

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)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

17th March 2024, Year B/2



ANGELICA, Fra, Nailing of Christ to the Cross, 1441-42

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: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for You, O God, are my strength.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Responsorial Psalm: Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel: John 12:20-30

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm † John Francis Ryan

SUNDAY 8:30am †† Maria Guichard, Germaine & Wayekon Hipwaye
10:00am For the Parish

Monday 8.00am ST PATRICK †† For the Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday 8:00am ST JOSEPH † Leo St Lambert

Wednesday 8.00am 5th Week of Lent †† For the Souls in Purgatory

Thursday 8.00am 5th Week of Lent †† Jan & Stefania Zawadzki
& Anastasia & Michal Kubic

Friday 8.00am 5th Week of Lent †† For the Souls in Purgatory

Saturday 8.30am 5th Week of Lent † Basilisa Ortaleza

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priest or ring the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kelly Coleman

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR: John Francis Ryan, Maria Guichard, Germaine & Wayekon Hipwaye, Leo St Lambert, Jan & Stefania Zawadzki, Michal & Anastasia Kubic, Basilisa Ortaleza

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday - 23rd/24th March - Masses as usual

Monday 25th - Wednesday 27th March - Mass 8am

Reconciliation for Easter - Monday 25th March
9am to 12noon & 5pm to 7.30pm

Holy Thursday March 28th - 7pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday March 29th - Stations of the Cross - 11am
Passion of Christ - 3pm

Holy Saturday March 30th - Paschal Vigil - 7.30pm

Easter Sunday March 31st - Masses at 8.30am & 10am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday at 6pm.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: 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, 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

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2024

Sessions for Reconciliation 11.30am Sundays

First Communion: Sunday 2nd June

Registration & 1st Session: 7th April

Confirmation: Sunday 3rd November

Registration & 1st Session: 21st July

POPE FRANCIS' MARCH INTENTIONS

For New Martyrs

Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$810**
 Loose: \$1251.75
 Tap & Go: \$300
 Smart Facility: \$305

St Joseph Statue Donations Total: \$5180

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.

PARISH LUNCH

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12 noon. Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 10th April at St. Mary's Band Club. All are most welcome.

ST JOSEPH STATUE

Unfortunately, our Statue will not be here for the Feast of St Joseph. We are hopeful that it will arrive soon and we will then arrange a date to have it blessed. Thank you for your continuing donations.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Your Project Compassion box will help to support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support Caritas has been able to help tackle poverty, food security, education, etc. in vulnerable communities.

CREIGHTON MODEL FERTILITY CARE

Free Zoom Introductory Session. See flyer for information and to register.

ST JOSEPH'S LENTEN MISSIONS

The Dominican Fathers from Glebe will be preaching on all the Masses this Sunday and the 8am morning Masses from Monday to Wednesday with Adoration from 7am as usual.

Evening Sessions from Monday to Wednesday will begin with Adoration and Reconciliation from 6pm followed by Mass and Conference at 7pm. Please join us. See flyer at the back of the church for more details.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

For Cancer Patients, Survivors & Families Who Lost Loved Ones to Cancer

March 22nd at 7pm at St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith. See flyer for more information.

GRACE & SILENCE RETREAT FOR WOMEN

The Mount Schoenstatt Girls and Young Women ministry invite single women aged 20 to 40 discerning a vocation to marriage and family, single life or consecrated life to a series of silent retreat days beginning Sunday 7 April from 9.30am to 4.30pm at Bethany, 301 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. Remaining sessions are 5 May and 2 June. Cost is \$25 per day or \$90 for the full series. For catering purposes, registrations close a week prior to each event. For details, contact Hannah on 0433 443 384.

MISSION ENHANCEMENT SOUL FOOD

The Mission Enhancement Team's Soul Food Podcast features life & faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen for FREE via our website on: www.parracatholic.org/resources/soul-food

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Safeguarding Mandatory Training.

Under the Children's Guardian Act 2019 and the NSW Child Safe Standards **all** volunteers in parishes are required to complete their Safeguarding Training.

Cycle 1 Mandatory Training

Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown
Module 3: Tuesday 19th March (10am – 11.30am)

Cycle 2 Renewal Mandatory Modules 4-5

Coming in May & June. Further information to follow.

For the direct link to training dates and to register: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

Go to <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au> if you would like to complete the modules online.

For any questions, please email Maria Kervin, at maria.kervin@parracatholic.org

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

Wednesday 13th March 2024

Cycle of Catechesis. Vices and Virtues.

11. Virtuous Action

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning!

After having concluded our overview of the vices, it is now time to take a look at the mirror image, which is in opposition to the experience of evil. The human heart can indulge evil passions, it can pay heed to harmful temptations disguised in persuasive garb, but it can also oppose all of this. However arduous this may be, the human being is made for goodness, which truly fulfils him, and is also able to practise this art, causing certain dispositions to become permanent in him or her. Reflection on this wondrous possibility of ours forms a classic chapter in moral philosophy: the chapter of virtue.

The Roman philosophers called it *virtus*, the Greeks *aretè*. The Latin term highlights above all that the virtuous person is strong, courageous, capable of discipline and asceticism: therefore, the exercise of the virtues is the fruit of long germination, requiring effort and even suffering. The Greek word, *aretè*, instead indicates something that excels, something that emerges, that elicits admiration. The virtuous person therefore does not become warped by distortion, but remains faithful to his own vocation, fully realizing himself.

We would be off-course if we thought that the saints were the exceptions of humanity: a sort of restricted circle of champions who live beyond the limits of our species. The saints, from this perspective we have just introduced regarding the virtues, are instead those who become themselves fully, who fulfil the vocation proper to every man or woman. What a happy world it would be if justice, respect, mutual benevolence, broadmindedness, and hope were the shared normality, and not instead a rare anomaly! This is why the chapter on virtuous action, in these dramatic times of ours in which we often have to come to terms with the worst of humanity, should be rediscovered and practised by all. In a distorted world, we must remember the form in which we were shaped, the image of God that is forever imprinted upon us.

But how can we define the concept of virtue? The Catechism of the Catholic Church offers us a precise and concise definition: "A virtue is an habitual and firm disposition to do the good" (no. 1803). Therefore, it is not an improvised or somewhat random good that falls from heaven sporadically. History shows us that even criminals, in moments of lucidity, have performed good deeds; certainly, these deeds are inscribed in the "book of God", but virtue is something else. It is a goodness that stems from a slow maturation of the person to the point of becoming an inner characteristic. Virtue is a *habitus* of freedom. If we are free in every act, and every time we are required to choose between good and evil, virtue is what enables us to have a tendency towards the right choice.

If virtue is such a beautiful gift, a question immediately arises: how is it possible to obtain it? The answer to this question is not simple, it is complex.

For the Christian, the first aid is God's grace. Indeed, the Holy Spirit acts in us who have been baptized, working in our soul to lead it to a virtuous life. How many Christians have reached holiness through tears, finding they could not overcome some of their weaknesses! But they experienced that God completed that work of good that for them was only a sketch. Grace always precedes our moral commitment.

Moreover, we must never forget the very rich lesson from the wisdom of the ancients, which tells us that virtue grows and can be cultivated. And for this to happen, the first gift to ask of the Spirit is precisely wisdom. The human being is not a free territory for the conquest of pleasures, emotions, instincts, passions, without being able to do anything against these forces, at times chaotic, that dwell within. A priceless gift we possess is open-mindedness, it is the wisdom that can learn from mistakes in order to direct life well. Then, it takes good will: the capacity to choose the good, to form ourselves with ascetic exercise, shunning excesses.

Dear brothers and sisters, this is how we begin our journey through the virtues, in this serene universe that is challenging, but decisive for our happiness. I invoke upon all of you joy and peace in our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!