

## Prayers of the Faithful

Prsider: Brothers and Sisters, coming to God in prayer we bring our intentions before the Lord.

Reader: For our Holy Father Pope Francis.

**All: May he serve God's people with justice and lead in transparency and truth.**

Reader: For our world.

**All: May communities in troubled or warring countries experience justice and that workers will be provided with rights and a just reward for their labour.**

Reader: For our nation and church.

**All: That in the face of the pandemic and the hardships it has caused we will continue to respect the rights and dignity of all people, regardless of their race, colour or creed.**

Reader: For our parish community.

**All: May we be generous with our time and resources in helping those in need.**

Reader: For the sick and housebound.

**All: May we show them kindness and compassion.**

Reader: For workers and for those who employ others.

**All: May the needs and rights of all workers, employed and unemployed, not be forgotten.**

Reader: For those who have died, remembering especially those whose names appear in the parish bulletin.

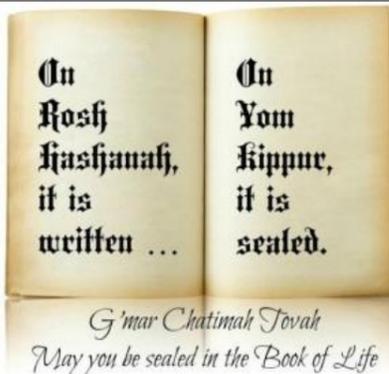
**All: May they dwell forever in the kingdom of heaven.**

Prsider: Together we pray:

**All: Holy Father, you are near to all and loving in your deeds. Hear our prayers and help us to always live by your ways as generous and compassionate people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## 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.



Shalom Parishioners, Let us always remember that Jesus was an observant Jew. We are approaching what is known as the "High Holydays" or "Days of Awe" in the Jewish calendar.

**• Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year is on Saturday**

**and Sunday the 19th and 20th of September.**

**• Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) is on Monday 28th of September.**

These are the most significant dates in the Jewish festival cycle. Even less observant Jews will engage with the traditions of the festivals. Some members may seek leave to be home with their family at this time.

In the Jewish tradition I pray you all a Shana Tovah (a Good New Year) and hope that the coming period brings blessings, healing and peace into our hearts and the world. Fr Paul

**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: office@stf-stj.com

20 September 2020 : 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Parishioners, Life isn't always fair. I think it depends very much on how we look at it, more importantly, how it affects us. Just a few days ago, I was watching a short video clip posted on face book about the winner of Romania's Got Talent 2017. Lorelai Monsnegutu, a 14-year old disabled girl who was born with no arms and femurs. She sang and played the piano with her feet. Lorelai focused on her gifts rather than on her disability, and her talent and passion have inspired so many people around the world. I recently visited Father Viet, one of my Vietnamese friends who lives in Epping. He looked sad. Finally, I found out the reason for his sadness was that he was missing his mother who had died in Vietnam last month and he was unable to return to his home country to bury her. My life and yours are also full of the fair and unfair depending on how we find it. This weekend's gospel's message (Mt 20:1-16) doesn't focus on fairness or unfairness in life, rather it reminds us of an image of God who is merciful and generous, but he is criticised by those who feel they have been treated unfairly and they therefore overlook his love and generosity. Encouraged by our Lord's teaching, let us pray for one another and hope that whatever happens, each one of us continues "being POSITIVE in our way of life" but "testing NEGATIVE with the Covid". May God bless and keep all of us safe. Fr Joseph Nguyen OFM

## CONFIRMATION

COVID PROGRAM

Our Confirmation program is now open for candidates in year 6 and above. Please see website or contact Parish Office for more details and forms. Registration closes: October 9.

Information Session for Parents & Guardians  
Wed October 12 | 6:30pm | Via Zoom

NOTE: THIS PROGRAM IS FOR CANDIDATES WHO DO NOT ATTEND ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI REGIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL.

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.

## 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



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

## FIRST RECONCILIATION

COVID PROGRAM

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

Please see website or contact Parish Office for more details and forms. Registration closes: September 17.

NOTE: THIS PROGRAM IS FOR CANDIDATES WHO DO NOT ATTEND ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI REGIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL.

## Spirituality on the Sofa

7 October, 7.30pm-9pm  
Via Zoom

THE 2020  
PLENARY  
COUNCIL

www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com/spirituality-in-the-pub/

## 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 please contact the 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:** Maria Pullin, Barbara & Edgar Matthews, William Whitehair, 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:** David DeCarvalho, Bernard Hanlon, Francesca Smith, David Crees, Hector Destro, Gabrielle McDonough, Ziolo Diaz Junior, Laura Martinez, Patricia Richmond-Kiernan, Giulano Family, Paul Kelly, Paul Bellanto, Sorin & Georgehe, 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 Tsaoucis, Sorin & Doina, Crestientia 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, 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  
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.

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

20 SEPTEMBER 2020

said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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. Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. 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** Ps 118:4-5

**You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.**

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. 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

##### REFLECTING THE GENEROSITY OF GOD

Today's Gospel is introduced as a parable 'about the kingdom of heaven'. That is, it illustrates the way in which God's rule is reclaiming the world for values that allow people to live lives that are human in the fullest sense of the word.

In the Palestine of Jesus' time, employment was for many a day to day business. Whether labourers got work—and the wage they needed to support themselves and their families—depended on whether they were hired for that day in the marketplace.

The story presupposes a long working day with successive hirings during the day. The 'just wage' agreed upon at the start of the day would have been a denarius, the standard wage for a day's labour. This is in fact what everyone receives, but when those who have laboured since early morning see even the latecomers paid this wage, they expect that in their case 'a just wage' will mean considerably more. Hence their grievance.

Jesus' message is that we cannot simply take the conventional idea of justice and apply it without qualification to God. God is just, but, beyond justice, reserves the right to be overwhelmingly generous as well. If the landowner, out of wider social concern, chooses to be generous and to pay everyone, deserving or not, what social justice today would call a 'living wage', this truly reflects the will and action of God. Aligning ourselves with this view of God has much to do with allowing the values of the kingdom to transform our lives and our world.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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MY WAYS ARE ABOVE YOUR WAYS. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterised by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.

#### INTRODUCTORY RITES

##### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.**

**Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.**

##### GREETING

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

**R. Amen.**

P. The Lord be with you.

**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 have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: 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 founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

##### RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

**R. The Lord is near to all who call him.**

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise your name for ever. / The Lord is great, highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all who call him, / who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

##### SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians  
*For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living



in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

##### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts, O Lord, / to listen to the words of your Son. / Alleluia!**

##### GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

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.**

*Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he