

# 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

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

27<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Year A/1



ANGELICO, Fra, Annunciation, 1442-43

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](http://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](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:** To You, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
 In You, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
 Not let my enemies exult over me;  
 and let none who hope in You be put to shame.

**First Reading:** Isaiah 2:1-5

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

**Second Reading:** Romans 13:11-14

**Gospel:** Matthew 24:37-44

### VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm All Souls

**SUNDAY** 8:30am All Souls

10:00am For the Parish

**Monday** 8:00am 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent All Souls

**Tuesday** 8:00am 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent All Souls

**Wednesday** 8.00am ST ANDREW All Souls

**Thursday** 8.00am 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent Bronislaw Blazek (Deceased Ann.)

**Friday** 8.00am 1<sup>st</sup> Week of Advent For God's Precious Infants

**Saturday** 8.30am St Francis Xavier Dec. Mems. of St Vincent de Paul

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Available for an hour before 8.00am Masses during the week and before 8.30am Masses on the weekends.

### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to one of the Priests or contact the Parish Office.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Rafaela Santiago, Orlando Surace, Caroline Vizcarra

### CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2023

**Reconciliation: Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session: 19<sup>th</sup> February

**DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:** Bronislaw Blazek, Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

**First Communion: 11<sup>th</sup> June**

Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session: 16<sup>th</sup> April

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Masses at 8am and 7pm.

**Confirmation:** Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session: TBC

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Jonathon Ansell, Michael & Marianne Callaghan, Margaret Colville, Frances Gunn, Andrew Isbitski, Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, Gina Koloc, John McCahon, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Shayla, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Barbara Thompson, Charley Tonna, Kelly Tonna, David Wakeling, Paul & Mary Woodward.

**SICK LIST:** (Due to privacy laws) if you have anyone for the sick list, 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' NOVEMBER INTENTIONS

#### Children Who Suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans and widows of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

**SECOND COLLECTION:**    **Envelopes: \$590**  
   **Loose:     \$368.70**  
   **Tap & Go: \$250**  
   **Smart Facility: \$245**

### TAP & GO & SMART DONATION FACILITIES

All contributions go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection.

### QR CODE FOR DONATIONS ON PARISH WEBSITE



### BIBLE STUDY

There will be no Bible Study for the next two weeks. We will resume on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am in the Parish Hall. All are most welcome.

### CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month from 1.30 to 3.30pm. Ring Delfin on 0478 784 885 for details.

### LADIES' MORNING TEA

Next date is Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. All ladies of the Parish are most welcome.

### PARISH LUNCH

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 12 noon. Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at St. Mary's Band Club. All are most welcome.

### VOLUNTEERS LUNCH

All Volunteers are invited to our Lunch from 12noon to 2pm on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Please ring the Office or write your name on the sheet at the back of the Church. RSVP by 3<sup>rd</sup> December for Catering purposes.

### ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Charles Abela's Ordination is at 10.30am on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Please see Noticeboard for invitation.

### POPE FRANCIS' CONSECRATION OF RUSSIA & UKRAINE TO IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

O Mary, Mother of God and our mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the prince of peace. Amid evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the church and for all humanity.

O Loving Mother, hear our prayer: help us out of the depravity of war, inspire reconciliation, restore God's peace to the world, eliminate hatred, and teach us forgiveness. Queen of the Rosary, make us realise our need to pray and to love. Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world from your Son, the Prince of Peace.

At this hour, we stand with you beneath the cross, entrusting to you the people of Ukraine and Russia. Mother of God and our mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the church and all humanity, especially the people of Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love.

Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. We trust that, through your Immaculate heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world. Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Amen.

### BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This weekend we have the Bishop's Christmas Appeal to enable Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing to aid the homeless with practical and emotional support. You can donate either at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or using the envelopes provided. Please be generous.

### 'HOUR OF GRACE'

12noon to 1pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, at St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith. All are most welcome.

### WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

There will be a stall after each Mass next weekend 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> December with gifts from \$2 - \$20. This will be to raise funds to assist our Parish youth to attend World Youth Day next year. Please show your support.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE**

**Discernment – Consolation**

**23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022**

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

We continue the catechesis on the discernment of spirits when they take place in our hearts and in our souls. Today let us talk about consolation – which is light in the soul and another important element in discernment, which is not to be taken for granted, because it can lend itself to misunderstandings. We must understand what consolation is.

What is spiritual consolation? It is an experience of interior joy, consisting in seeing God's presence in everything. It strengthens faith and hope, and even the ability of doing good. The person who experiences consolation never gives up in the face of difficulties because he or she always experiences a peace that is stronger than any trial. It is, therefore, a tremendous gift for the spiritual life as well as life in general.

Consolation is an interior movement that touches our depths. It is not flashy but soft, delicate, like a drop of water on a sponge. The person feels enveloped in God's presence in a way that always respects his or her own freedom. It is never something out of tune, that tries to force our will; neither is it a passing euphoria. On the contrary, as we have seen, even the suffering – caused for example by our own sins – can become a reason for consolation.

Let's recall the experience Saint Augustine lived when he spoke with his mother Monica about the beauty of eternal life; or of the perfect joy of Saint Francis that was associated with very difficult situations he had to bear; and let's think of the many saints who were able to do great things not because they thought they were magnificent or capable, but because they had been conquered by the peaceful sweetness of God's love. This is the peace that Saint Ignatius discovered in himself with such amazement when he would read the lives of the saints. To be consoled is to be at peace with God, to feel that everything is settled in peace, everything is in harmony within us. This is the peace that Edith Stein felt after her conversion. So, genuine peace is one that makes good feelings blossom in us.

Above all, consolation affects hope, and reaches out toward the future, puts us on a journey, allows us to take the initiative that had always been postponed or not even imagined.

Consolation gives you peace and draws you toward the Lord and sets you off to do good things. When we are consoled, we want to do so much good, always. Consolation pushes us forward in service to others.

Spiritual consolation is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It allows a familiarity with God that seems to cancel

distances. When she visited the Basilica of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme in Rome at the age of fourteen, Saint Therese of the Child Jesus tried to touch one of the nails with which Jesus was crucified. Therese understood her daring as a transport of love and confidence. Later, she wrote, "I truly was too audacious. But the Lord sees the depths of our hearts. He knows my intention was pure." Consolation leads you to do everything spontaneously, as if we were children.

We can feel a sense of tenderness toward God that makes us audacious in our desire to participate in his own life, to do what is pleasing to him because we feel familiar with him, we feel that his house is our house, we feel welcome, loved, restored. With this consolation, we do not give up in the face of difficulty – in fact, with the same boldness, Therese would ask the Pope for permission to enter Carmel even though she was too young, and her wish was granted. When we find ourselves in a moment of darkness, of desolation, we think: "I am not capable of doing this." Desolation brings you down. Instead, in times of consolation, the same things – "I feel God's strength and I am going ahead". And so, consolation pushes you to go ahead and to do those things that you would not be capable of doing in a moment of; it pushes you to take the first step. This is what is beautiful about consolation.

We must distinguish well between the consolation that comes from God and false consolations. In the end, false consolation leaves us empty, far from the centre of our existence. For this reason, when we feel happy, at peace, we are capable of doing anything. But let's not confuse that peace with passing enthusiasm.

This is why we have to discern even when we feel consoled. False consolation can become a danger if we seek it obsessively as an end in itself, forgetting the Lord. As Saint Bernard would say, this is seeking the consolations of God rather than the God of consolations. We need to seek the Lord, and the Lord consoles us with his presence and makes us move forward. We should not seek God who brings us consolations here below: No, this is not right, we should not be interested in this. This is the dynamic of the child whom we spoke about last time who looks for his or parents only to get something and is seeking their own interests. We too run the risk of living our relationship with God in a childish way, seeking our own interests, of reducing it to an object that we use and consume, losing the most beautiful gift which is God Himself. So, let us move forward in our lives that progresses between the consolations from God and the desolations from the sin of the world, but knowing how to distinguish when it is a consolation from God that brings peace to the depths of your soul, from a passing enthusiasm, which is not bad, but which is not a consolation from God.