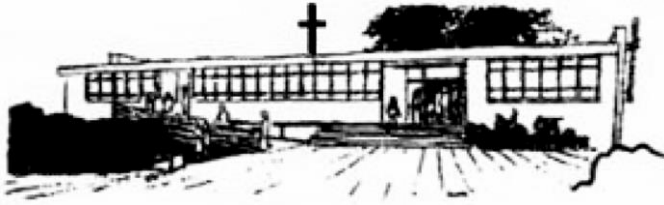


# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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)

## HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

28<sup>th</sup> December 2025, Year A/2



The Holy Family with an Angel, 1500s, Author Unknown

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](http://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](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:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

**Responsorial Psalm:** Happy are they who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:12-21

**Gospel:** Matthew 2:13-15, 10-23

### VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

Gai Schoemaker (For Healing)

**SUNDAY** 8:30am

†† Stanislaw, Bronislaw & Witold Blazek

10:00am

For the Parish

**Monday** 8:00am 5<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas

John Vukovic (For Good Health)

**Tuesday** 8:00am 6<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas

Special Intention

**Wednesday** 8.00am 7<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas

† Brian Frederickson

**Thursday** 8.00am MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Dylan Nelson (Birthday Blessings)

6.00pm MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

For the Parish

**Friday** 8.00am St Basil & St Gregory Nazianzen

Joie Bunye & Mike Goco (Birthday Blessings)

**Saturday** 8.30am Saturday before the Epiphany

†† Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

### 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.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Brian Frederickson, Stephen Davies, Estrellita Cui, Helen Harpur, Jo Von Shomberg

### DECEASED WE PRAY FOR:

Stanislaw, Bronislaw & Witold Blazek, Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please speak to the Priest or ring the Parish Office.

### NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES – 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 8am Mass and 6pm Mass followed by the Parish New Year's Get-together. Please bring a plate to share. Drinks will be provided.

### POPE'S DECEMBER INTENTIONS

#### For Christians in Areas of Conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

**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.

*Have a blessed and a grace filled New Year A.D. 2026  
Dominican Fathers*

**SECOND COLLECTION:**            **Loose: \$367.40**  
   **Planned Giving: \$1155**  
   **Smart Facilities: \$850**  
   **Project Donations: \$180**

#### **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.

#### **BIBLE STUDY**

Every Wednesday at 9.15am in the Parish Hall. All are most welcome. **No Bible Study this Week**

#### **PARISH LUNCH**

Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January at St. Mary's Band Club. All are welcome. If you need a lift, please ring the Parish Office by Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM**

If you are new to our Parish, have not registered or want to update your information, please use the QR Code.



#### **COLUMBAN CALENDARS**

We have two Calendars left. If you have not purchased yours yet, you can ring the Parish Office or speak to Clare.

#### **SUNDAY MORNING TEA**

Will resume Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **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.

#### **SOUL FOOD PODCAST**

The Mission Enhancement Team's Soul Food Podcast features life and faith stories of people from our diocesan family. Listen now for FREE via our website or on Spotify: <https://pfparra.org.au/soulfood/>

#### **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.

#### **SUMMER SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION 2026**

January 10-16 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville. Theme: "Soar" is run by the Disciples of Jesus Community and is a truly amazing experience to be part of. Come join about 200 young people and be open for a unique encounter with the Living God. Opportunities for making friends, prayer, Mass, sport, adoration, reflection, learning and relaxation. Go to the website for more details and to register [www.summerschool.org.au](http://www.summerschool.org.au)

#### **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.

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

**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)

**POPE LEO XIV CHRISTMAS HOMILY**

25<sup>th</sup> December 2025

“Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Savior has been born in the world. Today, true peace has come down to us from heaven” Thus sings the liturgy on Christmas night, and the announcement of Bethlehem resounds in the Church: the Child born of the Virgin Mary is Christ the Lord, sent by the Father to save us from sin and death. Indeed, he is our peace; he has conquered hatred and enmity through God’s merciful love. For this reason, “the Lord’s birth is the birth of peace” (Saint Leo the Great, *Sermon 26*).

Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for him in the inn. As soon as he was born, his mother Mary “wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger” (cf. *Lk 2:7*). The Son of God, through whom all things were created, was not welcomed, and a poor manger for animals was his crib.

The eternal Word of the Father whom the heavens cannot contain chose to come into the world in this way. Out of love, he wanted to be born of a woman and so share our humanity; out of love, he accepted poverty and rejection, identifying himself with those who are discarded and excluded.

Already in the birth of Jesus, we glimpse the fundamental decision that would guide the entire life of the Son of God, even to his death on the cross: the decision not to leave us under the burden of sin, but to bear it himself for us, to take it upon himself. He alone could do so. At the same time, however, he showed us what we alone can do, which is to take on our own share of responsibility.

Sisters and brothers, responsibility is the sure way to peace. If all of us, at every level, would stop accusing others and instead acknowledge our own faults, asking God for forgiveness, and if we would truly enter into the suffering of others and stand in solidarity with the weak and the oppressed, then the world would change.

Jesus Christ is our peace first of all because he frees us from sin, and also because he shows us the way to overcome conflicts. Without a heart freed from sin, a heart that has been forgiven, we cannot be men and women of peace or builders of peace. This is why Jesus was born in Bethlehem and died on the cross: to free us from sin. He is the Saviour. With his grace, we can and must each do our part to reject hatred, violence and opposition, and to practice peace and reconciliation.

On this day of celebration, I wish to send a warm and fatherly greeting to all Christians, especially those living in the Middle East, whom I recently visited on my first Apostolic Journey. I listened to them as they expressed their fears and know well their sense of powerlessness before the power dynamics that overwhelm them. The Child born today in Bethlehem is the same Jesus who

says: “In me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (*Jn 16:33*).

From God let us ask for justice, peace and stability for Lebanon, Palestine, Israel and Syria, trusting in these divine words: “The effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust for ever” (*Is 32:17*).

Let us entrust the entire European continent to the Prince of Peace, asking him to continue to inspire a spirit of community and cooperation, in fidelity to its Christian roots and history, and in solidarity with – and acceptance of – those in need. Let us pray in a particular way for the tormented people of Ukraine: may the clamor of weapons cease, and may the parties involved, with the support and commitment of the international community, find the courage to engage in sincere, direct and respectful dialogue.

From the Child of Bethlehem, we implore peace and consolation for the victims of all current wars in the world, especially those that are forgotten, and for those who suffer due to injustice, political instability, religious persecution and terrorism. I remember in a special way our brothers and sisters in Haiti, Latin America, Sudan, South Sudan, Mali, Burkina Faso, South Asia and Oceania, Thailand and Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Gaza and Yemen.

Dear brothers and sisters, in the darkness of the night, “the true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world” (*Jn 1:9*), but “his own people did not accept him” (*Jn 1:11*). Let us not allow ourselves to be overcome by indifference towards those who suffer, for God is not indifferent to our distress.

We pray for those who have lost their jobs and those who are looking for work, like so many young people who struggle to find employment; with those who are exploited, like many underpaid workers; with those in prison, who often live in inhumane conditions.

Let us open our hearts to our brothers and sisters who are in need or in pain. In doing so, we open our hearts to the Child Jesus, who welcomes us with open arms and reveals his divinity to us: “To all who received him, he gave power to become children of God”.

In a few days’ time, the Jubilee Year will come to an end. The Holy Doors will close, but Christ our hope remains with us always! He is the Door that is always open, leading us into divine life. This is the joyful proclamation of this day: the Child who was born is God made man; he comes not to condemn but to save; his is not a fleeting appearance, for he comes to stay and to give himself. In him, every wound is healed and every heart finds rest and peace. “The Lord’s birth is the birth of peace.”

To all of you, I offer heartfelt good wishes for a peaceful and holy Christmas!