

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: We stand before God who gives us the gift of faith in baptism. May we like Jesus be open to the Spirit as we make our prayers to God our Father.

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

All: May we be true to the promises of our baptism and proclaim the good news through our worship and our work together.

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

All: May you bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.

Reader: For our world.

All: May the leaders of nations resolve conflicts by seeking the justice and peace brought into the world by Jesus.

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: Lord God, you chose Mary to be the mother of your Son.

All: May the Virgin made Church intercede for young women and men who are considering becoming a religious sister, nun, brother or priest.

Reader: For those who have died.

All: May they rise to the new life of the Risen Christ.

Presider: Let us pray together.

All: God, we see your glory in the baptism of your Son. Hear the prayers of those chosen to be your family. 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 12 January 2020 : Baptism of the Lord

Dear Parishioners, As a Reservist Padre in the ADF I has been called for duty to assist with the fire recovery effort. In my absence Fr Piotr and Fr Francisco will continue providing pastoral care and Ruth, helpful and as always, will continue in her role as the Parish Manager. I will be in regular touch with the parish team while I am away. Let us continue to pray that our nation will rise up to the challenge in the great ANZAC spirit. Blessing, Fr Paul

NOTICES

PARISH OFFICE JANUARY OPENING HOURS & PHONE SYSTEM

The Parish Office has now reopened with entry by side garden gate, please note our modified opening hours for January. **In January the office will be open from 9:30am to 2:30pm Monday to Friday.** Please also be aware we have recently been having issues with our phone system - we are now able to receive calls but are unable to retrieve messages. We are working on a resolution to these issues, thank you for your patience.

ST JOSEPH 7AM TUESDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

With a 5.30pm evening mass permanently in place the 7am Communion Service has been discontinued.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IN RECESS

An expanded and improved Children's Liturgy program will return in February 2020. Do you want to be involved in expanding and improving our children's ministry in 2020. Contact Ruth in the parish office or on 0410 470 678.

PLENARY COUNCIL

Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Express your interest in being a delegate from our diocese to participate in the plenary council general assembly held in Adelaide in October. For more details speak with your Parish Priest or contact Barbara Perry at 0438012964, barbara.perry@sydneycatholic.org. All applicants must fill in and submit an application form found here: <https://sydneycatholic.org/plenary-council.pdf>.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT WEEKEND, THE CAPUCHIN FRIARS

15-16th February A weekend retreat for men aged 18-35. Come away for a couple of days to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Begins 9am Saturday and concludes 4pm Sunday at the Marymount Mercy Centre, Castle Hill. Come and reflect on God's will in your life, and these particular ways of making a gift of self for the glory of God and in service of His Kingdom. Cost \$50. Register at vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au or 0432 362 052.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Third Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm. For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. For further information please contact Bereavement Support bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au or Ph: (02) 9646 6908

YOUTH LEADERS EVAGELISATION SCHOOL 2020

From 25 January - 1 February, a week long live-in experience for youth leaders and young adults between 18 and 35 years old. The school will allow leaders to explore their call to discipleship through community life, daily prayer and building a culture of responsibility for themselves and others in their daily lives. The program encourages leaders to exercise their call to evangelisation within the many contexts of their lives, including ministry. For more information, contact Elizabeth Pasion on (02) 9307 8152 or elizabeth.pasion@sydneycatholicyouth.org

A Message from Cana Communities

7th January, 2020

Dear Father Paul and fellow parishioners,
On behalf of all the people involved with Cana Communities, I write to express our thanks to you for again allowing us to hold an appeal at the Parish last year.

We are exceptionally grateful to receive such support from you, your fellow priests and the parish staff. Your support, as well as the financial support of your parishioners and our Cana volunteers who speak about Cana during the masses, allows us to make a difference to the lives of those living on the margins of social and economic breakdown and we thank you for your belief in Cana's Mission.

Since the appeal at your parish in August last year, we have received donations totalling \$16,564.20 Thank you so much. Please convey our 'Thanks' to your parishioners who donated so generously to the work of Cana Communities.

Wishing everyone at St. Francis' and St Joseph's Parish peace and Joy throughout the new year,

Yours Sincerely,
Marijke Newnham Cana Communities Inc.

A call to prayer for those affected by bushfires

We pray for all those who have been affected by the bush fires:

For those who have been injured physically and emotionally,
for those who have lost their home and property.

For farmers who have lost stock and pasture,
for those who are struggling to find feed and water.

For all involved in fighting the fire,
for new strength in the face of exhaustion.

For all who offer support and care at this time:
for the generosity of many to those who are struggling.

We are mindful of the days, weeks and months ahead,
for dangerous days ahead, for seasons of recovery and rebuilding,

We pray, too, knowing that we are entering a harsher climate,
less predictable and more volatile;

As we care for each other, help us to care for your creation,
to be worthy stewards and advocates of all which you have made.

Keep us faithful and alert in our praying and our action
In the name of Jesus Christ, **Amen**

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 Rosary Group: 7:30am and 5:00pm weekdays.

St Joseph 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.*

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: 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: Caroline a'Beckett, Elizabeth Hammond, 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.

Mass Intentions: Francesco Labbozzetta, John Newman, Giuliano Family, Ann Kaine, Dennis Keiran, Domenico & Nita Casamento, Francesco Labbozzetta, Shannon Whelan, Kathy Nemeth, Kiernan Family, Avery & Roche Families, William Dikson, Jean Malouf, Maria Satoh, Hector Destro, Concepcion Family, Margaret Austin, Janice Hui, 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, Giuliano Family, Anne Conlon, Dayday, Mee-Na Cheok, Herbert Odillo Maher, George Perko, Terry Bostock, Nell Atkinson, Genevieve Scarf, William & Anne Nolan, Duncan Family, Diane McGrath, Nicolasa, Aquino, Daday, Vinz Napoli, Andrew Georgiou, 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, David de Carvalho, Natalie & Domenic Casamento, Holy Souls.



Archdiocese
Franciscan Friars

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Franciscan Friars Australia



Parish
Franciscan friars

@stfrancisjoseph
@OZFranciscan



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.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Mk 9:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 3:13-17

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.
When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'

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

Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
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 OF BAPTISM 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 Jn 1:32, 34

Behold the One of whom John said:

I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son,

we may be your children in name and in truth. 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

DRAWN INTO INTIMACY WITH GOD

What is most significant in the account of Jesus' baptism is not so much the baptism itself as what happens immediately afterwards. Jesus sees the Spirit descending upon him like a dove and hears an assurance of his Father's love from heaven.

The words, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him', echo the divine address to the Servant of the Lord in the text from Isaiah featured as the First Reading.

The identity of this Servant figure is mysterious—though he does seem to be representative of the people of Israel as a whole. The words of divine favour addressed to him apply in some sense to all Israelites.

The same wider reference applies also in the Gospel. Beyond Jesus personally, God's address of choice, love, and favour reaches out to all those who, through faith and Christian baptism, become members of his Body, the Church. Drawn into the familial intimacy with God that Jesus has shared with us, we too are impelled by the Spirit to cry out with him 'Abba, Father' (Rom 8:15; Gal 4:6).

It is very fitting, then, that this Gospel passage be read at every baptism. Every baptised person has the right to hear from God, 'You are my beloved son/daughter; my favour rests on you'.

What if every morning, we began our day with that divine address ringing in our ears—not because we deserve it or have earned it, but simply because we know that that is how God looks upon us in Christ?

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD / A

12 JANUARY 2020

'THIS IS MY SON, THE BELOVED.' Just before he confronts the tempter in the desert, Jesus is baptised in the Jordan. He is revealed as the beloved Son of God. His baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry, of the time when the role of John the Baptist will decrease and Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom of God, by word and deed, will increase.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Mt 3:16-17

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased'.

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

Almighty ever-living God, / who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan / and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, / solemnly declared him your beloved Son, / grant that your children by adoption, / reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, / may always be well pleasing to you. / 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 42:1-4, 6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;

I have taken you by the hand and formed you;

I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

The word of the Lord.

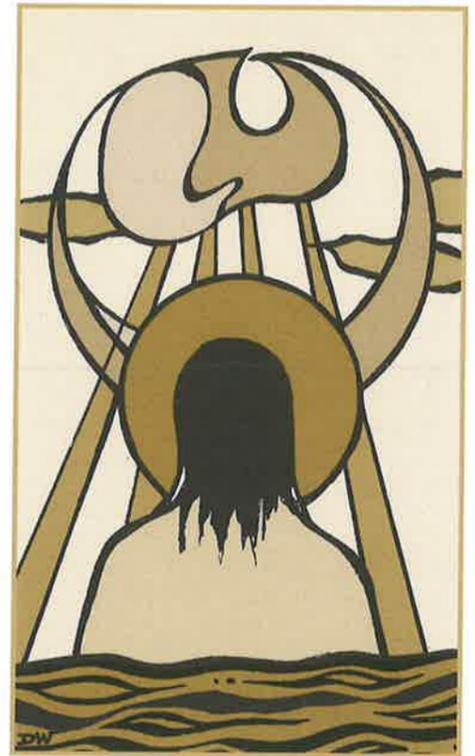
R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 28:1-4, 9-10. R.v.11

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name.

Adore the Lord in his holy court. **R.**



2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **R.**

3. The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The Lord sat enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits as king for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING Acts 10:34-38

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household:

'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God