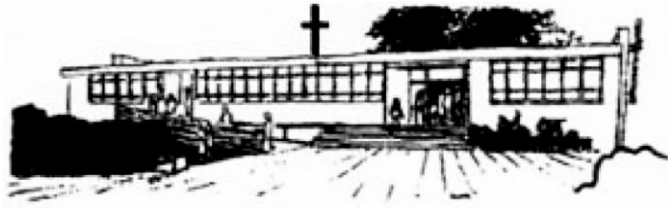


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1st January 2017, Year A/1



ANGELICO, Fra. Madonna and Child

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. 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: Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King,
who rules heaven and earth for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: May God bless us in His mercy.

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

SUNDAY 8:30am

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday	8:00am	St Basil & St Gregory	Dec. Mem. of Brancik Family
Tuesday:	8:00am	Most Holy Name of Jesus	Dec. Mem. of Vanicek Family
Wednesday	8:00am	St Zedislava Berkiana	Dec. Mem. of Kushnit Family
Thursday	8:00am	Weekday of Christmas	Dec. Mem. of Stipl Family
Friday	8:00am	Weekday of Christmas	Dec. Mem. of Klika Family
Saturday	8:30am	St Raymond of Penafort	Special Request

ADORATION CHAPEL:

Open during office hours or speak to Fr 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.

HYMNS FOR WEEKEND MASSES:

Processional: 255 Offertory: 414
Communion: 212 Reflection: Screen
Recessional: 411

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kerry Clarke

DECEASED ANNIVERSARY: Members of the Brancik, Vanicek, Kushnir, Stipl and Klika Families.

ROSARY IN OUR HOMES:

Please fill in the form at the back of the Church if you are interested in having Our Lady's Statue and the Rosary in your home for a week at a time. The Statue will be delivered to you by the Legion of Mary. Our Priests will also be able to visit your home to bless it during this time.

POPE FRANCIS' JANUARY INTENTIONS:

Evangelization: Christians at the service of the challenges of humanity.

That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord's teaching, by striving with prayer and fraternal charity, to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday 6th January 2017 from 5.00pm to 10.00pm

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, Charles Timmins, Barbara Thompson, Zig Barglik, Valerie Davies, Janet Boreham, 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.

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

SECOND COLLECTION: Envelopes: \$773.60
Loose: \$885.05

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.

LEGION OF MARY - 'Mary Seat of Wisdom'

Meetings are held 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 most welcome.



JUBILEE 800 1216 - 2016
ORDER OF PREACHERS

www.stjoseph800.org

GIFT OF THE PLENARY INDULGENCE:

Pope Francis has granted a special Jubilee Plenary Indulgence, on usual conditions, for the faithful praying in a Dominican church. That is why every days' morning adoration we finish with special prayers.

SACRAMENTS FOR 2017:

Reconciliation: Friday 7th April

Registration - 5th March after 10am Mass

First Communion: Sunday 18th June

Registration - 23rd April after 10am Mass

Confirmation: Tuesday 24th October

Registration - 23rd July after 10am Mass

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUPS:

Will resume in February. If you have any questions about these Groups please ring:

Aloma 4731 8102; Teresa - 4731 4222

Elaine - 4736 8162.

OFFICE HOURS DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK:

During January the Parish Office will be open on Thursdays & Fridays. If you have an urgent matter, please ring the emergency number on the front page. Normal office hours will resume in February.

PARISH NEW YEAR'S PARTY:

This Sunday 1st January after 10am Mass, we look forward to getting together to celebrate the New Year as a Parish Community. Please bring a plate to share.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY PARKING IN THE COURTYARD IS ONLY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABLED STICKERS. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS IS A SAFETY ISSUE.

YOU ARE ALSO ASKED TO PARK IN THE SCHOOL CARPARK DURING THE WEEKDAYS FROM MONDAY 26TH DECEMBER UNTIL SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY.

CLEANING THE LORD'S HOUSE:

If you have an hour to spare on a Friday or a Saturday morning, please consider assisting with cleaning the Church. Ring Clare on 0432 668 724.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSES:

Courses at Penrith or Blacktown are open to all individuals seeking formation and training for serving at the altar. Email Office of Worship on alobo2@parra.catholic.org.au or ring on 8838 3456, or collect an enrolment form from Aruna or Clare.

LOWANA SUMMER CAMP:

For girls Years 5-8 in 2017. From 24th to 26th January at Crosslands Youth & Convention Centre, 100 Crosslands Rd, Galston. Contact: Paula 0405 457 799. See brochure at back of Church.

PARISH LUNCH:

All Parishioners are invited to our lunch every 2nd Wednesday of the Month at midday. Venue for 11th January is Penrith Golf Club. All are most welcome.

Have a grace filled New Year A.D. 2017

Dominican Fathers

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

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE:

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

In his Letter to the Romans, Saint Paul recalls for us the great figure of Abraham, to indicate to us the way of faith and hope. Of him, the Apostle writes: "In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations" (Romans 4:18); "firm in hope against all hope." This concept is strong: and even when there is no hope, I hope. So is our Father Abraham. Saint Paul is referring to the faith with which Abraham believed in the word of God, who promised him a son. But it was truly a trust hoping "against hope," so unlikely was what the Lord announced to him, because he was elderly – he was almost one hundred years old – and his wife was sterile. He was unable, but God said it and he believed. There was no human hope because he was elderly and his wife was sterile: but he believed.

Trusting in this promise, Abraham starts out, accepts leaving his land and becoming a foreigner, hoping in this "impossible" son that God wished to give him despite Sarah's womb being now as dead. Abraham believed; his faith opened to a hope that seemed unreasonable; that is, the ability to go beyond human reasoning, the wisdom and prudence of the world, beyond what is normally regarded a good sense, to believe in the impossible. Hope opens new horizons, makes one capable of dreaming what is not even imaginable. Hope makes one enter the darkness of an uncertain future to walk in the light. The virtue of hope is beautiful; it gives us so much strength to walk in life.

However, it is a difficult way. And the moment of the crisis of dejection came also for Abraham. He trusted, he left his home, his land, his friends ... everything. He left and arrived in the country that God had indicated to him; time passed. At that time, to undertake such a trip was not as today with airplanes – now it is done in a few hours; then it took months, years! Time passed, but the <promised> son did not come; Sarah's womb remained closed in its sterility.

And Abraham – I do not say that he lost patience but he complained to the Lord. We learn this also from our Father Abraham: to complain to the Lord is a way of praying. Sometimes I feel when I confess that I have complained to the Lord ... and [I answer]: "but no! Do complain, He is a Father!" And this is a way of praying: complain to the Lord, this is good. Abraham complained to the Lord saying: "' Lord God, [...], I am leaving without children and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus" (Eliezer was the one who governed everything). Abraham added: "Behold, you have not given me descendants and my slave will be my heir." And behold, this word of the Lord was addressed to him: 'He shall not be your heir; but one born of you shall be your heir.' And then He led him outside and said, 'Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them'; and He added: 'So shall your descendants be.' And yet again Abraham believed the Lord; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness" (Genesis 15:2-6).

The scene unfolded at night; outside it was dark, but in Abraham's heart there was also the darkness of disappointment, of discouragement, of difficulty in continuing to hope in something impossible. By now, the Patriarch was very advanced in years, there seemed to be no more time for a son, and it will be a slave who will take over, inheriting everything.

Abraham is addressing the Lord, but God, although He is present there and speaks with him, seems as though He is distancing Himself, as if <Abraham> had not had faith in His word. Abraham feels alone, he is old and tired, death looms. How can he continue to trust?

Yet, his lament is already a form of faith, it is a prayer. Despite everything, Abraham continues to believe in God and to hope that something can still happen. Otherwise, why question the Lord, why complain to him, why remind Him of His promises? Faith is not only silence, which accepts everything without replying; hope is not certainty that makes one immune to doubt and to perplexity. But so often, hope is darkness; but hope is there ... which leads one forward. Faith is also to struggle with God, to show Him our bitterness, without "pious" pretenses. "I was angry with God and I said this and this and this to Him ... But He is a Father, He has understood you: go in peace! One must have this courage! And this is hope. And hope is also not to be afraid to see reality for what it is and to accept its contradictions.

Therefore, Abraham turns to God in faith to help him continue to hope. It is curious; he does not ask for a son. He asks: "Help me to continue to hope," the prayer to have hope. And the Lord responds insisting on His unlikely promise: a slave will not be the heir but in fact a son, born of Abraham, generated by him. Nothing has changed on God's part. He continues to confirm what He already said, and he does not offer footholds to Abraham to feel reassured. His only security is to trust in the Lord's word and to continue to hope.

And that sign that God gives to Abraham is a request to continue to believe and to hope: "Look toward heaven and number the stars [...] So shall your descendants be" (Genesis 15:5). It is, again, a promise; it is something to wait for in the future. God leads Abraham out of the tent, in reality out of his narrow visions, and He shows him the stars. To believe, it is necessary to be able to see with the eyes of faith, they are only stars, which all can see, but for Abraham they must become the sign of God's fidelity.

This is faith; this is the way of hope that each one of us must follow. If for us also the only possibility remains to look at the stars, then it is time to trust God. There is nothing more beautiful. Hope does not disappoint. Thank you.