

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

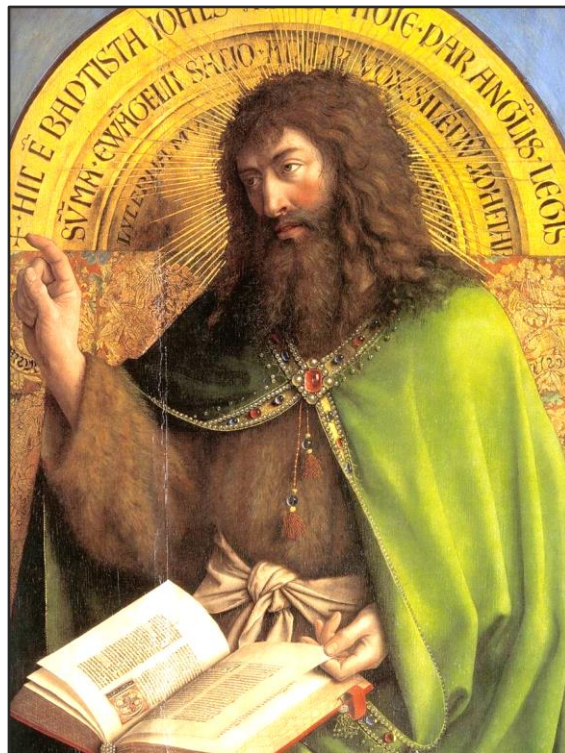
Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5th December 2021, Year C/2



EYCK, Jan van, John the Baptist, The Ghent Altarpiece, 1425-29

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm – Livestreamed

Sunday: 8:30am
10:00am

Weekday Masses:

Monday–Friday 8:00am

Saturday 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday after 8:30am Mass

St. Joseph's Primary School

Mrs. Patricia Reilly – Principal

School Office Times

8:30am - 4:00pm - Monday to Friday

Address

94 Joseph Street
Kingswood, NSW 2747

Telephone: 4726 4200; **Fax:** 4731 1432

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm and Friday: 9.00am – 1:00pm

Address: 12 Richmond Road, PO Box 39, Kingswood, NSW 2747 Telephone: 02 4721 4080; Fax: 02 4721 0089

Email: parish@stjosephskingswood.org Web: www.stjosephskingswood.org Facebook: [stjosephkingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephkingswood)

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

Entrance Antiphon: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of His voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		Colin O'Flynn (Rec. Dec.)
SUNDAY	8:30am		Ophelia Paraan (For Healing)
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	St Nicholas of Myra	Colin O'Flynn (Rec. Dec.)
Tuesday	8:00am	St Ambrose	Ophelia Paraan (For Healing)
Wednesday	8.00am	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BL. VIRGIN MARY	Colin O'Flynn (Rec. Dec.)
Thursday	8.00am	2 nd Week of Advent	Ophelia Paraan (For Healing)
Friday	8.00am	2 nd Week of Advent	Patrick Houlihan (Dec. Ann.)
Saturday	8.30am	2 nd Week of Advent	Private Intention

LIVESTREAM OF MASS

Saturday Vigil 6pm Mass will be the only Mass
livestreamed at <http://stjosephskingswood.org/>.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Friday 24th December: Vigil Mass at 6pm
 Saturday 25th December: Midnight Mass
 Saturday 25th December: Morning Mass at 9am
 Reconciliation for Christmas: Monday 20th December
 9am-12noon & 5-7.30pm

**Please note: There is no evening Mass on Saturday
25th December.**

Sunday 26th December Masses - 8.30am and 10.00am.

**Please register for all Masses over the Christmas
Weekend. Registrations are also available online on
the Parish website under Christmas 2021 Schedule.**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart
as though You have already come.
I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Colin O'Flynn,
Jocelyn Kirby, Iwona Nowak & Irena Fellmann,

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:
Patrick Houlihan, Peter Andary

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Zig Barglik, Joy Cavanagh, Kevin Collins, Margaret Colville, Katalin Domotor, Marie Donaldson, Frances Gunn, Nora Hehir, Andrew Isbitzki, Jason Isbitzki, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, John McCahon, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Shayla, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Margaretha Sultana, Barbara Thompson, Kelly Tonna, Mary Woodward.

SICK LIST: Due to privacy laws, if you have anyone for the sick list, please contact the Parish Office to fill in a form and update it at the end of each month to keep the names on the sick list.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER INTENTION

Catechists

Let us pray for the Catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$1070**
 Loose: \$157
 Tap & Go: \$280
 Donations: \$50

TAP AND GO DONATION FACILITY

Tap once to donate \$10; tap twice to donate \$20 etc. up to \$150. All contributions go to the 2nd Collection.

PARISH DONATIONS

For online donations using your credit/debit card please visit the payment link on our parish website <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/StJosephsCatholicChurchKingswood>

Electronic bank deposit (EFT) details below:

2nd Collection and Parish Donations

BSB: 067 950
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 00000396
ACCOUNT NAME: KINGSWOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH
REFERENCE: (Initial & surname/Envelope number)

1st Collection (To Support the Priests of the Diocese)

BSB: 067 950
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 00004265
ACCOUNT NAME: PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN CLERGY
REFERENCE: 6019 St Joseph's (Your name)

CALLING FOR SRE VOLUNTEERS

Do you have at least 1 hour per week to spare?

Do you love working with children?

Do you love sharing the Word of God?

Then this may be for you.

Here at St Joseph's we now have 6 Primary Schools and 1 High School in which to teach Scripture.

At present we have 5 Teachers to cover these schools, which is not enough.

Call the Parish Office if you are interested and for more information.

"Trust in the Lord" and bring more labourers for the harvest.

WOLLEMI COLLEGE WORKING BEE

We would like to express our gratitude to the students of Year 9-10 for visiting our Parish and helping us with some cleaning around the Parish. Your help is greatly appreciated. God bless you all.

A NEW CHURCH FOR ST JOSEPH'S

In this, the Year of St Joseph, our Parish Saint, and having celebrated the 50th Anniversary of our Parish let's consider the advantages of a new church. We will run the survey until Christmas. St Joseph pray for us.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SRES

Congratulations to Dianne Nelson for 40 years of service and Angela Bogdanovic for 20 years of service. They were both presented with awards by Bishop Vincent.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This weekend we continue the Bishop's Christmas Appeal to support CatholicCare's Houses to Homes, which provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing hardship and abuse. Please give generously. Our quota is \$3509. We have collected \$1259.10 so far. Place envelopes in the box at the back of the Church or feel free to contribute online at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

All Parish Volunteers are required to do the Safeguarding Training either online or face to face. Three Tuesdays from 14th to 28th June at 7pm in 2022 are booked for face-to-face training. Ring the Parish Office with your enquiries and/or to book for these sessions.

PARISH CHURCHES ARE OPEN

We can now admit 150 people in the Church applying the 2sq metre rule.

QR Code check-in is mandatory for all who enter the Church. Please confirm your check-in with the usher.

The QR check-in will also apply to those entering the Office, Hall or Parish Centre and any Volunteers working in the Parish.

If you do not have a phone, please contact the Usher or the Parish Office to enter your details electronically. You can also apply for a QR Card from Services NSW. If you require any assistance, please contact the Parish Office.

There is no registration for Weekday Masses.

Bookings are voluntary for weekend Masses, except for the Christmas Weekend. The first 150 will be admitted into the Church, but to be assured of a place in the Church please be on time.

Masks are Compulsory. Sanitiser is available for use on entry.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH
CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE

St Joseph Catechesis – 3. Just Man & Husband of Mary

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Let us continue our journey of reflection on the person of Saint Joseph. Today, I would like to deepen his being “just” and “Mary’s betrothed spouse”, and thus provide a message to all engaged couples, and newlyweds as well. Many events connected with Joseph fill the stories of the apocryphal, that is, non-canonical gospels, that have even influenced art and various places of worship. These writings that are not in the Bible are stories that Christian piety provided at that time and are a response to the desire to fill in the empty spaces in the canonical Gospel texts, the ones that are in the Bible, which provide you with everything that is essential for faith and the Christian life.

What does the Gospel say about Joseph? Matthew defines Joseph as a “*just*” man: “Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly” (1:18-19). Because those who were engaged, when the fiancée was unfaithful, or became pregnant, they had to accuse her! And the women were stoned. But Joseph was just. He says: “No, I am not going to do this”.

To understand Joseph’s behaviour toward Mary, it is helpful to remember the marriage customs of ancient Israel. Marriage included two well-defined phases. The first was like an official engagement that already implied a new situation. In particular, while continuing to live in her paternal home for another year, the woman was in fact considered the “wife” of her betrothed spouse. They still did not live together, but it was like she was already someone’s wife. The second phase was the transfer of the bride from her paternal home to that of her spouse. This took place with a festive procession which concluded the marriage. And the friends of the bride accompanied her there. On the basis of these customs, the fact that “before they came to live together, Mary was found to be with child” exposed the Virgin to the accusation of adultery. And, according to the ancient Law, her guilt was punishable with stoning (cf. *Dt* 22:20-21). Nevertheless, a more moderate interpretation had taken hold after this in later Jewish practice that imposed only an act of repudiation along with civil and criminal consequences for the woman, but not stoning.

The Gospel says that Joseph was “just” precisely because he was subject to the law as any pious Israelite. But within him, his love for Mary and his trust in her suggested a way he could remain in observance of the law and save the honour of his bride. He decided to

repudiate her in secret, without subjecting her to public humiliation. He chose the path of confidentiality, without a trial or retaliation. How holy Joseph was!

But the evangelist Matthew adds immediately: “But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins’ ” (1:20.21). God’s voice intervenes in Joseph’s discernment. In a dream, He reveals a greater meaning than his own justice. How important it is for each one of us to cultivate a just life and, at the same time, to always feel the need for God’s help to broaden our horizons and to consider the circumstances of life from an always different, larger perspective.

Our lives are very often not what we imagine them to be. Especially in loving and affectionate relationships, it is difficult to move from the logic of falling in love to the logic of a mature love. When falling in love with its expectations seems to come to an end, that is where true love begins. To love is not the pretension that the other person, or life, should correspond to our imagination. Rather, it means to choose in full freedom to take responsibility for one’s life as it comes. This is why Joseph gives us an important lesson. He chooses Mary with “his eyes open”. Joseph’s risk gives us this lesson: to take life as it comes. Has God intervened there? I accept it. And Joseph does what the angel of the Lord had ordered: “He took his wife, but knew her not” – without living together she is expecting a son – “until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus” (*Mt* 1:24-25). Christian engaged couples are called to witness to a love like this that has the courage to move from the logic of falling in love to that of mature love. A couple’s love progresses in life and matures each day. Listen to me well: never finish the day end without making peace. “We fought. My God, I said bad words. I said awful things. Remember always: never finish the day without making peace. And this will help you in your married life. To them and to all the married couples who are here. This movement from falling in love to mature love is a demanding choice, but we must choose that path.

Saint Joseph, you who loved Mary with freedom, and chose to renounce your fantasies to give way to reality, help each of us to allow ourselves to be surprised by God and to accept life not as something unforeseen from which to defend ourselves, but as a mystery that hides the secret of true joy. Obtain joy and radicality for all engaged Christians, while always being aware that only mercy and forgiveness make love possible. Amen.