

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: Through the birth of His Son, God gifts us joy, peace, justice, mercy and love. Let us now confidently make intercession on behalf of all who await the fullness of that peace in their daily lives.

Reader: We pray for the Universal Church and Local Church.

All: Through the babe of Bethlehem, smile upon your church here and in all the world. Send your Holy Spirit of truth, unity, and justice.

Reader: We pray for the diverse peoples of every race and nation.

All: And especially for all who dwell in the lands where Judaism, Christianity and Islam came to birth.

Reader: We pray for all refugees and asylum seekers.

All: Through the holy family of Bethlehem, bless and comfort the many millions in refugee camps around our world. Grant them safe shelter.

Reader: We pray for those sharing food and friendship with the lonely and homeless this Christmas.

All: Through the holy child of Bethlehem, smile upon those who may not enjoy this Christmas season. We pray for all who struggle for survival as a result of poverty, disease, war or the greed of others. We pray for all who are isolated or imprisoned at this festive time.

Reader: We pray for our own family.

All: Bless us in the gifts and fellowship we exchange with each other. May they be tokens of your love and grace poured out in the birth of your Son.

Reader: We pray for healing for those who have lost family, friends and property during the bushfires.

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: We pray for all the departed. Especially those who have died in this past year.

All: In union with Francis, Clare and all the saints for whom we are named, we pray for all who are bereaved at this time. May those who have gone before us rejoice in the light of the face of Jesus.

Presider: Let us pray together.

All: Gracious God, on this day of Your Son's birth we ask you to receive our prayers. This we ask through the infant Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR RAIN

God of compassion,
we wait and watch for your gift of rain
to quench the flames, water the soil and make the
barren land come alive again.

We wait and watch for the gift of salvation
to free us from hatred, greed and fear
so that we may live again as people of
faith, hope and love.

We make this prayer in the name of our Saviour who is
Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

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.



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
Christmas Wednesday 25th December 2019 : The Nativity of the Lord



As we welcome the Christ Child this Christmas, we share in the gifts He brings; Love, Peace and Joy.

May 2020 Bring a renewed vigour
in living out our Discipleship.

May God bless you and keep you in His peace.

From all the friars at Paddington and Edgecliff:

Pax ofm, Phillip ofm, David ofm, Paul ofm, Piotr ofm,
Joseph ofm and Francisco ofm

+ + + + +
NATIVITY SCENE 2019

In response to the fire and drought that our nation is currently experiencing Tony Dorigo has created a nativity scene at St Joseph to reflect this reality. The manger is surrounded by a barren, desolate and burnt landscape. In Tony's words;

We are reminded daily of the fires that continue to burn in much of our State and of the desertification of our lands during this festive period.

We are living through a climate of emergency governed by Administrations that deny it or simply ignore it.

At the time of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ we give thanks for what we have been given and we pray that the amazing power of the human spirit will transcend the tough times and work towards a positive way forward with our fellow humans and all the living creatures in this wonderful ecosystem. Tony Dorigo

+ + + + +
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. We rejoice and give thanks for this light which has come into the world. The theme of the Christmas masses is of light breaking through the darkness, the Word-become-flesh is the true light enlightening us.



From Fr Paul

I recently read that Jewish tradition puts forgiveness and asking for forgiveness very high on the scale of importance. Selichot prayers are a ritual of admitting to God that we have sinned and asking for mercy. In this way the individual comes to realise that no matter how they have behaved in the previous year, in the next year they can do better.

In recognition of Christ's Jewish ancestry I too would like to finish the year by seeking forgiveness for what I have done and for what I have failed to do. May this Christmas dawn bring hope for a new day and light for better times.

From Fr Piotr

May the Star Bethlehem guide you all on your journey and lead you to the stable in Bethlehem.

From Fr Francisco.....

Blessed Christmas to all.

2019 have been an eventful and challenging year for many. Apart from personal challenges, the stagnant economy, drought, bush fires and haze and the volcanic eruption in New Zealand has tragically affected many people. May the birth of Christ this Christmas bring about a new hope for a better and peaceful year of 2020. Blessed New Year 2020 to all of you.

From Ruth...

As my first year with your community comes to a close I want to thank you all for your kindness, patience, guidance, friendship and welcome through the last twelve months. I feel honoured and blessed to work for and with the parishioners and priests of your community and I to look forward to coming here each day. Merry Christmas (and if anyone would like a copy of Mori Cat's Christmas photo you need only ask!).

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
Pax Scarf ofm, Phillip Miscamble ofm, David Leary ofm, Joseph Lu ofm - Friars in residence
Ruth Rawlinson - Parish Manager
Tanith Bryce - Cantor, Edgecliff
Noel Deben & 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. 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: John Fordham, Margaret Quade, Norma Castaldi, Adrian Lynch, Danielle Linkson, Wilma Muriel Nesbitt, John Fitzgerald, 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.

Mass Intentions: Tom Connelly, Nancy Jordan, Jim Evans, Odete Desa, Vince Munro, Marian Wojciechowski, Krystna Leszczywska, Kim & Raymond Malouf, Patrick & Mary O'Sullivan, Charles & Eddy Piper, Francisco Desa, Casimira Barros, Petyer Meagher, Michael James, Jane Carnel, Maqron Welch, Religious Sisters of Charity, Veronica Simon, Giulano Family, Anne Conlon, Dayday, Mee -Na Cheok, Herbert Odillo Maher, George Perko, Terry Bostock, Nell Atkinson, Hector Destro, Genevieve Scarf, William & Anne Nolan, Duncan Family, Diane McGrath, Neocolasa, Aquino, Daday, Vinz Napoli, Andrew Georgiou, Frank Kaine, Margaret Kiernan, Veronica Simon, Graham Avery, Avery & Roche Families, Bellanto Family, Cavazzini & Bagni Family, Gladys Schell, Scott Mitchell, Alan Kennedy, Nan Kelly, Ron Lovell, Genowefa Wojciechowska, Madeleine Freeman, Elizabeth Considine Conley, Peter Meagher, Noeleen & George Waldron, Finbarr O'Farrell, Margaret Austin, Janice Hui, Margaret Tighe, David de Carvalho, Hector Destro, Natalie & Domenic Casamento, Holy Souls.



Archdiocese
Franciscan Friars

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Franciscan Friars Australia



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Parish
Archdiocese

www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com
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.

VIGIL MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ex 16:6-7
Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption, grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer, we may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 62:1-5

RESP PSALM Ps 88: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Alleluia!
Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:
The Saviour of the world will be our king.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 1:1-25 (Shorter form, 1:18-25)
Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we look forward, O Lord, to the coming festivities, may we serve you all the more eagerly for knowing that in them you make manifest the beginnings of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Isa 40:5

The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may draw new vigour from celebrating the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, by whose heavenly mystery we receive both food and drink. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Solemn Blessing – see front page

MASS DURING THE NIGHT

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 2:7
The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.
or

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendour of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 9:1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95: 1-3, 11-13

R. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

SECOND READING Titus 2:11-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 2:10-11

Alleluia Alleluia!
Good news and great joy to all the world:
Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 2:1-14
Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the oblation of this day's feast be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we may be found in the likeness of Christ, in whom our nature is united to you. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 1:14

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, that we, who are gladdened by participation in the feast of our Redeemer's Nativity, may through an honourable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Solemn Blessing – see front page

DAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Isa 9:5
A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 52:7-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97:1-6

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

SECOND READING Heb 1:1-6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Alleluia!
A holy day has dawned upon us.
Come you nations and adore the Lord.
Today a great light has come upon the earth.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 1:1-18
Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day, when you manifested the reconciliation that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 97:3

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O merciful God, that just as the Saviour of the world, born this day, is the author of divine generation for us, so he may be the giver even of immortality. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Solemn Blessing – see front page

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / A

25 DECEMBER 2019

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

see back page for relevant Mass

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 mighty God and Prince of Peace: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the Son of God and the Son of Mary: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Word made Flesh, the splendour of the Father: 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

Glory 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 *see back page for relevant Mass*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

see back page for relevant Mass

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS:

see back page for relevant Mass

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, II OR III OF THE NATIVITY 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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

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

see back page for relevant Mass

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

see back page for relevant Mass

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

SOLEMN BLESSING

P. May the God of infinite goodness, who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night (day), drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue.

R. Amen.

P. May God, who willed that the great joy of his Son's saving Birth be announced to shepherds by the Angel, fill your minds with the gladness he gives and make you heralds of his Gospel.

R. Amen.

P. And may God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favour and make you sharers with the Church in heaven.

R. Amen.

P. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

TODAY IS BORN
OUR SAVIOUR,
CHRIST THE LORD!