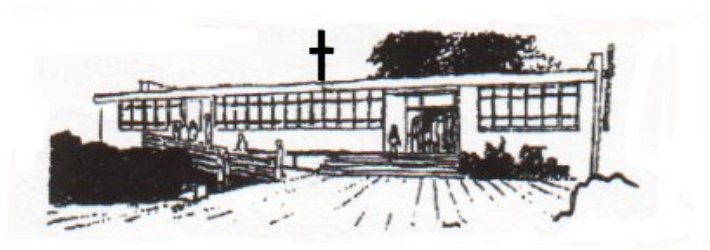


St. Joseph's Catholic Church



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

EMERGENCY PHONE: 02 4721 8945

Please leave a detailed Message

Fourth Sunday of Advent

22nd December 2013, Year A



ANGELICO, Fra, The Annunciation, 1433-34

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	Fourth Sunday of Advent	For the Parish
8:30am Only:		Fourth Sunday of Advent	No Mass Intention
Entrance Antiphon Isaiah 45:8 Let the clouds rain down the Just One, and the earth bring forth a Saviour.			
Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.			
Monday:	8:00am	Fourth week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Tuesday:	8:00am	Fourth week of Advent	No Mass Intention
Wednesday	8:00am	The Nativity of the Lord	No Mass Intention
Thursday	8:00am	St. Stephen, the first martyr	No Mass Intention
Friday	8:00am	St. John, apostle, evangelist	No Mass Intention
Saturday	8:30am	The Holy Innocents, martyrs	No Mass Intention

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED:-

DECEASED ANNIVERSARY:

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

January 1st Mass 8:00am & 7:00pm
with Parish Party to follow. Please
bring a plate to share and your own
drinks. Tea and coffee supplied.

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 \$1025.00

DONATIONS TO SANCTUARY PROJECT—LAST WEEK BOX & INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS \$450.55 TOTAL DONATIONS \$35,979.50

THE 2014 COLUMBAN CALENDAR is now available in the Pious Stall for \$9.00.

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

PARISH CELL GROUPS

Will recommence in February 2014
Any enquiries ring Diane 4731 3685;

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
Denis & Anne Woodward—22nd December 2013
Alex & Ofelia Paraan—29th 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. Registrations 23rd February 2014 after 10:00am Mass.

CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED

PLEASE JOIN OUR 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. Any enquiries please speak to Anna or Rubina.

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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will be conducting a leaving collection (Christmas Appeal) this weekend. 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.

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

28th December: The Conventual Franciscan Friars invite you to join Bishop Anthony Fisher OP for the 11:00am Mass for the Feast of the Holy Innocents at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 8 Diana Avenue, Kellyville. Mass will be followed by rosary procession to the Shrine for the Unborn, Mount St. Francis, 8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville.

SEWING CLASSES AT ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH. If you are interested, \$10 per session. Saturday 10:00am. 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

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

JOSEPHITE COMMUNITY AID: "Immerse yourself...as Jesus did"*—VOLUNTEER TODAY!!! JCA is a group of young adults living and working with people who are marginalized in Sydney's West. Be the difference—live your passion for social justice, live your faith through action and prayer and have fun. Volunteer full-time, part-time or in your own spare time. Live in Community with other young adults. Apply now for 2014. Contact JCA on 02 9838 8802, help@jcaid.com or jcaid.com/fulltime.

Pope Francis dedicated the final general audience of 2013 to the birth of Jesus, “celebration of trust and hope, which overcome uncertainty and pessimism”. “And the reason for our hope is this: God is with us, and still trusts in us! ... He comes to live with mankind, he chooses to dwell on earth in order to stay with man, and to be found there where man passes his days in joy or in pain. Therefore, earth is no longer merely a 'vale of tears' but rather the place where God Himself has pitched His tent, it is the meeting place of God and mankind, of God's solidarity with humanity”.

But in sharing in our human condition, there is something even more surprising. “God's presence among mankind did not take place in an ideal, idyllic world, but rather in this real world, characterised by good and bad things, marked by divisions, evil, poverty, abuse of power, and wars. He chose to take part in our history as it is, with all the weight of its limits and its dramas. ... He is God-with-us ... Jesus has always been God-with-us, and is always with us in all the suffering and pain of history. The birth of Jesus is the demonstration that God placed Himself once and for all on the side of mankind, to save us, to lift us up from the dust of our misery, of our difficulties, and of our sins”.

The great “gift” of Bethlehem is, therefore, “the spiritual energy that helps us not to collapse under the weight of our labours, our desperation, our sorrows. ... The birth of Jesus brings us the good news that God loves us immensely and individually”. Two considerations may be drawn from the joyful contemplation of the mystery of the Son of God, born for us.

The first is that in His Nativity God shows Himself to be not as one who remains on high and dominates the universe, but rather He Who bows down, Who descends to our small and poor earth ... if we want to be like Him we must not place ourselves above others, but instead lower ourselves, place ourselves in service, be small with the small and poor with the poor. It is sad to see a Christian who does not want to bow down, who does not want to serve. A Christian who parades around is not Christian – this is pagan! ... Let us ensure that our brothers and sisters never feel alone”.

The second consequence is that God, through Jesus, became involved with mankind to the point of becoming one of us, which means that whatever we would do to our brother or our sister, we would do to Him. Jesus Himself reminds us of this: whoever nourishes, welcomes, visits or loves one of the smallest and poorest among man, does so also to the Son of God.

As we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord, now approaching, the Pope encouraged us to pray to Mary “to help us ... recognise in the face of our neighbour, especially in the weakest and most marginalised, the image of the Son of God made man”.