

Prayers of the Faithful

Prisider: The psalmist assures us that the Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion. Therefore, we offer these prayers and those that are in the our hearts.

Reader: For the whole Church.

All: May we be guided and governed by your Holy Spirit and be led into the way of truth becoming a people of strength to all in need.

Reader: For our national and world leaders.

All: May they foster a spirit of acceptance and learn to value the diversity of race, culture and religion.

Reader: For those working to put an end to the pandemic.

All: May medical and other resources be shared among all nations in a spirit of justice and compassion.

Reader: For our parish children preparing to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.

All: May their hearts be filled with a knowledge that ours is a God of healing and eternal mercy.

Reader: For an understanding of God's generous love and a desire to forgive

All: May we grow in appreciation and understanding of God's love that we may always be prepared to forgive.

Reader: For those who have died.

All: May they find a place of rest, and may we eventually share with them in the glory of Jesus Christ, who died to save us all.

Prisider: Together we pray:

All: Gracious God, we have confidence that you hear our prayers. In your great love reveal to us your compassion and mercy. We ask this through the power of the Spirit and in the name of 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: office@stf-stj.com

13 September 2020 : 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS One of our volunteers recently noted that over the last few months of welcoming people at the door and going through the necessary Covid Safety protocols she had managed to memorise the names of most of those attending Mass. An amazing and beautiful achievement. This brought home to me how much I am indebted to those men and women who welcome, sign-in, sanitise and then clean and disinfect after each and every mass. This team of dedicated volunteers are truly worthy of our thanks and respect as without them mass could not proceed, they are truly an essential service.

As our numbers slowly increase these amazing volunteers are also charged with ensuring our Covid Safety Plan operates smoothly and equally. There may be occasions when, in order to remain compliant with health regulations, entry may not be possible. Could I implore you to not get upset when this occurs and to follow directions. Just as you are made in the image and likeness of God, so too are our amazing volunteers. Blessings, Fr Paul

FIRST RECONCILIATION COVID PROGRAM

Our First Reconciliation program is now open for candidates in year 2 and above. Please see website or contact Parish Office for more details and enrollment form. Enrollments close: September 17.

Information Session for Parents & Guardians
Wed September 23 | 6pm | Via Zoom



St Francis of Assisi & St Joseph have registered as COVID Safe!

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

As part of our COVID-19 safety plan on every visit to our office or churches you are required to:

Provide your name & contact details.

Stipulate you are not ill and/or suffering flu like symptoms.

Stipulate that to your knowledge you have not been exposed to a known case of COVID-19.

Sanitise your hands on entry & exit.

Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m including on entry and exit.

Follow the directions of Parish Staff & Volunteers.

Thank you for keeping us COVID safe.



New Email for parish office/general enquiries
office@stf-stj.com

Holy Land (Good Friday) Appeal

The official Good Friday collection is taking place this weekend throughout the world after it was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions earlier in the year. Your donation helps to preserve the sacred places and supports Christians who live in the Holy Land.

Donations can be made via:
Cash & Cheque - Please put your donation in the envelope in todays bulletin (envelopes are also available from the Parish Office)
Credit Card - Please call the Parish during office hours on 9331 4043

JOIN US VIA LIVE STREAM

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 12:15PM & 1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT 5:30PM

www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com/facebook-live-stream/

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI & ST JOSEPH

We are looking for photos of celebrations in our community. Do you have photos of your wedding, baptism or other celebrations in our churches that we can feature on our website? Photos do not need to be digital we can scan in the office for you!

Email ruth@stf-stj.com or call 9331 4043

Join us for Mass

Bookings available online & by calling parish office.

To assist our volunteers on the day please arrive at least 10 minutes before scheduled start time & where possible book your space in advance.

www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com/mass-bookings/



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 Basnayak ofm & Joseph Nguyen ofm - Assistant Priests
Ruth Rawlinson - Parish Manager
Tanith Bryce - Cantor, Edgecliff
Pamina Milenkovic - Organist, Edgecliff
Noel Debien & Bransby Byrne - Music Dir. & Organist Paddington
Nicole Smeulders - Cantor Paddington
Emma-Gai Gold & Alanna Sparks - Safeguarding Support Officers
Nicole Hudson - Principal, St Francis of Assisi Primary School

WEEKLY SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

St Joseph, Edgecliff

Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 11:00am & 5:30pm

St Francis of Assisi, Paddington

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:30am & 10:00am

Wednesday: 12:15pm (with Adoration at 11:30am)

Reconciliation available by Appointment
Baptisms available by Appointment
Please call 9331 4043

Are you or a loved one unable to attend Mass at this time? If you would like to receive a visit in your home contact Parish Office.

We remember those in need of our prayers: our deceased, those in hospital, nursing homes, the homebound and defence force personnel.

Recently Deceased: Maurice Scully, Tony Fraser, Barry Watts, Judith Glaister RSM, Peter Mackenzie Smith, Francis Pimanda, Pasquale Larubina, Shirley Cummings, Stanley Sang, Jim Evans, Jerry Austin, Linda Noonan, Michael McCarthy, Bernadette Biggs, Peter Lucas, Patricia Schibeci, Salvatore Dibella, Sandro Dibella, Tien Pole Cheng, Nicole Nader, Linda Nader, Recardina da Silva, Clare Kenny, Harriet Cornfeld-Fraser.

Mass Intentions: Francesca Smith, David Crees, Hector Destro, Gabrielle McDonough, Ziolo Diaz Junior, Laura Martinez, Patricia Richmond-Kiernan, Giuliano Family, Paul Kelly, Paul Bellanto, Sorin & Gheorghe, Beau Henderson, Kevin McGrath, Rosario Macaso Austria, Isabel Scarf, Concepcion Family, Claude Ulin, Conley family intentions, Salvatore & Sandro Di Bella, Doina's Intentions, Pattie Dillon, Mary Kiernan, Jack & Maureen Brett, Nan Kelly, Peg Kelly, Gristromo family, Cresencia Mendoza, Charlie Tsaucis, Sorin & Doina, Cresentia Mendoza, Desmond O'Shea, Shanelle Hoong, Norma Coulson, John Duggan, Myrtle Engel, Tino Ordonez, Gaetano & Paola Carone, Catherine Wu-Hutchings, Rosie Castillo, Norma Austria-Eustaquio, Sylvia Santos, Ian Stewart, Virginia Ross, John Foxe, Amanda L'Estrange, Carolyn Savage, Andrew Georgiou, David Saw, Francisco Leonardo Correa, William Hegarty, Angelina & Carmen Bellanto, Marie Toohey, Annette Angles, Patricia Upton, Caroline Upjohn, Guilano Family, Francis Xavier Dillon, John & Jeanette Rawlinson, Roslyn Dougherty, Finbarr O'Farrell, The Piper Family, Holy Souls.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Child sexual 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: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or on 93905810. 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.

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.

CAN YOU HELP AFTER TODAY'S MASS
If you can help wipe down pews after today's Mass please see the volunteers on the door.

Holy Land Collection : This Weekend
This year, due to the Corona virus pandemic, it was not possible to take up the Good Friday Collection dedicated to supporting Christians living in the Land of Jesus. Pope Francis agreed to have the collection this weekend because it is the Sunday closest to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross during which we remember how far the love of

the Son of God has come for us: giving His life on the Cross for and reconciling us to God. This gives birth to a new humanity founded on solidarity and love.

The collection is a gesture of solidarity that the whole joins in with in order to support through the Christian communities that are in the Holy Land.

It is thanks to Christians throughout the whole world that the friars are able to continue taking care of the Holy Sites. Money raised is to support the pastoral work of parishes, to give quality education and learning to more than 10,000 students attending our schools and to assist young families find a home. In addition, the money is used to assist Christian migrant workers to feel welcomed even though they are far from their homeland as well as to able to assist Christian populations affected by the explosion in Lebanon, the war in Syria and the refugees living in and around the Middle East.

Donations can be made via the envelopes in the bulletin or through the Parish Office.

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

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

13 SEPTEMBER 2020

and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

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. Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has

offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. 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: 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 cf. Ps 35: 8

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray, take possession of our minds and bodies, so that its effects, and not our own desires, may always prevail in us. 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 in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

FORGIVENESS BEYOND CALCULATION

In the parable of the Unforgiving Debtor that Jesus tells in response to Peter's question about forgiveness, the debt of 'ten thousand talents' is an utterly fantastic sum: in today's terms, 'billions of dollars'—something that the servant, despite his plea for time, could never hope to repay. He stands to lose absolutely everything—freedom, family, possessions—for his whole life long. The master's generosity in cancelling the debt in effect restores his life.

In comparison, the debt that the servant himself is owed by a fellow servant and which he is violently unwilling to remit, is paltry. The equivalent of a few hundred days' wages. Given time, it could easily be paid off. Hence the wickedness of the servant in not passing on to his fellow even a tiny portion of the immense generosity he had himself received.

The Lord would have Peter and all members of the community understand that they live as people who, through Christ's costly love, have received remission of a debt (the debt of sin) that they could never repay. How inappropriate then an unwillingness to forgive fellow members of the community the 'debts' set up by injury on a much smaller scale.

That said, we know that forgiveness is not something to speak of lightly. For people who have been deeply wronged finding the capacity to forgive may be the task of a lifetime. It cannot simply be willed—still less prescribed, urged or imposed by others who have not shared the loss. It is a grace, an entrance into the mystery of God's own generosity.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2020. No 467. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

HOW OFTEN MUST I FORGIVE? There is much truth in the proverb, 'to err is human, to forgive divine'. We all make mistakes. We all do or say things we later regret. And yet, when others wrong us, we can find it beyond our human strength to forgive. As we celebrate the mystery of Christ's love today, let us ask Jesus to heal our divisions and fill our hearts with his spirit of forgiveness.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Sir 36: 18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

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. P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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. Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart. 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 27:30–28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

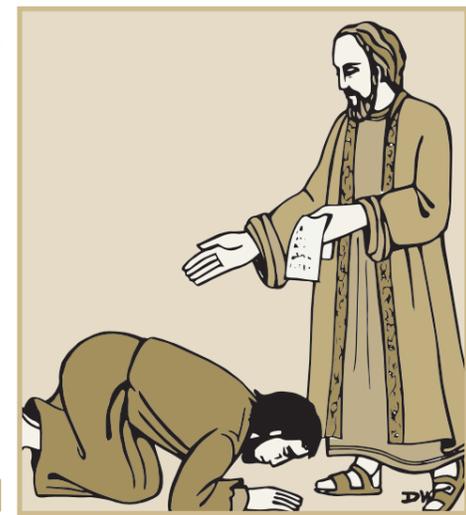
Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12. R. v. 8

R. The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, / all my being, bless his holy name. / My soul, give thanks to the Lord / and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, / who heals every one of your ills, / who redeems your life from the grave, / who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

3. His wrath will come to an end; / he will not be angry for ever. / He does not treat us according to our sins / nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**



4. For as the heavens are high above the earth / so strong is his love for those who fear him. / As far as the east is from the west / so far does he remove our sins. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 14: 7-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 13: 34

Alleluia, alleluia! / I give you a new commandment: / love one another as I have loved you. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18: 21-35

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.

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife