

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: 'Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches.' Strengthened by God's word we call to mind our needs for ourselves and for our community.

Reader: For courage in being witnesses to Christ.
All: Paul proclaimed his faith in Christ boldly and without fear. May we too be Christ's faithful witnesses by the honesty of our actions and our faithfulness to gospel values.

Reader: For a desire to keep God's commandments.
All: Our love for God is shown by what we do and how we live. May those who belong to the community called the church be marked by a desire to be faithful to God's commandments.

Reader: For a longing to bear fruit for God.
All: Jesus is the true vine. May we grow in our desire to live as his disciples, imitating him in his life and teaching and bearing abundant fruit for God.

Reader: For an awareness of our closeness to Christ.
All: Jesus is the vine, we are the branches. May we learn to cherish our closeness to Christ so that we may share his life and be one with him.

Presider: God of all faithfulness, you bless your people always. Grant that we may be eager to do your will in all things and bear fruit to your glory. We ask this through Christ. **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
 2 May 2021: Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B

I am the vine, you are the branches

This weekend we are celebrating First Holy Communion with some of our children. They completed their preparation last year but had to wait till this year because of Covid-19 restrictions. It is an important occasion for them and a very special day for their families. For the very first time they are receiving communion with others at mass. Like all of us they too will grow in their knowledge and appreciation of the Eucharist.

The bread of life and cup of salvation, a simple phrase with layers of meaning. In the Eucharist we find life, a sense of belonging to the bigger reality and zeal for kingdom building. Participating in the Eucharist, nourish and help us to grow in the image and likeness of our Lord, individually and as a community. The sacrament that gives grace to be a community that reflects Divine love. The Gospel passage for this Sunday is best known and loved from the sequence of the last Supper in John's gospel. Jesus has come to communicate to the world and describes himself as, "I am the true vine". In sentences that follow he unpacks this image and helps the disciples to see the importance of abiding in him.

It is Providence, that we are celebrating First Holy Communion today. The Gospel passage tells why God prunes us. Meditating on the Gospel/Scripture guides and forms our moral life. Our association with Jesus make us bear even more fruit, we develop and become a community, the body of Christ. God's presence and activity can be discerned in Christian community. There is a warning too, that we will fail to bear fruit and become worthless if we move away from mutual indwelling with Jesus. Love becomes the sole fruit and requirement for life in community.

Jesus invites us to make our home in him, as he too comes to dwell in us. Communion is the indwelling and mutual love between Jesus and the disciples.

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj ofm

MOTHERS DAY MASS WITH ST FRANCIS PRIMARY

Friday 7th May, 9am—St Francis of Assisi, Paddington

Join the children and families of St Francis of Assisi Regional Catholic Primary School at a special Parish Mass to celebrate Mother's Day. All are welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the children who are celebrating their First Holy Communion this weekend at St Francis of Assisi, Paddington. We offer special thanks to their teachers and their families who have worked with the candidates to prepare them for this special sacrament.

ORGAN RECITAL

Thank you to Noel Debien, Bransby Byrne and all who helped make last Sundays organ recital such a success. Our next recital will be on 23rd May—more details to come in our next bulletin.

RCIA—RETURNING 6 MAY!

Thursdays, 730pm: Parish Meeting Room, 66 Gordon Street Paddington

Are you interested to explore our faith or do you know someone who is? Would you like to accompany someone who is undertaking their own faith journey? We invite you to join our RCIA program. Please join us in the Parish House (located at 66 Gordon St directly behind the St Francis of Assisi, Church).

SPIRITUALITY ON THE SOFA —#RECONNECTING

Wednesday 5 May, 7:30—9pm

Topic: Reconnecting through courage—overcoming adversity.

Come, and in the comfort of your own home, on your own or with a friend or two, engage in some stimulating conversation at SOS with Matt O'Kane & Dr Michael Giblin. Matt O'Kane has faced a number of challenges in his 45 years, including congenital blindness and childhood cancer. Dr Michael Giblin, an Ophthalmologist, leading Specialist of Melanoma of the eye and an honoured member of the Magic Circle (of magicians!)

Join our 'Zoom Room' via the Zoom App: Meeting ID 897 4558 1977 and passcode: 057130 or visit our Parish Website and click the blue button to join meeting:

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

CHARITABLE WORKS FUND APPEAL

This weekend the Sydney Archdiocese is holding our November Charitable Works Appeal. Contributions can be made to this appeal through the envelopes in today's bulletin.

Please return your CWF envelopes during the second collection at Mass or to the Parish Office. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible and donations made via the parish in the envelopes provided assist us in meeting our obligations to the Archdiocese.

If you require a tax deduction on your donations please ensure you complete all information on the envelope provided and we will include your donation with your end of year receipt from the parish.

WHO DOES THE CWF SUPPORT?

The CWF funds six agencies in the Archdiocese:

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry—promoting reconciliation and understanding and providing pastoral care for Catholic Aboriginals, supporting them in the living of their faith.

Catholic Care—delivering over 100 programs in ageing, disability, children and youth and more.

Chaplaincies (including hospital, prison & university chaplaincies)

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) - catechism in public schools

Ephpheta Centre—services to the deaf and hearing impaired

Seminary of the Good Shepherd—education and training for future priests in the Archdiocese.

WEEKEND MASS COLLECTIONS

The practice of two collections has resumed at Sunday Mass. If you are able to help with the collection today please check in with the volunteers at the door.

First Collection: (After the Homily). For the upkeep of the Friars.

Second Collection: (After the Prayers of the Faithful). For the support of your parish. (Includes Planned Giving, contact Parish Office for more details on the Planned Giving Program).

Special Collections: If you have envelopes to return for recent special collections (CWF, Caritas/Projection Compassion) these can be returned during the second collection or to the parish office.

PLEASE ASSIST OUR VOLUNTEERS AFTER TODAY'S MASS

If you are able please assist to sanitise the church after Mass.
Many hands make light work.

2021 PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

First Reconciliation

Wednesday 23rd June at 6pm

First Holy Communion

Sunday 5th September at 10am

Confirmation

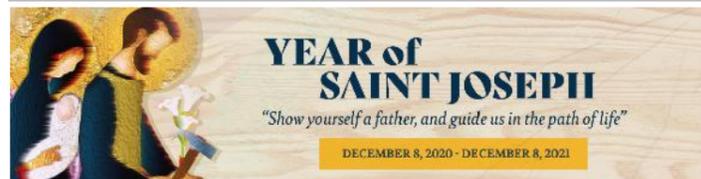
Saturday 20th November at 530pm

Sacraments this year will be celebrated at St Francis of Assisi, Paddington. If you wish to celebrate at St Joseph please discuss with Fr Anthoni.

There will be formation sessions held in the weeks prior to the celebration of each Sacrament, details of these sessions and enrolment forms will be available soon from the Parish Office and our Parish website at:

www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com/2021-sacramental-program/

For children who attend St Francis of Assisi Regional Primary details of the school program will be communicated via the school.



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.



WELCOME

New to the parish? Please come and meet one of the Parish Team after mass to introduce yourself and find out more about our community. We also welcome you to contact our Parish Office.

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
Noel Debien & Bransby Byrne - Music Dir. & Organist Paddington
Nicole Smeulders - Cantor Paddington
Emma-Gai Gold & Alanna Sparks - Safeguarding Support Officers
Louise O'Brien - Principal, St Francis of Assisi Primary School



WEEKLY SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

No Bookings required. Contact free check-in is required at the door.

St Joseph, Edgecliff

Monday to Friday: 5:30pm

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

Reconciliation prior to the Friday evening Mass (from 5pm).

St Francis of Assisi, Paddington

Monday to Friday: 9am

Saturday: 5:30pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8:30am & 10:00am

Reconciliation from 5pm Saturday prior to Vigil Mass.

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: Enid Hampshire, Margaret & Pat Quade, Michelle Robyn Nicholls, Tess Hooper, Emil Jug, Joan Mulligan, Bramwell Wright, Jim Alivia, Marcelo, Marika Gubasci, Jose Herrera, Eva Beck, Wilga Wilschefski, Sue Gherdovich, Ken Finn, Patrick Donovan, Carol Ashford, George Farah, Betty Byrne, Peter-John Young, Maureen Marston, John Ryan, Sandra Soady, Ian Johnstone, 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 Leadbeatter, Holy Souls.

Mass Intentions: Maria Luisa Arnaiz, Jeanette & John Rawlinson, James Alexander Adamovitch, Penny Hing, Norman Hing, Stan & Rata Hing, Dionisio Solis, Geraldine Levins, Adalgisa Levins, Rev Neville Gawler, Diane Geffen, Shirley Nield, Jim Evans, Jalil Tanous, Marion Orr, Jack & Maureen Brett, Patricia Brett, Nan Kelly, Molly & Herbert Odillo Maher, Terry Bostock, Nell Atkinson, Elizabeth Considine Conley, Jacques Bernard Pienovi, Andrew Georgiou, Giuliano family, Bryan & Ashleigh Paton, Margret Austin, Janice Hui, John McCue, Manfred Lemech, Piper Family, Geoffrey & Patricia Hughes, Suzanne Carver, Conception Family, Marie Therese Whelan, Margaret-Mary Kiernan, Helen Boyd, Richard Connolly, The Kelly Family, Elson & Marie Sang, Eibhlin Killen, Ian Stewart, Catherine Murnane, June Fabbro, Dr George & Anne Duncan, Frank & Anne McDonald, 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 demands that the Christian Churches including the Catholic Church provide full and meaningful reparation for those who have suffered clerical and institutional sexual abuse.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he
prunes
to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken
to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine
in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
– he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown
on the fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.
It is to the glory of my Father that you
should bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.’

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. O God, who by the wonderful exchange
effected in this sacrifice have made us
partakers of the one supreme Godhead,
grant, we pray, that, as we have come to
know your truth, we may make it ours by a
worthy way of life. 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-V OF EASTER

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. Jn 15: 1, 5

**I am the true vine and you are the
branches, says the Lord. / Whoever
remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit
in plenty, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously be present to your people,
we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have
imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from

former ways to newness of 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 in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

REMAINING IN JESUS' LOVE

Today's Gospel presents us with the
image of the vine and the challenge to
bear fruit in our Christian lives. There are
some plants that are best left alone but a
vine needs to be pruned, to cut away what
is not essential so that it can produce a
good and abundant crop. For Christians
the implement of pruning is the word of
Jesus which enters into our hearts and
challenges us to take stock of our lives
and values.

In the second reading John shares a
simple and profound truth with us, that
the business of bearing fruit requires more
than good intentions and fine words. The
new life of Easter is something we can all
share in by our belief in Jesus and our
love for one another. The principles are
simple, and the difficulty has always been
that of living our lives day by day open
to the word of Jesus and the demands of
love.

Six times the theme of remaining is
mentioned in the gospel. It is clearly an
important and difficult dimension of our
bearing fruit as Christians. Remaining
faithful to our promises and allowing
Jesus' word to enter deeper into our hearts
is a constant challenge but the readings
also encourage us not to lose heart. The
example of Paul in the first reading shows
how the Lord can enter into the hardest
heart and can turn a feared persecutor
into a fearless preacher of the word. Even
gnarled vines can bear abundant fruit.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

02 MAY 2021

REMAIN IN ME. The branches of a vine will bear fruit only if they are attached to
the vine. It is from the vine that they draw the life-giving nourishment they need.
Likewise, we must remain attached to Jesus if we are to receive the life of God and
produce the fruits of the Spirit in our world: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control' (Gal 5: 22).

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 97: 1-2

**O sing a new song to the Lord, / for he
has worked wonders; / in the sight of the
nations / he has shown his deliverance,
alleluia.**

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.

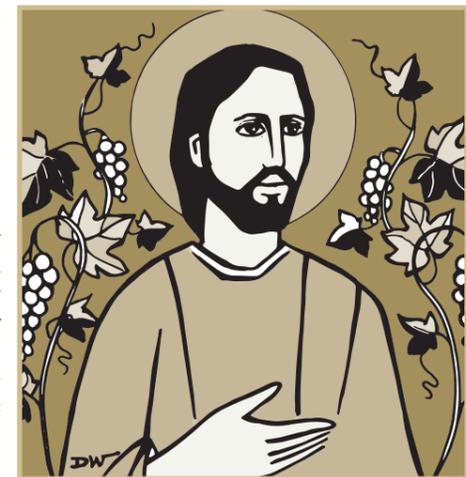
R. Lord, have mercy.

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. Almighty ever-living God, constantly
accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that
those you were pleased to make new in Holy
Baptism may, under your protective care, bear
much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal.
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 Acts 9: 26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul
and spoke to him on his journey.*

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to
join the disciples, but they were all afraid
of him: they could not believe he was really
a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge
of him, introduced him to the apostles, and
explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul
and spoken to him on his journey, and how
he had preached boldly at Damascus in the
name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round
with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly
in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken
to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they
became determined to kill him. When the
brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and
sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee
and Samaria were now left in peace, building
themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord,
and filled with the consolation of the Holy
Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 21: 26-28, 30-32. R. v. 26

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly
of your people. (or Alleluia!)**

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear
him. / The poor shall eat and shall have their
fill. / They shall praise the Lord, those who
seek him. / May their hearts live for ever and
ever! **R.**

2. All the earth shall remember and return
to the Lord, / all families of the nations
worship before him. / They shall worship
him, all the mighty of the earth; / before him
shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**

3. And my soul shall live for him, my

children serve him. / They shall tell of the
Lord to generations yet to come, / declare his
faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: / 'These
things the Lord has done.' **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Jn 3: 18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John.

*His commandments are these: that we believe
and that we love one another.*

My children, our love is not to be just words
or mere talk, but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain that we are the
children of the truth and be able to quieten
our conscience in his presence, whatever
accusations it may raise against us, because
God is greater than our conscience and he
knows everything. My dear people, if we
cannot be condemned by our conscience, we
need not be afraid in God's presence, and
whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because
we keep his commandments and live the kind
of life that he wants. His commandments
are these: that we believe in the name of
his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one
another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his
commandments lives in God and God lives in
him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit
that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 15: 4-5

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me
live in you, says the Lord; / my branches
bear much fruit. / Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Jn 15: 1-8

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

**P. A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John.**

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

*All who live in me, and I in them, bear much
fruit.*