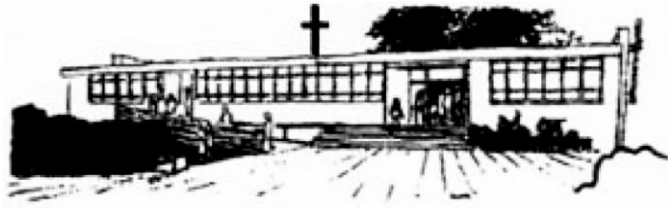


# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019, Year A/2



GIOTTO di Bondone, Nativity of Birth of Jesus 1304-06

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](http://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](mailto:parish@stjosephskingswood.org); Web: [www.stjosephskingswood.org](http://www.stjosephskingswood.org); Facebook: [stjosephskingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephskingswood)

# ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

## LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

**Entrance Antiphon:** Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

**First Reading:** Isaiah 7:10-14

**Responsorial Psalm:** Let the Lord enter; He is the king of glory.

**Second Reading:** Romans 1:1-7

**Gospel:** Matthew 1:18-24

### VIGIL SATURDAY

	6:00pm		Luis & Constanca Cerrafon (Dec. Ann.)
SUNDAY	8:30am		Phyllis Herbert (Dec. Ann.)
	10:00am		For the Parish
Monday	8:00am	4 <sup>th</sup> Week of Advent	In Thanksgiving
Tuesday	8:00am 6.00pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Week of Advent Christmas Eve	Irene Quindoza (Rec. Dec.) For the Parish
Wednesday	12:00am 9.00am	Christmas Morning Christmas Day	For the Parish Witold Blazek (Dec. Ann.)
Thursday	8.00am	ST STEPHEN	For Australian Farmers
Friday	8.00am	ST JOHN	Thanksgiving Mass
Saturday	8.30am	THE HOLY INNOCENTS	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.

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Herman Mulder, Kevin Dunncliffe

**DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:** Deceased Mems.  
of the Gosper Family, Virginia Mongale

### BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

### YOUTH MASS

Christmas Eve – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Vigil Mass at 6.00pm (Youth Mass)**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Midnight (Carols from 11.30pm  
Tuesday night)**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – 9.00am Mass**

**Reconciliation – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**  
9.00am to 12.00 noon & 5.00pm to 7.30pm  
Also Saturday mornings after Mass

### NEW YEAR MASS

6pm Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

*Have a blessed Christmas and a grace filled New Year A.D. 2020*

*Dominican Fathers*

**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: \$799**  
**Loose: \$336.55**  
**Visitor Contribution: \$0.70**

**ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUP:**

Next Group is Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7pm in the Parish Office. All are welcome.

Any questions please ring Jim on 0411 280 950.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month in the Church from 12.30pm to 4pm. 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**

Our next Group is Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**PARISH LUNCH:**

Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 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**

Thank you to all who joined us to prepare our Church for Christmas. May the Lord bless you for your faithfulness.

**PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 – STAGE 2**

Please return your Forms to the Pink Box at the back of the Church by 19<sup>th</sup> January.

**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 \$2014.10. Thank you for your generosity. Please consider a further contribution at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or in the Envelopes.

**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 10<sup>th</sup> February at Blacktown and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February at Penrith. Please see Office for Form.

**CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM**

5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> 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 [www.campion.edu.au/summer-program](http://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](http://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. They need olive oil, tinned tomatoes, Basmati rice, flour, UHT milk, canned fish, peas and corn and chick peas, canned fruit, biscuits, tea and coffee They also need washing and dishwashing liquid, cleaning products and toiletry items.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

**THE HOLY FATHER'S CATECHESIS**

**Ask: "How Have I Prepared for His Birth?"**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

In a week it will be Christmas. During these days, while we hasten to make preparations for the feast, we can ask ourselves: "How am I preparing myself for the birth of the One who is being celebrated?" A simple but effective way to prepare oneself is to set up the Crib. This year I have also followed this way: I went to Greccio, where Saint Francis made the first Nativity Scene with the people of the place. And I wrote a Letter to recall the meaning of this tradition, what the Nativity Scene means in the Christmas Season.

The Nativity Scene, in fact, is like a living Gospel" (Apostolic Letter *Admirabile Signum*, 1). It takes the Gospel to places where we live: in homes, in schools, in workplaces, in meeting places, in hospitals and nursing homes, in prisons and in Squares. And there, where we live, it reminds us of an essential thing: that God hasn't stayed invisible in Heaven, but He came on earth and was made man, a baby. To set up the Crib is to celebrate God's closeness. God has always been close to His people, but when He was incarnate and born, he was very close, extremely close. To set up the Crib is to celebrate God's closeness; it's to rediscover that God is real, concrete, alive and palpitating. He is not a distant lord or a detached judge, but He is humble Love, who has descended to us. The Child in the Crib transmits to us His tenderness. Some figurines represent the Infant Jesus with His arms open, to say to us that God came to embrace our humanity. So, it's beautiful to be before the Crib, and to entrust our life to the Lord there, to speak to Him of the persons and situations we have at heart, evaluate with Him the year that is ending, sharing our expectations and concerns.

Next to Jesus we see Our Lady and Saint Joseph. We can imagine the thoughts and sentiments they had while the Babe was born in poverty: joy, but also dismay. And we can also invite the Holy Family to our home, where there are joys and worries, where we wake up every day, take food and are close to our dearest persons. The Crib is a domestic Gospel. The word Crib means literally "Manger," whereas the city of the Crib, Bethlehem, means "house of bread." Manger and house of bread: the Crib we set up at home, where we share food and affections, reminds

us that Jesus is the essential food, the bread of life (Cf. *John* 6:34). It is He who nourishes our love; it is He who gives our families the strength to go forward and to forgive one another.

The Crib gives us another life teaching. In the rhythms at times frenetic of today, it is an invitation to contemplation. It reminds us of the importance to pause, because only when we are able to recollect ourselves can we receive what matters in life. Only if we leave outside our home the din of the world can we open ourselves to listen to God, who speaks in silence. The Crib is relevant; it is the actuality of every family. Yesterday I was given a little image of a special, small Crib, which was called: "Let Mommy rest." Our Lady was there asleep, and Joseph was there with the infant Jesus, making Him fall asleep. How many of you must divide the night, between husband and wife, for the baby boy or the baby girl crying, crying, crying. "Let Mommy rest" is the tenderness of a family, the tenderness of a marriage.

The Crib is more than ever relevant, while every day so many arms are produced in the world and so many violent images, which enter the eyes and the heart. The Crib, instead, is a crafted image of peace. Therefore, it is a living Gospel.

Dear brothers and sisters from the Crib, in fine, we can draw a lesson on the meaning of life itself. We see daily scenes: the shepherds with the sheep, the blacksmiths beating the iron, the millers that make the bread; sometimes landscapes and situations of our territories are inserted. It's right, because the Crib reminds us that Jesus comes into our concrete life. And, this is important. Always set up a small Crib at home, because it reminds us that God came to us, was born of us, accompanies us in life, is a man like us, who made Himself man like us.

We are no longer alone in our everyday life. He dwells with us. He doesn't change things magically but, if we receive Him, everything can change. So, I hope that, setting up the Crib, is an occasion for you to invite Jesus into your life. When we set up the Crib at home, it's like opening the door and saying: "Jesus, come in!" it's to make this closeness, this invitation to Jesus concrete, so that He will come into our life, because if He dwells in our life, our life is reborn. And if our life is reborn, it's truly Christmas. Happy Christmas to all!