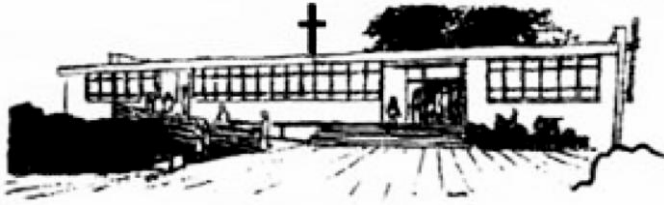


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP, Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP, Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

Fr. Grzegorz Mazur OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18th January 2026, Year A/2



Saint John The Baptist, Bernardo Zenale (Italian, 1464 - 1526) (Detail)

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

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 900am – 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: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Responsorial Psalm: Here I am Lord; I come to do Your will.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel: John 1:29-34

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		† Cardinal George Pell
SUNDAY	8:30am		†† Benjamin & Argyna Marie Santiago
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	Week 2 Ordinary Time	† Stephen Davies
Tuesday	8:00am	Week 2 Ordinary Time	†† Josephine & Carmelo Attard
Wednesday	8.00am	St Agnes	† David Blake
Thursday	8.00am	Week 2 Ordinary Time	†† Estrellita & Mamerto Cui
Friday	8.00am	Bl Henry Suso	† Zygmunt Blazek
Saturday	8.30am	St Francis de Sales	† Charley Tonna (Deceased's Birthday)

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.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2026

Reconciliation: Thursday 26th March

Registration & 1st Session: 8th February

Your child needs to be 8 years old and Baptised to register for the Reconciliation sessions.

First Communion: Sunday 7th June

Registration & 1st Session: 12th April

Confirmation: Sunday 22nd November

Registration & 1st Session: 19th July

Sessions will be at 11.30am each Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priest or ring the Parish Office.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Michael Holstein, Jean-Marie Albert-Thenet, Stephen Davies, Estrellita Cui, Rosamma Sarojam Johnson, Kathleen Skeen

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Cardinal George Pell, Benjamin & Argyna Marie Santiago, Josephine & Carmelo Attard, David Blake, Mamerto Cui Jr, Zygmunt Blazek, Charley Tonna

POPE'S JANUARY INTENTIONS

For Prayer with the Word of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Sr Louisa, Carolina Q. Alvarez, Jonathon Ansell, Tony Bogdanovic, Margaret Colville, Andrew & Jason Isbitski, Tony Jacobs, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, Lidya, John McCahon, Krystona McWhinnie, Nympha Miller, Karen Morvan, Michael Muema, Gary O'Brien, Shayla, Garry Smith, Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Margaret Taylor, 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: **Loose: \$337.80**
 Planned Giving: \$640
 Smart Facilities: \$615
 Project Donations: \$295

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.

BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday at 9.15am in the Parish Hall. All are most welcome.

PARISH LUNCH

Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 11th February at St. Mary's Band Club. All are welcome. If you need a lift, please ring the Parish Office by Tuesday 10th.

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 this Sunday. Thank you, Ian, Kaitlin & Jim. May God bless you for your service.

PARKING NOTICE

We ask that people attending 8.30am Mass would exit via Joseph Street allowing 10am Mass goers access to the Main Gate on Richmond Road. Please leave parking near the Church for the disabled.

NEPEAN HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY SERVICE

Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm call 4734 3150 and leave name, ward and bed number and the priest will visit the patient.

Between 5pm and 9am Monday to Friday and on Weekends there is a Priest on call for end-of-life anointing of the sick. To get a Priest in an emergency you can phone the switchboard and make the request on 4734 2000.

CARMELITE RETREATS FOR 2026

Day or weekend retreats at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville 2566. Brochures are at the back of the Church.

SIMPLE ROSARY MAKING WORKSHOPS

Monday 9th February from 7.00-8.30pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. Volunteer your time to make Rosary Beads for the sick in hospital. See flyer on noticeboard.

MAGI PILGRIMAGES 2026

Footsteps of St Paul

From 5th to 20th May, exploring Greece and Turkey. Cost \$9790 + tips.

Saints of Italy

From 8th to 21st June, visiting Milan, Padua, Siena, Assisi, Rotondo, Sorrento & Rome. Cost \$9290 + tips.

Cost includes Airfares, Transfers, Accommodation, Coaches, and Meals. For inquiries and bookings email pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au or ring 03 8839 6615.

LOW-COST COUNSELLING SERVICES

Catholic Care Western Sydney provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, Catholic Care is here to help. Call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat today.

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 – For all Volunteers.

11th February from 9.30am to 2.30pm

Modules 4/5 – For those who completed Modules 1-3 two years previously.

11th March from 9.30am to 1.00pm

Both days are at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1 Marion Street, Blacktown 2148

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

POPE LEO XIV GENERAL AUDIENCE

14th January 2026

Catechesis. The Documents of Vatican Council II.

I. Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*.

1. *God speaks to men as to friends* (Reading: *Jn 15:15*)

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning.

We have started the cycle of catechesis on Vatican Council II. Today we will begin to look more closely at the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*, on the divine Revelation. It is one of the most beautiful and important of the Council and, to introduce it, it may be helpful to recall the words of Jesus: "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you" (*Jn 15:15*). This is a fundamental point of Christian faith, which *Dei Verbum* reminds us of: Jesus Christ radically transforms man's relationship with God, which is henceforth a relationship of friendship. Therefore, the only condition of the new covenant is love.

Saint Augustine, commenting on this passage of the Fourth Gospel, insists on the perspective of grace, which alone can make us friends of God in his Son (*Commentary on the Gospel of John, Homily 86*). Indeed, an ancient motto stated: "*Amicitia aut pares invenit, aut facit*", "friendship is born between equals, or makes them so". We are not equal to God, but God himself makes us similar to Him in his Son.

For this reason, as we can see in all the Scripture, in the Covenant there is a first moment of distance, in which the pact between God and mankind always remains asymmetrical: God is God and we are creatures. However, with the coming of the Son in human flesh, the Covenant opens up to its final purpose: in Jesus, God makes us sons and daughters, and calls us to become like Him, albeit in our fragile humanity. Our resemblance to God, then, is not reached through transgression and sin, as the serpent suggests to Eve (cf. *Gen 3:5*), but in our relationship with the Son made man.

The words of the Lord Jesus that we have recalled – "I have called you friends" – are reprised in the Constitution *Dei Verbum*, which affirms: "Through this revelation, therefore, the invisible God (see *Col 1:15; 1 Tim 1:17*) out of the abundance of His love speaks to men as friends (see *Ex 33:11; Jn 15:14-15*) and lives among them (see *Bar 3:38*), so that He may invite and take them into fellowship with

Himself" (no. 2). The God of *Genesis* already conversed with our first parents, engaging in dialogue with them (cf. *Dei Verbum*, 3); and when this dialogue was interrupted by sin, the Creator did not cease to seek an encounter with his creatures and to establish a covenant with them. In the Christian Revelation, that is, when God became man in his Son in order to seek us out, the dialogue that had been interrupted is restored in a definitive manner: the Covenant is new and eternal, nothing can separate us from his love. The Revelation of God, then, has the dialogical nature of friendship and, as in the experience of human friendship, it does not tolerate silence, but is nurtured by the exchange of true words.

The Constitution *Dei Verbum* also reminds us of this: God speaks to us. It is important to recognize the difference between words and chatter: this latter stops at the surface and does not achieve communion between people, whereas in authentic relationships, the word serves not only to exchange information and news, but to reveal who we are. The word possesses a revelatory dimension that creates a relationship with the other. In this way, by speaking to us, God reveals himself to us as an Ally who invites us into friendship with Him.

From this perspective, the first attitude to cultivate is listening, so that the divine Word may penetrate our minds and our hearts; at the same time, we are required to speak with God, not to communicate to him what He already knows, but to reveal ourselves to ourselves.

Hence the need for prayer, in which we are called to live and to cultivate friendship with the Lord. This is achieved first of all in liturgical and community prayer, in which we do not decide what to hear from the Word of God, but it is He Himself who speaks to us through the Church; it is then achieved in personal prayer, which takes place in the interiority of the heart and mind. Time dedicated to prayer, meditation and reflection cannot be lacking in the Christian's day and week. Only when we speak *with* God can we also speak *about* Him.

Our experience tells us that friendships can come to an end through a dramatic gesture of rupture, or because of a series of daily acts of neglect that erode the relationship until it is lost. If Jesus calls us to be friends, let us not leave this call unheeded. Let us welcome it, let us take care of this relationship, and we will discover that friendship with God is our salvation.