

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

4th December 2022, Year A/1



MARTINO, Altomonte, The Immaculate Conception, 1719

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: 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: Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in His time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		Thanksgiving Mass (Bobins Family)
SUNDAY	8:30am		Jeena Johny (Birthday Blessings)
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	2 nd Week of Advent	Thanksgiving Mass
Tuesday	8:00am	St Nicholas of Myra	For Thanksgiving
Wednesday	8.00am	St Ambrose	Caroline Vizcarra (Recently Dec.)
Thursday	8.00am	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Antigoni & Milos Prazak (Dec. An.)
	7.00pm		For the Parish
Friday	8.00am	2 nd Week of Advent	Rafaela Santiago (Recently Dec.)
Saturday	8.30am	2 nd Week of Advent	Patrick Houlihan (Deceased Ann.)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2023

Reconciliation: Thursday 30th March

Registration & 1st Session: 19th February

First Communion: 11th June

Registration & 1st Session: 16th April

Confirmation: Registration & 1st Session: TBC

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Caroline Vizcarra, Rafaela Santiago, Orlando Surace

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:

Antigoni & Milos Prazak, Patrick Houlihan

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday 24th December – 6pm

Sunday 25th December – Midnight, 8.30am & 10am

Reconciliation: Monday 19th December – 9am to 12noon & 5pm to 7.30pm

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.

PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER INTENTIONS

Volunteer Not-for-profit Organisations

We pray that volunteer not-for-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$779**
 Loose: \$365
 Tap & Go: \$170
 Smart Facility: \$308
 Donations: \$50

TAP & GO & SMART DONATION FACILITIES

All contributions go to the 2nd Collection.

QR CODE FOR DONATIONS ON PARISH WEBSITE



BIBLE STUDY

There will be no Bible Study next week. We will resume on Wednesday 14th December 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.
Ring Delfin on 0478 784 885 for details.

LADIES' MORNING TEA

Next date is this Tuesday 6th December in the Parish Hall. All ladies of the Parish are most welcome.

PARISH LUNCH

Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 14th 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 17th December. Please ring the Office or write your name on the sheet at the back of the Church. RSVP by 3rd December for Catering purposes.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Charles Abela's Ordination is next Saturday 10th December. Please see Noticeboard for invitation. Charles will join us at 10am Mass as a Deacon on 11th December and for Morning Tea after Mass. Please join us in giving Charles our blessings for his future.

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

We will have the Bishop's Christmas Appeal again this weekend to make up our quota. \$1477.25 has been donated. Thank you for your generosity. Our quota is \$3204. You can donate either by using the envelopes provided or at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal Please be generous.

'HOUR OF GRACE'

12noon to 1pm on Thursday 8th 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 this weekend 3rd/4th 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 – Authentic Consolation

30th November 2022

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

As we continue our reflection on discernment, and in particular on the spiritual experience called “consolation”, we ask: how can we recognize true consolation? It is a very important question for a good discernment, so as not to be deceived in the search for our true good.

We can find some criteria in a passage from the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. “We ought to note well the course of the thoughts”, says Saint Ignatius, “and if the beginning, middle and end is all good, inclined to all good, it is a sign of the good Angel; but if in the course of the thoughts which he brings it ends in something bad, of a distracting tendency, or less good than what the soul had previously proposed to do, or if it weakens it or disturbs the soul, taking away its peace and quiet, which it had before, it is a clear sign that it proceeds from the evil spirit, enemy of our profit and eternal salvation” (no. 333). We need to understand well the process of consolation: how does it come and where does it lead me? If it leads me to something wrong, that is not good, the consolation is not true, it is “fake”.

And these are valuable indications, that merit a brief comment. What does it mean that the beginning is inclined to good consolation? For example, I have the thought of praying, and I note that it accompanies affection towards the Lord and neighbour, it invites gestures of generosity, of charity: it is a good beginning. It can instead happen that such a thought emerges to avoid a job or task that has been entrusted to me: every time I have to wash the dishes or clean the house, I have a strong urge to pray! But prayer is not an escape from one’s tasks; on the contrary, it is an aid in realizing the good we are required to do, here and now.

Saint Ignatius said that the beginning, the middle and the end had to be good. The beginning is this: I want to pray so as not to wash the dishes: go, wash the dishes, and then go to pray. Then there is the middle: that is to say what comes afterwards, if I begin to pray and, like the pharisee in the parable (cf. *Lk 18:9-14*), I tend to be self-satisfied and to disdain others, perhaps with a resentful and sour spirit, then these are signs that the evil spirit has used that thought as a key to enter into my heart and to transmit his feelings to me. If I go to pray, and it comes to mind to do so like the famous Pharisee – “Thank you Lord, because I pray, I am not like other people who do not seek you, who do not pray” – that prayer ends badly there. This is the wrong way.

And then there is the end: the beginning, the middle and the end. The end is an aspect we have already

encountered, namely: where does a thought take me? For instance, it can happen that I work hard for a good and worthy task, but this pushes me to stop praying, because I am busy with many things; I find I am increasingly aggressive and angry, I feel that everything depends on me, to the point of losing confidence in God. Here, evidently, there is the action of the evil spirit. I start praying, but then in prayer I feel omnipotent, that everything must be in my hands because I am the only one who knows how to get things done: evidently there is no good spirit there. It is necessary to examine well the path of our sentiments, of consolation, at the moment in which we want to do something; at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end.

The style of the enemy, the devil, we know, is to present himself in a devious, masked way: he starts from what is most dear to us and then, little by little, reels us in: evil enters secretly, without the person being aware of it. And with time, gentleness becomes hardness: that thought reveals itself for what it truly is.

Hence the importance of this patient but indispensable examination of the origin and the truth of our thoughts; it is an invitation to learn from experiences, from what happens to us, so as not to continue to repeat the same errors. The more we know ourselves, the more we sense where the evil spirit enters. Each one of us has their more sensitive spots, the weak spots in their personality: and the evil spirit enters there, and leads us down the wrong path, or takes us away from the true, right path. I go and pray but he leads me away from my prayer.

A daily examination of conscience is so important: before ending the day, stop a moment. What happened in my heart? Was my heart attentive? Did it grow? Did it go through everything unaware? This examination is the valuable effort of rereading experience from a particular point of view. Noticing what happens is important, it is a sign that God's grace is working in us, helping us to grow in freedom and awareness. We are not alone: the Holy Spirit is with us.

Genuine consolation is a sort of confirmation that we are doing what God wants of us, that we are walking on his paths, that is, on the paths of life, joy, and peace. Discernment, in fact, is not simply about what is good or the greatest possible good, but about what is good for me here and now, so as not to be deceived in the search for the true good.

It is necessary to understand what happens in my heart. And this is why an examination of conscience is necessary. “Today I got angry, I didn’t do that...”: But why? Going beyond the “why” to look for the root of these mistakes. Learn to read what happened during the day in the book of our heart. Do it: it will take just two minutes, but it will do you good, I assure you.