

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

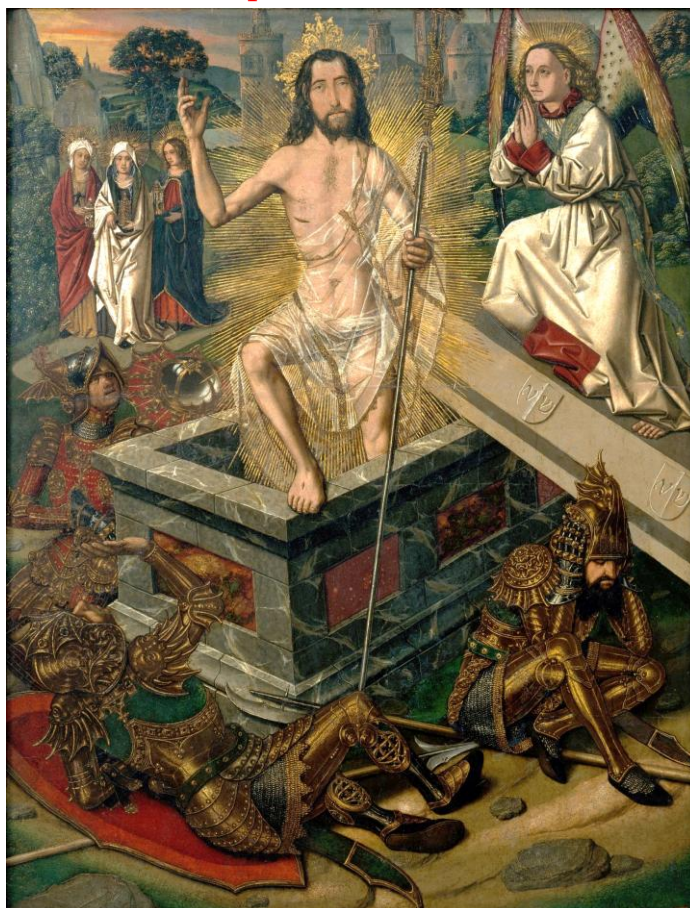
Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

EASTER SUNDAY

20th April 2025, Year C/1



Resurrection (circa 1475), Bartolomé Bermejo

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: Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43

Responsorial Psalm: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: John 20:1-9

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:30pm Paschal Vigil

SUNDAY 8:30am

†† Deceased Members of the Woodward & Hewitt Families

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am Octave of Easter

Tuesday 8:00am Octave of Easter

Wednesday 8:00am Octave of Easter

† Gabriel Ghougassian

Thursday 8:00am Octave of Easter

Friday 8:00am Octave of Easter

Saturday 8:30am Octave of Easter

† Luigi Antonio

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.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2025

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Argyna Marie Santiago

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Deceased Members of the Woodward & Hewitt Families, Gabriel Ghougassian, Luigi Antonio, Margaret, Patrick & Michael Boyle

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Easter Sunday 8.00am

Monday to Saturday – after 8.00am Mass

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 27TH APRIL

2.00pm – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Prayers and Meditation

3pm – Mass

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.

*A Happy and Holy Easter to All Our Parishioners
From Fr Andrew, Fr Pawel and Fr Piotr*

POPE FRANCIS' APRIL INTENTIONS

For the Use of New Technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person and will help us face the crises of our times.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$996**
 Loose: \$561.25
 Smart Facility: \$680
A/Cs & Carpet Donations: \$8428

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 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.

PARISH LUNCH

Every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12 noon. Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 14th May 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 INSURANCE

The total cost of our Insurance Premium is \$24,225.11

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

We have collected \$1670.70 so far for this appeal. If you would like to contribute to make up our quota of \$2150 please use the black box at the back of the Church or go to parracatholic.org/appeal. Thank you for your generosity.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Please return your Project Compassion boxes.

DIOCESAN JUBILEE OF HOPE RETREATS

See Poster at the back of the Church for more information.

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, the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. Express your interest today at parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025

ADULT JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

For adults 35 years and over from 7th to 25th September 2025. See the Poster at the back of the Church for dates of the Information Session, the Formation Nights and how to apply.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Volunteers are needed to assist at the national office at Penrith. For information contact Peter Harrop at peter@aidtothechurch.org or 9167 9526.

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 16th April 2025

Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025.

Jesus Christ our hope II. The life of Jesus.

The encounters: 5. *The merciful father. He was lost and has been found (Lk 15:32)*

Dear brothers and sisters,

After reflecting on Jesus' encounters with some figures from the Gospel, I would like to pause, starting with this catechesis, on some parables. As we know, they are stories that draw on images and situations from everyday reality. That is why they also touch our lives. They provoke us. And they ask us to take a position: where am I in this story? Let us begin with the most famous parable, the one that we perhaps all remember from when we were children: the parable of the father and the two sons (Lk 15:1-3, 11-32). In this we find the heart of the Gospel of Jesus, namely God's mercy.

The evangelist Luke says that Jesus tells this parable for the pharisees and the scribes, who lamented that He ate with sinners. This is why it could be said that it is a parable addressed to those who are lost, but do not know it, and judge others.

The Gospel is intended to give us a message of hope, because it tells us that wherever we are lost, and however we are lost, God always comes looking for us! Perhaps we have gone astray like a sheep, which has wandered off the path to graze, or fallen behind due to fatigue (cf. Lk 15:4-7). Or maybe we have been lost like a coin, which has perhaps fallen on the ground and can no longer be found, or someone has put it somewhere and cannot remember where. Or maybe we are lost like the two sons of this father: the youngest because he got tired of being in a relationship that he felt was too demanding; but the eldest is also lost, because it is not enough to stay at home if there is pride and resentment in his heart.

Love is always a commitment, there is always something that we must lose in order to go towards the other. But the younger son in the parable thinks only of himself, as happens in certain phases of childhood and adolescence. In reality, we also see around us many adults who are like this, who are unable to maintain a relationship because they are selfish. They delude themselves that they will find themselves and instead they lose themselves, because only when we live for someone do we truly live.

This younger son, like all of us, hungers for affection, he wants to be loved. But love is a precious gift; it must be treated with care. Instead, he squanders it, he disregards it, he does not respect himself. He realizes this in times of famine, when no-one cares for him. The risk is that in those moments we beg for affection and attach ourselves to the first master we chance upon.

It is these experiences that give rise within us to the distorted belief that we can only be in a relationship as servants, as if we had to atone for a guilt or as if true love could not exist. Indeed, the younger son, when he hits rock bottom, thinks he will go back to his father's house to pick up a few crumbs of affection from the ground.

Only those who truly love us can free us from this false view of love. In the relationship with God, we have precisely this experience. The great painter Rembrandt, in a famous painting, beautifully depicted the return of the prodigal son. Two details in particular strike me: the young man's head is shaven, like that of a penitent, but it also looks like the head of a child, because this son is being born again. And then the father's hands: one male and the other female, to describe the strength and tenderness in the embrace of forgiveness.

But it is the eldest son who represents those for whom the parable is told: he is the son who always stayed at home with his father, yet was distant from him, distant in heart. This son may have wanted to leave too, but out of fear or duty he stayed there, in that relationship. When you adapt unwillingly, however, you begin to harbour anger within you, and sooner or later this anger explodes. Paradoxically, it is precisely the eldest son who in the end risks being left out, because he does not share his father's joy.

The father goes towards him too. He does not reproach him or call him to duty. He wants only that he feels his love. He invites him to enter and to leave the door open. That door remains open for us too. Indeed, this is the reason for hope: we are able to hope because we know that the Father is waiting for us, He sees us from afar, and He always leaves the door open.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us ask ourselves, then, where we are in this wonderful tale. And let us ask God the Father for the grace that we too can find our way back home.