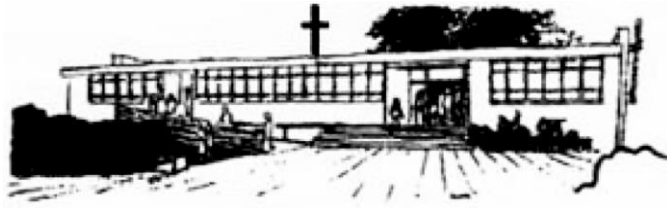


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

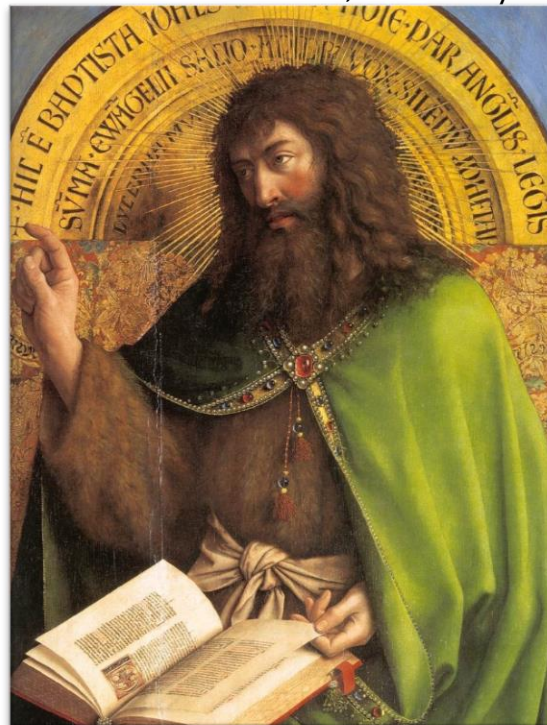
Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 02 9673 5046

Please leave a detailed Message

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8th December 2019, Year A/2



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

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 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)

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

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

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm: Justice shall flourish in His time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		Alex & Ophelia (Thanksgiving Mass)
SUNDAY	8:30am		Herman Mulder (Rec. Dec.)
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF BL VIRGIN MARY	In Thanksgiving
Tuesday	8:00am	2nd Week of Advent	Patrick Houlihan (Dec. Ann.)
Wednesday	8:00am	2nd Week of Advent	For Australian Farmers
Thursday	8.00am	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Clare Mennis (Dec. Ann.)
Friday	8.00am	St Lucy	In Thanksgiving
Saturday	8.30am	St John of the Cross	Dec. Mem. of the Mahns Family

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Herman Mulder

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES: Patrick Houlihan,
Clare Mennis, Dec. Mem. of the Mahns Family

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

To arrange for a Mass Intention please contact one
of the Priests in person.

YOUTH MASS

Our next Youth Mass is the Christmas Eve Mass on
Tuesday 24th December at 6pm.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday 24th - Vigil Mass at 6.00pm (Youth Mass)
**Wednesday 25th - Midnight (Carols from 11.30pm
Tuesday night)**

Wednesday 25th - 9.00am Mass

Reconciliation - Monday 23rd December

9.00am to 12.00 noon & 5.00pm to 7.30pm

Also Saturday mornings after Mass

NEW YEAR MASS

6pm Wednesday 1st January 2020 followed by Bingo.
More information to follow.

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Zig Barglik, Kevin Collins, Margaret Colville, Valerie Davis, Katalin Domotor, Nora Hehir,
Andrew Isbitski, Jason Isbitski, David Jenkins, Carmel Kerr, John McCahon, Karen Morvan, Ophelia Paraan, Shayla,
Cameron Stevens, Roger Stevens, Barbara Thompson, Cecylia Tobera, Kelly Tonna, Kathryn Tuckwell, Geoffrey
Waltis, Gill Waltisbuhl, Robert Waltisbuhl, Raymond Waters, Denis Woodward.

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.

PARISH AND THE DIOCESE

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Wednesday 18th December Father will be Anointing our Sick and Housebound in their homes. If you know of anyone who would benefit from the anointing, please ring the Parish Office.

POPE FRANCIS' DECEMBER INTENTIONS

Universal – The Very Young

That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

SECOND COLLECTION: Envelopes: \$1173
Loose: \$398.75
Visitor Contribution: \$5.70

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUP:

1st & 3rd Monday of the month at 7pm in the Parish Office. All are welcome.

Any questions please ring Jim on 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 9.15am. All are welcome.

YOUTH GROUP

Thank you to U Turn for running our Youth Group, and all who supported them this past year by providing food for afternoon tea or donating their bottles and cans to assist with food. Our next Group is Wednesday 5th February 2020.

PARISH LUNCH:

Held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Our last Lunch for the year will be this Wednesday 11th December at Penrith Golf Club. All are most welcome.

NO EXIT VIA JOSEPH STREET

Please take care when entering or leaving via Richmond Road.

WORKING BEE

Please join us from 9am to 12noon on Saturday 21st December to prepare the Church and Grounds for Christmas. Any time you can spare on that morning will be appreciated.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Weekend we have another collection to help vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Our quota is \$3580 and so far we have received \$1001.90. Thank you for your generosity and please consider a further contribution at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or in the Envelopes.

CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

2pm Sunday 15th December at Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys. Celebrant is Fr Adam Crouch MGL.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSES

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses for Ministers of the Word, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar begin Monday 10th February at Blacktown and Thursday 13th February at Penrith. Please see Office for Form.

GIFTS OF FAITH

The Catholic charity "Aid to the Church in Need" has produced a **Gifts of Faith** Catalogue to support suffering and persecuted Christians. Copies can be found at the back of the Church. Order by 9th December to receive your **Gift of Faith Cards and Envelopes** in time for Christmas.

CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM

5th to 9th January 2020 for Youth aged 16 to 20 years old interested in history, literature, philosophy and theology. Spaces are limited. Find out more or register at www.campion.edu.au/summer-program

NATIONAL PRAYER CAMPAIGN FOR RAIN

The Catholic Bishops of Australia have announced a National Prayer Campaign for Drought to take place during November. People across the country are encouraged to pray for the gift of rain, for people affected by the drought and to provide practical support, where possible. The impact of the drought is national – and so the response should be national. Access resources at www.catholic.org.au/drought

HOUSE OF WELCOME DONATIONS

If you would like to donate groceries for the refugees please leave them at the Parish Office.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

For the latest information on the Plenary Council please visit www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

THE HOLY FATHER'S CATECHESIS

On St Paul's Ministry in Ephesus

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

The Gospel's journey continues without a pause in the Acts of the Apostles, and it goes across the city of Ephesus manifesting all its salvific scope. Thanks to Paul, about twelve men receive Baptism in Jesus' name and experience the effusion of the Holy Spirit, who regenerates them (Cf. *Acts* 19:1-7). Several, then, are the miracles that happen through the Apostle: the sick are cured and the possessed are liberated (Cf. *Acts* 19:11-12). This happens because the disciple is like his Master (Cf. *Luke* 6:40) and renders Him present by communicating to brethren the same new life that he received from Him.

God's power, which breaks out in Ephesus, unmasks those that wish to use Jesus' name to carry out exorcisms but without having the spiritual authority to do so (Cf. *Acts* 19:13-17), and it reveals the weakness of magic arts, which are abandoned by a great number of persons who choose Christ and abandoned magic arts (Cf. *Acts* 19:18-19). A real reversal for Ephesus, which was a famous centre for the practice of magic! Luke thus stresses the incompatibility between faith in Christ and magic. If you choose Christ, you can't take recourse to a magician: faith is confident abandonment in the hands of a reliable God, who makes Himself known not through occult practices but by revelation and with gratuitous love. Perhaps some of you will say to me: "Ah, yes, this thing of magic is something ancient: today, this doesn't happen in a Christian civilization." But, be careful! I ask you: how many of you go to engage in tarot cards, how many of you go to have your hands read by soothsayers or have cards read to you. And to the question: "But why, if you believe in Jesus Christ, do you go to the magician, to the soothsayer, to all these people?" Answer: "I believe in Jesus Christ but for good luck I also go to them." Magic isn't Christian! These things that are done to divine the future or divine so many things or change situations of life, aren't Christian. Christ's grace brings you all: pray and entrust yourself to the Lord.

The spread of the Gospel in Ephesus damages the silversmiths' trade, who make the statues of the goddess Artemis and the cult of this goddess (Cf. *Acts* 19:23-28). Paul then leaves Ephesus directly for Jerusalem and arrives at Miletus (Cf. *Acts* 20:1-6). Here he orders to call the Elders of the Church of

Ephesus — the presbyters: they would be the priests — to handover "pastoral" consignments (*Acts* 20:17-35). We are at the final stages of Paul's apostolic ministry and Luke gives us his farewell discourse, a sort of spiritual testament that the Apostle addresses to those that, after his departure, will have to guide the community of Ephesus. And this is one of the most beautiful pages of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles: I advise you to take the New Testament today, the Bible, Chapter 20 and read Paul's taking leave from the presbyters of Ephesus — and he does so at Miletus. It's a way to understand how the Apostles takes his leave and also how presbyters today must take their leave, and also how all Christians must take their leave. It's a most beautiful page.

In the exhortative part, Paul encourages the leaders of the community that he knows he is seeing for the last time. And what does he say to them? "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock." This is the work of a Pastor: to do the vigil, to watch over himself and over the flock. The Pastor must watch, the parish priest must watch, do the vigil, the presbyters must watch, the Bishops and the Pope must watch. They must watch to guard the flock, and also watch over themselves, examine their conscience and see how this duty to watch is fulfilled. "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians to feed the Church of the Lord, which He obtained with his own blood (*Acts* 20:28), so says Saint Paul. Asked of the Bishops is the greatest possible proximity to the flock, ransomed by the precious blood of Christ, and promptness in defending it from the "wolves" (v. 29). The Bishops must be very close to the people, to defend them; they must not be detached from the people. After having entrusted this task to the leaders of Ephesus, Paul puts them in God's hands and commends them "to the word of His grace" (v. 32), ferment of all growth and path of holiness in the Church, inviting them to work with their hands, like him, so as not to be a burden to others, to help the weak and to experience that "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (v. 35).

Dear brothers and sisters let us ask the Lord to renew in us love for the Church and for the deposit of faith that she guards, and to make us all co-responsible in guarding the flock, supporting the Pastors in prayer, so that they manifest the firmness and tenderness of the Divine Shepherd.