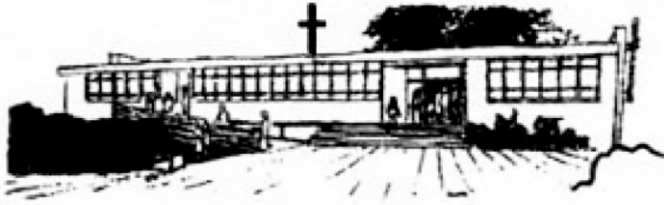


# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP  
Parish Priest

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

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

12<sup>th</sup> January 2025, Year C/1



VERROCCHIO, Andrea de & DA VINCI, Leonardo, The Baptism of Christ, 1475

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](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:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

**Second Reading:** Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

**Gospel:** Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

### VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

Basilisa Daton Toledo (Birthday Blessings)

**SUNDAY** 8:30am

† Benjamin Santiago

10:00am

For the Parish

**Monday** 8:00am Week 1 in Ordinary Time Lejan James (Birthday Blessings)

**Tuesday** 8:00am Week 1 in Ordinary Time Nancy Galow (Birthday Blessings)

**Wednesday** 8.00am Week 1 in Ordinary Time Mass in Thanksgiving

**Thursday** 8.00am Week 1 in Ordinary Time † Irene Barglik

**Friday** 8.00am St Anthony † Beato Justina Toledo

**Saturday** 8.30am St Margaret of Hungary †† Luis Sr. & Julia Gutiza Ching

### 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.

### POPE FRANCIS' JANUARY INTENTIONS

#### For the Right to an Education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Benjamin Santiago, Sarah Ryan, Magdalino Pacon, Anthony Box

### DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Irene Barglik, Beato Justina Toledo, Luis Sr. & Julia Gutiza Ching

### CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2025

**Reconciliation: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session: 2<sup>nd</sup> March

**First Communion: 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

Registration & 1<sup>st</sup> Session: 27<sup>th</sup> April

### PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be open for limited hours from 16 January 2025 to 11 February 2025. In an emergency, please ring the parish mobile on 0423 725 148 or contact Fr Andrew.

**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.

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

## PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

**SECOND COLLECTION:**    **Envelopes: \$740**  
                                  **Loose:     \$575.90**  
                                  **Smart Facility: \$565**  
                                  **Carpet Donations: \$4186.10**

### 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.

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



### SUNDAY MORNING TEA

Morning Tea will resume on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Thank you, Ian, Kaitlin & Jim; may God bless you for your faithfulness.

### DISNEY MYSTERY CAMP WITH LOWANA

From 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January at Springwood for girls from Year 5 to Year 8. See flyers at the back of the Church for more information.

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSE IN 2025

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in Blacktown and Penrith. This free formation is open to anyone in the diocese interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. To enrol contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org](mailto:lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org) Registrations close 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.

### POLAND & ITALY PILGRIMAGE

#### In the Footsteps of St John Paul II

16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025. See the flyer on the noticeboard.

### MEDJUGORIE PILGRIMAGE

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

### PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE

A 16-day pilgrimage from 22<sup>nd</sup> April to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 visiting Fatima, Valladolid, Lourdes, Nice, Turin, Padua, Assisi, Rotondo and Rome. Cost is \$8990 + tips. For enquiries and bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email [pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

### NATURAL FERTILITY CREIGHTON MODEL

Are you looking for help to track your fertility cycle? Come and explore the Creighton Model FertilityCare System – a Natural, Effective, Healthy and Scientific approach to achieve, space/avoid pregnancy or monitor women's health. Engaged and married couples, single women and those wanting to know more about their menstrual cycles are welcome to attend. This free introductory session to be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February from 7:15-8:15pm via Zoom is valued at \$125. To register or for more information, contact [catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org](mailto:catherine.bourne@parracatholic.org) or 0400 427 605.

### 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 Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong.**

**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 FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**Dedication to Children and Reflection of the Scourge of Child Labour: 1**

Dear brothers and sisters,

Nowadays we want to turn our gaze towards Mars or towards virtual worlds, but we struggle to look in the eyes of a child who has been left at the margins and who is exploited or abused. The century that generates artificial intelligence and plans multiplanetary existences has not yet reckoned with the scourge of humiliated, exploited, mortally wounded childhood. Let us think about this.

First of all, let us ask ourselves: what message does the Sacred Scripture give us about children? It is curious to note that the word that occurs most frequently in the Old Testament, after the divine name of *Jahweh*, is the word *ben*, that is, "son": almost five thousand times. "Certainly, sons (*ben*) are a gift from the Lord, the fruit of the womb, a reward" (*Ps* 127:3). Children are a gift from God.

Unfortunately, this gift is not always treated with respect. The Bible itself leads us through the streets of history where songs of joy resound, but also the cries of victims are raised. For example, in the book of Lamentations we read: "The tongue of the infant cleaves to the roof of its mouth in thirst; children beg for bread, but no one gives them a piece" (4:4); and the prophet Nahum, recalling what had happened in the ancient cities of Thebes and Nineveh, writes: "Even her little ones were dashed to pieces at the corner of every street" (3:10). Think of how many children, today, are dying of hunger and destitution, or torn apart by bombs.

The storm of the violence of Herod, who slaughters the infants of Bethlehem, erupts immediately even on the newborn Jesus. A dismal tragedy that repeats in other forms throughout history. And here, for Jesus and His parents, is the nightmare of becoming refugees in a foreign country, as still happens today to many people, to many children (cf. *Mt* 2:13-18). Once the storm has passed, Jesus grows up in a village never named in the Old Testament, Nazareth; He learns the carpenter's trade from His legal father, Joseph (cf. *Mk* 6:3; *Mt* 13:55). In this way, "the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon Him" (*Lk* 2:40).

In His public life, Jesus went preaching from village to village together with His disciples. One day, some mothers approached Him and presented Him their children to bless; but the disciples rebuked Him. So Jesus, breaking with the tradition according to which children were considered simply as passive objects, calls the disciples to Him and says: "Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these". And He thus indicates the little ones as a model for adults. And He solemnly adds: "Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it" (*Lk* 18:16-17).

In a similar passage, Jesus calls to a child, places him among the disciples, and says: "Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (*Mt* 18:3). And then He cautions: "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea" (*Mt* 18:6).

Brothers and sisters, the disciples of Jesus Christ must never allow children to be neglected or mistreated, to be deprived of their rights, not to be loved or protected. Christians have the duty to earnestly prevent and firmly condemn violence or abuse against children.

Today too, in particular, there are too many children forced to work. But a child who does not smile, a child who does not dream cannot know or nurture his or her talents. In every part of the globe there are children who are exploited by an economy that does not respect life; an economy that, in so doing, consumes our greatest store of hope and love. But children occupy a special place in God's heart, and whoever harms a child will have to account to Him.

Dear brothers and sisters, those who recognize themselves as children of God, and especially those who are sent to bring the glad tidings of the Gospel to others, cannot remain indifferent; they cannot accept that our little sisters and brothers, instead of being loved and protected, are robbed of their childhood, of their dreams, victims of exploitation and marginalization.

Let us ask the Lord to open our minds and hearts to care and tenderness, and for every boy and every girl to be able to grow in age, wisdom and grace (cf. *Lk* 2:52), receiving and giving love. Thank you.