

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

*Presider:* As we begin this season of hope and anticipation let us confidently raise our hearts and voices in prayer.

*Reader:* For our Church.

**All: May our prayer and work together reflect the light of Christ and may we teach by example the ways of the Gospel.**

*Reader:* For the Australian Church, as we prepare for the 2020 Plenary Council.

**All: May you give us ears to listen humbly to each other, and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.**

*Reader:* For the world.

**All: May those who lead seek good advice and support from those who have a true desire for peace and justice.**

*Reader:* For those parts of our nation devastated by drought and fire.

**All: May we be of practical support to them in our care, compassion and outreach and may the Lord send abundant rain to nourish our parched land.**

*Reader:* God of love and life, You are good, all good and highest good.

**All: Call generous young women and men to follow the example of Francis and Clare.**

*Reader:* For all our deceased family and friends.

**All: May the power of the risen Christ, who gave them grace in this life, grant them the reward of his presence in the next.**

*Presider:* Let us pray together.

**All: God of all nations, you gave us your only Son to prepare us for your kingdom. May our lives be a daily preparation for the day when we see you as you are. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*This weekend marks the starts of Advent, a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas.*

### Blessing of the Advent Wreath

*Presider:* Sisters and brothers, today as we begin the season of Advent, the candles of this wreath remind us that Jesus came to conquer the darkness of sin and lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom. He is Emmanuel, the hope of all.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Presider:* He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

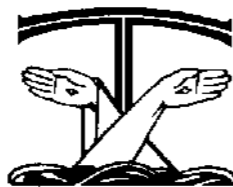
*Presider:* He is the saviour of every nation.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Presider:* Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



**All: Amen.**



*My God and My All*

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

Parish Office: 66 Gordon St Paddington 2021 Tel: 02 9331 4043  
Website: www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com Email: enquiries@stfrancis-stjoseph.com  
Sunday 1st December 2019 : First Sunday of Advent Year A

Advent is a time of preparing to meet Christ as a humble babe. To do this we are called to slow down and prepare ourselves interiorly. To aid in this task I have scheduled two extra opportunities for parishioners to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION Tuesday 17 Dec @ 7pm St Francis of Assisi : Wednesday 18 December @ 6pm St Joseph**

### OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year our Christmas party will be held at St Joseph, Edgecliff on Sunday, 22 December directly after the 11am mass. All parishioners from Paddington, Edgecliff and Double Bay are invited.

### ACCESS TO THE PARISH OFFICE—WE ARE STILL OPEN!

The improvements to the Parish Centre are now underway, during the construction period our Office is still open and available however the entrance will be via the courtyard gate. We thank everyone for their patience during the renovation period.

### FRANCISCAN CALENDARS

2020 Calendars are now available for \$8 each, limited numbers. Please contact Ruth at the Parish Office if you would like to purchase.

### THE WAY- ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

It is not too late to join our Advent Program. This year we are combining with our local Anglican and Uniting Church brothers and sisters to share in a 4 week Advent Scripture Study program in the Lectio Divina style. Please register your interest with Fr Paul, Fr Francisco or with Ruth at the Parish Office. All material and a light supper will be provided.

Program dates & locations:  
5 December : 7pm to 8.30pm

St Georges Anglican Church 245 Glenmore Rd Paddington.

12 December : 7pm to 8.30pm

St Joseph Parish Hall 12 Albert St Edgecliff.

### CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES — PADDINGTON

Only 20 people remaining on the list. Hurry don't miss out! It's a great feeling on Christmas morning knowing you've given someone a joyful Christmas. Collect your boxes from Marion O'Farrell at mass this weekend!

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL APPEAL—PADDINGTON

Envelopes are still available at St Francis, Paddington and Marion will be at all masses this weekend to provide a receipt for donations.

### SVPD CHRISTMAS CARDS NOW AVAILABLE!

Christmas cards are now available at St Francis & St Joseph. A pack of ten for \$6. At **Paddington** the cards are available at the rear of the church please put the money in the poor box. At **Edgecliff** the cards are available on the bench of the Sacristy and payment should be left in the box beside the cards.

### PLANNED GIVING AND DONATIONS TO OUR PROJECTS

A heartfelt and sincere thank you to everyone who has donated to our current projects. If you would like to donate or join our planned giving program please email giving@stfrancis-stjoseph.com, call 9331 4043 or pop in and visit us at the office.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

A big thank you to all who helped make last week's Children Liturgy & Community Morning Tea a great success. This week's Children's Liturgy activity is **making an Advent calendar**. Children's Liturgy is held Sunday's during the 8:30am mass at St Francis Paddington during term time and is aimed at primary school children and younger. It's a lot of fun and all are welcome.

### 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FRANCISCANS

Join us for a Thanksgiving Mass celebrating the 140th Anniversary of the arrival of the Franciscans in Australia.

Tuesday, 3rd December at 7pm

Mary Immaculate, 45 Victoria Street Waverley.

Music accompaniment: Friar Alessandro, OFM (Voice of Assisi).

Followed by light refreshments.

### HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE FOR CATECHISTS

The CCD is organising a pilgrimage with Fr Michael McLean to the Holy Land in May 2020. Optional extension to Rome available and Mass with Pope Francis. For bookings and itinerary details, contact Harvest Pilgrimages on 9390 5460 by 6 December.

### EXPERIENCE A TWILIGHT RETREAT

You are invited to share in a formation experience hosted by the Church Hill parish. Fr Michael Whelan will lead the retreat. The theme is **"Recovering the mystical heart of our faith"**. This is a wonderful opportunity during the Advent season to share in nurturing your faith and spirituality with Catholics from local and surrounding parishes in preparation for Christmas.

**WHERE: St Patrick's Crypt, 20 Grosvenor St, Church Hill**

**WHEN: Thursday, 5 December 2019**

**TIME: 5.30pm – 7.00 pm**

Register your attendance by contacting Barbara Perry on [plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org) or 0438 012 964.

*7pm conclusion to enable attendance at the Archbishop's Christmas Lights event at 7.30pm at St Mary's Cathedral.*

### LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS

Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral with a special Opening Night Concert featuring Friar Alessandro, the Voice from Assisi, and internationally acclaimed Australian pianist Vivian Choi. A wonderful free community event starting Thursday, 5 December with the Opening Night Concert from 7.30pm. Lights of Christmas runs every night until Christmas featuring a range of choirs.

### THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE

The Epiphany Pilgrimage, through the Blue Mountains, is a not-for-profit event of the Diocese of Parramatta and outreach of the Blue Mountains Deanery. Beginning at Emu Plains on 2 January and finishing 7 days later at Bell, pilgrims walk 110km through the beautiful Blue Mountains bushland, celebrating the Christmas season with each parish along the way. Registration and details at [epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://epiphanypilgrimage.org) and [facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage](https://facebook.com/epiphanypilgrimage)

### 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: 5 December at 5:00pm followed by Mass at 5:30pm in the church at Edgecliff.

**Lectio Divina:** A meditative reading of the Scripture, 6:00pm Thursdays in the Parish Hall at Edgecliff.

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



## 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** - Cantor, 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

## 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](mailto: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:** Wilma Muriel Nesbitt, John Fitzgerald, John Fordham, William Burton, Ern Holgate, Maurie Moses, Patricia Burnett, Eileen Stollery, Frank Healy, Eliseo Arnaiz Fernandez, Yvonne Nobbs, Raymond Malkoun, Caterina Giuliano, Marta Castro-Deramond, Joe Perry, Robert Burns, Irma Soto, Jan Harper, Anthony Bolger, Liliiane Dubourdieu, Patricia Brennan, Ryszard Szewczyk, Jerry Austin.

**Mass Intentions:** Graham Avery, Avery & Roche Families, Bellanto Family, Cavazzini & Bagni Family, Emil Hoeflich, Gladys Schell, Scott Mitchell, Alan Kennedy, LoBlamor & Lopez families, LoBlancos & LoBollers families, Nan Kelly, Ron Lovell, Genowefa Wojciechowska, Madeleine Freeman, Elizabeth Considine Conley, Peter Meagher, Judy & Dennis Petrosian, Noeleen & George Waldron, Finbarr O'Farrell, Margaret Austin, Janice Hui, Jean Montgomery RSC, Ramona Hilliger, Margaret Tighe, Jim Evans, David de Carvalho, Judy Petrosian, Jose Diaz, Patrick McDonagh, Carmen Mendez DeCampos, Justin Beplate, Lloyd Ruz, Peter Hackett, Helen McCarthy, Sorin Dascalu, Marie Macken, Hector Destro, Natalie & Domenico Casamento, Bryan Digges, Tony & Beth Hawker, Antoinette Chelala, Norma Berry & Neville, Concepcion Family, Cathy Wu-Hutchins, Tsaoucis Family, Tino Ordenez, Danielle Linkson, Peg & Paul Kelly, Jack & Maureen Brett, Nan Kelly, Anthony Dainer, Vinz Napoli, Ford & Adamovich Family, 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 Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.**

**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.**

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

01 DECEMBER 2019

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.'

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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. Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

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 OF ADVENT

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 Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. 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

### READINESS FOR THE LORD

Advent is the time when the Church longs for the coming of the Lord. We believe, of course, that the Messiah has already come in the person of Jesus, born at Bethlehem. But the state of our world makes us acutely conscious of just how 'unfinished' the business of salvation is. So, with the early believers who keenly awaited Jesus' second coming, we can still identify with the expressions of hope for salvation expressed by the people of the Old Testament. In today's First Reading the prophet Isaiah gives us a vision of peace based on nations setting aside their desire to wage war.

Paul urges the Christians in Rome to live like people expecting an important visitor. Though it is still 'dark'—in the sense that salvation is not complete—they rise early, to have all ready for him when he comes.

Jesus develops this theme of readiness in the Gospel, employing a favourite image: the prudent householder. Jesus does not want to suggest that God deliberately waits to catch us out. The image makes the simple point that, since one never knows when a burglar will strike, prudent householders do not allow themselves to be distracted by all kinds of activities. They keep a sharp ear and a keen eye for anything unusual. Christian life similarly involves keeping a sharp ear and a keen eye for the coming of the Lord—and not just for his coming at the end of time but for all the various ways and guises in which he comes into our lives every day.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WALK IN GOD'S LIGHT. We do not know when Christ will come again in glory. Nor do we know the day of our death. This should not worry us. What is important is to live this day well by being respectful and loving towards each other and seeking to walk in God's light. If we do this, we will be ready whenever God calls us to eternal life.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

### GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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. All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, (striking the breast) through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

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

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria is not said during Advent

### COLLECT

P. Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. 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

Isa 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come

the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

### RESP PSALM Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: / Let us go to God's house. / And now our feet are standing / within your gates, O Jerusalem. R.

2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there to praise the Lord's name. / There were set the thrones of judgement / of the house of David. R.

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace! R.

4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say: 'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of the Lord / I will ask for your good. R.



### SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Stay awake, you must be ready.