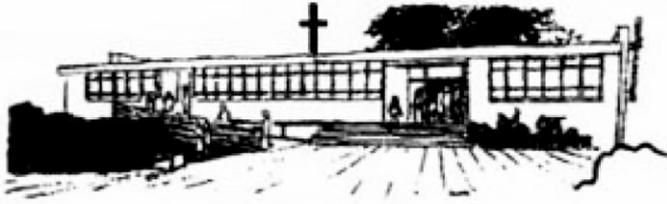


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP
Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP
Assistant Priest
Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9th February 2025, Year C/1



Our Lady of Lourdes, 2014

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
During Morning Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
(Please let the Priest know.)

ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Office Times

8:30am - 4:00pm - 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 Road, 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

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

Responsorial Psalm: In the sight of the angels, I will sing Your praises, Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		Larry Ritter (For Healing)
SUNDAY	8:30am		Dave Fisher (For Healing)
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	St Scholastica	Living & †† Dec. Mem. of the McIlvenna, Dobranski, Colreavy, McCaffrey & Lahood Families
Tuesday	8:00am	Our Lady of Lourdes	† Bishop Edward Kelly
Wednesday	8.00am	Bl Reginald of Orleans	† Bishop Geoffrey Robinson
Thursday	8.00am	Bl Jordan of Saxony	†† For the Souls in Purgatory
Friday	8.00am	St Cyril & St Methodius	† Aneesh Joseph
Saturday	8.30am	Mass of the Virgin Mary	†† Irene & Frank Anjela Barglik

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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 speak to the Priest.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2025

Reconciliation: Thursday 10th April

Registration & 1st Session: 2nd March

First Communion: 22nd June

Registration & 1st Session: 27th April

Confirmation: Thursday 6th November

Registration & 1st Session: 20th July

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priest or ring the Parish Office.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Helen Zerafa

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR: Dec. Mem. of the McIlvenna, Dobranski, Colreavy, McCaffrey & Lahood Families, Bishop Edward Kelly, Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Souls in Purgatory, Aneesh Joseph, Irene & Frank Anjela Barglik

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY

The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God this weekend. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Sr Louisa, Carolina Q. Alvarez, Jonathon Ansell, Tony Bogdanovic, Margaret Colville, Frances Gunn, Andrew & Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, John McCahon, Krystona McWhinnie, Nympha Miller, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Shayla, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Maureen van Hoogenvest, David Wakeling, Mary Woodward.

SICK LIST: Due to privacy laws, if you have anyone for the sick list, please 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' FEBRUARY INTENTIONS

For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$750**
 Loose: \$516.55
 Smart Facility: \$655
Carpet Donations: \$4961.10

SMART DONATION FACILITIES

Donations from the two Smart terminals at the door go towards the 2nd Collection. Donations from the Smart terminal near the creche go towards Special Project Donations.

Our Special Project Donations are now going towards Carpet for the Church. Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.

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 this Wednesday 12th February at St. Mary's Band Club. All are most welcome.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you are new to our Parish, have not registered or want to update your information, please use the QR Code.



WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT/MT SCHOENSTATT

Join us at Mount Schoenstatt for a reflective retreat inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. The retreat runs from 7pm on 21 February to 4pm on 23 February. \$240 per person for a shared room, \$290 per person for a single room (limited availability), or \$60 per person per day for day attendance. Accommodation and meals are included, or lunch for day attendees. Register by 12 February by contacting Sr M Elizabeth Foley at bookings@schoenstatt.org.au or 02 4773 8338.

MISSION ENHANCEMENT SOUL FOOD

Features life and faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen for FREE via our website on: www.parracatholic.org/resources/soul-food

MT SCHOENSTATT WOMEN'S RETREAT:

'GRACE & SILENCE' A four-part single-day retreat series is for single young women aged 20-35 discerning their vocation. Attendance on all four days is highly recommended. Spaces are limited, and registration is essential. The retreats take place on Saturdays: 8 February, 8 March, 12 April, and 10 May, from 9:30am to 4:30pm, at "Bethany," 301 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. The cost is \$25 per day, including lunch. For more information or to register, contact Hannah on 0433 443 384.

MEDJUGORIE PILGRIMAGE

1st to 9th April 2025. Chaplain is Fr Neil Bulathsinhala. Tour includes Daily Mass, Confessions, Rosary & Evening Program. See the flyer on the noticeboard for more information.

MAGI PILGRIMAGES 2025

Magi Pilgrimages are organising the following Jubilee Pilgrimages for 2025: 1. Streams of Mercy (May); 2. Italy and Poland (May); 3. Marian Shrines (June); 4. Shrines of Our Lady (August); 5. Pilgrimage of Hope (October). For itineraries and bookings call 1300 721 561 or email pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Safeguarding Mandatory Training.

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

Modules 1-3 – These Modules are for new Volunteers who have not completed any safeguarding Training. **The next session of face-to-face Training will be held on 22nd February at Holy Family Parish, Emerton.**

Modules 4/5 – Renewal for those who completed Modules 1-3 two years ago.

The next session of face-to-face Training will be held on 3rd May at Holy Family Parish, Emerton

For the direct link to training dates and to register: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/?series=safeguarding-training>

To complete the modules online go to <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

Wednesday 5th February 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025.

Jesus Christ our Hope. I. The Infancy of Jesus. 4. "Blessed are you who believed" (Lk 1:45). The Visitation and the Magnificat

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we will contemplate the beauty of Jesus Christ our hope in the mystery of the Visitation. The Virgin Mary visits Saint Elizabeth; but it is above all *Jesus*, in His mother's womb, who *visits His people* (cf. Lk 1:68), as Zechariah says in his hymn of praise.

After the astonishment and wonder at what has been announced to her by the Angel, Mary gets up and sets out on a journey, like all those who are called to in the Bible, because "the only act with which man can respond to God who is revealed to him is that of unlimited readiness" (H.U. von Balthasar, *Vocation*, Rome 2002, 29). This young daughter of Israel does not choose to protect herself from the world; she does not fear dangers and the judgements of others, but goes out towards other people.

When we feel loved, we experience a force that sets love in motion; as the apostle Paul says, "the love of Christ impels us" (2Cor 5:14), it drives us, it moves us. Mary feels the push of this love, and goes to help a woman who is her relative, but also an elderly woman who, after a long wait, is welcoming an unhoped-for pregnancy, difficult to deal with at her age. But the Virgin also goes to Elizabeth to share her faith in the God of the impossible and her hope in the fulfilment of His promises.

The encounter between the two women produces a surprising impact: the voice of Mary, "full of grace", who greets Elizabeth provokes the prophecy in the child the older woman is carrying in her womb, and inspires in her a dual blessing: "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" (Lk 1:42). And also a beatitude: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled" (v. 45).

Faced with the recognition of the messianic identity of her Son and her mission as mother, Mary does not speak of herself but of God, and raises a praise full of faith, hope and joy, a song that resounds every day in

the Church during the prayer of Vespers: the *Magnificat* (Lk 1:46-55).

This praise to God the saviour, which gushed forth from the heart of his humble servant, is a solemn memorial that synthesizes and fulfils the prayer of Israel. It is interwoven with biblical resonances, a sign that Mary does not want to sing "out of the choir" but to tune in with the forefathers, exalting her compassion for the humble, those little ones whom Jesus in his preaching will declare "blessed" (cf. Mt 5:1-12).

The prominent presence of the paschal motif also makes the *Magnificat* a hymn of redemption, which has as its backdrop the memory of the liberation of Israel from Egypt. The verbs are all in the past, imbued with a memory of the love that lights up the present with faith and illuminates the future with hope: Mary sings of the grace of the past, but she is the woman of the present who carries the future in her womb.

The first part of this canticle praises God's action in Mary, a microcosm of the people of God who adhere fully to the covenant (vv. 46-50); the second ranges from the work of the Father in the macrocosm of the history of His son (vv. 51-55), through three key words: memory, mercy, promise.

The Lord, who bowed down to the humble Mary to fulfil "great things" in her and make her the mother of the Lord, began to save His people starting from the exodus, remembering the universal blessing promised to Abraham (cf. Gen 12:1-3). The Lord God who is the faithful for ever, showered an uninterrupted stream of merciful love "from age to age" (v. 50) upon the people loyal to the covenant, and now manifests the fullness of salvation in His Son, sent to save the people from their sins. From Abraham to Jesus Christ and the community of believers, the Passover thus appears as the hermeneutical category for understanding every subsequent liberation, up to that realized by the Messiah in the fullness of time.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us ask the Lord today for the grace to be able to wait for the fulfilment of every one of His promises; and to help us to welcome Mary's presence in our life. By following her example, may we all discover that every soul that believes and hopes "conceives and begets the Word of God" (Saint Ambrose, *Exposition of the Gospel according to Luke 2, 26*).