

# 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

## HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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



PISANO, Nicola, The Holy Family, 1500s

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:** The shepherds went in haste,  
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

**First Reading:** Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

**Responsorial Psalm:** How happy they who dwell in Your house, O Lord.

**Second Reading:** 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

**Gospel:** Luke 2:41-52

**VIGIL SATURDAY**                      **Please note: No Vigil Mass**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8:30am		<b>Witold Blazek (Deceased Anniversary)</b>
	10:00am		<b>For the Parish</b>
<b>Monday</b>	8:00am	<b>ST JOHN</b>	<b>Jocelyn Kirby (Recently Deceased)</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:00am	<b>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</b>	<b>Colin O'Flynn (Deceased)</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	8.00am	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Day Octave of Nativity</b>	<b>Jeena &amp; Joseph (Wedding Anniversary)</b> <b>Jeena (Birthday Blessings)</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	8.00am	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Day Octave of Nativity</b>	<b>Colin O'Flynn (Deceased)</b>
<b>Friday</b>	8.00am	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Day Octave of Nativity</b>	<b>Iwona Nowak &amp; Irena Fellmann (Rec. Dec.)</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	8.30am	<b>MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</b>	<b>Dec. Mem. of St Vincent de Paul</b>

### 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.

### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

### 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jocelyn Kirby, Iwona Nowak, Irena Fellmann

#### DECEASED & DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:

Witold Blazek, Colin O'Flynn, Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

**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, Piotr Zawadzki.

**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

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

**SECOND COLLECTION:**    **Envelopes: \$1100**  
                                  **Loose:     \$85.20**  
                                  **Tap & Go: \$290**  
                                  **Donations: \$**

**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)

**CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2022**

**Reconciliation:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April

**Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session** - 27<sup>th</sup> February

**First Communion:** 19<sup>th</sup> June

**Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session** – 24<sup>th</sup> April

**Confirmation:** Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November

**Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session** – 31<sup>st</sup> July

All Sessions follow 10am Sunday Mass

**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)

**BE PART OF A LISTENING CHURCH**

Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to participate in the Synod of Bishops by responding to his call for a "Listening Church". You are invited to share your thoughts on our global Church. Find out more at [bit.ly/synod2023](http://bit.ly/synod2023). See leaflet at back of Church.

**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.

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

All Parish Volunteers are required to do the three Safeguarding Training Modules either online or face-to-face. Three Tuesdays from 14<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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 \$2532.50 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)

**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.

Wearing face masks in the church and in all indoor settings is mandatory from Friday 24 December.

Sanitiser is available for use on entry.

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

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**POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE**

**Catechesis – The Birth of Jesus**

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today, just a few days before Christmas, I would like to recall with you the event history cannot dispense with: the birth of Jesus.

To comply with the Emperor Cesar Augustus' decree that ordered them to go to their place of origin to be registered, Joseph and Mary went from Nazareth down to Bethlehem. They immediately sought lodging since the moment for Mary to give birth was imminent. Unfortunately, they did not find anything. So, Mary was forced to give birth in a stable (cf. *Lk.* 2:1-7).

It was an angel who announced the birth of Jesus, and he did so to some lowly shepherds. And it was a star that showed the Magi the way to Bethlehem (cf. *Mt* 2:1, 9.10). An angel is a messenger from God. The star reminds us that God created the light (*Gn* 1:3) and that the Baby would be "the light of the world", as He would define himself (cf. *Jn* 8:12, 46), the "true light that enlightens every man" (*Jn* 1:9), that "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (v. 5).

The shepherds personify the poor of Israel, lowly people who interiorly live with the awareness of their own want. They were the first to see the Son of God made man, and this encounter changed them deeply. The Gospel notes that they returned "glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen" (*Lk* 2:20).

The Magi are also around the newborn Jesus (cf. *Mt* 2:1-12). The Gospels do not tell us who the kings might have been, nor how many there were, nor what their names were. The only thing we know for certain is that they came from a distant country in the East, they set out on a journey seeking the King of the Jews, whom they identified with God in their hearts because they said they wanted to adore him. The Magi represent the pagan peoples, in particular all those who have sought God down through the ages, and who set out on a journey to find Him. They also represent the rich and powerful, but only those who are not slaves to possessions.

The message of the Gospels is clear: the birth of Jesus is a universal event that concerns all of humanity.

The Magi may have even been great according to the world's logic, but they made themselves lowly, humble, and precisely because of this they succeeded in finding Jesus and recognising Him.

Every person, in the depths of his or her heart, is called to seek God: we all have that restlessness. Our work is not to snuff out that restlessness, but to allow it to grow because it is that restlessness that seeks God; and, with His own grace, can find Him.

I would like to invite every man and woman to the stable of Bethlehem to adore the Son of God made man. May each one of us draw near to the creche in our own homes or in the church or in another place, and try to make an act of adoration, inside: "I believe you are God, that this baby is God. Please, grant me the grace of humility to be able to understand".

In approaching and praying by the crib, I would like to put the *poor* in the front row, those whom – as Saint Paul VI used to exhort – "we must love because in a certain way they are the sacrament of Christ; in them – in the hungry, the thirsty, the exiles, the naked, the ill, prisoners – He wanted to be mystically identified. We must help them, suffer with them, and also follow them because poverty is the surest path to possess the Kingdom of God in its fullness" (*Homily*, 1 May 1969). We must ask for the grace of humility: "Lord, make me humble. Grant me the grace of humility. And with this humility, may I find You". Without humility we will never find God: we will find ourselves. The person who is not humble has no horizon in front of them. They only have a mirror in which to look at themselves. Let us ask the Lord to break this mirror so we can look beyond, to where He is. Grant us the grace and the joy of humility to take this path.

Just like the star did with the Magi, I would like to accompany to Bethlehem all those who do not pose the question of God, or who may even fight against religion, those who are improperly identified as *atheists*. I would like to repeat to them the message of the Second Vatican Council: "The Church holds that the recognition of God is in no way hostile to man's dignity, since this dignity is rooted and perfected in God. Above all the Church knows that her message is in harmony with the most secret desires of the human heart" (*Gaudium et Spes*, 21).

Let's return home with the angel's song: "Peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!" Let us always remember: "In this is love, not that we loved God but that he first loved us" (1 *Jn* 4:10, 19), he has sought us. Let's not forget this.

This is the reason for joy: knowing that we are loved without any merit, we are always loved first by God, with a love so concrete that He took on flesh and came to live in our midst., in that Baby that we see in the crib. This love has a name and a face: Jesus is the name and the face of love – this is the foundation of our joy.

The awareness that to seek God, to find God, to accept God, humility is needed: to seek with humility the grace of breaking the mirror of vanity, of pride, of looking at ourselves. To look at Jesus, to look toward the horizon, to look at God who comes to us and who touches our hearts with that restlessness that brings us hope. Happy and holy Christmas!