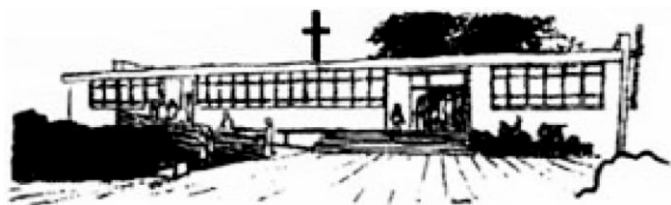


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP, Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP, Assistant Priest

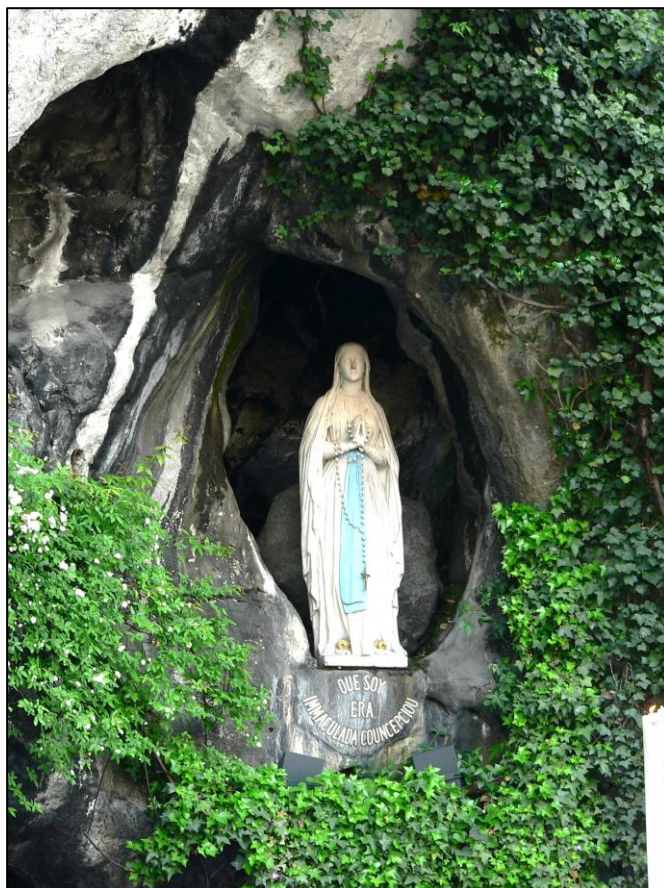
Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

Fr. Grzegorz Mazur OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148 (Calls Only)

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8th February 2026, Year A/2



Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Lourdes, France, 1858

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 58:7-10

Responsorial Psalm: A light rises in the darkness for the upright

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

†† Dec. Mems. of St Vincent de Paul

SUNDAY 8:30am

† Jean-Marie Albert-Thenet

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am Week 5 Ordinary Time

† Francois Arik

Tuesday 8:00am St Scholastica

† Hagop Arik

Wednesday 8:00am Our Lady of Lourdes

† Paschal Arik

Thursday 8:00am Bl Reginald of Orleans

† Kurian Kuriakose

Friday 8:00am Bl Jordan of Saxony

† Joseph Antony

Saturday 8:30am Sts Cyril & Methodius

† Rosamma Sarojam Johnson

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: this Sunday 8th Feb.

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 in the Parish Hall.

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: Jean-Marie Albert-Thenet, Rosamma Sarojam Johnson, Michael Holstein, Sister Jeana, Iva Masek, Colleen Biriano, Bill Muller, Reynaldo Cruz Santos

DECEASED WE PRAY FOR: Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society, Francois, Hagop & Paschal Arik, Kurian Kuriakose, Joseph Antony

POPE'S FEBRUARY INTENTIONS

For Children with Incurable Diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength 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.

PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Please return your Palms to the Church by Monday 16th February to be burned ready for Ash Wednesday on 18th February.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Loose: \$405**
 Planned Giving: \$1027
 Smart Facilities: \$795
 Project Donations: \$105

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.



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.

CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

Sunday 15th February at 2pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys. Celebrant is Fr Brian Steele MGL

HOLY SPIRIT MISSION 2026

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Parramatta are holding this day of prayer and praise, talks and prayer ministry on Saturday 21st February from 12pm to 5pm at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes. See flyer for information and registration.

SIMPLE ROSARY MAKING WORKSHOPS

Thursday 26th February from 7.00-8.30pm at St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith. Volunteer your time to make Rosary Beads for those in need. See the flyer on noticeboard for details.

PALMS INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING

Join Palms International Volunteering online in this special session where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. Hear from past Palms volunteers how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities and changes lives.

Venue: Online: Register at palms.org.au/events

Date: Thursday 19 February 2026

Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333 or palms@palms.org.au

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

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

Module 6 – For those who have completed 1-5.

10th February from 10am to 12.15pm at St Andrews, 36-40 Breakfast Road, Marayong 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

4th February 2026**Catechesis. The Documents of Vatican Council II.****4. The Sacred Scripture: the Word of God in human words**

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning.

The Conciliar Constitution *Dei Verbum*, on which we are reflecting during these weeks, indicates in the Sacred Scripture, read in the living Tradition of the Church, a privileged space for encounter where God continues to speak to the men and women, so that, by listening, they can know him and love him. The biblical texts, however, were not written in a heavenly or superhuman language. Indeed, as daily life teaches us, two people who speak different languages cannot understand each other, cannot enter into dialogue, and are unable to establish a relationship. In some cases, making oneself understood to others is a first act of love. This is why God chooses to speak using human languages and thus, various authors, inspired by the Holy Spirit, have written the texts of Sacred Scripture. As the Conciliar document reminds us, “the words of God, expressed in human language, have been made like human discourse, just as the word of the eternal Father, when He took to Himself the flesh of human weakness, was in every way made like men” (DV, 13). Therefore, in content and in its language, the Scripture reveals God’s merciful condescension towards men, and his desire to be close to them.

Throughout the course of Church history, the relationship between the divine Author and the human authors of the sacred texts has been studied. For several centuries, many theologians were concerned to defend the divine inspiration of the Sacred Scripture, almost considering the human authors merely as passive tools of the Holy Spirit. In more recent times, reflection has re-evaluated the contribution of hagiographers in the writing of sacred texts, to the point that the Conciliar document speaks of God as the principal “author” of Sacred Scripture, but also calls hagiographers “true authors” of the sacred books (cf. DV, 11). As a keen exegete of the last century observed, “to reduce human activity to that of a mere amanuensis is not to glorify divine activity” L. Alonso Schökel, *The Inspired Word. The Scripture in the Light of Language and Literature*, Brescia 1987, 70. God never mortifies human beings and their potential!

If, therefore, the Scripture is the word of God in human words, any approach to it that neglects or denies one of these two dimensions proves to be partial. It follows that a correct interpretation of the

sacred texts cannot dispense with the historic environment in which they developed and the literary forms that were used; on the contrary, to renounce the study of the human words that God used risks leading to fundamentalist or spiritualist readings of the Scripture, which betray its meaning. This principle also applies to the proclamation of the Word of God: if it loses touch with reality, with human hopes and sufferings, if an incomprehensible language is used, uncommunicative or anachronistic, it is ineffective. In every age, the Church is called to re-propose the Word of God in a language capable of being embodied in history and reaching hearts. As Pope Francis reminds us, “Whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world” (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii gaudium* 24 November 2013).

Equally reductive, on the other hand, is a reading of Scripture that neglects its divine origin and ends up understanding it as a mere human teaching, as something to be studied simply from a technical point of view or as a text “only of the past” (Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini* 30 September 2010). Rather, especially when proclaimed in the context of the liturgy, Scripture is intended to speak to today’s believers, to touch their present lives with their problems, to enlighten the steps to be taken and the decisions to be made. This becomes possible only when believers read and interpret the sacred texts under the guidance of the same Spirit who inspired them (cf. DV, 12).

In this regard, the Scripture serves to nurture the life and charity of believers, as Saint Augustine recalls: “Whoever ... thinks that he understands the Holy Scriptures ... but puts such an interpretation upon them as does not tend to build up this twofold love of God and our neighbour, does not yet understand them as he ought” (*De doctrina christiana* I, 36, 40). The divine origin of the Scripture also recalls that the Gospel, entrusted to the witness of the baptized, despite embracing all the dimensions of life and reality, transcends them: it cannot be reduced to a mere philanthropic or social message, but is the joyful proclamation of the full and eternal life that God has given to us in Jesus.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us thank the Lord because, in his goodness, he ensures our lives do not lack the essential nourishment of his Word, and let us pray that our words, and even more so our lives, do not obscure the love of God that is narrated in them.