

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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

27th December 2020, Year B/1



PISANO, Nicola, The Holy Family, 1500s

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: The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord remembers His covenant for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

VIGIL SATURDAY

6:00pm

SUNDAY 8:30am Charley & Lily (55th Wedding Anniversary)

10:00am For the Parish

Monday 8:00am HOLY INNOCENTS

Tuesday 8:00am 5th Day Octave of Nativity
Rose Amma John (Birthday Blessings)
Jenna & Joseph (6th Wedding Anniversary)

Wednesday 8.00am 6th Day Octave of Nativity

Thursday 8.00am 7th Day Octave of Nativity Margarita Chavez (Deceased Anniversary)

Friday 8.00am MARY MOTHER OF GOD For God's Precious Infants
6.00pm MARY MOTHER OF GOD For the Parish

Saturday 8.30am Sts Basil & Gregory Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul

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

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTS 2021

Reconciliation: Thursday 25th March

Registration & 1st Session: 14th February

First Communion: Sunday 6th June

Registration & 1st Session: 11th April

Confirmation: Sunday 7th November

Registration & 1st Session: 1st August

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED: E.O. Johnny

DECEASED ANNIVERSARY: Margarita Chavez,
Deceased Members of St Vincent de Paul Society

FRIDAY 1ST JANUARY MASS AT 8AM & 6.00PM

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.

Have a grace filled New Year A.D. 2021

Dominican Fathers

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: \$865**
 Loose: \$235.15
 Tap & Go: \$190
 Donations: \$123.80

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.

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.

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 and will continue through the holiday season. 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.

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.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

For anyone who has not had an opportunity to donate, the Special Collection Box is at the back of the Church. We have collected \$1760.60. Thank you for your generosity.

PRIVATE PRAYER AND MASS BOOKINGS

Following the 4 sq. metres per person, 80 people are allowed in our Church from Monday 21st December. Priest and Essential Workers are not included.

Private Prayer – QR Code is preferable for signing in. Sign-in sheets are also 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 80 capacity, in which case we ask you to sign in using the QR Code.

Weekday Masses - There is no registration for weekday Masses.

Please use the QR Code and show the Usher that you have been CHECKED IN. If you do not have a phone please sign in on sheets provided at the entrance of the Church.

Social distancing is 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 and only after everyone else has received by hand.
- No 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

May Jesus be Born Anew in Each of Us

Wednesday 23rd December 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters, good morning!

In this catechesis, as we approach Christmas, I would like to offer some food for thought in preparation for the celebration of Christmas. In the Midnight Mass liturgy the Angel's proclamation to the Shepherds: "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk 2:10-12).

In imitation of the shepherds, we too move spiritually towards Bethlehem, where Mary gave birth to the Child in a stable, "because there was no place for them in the inn" (2:7). Christmas has become a universal feast, and even those who do not believe perceive the appeal of this occasion. The Christian, however, knows that Christmas is a decisive event, an eternal fire that God has kindled in the world, and must not be confused with ephemeral things. It is important that it should not be reduced to a merely sentimental or consumerist festival. Last Sunday I drew attention to this problem, underscoring that consumerism has hijacked Christmas. No: Christmas must not be reduced to a merely sentimental or consumerist feast, full of gifts and good wishes but poor in Christian faith, and also poor in humanity. Therefore, it is necessary to curb a certain worldly mentality, incapable of grasping the incandescent core of our faith, which is this: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father" (Jn 1:14). And this is the kernel of Christmas; rather, it is the truth of Christmas, there is no other.

Christmas invites us to reflect, on the one hand, on the drama of history, in which men and women, wounded by sin, ceaselessly search for truth, the search for mercy, and the search for redemption; and, on the other hand, on the goodness of God, who has come towards us to communicate to us the Truth that saves and to make us sharers in His friendship and His life. And this gift of life: this is pure grace, not by any merit of our own. There is a Holy Father who says: "But look there, over there, there: seek your merit and you will find nothing other than grace". Everything is grace, a gift of grace. And this gift of grace, we receive it through the simplicity and humanity of Christmas, and it can remove from our hearts and minds the pessimism that has spread even more nowadays as a result of the pandemic. We can overcome that sense of disquieting bewilderment, not letting ourselves be overwhelmed by defeats and failures, in the rediscovered awareness that that humble and poor Child, hidden away and helpless, is God

Himself, made man for us. Jesus was born two thousand years ago, what does this have to do with me? It affects you, and me, each one of us. Jesus is one of us: God, in Jesus, is one of us.

This reality gives us much joy and courage. God did not look down on us, from afar, He did not pass us by, He was not repulsed by our misery, He did not clothe Himself only superficially in a body, but rather He fully assumed our nature and our human condition. He left nothing out except sin: the only thing He does not have. All humanity is in Him. He took all that we are, just as we are. This is essential for understanding the Christian faith. St. Augustine, reflecting on his journey of conversion, writes in his Confessions: "For I did not hold to my Lord Jesus Christ, I, humbled, to the Humble; nor knew I yet whereto His infirmity would guide us" (Confessions VII, 8). The "infirmity" of Jesus is a "teaching"! Because it reveals to us the love of God. Christmas is the feast of Love incarnate, of love born for us in Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the light of mankind shining in the darkness, giving meaning to human existence and to the whole of history.

There is another way to prepare for Christmas, which I want to remind you and me, and which is within everyone's reach: to contemplate in silence, before the crib. The Nativity display is a catechesis of this reality, of what was done that year, that day, that we have heard in the Gospel. Last year I wrote a Letter, which it would be good for us to pick up again. It is entitled "*Admirabile signum*", "Enchanting image". In the school of St. Francis of Assisi, we can become a little childlike by pausing to contemplate the scene of the Nativity, and by letting the wonder of the "marvellous" way in which God wanted to come into the world be reborn in us. Let us ask for the grace of wonder: before this mystery, a reality so tender, so beautiful, so close to our hearts, that the Lord may give us the grace of wonder, to encounter Him, to draw closer to Him. This will revive tenderness in us. The other day, while I was speaking with some scientists, we spoke about artificial intelligence and robots... there are robots programmed for everyone and everything. And I said to them, "But what will robots never be able to do?" They thought about it, they made suggestions, but in the end they were all in agreement about one thing: tenderness. Robots will never be capable of this. And this is what God brings us, today: a wonderful way in which God wanted to come into the world, and this revives tenderness in us, the human tenderness close to that of God. And today we are in great need of tenderness, we are in great need of a human touch, in the face of so much misery! If the pandemic has forced us to be more distant, Jesus, in the crib, shows us the way of tenderness to be close to each other, to be human. Let us follow this path. Merry Christmas!