

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: Let us offer our prayers to God through Jesus, who has ascended to the throne of glory.

Reader: For our Church and our community of Paddington, Edgecliff and Double Bay.

All: May we be a people who go out to the world proclaiming the Good News through our words and our actions.

Reader: For the leaders of governments.

All: May Jesus send them the Spirit of justice and truth, that they may lead with wisdom and integrity.

Reader: Lord of Compassion, you inspired St Francis of Assisi to be your instrument of peace.

All: Inspire young women and men to consider becoming sisters, nuns, brothers or priests.

Reader: For those parts of our nation that are still in drought.

All: May the rains fall freely on their fields.

Reader: For the children in our community preparing for their First Holy Communion.

All: May they, like the first Christians, be filled with joy, hope and a desire to be faithful witnesses to Christ's teaching.

Reader: For those who are dying.

All: May they be filled with peace, through Christ's ascension into heaven, and trust that he has gone before them to prepare a place of unending joy and life.

Reader: For our deceased relatives and friends.

All: May they ascend to glory with Christ our Saviour.

Presider: Let us pray together.

All: Gracious God, your Son reigns with you in glory. May he present our prayers to you for he is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.



Parish newsletter of the communities of St Francis of Assisi Paddington, St Joseph Edgecliff and the 8:45am Mass at Double Bay
In the care of the Franciscans since 1879

St Francis of Assisi Church 463 Oxford St Paddington : St Joseph Church 12 Albert St Edgecliff

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Website: www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com Email: enquiries@stfrancis-stjoseph.com

Sunday 2 June 2019 : The Ascension of the Lord Year C

Feast of the Ascension

This Sunday we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension. Chapter One from the Acts of the Apostles challenge our response as Jesus' ascension into heaven. "Why are you standing here and looking up into the sky?" We acknowledge we have not seen Jesus with our own eyes. This feast invites us to see Jesus in others. So we challenge one another:

-) How do we see God in others?
-) Am I ready to do this?
-) Am I ready to continue Jesus's work?

Let us pray...Lord God, you give us great joy as we celebrate the feast of the ascension of your Son, Jesus. Make us witnesses of the gospel, as we seek to see God in one another, today and every day. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARISH NOTICES

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Wed. 5 June 2019. 7.30 - 9pm at the Paddington RSL Club 220-232 Oxford St, Paddington, opposite the Town Hall. Topic: "Sharing the Journey - through Addiction" Speakers: Dr Anant Sharma, a Psychiatry Registrar at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital; Julie Sneddon, CEO of CANA Communities and Kieran who has participated in an Addiction Recovery CANA Community program. Donation entry. Info Marea: 0414 873 910.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, JUNE 22 AT 5:30 MASS

The children of our Parish Community will celebrate their First Holy Communion at mass on Saturday, June 22nd at St Francis, Paddington. We are privileged to have over 70 candidates participating this year from twenty different schools including St Francis Regional Primary School. All are welcome to join us for this special mass and celebration. Please note, this mass may run longer than usual due to the number of candidates celebrating this special milestone in their lives.

WE HAVE A PARISH TWITTER FEED, BUT FEW FOLLOWERS

Don't forget to follow us on twitter for the latest parish news and events, special mass times and more! Follow us @stfrancisjoseph

PETS IN THE PARISH

We want pics of the furry, feathery (and maybe scaley?) members of your families. If you would like your pet featured on our parish website please email a photo & small bio or story to administration@stfrancis-stjoseph.com.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL FUNDRAISING PAVERS

In 2019 St Francis Primary School will be providing an opportunity to create a lasting legacy in the school with an engraved commemorative paver. More information and forms are available at the Church entrances. Otherwise please contact Christine Hart in the School Office on 9331 5507.

UPCOMING DEVOTIONS, GROUPS AND MEETINGS

St Francis' Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour: 5:00pm every Saturday prior to the Vigil Mass.

St Joseph's Rosary Group: 7.30am and 5.00pm weekdays.

St Joseph's First Thursday Adoration: Next: 6 June at 5pm followed by Mass at 5.30pm in the church at Edgecliff.

Lectio Divina: A meditative reading of the Scripture. 7pm Wednesdays in the Parish Hall at Edgecliff.

Christian Meditation: Saturday 10:30am Saturday at the St Francis Parish Meeting Room.

OTHER NOTICES

DO YOU SHOP FOR GOOD?

SHOP FOR GOOD is a pathway for ethical shopping endorsed by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. You can choose SHOP FOR GOOD products from the catalogue and place your order by phone or email or online. Brochures are available at the front doors of the church or go to: www.sydneycatholicantislavery.org

ACTIV8: A MONTHLY PRAISE AND WORSHIP INITIATIVE

Come along for great contemporary music with the Come Alive Band, testimony by the head of Sydney Catholic youth, experience prayer ministry, reconciliation and adoration. End with hot toasties and our signature hot chocolate. Join us, Pagewood Parish Centre, 7pm, Friday 7th June. For more information call 0414188682 or email easterndeanerysydney@gmail.com

PENTECOST RETREAT: MOVED BY THE SPIRIT

Please join us as we prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit with a one-day semi-silent retreat. Sunday 9th June 2019 (9.30am-4pm). Cost \$50 inclusive of meals. Venue: The Centre 14 Francis St, Randwick. All ages welcome. Contact Verbum Dei Missionaries at verbumdeisydney@gmail.com or phone us on 9341 5848.

DAY OF HEALING WITH SR. MARGARET SCULLY RSC

Saturday June 22nd, 9am to 4:30pm at the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Centre, 19A Quirk Street Rozelle. Sessions include: Prayer for Inner Healing, Healing of the Family Tree & The Healing Power of Forgiveness. Please bring your own lunch, tea and coffee is provided. Registration is essential, please contact the CCR centre at 9810 2499 or email mscully@ccrnsw.org.au

COULD YOU HELP A CHILD IN CARE?

We urgently need compassionate people to provide short-term foster care. To learn more, come to our information night. Tuesday 4th June 2019, 5:30pm - 8pm, CatholicCare 2C West Street, Lewisham. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to secure your place.

COUNSELLING AVAILABLE WITH NO WAITLIST

Several highly qualified relationship counselling professionals have joined our CatholicCare team in Fairfield, Liverpool, Bankstown, Lewisham and Sydney CBD. They offer services in family law, post-separation, parenting, domestic and family violence. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.

TRIBUNAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Outreaching to all of those who have experienced a marriage breakdown and question the validity of their first marriage as understood by the Church. Please direct inquiries to : 9307 8300 or email: admin@sydneytribunal.org.au

WELCOME

New to the parish? Please come and meet one of the Parish Team after mass and take home one of our Welcome Packs to find out more about your new community.

Welcome Packs are available at the church entrance.

OUR PARISH

Paul Ghanem ofm - Parish Priest
Piotr Rzcudlo ofm & Francisco Basnayake ofm - Assistant Priests
Pax Scarf ofm, Phillip Miscamble ofm, David Leary ofm, Joseph Lu ofm - Friars in residence
Ruth Rawlinson - Parish Manager
Tanith Bryce & Dean Thill - Cantor & Organist, Edgecliff
Noel Debien & Bransby Byrne - Music Dir. & Organist Paddington
Nicole Smeulders - Cantor Paddington
Emma-Gai Gold - Safeguarding Support Officer
Nicole Hudson - Principal, St Francis of Assisi Primary School

WEEKLY SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

St Joseph, Edgecliff

Sunday: 7:30am, 11:00am & 5:30pm
8:45am at Double Bay

Monday: 7:00am

Tuesday: 7:00am Communion Service
5:30pm

Wednesday: 5:30pm

Thursday: 5:30pm

Friday: 7:00am

Baptisms: First Sunday of the month at 12:00 noon

St Francis of Assisi, Paddington

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:30am & 10:00am

Monday: 9:00am

Tuesday: 9:00am Communion Service

Wednesday: 9:00am

Thursday: 9:00am

Friday: 9:00am

Baptisms: Third Sunday of the month at 11:30am

2019 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

First Holy Communion - Saturday, 22 June at 5:30pm

Confirmation - Thursday, 5 September at 6:00pm

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, contact the police. You can also contact the *Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office*: 93905810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

We remember those in need of our prayers: our deceased, those in hospital, nursing homes, the homebound and defence force personnel.

Recently Deceased: Rosemary Farmer, Bill Stavrellis, Ada Iatropoulos, Eiko Tamura-Concepcion, Manuela Bezzina, James Adamovitch, Brian Roderick, Dorothea Rodi, Matthew Bolton, Christine Andrew-Smith, Sr Raphael OP, Carol Warton, David Pryce, John Bernard Baggott, Chris Boyd, Jalil Tanous, Brian O'Neill, Sr Margaret Armstrong, Rod Lappin, John Taylor, Janet Heath OSC.

Mass Intentions: Adamovitch & Ford Families, Hector Destro, John Carmody, Vinz Napoli, Jim Evans, Jerry Austin, Peter O'Brien, Geoff Cliff, Lena Kaine, Violet Kiernan, Andrew Georgiou, Charlie & Eddy Piper, Tino Ordonez, Anne Cole, Julie Lyle, Patrick Oglivie, Pat & Ned Theodore, Gregory & Patricia McCue, Caterina Maiurana, Pat Quade, Kevin De Souza, Peg & Paul Kelly, Ruby Joyce, Judith Gazal, Dolores Montilla, Daniel Montilla, Ron Lovell, Mary Markovitch, Jeanette Rawlinson, Raffaele Prochilo, Eugenio Parini, Michele & Rosa Caccamo, Khoury & Nader Family, Phyllis Dorothy Gallimore, Del Rosario Family, Salvatore Collura, Bryan Digges, Mary & John Bray, Tony McDonald, Sr Shirley Digges IBVM, Patricia Thomas, O'Connor Family, Byrne Family, Rosie Bone, Dawn Hughes, Carl Leberne, Manuel & Maria Ferreira, Margaret Austin, Janice Hui, Sean Killen, Holy Souls.

Archdiocese Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Franciscan Friars Franciscan Friars Australia

Parish @stfrancisjoseph
Franciscan friars @OZFranciscan

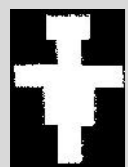
Parish www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com
Archdiocese www.sydneycatholic.org

Our faith community acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Owners of the Land on which we worship, the Gadgal people of the Eora Nation.

MY FAITH IN THE WAKE OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION

A REFLECTION BY ROBERT FITZGERALD AM
Former Commissioner to the Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Sexual Abuse

FRIDAY 5 JULY AT ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PADDINGTON
7PM IN THE CHURCH
FOLLOWED BY SUPPER



Presented by Repair My House. Repair My House is a group of concerned parishioners who have been discussing how we as a community respond to all forms of abuse where the God Given value and dignity of the individual has been violated.

"Francis, go repair my house, which, as you see, is falling into ruin" were Christ's words to the young St. Francis as he was praying in the crumbling little church of San Damiano outside the walls of Assisi.

Our faith community demands that the Christian Churches including the Catholic Church provide full and meaningful reparation for those who have suffered clerical and institutional sexual abuse.



Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
 P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.
While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.
I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.
 P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honour the wondrous Ascension

of your Son: grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms.

R. Amen.
THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
 P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
 P. Lift up your hearts.
R. We lift them up to the Lord.
 P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I OR II OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

After the Preface, we sing or say:
All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.
All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:
All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .
 P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .
All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.
 P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .
R. Amen.
 P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R. And with your spirit.
 P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.
All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.
R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mt 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Almighty ever-living God, who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray, that Christian hope may draw us onward to where our nature is united with you.
 Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.
 P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
 P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.
R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

JESUS ASCENDS TO THE FATHER

Jesus has made his risen presence known to those who are to become his key witnesses. Now St Luke's Gospel depicts him making an ascent to heaven like that of the prophet Elijah in 2 Kings 2:1-18. As Elijah had promised his disciple Elisha a double share of his own prophetic spirit, so Jesus promises his disciples that they should wait in Jerusalem to be 'clothed with power from on high'. This promise of the Spirit, to be realised at Pentecost, ensures the continuity between his ministry, empowered by the Spirit (Luke 3:22; 4:14, 18), and that of the Church that will carry it on.

Beyond this, the feast of the Ascension celebrates the risen Lord's exaltation to God's right hand—whence, through the power of the Spirit, he will continue his messianic subjugation of all powers hostile to God and the return of the entire cosmos to the rule of God (1 Cor 15:22-28; Phil 2:9-11).

The full realisation of this program remains an act of hope, as we know all too well. But Jesus' paschal victory has dealt the forces hostile to God a fatal blow. As the Church, empowered by his Spirit, carries on his messianic work, the Ascension assures her that in all her labour and suffering, the risen Lord stands at the right hand of God, interceding on behalf of all.

So the Ascension is not just something that happened to Jesus: it is the feast that celebrates the hope that his triumph will ultimately be ours as well.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD / C

THE LORD WILL RETURN. The Ascension of Jesus, whereby he is glorified at the Father's right hand and made 'ruler of everything', does not signal his departure from our midst. It points rather to a new mode of presence that will endure 'until the end of the world'. In the meantime, it is our vocation, as his Church, to reveal him.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Acts 1:1-11
Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.
 P. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
 P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.
 P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.
R. Christ, have mercy.
 P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.
R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glorify to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow

in hope. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

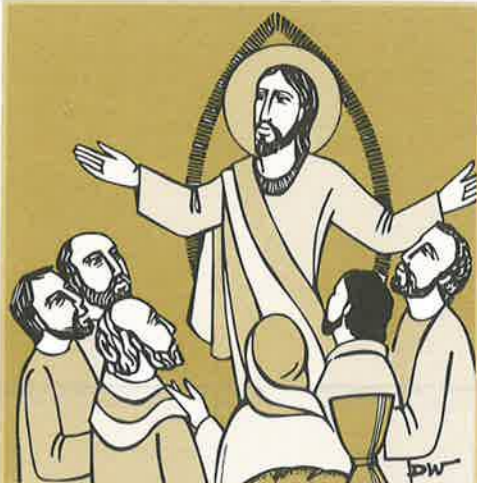
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 46:2-3, 6-9. R. v. 6

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (or Alleluia!)

1. All peoples, clap your hands, / cry to God with shouts of joy! / For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, / great king over all the earth. **R.**



2. God goes up with shouts of joy; / the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. / Sing praise for God, sing praise, / sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

3. God is king of all the earth. / Sing praise with all your skill. / God is king over the nations; / God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

SECOND READING Heb 9:24-28, 10:19-23

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
Christ has entered heaven.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he had opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.