

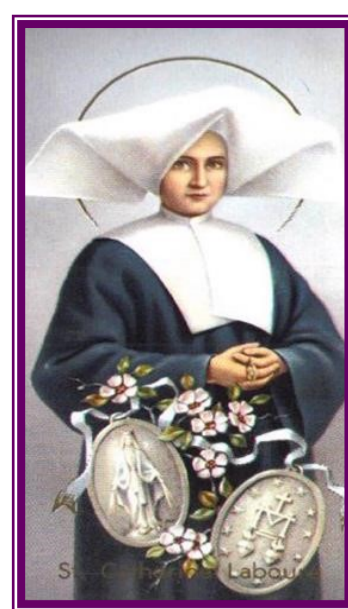
St Catherine Labouré GyMEA Parish



The First Sunday of Lent

17 / 18 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 9525 1138



Dear Parishioners, I once again draw your attention to the various activities we are fortunate to offer you for your spiritual/intellectual/relational growth this Lent. Besides our pilgrimage to the Shrine of Mercy at Penrose Park (the bus is nearly full, so, please, if you would like to join us, sign up today), our inaugural Men's Lenten Retreat Day (inspired by the great success of our Women's Advent Retreat Day), Stations of the Cross (which had a solid turn out on Friday evening), I would now like to draw your attention to our "Lenten Lectures" for 2024. The theme for this year is **Christ, Catholicism, & Controversy**. The word "controversial" has become something of a buzz word in the media, often used as a convenient label for

those who diverge from, or challenge, mainstream narratives. However, the word quite literally means to be "turned against" and, in this sense, Jesus emerges as the most controversial person in history. Christ's paschal mystery signifies a turning against sin, darkness, and death making Him inherently controversial. Lent is a season where we, too, are all called to turn against sin and our own worldly attachments; prompting us, then, to become "more controversial". In a bid to explore this topic further, the format will be slightly different this year. Our first and fourth "lecture" will actually be a spiritual meditation on some of Jesus' most controversial words. The focus on these nights is not so much to listen to the talk as such, but rather to use the talk as a stimulus with which to pray about Jesus' words in front of the Blessed Sacrament. The hope is that we might move then to reconsider how – in this Lenten season – we might embrace the "controversy" in our own lives. The second and third "lecture" will be a talk on someone in the Church who was labelled "controversial" in recent years. Fr Noel will speak on the life of Saint Theresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein), a 20th century atheist and intellectual powerhouse who became a Catholic nun. I will speak on a person a little closer to home, the late George Cardinal Pell, arguably, the most controversial churchman Australia has ever produced. A number of parishioners have asked me to speak on this topic so now seemed an opportune time. I do hope you will all come along. God bless! Fr Greg

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Beverley Young, Kevin Bridges, Louis Bigeni, Maria del Carmen Casellas, Brother Peter Clinch, Lucia Di Lisio, 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, Ron and Shirley Burden (70th anniversary) Bennett Toms (35th Anniversary) 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, Sue Grant, 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, Marie 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

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). Our theme for this year is “Christ, Catholicism, Controversy”. There will be two spiritual meditations that reflect upon some of Jesus’ most controversial words and two talks that explore the lives of two controversial figures in recent Catholic history: one a saint and the other an Australian churchman. The topics are as follows:

Tuesday 5th March: Spiritual Meditation One – Jesus said: “But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” (Matthew 5:44) By Fr Greg

Tuesday 12th March: Saint Edith Stein: The Atheist, The Nun, The Saint. By Fr Noel.

Tuesday 19th March: George Cardinal Pell: The Cleric, The Cross, The Cell. By Fr Greg (Followed by a drinks reception to celebrate the solemnity of St Joseph).

Tuesday 26th March: Spiritual Meditation Two – Jesus said: “For what should it profit a man to gain the whole world but lose his soul?” (Mark 8:36) By Fr Noel

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. **We have some excellent speakers confirmed so register today!**

LENTEN ENVELOPES: PROJECT COMPASSION: Please take your Lenten envelopes in the back of the church to support this worthy cause.

MUSIC AND NEW CHOIR(S): In a bid to continue to grow and revitalise the musical life of our parish, we would like to form one united choir to sing during the Eater Triduum. This will be a joy-filled opportunity to build community, to share your talents, and to help life hearts and minds to God. We are very blessed to have Daniel to guide us in the rich tradition of the Church so, please, do come along. 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 22nd 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. you would like any of these Books or prints, please contact the Parish Office on office@stcaths.org.au.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY LEADERS NEEDED: Children's Liturgy has commenced. 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)

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.

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

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

SAVE PALLIATIVE CARE—SIGN THE PETITION:

Archbishop Anthony Fisher writes “*euthanasia and assisted suicide* has been in operation in NSW for three months. I said at the time that its implementation was a very dark day for our state and that remains true. In the 2023-2024 NSW Budget, \$150 million was cut from the previously allocated budget for palliative care in this state. The flow on effect from fewer resources being allocated to palliative care is that fewer people will be able to access it. In the very same budget, almost \$100 million of new funding was allocated to the implementation of euthanasia and assisted suicide. I encourage you to please [sign this petition](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/pages/epetition-details.aspx?q=TCDPkH-n_irjDpWLSkyyOA), asking for the full funding to be restored.”

www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lc/pages/epetition-details.aspx?q=TCDPkH-n_irjDpWLSkyyOA

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 (**Saturday, 16 March**) 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 (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 & 18 March **Time:** 7:30pm - 8:45pm **Mode:** Online via Zoom **Cost:** \$35 per person (+ booking fees), \$100 for Parish Groups (+ booking fees).

URGENT NOTICE RE PARKING

When attending Mass during the week, please be aware that the parking to the right of entrance gate is reserved for Montessori Staff. Please do not park in these spots. Recently the staff have been parked in and have not been able to leave to attend meetings. The school have also been notified that they are not to use these parking spots. *Thank you for your consideration.*

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

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 Gynea Bay Road, Gynea
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@sclgynea.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
Gynea 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
Gynea Conference St. Vincent de Paul Society: Frank (President)
Email: stvincentdepaul@stcaths.org.au
Catholic Women’s League Gynea: Diane (President)
Email: cwlgynea@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)



24 / 25 February 2024

Year B

The 2nd 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
Acolytes & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:	Graham Ward Cathy Bonello Lesley Newman	Sam Keir Matthew Nugent Gerry Flannery	Jim Gothard Andrew Monsiff Michele Anthony Carole Venier	David Gormley Amelia Paras Julie Banister
1st Reader & Psalm: 2nd Reader & Intercessions:	Natasha Metlege Bernie Parkin	Judith Rumsey Christine Harding	Carole Venier Jowe Esguerra	Moira Loader Jed Loader

The Altar Society: Group 4:
 June Frost, Kath Burns & Laurice Dooley.

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

Children’s Liturgy
Sunday @ 9:30 am

Mary-Clare Ebbs, Hanan Duncan-Brown & Torquil Duncan-Brown

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

The Clean Team: Group D: Norm Frost, Chris Jacobs & Jan Lambert.



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