

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

THE MOST HOLY FAMILY

31st December 2017, Year B/2



NICCOLO PISANO, The Holy Family, 1500s

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: 4726 4200; **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: [stjosephskingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephskingswood)

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

LITURGY

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

Entrance Antiphon: The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord remembers His covenant for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

SUNDAY 8:30am

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

6.00pm **MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

For the Parish

Tuesday: 8:00am **St Basil & St Gregory** **(In Thanksgiving)**

Wednesday 8:00am **Most Holy Name of Jesus**

Thursday 8:00am **St Zedislava Berkiana**

Friday 8:00am **Christmas Time** **For God's Precious Infants**

Saturday 8:30am **Christmas Time**

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.

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Office.

DECEASED ANNIVERSARY:

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES:

Monday 1st January: 8:00am & 6:00pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There is an opportunity to spend time with the Lord this Friday 5th January from 5pm to 10pm. All are welcome.

YOUTH MASS

The next Youth Mass will be Saturday 3rd February at 6pm. Please encourage all our young people to attend.

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.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kevin Collins, John McCahon, Kathryn Tuckwell, Carmel Kerr, Roger Stevens, Cameron Stevens, Shayla, Karen Morvan, Gisela Drobiszewski, Katalin Domotor, Charles Timmins, Barbara Thompson, Zig Barglik, Valerie Davies, Raymond Waters, Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Noeline Cruzado, Kathleen Angoves, Margaret Colville & Gill Waltisbuhl.

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

POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER INTENTIONS:

The Elderly:

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

SECOND COLLECTION:

Weekend	Envelopes: \$898
	Loose: \$440.95
Christmas	Envelopes: \$40
	Loose: \$1145.15

LEGION OF MARY - 'Mary Seat of Wisdom'

Meetings are held every Thursday 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.

SACRAMENTS FOR 2018:

Reconciliation: Thursday 22nd March

Registration: Sunday 18th February

First Communion: Sunday 3rd June

Registration: Sunday 8th April

Confirmation Tuesday 23rd October

Registration Sunday 22nd July

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

Jim - 0411 280 950

OFFICE HOURS DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK:

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

PARISH LUNCH:

Parish Lunch is cancelled for January, due to many being away on holidays. The date for our next Lunch is the second Wednesday of the month, the 14th February. All Parishioners are most welcome.

HELPERS FOR CLEANING AND FLOWERS

If anyone would like to help with cleaning the Church on a Friday or Saturday morning or helping with flower arranging on a Saturday morning please ring the Office and leave your name and phone number.

PARISH NEW YEAR'S PARTY:

This Monday 1st January after 6:00pm Mass, we look forward to getting together to celebrate the New Year as a Parish Community. Please bring fruit, dessert or nibbles.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSES:

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses at Penrith (from 15th February) or Blacktown (12th February) are open to all individuals seeking formation and training for serving at the altar. Email Office of Worship on ivergano@parra.catholic.org.au or ring on 8838 3456, or collect an enrolment form from Aruna or Clare.

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

A Camp Retreat for Girls and Young Women aged 17-25; includes a pilgrimage to Mary MacKillop Place, as well as talks, prayer, workshops, craft and fun activities. Starts Tuesday 9th January at 4pm to Friday 12th January at 4pm. Venue is Mt Schoenstatt 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa. For any inquiries or for Register Form ring Sr M Luka on 0439 537 843 or sr.m.luka@bigpond.com.

CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM

Campion College Summer program is forming young minds in faith and reason. Looking for 16 – 24 year old people to come to join the Program 8th to 12th January 2018. Experience College life and a taste of the Campion College course: Literature, History, Hiking, Coastal Walks & Swims, Theology, Philosophy, Sports, Other Activities. Registration: \$390 per person Financial assistance available. For more information contact us at 0413 489 738, or visit www.campion.edu.au/summer

Have a grace filled New Year A.D. 2018

Dominican Fathers

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE:
ON CHRISTMAS: ON LORD JESUS' BIRTH**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

Today I would like to reflect with you on the meaning of the Lord Jesus' Birth, which we are living these days in faith and in celebrations. The setting up of the Crib and, above all the liturgy, with its biblical Readings and its traditional songs, have made us relive "the today" in which "for us is born the Saviour, the Lord Christ" (*Luke 2:11*).

In our times, especially in Europe, we are witnessing a sort of "distortion" of Christmas: in the name of a false respect that isn't Christian, which often hides the will to marginalize faith, every reference to the birth of Jesus is eliminated from this feast. However, in reality this event is the only true Christmas! There is no Christmas without Jesus; there's another feast, but it isn't Christmas. And if He is at the centre, then all the surroundings also, namely the lights, the sounds, the various local traditions, including the characteristic foods, all concur to create the atmosphere of celebration, but with Jesus at the centre. If we take Him away, the light is extinguished and everything becomes false.

Through the proclamation of the Church, we, as Pastors of the Gospel (Cf. *Luke 2:9*), are guided to seek and to find the true light, that of Jesus that, making Himself man as us, shows Himself in an astonishing way: He is born of a poor unknown girl, who gives Him birth in a stable, with only her husband's help . . . The world isn't aware of anything, but in Heaven the Angels, who know what it is, exult! And it's thus that the Son of God presents Himself to us also today: as God's gift for humanity, which is immersed in the night and in the torpor of sleep (Cf. *Isaiah 9:1*). And we also witness today the fact that often humanity prefers darkness, because it knows that the light would reveal all those actions and those thoughts that would make it blush or have remorse of conscience. So, the preference is to remain in the darkness and not upset one's mistaken habits. We can ask ourselves then what it means to receive the gift of God that is Jesus. As He Himself has taught us with His life, it means to become daily a free gift for those that one meets on one's way. See why at Christmas gifts are exchanged. The true gift for us is Jesus, and, like Him, we want to be gift for others. And, as we want to be gift for others, we

exchange gifts as sign, as signal of this attitude that Jesus teaches us: He, sent by the Father, was a gift for us, and we are gifts for others.

The Apostle Paul gives us a key of synthetic reading, when he writes — this passage of Paul is beautiful —: "For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives" (*Titus 2:11-12*). The grace of God "appeared" in Jesus, the face of God, to whom the Virgin Mary gave birth as every child of this world, but who didn't come "from the earth," He came "from Heaven," from God. Thus, with the Incarnation of the Son, God has opened for us the way to the new life, not founded on egoism but on love. Jesus' birth is the greatest gesture of our Father in Heaven.

And, finally, a last important aspect: in Christmas we can see how human history, that which moves the powerful of this world, is visited by God's history. And God involves those that, consigned to the margins of society, are the first recipients of His gift, that is — the gift — the salvation brought by Jesus. Jesus establishes a friendship with His little ones and scorned ones, which continues in time and which nourishes hope for a better future. To these persons, represented by the shepherds of Bethlehem, "a great light appears:" (*Luke 2:9-12*). They were marginalized, not well looked upon, scorned, and to them the great news appears first. With these persons, with the little ones and the scorned, Jesus establishes a friendship that continues in time and that nourishes the hope for a better future. To these persons, represented by the shepherds of Bethlehem, a great light appears, which leads them straight to Jesus. With them, in every time, God wants to build a new world, a world in which there are no longer rejected, mistreated and indigent persons.

Dear brothers and sisters, in these days let us open our mind and heart to receive this grace. Jesus is God's gift for us, if we receive Him, we can also become Him for others — be a gift of God for others — first of all for those who have never experienced care and tenderness. But how many people have never experienced in their life a caress, loving attention, a gesture of tenderness . . . Christmas pushes us to do so. Thus Jesus comes to be born again in the life of each one of us and, through us, He continues to be a gift of salvation for the little ones and the excluded.