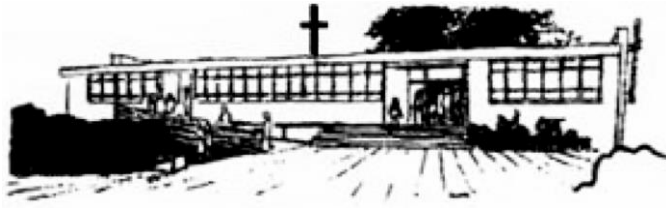


# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

19<sup>th</sup> December 2021, Year C/2



Blasco de Grañén Natividad, ca. 1459, Saragossa Museum

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

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

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

## LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

**Entrance Antiphon:** Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**First Reading:** Micah 5:1-4

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved.

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10

**Gospel:** Luke 1:39-44

### VIGIL SATURDAY

	<b>6:00pm</b>		<b>Colin O'Flynn (Recently Deceased)</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:30am</b>		<b>Don Crowhurst (Birthday Blessings)</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>		<b>For the Parish</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent</b>	<b>Jessica Anu (Recovery from Operation)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent</b>	<b>Colin O'Flynn (Recently Deceased)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent</b>	<b>Godfrey Perera (Recently Deceased)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent</b>	<b>Sean (Deceased Anniversary)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent</b>	<b>Colin O'Flynn (Recently Deceased)</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	<b>Private Intention</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12.00am</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>Private Intention</b>
	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>Private Intention</b>

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December: Vigil Mass at 6pm  
 Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December: Midnight Mass  
 Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December: Morning Mass at 9am

Reconciliation for Christmas: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December  
 9am-12noon & 5pm-7.30pm

**Please note: No evening Mass Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>.**

### Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December Masses - 8.30am and 10.00am.**

### MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

### SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION

On 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Catholics from Parramatta Diocese were dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation by virtue of a Decree from Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv.

From 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021 this Decree has now been revoked and the Sunday obligation is now imposed given that public health orders no longer require adherence to density limits in Church buildings.

### DECEASED:

Colin O'Flynn, Godfrey Perera

### DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES: Sean

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** 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.

*Have a blessed Christmas and a grace filled New Year A.D. 2022  
Dominican Fathers*

#### 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: \$1225**  
   **Loose:        \$201.50**  
   **Tap & Go: \$300**  
   **Donations: \$100**

#### TAP AND GO DONATION FACILITY

Tap once to donate \$10; tap twice to donate \$20 etc. up to \$150. All contributions go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:

##### 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection and Parish Donations

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

##### 1<sup>st</sup> 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)

#### CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM

11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022. Great program for those 16 to 20 years. Free to attend thanks to generous donors, but spaces are limited. Ring 9896 9303 or [study@campion.edu.au](mailto:study@campion.edu.au)

#### BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This weekend we continue the Bishop's Christmas Appeal to provide hope for vulnerable women and children facing hardship and abuse. Please give generously. Our quota is \$3509. We have collected \$2277.60 so far. Place envelopes in the box at the back of the Church or feel free to contribute online at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal)

#### NEW YEAR'S BARBEQUE

All Parishioners are invited on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 after the 6pm Mass to our New Year's Barbeque, organised by the Parish Pastoral Council. Please bring a dessert to share. Kindly fill in the form at the back of the Church to confirm the number of people attending for catering purposes. Thank you.

#### A NEW CHURCH FOR ST JOSEPH'S

In this, the Year of St Joseph, our Parish Saint, and having celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### VOLUNTEER SRES

If you have an hour to spare each week, love children and want to share the Word of God, please consider being a volunteer SRE. Ring the Parish Office for information.

#### BLUE MOUNTAINS EPIHANY PILGRIMAGE

2<sup>nd</sup> January at St Finbar's, Glenbrook for Mass, festive meal, praise & worship & Adoration. Stay overnight. 3<sup>rd</sup> January for pilgrimage and Mass in the bush.

#### CHANGES FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

**The NSW Government has announced that from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December the square meter rule no longer applies for Places of Worship. There is no longer a need to Register for Mass.**

**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.**

**Singing is permitted for everyone in attendance.**

**Masks are no longer mandatory, but they are strongly encouraged where social distancing is not possible.**

**Sanitiser is available for use on entry.**

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

Catechesis on St Joseph – 3. Man of Silence

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

After illustrating the environment in which St Joseph lived, his role in salvation history, his being just and the spouse of Mary, today I would like to consider another important personal aspect: silence. Very often nowadays we need silence. Silence is important. I am struck by a verse from the Book of Wisdom that was read with Christmas in mind, which says: "While gentle silence enveloped all things, your all-powerful word leaped from heaven". It is important to think about silence in this age in which it does not seem to have much value.

The Gospels do not contain a single word uttered by Joseph of Nazareth: nothing, he never spoke. This does not mean that he was taciturn, no: there is a deeper reason why the Gospels do not say a word. With his silence, Joseph confirms what Saint Augustine writes: "To the extent that the *Word* – that is, the Word made man - *grows in us, words diminish*". To the extent that Jesus, the spiritual life, grows, words diminish. John the Baptist himself, who is "the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord'" (Mt 3:3) says in relation to the Word, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (Jn 3:30). This means that he must speak and I must be silent, and through his silence, Joseph invites us to leave room for the Presence of the Word made flesh, for Jesus.

Joseph's silence is a silence full of *listening*, an *industrious* silence, a silence that brings out his great interiority. "The Father spoke a word, and it was his Son", comments St John of the Cross, "and it always speaks in eternal silence, and in silence it must be heard by the soul".

Jesus was raised in this "school", in the house of Nazareth, with the daily example of Mary and Joseph. And it is not surprising that he himself sought spaces of silence in his days (cf. Mt 14:23) and invited his disciples to have such an experience by example: "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place, and rest a while" (Mk 6:31). How good it would be if each one of us, following the example of St Joseph, were able to recover this *contemplative dimension of life, opened wide in silence*. But we all know from experience that it is not easy: silence frightens us a little, because it asks us to delve into ourselves and to confront the part of us that is true. And many people are afraid of silence, they have to speak, or listen to radio or television... but they cannot accept silence because they are afraid. The philosopher Pascal observed that "all the unhappiness of men arises from one single fact, that they cannot stay quietly in their own chamber".

Let us learn from St Joseph how to cultivate spaces for silence in which another Word can emerge, that is, Jesus, the Word: that of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, that Jesus brings. It is not easy to recognise that Voice, which is very often confused along with the thousand voices of worries, temptations, desires, and hopes that dwell within us; but without this training that comes precisely from the practice of silence, our tongue can also ail. Instead of making the truth shine, it can become a dangerous weapon. Indeed, our words can become flattery, bragging, lies, backbiting and slander. It is an established fact that, as the Book of Sirach reminds us, "many have fallen by the edge of the sword, but not so many as have fallen because of the tongue" (28:18), the tongue kills more than the sword. Jesus said clearly: whoever speaks ill of his brother or sister, whoever slanders his neighbour, is a murderer (cf. Mt 5:21-22). Let us think a little about the times we have killed with the tongue: we would be ashamed!

The Apostle James, in the beginning of his Letter, develops this ancient theme of the power, positive and negative, of the word with striking examples, and he says: "If anyone makes no mistakes in what he says he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body also... So the tongue is a little member and boasts of great things... With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing" (3:2-10).

We must learn from Joseph to cultivate silence: that space in our days in which we give the Spirit the opportunity to regenerate us, to console us, to correct us. Profoundness of the heart grows with silence, and leaves space for wisdom, reflection and the Holy Spirit. Let us not be afraid of moments of silence. And the benefit to our hearts will also heal our tongue, our words and above all our choices. Joseph combined silence with action. He did not speak, but he acted, and thus demonstrated what Jesus once told his disciples: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven" (Mt 7:21). Silence, speaking in the right way, and biting your tongue can be good at times instead of saying foolish things. Thank you.

**Let us conclude with a prayer:**

Saint Joseph, man of silence,  
you who in the Gospel did not utter a single word,  
teach us to fast from vain words,  
to rediscover the value of words that edify, encourage,  
console and support.  
Be close to those who suffer from words that hurt,  
like slander and backbiting,  
and help us always to match words with deeds. Amen.