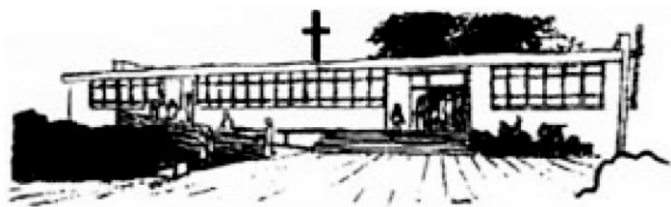


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP
Parish Priest

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

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23rd February 2025, Year C/1



ANGELICO, Fra, Madonna & 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

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

ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. Alan Eisenhuth – Acting Principal

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: Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

Maureen (Birthday Blessings)

SUNDAY 8:30am

† Ophelia Paraan

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am Week 7 in Ordinary Time Jason & Andrew Isbitzki (Birthday Blessings)

Tuesday 8:00am Week 7 in Ordinary Time Maggie's Family (God's Will in their Lives)

Wednesday 8.00am Week 7 in Ordinary Time Gabriel Ching (Birthday Blessings)

Thursday 8.00am Week 7 in Ordinary Time Gai Schoemaker (Healing from Arthritis)

Friday 8.00am Week 7 in Ordinary Time † Kathy (For her Soul)

Saturday 8.30am Mass of the Virgin Mary †† Dec. Mems. of St Vincent de Paul

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.

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priest or ring the Parish Office.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday 5th March is Ash Wednesday, which is a day of Fasting & Abstinence. Masses will be at 8.00am and 7.00pm, with a School Liturgy of the Word at 12noon.

Stations of the Cross - Fridays at 6pm during Lent.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fay Mahoney (Fay's funeral is Monday 24th February at 1.30pm).

Ophelia Paraan (Ophelia's funeral is Friday 28th February at 11am).

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Kathy, Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2025

Reconciliation: Thursday 10th April

Registration & 1st Session: Sunday 2nd March

First Communion: 22nd June

Registration & 1st Session: Sunday 27th April

Confirmation: Thursday 6th November

Registration & 1st Session: Sunday 20th July

All Sessions will be after 10am Mass at 11.30am

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, 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

PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Please return your Palms by Monday 3rd March to be burned ready for Ash Wednesday on 5th March.

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: \$925**
 Loose: \$483.05
 Smart Facility: \$755
 Carpet Donations: \$5843.10

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 Wednesday 12th March 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.



MEN AT THE SHRINE

An hour of adoration on Wednesday 12th March from 8-9pm at the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa. Please see the Flyer on the noticeboard for further information. For any questions contact Bernard on 0416 106 871.

XAVIER COLLEGE OPEN NIGHT

Tuesday 4th March from 4pm to 6pm. Prospective 2026 students and their families are warmly invited to attend. Application forms will be available on the night.

LIFTED LAUNCH

Join us for LIFTED Launch on Thursday, February 27th, from 6:45pm to 9:30pm at West HQ, Rooty Hill! Get a sneak peek at exciting events we have planned for young Catholics, including the Jubilee Year Pilgrimage and Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Enjoy a night of prayer, formation, and fun with fellow young Catholics. Register now: parracatholic.org/events/liftedlaunch/

MT SCHOENSTATT MONTHLY SHRINE TIME

Join us every fourth Sunday of the month for praise, worship, silence, prayer, reflection and benediction at the Shrine. There is also the opportunity to go to confession. For further information please contact Sr M Rita at srrita@schoenstatt.org.au or 0493 026 628.

YOUNG ADULTS FAITH FORMATION

Sunday 2nd March at 7.00-8-30pm at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 9 Ropes Creek Road, Sth Mt Druitt. Simon Carrington will speak on St Therese of Lisieux, followed by games and pizza.

OUR DIOCESE'S JUBILEE YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

Young people (18-35) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 5 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. Express your interest today at parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025

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.

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 19th February 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025.

Jesus Christ our Hope. I. The Infancy of Jesus.

6. *"They saw the child. They prostrated themselves and did him homage" (Mt 2:11). The Visit of the Magi to the newborn King.*

Dear brothers and sisters,

In the Gospels of the childhood of Jesus there is an episode which is exclusive to Matthew's narrative: the *visit of the Magi*. Attracted by the appearance of a star, which in many cultures is the harbinger of the birth of an exceptional person, some wise men set out on a journey from the east, without knowing exactly where they will go. They are the Magi, people who do not belong to the people of the covenant. The last time we spoke about the shepherds of Bethlehem, marginalized by Hebrew society because they were considered "impure"; today we encounter another category, the foreigners, who immediately arrive to pay homage to the Son of God who entered into history with an entirely unprecedented kingship. The Gospels tell us clearly that the poor and foreigners are invited among the first to meet God made child, the Saviour of the world.

The Magi were considered to be representatives both of the primordial races, generated by the three sons of Noah, and of the three continents known in antiquity, Asia, Africa and Europe, as well as the three phases of human life: youth, maturity and old age. Aside from all possible interpretations, they are men who, like the great chosen ones of biblical history, feel the need to move, to go forth. They are men who are able to look beyond themselves, who know how to look upwards.

The attraction for the star that appeared in the sky sets them on the move to the land of Judaea, to Jerusalem, where they meet King Herod. Their naivety and trust in asking for information about the newborn king of the Jews clashes with the shrewdness of Herod, who, troubled by the fear of losing his throne, immediately tries to obtain a better view, contacting the scribes and asking them to investigate.

The power of the earthly ruler thus shows all his weakness. The experts know the Scriptures and

refer to the king the place where, according to Micah's prophecy, the leader and shepherd of the people of Israel should be born (*Mi 5:1*): little Bethlehem, and not great Jerusalem! Indeed, as Paul reminds the Corinthians, "God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong" (*1 Cor 1:27*).

However, the scribes, who are able to identify the Messiah's birthplace exactly, show the way to others, but they themselves do not move! Indeed, it is not enough to know the prophetic texts to tune in to the divine frequencies; one must let them to enter within and allow the Word of God to revive the yearning to seek, the kindle to desire to see God.

Herod, acting in secret, as do the deceitful and violent, asks the Magi the precise moment of the appearance of the star and incites them to continue their journey and then to return to bring him news, so that he too can go and adore the newborn. For those attached to power, Jesus is not the hope to be welcomed, but a threat to be eliminated!

When the Magi set off again, the star reappears and leads them to Jesus, the sign that creation and the prophetic word represent the alphabet with which God speaks and lets Himself be found. The sight of the star inspires an irrepressible joy in those men, because the Holy Spirit, who stirs the heart of whoever sincerely seeks God, also fills it with joy. Having entered the house, the Magi prostrate themselves, adore Jesus and offer Him precious gifts, worthy of a king, worthy of God. Why? What do they see? An ancient author writes: they see "a humble little body that the Word has assumed; but the glory of divinity is not hidden from them. They see an infant child; but they worship God" (*CROMAZIO DI AQUILEIA, Comment on the Gospel of Matthew, 5:1*). The Magi thus become the first believers among the pagans, the image of the Church drawn together from every language and nation.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us, too, follow in the footsteps of the Magi, these "pilgrims of hope" who, with great courage, turned their steps, hearts and goods towards the One who is the hope not only of Israel but of all peoples. Let us learn to adore God in His smallness, in His kingship that does not crush but rather sets us free and enables us to serve with dignity. And let us offer Him the most beautiful gifts, to express our faith and our love.