

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: Our God has prepared blessings for us that are greater than the mind can imagine. Therefore let us bring our needs and the needs of the world before God with confidence.

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

All: May our words and actions always live up to the love of Christ which is in our hearts.

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 the world.

All: May we realise the goodness of all God has made and work together for the just use and protection of the earth's gifts.

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: For all those affected by the outbreak of the novel coronavirus.

All: May the Lord sustain and renew those working towards a cure and may it bring a renewed worldwide compassion for those suffering from its' affects.

Reader: For those who have died.

All: May they by the power of the Resurrection come to share eternal life.

Presider: Let us pray together.

All: Lord we pray that you answer our prayers as we strive to keep faithful to the way of life you have taught us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. 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

Parish Office: 66 Gordon St Paddington 2021 Tel: 02 9331 4043
Website: www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com Email: enquiries@stfrancis-stjoseph.com
Sunday 16 February 2020 : 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

As we prepare for the Solemn Liturgical Season of Lent I am reminded of the words of Dorothea Mackellar:

*I love a sunburnt country, A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges, Of droughts and flooding rains.
I love her far horizons, I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror—The wide brown land for me!*

On Ash Wednesday Catholics, and many other Christians, have ash applied to their foreheads in the shape of a cross. We wear the ash to symbolise penance, mourning and mortality and to publicly express our faith and penance. As I reflect on the year thus far it is as if the entire Eastern Seaboard has been covered in a layer of penitent ash. Let us spend this season in prayer for our *sunburnt country*. We pray through word and action for those affected by *droughts and flooding rains* as well as for the eradication of the coronavirus. In so many ways this season of lent is already well underway. *Fr Paul*

PARISH NOTICES

WE URGENTLY NEED CATECHISTS—CAN YOU HELP?

We urgently need more Catechists! We currently have a specific need for Catechists for our students at Woollahra Public on Tuesday mornings and are also seeking volunteers to do relief on other days. **Without additional catechists two Woollahra classes may not be able to run this year.** For some of these students their involvement in SRE at school is their primary connection to our faith and our Catechists make a real difference in the development of their faith and in their lives. As someone who was baptised as an adult I know my experience during schooling with the SRE program provided me with the basis to continue as an adult and make the decision to be baptised in our church.

Our Catechists are provided with support, training and materials. If you can join our team or are interested in more information please call Ruth on 0410 470 678 or send me an email at administration@stfrancis-stjoseph.com - Ruth

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Wed. 4th March 2020. 7.30 - 9pm at the PADDINGTON RSL CLUB 220-232 Oxford St, Paddington, opposite the Town Hall. Topic - and year's theme: "20/20 Vision - towards the future" Speakers: Professor Jennifer Burn, Director of Anti-Slavery Australia, UTS & Interim Anti-Slavery Commissioner & Fr Daniel Dries, Rector of Christ Church St Laurence. Donation Entry. Info Marea: 0414 873 910. Follow us on Twitter: @spiritinthepub

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office has now reopened with entry by side garden gate. We are back to our standard opening hours **however there may be some changes to these hours due to renovations** we encourage you to check the website www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com or follow us on twitter @stfrancisjoseph for live updates.

DAY OF HEALING

Our own Sr Margaret Scully RSC will lead this day of recollection in the Catholic Charismatic Tradition on SATURDAY 22 February at 19A Quirk Street Rozelle from 9am to 4.30pm. BYO lunch. Cost is by donation. RSVP: 9810 2499 or mmscully@ccmsw.org.au

UPCOMING DEVOTIONS, GROUPS AND MEETINGS

St Francis Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour: 5:00pm every Saturday prior to the Vigil Mass. On break for two weeks.

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

St Joseph First Thursday Adoration: Next: 5 March 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. Resumes 5 March.

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

OTHER NOTICES

VOLUNTEER RECEPTIONIST NEEDED

Volunteer receptionist needed at St Francis Social Services, Centre 360 Youth & Family Counselling Service. Would you like to volunteer in a pleasant and friendly work place that does great work for the community? The Centre needs a volunteer receptionist on weekdays. Main duties include: Greeting clients and visitors, Answering the phone, Directing inquiries to staff, Short term administrative projects. Hours and days are flexible. If you are interested please phone Maurizio Vespa, CEO St Francis Social Services on 0449 622 964.

RECEPTION OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

The reception of the Body and Blood of Jesus in communion from the chalice as well as in the host, while a more complete sign of communion, is not necessary in order to receive all the fruit of Eucharistic grace, since each form alone is the complete reality of Jesus Christ. Therefore it is not essential that parishioners receive from the chalice.

BUSHFIRE RELIEF SUPPLIES COLLECTION CENTRE

Paddington Uniting Church (395 Oxford Street), Saturdays 10am to 4pm. Donated items will be forwarded to Foodbank and other organisations providing emergency relief provisions to bushfire affected individuals and communities.

Items in high demand: bottled water, UHT milk, breakfast cereals, good quality tinned foods & meals (with ring pulls), pasta/rice/noodles, snacks (muesli & protein bars), pet food (cat & dog), toiletries (soap, shampoo, sanitary items). **Please do NOT donate:** perishable foods (fruit, vegetables, bread), clothing & bedding, medicines or razors.

THE CAUSE OF BEATIFICATION AND CANONISATION OF THE SERVANT OF GOD, EILEEN O'CONNOR

The co-founder of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor, Eileen O'Connor has taken a major step forward to becoming Australia's second saint after the Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP called on Catholics to submit evidence to support Eileen's cause for canonisation. You are invited to a Mass which will officially launch the cause. Thursday 20 February at St Mary's Cathedral. 5:30pm Celebrant: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

EASTFEST IS BACK!

EastFest is back with the nuns from the Amazing race Australia and the Emanuel Worship band from Brisbane. Great Music, stories and getting to know Jesus. Friday 28th Feb at 6pm. Free dinner at 6pm followed by the event at 7pm. The night will finish at 9.15. For more info see @easterndeansydney Instagram, FB OR grab a flyer after mass. Venue: Brigidine college hall. 6 Aeolia St Randwick



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES

Wednesday 26 February 2020



7.00am - Edgecliff
9.00am - Paddington with St Francis Primary School
5.30pm - Edgecliff
7.00pm - Paddington Sung Mass

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Edgecliff - Thursdays at 5pm. Starting 5 March.

Paddington - Wednesdays 9.30am with St Francis Primary School. Starting 4 March.

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.

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 Rzucidlo 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: A. O'Sullivan, Lois Squadrito, Rae Collins, James Cummings, Patrick Whooley, Juliet McCormack, 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.

Mass Intentions: Margaret Austin, Janice Hui, Aquino Lanojan, Kevin & Ann Nicey, Ian Stewart, Andrew Georgiou, Nancy Jordan, Yiu Lam Kwan, Gaetano Carone, Faye Anderson, Anne & George Duncan, Adeline Lee, Sr Mary Hereward, David Roderick, Tino Ordonez, Giuliano Family, Frank & Lena Kaine, Herbert Graham, Francesco Labbozzetta, John Newman, Giuliano Family, Ann Kaine, Dennis Kiernan, Domenico & Nita Casamento, Francesco Labbozzetta, Shannon Whelan, Kathy Nemeth, Kiernan Family, Avery & Roche Families, William Dikson, Jean Malouf, Maria Satoh, Hector Destro, Concepcion Family, Hector Barbara, Ray Ghanem, Tom Connelly, Nancy Jordan, Jim Evans, Odete Deso, Vince Munro, Marian Wojciechowski, Krystna Leszczywska, Kim & Raymond Malouf, Patrick & Mary O'Sullivan, Charles & Eddy Piper, Francisco Deso, Casimira Barros, Peter Meagher, Michael James, Jane Carmel, Maqrion Welch, Religious Sisters of Charity, Veronica Simon, Anne Conlon, Dayday, Mee-Na Cheok, Herbert Odillo Maher, George Perko, Terry Bostock, Nell Atkinson, Genevieve Scarf, Holy Souls.



Archdiocese
Franciscan Friars

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Franciscan Friars Australia



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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.

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.
Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors; You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court;

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Longer form 5:17-37

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. May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. 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-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME
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
 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 cf. Ps 77:29-30
They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

OR Jn 3:16
God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
 P. Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, that we may always

long for that food by which we truly live. 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 and announce the Gospel of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL
PLANTING THE LAW IN THE HEART

In today's Gospel Jesus reinterprets the Law of Moses in a way that, without sweeping aside the values the law sought to protect, prioritises values such as justice, mercy, and faith in human relationships (cf. Matt 23:23).

Over against the law's stark prohibitions ('You shall not ...') his pronouncements seek to go beyond mere external restraint to plant the value enshrined in the prohibition deep within the human heart. So over against 'You shall not kill ...,' Jesus addresses the anger in the heart that might lead someone to kill. Deal with that and the prohibition simply doesn't arise.

Likewise in the matter of adultery, to a man's fundamental attitude to a woman. Is she an object for sexual exploitation (lust) or a fellow human being demanding equality and respect? Get the attitude right and all else will fall into place.

Where the old dispensation looked at divorce entirely from the male perspective and set in place what is basically a "harm minimisation" process, Jesus' exclusion of it stems from a holistic view of marriage as a lifelong union of equals in mutual fidelity and companionship.

Likewise, such trust and faithfulness should prevail in the community of the Kingdom that, to have their word taken seriously, its members should not have to have recourse to oaths—fraught, as such assertions are, with the danger of taking God's holy name in vain.

Looking back, what draws all these pronouncements of Jesus together is an essentially relational sense of human life, flourishing where respect, faithfulness, and consideration of the other prevail.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

16 FEBRUARY 2020

FOLLOW GOD'S LAW. The vast wisdom of God is revealed in the law God has given to us, a law designed to lead us to the fullness of life and happiness. In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that law is not only about external behaviour. Our inner attitudes are also important. It is from within, from the attitudes of our hearts, that good or evil actions flow.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 30:3-4
Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

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, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, 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.

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 teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling 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 Sir 15:15-20
A reading from the book of Sirach
He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PS Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34. R. v. 1
R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, / who follow God's law! / They are happy those who do his will, / seeking him with all their hearts. **R.**
 2. You have laid down your precepts / to be obeyed with care. / May my footsteps be firm / to obey your statutes. **R.**
 3. Bless your servant and I shall live / and obey your word. / Open my eyes that I may consider / the wonders of your law. **R.**
 4. Teach me the demands of your statutes / and I will keep them to the end. / Train me to observe your law, / to keep it with my heart. **R.**



SECOND READING 1 Cor 2:6-10
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Mt 11:25
Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!