

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: As we begin this season of Advent, we pray together with renewed spirit of hope, looking forward to the celebration of the Incarnation and all that God promises. Let us place ourselves and all of creation in God's loving hands as we offer these prayers.

Reader: For the ministries of the Church.

All: May they transform discord into cooperation, hatred into peace, and distrust into respect and understanding.

Reader: For the leaders of the world in this time of stress and disharmony.

All: May they exercise their duties and responsibilities for the work of peace and unity among all peoples.

Reader: For Christian communities around the world.

All: May they be lively centres of faith that reveal the good news to others and stir up fresh hope in them.

Reader: For the whole human family.

All: May we all face the future with confidence, trusting in God's faithful word and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: For ourselves gathered here today.

All: May we be granted the grace to stay awake and to see the love of God in the events of our lives.

Reader: For the recently deceased and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time.

All: May they rise to eternal life and may they glory in the mystery of Christ forever.

Presider: As together we pray:

All: Everlasting God, we are the work of your hands; you fashion us as the potter shapes the clay. Hear these our prayers and grant us the grace to lead lives that always manifest your divine image in us. 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.

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Presider: Sisters and brothers, today as we begin the season of Advent, the candles of this wreath remind us that Jesus came to conquer the darkness of sin and lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom. He is Emmanuel, the hope of all.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us.

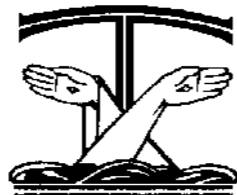
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: He is the saviour of every nation.

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Presider: Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen



My God and My All

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

29th November 2020 : 1st Sunday of Advent

We are all the work of your hand

In the past ten years whenever it was possible, I helped parishes with masses. Usually after a mass I greet people as they leave the church. The question that is often put to me, "where are you from, Father?" I respond with another question, "would you like a short story or a long one?"

I can understand people's curiosity, wanting to know more about the celebrant. For any relationship to develop and grow requires understanding and knowledge (good communication). The short story is I am a Franciscan. I was born in Penang, Malaysia and started my franciscan journey in Singapore. After ordination most of my appointments have been in Australia. I was in Auckland, New Zealand for three years at our retreat centre till early this year. In March just before the pandemic I moved to Star of Sea Friary in Waverley. A brief background, so I am not a mystery to you. In the coming months you will get to know me a little better. I feel welcomed already, it is easy to walk into Franciscan parishes. There is an instant feeling of a sense of belonging to the wider Franciscan family.

I haven't given much thought yet to my new ministry here in Paddington and Edgecliff. The readings today remind me of our future, which is in God. We will discern together in the coming months to see where God wants us to focus. Change is inevitable especially in the post Covid-19 world. You will experience change in the dynamic of friars too with change of personnel. We, the new team of friars look forward to serving you and celebrating faith and life with you as well. Let us support and encourage each other in witnessing to Christ. We pray in thanksgiving for Fr Piotr and Fr Paul and wish them well.

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj OFM

ST VINCENT DE PAUL PADDINGTON

Envelopes are available at the check-in table and I can issue receipts immediately or send them out to you. Marion O'Farrell.

CHRISTMAS & ADVENT MASS & RECONCILIATION TIMES

Christmas Mass times are now available in our bulletin and on the website. Bookings for Christmas Mass times are available from Monday at 10am by calling the Parish Office or via our website. We encourage you to plan early and book in advance.

We also welcome all to join us for weekday Mass during Advent. No bookings necessary but please arrive prior to the start time to check in with your contact details at the door.

During Advent reconciliation will also be available following the Saturday 9am Mass at Edgecliff & before the Saturday Vigil Mass at Paddington.

Please note with daily Mass times available at St Francis & St Joseph there will no longer be Adoration & Mass on Wednesdays.

CANA GOODIES STILL AVAILABLE

A great selection of CANA goods are still available from our Parish Office. Pop by to purchase. Christmas Cakes \$30, all other items \$10. Your purchase supports a great cause!

CANA SALES

Thank you to everyone who supported our CANA sales over the past two weekends. Your generosity through purchases and donations has provided almost 10k to the CANA community and is greatly appreciated (and no doubt some very lovely packages under the tree). If you are still hoping to enjoy the delicious produce of CANA farms don't forget to stop by the Parish Office to purchase over next few weeks!

CHRISTMAS BAGS FOR RONALD COLEMAN, VINCENTIAN AGED CARE AND THE COMMUNION ROUND

Thank you everyone for a tremendous response. Contributions have reached \$2,600 and Woolworths Double Bay and Coles Edgecliff have been so very helpful. They have let me order as many of their half price specials as I need and shower gel, deodorant, Dove soap, personal hand gel and Ferrero Rocher chocolates are already ordered. They are giving me the weekly special brochures early next week so I can get more things. We'll be able to fill our bags with lots of wonderful things. Thanks, Marion O'Farrell

SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS

Are on sale this year only in the sacristy at St Josephs.

PRICE : Still only \$6 for a packet of 10

Please remember to sanitise your hands before and after the purchase.



CAN YOU HELP?
The St Joseph SVDP society is urgently seeking new members. Please contact the Parish office for more information.

CAN YOU HELP?
We urgently require more volunteers to join our COVID-Safe volunteer team. Without this team we cannot continue to celebrate Masses. Contact Ruth: 9331 4043.



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

Anthoni Selvaraj ofm - Parish Administrator
Francisco Basnayake ofm & Joseph Nguyen ofm - Assistant Priests
Ruth Rawlinson - Parish Manager
Alanna Sparks & Cate Stivala - Parish Secretary
Tanith Bryce - Cantor, Edgecliff
Pamina Milenkovic - Organist, Edgecliff
Noel Deblin & 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 (From Monday 30 Nov)

St Joseph, Edgecliff

Monday to Friday: 7am
Saturday: 9am
Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 11:00am & 5:30pm
Reconciliation directly following Saturday morning Mass.

St Francis of Assisi, Paddington

Monday & Tuesday: 9am
Wednesday to Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 8:30am & 10:00am
Reconciliation from 4:30pm Saturday prior to Vigil Mass.

No Bookings required for Weekday & Saturday morning Mass. Please book where possible for Sunday Mass times including Saturday Vigil.

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

Recently Deceased: Kholofelo Dzvukamanja, Sesarina Bau RSC, Elaine Boys, Aquino Lanojan, Mary Cook RSC, Marie Arakelian, Maria Orner, Tina Chen Visage, Pauline Babicci OSC, Frances Spicer, Bessie Laedbeater, Maria Pullin, Barbara & Edgar Matthews, William Whitehair, Maurice Scully, Tony Fraser, Barry Watts, Judith Glaister RSM, Peter Mackenzie Smith, Francis Pimanda, Pasquale Larubina.

During this Month of Holy Souls all masses will be offered as requested.

Owing to covid concerns we, unfortunately, cannot have a Book of Remembrance at either church. However, we invite you to pray this prayer each day at home:

"O Lord of mercy, look down upon all our deceased. Forgive their offenses and be merciful upon their souls, may we all hear you calling us into your Heavenly Kingdom and see you face to face. May we hear those words calling us to your heavenly home: "Come, blessed of My Father, take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord; And let perpetual light shine upon them.

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
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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 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.

if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!

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. Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. 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 OF ADVENT

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 Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures.

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.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

THE CALL TO CONVERSION

As Advent begins, we set out once again to prepare our hearts for the great feast of God's humble presence among us. Expectation and complacency, longing and listlessness, can all be found in our hearts as we prepare for Christmas. Today's readings speak of our need for God's presence and our thankful response of faithfulness.

The reading from Isaiah is a passionate plea for renewal and change. The people have been left to their own devices for too long. If God would only tear open the heavens and come down, the mountains would melt before God's presence. Isaiah hopes that the hearts of the people of Israel should also melt so that God the great potter, could once more mould, shape, and breathe life into their hearts.

Paul's perspective is one of thanksgiving for the gifts that have already been given as the community waits for the Lord's return. Such gifts are given to sustain us as we wait for the moment when Jesus will finally be revealed in glory.

It is one thing to be grateful for blessings and gifts received but the Gospel calls us to take the next step of using these gifts faithfully. The parable of the master who leaves his servants in charge during his absence is as relevant today as in the days of Mark. It is important to note that each of the servants is entrusted with a task to be faithfully completed. As Advent begins each one of us is given the task of preparing our hearts and lives to welcome the Lord.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

29 NOVEMBER 2020

COME, LORD JESUS. The prophet Isaiah implored God to tear the heavens open and come down to save the people. God, however, did not come among us in such a dramatic way but in the humble form of Jesus of Nazareth. God continues to enter our lives in unexpected ways. If we are watchful for the presence of Christ in each day, we will recognise him when he comes in glory.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

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

The Gloria is not said during Advent.

COLLECT

P. Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name.

Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you?

Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down — at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

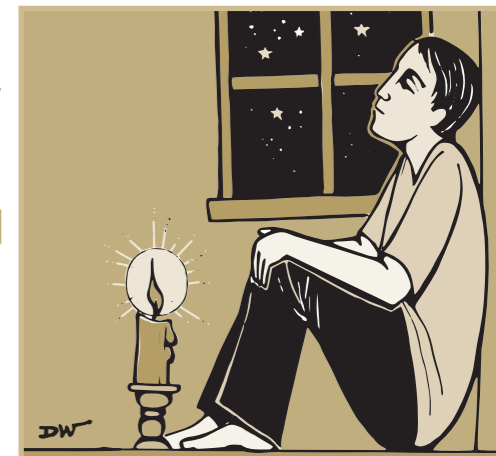
RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 79:2-3, 15-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, / shine forth from your cherubim throne. / O Lord, rouse up your might, / O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, / the man you have given your strength. / And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 13:33-37

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn;

WELCOME AND THANK YOU

Today we welcome Fr Chris Monaghan CP as our reflection writer. Fr Chris is President of Yarra Theological Union, University of Divinity, where he teaches both Old and New Testament. In his reflection, he will consider briefly each of the Scripture readings set down for the Sunday.

We are very grateful and thank Fr Brendan Byrne SJ, of the Jesuit College of Spirituality, University of Divinity, for his insightful reflections on the Gospels over the past three years.