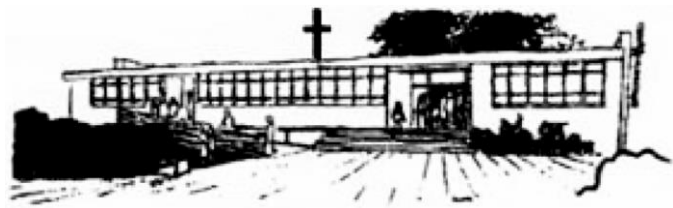


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

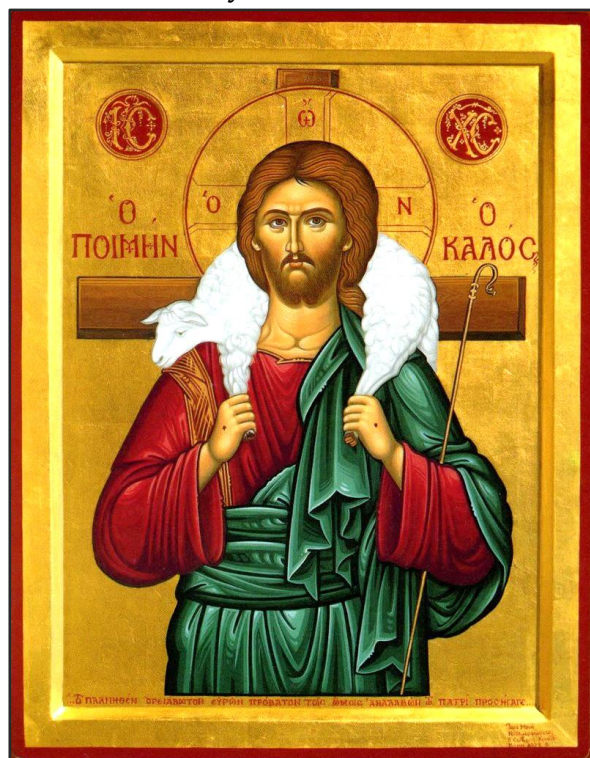
Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8th May 2022, Year C/2



The Good Shepherd Icon

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

Ms. Jennifer Crowley - Principal

School Office Times

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

Address

94 Joseph Street
Kingswood, NSW 2747

Telephone: 4726 4200; Fax: 4731 1432

www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au

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

Address: 12 Richmond Rd, PO Box 39, Kingswood, NSW 2747 Telephone: 02 4721 4080

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: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

Responsorial Psalm: We are His people, the sheep of His flock.

Second Reading: Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17

Gospel: John 10:27-30

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

Piotr Zawadzki (Rec. Dec.)

SUNDAY 8:30am

Piotr Zawadzki (Rec. Dec.)

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am 4th Week of Easter Carole Woodbury (For her Health)

Tuesday 8:00am St Antoninus Pierozzi of Florence Piotr Zawadzki (Rec. Dec.)

Wednesday 8.00am 4th Week of Easter Piotr Zawadzki (Rec. Dec.)

Thursday 8.00am 4th Week of Easter Carole Woodbury (For her Health)

Friday 8.00am Our Lady of Fatima Piotr Zawadzki (Rec. Dec.)

Saturday 8.30am ST MATTHIAS Jenny, Norm & Joan McLaurin (D.A)

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Piotr Zawadzki

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:

Jenny, Norm & Joan McLaurin

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2022

First Communion: Sunday 19th June

All sessions follow the 10.00am Mass (at 11.30am)

Confirmation: Sunday 6th November

Registration & 1st Session: 31st July

POPE FRANCIS' MAY INTENTIONS

Faith-filled Young People

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

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

SICK LIST: If you have anyone for the sick list, (Due to privacy laws) 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

May the Lord bless & keep all our Mothers as we keep you in our prayers
From Fr Andrew, Fr Pawel & Fr Piotr

SECOND COLLECTION: Envelopes: \$780
Loose: \$212.85
Tap & Go: \$260
Smart Facility Donations: \$149
Donations: \$

TAP AND GO DONATION FACILITY

At the "Tap and Go" device at the back of the Church, tap once to donate \$10; tap twice to donate \$20 etc. up to \$150. All contributions go to the 2nd Collection.

NEW SMART DONATION FACILITY

We have a new smart donation device in the Parish, where you can make any specific donation listed on the app or any other amount using your credit/debit card. All donations 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)

BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday at 9.15am. in the Parish Hall. All are most welcome.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month from 1.30 to 3.30pm.

PROJECT COMPASSION

We collected \$2300.05. Thank you for your generosity.

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND APPEAL

We collected \$960. Thank you for your generosity.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PEACE

Forgive us for war, O Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us sinners! Lord Jesus, born in the shadows of bombs falling on Kyiv, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, who died in a mother's arms in a bunker in Kharkiv, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, a 20-year-old sent to the frontlines, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, who still behold armed hands in the shadow of your Cross, have mercy on us!

Forgive us, O Lord. Forgive us, if we are not satisfied with the nails with which we crucified Your hands, as we continue to slake our thirst with the blood of those mauled by weapons.

Forgive us, if these hands which You created to tend have been transformed into instruments of death.

Forgive us, O Lord, if we continue to kill our brother; Forgive us, if we continue like Cain to pick up the stones of our fields to kill Abel. Forgive us, if we continue to justify our cruelty with our labours, if we legitimize the brutality of our actions with our pain.

Forgive us for war, O Lord. Forgive us for war, O Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we implore You! Hold fast the hand of Cain! Illumine our consciences; May our will not be done; Abandon us not to our own actions! Stop us, O Lord, stop us!

And when you have held back the hand of Cain, care also for him. He is our brother. O Lord, put a halt to the violence! Stop us, O Lord! Amen.

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

We have collected \$1899.40 so far towards our quota of \$3314. We are short by \$1414.60. Please give generously.

VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING BILL

There is a Petition at the back of the Church to enable you to sign against the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill, which will go to the vote on 11th May 2022.

ANNUAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

Sunday 15th May 2022 at Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. Program starts at 9.30am with Reconciliation, Mass at 10.30am with Bishop Vincent, Eucharistic Procession at 2pm and finishes at 3pm with Benediction. BYO Lunch and Chairs. Enquiries: info@schoenstatt.org.au or 4773 8338. Website: www.schoenstatt.org.au

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

Catechesis on Old Age - Eleazar

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today we meet a biblical figure – and old man – named Eleazar, who lived at the time of the persecution of Antiochus Epiphanes. His character gives us a testimony of the special relationship that exists between the fidelity of old age and the honour of faith. I would like to speak precisely about the honour of faith, not only about faith's consistency, proclamation, and resistance. The honour of faith periodically comes under pressure, even violent pressure, from the culture of the rulers, who seek to debase it by treating it as an archaeological find, or an old superstition, an anachronistic fetish, and so on.

The biblical story tells of the episode of the Jews being forced by a king's decree to eat meat sacrificed to idols. When it's Eleazar's turn, an elderly man in his 90s, highly respected by everyone, the king's officials advised him to resort to a pretence, that is, to pretend to eat the meat without actually doing so. Religious hypocrisy. There is so much religious hypocrisy and clerical hypocrisy. These people tell him, "Be a little bit of a hypocrite, no one will notice. In this way Eleazar would be saved, and in the name of friendship he would accept their gesture of compassion and affection. A hypocritical way out. After all, they insisted, it was a small gesture, pretending to eat but not eating, an insignificant gesture.

It is a little thing, but Eleazar's calm and firm response is based on an argument that strikes us. The central point is this: dishonouring the faith in old age, in order to gain a handful of days, cannot be compared with the legacy it must leave to the young, for entire generations to come. But well-done Eleazar! An old man who has lived in the coherence of his faith for a whole lifetime, and who now adapts himself to feigning repudiation of it, condemns the new generation to thinking that the whole faith has been a sham, an outer covering that can be abandoned, imagining that it can be preserved interiorly. And it is not so, says Eleazar. Such behaviour does not honour faith, not even before God. And the effect of this external trivialization will be devastating for the inner life of young people. But the consistency of this man who considers the young, his future legacy and his people.

It is precisely old age that appears here as the decisive, irreplaceable place for this testimony. An elderly person who, because of his vulnerability, accepts that the practice of the faith is irrelevant, would make young people believe that faith has no real relationship with life. It would appear to them, from the outset, as a set of behaviours which can be faked or concealed.

The ancient heterodox "gnosis," which was a very powerful and very seductive trap for early Christianity,

theorised precisely about this: that faith is a spirituality, not a practice; a strength of the mind, not a form of life. Faithfulness and the honour of faith, according to this heresy, have nothing to do with the behaviours of life, the institutions of the community, the symbols of the body. The seduction of this perspective is strong, because it interprets, in its own way, an indisputable truth: that faith can never be reduced to a set of dietary rules or social practices. Faith is something else. The trouble is that the Gnostic radicalisation of this truth nullifies the realism of the Christian faith, because the Christian faith is realistic. The Christian faith is not just saying the creed: it is thinking about the Creed and understanding the Creed and doing the Creed. This gnostic proposal pretends that the important thing is that you have an interior spirituality, and then you can do whatever you please. And this is not Christian. It is the first heresy of the gnostics, which is very fashionable at the moment, in so many centres of spirituality and so on. It makes void the witness of this people, which shows the concrete signs of God in the life of the community and resists the perversions of the mind through the gestures of the body.

The gnostic temptation, which is one of the religious deviations of this time, remains ever present. In many trends in our society and culture, the practice of faith suffers from a negative portrayal, in the form of cultural irony, or covert marginalization. The practice of faith for these gnostics, who were already around at the time of Jesus, is regarded as a useless and even harmful external, as an antiquated residue, as a disguised superstition. The pressure that this indiscriminate criticism exerts on the younger generations is strong. We know that the practice of faith can become a soulless external practice. It is for us older people to give faith back its honour, to make it coherent, which is the witness of Eleazar: consistency to the very end. The practice of faith is not the symbol of our weakness, but rather the sign of its strength.

Faith deserves respect and honour to the very end: it has changed our lives, it has purified our minds, it has taught us the worship of God and the love of our neighbour. It is a blessing for all! But the faith as a whole, not just a part of it. Like Eleazar, we will not barter our faith for a handful of quiet days. We will show, in all humility and firmness, precisely in our old age, that believing is not something "for the old." It's a matter of life. Believing in the Holy Spirit, who makes all things new, and He will gladly help us.

Dear elderly brothers and sisters, please look at the young people: they are watching us and our consistency can open up a beautiful path of life for them. Hypocrisy, on the other hand, will do so much harm. Let us pray for one another. May God bless all of us old people. Thank you.