

## Prayers of the Faithful

*Presider:* Filled with wonder at the limitless depth of God's compassion we can joyfully and confidently bring to the altar our needs.

*Reader:* For Pope Francis and Church Leaders.

**All: May they guide us with tolerance and respect and become a model of cooperation peace for other nations to follow.**

*Reader:* For those who work on the land.

**All: May good rain fall and their land be blessed, producing a crop that will provide food for themselves and for others.**

*Reader:* For children and young people.

**All: May they always possess the joy and wonder of God's great love and care for them and may we work to ensuring their safety and rights.**

*Reader:* For those facing persecution, war and displacement in these days of Covid-19.

**All: May they be met with compassion and treated with dignity and respect.**

*Reader:* For families struggling to survive.

**All: May we put aside judgement and condemnation and work to transform the systems and obstacles that impoverish them.**

*Reader:* For those who have died and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**All: May they experience the everlasting joy of God's heavenly Kingdom.**

*Presider:* Let us pray:

**All: Gracious God. May your Holy Spirit extinguish division and discord among us and ignite a blaze of compassion, justice and hope within us. We ask this in the name of your Son, our light and hope. 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.

## FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

In exactly one week, on Wednesday 4 October, we celebrate the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. Owing to Covid 19 we are not able to have our usual Blessing of the Animals and other community celebrations. In anticipation of the day I take this opportunity to pray you a happy and holy feast day. I encourage you to celebrate the day with a minute of prayer and an act of kindness to a friend, a neighbour, a stranger or maybe even to yourself.

Out of interest I 'googled' *Franciscan Parish Characteristics* and discovered the list below.

Though we have a long way to go I believe that we are doing something good and are on track.

### Blessings, Fr Paul

1. The importance of prayer and of active listening to the Gospel.
2. The promotion of authentic relationships that give clear witness to the Gospel.
3. A lifestyle characterised by moderation and simplicity, minority and witness.
4. Welcoming people and sharing lives with them, above all with those most in need.
5. Ensuring that we are open to mission to the wider needs of the Church; including being close to those who suffer and feel excluded.
6. Being in communion with other Christian Communities.
7. Having a willingness to actively collaborate with lay people and with other members of the Franciscan Family.
8. A commitment to the values of Justice, Peace, and the Integrity of Creation; and to working for the social transformation of the structures in society and the reconciliation and healing of the social and natural world.

**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  
27 September 2020 : 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Parishioners,

In December 2007 I was welcomed to this wonderful community by Friars Hugh Walsh, Barry Kirby and Peter McGrath. I believe that these three friars, all of whom are now deceased, continue praying for me as I do for them. The Feast of Christ the King on November 22 will be both my 21st anniversary of Diaconal Ordination and my last Sunday as your parish priest as I take up the opportunity for a sabbatical and some time of personal renewal. My plan is to continue my ministry but in another location and at a reduced pace. Anthoni Selvaraj OFM will take up the helm, with the supports of Francisco and Joseph. Feelings of gratefulness, sadness and hopeful anticipation fill my mind, all of which I am thankful for.  
Blessings, Paul ofm



## Spirituality on the Sofa

Topic: The 2020 Plenary Council

Speakers: Geraldine Doogue AO & Fr Michael Whelan sm

Wed October 7 | 7:30pm-9pm

| Via Zoom (Room Opens at 7:15pm)

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

## 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  
Mon October 12 | 6:30pm | Via Zoom

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

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/



thank you  
To all our volunteers who have made this weekend possible.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To our Year 2 students at St Francis of Assisi Regional Primary School who celebrated their First Reconciliation this week.



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.

## 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 & Joseph Nguyen ofm - Assistant Priests  
Ruth Rawlinson - Parish Manager  
Alanna Sparks - Parish Secretary  
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

## 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:** Jim Evans, Nancy Rickard, Giulano Family, Piper Family, David DeCarvalho, Bernard Hanlon, Francesca Smith, David Crees, Hector Destro, Gabrielle McDonough, Ziolo Diaz Junior, Laura Martinez, Patricia Richmond-Kieman, 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 Kieman, Jack & Maureen Brett, Nan Kelly, Peg Kelly, Gristromo family, Cresencia Mendoza, Charlie Tsaoucis, Sorin & Doina, Crescentia 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, Virginnia Ross, John Foxe, Amanda L'Estrange, Carolyn Savage, Andrew Georgiou, David Saw, Francisco Leonardo Correa, William Hegarty, Angelina & Carmen Bellanto, Marie Toohey, 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.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jn 10:27

**Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Mt 21:28-32

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.**

*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, ‘My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not go’, but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, ‘Certainly, sir’, but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in 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**

P. Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. 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: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

**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 118:49-50

**Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P. May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we

proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**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****THE PATIENCE OF GOD**

The parable about two sons in today’s Gospel can be understood on various levels. In Jesus’ own context it probably served to defend his practice, shocking to the religious authorities, of celebrating the discovery of God’s mercy with those considered outcasts and sinners.

At a deeper level, the parable shows that what God looks to—and can wait for with infinite patience—is the *final* outcome in people’s lives. God can put up with an initial *No*, and many other *No*’s besides, on the way to a final and lasting *Yes*.

From the human angle, people who appear religious and obedient from the start may never have sufficiently plumbed the depth of God’s mercy to know God as God really is. Conversion at depth and the knowledge of God that goes with it overflows into a pattern of life truly reflecting God’s grace. But a hard, judgemental attitude to others may indicate lack of true conversion and knowledge of God: something that may leave such people waiting at the door, while those whom they thought far less worthy enter into the fullness of life before them.

What ultimately determines fitness for eternal life is conformity of the human heart to the heart of God. None of us could ever amass sufficient good works to merit even a second of life with God. That life will be God’s gift in abundance if only we have grown—sometimes in the course of a very winding and to-and-fro journey—into the capacity to receive it.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. We cannot spend all of our lives blaming others for what has happened to us. At a certain stage we must accept responsibility for our own lives and deeds. Sometimes we need to admit, ‘I have done wrong. I am sorry. God, help me to do right in future.’ Change is always possible. If we have the desire, God will guide us in the right path.

**INTRODUCTORY RITES**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Dan 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42

**All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.**

**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.

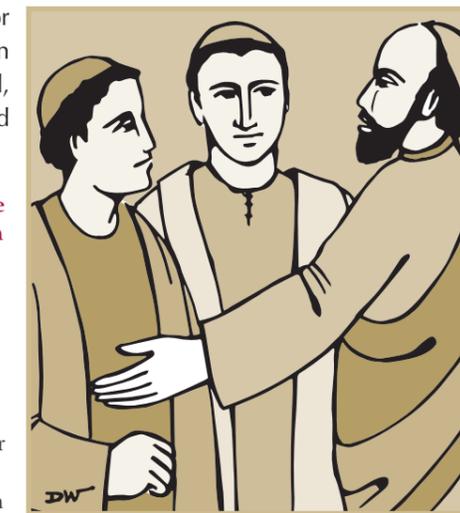
**R. Christ, have mercy.**

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 manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. 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** Ezek 18:25-28

**A reading from the prophet Ezekiel**  
*The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, ‘What the Lord does is unjust.’ Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

**R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

Phil 2:1-11

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

*In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**