

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

Fr. Jacek Buda OP

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (calls only)

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Year B/2



EYCK, Jan van, John the Baptist, The Ghent Altarpiece, 1425-29

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:** 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 40:1-5, 9-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, let us see Your kindness, and grant us Your salvation.

**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 3:8-14

**Gospel:** Mark 1:1-8

### VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

†† Orlando, Frank, Melina, Guiseppe &  
Tony Surace

**SUNDAY** 8:30am

† Patrick Houlihan

10:00am

For the Parish

**Monday** 8:00am 2nd Week of Advent

†† Souls of Priests & Nuns in Purgatory

**Tuesday** 8:00am Our Lady of Guadalupe

† Kirt Tonna

**Wednesday** 8.00am St Lucy

Cynthia Azores (Birthday Blessings)

**Thursday** 8.00am St John of the Cross

John Mathew (Birthday Blessings)

**Friday** 8.00am 2nd Week of Advent

McIlvenna, Dobranski, McCaffrey &  
La-hood Families (Living & †† Deceased)

**Saturday** 8.30am 2nd Week of Advent

† Maryann Tonna

### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to one of the Priests or ring 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. Confessions are also available during Adoration. Please let the Priest know.

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Midnight, 8.30am & 10am**

**Reconciliation: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
9am to 12noon & 5pm to 7.30pm**

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Kirt & Maryann Tonna

### DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Orlando, Frank, Melina, Guiseppe & Tony Surace,  
Patrick Houlihan, Souls of Priests & Nuns in  
Purgatory, Deceased Members of the McIlvenna,  
Dobranski, McCaffrey & La-Hood Families

**WE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Father Andrew, Sr Louisa, Jonathon Ansell, Tony Bogdanovic, Marianne Callaghan, Margaret Colville, Frances Gunn, Andrew & Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, John McCahon, Krystona McWhinnie, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Danny Patos, Shayla, Benjamin Santiago, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Cynthia Sulvita, Charley 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' DECEMBER INTENTIONS

#### For Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**SECOND COLLECTION:**    **Envelopes: \$750**  
                                  **Loose:     \$398.25**  
                                  **Tap & Go: \$180**  
                                  **Smart Facility: \$298**  
**St Joseph Statue Donations Total: \$3595**

### TAP & GO & SMART DONATION FACILITIES

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

### ST JOSEPH STATUE

Donations can be placed in the silver "Donation Box" at the back of the Church. We are planning to have the new Statue blessed on the Feast of St Joseph, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Thank you for your donations.

### BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This weekend we have another collection for the Bishop's Christmas Appeal to make up our quota, which is \$2726. We have collected \$1705.45 so far. Thank you for your generosity.

### CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys. Fr Brian Steele MGL is the Celebrant. All are welcome.

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSE

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in February 2024. This is formation for anyone interested in serving in Liturgical Ministry either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested contact the Office for Worship at [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org) or on 0460 037 795. For an Application Form see Aruna at the Parish Office.

### THANK YOU TO WOLLEMI WORKING BEE

Thank you to the young men from Year 9 of Wollemi who gave of their time and energy to help us. They moved the Church pews outdoors, cleaned, dried and returned them after the carpets were cleaned. They also cleaned out grates, removed cobwebs, washed windows, pressure cleaned brickwork, pruned shrubs and hedges, did edging, cleaned paths, driveway and carpark and collected sticks from the gardens. Well done gentleman. God bless each and every one of you.

### GLENBROOK PARISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St Finbar's Parish invite you to their annual Christmas concert on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Suggested donations for entry are \$15 for individuals and \$35 for families. For enquiries, please contact 0421 105 017.

### MISSION ENHANCEMENT TEAM SOUL FOOD

The Mission Enhancement Team's Soul Food Podcast features life and faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen now for FREE via our website or on Spotify: <https://pffarra.org.au/soulfood/>

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES IN 2024

Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called SmartLoving can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

### SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

#### Safeguarding Mandatory Training.

Under the Children's Guardian Act 2019 and the NSW Child Safe Standards **all** volunteers in parish ministry are Mandatory Reporters and are required to have completed their Safeguarding Training.

**Cycle 1 Mandatory Modules 1-3 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February** – 9.30am-2.30pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown

#### Cycle 2 Renewal Mandatory Modules 4-5

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> (4) & 29<sup>th</sup> (5) February** – 7-8.30pm at St Nicholas of Myra, 326 High St, Penrith

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** – 10am-1.30pm at Holy Spirit Parish, Corner of Todd Road & Moore Street, St Clair

If you would like to complete your 6 points online go to at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

For any questions, please email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement & Education Officer at [maria.kervin@parracatholic.org](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org)

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE**

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**The Passion for Evangelisation:**

**28. Proclamation is for Today**

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

In the last catecheses we saw that the proclamation of the Gospel is joy, it is for everyone, and it is addressed to today. Now let us discover a final essential characteristic: it is necessary that the proclamation takes place in the Holy Spirit. Indeed, to “communicate God”, the joyful credibility of the testimony, the universality of the proclamation and the timeliness of the message are not enough. Without the Holy Spirit, all zeal is vain and falsely apostolic: it would only be our own and would not bear fruit.

In *Evangelii gaudium* I recalled that “Jesus is the first and greatest evangelizer”; that “in every activity of evangelization, the primacy always belongs to God”, who “called us to cooperate with him and who leads us on by the power of his Spirit” (no. 12). Here is the primacy of the Holy Spirit! Thus, the Lord compares the dynamism of the Kingdom of God to “a man [who scatters] seed upon the ground and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he knows not how” (Mk 4:26-27). The Spirit is the protagonist; he always precedes the missionaries and makes the fruit grow. This knowledge comforts us a great deal! And it helps us to specify another, equally decisive: namely, that in her apostolic zeal the Church does not announce herself, but a grace, a gift, and the Holy Spirit is precisely the Gift of God, as Jesus said to the Samaritan woman (cf. Jn 4:10).

The primacy of the Spirit should not, however, induce us to indolence. Confidence does not justify disengagement. The vitality of the seed that grows by itself does not authorize farmers to neglect the field. Jesus, in giving his last recommendations before ascending to heaven, said: “You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses ... to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

The Lord has not left us theological lecture notes or a pastoral manual to apply, but the Holy Spirit who inspires the mission. And the courageous initiative that the Spirit instils in us leads us to imitate his

style, which has two characteristics: creativity and simplicity.

Creativity, to proclaim Jesus with joy, to everyone and today. In this age of ours, which does not help us have a religious outlook on life, and in which the proclamation has become in various places more difficult, arduous, apparently fruitless, the temptation to desist from pastoral service may arise. Perhaps one takes refuge in safety zones, like the habitual repetition of things one always does, or in the alluring calls of an intimist spirituality, or even in a misunderstood sense of the centrality of the liturgy. They are temptations that disguise themselves as fidelity to tradition, but often, rather than responses to the Spirit, they are reactions to personal dissatisfactions. Instead, pastoral creativity, being bold in the Spirit, ardent in his missionary fire, is the proof of fidelity to him. Therefore, I wrote that “Jesus can also break through the dull categories with which we would enclose him, and he constantly amazes us by his divine creativity. Whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world” (*Evangelii gaudium*, 11).

Creativity, therefore; and then simplicity, precisely because the Spirit takes us to the source, to the “first proclamation”. Indeed, it is “the fire of the Spirit ... [that] leads us to believe in Jesus Christ who, by his death and resurrection, reveals and communicates to us the Father’s infinite mercy” (no. 164). This is the first proclamation, which must “be the centre of all evangelizing activity and all efforts at Church renewal”; to say over and over, “Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you” (*ibid*).

Brothers and sisters, let us allow ourselves to be drawn by the Spirit and invoke him every day; may he be the source of our being and our work; may he be at the origin of every activity, encounter, meeting and proclamation. He enlivens and rejuvenates the Church: with him we must not fear, because he, who is harmony, always keeps creativity and simplicity together, inspires communion and sends out in mission, opens to diversity and leads back to unity. He is our strength, the breath of our proclamation, the source of apostolic zeal. Come, Holy Spirit!