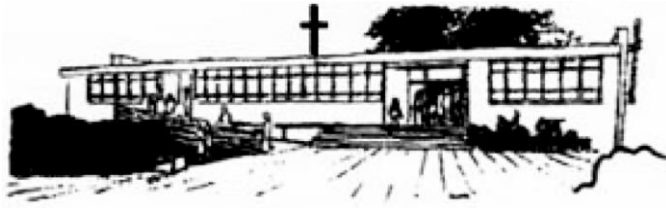


ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

22nd March 2020, Year A/2



EL GRECO, Christ Healing the Blind Man, 1567

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: 9:00am - 1:00pm

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: [stjosephkingswood](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephkingswood)

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS / MASS INTENTIONS

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading: Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

SUNDAY 8:30am

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday 8:00am 4th Week of Lent

Tuesday 8:00am 4th Week of Lent

Jason & Andrew Isbitzki

Wednesday 8.00am ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Thursday 8.00am 4th Week of Lent

Friday 8.00am 4th Week of Lent

Saturday 8.30am 4th Week of Lent

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.

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:

YOUTH MASS

Our next Youth Mass will be Holy Thursday 9th April at 7pm. Young People required for singing, reading, etc.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please speak directly to one of the Priests.

BAPTISM OR MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent at 6.00pm. All welcome to walk the Way of the Cross.

EASTER LITURGIES

Holy Thursday – Lord's Day Meal – 7.00pm
No Morning Mass

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross – 11.00am
Passion of the Lord – 3.00pm

Holy Saturday – Mass at 6.30pm
No Morning Mass

Easter Sunday Masses – 8.30am & 10.00am

Reconciliation for Easter – Monday 6th April
9.00am to 12 noon & 5.00pm to 7.30pm

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

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2020

The Sacramental Program has been **POSTPONED till further notice.**

SECOND COLLECTION: Envelopes: \$748
Loose: \$346.70
Visitor Contribution: \$10

POPE FRANCIS' MARCH INTENTIONS
Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRAYER GROUP:
CANCELLED TILL FURTHER NOTICE.

1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7pm in the Parish Office. All are welcome. Any questions please ring Jim on 0411 280 950.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP -
CANCELLED TILL FURTHER NOTICE

Every 2nd and 4th 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 -
CANCELLED TILL FURTHER NOTICE

Bible Study every Wednesday at 9.15am and every Thursday at 7pm. All are welcome. Please bring your Sunday Missal.

YOUTH GROUP -
CANCELLED TILL FURTHER NOTICE

Our Youth Group is every Wednesday in the School Term. All young people from Year 6 to 18 are most welcome.

PARISH LUNCH:
Held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Our next Lunch will be Wednesday 8th April at Penrith Golf Club. All are most welcome.

THANK YOU FROM EVELYN
Dear Frs Andrew, Pawel, Piotr, Office Staff and Parishioners. Thank you for the morning tea, flowers and the gift I received on my retirement. It was very much appreciated and I will remember it for a long time. God Bless from Evelyn Graham

COVID-19 VIRUS UPDATE

Already in place:

- Holy Communion can only be received in the hand
- All Holy Water receptacles to be emptied
- Hand washing before & after administering Holy Communion
- Communion of the Precious Blood for Celebrant only
- No exchange of Greeting of Peace

New:

- Catholics from Parramatta Diocese are from 20th March 2020 dispensed from Sunday Mass obligation until further notice (Canon 1248 & Canon 2181)
- In those parishes where 100 or less people attend a Sunday Eucharist Mass may continue to be held in the Church building
- Maintain a distance from other worshippers
- Church buildings should be available for private prayer
- Acolytes & Extraordinary Ministers of Communion should cease from visiting the housebound
- All meetings relating to Parish life (Sacramental program, Bible Study, Youth Group meetings) should be suspended until further notice

BISHOP'S APPEAL - POSTPONED

The Catholic Foundation Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for this coming weekend, 21st/22nd March has been postponed until later in the year.



CELEBRATIONS FOR 2020

Events for this year. Dates are to be confirmed:

- Mass with Bishop Vincent
- Parish Dinner
- Parish Picnic
- Parish Fete is Sunday 16th August

Please watch this space for further updates.

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' CATECHESIS

The Beatitudes continued

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

Today we pause on the seventh Beatitude, which says: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" (*Matthew* 5:7). There is a particularity in this Beatitude: it's the only one in which the cause and fruit of happiness coincide: mercy; those that exercise mercy will find mercy; they will be "mercied."

This theme of mutual forgiveness isn't present only in this Beatitude, but is recurrent in the Gospel. And how could it be otherwise? Mercy is the heart itself of God! Jesus says: "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven" (*Luke* 6:37) — always the same reciprocity. And James' Letter affirms that mercy "triumphs over judgment" (2:13).

However, above all, it's in the Our Father that we pray: "Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (*Matthew* 6:12); and this question is the only one resumed at the end: "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (*Matthew* 6:14-15; Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, (CCC), 2838). There are two things that can't be separated: the forgiveness given and the forgiveness received. However, so many people are in difficulty, they are unable to forgive. So many times the harm received is so great that to succeed in forgiving seems like climbing a very high mountain: an enormous effort; and one thinks it can't be done, this can't be done. On our own, we can't, we need God's grace, we must ask for it. In fact, if the seventh Beatitude promises to find mercy and in the Our Father we ask for the remission of debts, it means that we are essentially debtors and we are in need of finding mercy!

We are all debtors — all — to God, who is so generous, and to brothers. Every person knows that they are not the father or the mother that they should be, the husband or the wife, the brother or

the sister that they should be. We are all "in deficit" in life. And we are in need of mercy. We know that we also have done wrong; something is always lacking of the good we should have done.

However, precisely this poverty of ours becomes the strength to forgive! We are debtors and if, as we heard at the beginning, we will be measured with the measure with which we measure others (Cf. *Luke* 6:39), then we should enlarge the measure and remit debts, forgive. Everyone must remember that they are in need of forgiveness, to have need of forgiveness, to have need of patience; this is the secret of mercy: by forgiving one is forgiven. Thus God precedes us and forgives us first (Cf. *Romans* 5:8). By receiving His forgiveness we become capable in turn to forgive. So our own misery and our own lack of justice become occasions to open oneself to the Kingdom of Heaven, to a greater measure, God's measure, which is mercy.

From where is our mercy born? Jesus has said to us: "Be merciful, as your Father is merciful" (*Luke* 6:36). The more the Father's love is received, the more one loves (Cf. CCC, 2842). Mercy isn't a dimension among others, but is the centre of Christian life: there is no Christianity without mercy. If all our Christianity doesn't lead us to mercy, we have mistaken the way, because mercy is the only true end of every spiritual journey. It's one of the most beautiful fruits of charity (Cf. CCC, 1829).

I remember that this theme was chosen for the first *Angelus* that I said as Pope: mercy. And this has remained very impressed on me, as a message that, as Pope, I must always give, a message that should be for every day: mercy. I remember that that day I also had a somewhat "shameless" attitude to publicize a book on mercy, just published by Cardinal Kasper. And that day I felt so strongly that this is the message I must give, as Bishop of Rome: mercy, mercy, please, forgiveness.

God's mercy is our liberation and our happiness. We live of mercy and we can't permit ourselves to be without mercy: it's the air to breathe. We are too poor to set conditions; we are in need of forgiving because we are in need of being forgiven. Thank you!