

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fr. Andrew Fornal OP

Parish Priest

Fr. Pawel Barszczewski OP

Assistant Priest

Fr. Piotr Kruk OP

EMERGENCY PHONE: 0423 725 148

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

13th December 2020, Year B/1



ANGELICO, Fra Annunciation Cortona, 1433-1434

Sunday Masses:
Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm Live Stream
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 in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.
First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11
Responsorial Psalm: My soul rejoices in my God.
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

SUNDAY 8:30am

10:00am

For the Parish

Monday	8:00am	St John of the Cross	Cynthia Azores (Birthday Blessings)
Tuesday	8:00am	3 rd Week of Advent	Grace Panozzo (God's Blessing in her Life)
Wednesday	8.00am	3 rd Week of Advent	
Thursday	8.00am	3 rd Week of Advent	
Friday	8.00am	3 rd Week of Advent	
Saturday	8.30am	3 rd Week of Advent	Albert Antony (Birthday Blessings)

LIVE STREAM OF WEEKEND MASS AT 6PM

The 6pm Vigil on Saturday evening will continue to be livestreamed every Weekend and will be available online through to Sunday.

Please visit our website:

<http://stjosephskingswood.org/> or type in your browser: bit.ly/stJoe

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart

as though You have already come.

I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

CHRISTMAS TRIDUUM MASSES

6pm for Three evenings: Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th December. No Booking for 22nd & 23rd. 150 people are permitted in the Church.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Thursday 24th 6pm & 8pm

Friday 25th 12 Midnight, 9am & 11am

Bookings are Essential for these Masses.

RECONCILIATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Monday 21st December 9am to 12noon & 5-7.30pm

RECENTLY DECEASED: Vivienne Almeida, Eileen Woodward

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES:

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

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

For A Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

SECOND COLLECTION: **Envelopes: \$977**
 Loose: \$424.30
 Tap & Go: \$100
 Donations: \$124.70

PARKING NOTICE

We ask that people attending 8.30am Mass would exit via Joseph Street allowing 10am Mass goers access to the Main Gate on Richmond Road.

Please leave Parking near the Church for the Disabled.

TAP AND GO DONATION FACILITY

We have a new "Tap and Go" Donation device at the back of the church. Tap once to donate \$10; tap twice to donate \$20 etc. up to \$150. All contributions go to the 2nd Collection.

PARISH CELL GROUP

Will resume 1st February 2021. Please ring Jim on 0478 027 210 with any questions.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is every Wednesday at 9.15am. Please bring your Sunday Missal with you. All welcome.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Will recommence in 2021. For more info watch this space or type bit.ly/YASJK into your browser.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Available after all Masses at \$9 each.

CLEANING THE LORD'S HOUSE

If anyone has a free hour on a Friday or Saturday morning, we desperately need help once every 4 or 5 weeks to clean the Church or arrange flowers. Our next Roster will begin in January 2021. Please ring Clare on 0432 668 724 if you can assist us.

PLENARY COUNCIL UPDATE

Please find recent leaflets outside the Church and past summaries at the back of the Church.

CHARISMATIC HEALING MASS

2pm Sunday 20th December at Our Lady of the Rosary, St Marys. Celebrant Fr Adam Crouch MGL. Register by text to 0410 475 734 with name and phone number.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This weekend we have another collection for Catholic Foundation. The Special Collection Box is at the back of the Church or you can also donate online through the link on our Parish website. To date we have collected \$1217.10. Thank you for your generosity.

PRIVATE PRAYER AND MASS BOOKINGS

Following the 2 sq. metres per person, 150 people are allowed in our Church from Monday 7th December. Priest and Essential Workers are not included.

Private Prayer - Sign-in sheets are provided prior to entry to provide your contact details for Private Prayer.

Weekend Masses – Bookings are required. To register please ring the Parish by calling 4721 4080 during Office hours or ring 0423 725 148 outside Office hours.

You will need to provide your name and contact details when registering. Your presence will be confirmed as you arrive at the Church. Walk-ins are permitted, subject to available vacancies up to the 150 capacity.

Weekday Masses - There is no registration for weekday Masses.

Please provide your name and contact details on the sheet provided or you can use the QR Code and show the Usher that you have been CHECKED IN.

Social distancing is still required so please take notice of the signs on the pews.

When attending Mass, please keep these rules:

- There will be no procession of gifts, no passing of hymn books or collection plates.
- The sign of peace will be given without hand-to-hand contact.
- Holy communion may be received on the hand.
If receiving on the tongue you must approach the Priest only and only after everyone else has received by hand.
- Congregational Singing is allowed. Masks are recommended.

Hand Sanitisers are available in the Church. Door handles, pens and surfaces are sanitised regularly.

For details visit <http://stjosephskingswood.org/>

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE WORLD

POPE FRANCIS' GENERAL AUDIENCE

The Prayer of Petition

Wednesday 2nd December 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

Let us continue our reflections on prayer. Christian prayer is fully human – it includes praise and supplication. Indeed, when Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He did so with the “Our Father”, so that we might place ourselves in a relationship of filial trust with God and ask Him all our questions. We implore God for the highest gifts: the sanctification of His name among men, the advent of His lordship, the realisation of His will for good in relation to the world. In the “Our Father” we also pray for the simplest gifts, for the most of everyday gifts, such as “daily bread” – which also means health, home, work, everyday things; and it also means for the Eucharist, necessary for life in Christ; and we also pray for the forgiveness of sins – which is a daily matter; we are always in need of forgiveness – and therefore peace in our relationships; and finally, that He may help us face temptation and free us from evil.

To ask, to supplicate. This is very human. Let us listen to the Catechism: “By prayer of petition we express awareness of our relationship with God. We are creatures who are not our own beginning, not the masters of adversity, not our own last end. We are sinners who as Christians know that we have turned away from our Father. Our petition is already a turning back to Him” (no. 2629).

If one feels bad because he has done bad things – he is a sinner – when he prays the “Our Father” he is already approaching the Lord. At times we can believe we do not need anything, that we are enough for ourselves, and we live in total self-sufficiency. But sooner or later this illusion vanishes. The human being is an invocation, that at times becomes a cry. The soul resembles a dry, parched land, as the Psalm says (see Psalm 63:2). We all experience, at some time or another in our existence, the time of melancholy, of solitude. The Bible is not ashamed of showing our human condition, marked by disease, injustice, the betrayals of friends, or the threat of enemies. At times it seems that everything collapses, that the life lived so far has been in vain. And in these situations, when it seems that everything is falling apart, there is only one way out: the cry, the prayer “Lord, help me!”. Prayer can open up a sliver of light in the densest darkness.

We human beings share this invocation of help with the rest of creation. We are not the only ones “praying” in this boundless universe: every fragment of creation bears the desire for God. And Saint Paul himself expressed it in this way. He says: “We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together

until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly” (Rom 8:22-24). We humans are the only ones to pray consciously, knowing that we are addressing the Father, and entering into dialogue with the Father.

We should not be shocked if we feel the need to pray, we should not be ashamed to ask when we are in need. Many of us are ashamed to ask for help, too ask something of someone who can help us, to reach our purpose, and we are also ashamed to ask God. Do not be ashamed to pray. “Lord, I need this”, “Lord, I am in difficulty”, “Help me!”: the cry, the cry of the heart to God who is the Father. And also to do so in happy moments, not only in bad times, but also in happy ones, to thank God for everything that is given to us, and not to take anything for granted or as if it were owed to us: everything is grace. We must learn this. The Lord always gives to us, always, and everything is grace. The grace of God. Prayer of petition goes in step with acceptance of our limit and our nature as creatures. It is difficult not to believe in prayer: it simply exists, it presents itself to us as a cry; and we all know this inner voice that may remain silent for a long time, but one day awakens and cries out.

We know that God will respond. There is no prayer in the Book of Psalms that remains unheard. God always answers: maybe today, tomorrow, but he always answers, in one way or another. The Bible repeats it countless times: God listens to the cry of those who invoke Him. Even our reluctant questions, those that remain in the depths of our heart, that we are ashamed to express: the Father listens to them and wishes to give us the Holy Spirit, which inspires every prayer and transforms everything. In prayer there is always a question of patience, always, of supporting the wait. Now we are in the time of Advent, a time that is typically of expectation of Christmas. We are in waiting. But all our life is also in waiting. And prayer is always in expectation, because we know that the Lord will answer. Even death trembles when a Christian prays, because it knows that everyone who prays has an ally stronger than it has: the Risen Lord. Death has already been defeated in Christ, and the day will come when everything will be final, and it will no longer scorn our life and our happiness.

Let us learn to stay in waiting; in expectation of the Lord. The Lord comes to visit us, not only in these great feasts – Christmas, Easter – but rather the Lord visits us every day, in the intimacy of our heart if we are in waiting. And very often we do not realise that the Lord is nearby, that He knocks on our door. The Lord comes, the Lord knocks. But if your ears are filled with other noise, you will not hear the call of the Lord. Brothers and sisters, staying in waiting: this is prayer. Thank you.