

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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

21st May 2023, Year A/1



ANGELICO, Fra, Ascension, Last Judgement, Pentecost
(Corsini Triptych), 1447-48

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: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw Him go, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

† Orlando Surace

SUNDAY 8:30am

Anthony & Tina Almeida (Good Health & God's Grace

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am

St Rita of Cascia

† Carmencita Diaz Ramoy

Tuesday 8:00am

7th Week of Easter

Father Andrew (For Quick Recovery)

Wednesday 8.00am

**OUR LADY
HELP OF CHRISTIANS**

† Asisclo & Justina Granadino Toledo

Thursday 8.00am

7th Week of Easter

† Zbigniew Blazek, Elzbieta Kral,
Bronislaw Pikula

Friday 8.00am

St Philip Neri

† Nestor San Jose

Saturday 8.30am

7th Week of Easter

† Franciszka & Jozef Warda & Matthew Lee

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priests or the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There is an opportunity to spend time with the Lord for an hour before the 8am Masses during the week and before the 8.30am Masses at the weekend.

ROSARY AND BENEDICTION

During the month of May there will be Rosary, Litany of Our Lady and Benediction after all the weekday Masses.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2023

First Communion: 11th June

Sessions: Sundays after 10am Mass

Confirmation: Sunday 12th November

Registration & 1st Session: 30th July

RECENTLY DECEASED: Carmencita Diaz Ramoy, Sr Mary Agnes, Guseppi Suraci

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR: Orlando Surace, Asisclo & Justina Toledo, Zbigniew Blazek, Elzbieta Kral, Bronislaw Pikula, Nestor San Jose, Franciszka & Jozef Warda, Matthew Lee

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Father Andrew, Sr Louisa, Jonathon Ansell, Marianne Callaghan, Margaret Colville, Frances Gunn, Andrew & Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, John McCahon, Krystona McWhinnie, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Shayla, Benjamin Santiago, Barry Smith, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Cynthia Sulvita, 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.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

POPE FRANCIS' MAY INTENTIONS

For Church Movements and Groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$705**
 Loose: \$405
 Tap & Go: \$190
 Smart Facility: \$245
 Donations: \$5

TAP & GO & SMART DONATION FACILITIES

All contributions go to the 2nd Collection.

First Collection contributions go to the Diocese to support our priests.

Second Collection contributions go directly to the Parish to support day to day operation of the Parish.

BIBLE STUDY

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

YOUTH GROUP

Young People from Year 6 to under 18 years old are most welcome every Wednesday during the School Term from 3-5pm.

WESTERN DEANERY YOUNG ADULTS

Next meeting is Friday 26th May at 7pm. All over 18 and under 35 are most welcome to join us for Adoration, Talk and Dinner. Topic: The Value of Christian Friendship in the Journey to Holiness.

PARISH LUNCH

Our next Lunch will be at 12 noon Wednesday 14th June at St. Mary's Band Club. This is a good opportunity to meet other Parishioners in a social setting. All are welcome.

PARISH FETE

Will be held on 6th August. If you can contribute your assistance in any way, please ring the Office.

We are receiving Quality Books, CD's/DVD's and Homewares during Office Hours or ring the Office to make arrangements for another time.

CATHOLIC CARE REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

Information session on Sunday 21st May at 2pm at Mamre House, 181 Mamre Road, Orchard Hills 2748. Or join on Zoom RSVP Rita on 0477 952 024 or rita.hakkoum@catholiccarewsbm.org.au

SAVE CALVARY HOSPITAL

Archbishop Anthony Fisher is asking us to please sign the petition at www.savecalvary.com.au to ask the ACT Government not to take Calvary Hospital from Calvary Health Care, the Catholic operator.

WYD FUNDRAISING

Thank you to all who supported our Mother's Day stall WYD fundraising. We raised \$2526.

Congratulations to our Prize Winners: Sophia Warda, Margaret Padjen, Danielle Grech, Shane Tabone, Lovine Devine & Anthony Arulnathan.

We will remember St Joseph's Parish in our prayers throughout our WYD Journey. God bless you.

The Bartolo Sisters

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

To be collected this weekend. Your compassionate generosity and prayers will support the Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton, a welcoming place where Aboriginal people can express their identity, share their culture and access practical support and developmental opportunities. Thank you for being a Good Samaritan to our First Nation people.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Join the Diocese of Parramatta and Bishop Vincent as we listen and respond to the Holy Spirit, at Holy Spirit Primary School, St Clair on Saturday 24th June at 6.30pm to have your say. To register for your local consultation and learn more visit parracatholic.org/synod2023

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

Pentecost Celebrations – Praise and Worship, Testimonies, the Word of God and Prayer Ministry. Saturday 27th May at Servants of Jesus Centre, 15 Park Road, Seven Hills from 2-5.30pm Enquiries 9810 2499.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Safeguarding Training is **Mandatory for all who Volunteers in our Parishes.**

Bishop Bede Heather Centre at Marian St, Blacktown is offering Modules 1-3 on Friday 9th June from 9.30am to 2.30pm.

Safeguarding Renewal – Modules 4 & 5 will be offered at Bishop Bede Heather Centre on:

Tuesday 6th June at 10am to 1.30pm or

Wednesday 7th June at 10am to 1.30pm

safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org to register.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

The Passion for Evangelisation 13: St Francis Xavier

Wednesday 17th May 2023

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

Today we are speaking about evangelization, about apostolic zeal, of bearing the name of Jesus. And there are many women and men in history who have done this in an exemplary way. Today we choose as an example, Saint Francis Xavier, who some say is considered the greatest missionary of modern times. There are so many hidden missionaries who, even today, do much more than Saint Francis Xavier. And Saint Francis Xavier is the patron of missions, like Saint Therese of the Child Jesus. A missionary is great when he or she goes. And there are many priests, lay people, women religious who go to the missions. Many of you, I see for example, when a story arrives about a priest who is a candidate to become a bishop, who spent ten years as a missionary in that place. This is incredible – to leave your own country to preach the Gospel. This is apostolic zeal which we really need to cultivate. Looking at these men and women, we learn.

Saint Francis Xavier was born into a noble but impoverished family in Navarre, northern Spain, in 1506. He went to study in Paris – he was a worldly young man, intelligent, wonderful, worldly. There, he met Ignatius of Loyola. He made the spiritual exercises and changed his life. And he left everything, his worldly career, to become a missionary. He became a Jesuit priest and went to evangelize, sent to the Orient. At that time, the journeys of the missionaries to the Orient meant they were sent to unknown worlds. And he went, because he was filled with apostolic zeal.

He was the first of a numerous band of passionate missionaries of modern times, ready to endure immense hardships and dangers, to reach lands and meet peoples from completely unknown cultures and languages, driven by the powerful desire to make Jesus Christ and his Gospel known.

In just under eleven years, he accomplished an extraordinary task. Journeys at that time were harsh and perilous. Francis Xavier spent more than three and a half years on ships, a third of the entire duration of his mission. To get to India, he spent three and a half years on ships; then from India to Japan. How touching.

He arrived in Goa, India, and set up his base, but did not stop there. He went on to evangelize the poor fishermen of the southern coast of India, teaching catechism and prayers to children, baptizing and caring for the sick. Then, while praying one night at the tomb of the apostle Saint Bartholomew, he felt he needed to go beyond India. He left the work he had already initiated in good hands and courageously set sail for the Moluccas, the most distant islands of the Indonesian

archipelago. What courage these holy missionaries had! And today's missionaries too. In the Moluccas, he translated the catechism into their local language and taught them how to sing the catechism. We understand his feelings from his letters. He wrote: "Dangers and sufferings, accepted voluntarily and solely for the love and service of God our Lord, are treasures rich in tremendous spiritual consolations. Here, in a few years, someone could lose their eyes from so many tears of joy" (20 January 1548). He cried for joy when beholding God's work.

One day, in India, he met someone from Japan who spoke to him about his distant country, where no European missionary had ever ventured. Francis Xavier felt a restlessness for the apostolate, to go elsewhere, beyond, and he decided to depart as soon as possible, and arrived there after an adventurous journey on a junk belonging to a Chinese man. His three years in Japan were quite difficult, due to the climate, opposition and his ignorance of the language. Here too, however, the seeds planted would bear great fruit.

In Japan, he understood that the decisive country for his mission in Asia was another: China. With its culture, its history, its size, it exercised de facto dominance over that part of the world. Even today, China is a cultural centre with a vast history, a beautiful history. He returned to Goa, and shortly afterwards embarked again, hoping to enter China. But his plan failed; he died at the gates of China, on the island of Sancian, in front of the Chinese shoreline, waiting in vain to land on the mainland near Canton. On 3 December 1552, he died in total abandonment, with only a Chinese man standing beside to watch over him. Thus ended the earthly journey of Francis Xavier.

His intense activity was always joined with prayer, the union with God, mystical and contemplative. He knew that is where he drew his strength. He always went with the most in need, the children who were most in need of instruction, of catechesis. The poor, the sick... He specifically went to the "frontiers" when it came to care. And there, he grew in greatness. And the love of Christ was the strength that drove him to the furthest frontiers, with constant toil and danger, overcoming setbacks, disappointments and discouragement; indeed, giving him consolation and joy in following and serving Him to the end.

Saint Francis Xavier, who did all these great things with such courage, can give us a little bit of zeal to live for and to proclaim the Gospel. Look to Francis Xavier, look at the horizons of the world, look at the people who are in such need and are suffering, who need Jesus. May the Lord grant us the joy to evangelize, the joy to bear this message, which is so beautiful, which makes us, and everyone, happy. Thank you!