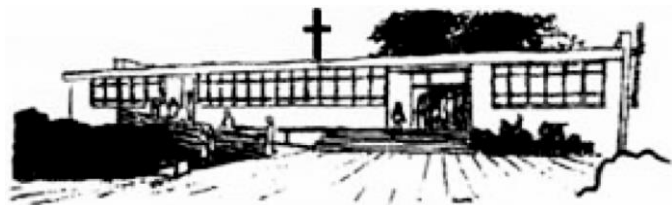


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 02 9673 5046

Please leave a detailed Message

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

17 April 2016, Year C/2



Unknown Artist. The Good Shepherd. Mausoleum of Galla Placidia. Ravenna (Italy). first half of the 5th century

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

ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs. Franziska Jackson - Principal

School Office Times

8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Monday to Friday

Address

94 Joseph Street
Kingswood, NSW 2747

Telephone: 4732 3999; Fax: 4731 1432

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

Address: 12-22 Richmond Rd, PO Box 39, Kingswood, NSW 27 Telephone: 02 4721 4080; Fax: 02 4721 0089

Email: parish@stjosephskingswood.org; Web: www.stjosephskingswood.org; Facebook: [stjosephskingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephskingswood)

LITURGY

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

Responsorial Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Entrance Antiphon: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		No Mass Intention
SUNDAY	8:30am		Dec. Members of Fiegl Family
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday:	8:00am	4 th Week of Easter	Dec. Members of Hudecek Family
Tuesday:	8:00am	4 th Week of Easter	For Persecuted Christians
Wednesday	8:00am	St. Agnes of Montepulciano	For Priests & Religions
Thursday	8:00pm	4 th Week of Easter	For Conversion of Sinners
Friday	8:00am	4 th Week of Easter	No Mass Intention
Saturday	8:30am	4 th Week of Easter	Gabriel Ghougassian

ADORATION CHAPEL:

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

Please contact the Parish Office or one of the priests. In the case of Emergency please call the emergency number at the front of this bulletin.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Hedwig Bassel

DECEASED ANNIVERSARY:

Gabriel Ghougassian

PRAYER FOR FAITH IN OUR FUTURE:

Gracious God, source of all life, you call us together in faith and love as the Diocese of Parramatta.

As one body in Christ, may we respond to your Word, attend to the signs of the times, and live as your disciples in word and deed.

Renew our hearts in your Holy Spirit to grow and share our faith with the world; give us courage and grace to live faith in our future. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL:

Universal: That people may learn to respect creation and care for it as a gift of God.

Evangelization: That persecuted Christians may feel the consoling presence of the Risen Lord and the solidarity of all the Church.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: : Kevin Collins, Alistair McArthur, Dianne Devitt, John McCahon, Kathryn Tuckwell, Carmel Kerr, Debbie O'Connor, Roger Stevens, Cameron Stevens, Shayla, Karen Morvan, Gisela Drobiszewski, Charles Timmins, Barbara Thompson, Zig Barglik, Mavis Murphy, Bus Maybaum, Valerie Davies, Janet Boreham, Anne Tucker, Raymond Waters, Francene Flannery Jason Isbitski, Rosslyn Talbot, Johnson Talia & Noeline Cruzado.
SICK LIST: If you have anyone for the sick list, (Due to privacy laws) 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 DIOCESE

SECOND COLLECTION: ENVELOPES \$ 760.10
LOOSE: \$ 404.15

First collection contributions go to the Diocese to support the priests working in the Parish.

Second collection contributions go directly to the Parish to support day to day operation of the Parish.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM:

First Communion: 29 May 2016

Confirmation: 22 November 2016

Registration: 28 August 2016

SKY YOUTH GROUP:

Will resume Wednesday 4/5 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.



YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has called on the whole Church to celebrate an extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. The Jubilee commenced on 8th December 2015 and will close on the Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe 20 November 2016.

LEGION OF MARY:

Newly formed Presidium of "Mary Seat Wisdom" in our Parish would like to invite you to join them. Meetings are held on every Tuesday from 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the old office building. All persons interested in meeting and participating in Legion's activities are welcome.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:

Relationship enrichment for married couples.
24 - 26 June at Mt. Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville NSW. Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or Bill and Ardell Sharpe on 02 4283 3435 or wsharpe@bigpond.net.au

ACOLYTES MEETING:

Saturday 30th April at 10:00am with Fr. Andrew. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.



Money collected from the sale of the raffle tickets now transferred to the WYD accounts of Sesi Devine and Dylan Nelson. Thank you for your generosity. We collected \$2037.00



JUBILEE 800 1216 - 2016
ORDER OF PREACHERS

www.stjoseph800.org

NINE WAYS OF PRAYER OF ST. DOMINIC:

Next from the series of activities to honour the 800th anniversary of founding the Dominican Order. 22 April 2016, 7:00pm Parish Hall.

GIFT OF THE PLENARY INDULGENCE

Pope Francis has granted a special jubilee indulgence for the faithful praying in a Dominican church. That is why every

days' morning adoration we finish with special prayers to gain a plenary indulgence.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUPS:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 1:30pm at 1/23 Walter Street, Kingswood. Dianne—4731 3685.

2nd & 4th Wednesdays after morning Mass—9am to 10am in Parish Hall. Aloma 4731 8102 Teresa—4731 4222

2nd & 4th Thursday 7:00pm at 2/40 Single Road, South Penrith. Elaine—4736 8162.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST:

If you would like to volunteer to help with our Parish Youth Group on Wednesdays of the school weeks please contact Fr. Andrew or the Parish Office. Help would include: opening Parish Hall 2:30 pm, Supervising signing in and out of young people attending the meetings, preparing afternoon tea, organizing cleaning after the meetings and locking up the Hall approx. 5:30pm.

Following proclamation of the Privacy Act 1988 at the end of 2001, a privacy policy has been developed in accordance with Diocesan norms and has been approved by the Parish Priest. A copy is available from the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

GENERAL AUDIENCE

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

We heard the Gospel of the calling of Matthew. Matthew was a “publican,” namely a tax collector for the Roman Empire and, therefore, considered a public sinner. However, Jesus called him to follow Him and to become His disciple. Matthew accepted, and invited Him to dine in his home together with the disciples. Then a discussion arose between the Pharisees and Jesus’ disciples because the latter shared the table with publicans and sinners. “But you can’t go to these people’s house,” they said Jesus, in fact, does not move away from them, rather He frequents their homes and sits by them. This means that they also can become His disciples. Likewise, it is true that to be Christians does not make us sinless. Like the publican Matthew, each one of us entrusts himself to the Lord’s grace despite our sins. We are all sinners; we have all sinned. By calling Matthew, Jesus shows sinners that He does not look at their past, at their social condition, at external conventions, but rather opens a new future to them. Once I heard a good saying: “There is no saint without a past and there is no sinner without a future.” This is what Jesus does. There is no saint without a past or sinner without a future. Suffice it to respond to the invitation with a humble and sincere heart. The Church is not a community of the perfect, but of disciples on the way, who follow the Lord because they recognise themselves sinners and in need of His forgiveness. Therefore, the Christian life is a school of humility that is open to grace.

Such behaviour is not understood by one with the presumption of believing himself “just” and better than others. Arrogance and pride do not enable one to recognise oneself in need of salvation; instead, they impede seeing the merciful face of God and of acting with mercy. They are a wall. Arrogance and pride are a wall, which impedes a relationship with God. Yet, Jesus’ mission is precisely this: to come in search of each one of us, to heal our wounds and call us to follow Him with love. He said it clearly: “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick” (v. 12). Jesus presents Himself as a good doctor! He proclaims the Kingdom of God, and the signs of His coming are evident: He heals sicknesses, frees from fear, from death and from the devil. Before Jesus, no sinner is excluded — no sinner is excluded! — because God’s healing power knows not infirmities that cannot be cured; and this must give us confidence and open our heart to the Lord so that He will come and heal us. Calling sinners to His table, He heals them, re-establishing them in the vocation they thought was lost and that the Pharisees had forgotten: that of guests at the banquet of God. According to Isaiah’s prophecy: “On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wine on the lees well refined. And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken’ (25:6-9).

If the Pharisees see only sinners in the guests and refuse to sit with them, Jesus on the contrary reminds them that they are also God’s table companions. So, to sit at table with Jesus means to be transformed and saved by Him. Jesus’ table is twofold in the Christian community: there is the table of the Word and there is the table of the Eucharist (cf. *Dei Verbum*, 21). These are the medicines with which the Divine Doctor heals and nourishes us. With the first – the Word – He reveals Himself and invites us to a dialogue between friends. Jesus was not afraid to dialogue with sinners, publicans, prostitutes. No, he was not afraid; He loved all! His Word penetrates us and, as a scalpel, operates in depth to free us from the evil that nests in our life. Sometimes this Word is painful, because it cuts into hypocrisies, unmasks false excuses, exposes the hidden truth but, at the same time, it illumines and purifies, gives strength and hope, is a precious re-constituent of our journey of faith. For its part, the Eucharist nourishes us with the very life of Jesus and, as a very powerful medicine continually renews the grace of our Baptism in a mysterious way. By approaching the Eucharist, we nourish ourselves with the Body and Blood of Jesus, though, coming into us, it is Jesus that unites us to His Body!

Concluding the dialogue with the Pharisees, Jesus reminds them of a word of the prophet Hosea (6:6): “Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice’” (Matthew 9:13). Addressing the people of Israel, the prophet reproves them because the prayers they raised were empty and incoherent words. Despite God’s covenant and mercy, the people often lived with a “facade” religiosity, without living profoundly the Lord’s command. See why the prophet insisted: “I desire mercy,” that is, the loyalty of a heart that recognises its sins, that repents and turns to be faithful to the covenant with God. “And not sacrifice”: every religious action is ineffectual without a repentant heart! Jesus applies this prophetic phrase also to human relations: the Pharisees were very religious in the form, but they were not willing to share the table with publicans and sinners; they did not acknowledge the possibility of repentance and hence of healing; they did not put mercy in the first place: though being faithful custodians of the Law, they showed they did not know God’s heart! It is as if you were given a parcel with a gift inside and you, instead of looking for the gift, look only at the paper in which it is wrapped: only the appearances, the form, and not the kernel of grace, the gift that is being given!

Dear brothers and sisters, we are all invited to the table of the Lord. Let us make our own the invitation to sit by Him together with His disciples. Let us learn to look with mercy and to recognise in every one of them a table companion of ours. We are all disciples in need of experiencing and living the consoling word of Jesus. We are all in need of nourishing ourselves of God’s mercy, because it is from this source that our salvation flows. Thank you!

Original text: Italian. Translation by ZENIT