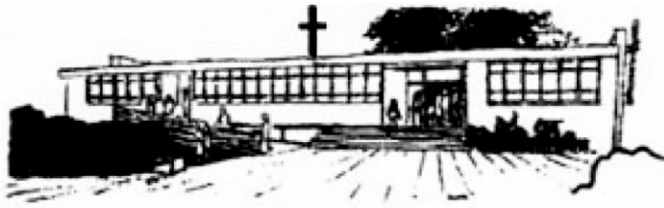


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

23rd April 2017, Year A/1



Reinkat.wordpress.com/2015/07/12/Divine-Mercy-Icon-2/

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

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

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

LITURGY

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in Him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting.

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:30pm

SUNDAY 8.30am

Gabriel Ghougassian (Dec. Ann.)

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am 2nd Week of Easter

Tuesday: 8:00am ANZAC DAY Thomas James Cowen (Dec. Ann.)

Wednesday 8:00am ST MARK

Thursday 8:00am 2nd Week of Easter Mathew, Adam, Lawrence & Paul

Friday 8.00am St Peter Chanel

Saturday 8.30am ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

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:

Entrance: 290 Offertory: 162

Communion: 353 Reflection: Screen

Recessional: 641

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Robert Philliponi

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:

Gabriel Ghougassian

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be no Adoration before morning Mass from Monday to Wednesday during April, due to Fr Pawel being away and our commitments.

YOUTH MASS

Our next Youth Mass is Saturday 29th April at 6pm. Please spread the word to our young people.

POPE FRANCIS' APRIL INTENTIONS:

Universal: Youth

That young people may respond generously to their vocations and seriously consider offering themselves to God in the priesthood or consecrated life.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Today at 3.00pm

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!

Today we begin catecheses on *mercy according to the biblical perspective*, in order to learn mercy by listening to what God Himself teaches us with His Word. We begin from the *Old Testament*, which prepares and leads us to the full revelation of Jesus Christ who, in an accomplished way, reveals the Father's mercy.

The Lord is presented in Sacred Scriptures as "*merciful God*." And this is His name, through which He reveals to us, so to speak, His face and His heart. He Himself, as narrated in the Book of Exodus, on revealing Himself to Moses describes Himself thus: "*The Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness*" (34:6). We find this formula also in other texts, with some variation, but always the stress is put on mercy and on the love of God who never tires of forgiving (cf. *Jonah 4:2; Joel 2:13; Psalm 86:15; 103:8; Nehemiah 9:17*). Let us look together, one by one, at these words of Sacred Scripture that speak to us of God.

The Lord is "*merciful*": this word evokes an attitude of tenderness as that of a mother in dealing with her child. In fact, the Hebrew term used by the Bible makes one think of the insides or even the maternal womb. Therefore, the image it suggests is that of a God that *is moved and becomes tender for us* as a mother when she takes her child in her arms, desirous only of loving, protecting, and helping, ready to give everything, even herself. This is the image that this term suggests. A love, therefore, that can be described as "*visceral*" in the good sense.

Written then is that the Lord is "*gracious*," in the sense that He gives grace, has compassion and, in His greatness, bends over one who is weak and poor, *always ready to receive, to understand, to forgive*. He is like the father of the parable reported in Luke's Gospel (cf. *Luke 15:11-32*): a father who does not shut himself in resentment because of the younger son's abandonment but, on the contrary, continues to wait for him — he has generated him. And then he runs to meet and embrace him, he does not even let him finish his confession — as if he covered his mouth — so great is his love and joy for having found him again. And then he also goes to call his older son, who is angry and does not want to celebrate, and yet the father bends over him and invites him to come in, he tries to open his heart to love, so that no one remains excluded from the celebration of mercy. Mercy is a celebration!

Said also of this merciful God is that He is "*slow to anger*," literally, "*in the long term*," that is wide-ranging in long suffering and the capacity to endure. God is able to wait, and His times are not the impatient ones of men. He is like the wise farmer that is able to wait, gives time to the good seed to grow, despite the darnel (cf. *Matthew 13:24-30*).

And, finally, the Lord proclaims Himself "*abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness*." How lovely is this description of God! Everything is here, because God is great and powerful, but His greatness and power are displayed in loving us, we who are so little, so incapable. The word "*love*" used here indicates *affection, grace and goodness*. It is not the love of soap operas ... It is love that takes the first step, which does not depend on human merits but is of immense gratuitousness. It is the divine solicitude that nothing can stop, not even sin, because it is able to go beyond sin, to overcome evil and forgive it.

A "*faithfulness*" without limits: here is the last word of God's revelation to Moses. God's faithfulness never fails. Because the Lord is the Guardian that, as the Psalm says, does not fall asleep but watches constantly over us to lead us to life:

"He will not allow your foot to slip;

or your guardian to sleep.

Behold, the guardian of Israel

never slumbers nor sleeps.

[...]

The LORD will guard you from all evil;

he will guard your soul.

The LORD will guard your coming and going

both now and forever." (121:3-4.7-8).

And this merciful God is faithful in His mercy and Saint Paul says a lovely thing: if you are not faithful to Him, He will remain faithful because he cannot deny Himself. Faithfulness in mercy is proper to God's being. And therefore God is totally and always trustworthy — a solid and stable presence. This is the certainty of our faith. And then, in this Jubilee of Mercy, we entrust ourselves totally to Him, and experience the joy of being loved by this "*God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness*."