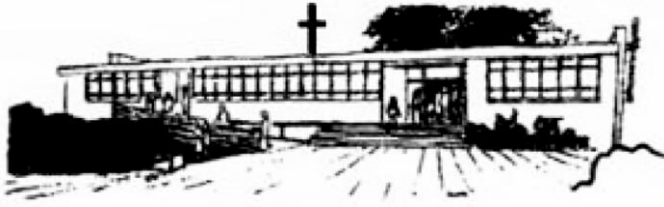


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP
Parish Priest

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

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5th January 2025, Year C/1



ANGELICO, Fra, Adoration of the Magi, 1423-24

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: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Responsorial Psalm: How happy they who dwell in Your house, O Lord.

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		Maureen (For Healing)
SUNDAY	8:30am		Basilisa Toledo (Birthday Blessings)
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	Christmas Time	Living & †† Dec. Mems. of the McIlvenna, Colreavy, McCaffrey, Dobranski & Lahood Families
Tuesday	8:00am	St Raymond of Penyafort	† Bishop Edward Kelly
Wednesday	8.00am	Christmas Time	† Thomas Houlihan
Thursday	8.00am	Christmas Time	† Bishop Geoffrey Robinson
Friday	8.00am	Christmas Time	†† Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	8.30am	Christmas Time	†† Pat & Ken Fleming

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

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Deceased Members of the McIlvenna, Dobranski, Colreavy, McCaffrey & Lahood Families, Bishop Edward Kelly, Thomas Houlihan, Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Pat & Ken Fleming

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

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: \$920**
 Loose: \$527.80
 Smart Facility: \$1110
 Carpet Donations: \$4071.10

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.

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

Recommences this Wednesday 8th January 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 8th January 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 2nd February. Thank you, Ian, Kaitlin & Jim; may God bless you for your faithfulness.

DISNEY MYSTERY CAMP WITH LOWANA

From 19th to 22nd 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 Registrations close 28th January, 2025 but spaces are limited so enrol now to avoid disappointment.

POLAND & ITALY PILGRIMAGE

In the Footsteps of St John Paul II

16th to 31st May 2025. See the flyer on the noticeboard.

MEDJUGORIE PILGRIMAGE

1st – 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.

PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE

A 16-day pilgrimage from 22nd April to 7th 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

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 19th February from 7:15-8:15pm via Zoom is valued at \$125. To register or for more information, contact 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 29th 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

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS HOMILY

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday 1st January 2025

Dear brothers and sisters,

At the beginning of this new year which the Lord has granted us, we do well to lift our eyes and hearts to Mary. For, like a Mother, she points us to her Son. She leads us to Jesus. The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, immerses us once more in the mystery of Christmas. In Mary's womb, God became one of us, and we, who have opened the Holy Door to inaugurate the Jubilee, are reminded that "Mary is the door through which Christ entered this world" (Saint Ambrose, *Ep.* 42, 4: PL, VII).

The Apostle Paul sums up this mystery by telling us that "God sent forth his Son, born of a woman" (*Gal* 4:4). Those words – "born of a woman" – echo in our hearts today; they remind us that Jesus, our Saviour, *became flesh and is revealed in the frailty of the flesh*.

The Apostle Paul, in saying that Christ was born of a woman, almost senses the need to remind us that God became truly man through a human womb. There is a temptation, which many people today find attractive, but can also mislead many Christians, to imagine or invent a God "in the abstract", associated with some vague religious feeling or fleeting emotion. No. God is tangible, he is human, he was born of a woman; he has a face and a name and calls us to have a relationship with him. Christ Jesus, our Saviour, born of woman, has flesh and blood. Coming from the bosom of the Father, he takes flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Son of God, he becomes the Son of man. The image of the Almighty God, Christ came among us in weakness; though he was without blemish, "for our sake, God made him to be sin" (*2 Cor* 5:21). For this reason, he is able to save us.

Born of a woman. Those words also speak to us of the humanity of Christ, to tell us that he *is revealed in the frailty of flesh*. The shepherds who went to see what the Angel had proclaimed find not extraordinary signs or great displays, but "Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger" (*Lk* 2:16). They found a tiny, helpless child in need of his mother's care, clothing and milk, caresses and love. In the life of Jesus, we see that this is how God chooses to act: through littleness and hiddenness. Jesus never yielded to the temptation of performing great signs and imposing himself on others, as the devil had suggested. Instead, he revealed God's love in the beauty of his humanity, dwelling in our midst, sharing our daily life, our efforts and our dreams, being merciful to those suffering in body and spirit, giving sight to the blind and strength to the disheartened. The three attitudes of God are mercy, closeness and compassion. God comes near to us and is merciful and

compassionate. Let us not forget this. By the frailty of his humanity and his concern for the weak and vulnerable, Jesus shows us the face of God.

It is good for us to reflect on how Mary, the young woman of Nazareth, constantly brings us back to the mystery of Jesus, her Son. She reminds us that Jesus came in the flesh, and that we encounter him above all in our daily life, in our own frail humanity and that of all those whom we encounter each day. In praying to Our Lady as the Mother of God, we proclaim that Christ was begotten of the Father, yet also truly born of a woman. We proclaim that he is the Lord of time, yet dwells in our time, indeed this new year, with his loving presence. We proclaim that he is the Saviour of the world, yet we are able to encounter him and are called to seek him in the face of every human being. If he, who is the Son, became so small as to be held in a mother's arms, cared for and nursed, this means that today too he comes among us in all those who need our attention and tender care.

Let us entrust this new year to Mary, Mother of God. May we learn, like her, to discover God's greatness in the little things of life. May we learn to care for every child born of a woman, above all by protecting, like Mary, the precious gift of life: life in the womb, the lives of children, the lives of the suffering, the poor, the elderly, the lonely and the dying. Today, on this World Day of Peace, all of us are invited to take up the summons that flows from the maternal heart of Mary: to cherish life, to care for wounded lives, to restore dignity to the lives of everyone "born of woman", for this is the basis for building a culture of peace. For this reason, "I ask for a firm commitment to respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, so that each person may cherish his or her own life and all may look with hope to the future" (*Message for the LVIII World Day of Peace*, 1 January 2025).

Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother, points out to us, as she did to the shepherds, the presence of the God who always surprises us, who does not come in the majesty of the heavens, but in the littleness of a manger. Let us entrust to her this new Jubilee Year. Let us entrust to her our questions, our worries, our sufferings, our joys and all the concerns that we bear in our hearts. She is our mother! Let us entrust to her the whole world, so that hope may be reborn and peace may finally spring up for all the peoples of the earth.

History tells us that in Ephesus, when the bishops entered the church, the faithful who were present, with clubs in their hands, cried out: "Mother of God!". Today we do not have clubs, but we have the hearts and voices of children. Therefore, all together, let us acclaim the Holy Mother of God. Let us say all together, "Holy Mother of God!", three times. Together: "Holy Mother of God! Holy Mother of God! Holy Mother of God!"