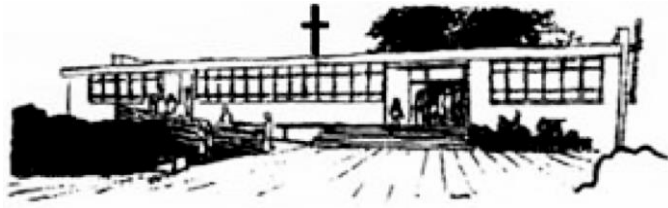


# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017, Year A/1



GIOTTO de Bondone, Raising of Lazarus

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

Benediction: Saturday 5.15pm

### ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs. Patricia Riley - 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

[www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjosephskingswood.catholic.edu.au)

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am - 2:00pm and 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](mailto:parish@stjosephskingswood.org); Web: [www.stjosephskingswood.org](http://www.stjosephskingswood.org); Facebook: [stjosephkingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephkingswood)

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

## LITURGY

### LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

**Entrance Antiphon:** Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.  
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for You, O God, are my strength.

**Responsorial Psalm:** With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

#### VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

10:00am

**For the Parish**

**Monday** 8:00am 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent

**Tuesday:** 8:00am 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent

**Wednesday** 8:00am 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent **Christoper Gilbert (Dec. Ann.)**

**Thursday** 8:00am 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent

**Friday** 8:00am **St John Baptist de la Salle**

**Saturday** 8:30am 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent **People contemplating having an abortion  
and for abortionists**

#### 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.

#### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Office.

#### HYMNS FOR WEEKEND MASSES:

Processional: 595      Offertory: 570  
Communion: 509      Reflection: Screen  
Recessional: 288

#### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Piotr Barszszewski, Cecylia Borowska

#### DECEASED ANNIVERSARY:

Christopher Gilbert, Kevin Murphy

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent at 6.30pm.

#### EASTER LITURGIES

**Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper - 7pm**  
**Waiting Prayer until Midnight**

**Good Friday - Stations of the Cross - 11am**  
**Passion of the Lord - 3pm**

**Easter Vigil - Saturday 6.30pm**

**Easter Sunday - 8.30am & 10am**  
**Polish Mass - 12 noon**

#### RECONCILIATION FOR EASTER

**2<sup>nd</sup> Rite - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 7pm**

**Individual Reconciliation - Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April**  
**9am to 12 noon & 5pm to 7pm**

**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, Katalin Domotor, Charles Timmins, Barbara Thompson, Zig Barglik, Valerie Davies, Raymond Waters, Francene Flannery, Jason Isbitski, Rosslyn Talbot, David Jenkins, Noeline Cruzado, Elaine D'Arcy & Kathleen Angoves

**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.



CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**THE HOLY FATHER'S CATECHESIS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

The passage of Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans that we just heard, gives us a great gift. In fact, we are used to acknowledging Abraham as our Father in the faith. Today the Apostle makes us understand that Abraham is also for us Father in hope; not only Father of faith but Father in hope. And this because in his story we can already receive an announcement of the Resurrection, of the new life that overcomes evil and death itself.

The text states that Abraham believed in the God "Who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist" (Romans 4:17), and then it specifies: "He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead because he was about 100 years old, or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb" (Romans 4:19). See, this is the experience that we are also called to live. The God who reveals Himself to Abraham is the God who saves, the God who makes us come out of despair and of death, the God who calls to life. In Abraham's story everything becomes a hymn to God who liberates and regenerates, everything becomes prophecy. And it becomes so for us, for us who now recognize and celebrate the fulfilment of all this in the mystery of Easter. In fact, God "raised Jesus from the dead" (Romans 4:24), so that, in Him, we can also pass from death to life. And truly Abraham can now well say of himself "Father of many nations," in as much as he shines as proclamation of a new humanity – us! –, rescued by Christ from sin and death and introduced once and for all in the embrace of God's love.

At this point, Paul helps us set on fire the very close bond between faith and hope. He affirms, in fact, that Abraham "hoped against hope" (Romans 4:18). Our hope is not governed by human reasoning, expectations and reassurances; it is manifested where there is no more hope, where there is nothing more in which to hope, precisely as it happened for Abraham, in face of his imminent death and the sterility of his wife Sarah. The end was approaching them, they could not have children and, in that situation, Abraham believed and had hope

against all hope. And this is great! Great hope is rooted in faith, and precisely because of this it is able to go beyond all hope. Yes, because it is not founded on our word, but on the Word of God. So, in this sense also, we are called to follow Abraham's example who, although in face of the evidence of a reality that seemed avowed to death, trusted God, "fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised" (Romans 4:21). I would like to ask you a question: we, all of us, are we convinced of this? Are we convinced that God loves us, and that He is ready to bring to fulfilment all that He has promised us? But Father, how much does this cost? There is only one price: "open the heart." Open your hearts and this strength of God will lead you forward, He will do miraculous things and teach you what hope is. This is the only price: to open the heart to faith and He will do the rest.

This is the paradox and, at the same time, the strongest, highest element of our hope! A hope founded on a promise that, from the human point of view seems uncertain and unpredictable, but which does not fail not even in face of death, when the one who promises is the God of the Resurrection and of life. This is not promised by just anyone! He who promises is the God of the Resurrection and of life.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, today let us ask the Lord for the grace to remain founded not so much on our securities, on our capacities, but on the hope that flows from God's promise, as true children of Abraham. When God promises, He brings to fulfilment what He promises. He never fails in His word. And then our life will assume a new light, in the awareness that He who resurrected His Son will also resurrect us and render us truly one with Him, together with all our brethren in the faith. All of us believe. Today we are in the Square, we praise the Lord, we will sing the Our Father, then we will receive the Blessing . . . but this passes. But this is also a promise of hope. If our heart is open today, I assure you that we will all meet in Heaven's Square, which never ever passes. This is God's promise and this is our hope, if we open our hearts.

Thank you.