happened by accident. It is a testament to the prayers and support of parishioners, the vocational culture built by successive Vocations Directors, and the guidance of the Bishops of the Diocese who have overseen their vocational journey.

In our parishes we should be encouraging our young men and women to discern where God is calling them, and support them if they follow His call into religious or priestly life.

We give thanks to Shayne, Huy and Tan for saying yes to God's call and for offering themselves to serve the people.

May more young men follow in their footsteps and may we all continue to build a strong culture of vocations within our Diocese.



**BROKEN BAY
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SEPTEMBER
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AVAILABLE IN
THE CHURCH**

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this weekend.**



Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Hope

Inspired by the Life and Witness of St. John Vianney

Heavenly Father, in this Jubilee Year of Hope, we thank You for the gift of our parish, Manly Freshwater, chosen as a shrine of hope for priests and vocations. Through the intercession of St. John Vianney, the faithful shepherd of souls, renew in us a deep love for the priesthood and a commitment to fostering holy vocations in our community.

Lord, may this parish be a beacon of hope, where priests find strength and renewal, where Your faithful discover peace and encouragement, and where hearts are inspired to answer Your call with courage and joy.

Teach us, through the example of St. John Vianney, to love prayer deeply, to serve with humility, and to bring Your mercy and hope to those who seek You.

We entrust Manly Freshwater Parish and this Jubilee Year of Hope to Your loving care, confident that You will guide us to renewal and bless us with abundant vocations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jubilee Year 2025 bbjubilee.com.au

"We must seek together how to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges, dialogue, always open to welcoming everyone with open arms—everyone who needs our charity, our presence, dialogue, and love."

Pope Leo XIV 8 May 2025

Jubilee of Consolation 15 September

The Jubilee of Consolation is an invitation for those who are experiencing a time of pain and affliction, due to illness, bereavement, violence or abuse together with their families and friends.

Jubilee of Justice 20 September

The Jubilee Year, a biblical tradition that calls for the forgiveness of debts and the restoration of justice, is a reminder that economic systems should serve people, not exploit them.

Jubilee of Catechists 28 September

The Jubilee of Catechists is an opportunity to recognise the important role that catechists play in passing on the faith and to express our gratitude for their efforts.



Pope's Prayer Intention for September 2025

During the month of September, Pope Leo invites us to pray for our relationship with all of creation. Let us pray that, inspired by Saint

Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish facebook: facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Parish website: manlyfreshwaterparish.org

Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am Mass
manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook.com/videos

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our MANLY community.



Morning Prayer

During this Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, we are all invited to a deeper spiritual renewal, embracing prayer as a way to grow in faith and trust in God's providence and love. As part of this journey, Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours) will be prayed at 8:45am, Tuesday to Friday, before Mass, at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, at Mary Immaculate Church, Manly. This ancient prayer of the Church unites us in praise and reflection through Scripture and psalms, drawing us into the rhythm of daily prayer with the universal Church. Prayer books will be provided, and all are welcome to join.

PIETY STORE



Movie of the month - St Margaret of Castello. Born blind and with severe disabilities she was abandoned by her parents and looked after by the poor. Despite such obstacles she became a third order Dominican and started a school to care for children. Only \$10 at the piety store.

CD of the month - Love conquers all - Michael Aquilina. The most rapid expansion of the Church occurred during the Roman persecutions. It was fidelity to prayer, attendance of Mass and love of neighbour which offered a powerful witness in a culture similar to today. Only \$5 @ the piety store.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY is held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during the 10:30am Mass.

Children's Activity pages available at the entrance of the Churches.

Children's Mass books are now available at the entrances of the Church for use during the Masses. Please return after the Mass.

Mass booklets can be purchased from the Piety Store for \$10.00



PARISH MORNING TEAS & SAUSAGE SIZZLE

MANLY: 1st Sunday after the 8:30am Mass and 3rd Sunday after the 10:30am Mass hosted by the Tongan Community.

Sausage Sizzle will be held on the 1st Sunday each month after 10:30am Mass in Manly.

FRESHWATER: every Sunday after the 9am Mass in the parish hall. **Join us for morning tea and a chat.**

All welcome and bring a friend.



The Craft Group meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring your knitting or other craft if you wish.



Lectio Divina Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Lectio Divina groups meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm and Wednesday mornings at 10:15am



1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month following the 6pm Mass (7pm – 9pm).

We welcome all youth who are in High School (Yr 7 – Yr 12) to come along and join the Manly Freshwater Parish Youth Group. Join us for free food and drinks, table tennis, basketball, party games, talks and new friends! Feel free to check out our instagram or send us an email!

Email: manlyfreshwatercatholicyouth@gmail.com

Instagram: [manlyfreshwater_catholicyou](https://www.instagram.com/manlyfreshwater_catholicyou)



Father's Day Sausage Sizzle last Sunday – thank you to everyone who participated in the first Sunday monthly BBQ following the 10:30am Mass.



PILGRIMS VISITING THE SHRINE

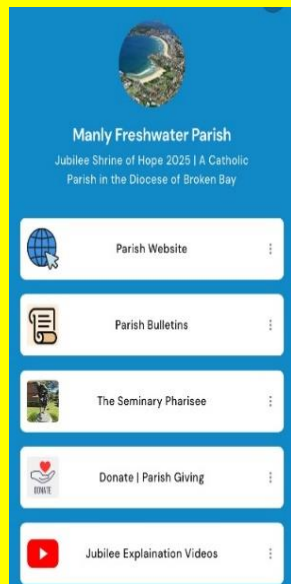
Iraqi Catholics (Chaldean) from Mount Druitt visited the St Vianney Shrine on Friday 5th September to celebrate the ancient Chaldean Mass followed by lunch. This is the first time a Chaldean Mass has been celebrated in Mary Immaculate Church.



Manly Freshwater Parish QR Code

You can view Fr Sam's 90 second Jubilee YouTube video by scanning the QR Code.

Other parish information can also be found.



WANTED

MANLY PARISH BULLETINS

ANY BULLETINS FROM

2007-2016

REQUIRED FOR PARISH HISTORY RESEARCH

Leave at Office or send to

manlymemories.rcc@outlook.com

Thank you!

OUTSIDE OF PARISH



Caritas Australia

As we enter the Season of Creation this September (1 Sep – 4 Oct), we are reminded of the call to care for our common home and for one another. This is a graced time to reflect, renew, and take action together as a faith community.

Join our Earthcare Community and become part of a growing movement of Catholics across Australia committed to living Laudato Si'. Whether as an individual, household, school, parish or organisation, you'll receive resources, tools, events and ongoing support to help you on the journey. Caritas Australia's Catholic Earthcare program offers a simple 4-step cycle of self-assessment, reflection, planning and action, complementing the global Laudato Si' Action Platform. The Australian Catholic Bishops are encouraging every parish, diocese, eparchy, school and organisation to join the Platform and develop a Laudato Si' Action Plan. Becoming an Earthcare Community is a practical and meaningful way to begin. [Find out more!](#)



National Child Protection Week, unites communities across Australia to promote the safety, wellbeing, and dignity of children and young people. This year's theme, *"Every Conversation Matters: Shifting Conversation to Action,"* reminds us that every conversation about child safety can spark action that uplifts,

protects, and empowers.

When we listen and act, we help build a safer, more hopeful future for all children, so let's make every conversation count!

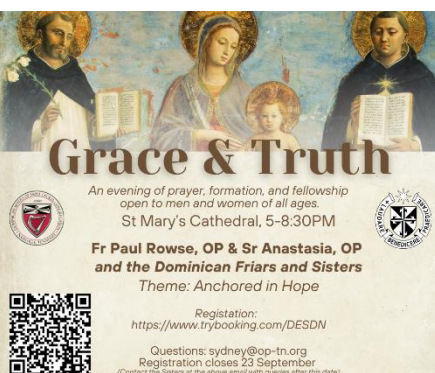


Australian Catholic Youth Festival Melbourne 2025 Diocese of Broken Bay Pilgrimage on Sat 29 Nov – Wed 3 Dec

Calling all young people in Broken Bay. Join us in Melbourne, along with young Catholics from across Australia for a renewed, personal encounter with Jesus, at the 2025 Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF). Flights, accommodation and registration \$1,630 per person. Limited opportunity for \$500 subsidy. To register your interest, [click here](#)

Grace and Truth Evening

Men and women (18 years and older) are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Tuesday 30 September for the next Grace and Truth evening on the theme "Anchored in Hope". The evening will consist of



Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Fr Paul Rowse, OP and Sister Anastasia, OP. The event will run from 5 - 8:30pm, starting in the St Mary's Cathedral Crypt and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Cost: \$20. Registration closes 23 September. <https://www.trybooking.com/DESDN>.

For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at sydney@op-tn.org.



Thank you for your generous support. We encourage you to use the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you

prefer to use cash, there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.

PILOT PROGRAM –The Diocese has agreed for Manly to pilot a **ONE COLLECTION** at the weekend Masses. The Diocese will continue to monitor this.

The collection is for the First and Second Plates and will be allocated as follows:

- 25% to Supporting our Priests including the sick & retired in our Diocese.
- 75% to Parish operations and maintenance of building.

SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

1. **Planned Giving:** through a monthly **direct debit** or **credit card**. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.

2. **Collection plates during Mass**

3. **Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or **EFTPOS Terminals**.

4. **Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page.

5. **Direct into Parish Bank Accounts**

- **Parish Giving (2nd collection)**

Funds the running of the Parish

Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank

Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784

- **Clergy Giving (1st collection)**

Supports our Priests

Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank

Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784

HAS YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRED?

If you donate to the Parish using your credit card please let us know if you have a new card or the card has expired by contacting the Parish Office 9977 5822 or email manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

DIRECT DEBIT FROM BANK ACCOUNT

Please consider changing your giving from a credit card deduction to a direct debit from your bank account. Please contact the parish office to have this set up automatically for you.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN VOCATIONS MINISTRY?

Serra Vocations Mass and dinner meeting on Thursday 25th September 2025 at Sacred Heart Church Pymble with mass at 6.30 pm

Celebrant will be Fr Joey Frez. After dinner father will provide a vocations update and share his vocation journey.

Everyone is welcome, so please come and see.

For catering purposes kindly telephone Anna Leung on 0478 083 116 or email annaytleung@yahoo.com.au or telephone Terry Scanlan on 0438 887 295 or email terry_scanlan@bigpond.com if you are planning to attend.



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Year C

First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9 (JB)

A reading from the book of Numbers

When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.

On the way through the wilderness the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:1-2, 34-38 (JB)

R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Give heed, my people, to my teaching; turn your ear to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable and reveal hidden lessons of the past. R.

When he slew them then they would seek him, return and seek him in earnest. They would remember that God was their rock, God the Most High their redeemer. R.

But the words they spoke were mere flattery; they lied to him with their lips. For their hearts were not truly with him; they were not faithful to his covenant. R.

Yet he who is full of compassion forgave their sin and spared them. So often he held back his anger when he might have stirred up his rage. R.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
He humbled himself, therefore God had exalted him.

The state of Jesus was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name

of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of the Father.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel *John 3:13-17 (JB)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Son of Man must be lifted up.

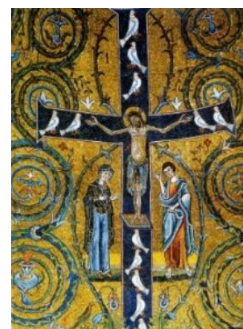
Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the Exaltation ("bringing to light") of the Holy Cross, commemorating the discovery of Jesus' cross in the fourth century by St. Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine.

Nicodemus is a Pharisee, a member of the ruling Sanhedrin. Like so many others who heard Jesus, he is fascinated by this Worker of wonders.

He arranges to meet Jesus at night, so as not to attract undue attention. Today's Gospel is a short excerpt from Jesus' response to Nicodemus' questions about his teachings.

Contrary to the image Nicodemus and Judaism have of a powerful, triumphant Messiah who will restore Israel's political fortunes, the real Messiah will suffer and die in order to conquer death and restore life. Jesus invokes the image of Numbers 21: 4-9 (today's first reading): As Yahweh directs, Moses lifts up the image of a serpent on a pole to heal those who suffer from a deadly plague caused by the bite of serpents. The crucified Messiah, too, will be "lifted up" to bring healing and wholeness to this hurting world.

Yahweh is not the God of condemnation and destruction but the God of forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation. The Messiah comes as a "light" to enable humankind to realize the great love and mercy of God.

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Parish Priest: Fr Chima Ofor
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Marek Woldan
marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Sam French
sam.french@bbcatholic.org.au

Seminarian: Mr Alfred Soliman
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)

6 Raglan St, Manly 2095

Phone: 9977 5822

Email: manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: manlyfreshwaterparish.org

Parish Office: Mon to Thur 8:30am – 4:30pm

After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St, Freshwater 2096

Parish Pastoral Council:

Michael McGrath (Chair); Ivica Covic (Deputy Chair); John Zemek (Deputy Chair); Val Buono; Patricia Carroll; Rob Irving; Robert Marshall; Ian Press

Weekend Masses:

Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm and Sunday 9am

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Weekday Masses: Freshwater Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri 9:15am

Manly Tues and Fri 7am & 9:15am

Wed and Thur 9:15am

Reconciliation: Manly Wed 6pm – 7pm; Sat 10am – 11am

St Mary's Primary School 7256 2135

Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699

Principal: Alicia van der Merwe

St Paul's Catholic College 7256 2112

Principal: Gabie Stojanovski

Stella Maris College 9977 5144

Principal: Sharyn Quirk