

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Prisider: Let us unite our hearts our minds and voices in prayer to the new born Christ Child for the needs of every member of our human family.

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

All: Let us always remember that we are brothers and sisters in Christ, and so learn to live in harmony with one another.

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 our world.

All: May our efforts for peace end conflict and division.

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 Ever-New, send your creative spirit upon leaders of the Church.

All: May renewal in the Church encourage young people to be leaders who live the Good News.

Reader: For those who have died in the past year and those who mourn them.

All: May they find light, happiness and peace.

Prisider: Let us pray together.

All: God, our Creator, we celebrate the gift of your Son who shared our human family with Mary and Joseph. May we be one with them in peace, harmony and love.

We ask this through 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

Parish Office: 66 Gordon St Paddington 2021 Tel: 02 9331 4043
Website: www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com Email: enquiries@stfrancis-stjoseph.com
Sunday 29th December 2019 : Feast of the Holy Family

IS IT A CHRISTMAS WREATH OR IS IT AN ADVENT WREATH?

Did you notice how the Advent wreath became a Christmas wreath. During each Sunday of the Advent season, we focused on one of the four virtues Jesus brings us: Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. The first candle symbolizes expectation, while the second symbolizes faith, the third joy and the fourth peace.

On Christmas eve the Advent wreath is transformed into a Christmas wreath; gone are the 4 advent candles and in their place was a single gold candle, known as the Christ Candle. The Christ candle, placed in the centre of the wreath, is lit on Christmas Eve reminding Christians that Jesus is the light of the world. It remains lit for the octave of Christmas.



PARISH NOTICES

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS SEASON HOURS

The Office will close on Christmas Day and reopen on 2 January, the friars remain contactable at any time.

A NEW YEARS RESOLUTION?

Make one of your new years resolutions to become more involved with your local faith community. Our community of Paddington, Edgecliff & Double Bay runs groups and good works for all ranges of age, interest and availability. Contribute by visiting the elderly on our communion rounds or leading our youth through our sacramental programs, children's liturgy and catechism in state schools. Or perhaps you would like to be more involved in the weekend mass services by becoming a greeter or usher or reader? We also offer a range of devotions and other meetings that are listed in our bulletin each week. Want to become involved? Call the parish office on 9331 4043 or email administration@stfrancis-stjoseph.com.

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU

To the sacristans, choristers, cleaners, Christmas Characters at the Nativity Play and to this community that was so amazingly generous; thank you for your contributions towards our Christmas celebrations at St Francis of Assisi, Paddington and St Joseph, Edgecliff.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IN RECESS

Children's Liturgy is now on break. The program will return in February 2020. Thank you to the work and dedication of our volunteers who made this program possible in 2019.

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: 2 January 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.

In recess till February

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



PLENARY COUNCIL

Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to express your interest in being a delegate from our diocese to participate in the plenary council general assembly held in Adelaide in October? If so, speak with your Parish Priest or Barbara Perry (Sydney Plenary Council Working Group) on 0438 012 964, barbara.perry@sydneycatholic.org for more details. All applicants must fill in and submit an application form found here: <https://sydneycatholic.org/plenary-council.pdf>.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL 2020 RETREAT

18-19 January at 9am to 4:30pm
St Agatha's Catholic Primary School Hall
Entry and parking at 7 Trebor Road, Pennant Hills
Cost: \$50

International speaker Michelle Moran. Eucharist Celebrant Fr Hugh Thomas CSsR.

All meals provided. Registrations close Friday January 11 2020. Phone 9810 2499 or email email@ccrns.org.au

1984 The Musical

An exciting new musical comedy: 1984! The Musical! takes Orwell's classic and finds laughter in the darkest places. An all original Australian work presented by one of our very own parishioners.

In a world where "alternative facts," have normalised Doublethink and our phones collect our data and watch us like Telescreens, Orwell's dystopia has never felt closer to home. Equal parts soul-crushing and side-splitting, this is the musical for our times.

Performances: 8-12; 14-19; 21-25 January 2020
Times: Preview Wed 8 Jan 7:30pm; Tues-Sat 7:30pm; Sun 1:00pm & 7:30pm

Venue: New Theatre 542 King Street Newtown 2042
Pricing: Adult: \$30, Concession: \$25; Groups (20+): \$20, Preview: \$15

Tickets: www.newtheatre.org.au/tickets 02 9519 3403

Event Website:
<https://newtheatre.org.au/1984-the-musical>

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
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. 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: Michael Rock Dean, 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-Dermond, Joe Perry.

Mass Intentions: Hector Barbara, Ray Ghanem, 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, Necolasa, 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.



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Franciscan Friars

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Franciscan Friars Australia



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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.

GOSPEL

Mt 2:13–25, 19–23

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.*Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.*

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead'. So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled:

He will be called a Nazarene.

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**

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace.
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, II OR III OF THE NATIVITY***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 Bar 3:38**Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.****PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family,

so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever.
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****FAMILY LIFE IN GOD**

The glimpse of Jesus' family life that we read in today's Gospel presents a picture that is far from idyllic. The Holy Family lives in a brutal and violent world. The coming of the wise men (Magi) from the East, with their consoling homage and gifts for Mary's newborn Child, has provoked suspicion and violence on the part of King Herod. His murderous intent requires Joseph to flee with Mary and Jesus into a foreign country—to become, in effect, refugees.

But what the Gospel brings out is that it is precisely the Holy Family's forced displacement to Egypt that enables the infant Messiah to replay the experience and captivity of his people, Israel, in Egypt, and to experience directly the liberating and saving power of God. Israel was metaphorically 'God's child' (Hos 11:1), but Jesus is truly the Son of God. In the person of Jesus, God is 'with us' ('Emmanuel') in the intimacy and immediacy of family relationships, and in circumstances of danger and anxiety with which many families can identify.

Matthew's presentation of Jesus' family life in this way may, then, be for us a greater consolation than if it were 'idyllic'. Holiness, according to the scriptural understanding, is where God is. Today's Gospel brings out the way in which God is present to the family of Jesus amid violence, forced movement, and perplexity. If our own family life is not perfect nor totally immune from such trials that is perhaps all the more reason to believe that God's saving presence is also 'with us'.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH / A

29 DECEMBER 2019

FLEE TO EGYPT. The Gospel of Matthew highlights the many difficulties faced by Mary and Joseph before and after the birth of Jesus. But Matthew highlights also the abiding presence of God, who is with them on every step of their journey. We see in these early episodes what Jesus will make explicit at the end of the Gospel: 'And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

INTRODUCTORY RITES**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Lk 2:16

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

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 came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You come in word and in sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You will come again in glory with salvation for your people: 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

P. O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them

in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. 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** Sir 3:2–6, 12–14**A reading from the Book of Sirach***Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.*

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,

he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own,

he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father,

he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,

do not despise him in your health and strength;

for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten

but will serve as reparation for your sins.

The word of the Lord.**R. Thanks be to God.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 127:1–5. R. cf. v.1**R. Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.**

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **R.**

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine

in the heart of your house;

your children like shoots of the olive,

around your table. **R.**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! **R.**

SECOND READING Col 3:12–21**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians***Concerning the Christian life in the world.*

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

The word of the Lord.**R. Thanks be to God****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Col 3:15,16

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, / and the fullness of his message live within you. / Alleluia!