

St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish

The 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10 / 11 September 2022



Year C



Dear Parishioners, It has been a very sad week for our parish and school community. Last Sunday morning, at around 3am, Georgia Brown, who had just turned seven-years-old, passed away at Sutherland Hospital from brain cancer. She passed away peacefully surrounded by much love and an outpouring of prayer. Georgia was a remarkable little girl who displayed the very best of the human spirit and was mature - emotionally and spiritually - well beyond her years. I would ask you to join me in praying for Georgia's devoted parents, Nathan and Rachelle, and for her two sisters, Rosie and Whitney – that God may console them in their grief and strengthen their faith in the hope of everlasting life. Although we have lost a very sweet and courageous child, we have gained a powerful intercessor and advocate in heaven. I have already been asking Georgia to intercede for the salvation of all souls in this parish. The family have set up a fundraising page to honour the memory of their daughter. Those who wish are invited to support the Robert Connor Dawes Foundation, which funds research into a cure for this horrific disease.

Please use this web link: https://give.rcdfoundation.org/fundraiser/SweetGeorgiaBrown/in-memory-of-our-sweet-georgia-brown?fbclid=IwAR2KrWlQYN12cu-q1PgJiF2VtaHWP6nfaodnQClT-J6mM5QTRv_Ixm4w4xc Alternatively, there is a box on the table near the main doors to the Church where you can place any cash donations.

At the other end of the spectrum in life, the world mourns the loss of our own sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II, at the age of ninety-six. In the photo above, you will see Her Majesty with Saint Pope John Paul II in what marked the first visit of any Pope to England since the Reformation. Queen Elizabeth II was, herself, a woman of quiet faith. During her first Christmas Speech, televised in 1957, she said: "It is not the new inventions which are the difficulty. The trouble is caused by unthinking people who carelessly throw away ageless ideals as if they were old and outworn machinery. They would have religion thrown aside, morality in personal and public life made meaningless, honesty counted as foolishness and self-interest set up in place of self-restraint. At this critical moment in our history we will certainly lose the trust and respect of the world if we just abandon those fundamental principles which guided the men and women who built the greatness of this country and Commonwealth." How these prophetic words still resonate powerfully with our own time. Catholicism is all about critical *thinking*! God bless you! Fr Greg

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Gloria Klein (Mother of Laurence), Remedios Ash, Maria Callaghan, Father Gerrit Kraan (Salesian Father of Don Bosco), Waldraud Wiedemann, Verna Burrows, Jean Goodson, John Hart.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

All Fathers and Grandfathers, Maribel Paras Beltran (Birthday 6/9 & 1yr Anniversary-R.I.P. 28/9), Ken Connolly, Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Ederina Fabian (68th Wedding Anniversary), Nicolo Franco, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Lean Family, Kath McGrath, Peter Mooney, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Joe & Anna Natoli, Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, Deceased Members of the Friendship Club, The Holy Souls.

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

Catherine Bassiuoni, Gerry Banister, Jean Bell, Helen Bridges, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Greg Byrne, Hugh Casey, JoAnne Shackleton (Daughter of Dorothy Fraser-Bell), Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Kath Dowd, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Margaret Gardner, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Melina Grieco, Maree Hinton, Linden Kelleher (Parish Catechist), Jim Klingberg, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Ray O'Mara, Julia Quach, Marie Rayner, Tony Ryan, Evelyn Spiteri, Yin Kwan Tsang, Carole Venier, Doreen Vernon, John Weaver, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood.

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL: Last Sunday was Father's Day – a day to give thanks to our own dad's and to celebrate the gift of fatherhood. It is also the day designated by the Archdiocese to take up an extra collection to support our spiritual fathers – especially, the retired priests of our Archdiocese. The retirement age for a priest in Sydney is 75! **Last weekend's collection raised over \$4.000. Thank you so much for your generosity!** There are still envelopes at the back of the Church if you would like to give to this appeal.

A PRAYER SERVICE FOR GEORGIA BROWN: A prayer service to give thanks to God for the life and to pray for Georgia's family will take place on **Thursday 22nd September at 10:30am here at St Cath's.** Due to Georgia's age, we do not offer a Requiem Mass for Georgia. (Traditionally, a Requiem Mass is offered to pray for the salvation of the soul and for the soul's release from purgatory/punishment for sin. In Georgia's case, the Church provides a different set of prayers to take into account the unlikelihood of there being any sin. The tone of the liturgy changes considerably.) A special Mass will still be offered the following day for the family and in thanksgiving for the life of Georgia: **Friday 23rd September at 5:30pm.**



CHILDREN'S LITURGY: After speaking with a few parents at the School, I am exploring the possibility of introducing Children's Liturgy at the 9:30am Mass on Sundays. This would be for children who have not yet made their First Holy Communion. The purpose is to make the Liturgy of the Word more accessible. I have already had one or two volunteers come forward, but I am looking to form a team of people to run this initiative and also to garner feedback from parents. Please let me know if you have any thoughts.

ENVELOPES FOR PLANNED GIVING: There are a significant number of Planned Giving envelopes boxes on the table at the back of the Church close to the AV desk. If you have previously enrolled to give via the envelopes, please collect your box. If you would prefer to support our parish through Direct Debit, please contact the parish office.

CONGRATULATIONS: On Friday, one of our young parishioners, a Year 12 Student from St Patrick's, who wishes to remain anonymous, was awarded the Archbishop's Award at St Mary's Cathedral. Congratulations to you! Your family should be very proud of this achievement.

YEAR ONE FAMILY MASS: A warm welcome to the Year One families who are joining us for the 9:30am Mass this Sunday. We hope and pray that God will bless you all abundantly and that this might be an opportunity to commit to a deeper relationship with God and your Catholic faith.



UP-COMING EVENTS

> **INAUGURAL PARISH DINNER:** The inaugural Parish Dinner & Labouré Lecture will be held at Doltone House, Sylvania Water on **Friday, 18 November. Please mark your calendars now.** Mr and Mrs Abdallah (Danny & Leila) have generously accepted the invitation to speak at our inaugural parish dinner. Danny and Leila captivated the nation when they forgave the drunk/drugged car driver who killed three of their children. In my own letter to them, I wrote: "You [Leila and Danny] are perhaps two of the greatest evangelists and witnesses to the beauty of the Catholic faith in our country. You are walking signs of the Cross – signs of love, hope, and mercy amidst incredible suffering." We are very fortunate indeed that they have agreed to be the guests of honour at what I am told is the first official "Parish Dinner" in this parish's history. We will also be joined on the night by Bishop Richard Umbers, our Regional Bishop. **Tickets will be available soon and will cost \$80 per head and include a three course meal with wine/beer/soft drink. Please think about who you might invite!**

> **MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The next Men's Breakfast **NEXT Saturday, 17 September (the third Saturday of each month).** It 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! The last Saturday breakfast, we heard a talk on **spiritual warfare.**

> **CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE (GYMEA):** I would like to warmly invite the members/potential members of the CWL in GyMEA to a meeting at the Parish Office on Friday, 30 September at 6:30pm. The evening will begin with prayer and conclude with refreshments in the Presbytery. An email will be sent out with further details.

> **ROSARY CRUSADE:** Following on from the front page of last week's bulletin, I'm inclined to travel into the city next month and join the "Men's Rosary Crusade" on Saturday 1st October at 1pm. I (Fr Greg) would like to support the men who started this initiative. If any men from the parish would like to join me, I suggest we meet at the Church at 11:45am and catch the train together.

INVITE SOMEONE (BACK) TO MASS: At different Masses now, I have encouraged parishioners to take seriously their own personal call to help re-evangelise our parish and beyond. One simple way we can do this is by simply inviting someone back to Mass (I'm thinking particularly of those we might know who say they still aren't coming due to "Covid" but are happy to go out to shops and socialise). So, have a think, say a prayer for that person, and then invite them back to Mass. *Of course, remember to introduce them to the priests!*

ROSARY ONLINE: Did you know that our parish has an online Rosary every Saturday Morning at 10am? The Zoom link is as follows: <https://sydneycatholic.zoom.us/j/69475789620pwd=ZGhtUjJPd0lyOGR1Vnc1dTJLUVdmZz09> (Password: 1234)

CONFESSIONS: A reminder that confessions are available **before & after every weekday Mass** (including Saturdays) Please approach Fr Ronnie or Fr Greg if you wish to receive this Sacrament.

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

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED: Thank you to those who have already come forward to volunteer their time and services, for Cleaning of the Church, pews and carpet, etc. and also to assist the Altar Society ladies in preparing the Sanctuary - both groups work to a monthly roster with 5th Sundays doubling up. Please speak to Fr Greg or contact the Parish Office.

STATE SCHOOL HELPERS NEEDED: If you have 30 minutes to spare on either a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday please consider assisting catechists in state school class rooms in bringing the Church to the state school children.

LEGION OF MARY: 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. Please get involved (or just come and see!) and do pray for our Legion members too! They do such wonderful works in honour of Our Blessed Mother - email them (*address on back page*) for more information....

FRIENDSHIP CLUB: The Friendship Club Meet on the third Friday of the month at Gynea Bowling Club from 10 am. New members always welcome - email them (*address on back page*) for more information. **Details about forthcoming meetings will be advised in the parish bulletin.**

MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP: Did you know we have a wonderful group of faith-filled parishioners who gather each Thursday evening at 6 pm in our church, to say the Rosary & pray & reflect on Our Lady's messages to the world. Email them (*address on back page*) for more information or simply come to a Meeting. Why not join them, everyone is welcome!

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023: UPDATE. Thus far, I have approximately six young people interested from our parish. I would like to build this up to a few more. If you will be aged 18-35 and interested in attending WYD and perhaps getting involved in a service project overseas as part of the pilgrimage, do let me know. The next international WYD will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, from the 1st-6th August 2023. An obvious concern of mine since arriving at St Cath's is the absence of young people at Mass, particularly in the WYD age group of 16-35. This is something I am obviously keen to address in the coming years. However, from my previous experience in other parishes, if you can find and consolidate even a small group of ten to twelve young people who are well-formed in the faith, you are in a much stronger position then to reach out to other young people who are on the "peripheries". For this reason, I am wondering whether this coming WYD might be an opportunity to consolidate the young people that do come to one of the four Sunday Masses in Gynea. One of the reasons I re-introduced the 5pm Mass on Sundays was with a view in the medium-term to create a space for young people to meet. In fact, there have been two young people who attend that Mass who have expressed interest in forming a group for young adults. **So, this is all by way of saying that if you will be aged 18-35 by August next year, attend Mass here in Gynea, and would be interested in attending WYD with a view to developing your faith so as to reach out to other young people in the Shire, I would be very interested to hear from you.** Through fundraising and some support from the Parish, I would hope to make it as affordable as possible; seeing this as an investment for our future. **A very (!) generous donor or two, to whom I am most grateful, has already offered a significant sum of money to assist on this score.** The last time I did this as an Assistant Priest in Liverpool, we combined attending WYD in Rio with a service project in Mexico City (we helped paint an orphanage). This experience had a truly transformative effect on the twenty or so young people I accompanied.

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

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

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Father Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Father Ronnie Maree
Presbytery: 123 Gynea Bay Road, Gynea
Secretary: Kerry Ginman
Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday being:
 8:30 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
 Friday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm then closed.
Office & Presbytery telephone:
 9525.1138 or 9525.9993
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Website: www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/St-Catherine-Labour%C3%A9-Parish-Gynea-108678858244000/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiprf67dfGwEtt6hduzy7Og>
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Kerry
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Jodie McKay
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
Gynea Music/Choirs Clare (Coordinator)
Email: musicgynea@stcaths.org.au
Legion of Mary Mike (President)
Email: legionofmarygynea@stcaths.org.au
Medjugorje Prayer Group Barry
Email: medjugorjprayegroup@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

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 September 2022

The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

	Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm	Sunday 7.30 am	Sunday 9.30 am	Sunday Evening 5.00 pm
Acolytes & Ministers of Holy Communion:	Matthew Delasey Julie Banister Margaret Morris	Sam Keir Jonathan Varga	Graham Ward Mitch Worsley Michele Anthony	David Gormley Amelia Paras Margaret Reid
1st Reader & Psalm: 2nd Reader & Intercessions:	Jodie McKay Bernie Parkin	Adele Greenaway	Michele Anthony Jim Gothard	Clare Cowley Margaret Reid

The Altar Society: Group 3:
 Norma Wong, Vicki Laffan,
 Kay Humphries, Briege Robson &
 Chris.

In The Counting House:
Team :
NOT until further notice.

Altar Servers:

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

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



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

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