

St. Joseph's Catholic Church



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

EMERGENCY PHONE: 02 4721 8945

Please leave a detailed Message

Third Sunday of Advent

15th December 2013, Year A



ANGELICO, Fra. The Annunciation, 1440-42

Sunday Masses:	Saturday Vigil:	4:00pm (Mass in Polish) 6:00pm
	Sunday:	8:30am 10:00am
Weekday Masses:	Monday–Friday	8:00am
	Saturday	8:30am
Sacrament of Reconciliation:	Saturday	after 8:30am Mass

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00 am – 2:00pm; Friday: 8:30am – 1:30pm

Address: 12-22 Richmond Rd, PO Box 39, Kingswood, NSW 2747; Telephone: 02 4721 4080; Fax: 02 4721 0089
Email: parish@stjosephskingswood.org; Web: www.stjosephskingswood.org; Facebook: [stjosephkingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephkingswood)

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY: 10:00am Third Sunday of Advent For the Parish

8:30am Only:

Entrance Antiphon Philippians 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, come and save us.

Monday:	8:00am	Third week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Tuesday:	8:00am	Third week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Wednesday	8:00am	Third week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Thursday	8:00am	Third week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Friday	8:00am	Third week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Saturday	8:30am	Third week of Advent	No Mass Intention

Readings: Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

ADORATION CHAPEL

Open during office hours or speak to Father Andrew to arrange another time.

ANOINTING:

Fr. Andrew will anoint personally if the need arises. Please see Father to arrange an anointing.

DECEASED:- Carlyle Young

PARISH CELL GROUPS

Will recommence in February 2014

Any enquiries ring Diane 4731 3685;

Elaine 4736 8162; Mavis.4736 4138.

CONFESSION: Monday 23rd December
9:00am—11:30 am; 5:30pm—7:30pm

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

6:00pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day 9:00am

Mass in Polish 11:00am

BECOME A JUNIOR ALTAR SERVER:

If your child has made their First Holy Communion and would like to be a Junior Altar Server, please see Fr. Andrew.

USED STAMPS: Please bring your used stamps and leave in the box at back of the Church. They are sold to help the missionaries.

CENTACARE COUNSELLING FOR CHILDREN RING 9630 7788

WEEKLY ENVELOPES: BANKED \$896.00

DONATIONS TO SANCTUARY PROJECT—LAST WEEK BOX & INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS \$337.20 TOTAL DONATIONS \$35,528.95

THE 2014 COLUMBAN CALENDAR is now available in the Pious Stall for \$9.00 also **Christmas Cards.** Pack of 10 cards \$6.00

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: All are welcome to the Christmas Pageant at 6:00pm on Tuesday 17th December at the School.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kevin Collins, Alistair McArthur, Lawrence Devitt, John McCahon, Joan Evans, Allan Tuckwell, Carmel Kerr, Clayton Rogers, Debbie O'Connor, Roger Stevens, Brandon Stevens, Karen Morvan, Gisela Drobiszewski, Charles Timmins,

SICK LIST: If you have anyone for the sick list, (due to privacy laws) contact the Parish Office to fill in a form.



The Rosary Statue will be at the home of
Grenville & Shirley Satur—15th December 2013
Denis & Anne Woodward—22nd December 2013

DONATIONS AND FUND-RAISING FOR OUR NEW SANCTUARY:

If you would like to donate towards our new Sanctuary please give it to Father Andrew or place it in Donation Box at the entrance to the church.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2014 Any families wanting Sacraments for their children next year must be registered in the Parish for 4 months and attending Mass each Sunday.

CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

PLEASE JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CHOIR: We will be having a Christmas Choir at the Midnight Mass this Christmas with Christmas Carol Singing beginning at 11:30pm. If you would like to join us, we would love to have you and ask that you come to our practices beginning Saturday 30th November at 9:15am following Mass and Rosary and continuing each Saturday up to Christmas. Any enquiries please speak to Anna or Rubina.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS TREE will be at the back of the Church from w/e of 30th November/1st December. Please take a gift tag from the tree. All gifts must be back by weekend 14/15 December. Thank you!

FLOWER ARRANGERS-Assistance is needed to help arrange flowers for the Altar. If you are prepared to give your time you will be working with a partner and you do not need to have experience. You would be rostered on every 6 weeks. Please call Anne on 47314618

ROSARY & BENEDICTION will be held at 5.15pm before 6:00pm Mass every Saturday during Advent

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will be conducting a leaving collection (Christmas Appeal) on the weekend of 21/22 December 2013. Thank you for your past generosity.

ST. PAULS BOOKS & GIFTS CENTRE FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS: 238 Church Street, Parramatta. Hours: Monday to Friday—9:30am to 5:00pm; Saturday—10:00am to 2:00pm. Ph 9126 8912.

SEWING CLASSES AT ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH. If you are interested, \$10 per session. Saturday 10:00am. Started September. For more information please phone the Parish Office during office hours.

TYPHOON HAIYAN AID RESPONSE. Millions of people are now in need of emergency aid in the Philippines. Please give generously to **Caritas Australia Typhoon Haiyan Appeal.** Call 1800 024 413, donate online at www.caritas.org.au or send your donation to GPO Box 9830 in your Capital City.

KEY FAITH ENCOURAGEMENT CHANCES IN OUR DIOCESE—DON'T MISS OUT!

Our Diocese's *Institute for Mission* has two great opportunities for 2014 which need participants to finalise right now. Go to www.instituteformission.com.au Click on "Courses" in the website and see

+ 'Certificate in Pastoral Formation'
and

+ 'Beginning Theology'

(or see your priest or parish office for info)

The two programs are structured for people's different time availabilities.

CHECK THEM OUT NOW and LET GOD BLESS YOU! You can talk with FR. PAUL or SUSAN at the *Institute for Mission* Ph: 9831 4911 or office@instituteformission.com.au

PILGRIMAGES 2014: Fr. Wim Hoekstra, Parish Priest of Glenbrook, is organizing two pilgrimages in 2014: from July 7 to 23 taking in France and Italy (Paris, Lisieux, Lourdes, Rome, Assisi, Siena, Florence) and from September 19 to October 4 (September school holidays) for Israel and Jordan. Information afternoon: 9 February 2014. For further details, contact Fr. Wim on 4739 8928 or wim@stfinbars.org.au or check the website at www.stfinbars.org.au Limited places available.

SCHOENSTATT GIRLS' CAMP: 14-17

January: Girls aged 16 & 17 are invited to a four-day camp at Mt. Schoenstatt. We will explore topics such as human dignity, modesty and relationships. Program also includes prayer, craft and fun activities. Time: from 4pm on Tuesday 14 January to 4pm on Friday 17 January. Venue: Home of Light, Mt. Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: \$110 (includes food and accommodation), RSVP 4 January 2014 (registration form and deposit required). Inquiries: Sr. M. Luka, sr.mluka@bigpond.com

The Pope dedicated his final catechesis on the Creed to its last article: "I believe in life everlasting", focusing in particular on the final judgement.

"When we think of Christ's return and of His final judgement, which will show, up to the very last consequences, the good that each person will have done or omitted to do during his or her earthly life, we realise that we find ourselves before a mystery that overwhelms us, that we cannot even imagine. A mystery that almost instinctively arouses in us a sense of fear, and perhaps even trepidation. However, if we reflect closely on this fact, it cannot but enlarge the heart of a Christian, and constitutes a great reason for consolation and trust".

Pope Francis explained that "in this respect, the witness of the first Christian communities is very interesting, since their celebrations and prayers were generally accompanied by the exclamation 'Maranatha', an acclamation made up of two Aramaic words which may be understood either as an entreaty: 'Come, Lord!', or as a certainty nurtured by faith: 'Yes, the Lord is coming, the Lord is near'. It is the exclamation in which all of Christian revelation culminates, at the end of the marvellous contemplation offered in the Apocalypse of St. John ... in which the Church, bride in the name of all humanity, turns to Christ, her spouse, in the hope of receiving His embrace, full of life and love. If we think of the judgement in this way, all fear and hesitation makes way for expectation and profound joy. It will be the moment in which we will be judged as finally ready to be clothed in the glory of Christ".

A second reason for trust is offered to us by "the realisation that, at the moment of judgement, we are not left alone. ... How good it is to know that, in that situation, we can count on Christ, our advocate before the father, and upon the intercession and benevolence of many of our brothers and sisters who have preceded us on the path of faith ... and who continue to love us in an indescribable way! The saints already live in the presence of God, in the splendour of His glory, praying for us, for those who still live on earth".

A third element is offered to us by the Gospel of St. John, when he states that "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him". "This means, then, that the judgement is already in process, throughout our existence. This judgement is pronounced in every instant in our lives, as reflected in our acceptance in faith of salvation, present and through the work of Christ, or in our incredulity and our consequent self-centredness. Salvation means opening oneself to Jesus. If we are sinners, the Lord forgives us, but we must open ourselves to Jesus' love, which is greater than all things; and opening up means repenting".

"The Lord Jesus gave Himself, and continues to give Himself for us", concluded the Holy Father, "to fill us with the grace and the mercy of the Father. We can become in a certain sense our own judges, condemning ourselves to exclusion from communion with God and