

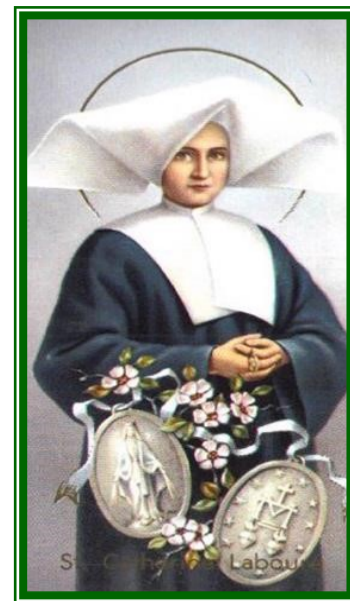
# St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish



## The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10 / 11 February 2024

Year B



### THE ROAD TO CALVARY HOLY WEEK RETREAT FOR MEN

SAT 23  
MARCH  
2024

10.00 AM - 4.00 PM

ST CATHERINE LABOURÉ PARISH GYMEA

REGISTER: [STCATHS.ORG.AU/MENSRETREAT](http://STCATHS.ORG.AU/MENSRETREAT) 9525 1138



Dear Parishioners, The beginning of Lent is only days away with Ash Wednesday this week. Although it is not a Holy Day of Obligation, it is, of course, "right and just" to attend Mass and receive the ashes. Our parish offers four Mass times: 7:30am, 9:15am, 12 noon (with members of our parish school community), and 7:00pm. During Lent, we will try to create as many opportunities as possible for you to grow in faith. Please take note of our "Lenten Lectures" this year which will focus on exploring the lives of certain "controversial Catholics" – those who dared to challenge the status quo. We will also

have Stations of the Cross led by some wonderful parishioners on Fridays. There will be a retreat day for all parishioners at the Shrine of Mercy at Penrose Park on **Saturday 9th March** (a bus has been booked, please see further details inside.) Following the great success of our Advent women's retreat days, we are organising our first men's Lenten retreat day, which will take place on **Saturday 23rd March**. A reminder, also, about the four Adoration/Catechesis nights for our young adults, held around the Shire (further details inside). Of course, and most importantly, there will be plenty of opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As you can see, there is so much being offered in our parish to help us all grow spiritually. A great deal of hard work goes into organising these initiatives so, please, do your best to capitalise on these opportunities. A final reminder that Ash Wednesday is a day of penance. Catholics aged between 18 and 60 are obliged to fast and abstain from meat. My prayers for all of you in this holy time. God bless you all! Fr Greg

#### In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

*Kevin Bridges, Louis Bigeni, Maria del Carmen Casellas, Brother Peter Clinch, Lucia Di Lizio, Georgina Dorigo, Narelle Jackson, Helen McKellaher, Geanne Mirabatur, Bernard (Bernie) Hollamby, Alexander Newton, William Mason, Elizabeth Richards.*

#### We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

*Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Philip Humphries (1st Anniversary), Lionel & Bev Hurst, Lean Family, Owen Monkhouse, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Joe & Anna Natoli, Antonio Sorbara, John Vincent Sidgreaves, Gina Dalla-Vecchio Venier (50th Anniversary), Fr. Reg Wilson, The Deceased Members of the Friendship Club, The Holy Souls.*

#### We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

*Joan Abel, Elaine Bain, Catherine Bassiuni, Gerry Banister, Fr. Briffa, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Greg Byrne, Peter Cobcroft, Noeline Conyngham, Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Ludovic D'Lima, Joanne Davies, Kath Dowd, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Melina Grieco, Maree Hinton, Martin Iffland, Phoebe Jablonski, Louisa James, Matthew Johnston, Deidre Jones, Linden Kelleher, Jim Klingberg, Peter Logue, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Maree Norton, Vaska Petrova, Steve Porter, Julia Quach, Marié Rayner, Tony Ryan, Maria Sellaro, Evelyn Spiteri, Elaine Townsend, Yin Kwan Tsang, June Walker, Jon Weaver, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood, Beverley Young; and those who care for them.*

**WELCOME**

**PARISH VISION:** To be an unashamedly Catholic community where every person can experience the embrace of “mercy and truth” (Psalm 85:10). Attending Sunday Mass is essential to doing what Jesus asked for us. Apart from the Eucharist, Jesus said we, quite literally, will have “no life” within us. In the words of St John Vianney: **“If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy.”** Let’s never take the graces given for granted.

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** 14 February is **Ash Wednesday** which starts the Season of Lent. Masses will be: **7:30 am; 9:15 am; 12 noon School Mass with Years 3 - 6) and 7:00 pm.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** *Every Friday* in Lent at **7pm** followed by Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Additionally on **Friday 22nd March at 5pm** will be a *special Children* Stations of the Cross.

**LENTEN TALKS:** Please keep Tuesday **nights free in Lent** for our next series of talks (“Lenten Lectures”). Talks will commence Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March at 7pm (finishing around 8pm). The 19th March is the **Solemnity of St Joseph** so there will be a celebration afterwards in the parish forecourt. Our theme for this year is exploring the lives of four “Controversial Catholics”.

**GYMEA MEN’S RETREAT DAY:** Following our very successful women’s retreat days in Advent, we will host our first “GyMEA Men’s Retreat Day” in Lent this year. It will be held here in the parish grounds on Saturday 23rd March and will include some excellent talks, adoration, and fellowship. More details will be provided in the coming weeks. Please mark your calendars today!

**MUSIC AND NEW CHOIR(S):** We are blessed to have four well-attended Weekend Masses in this parish. In 2024, it would be great to revitalise the musical life of our parish, especially at the 5pm Vigil, 9:30am, and 5:00pm Sunday (7:30am will remain our “Low (quiet) Mass”, which can be equally as beautiful). Having Daniel with us is a great blessing as he is well-versed in the musical tradition of the Church and can help us ensure that our hymns are (1) seasonal and suitable; (2) approved by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. As a precursor to this, we would like to form one united choir to sing during the Easter Triduum. If you have an interest in the musical life of the parish, or are blessed to be even remotely talented in this regard, then please get involved. I have heard that there are a group of ten men from the “Men’s Group” who have already formed a new choir. Thank you for this initiative and thank you to all those who already and so generously help us to “pray twice” through music. Our first united gathering will be on **Sunday 25th February** at 10:30am (following the 9:30am Mass). It would be most helpful if you could indicate your interest by either signing your name on the sheets at the back of the Church or contacting the parish office. Thank you again.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):**

Next weekly meeting is on **Thursday 15th February, 7 pm** at the Parish Meeting Room.

**BOOKS:** The late Doreen Vernon, one of our oldest parishioners, who died late last year has left a large quantity of various religious books (plus one family Bible). A list of these Books and photos of the three framed prints are able to be viewed on the Parish’s website under the PARISH NEWS & RELATED FILES tab. If you would like any of these Books or prints, please contact the Parish Office on [office@stcaths.org.au](mailto:office@stcaths.org.au).

**LENTEN BOOKS:** The Archdiocese has once again produced a Lenten book for your spiritual nourishment. Please collect your copy from the back of the church.

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY LEADERS NEEDED:** Children's Liturgy will be running again from **Sunday 18th February**. If you would like to contribute to this ministry as a leader, please contact Maria Rose (Children's Liturgy Coordinator - [maria.rose@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:maria.rose@syd.catholic.edu.au))

**2024 SACRAMENT ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN:** You can now enrol your children into the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation via our parish website [www.stcaths.org.au/sacramental-programme](http://www.stcaths.org.au/sacramental-programme).

Confirmation registrations close **23 February 2024**. Reconciliation registrations close **30 August 2024**. Holy Communion registrations close **16 October 2024**.

**COMBINED SACRAMENT INFORMATION EVENING:** If your child will be undertaking any of the above stated sacraments please come along to the **Benedict Hall from 7-9pm** on the **Tuesday 13th February 2024** for more information and to meet the sacramental team afterwards with any questions. We encourage at least one parent/grandparent/guardian to attend this one off meeting. Thank you for your understanding.

**ST CATHERINE’S FAMILY MASS:** **Sunday 18th February** followed by morning tea. Come and bring your little ones and join us!

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MERCY PENROSE PARK:** Organised by some of the members of CWL, GyMEA, ALL PARISHIONERS are invited to join Fr Greg on a day trip to the Shrine of Mercy at Penrose Park (near Bowral). We have secured a 48 seater bus and we will leave at approximately 9am on **Saturday 9th March** and will return at approximately **4:00pm**. The day will include Holy Mass, a spiritual conference led by Fr Greg, a rosary procession, time for quiet prayer, and stations of the cross. A donation of \$10 is recommended to assist with the cost of the coach and we ask that you bring your own lunch. Please register your interest today using the sign-up sheets at the back of the Church.

**ST CATHERINE LABOURE PRIMARY SCHOOL 2025 ENROLMENT OPEN DAYS:** Tuesday 5th March 4.00pm - 5.30pm; Thursday 7th March 9.15am - 10.30am; Sunday 10th March 10.00am - 11.30am. Please access enrolment information via the School website - [www.sclgyMEA.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sclgyMEA.catholic.edu.au)

# Shire Lenten Series

For Young Adults

REFLECTION | ADORATION & CONFESSION | FELLOWSHIP

7:15 PM - 8:30 PM

21  
FEB

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MENAI



28  
FEB

ST PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH  
SUTHERLAND



06  
MAR

ST CATHERINE LABOURÉ CATHOLIC CHURCH  
GYMEA



13  
MAR

ST ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH  
CRONULLA



ALL ARE WELCOME!

Contact: Deacon Adrian Suyanto  
adrian.suyanto@sydneycatholic.org

## UP-COMING EVENTS

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER PALESTINE 2024:** At Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Miranda, **Friday 1 March 10.30am**. Please bring a plate for a shared lunch. Enquiries Bernadette: 9525 1448.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Takes place on the third Saturday of each month (**returns Saturday, 17 February**) This is a great opportunity for men to catch up over a hot breakfast before hearing an inspirational talk on a topic of our Catholic Faith!

**ROSARY ONLINE:** Did you know that our parish has an online Rosary every Saturday Morning at 10 am? The Zoom link is as follows: [www.stcaths.org.au/onlinerosary](http://www.stcaths.org.au/onlinerosary) (Password: 1234) Please call Patricio on 0423 041 590 with any trouble logging on.

**ADORATION:** Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

**CONFESSIONS:** Confessions are **available from Tuesday to Saturday before & after every Mass**. Please approach Father Greg or Father Noel if you wish to receive this Sacrament.

**DIVINE WILL PRAYER GROUP:** To be held after **Monday** and **Wednesday** Masses at 10 am. Louisa Piccarella wrote 36 volumes about how to live in the Divine Will. We will read from the writings and learn how to live in GOD'S Will.

**CENACLE GROUP:** The Marian Movement of Priests (MMP) is an International Catholic Movement based on locutions received from the Virgin Mary by Fr. Don Gobbi. The group meets after Mass on **Tuesdays** after the rosary to discuss the readings from the book.

**DIDASKO: ADULT FAITH FORMATION:** God the Beautiful: An Introduction to Theology. **Dates:** Mondays 4, 11 and 18 March 2024 **Time:** 7:30pm - 8:45pm **Mode:** Online via Zoom **Cost:** \$35 per person (+ booking fees), \$100 for Parish Groups (+

booking fees).

**Description:** This course introduces theological thinking in a way that is inclusive of wonder. Drawing on thinkers like Ratzinger/Benedict XVI and St John Paul II, as well St Augustine and St Thomas Aquinas, the thought-provoking three-part program will make God-ology enjoyable and accessible. Chris Wolter teaches theology at the University of Notre Dame Australia for 13 years.

## PARISH GROUPS

**ALTAR SOCIETY:** The Altar Society assists with the cleaning of the sacred vessels and the beautification of our church.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE REGISTRATION 2024:** The CWL group meets monthly and will offer spiritual formation as well as assist with fundraising to help various charitable ventures. Membership forms can be found at the back of the Church and returned to the parish office. (**The next general meeting will be held on 22nd February at 7pm - 8.30pm in the parish presbytery**).

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB:** The Friendship Club is a seniors social organisation within the GyMEA Parish community. Our membership (currently around 75) comprises both married couples and singles as well as those who are by themselves later in life. Members are mainly from the GyMEA parish but also come from other parts of the Shire as well as further afield. We also have a number of non-Catholic members. General Meetings are held every 3rd Friday of the month.

**LEGION OF MARY:** The Legion of Mary is a lay apostolic association of Catholics who, with the sanction of the Church and under the powerful leadership of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of All Graces, serve the Church and their neighbours on a voluntary basis in about 170 countries. Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. **We are always on the look out for new members.**

**MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP:** The prayer group have been meeting in our church every Thursday since 1987 at 6pm reflecting on the monthly messages the visionaries are currently receiving from Our Lady Queen of Peace to the world and they finish with the rosary. **You are most welcome to join them.**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL:** The St Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. We have one of the largest conferences in Australia. The members are an asset to our parish!

For more information and to view the full job ad go to [www.aidtochurch.org/work](http://www.aidtochurch.org/work)

## THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

**Don't forget to get your copy today! Still only \$2!**

**PARISH DIRECTORY:**

**Parish Priest:** Reverend Doctor Gregory Morgan  
**Assistant Priest:** Reverend Father Noel Custodio  
**Seminarian:** Daniel O’Kelly  
**Presbytery:** 123 Gymea Bay Road, Gymea  
**Secretary:** Monday to Thursday: Natasha Amata  
 Friday: Maria Awad (Bookkeeper)  
**Office Hours: Monday to Thursday** being:  
 9:00 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm  
**Friday:** 9:00 am - 2:30 pm  
**Office & Presbytery telephone:** 9525.1138  
**Email:** office@stcaths.org.au  
**Website:** www.stcaths.org.au  
**Facebook:** www.stcaths.org.au/facebook  
**YouTube:** www.stcaths.org.au/youtube  
**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Natasha Amata  
**Email:** safeguarding@stcaths.org.au  
**St Catherine Labouré Parish School**  
**Principal:** Patrick Morrison  
**School Office:** 9524.9706  
**Email:** info@sclgymea.catholic.edu.au

**PARISH DIRECTORY:**

**Sacramental Programme:** Karen  
**Email:** sacramentalprogramme@stcaths.org.au  
**Catechist Coordinator:** Karen  
**Email:** catechists@stcaths.org.au  
**Youth Minister/Coordinator:** Lucas  
**Email:** youthministry@stcaths.org.au  
**Gymea Music/Choirs** Clare (Coordinator)  
**Email:** office@stcaths.org.au  
**Legion of Mary** Mike (President)  
**Email:** office@stcaths.org.au  
**Medjugorje Prayer Group** Barry  
**Email:** office@stcaths.org.au  
**St Catherine’s Friendship Club:**  
**Email:** friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au  
**Gymea Conference St. Vincent de Paul Society: Frank (President)**  
**Email:** stvincentdepaul@stcaths.org.au  
**Catholic Women’s League Gymea: Diane (President)**  
**Email:** cwlgymea@stcaths.org.au

**MASS TIMES**

**Monday - Saturday** 9.15 am  
**Saturday** 5 pm Vigil Mass  
**Sunday** 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

**CONFESSION TIMES**

**Mondays - Saturdays**  
*Before and after every weekday Mass (including Saturdays)*  
**On Saturdays** 4:30 pm – 4:55 pm

**ADORATION TIMES**

**Tuesdays - Saturdays**  
 8:30 am - 9:10 am  
*(Fridays and Saturdays:*  
**9:00 am Benediction)**



17 / 18 February 2024

Year B

**The 1st Sunday of Lent**



*Remember you are dust and to dust you will return.*

	Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm	Sunday 7.30 am	Sunday 9.30 am	Sunday Evening 5.00 pm
<b>Acolytes &amp; Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:</b>	Jim Gothard Matthew Delasey Emma Honey	Jonathan Varga Sam Keir Jan Lambert	Joseph Lattouf Andrew Monsiff Carole Venier Michele Anthony	David Gormley Laurence Klein Amelia Paras
<b>1st Reader &amp; Psalm: 2nd Reader &amp; Intercessions:</b>	Philippa Macfarlane Lesley Newman	Christine Harding Jan Lambert	Natasha Amata James Clancy	Ronald Paras Joan Pinto

**The Altar Society: Group 3:**  
 Norma Wong & Aurora Hall.

**In The Counting House:**  
*Ray Brennan, Denis O’Brien,  
 Bob Taylor, Bob Greenwood,  
 Barry Elliott & Peter Black*

**Children’s Liturgy**  
**Sunday @ 9:30 am**

Cathy Rizzo, Mary-Clare Ebbs & Ana Graham

**Audio-Visual Operators:** Pauline /Mark Natalie Hugh Faye & James  
 NO SENIOR CHOIR  
 SCHOOL CHOIR Jenni

**The Clean Team: Group C:** St Vincent de Paul.



May God and our Lady of Lourdes care for and protect us all.