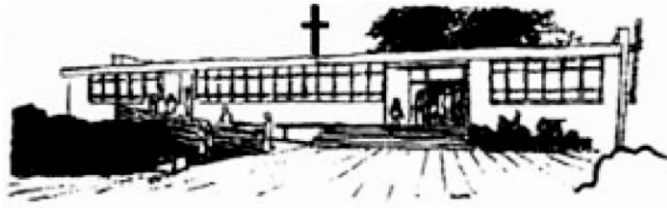


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

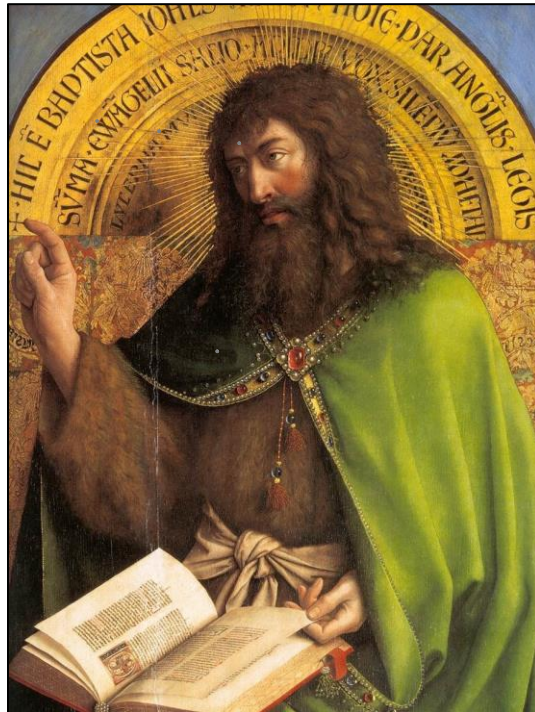
Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 02 9673 5046

Please leave a detailed Message

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9th December 2018, Year C/1



EYCK, Jan van, John the Baptist, The Ghent Altarpiece, 1425-29

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 Reilly - 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 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)

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

Entrance Antiphon: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of His voice heard in the joy of your heart.

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		The Mauns Family
SUNDAY	8:30am		The Bates Family
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	2nd Week of Advent	The Steward Family
Tuesday	8:00am	2nd Week of Advent	For Priests and Religious
Wednesday	8:00am	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Hagop Arik
Thursday	8.00am	St Lucy	In Thanksgiving
Friday	8.00am	St John of the Cross	In Thanksgiving
Saturday	8.30am	2nd Week of Advent	In Thanksgiving

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Helena Grzadka

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES: Hagop Arik,
Patrick Houlihan

YOUTH MASS

Our next Youth Mass is on Saturday 15th December
at 6pm. Please invite all our Young People.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Monday 24th - Vigil Mass at 6.00pm
Tuesday 25th - Midnight Mass (Carols from
11.30pm Monday night)
9.00am Mass
11.00am Polish Mass

Reconciliation - Monday 17th December
9.00am to 12.00 noon & 5.00pm to 7.30pm

POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER INTENTIONS

In the Service of the Transmission of Faith

That people, who are involved in the service and
transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue
with culture, a language suited to the conditions of
the present time.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kevin Collins, John McCahon, Kathryn Tuckwell, Carmel Kerr, Roger Stevens, Cameron Stevens, Shayla, Karen Morvan, Katalin Domotor, Barbara Thompson, Zig Barglik, Valerie Davies, Raymond Waters, Jason Isbitski, Andrew Isbitski, David Jenkins, Margaret Colville, Gill Waltisbuhl, Robert Waltisbuhl, Cecylia Tobera.

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: \$740**
 Loose: \$434.80

LEGION OF MARY – 'Mary Seat of Wisdom'

Meeting every Thursday from 6:00pm to 7:30pm in the old office building. All interested in participating in Legion's activities are most welcome.

CHILDREN'S LEGION OF MARY

Meeting every Wednesday from 6.00pm in the old office building. Children under 18 years old are most welcome.

ROSARY IN OUR HOMES:

Please fill in the form at the back of the Church if you would like 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.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUPS:

2nd & 4th Wednesdays after Mass – 9.15am to 10.15am in the Parish Hall.

Aloma – 4731 8102; Teresa 4731 4222.

1st & 3rd Mondays 7pm in the Parish Office.

Jim – 0411 280 950

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month in the Church from 12.30pm to 3pm. All are most welcome. Please contact Delfin on 0478 784 885 with any questions.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study every Wednesday at 10.30am. All are most welcome. Please bring your Bibles with you.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group will resume in February 2019. Thank you to all who so generously supported our Youth Group through the year. We especially thank Niall Slattery, Eleanor Bonwick and the U Turn team for faithfully serving our Parish.

PARISH LUNCH:

Held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Our last Lunch for this year is this Wednesday 12th December at Penrith Golf Club. All are most welcome.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Calendars are now available for the price of \$9 each. Proceeds of sales go to the Parish. They are a great gift for Christmas.

PARISH WORKING BEE

Next Saturday 15th December after morning Mass we are spending time preparing the Church and Grounds for Christmas. All are welcome to help.

NOMINATION FOR SRE

Antoinette Mifsud was nominated for excellence at last week's SRE celebration at Parliament House. Congratulations Antoinette.

WOLLEMI CLEAN UP

Thank you to the young men of Year 7, who worked so hard moving pews and vacuuming in the Church so we could shampoo carpets; also cleaning grates and tidying our gardens and grounds. Well done boys.

CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

Sunday 16th December at 2pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, St Marys.

CHOIR MEMBERS REQUIRED

If you enjoy singing, please consider joining our Choir for Christmas Carols and Midnight Mass. Please ring Rubina on 0405 043 865 for more information.

CLEANING THE LORD'S HOUSE

If anyone has a free hour on a Friday or Saturday morning we would appreciate some help cleaning the Church, polishing brass or arranging flowers. Please ring the Parish Office.

BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We will be having a collection again this weekend to make up our quota of \$3552. We have raised \$1973.05 so far; thanks to your generosity. You can visit yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.

EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE

This is a 7 day, 110 km Catholic Pilgrimage through the Blue Mountains. It begins at Emu Plains on 2nd January 2019 and finishes at Bell on 8th January 2019. For information and to register please see www.epiphanypilgrimage.org

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. Information at back of the Church or at plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' CATECHESIS

Today we begin a series of catecheses on the "Our Father."

The Gospels have given us very vivid portraits of Jesus as a man of prayer. Despite the urgency of His mission and the urgency of so many people that claim Him, Jesus feels the need to withdraw in solitude to pray. Mark's Gospel gives us this detail from the first page of Jesus' public ministry (Cf. 1:35). Jesus' inaugural day at Capernaum ended in a triumphal manner. The sun having gone down, multitudes of the sick reached the door where Jesus dwelt: the Messiah preaches and heals. The ancient prophecies and the expectations of so many suffering people are fulfilled: Jesus is the close God, the God who frees. However, that crowd was small if compared to so many other crowds that will gather around the Prophet of Nazareth; at certain times they are oceanic assemblies, and Jesus is at the centre of all, the long-awaited by the peoples, the success of Israel's hope.

And yet He frees Himself; He does not end up a hostage of the expectations of those that have now chosen Him as leader, which is a danger for leaders: to attach themselves too much to people and not distance themselves. Jesus realizes this and does not end up a hostage of the people. From the first night at Capernaum, He shows Himself an original Messiah. In the last part of the night, when dawn was now breaking, the disciples seek Him again but cannot find Him. Where is He? Until Peter finally tracks Him down in an isolated place, completely absorbed in prayer. And he says to Him: "Everyone is searching for You!" (Mark 1:37). The exclamation seems to be the affixed clause to a successful plebiscite, the proof of a mission's good outcome.

However, Jesus says to His own that He must go elsewhere; that it's not for the people to seek Him, but it is, first of all, He who is to seek others. Therefore, He must not put down roots but remain continually a pilgrim on the roads of Galilee (vv. 38-39). And also a pilgrim towards the Father, that is, praying, going on the path of prayer. Jesus prays. And it all happens in a night of prayer.

In some page of Scripture, it seems to be first of all the prayer of Jesus, His intimacy with the Father that governs all. It will be so especially in the night of Gethsemane. The last stretch of Jesus' path (absolutely the most difficult that He has done up to then) seems to find its meaning in Jesus' continuous listening to the Father. It was a prayer that was surely not easy but, rather, a true and proper "agony," in the sense of the

competitiveness of athletes, yet a prayer capable of sustaining the way of the cross.

Here is the essential point: Jesus prayed. Jesus prayed intensely in public moments, sharing the liturgy of His people, but He also sought secluded places, separated from the whirl of activity of the world, places that allowed Him to descend into the secret of His soul: He is the Prophet who knows the stones of the desert and goes up high on mountains. Jesus' last words before expiring on the cross were words of the Psalms, namely, of prayer, of the prayer of the Jews: He prayed with the prayers that His Mother had taught Him.

Jesus prayed as every man of the world prays. Yet, in His way of praying, a mystery was also enclosed, something that surely did not escape the eyes of His disciples, if in the Gospels we find that very simple and immediate entreaty: "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1). They saw Jesus praying and wanted to learn to pray: "Lord, teach us to pray." And Jesus doesn't refuse, He isn't jealous of His intimacy with the Father, but He came precisely to introduce us to this relationship. And thus He becomes His disciples' Teacher of prayer, as He surely wants to be for all of us. We must also say: "Lord, teach me to pray. Teach me."

Man's prayers, this yearning that is born in such a natural way from his soul, is perhaps one of the densest mysteries of the universe. And we don't even know if the prayers we address to God are, effectively, those that He wills to have addressed to Him. The Bible also gives us testimony of inopportune prayers, which in the end are rejected by God: suffice it to recall the parable of the Pharisee and the publican. Only the latter returns home from the Temple justified because the Pharisee was proud and he liked to have the people see him praying, and he feigned to pray but his heart was cold. And Jesus says: he was not justified "for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 18:14). The first step to pray is to be humble, to go to the Father and say: Look at me, I'm a sinner, I'm weak, I'm bad," each one knows what to say. But one always begins with humility, and the Lord listens. The Lord listens to a humble prayer.

Therefore, beginning this series of catecheses on Jesus' prayer, the most beautiful and most correct thing that we must all do is to repeat the disciples' invocation: "Master, teach us to pray!" It will be good, in this Season of Advent, to repeat it: "Lord, teach me to pray." We can all go a bit further and pray better, but we must ask the Lord for it: "Lord, teach me to pray." Let's do this, in this Season of Advent, and He will surely not let our invocation fall into the void.