

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

MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1st January 2023, Year A/1



ANGELICO, Fra, Madonna and Child, 1433

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: Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King,
who rules heaven and earth for ever.

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

Responsorial Psalm: May the Lord bless us in His mercy.

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

Orlando Surace (Recently Dec.)

SUNDAY 8:30am

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am St Basil & St Gregory Thanksgiving

Tuesday 8:00am Most Holy Name of Jesus Pat & Ken Fleming (Dec. Ann.)

Wednesday 8.00am St Zedislave Berkiana Families' Conversion to Christ

Thursday 8.00am Thursday before Epiphany

Friday 8.00am Friday before Epiphany For God's Precious Infants

Saturday 8.30am St Raymond of Penyafort 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.

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: Sunday 12th November

Registration & 1st Session: 30th July

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Orlando Surace,

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES: Pat & Ken Fleming
Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

POPE FRANCIS' JANUARY INTENTIONS

For Educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Jonathon Ansell, Michael & Marianne Callaghan, Margaret Colville, Frances Gunn, Andrew & Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, John McCahon, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Shayla, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, 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.

Have a grace filled New Year A.D. 2023

Dominican Fathers

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes:** \$672
 Loose: \$802.20
 Tap & Go: \$280
 Smart Facility: \$310
 Donation: \$1055

TAP & GO & SMART DONATION FACILITIES

All contributions go to the 2nd Collection.

QR CODE FOR DONATIONS ON PARISH WEBSITE



BIBLE STUDY

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

SUNDAY 1ST JANUARY MORNING TEA

Please join us to Celebrate the New Year at Morning Tea after the 10am Mass and feel free to bring a plate to share.

Ian and Kaitlin are having a well-earned couple of weeks off in January. Morning teas will resume later in the month. Please thank them for their faithfulness.

LADIES' MORNING TEA

There will be no morning tea this Tuesday 3rd January. Next date will be Tuesday 7th February in the Parish Hall. All ladies of the Parish are most welcome.

PARISH LUNCH

Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 11th January at St. Mary's Band Club. All are most welcome.

PARKING NOTICE

People attending 8.30am Mass please exit via Joseph Street.

**A PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH OF
POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI**

Let us pray. Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Benedict for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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.

CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM

10th to 13th or 17th to 20th January 2023. Open to ages 16 to 20. Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited. Register at www.campion.edu.au/summer-program

WYD23 PILGRIMAGE REGISTRATIONS OPEN!

Registration for WYD23 in Lisbon has now opened. Young people aged 16-35 can register and pay their \$800 deposit to secure their place. Limited spaces are still available to join our team of 170 pilgrims with Bishop Vincent. Visit www.parrawyd.org

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

Christmas with St Francis de Sales

28th December 2022

Dear brothers and sisters, Merry Christmas!

The liturgical season invites us to pause and reflect on the mystery of Christmas. And since today marks the fourth centenary of the death of St Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, we can take a cue from some of his thoughts. He wrote a great deal about Christmas. This is what he wrote in his *Treatise on the Love of God*; "In Holy Church, everything pertains to love, lives in love, is done for love and comes from love" (Italian original from: Ed. Paoline, Milan 1989, p. 80). And may we all go down this path of love, which is so beautiful.

Saint Francis de Sales, in one of his many letters addressed to Saint Jeanne Frances de Chantal, writes: "I imagine I see Solomon on his ivory throne, all beautifully gilded and carved, which, as the Scripture tells us, had no equal in all the kingdoms of the earth (1 Kings 10:18-20) neither was there any king that could be compared, for glory and magnificence, with the king that sat upon it (1 Kings 10:23). And yet, I would a hundred times rather see the dear Jesus in his Crib, than all the kings of the world on their thrones." What he says is beautiful. Jesus, the King of the universe, never sat on a throne. He was born in a stable, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger; and finally He died on a cross and, wrapped in a sheet, was laid in the tomb. The evangelist Luke, in recounting the birth of Jesus, insists a great deal on the detail of the manger. What kind of Messiah is He who was born in Bethlehem; what kind of King is He, Who is Jesus. Seeing the manger, gazing upon the cross, looking at His life, a life of simplicity, we can understand who Jesus is. Jesus is the Son of God Who saves us by becoming man, like us; stripping Himself of His glory and humbling Himself (cf. Phil 2:7-8). We see this mystery in the Child lying in a manger. This is "the sign" that God gives us at Christmas: it is today, and it will always be so. The throne of Jesus is the manger or the street, during His life, preaching; or the Cross at the end of His life. This is the throne of our King.

This sign shows us the "style" of God. which is closeness, compassion, and tenderness. This style of God is seen in Jesus. God draws us to Himself. He does not take us by force, He does not impose His truth and justice on us. He wants to draw us with love, with tenderness, with compassion. Our strengths, our weaknesses, only resolve themselves before the crib, before Jesus, or before the Cross. God has found the means to attract us however we are: with love. Not a possessive and selfish love, as unfortunately human love so often is. His love is pure gift, pure grace, it is all and

only for us, for our good. He draws us in, with this disarming love. When we see this simplicity of Jesus, we too cast aside the weapons of pride and go, humbly, to ask for salvation, forgiveness, and light for our lives, in order to be able to move forward.

Another aspect that stands out in the crib is poverty, understood as the renunciation of all worldly vanity. When we see the money that is spent on worldly vanity; so much effort, so much seeking after vanity; while Jesus makes us see with humility. St Francis de Sales writes: "My God! my daughter, how many holy affections does this birth make rise within our hearts, above all of the perfect renunciation of the goods, the pomps, ... of this world. I do not know whether I find any mystery which so sweetly mingles tenderness with austerity, love with rigour, sweetness with severity." We see all this in the Nativity scene. Yes, let us be careful not to slip into the worldly caricature of Christmas. And this is a problem, because this is Christmas. But today we see that, even if there is "another Christmas," in quotation marks, it is the worldly caricature of Christmas, that reduces Christmas to a sappy, consumerist celebration. We want to celebrate, we want to, but this is not Christmas, Christmas is something else. God's love is not sugar sweet; Jesus' manger shows us that. It is not a hypocritical goodness that hides the pursuit of pleasures and comforts. Our elders, who knew war and also hunger, knew this well: Christmas is joy and celebration, certainly, but in simplicity and austerity.

Two days before St Francis de Sales' death, he said: "Do you see the baby Jesus in the crib? He accepts all the discomforts of that season, the bitter cold and everything that the Father lets happen to him. He does not refuse the small consolations that his Mother gives him; we are not told that he ever reached out for his Mother's breast, but left everything to her care and concern. So too, we ourselves should neither desire nor refuse anything, but accept all that God sends us, the bitter cold and the discomforts of the season," everything. And here, dear brothers and sisters, is a great teaching, which comes to us from the Child Jesus through the wisdom of St Francis de Sales: to desire nothing and reject nothing, to accept everything that God sends us. But be careful! Always and only out of love, always and only out of love, because God loves us and only ever wants our good.

Let us look to the manger, which is the throne of Jesus; let us gaze upon Jesus in the streets of Judea, of Galilee, preaching the message of the Father; and let us look upon Jesus on the other throne, on the Cross. This is what Jesus offers us: the street, but this is the path of happiness.

To all of you and your families, a happy Christmas season and a happy New Year!