

# 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)

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25<sup>th</sup> May 2025, Year C/1



Virgin and Child Enthroned (1800s), Anonymous

### 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

Mrs. Rochelle Borg – Principal

### School Office Times

8:30am - 4:00pm - Monday to Friday

### Address

94 Joseph Street  
Kingswood, NSW 2747

**Telephone:** 4726 4200

[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 Road, 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

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2, 22-29

**Responsorial Psalm:** O God, let all the nations praise You!

**Second Reading:** Apocalypse 21:10-14, 22-23

**Gospel:** John 14:23-29

### VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

† Marina Orca

**SUNDAY** 8:30am

Joshua Descalzo (Birthday Blessings)

10:00am

For the Parish

**Monday** 8:00am St Philip Neri

† Nestor San Jose

**Tuesday** 8:00am 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

† Zbigniew Blazek

**Wednesday** 8.00am 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

† Rudi Isbitzki (Deceased's Birthday)

**Thursday** 8.00am 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

†† Zbigniew Blazek, Elzbieta Kral & Bronislaw Pikula

**Friday** 8.00am 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter

Living & †† Dec. Mem. of the McIlvenna, Dobranski, Colreavy & McCaffrey Families

**Saturday** 8.30am VISITATION OF  
BL VIRGIN MARY

† Bishop Edward Kelly

### 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.

### ROSARY AND BENEDICTION

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

### POPE'S MAY INTENTIONS

#### For Working Conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised.

### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priest or ring the Parish Office.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

### RECENTLY DECEASED: Marina Orca

**DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:** Nestor San Jose, Rudi Isbitzki, Zbigniew Blazek, Elzbieta Kral, Bronislaw Pikula, Dec. Mem. of McIlvenna, Dobranski, Colreavy & McCaffrey Families

### CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2025

**First Communion: 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 10am Mass.**

All Sessions will be after 10am Mass at 11.30am

**Confirmation: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July

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

**SECOND COLLECTION:**      **Envelopes: \$715**  
   **Loose:      \$381.80**  
   **Smart Facility: \$586**  
   **A/Cs & Carpet Donations: \$10,063**

### SMART DONATION FACILITIES

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

**Our Special Projects Donations** are now going towards the Air Conditioning and Carpet Projects 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.

### MEN'S BARBEQUE

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May after 6pm Mass. All men over 18 are invited to come and enjoy an evening together.

### PARISH LUNCH

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 12 noon. Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 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.



**PARISH SURVEY:** Please take a copy and fill it out.

### SRE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to find out more about becoming a scripture teacher or helper you can call the parish office on 4721 4080. Training is provided.

### GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL

This weekend we have the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal to help our Seminarians to answer their call to be "Pilgrims and Sowers of Hope". Our quota is \$2300. Please be generous.

### MOUNT SCHOENSTATT SHRINE TIME

For youth and young adults at the Schoenstatt Shrine, Mulgoa, every fourth Sunday of the month for praise, worship, silence, prayer, reflection and benediction at the Shrine. For further information please contact Sr M Rita via [srrita@schoenstatt.org.au](mailto:srrita@schoenstatt.org.au) or 0493 026 628.

### YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, South Mt Druitt (9 Ropes Creek Rd Mt Druitt) at 7pm. The speaker is Sister Agnes, who will speak on St Padre Pio. If you have any questions, please call Mark on 0477 004 678.

### PENTECOST SUNDAY CELEBRATION

On 8<sup>th</sup> June at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes. See Flyer on noticeboard.

### DISCERNMENT DAY

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June from 9am to 12.30pm at Don Bosco Youth Centre. For ages 18 – 30. See Flyer at the back of the Church to register.

### IGNITE CONFERENCE 2025

In Sydney from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July. See Poster at the back of the Church for more information.

### DIOCESAN JUBILEE OF HOPE RETREATS

Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the options of retreats below:

August: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>

November: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>

### ADULT JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

For adults 35 years and over from 7<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025. For more information and to register, visit [parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/](https://parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/)

### 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.

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

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](mailto:maria.kervin@parracatholic.org)

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE LEO XIV GENERAL AUDIENCE

21<sup>st</sup> May 2025

**Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. *Jesus Christ our Hope. II. The life of Jesus. The parables 6. The sower. He spoke to them at length in parables (Mt 13:3a)***

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

I am pleased to welcome you in this, my first general Audience. Today I will resume the cycle of Jubilee catecheses, on the theme “Jesus Christ Our Hope”, initiated by Pope Francis.

Let us continue today to meditate on the parables of Jesus, which help us to regain hope, because they show us how God works in history. Today I would like to dwell on a parable which is somewhat peculiar, because it is a sort of introduction to all the parables. I refer to that of the sower (cf. Mt 13:1-17). In a certain sense, in this account we can recognize Jesus’ way of communicating, which has a great deal to teach us for proclaiming the Gospel today.

Every parable tells a story that is taken from everyday life, yet wants to tell us something more, to refer us to a deeper meaning. The parable raises questions in us; it invites us not to stop at appearances. Before the story that is told or the image that is presented to me, I can ask myself: where am I in this story? What does this image say to my life? In fact, the term “parable” comes from the Greek, which means *to throw in front of*. The parable throws before me a word that provokes me and prompts me to question myself.

The parable of the sower talks precisely about the dynamic of the word of God and the effects it produces. Indeed, every word of the Gospel is like a seed that is thrown on the ground of our life. Jesus uses the image of the seed many times, with different meanings. In chapter 13 of the Gospel of Matthew, the parable of the sower introduces a series of other short parables, some of which talk precisely about what is happening on the terrain: the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, the treasure hidden in the field. What, then, is this soil? It is our heart, but it is also the world, the community, the Church. The word of God, in fact, makes fruitful and provokes every reality.

At the beginning, we see Jesus who leaves the house and gathers a great crowd around him (cf. Mt 13:1). His word fascinates and intrigues. Among the people there are obviously many different situations. The word of Jesus is for everyone, but it works in each person in a different way. This context allows us to understand better the meaning of the parable.

A rather unusual sower goes out to sow but does not care where the seed falls. He throws the seeds even where it is unlikely they will bear fruit: on the path, on the rocks, among the thorns. This attitude surprises the listener and induces him to ask: how come?

We are used to calculating things – and at times it is necessary – but this does not apply in love! The way in which this “wasteful” sower throws the seed is an image of the way God loves us. Indeed, it is true that the destiny of the seed depends also on the way in which the earth welcomes it and the situation in which it finds itself, but first and foremost in this parable Jesus tells us that God throws the seed of his Word on all kinds of soil, that is, in any situation of ours: at times we are more superficial and distracted, at times we let ourselves get carried away by enthusiasm, sometimes we are burdened by life’s worries, but there are also times when we are willing and welcoming. God is confident and hopes that sooner or later the seed will blossom. This is how he loves us: he does not wait for us to become the best soil, but he always generously gives us his word. Perhaps by seeing that he trusts us, the desire to be better soil will be kindled in us. This is hope, founded on the rock of God’s generosity and mercy.

In telling the way in which the seed bears fruit, Jesus is also talking about his life. Jesus is the Word, he is the Seed. And the seed, to bear fruit, must die. Thus, this parable tells us that God is ready to “waste away” for us and that Jesus is willing to die in order to transform our life.

I have in mind that beautiful painting by Van Gogh, *The sower at sunset*. That image of the sower in the blazing sun also speaks to me of the farmer’s toil. And it strikes me that, behind the sower, Van Gogh depicted the grain already ripe. It seems to me an image of hope: one way or another, the seed has borne fruit. We are not sure how, but it has. At the centre of the scene, however, is not the sower, who stands to the side; instead, the whole painting is dominated by the image of the sun, perhaps to remind us that it is God who moves history, even if he sometimes seems absent or distant. It is the sun that warms the clods of earth and makes the seed ripen.

Dear brothers and sisters, in what situation of life today is the Word of God reaching us? Let us ask the Lord for the grace always to welcome this seed that is his Word. And if we realize we are not a fruitful soil, let us not be discouraged, but let us ask him to work on us more to make us become a better terrain.