

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: 'Stay awake, praying at all times'. God's Word has been broken for us at the beginning of Advent. In a spirit of openness to what God wants, we recall our needs before the Lord.

Reader: For honesty and integrity. (pause)
All: As we prepare for the coming of the Christ, may we be a people of honesty and integrity, alert to the signs of the times as we wait for God's promises to be fulfilled.

Reader: For a desire to live as God commands. (pause)
All: Paul urges us to make progress in living as God wants. In this time of Advent, may we resolve to be generous in love and blameless in God's sight.

Reader: For the gift of vigilance. (pause)
All: May we be alert at all times as we wait for the Lord's coming, faithful to the way of Christ and praying for the strength to endure the day of the Lord.

Reader: For hope at all times. (pause)
All: May we be a people of hope, confessing our God as Creator and Lord, ready to welcome the Son of Man whose coming brings our liberation from sin and death.

Presider: Creator God, you command us to look beyond this present world to a time when we shall stand before you. Help us prepare for that day and to look for it with confidence and love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

2021 FIRST RECONCILIATION

**Tuesday 30th November -6pm (Public schools)
Wednesday 1st December-6pm (Public schools)**

RCIA Meeting, Thursday-2 December 7pm for 7.30pm start

Last meeting for the year is 16 December-resume 27 January.

ORGAN RECITAL

**ST FRANCIS
Sunday, 28th November -2.30pm
(last recital for this year)**

BRANSBY BYRNE

Guest Artist: Kate Moloney, Harp

(as per government rules, only those who are fully vaccinated can attend)

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. We pay our respects to their Elders both past and present.



**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
28th November First Sunday of Advent -Year C**

The One Who Has Come Is Coming Again

Each year, the season of Advent invites us to slow down and through various liturgies to experience the coming mystery of salvation that the Church believes and preaches.

Advent reminds us of the three comings of the Lord:

- the coming in history over 2000 years ago - the story of Christmas
- the coming in glory at the end of time when God's plan for creation comes to fulfilment
- the coming in mystery in the happenings of daily life, God's presence and providence, including sacramental life.

This advent season is quite different compared to previous years. The pandemic has slowed us down. Lockdowns, border closure and restrictions meant we had to make choices on what was essential. Practice and discipline in making choices helped some to stay fit and focused. Some others struggled, primarily because of isolation and lack of engagement. For many of us, faith and prayer sustained us and taught us discernment. We draw strength and wisdom and stay resilient, balanced by what we believe. We recognise God presence and activity in our lives, prayer and world. We are learning the lesson on patient waiting, a hard lesson to learn in life. Human development and formation take time and cannot be rushed. God is patiently working through history.

Our lives are peppered by hope and expectation. Even with the strength of hope, our lives are marked by anxious uncertainty or certain passivity. Everything depends on so many uncontrollable, and unforeseeable factors. The challenges facing our world at the moment, the pandemic, changing weather pattern-climate crises, migrant and refugee crises, remind us of our world's fragile nature. We live in the tension that exists between the 'already' and 'not yet', Advent liturgy celebrates this mystery. We wait not mournfully or with anxiety, but in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is like a surprise visit of true friends after many years.

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj OFM

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen.

CANA Christmas Sale !

28th November only at St Joseph Edgecliff
To support those who live on the margins, many who have spent years on the streets and in institutions.

Archbishop Fisher urges Catholics to act on euthanasia

Archbishop Anthony Fisher has called on Catholics to voice their concerns about proposed euthanasia laws directly to MPs undertaking an inquiry into the matter.

The NSW Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice is undertaking an inquiry into the provisions of the *Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021* with debate commencing on the bill on 12 November.

Archbishop Fisher has condemned the proposed legislation as a sad move towards state sanctioned killing and a terrible attack on the sanctity of life in our state.

You will find more information on the bill and the Terms of Reference for the inquiry on the parliamentary website

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2838>

PROPOSED CHRISTMAS MASSES

St Francis of Assisi Paddington

Friday, 24th December (Vigil)
5pm, 6.30pm and Midnight

Saturday, 25th December (Christmas Day)
8.30am, 10am

Sunday, 26th December
8.30am, 10am

St Joseph Edgecliff

Friday, 24th December (Vigil)
5.30pm, 7pm, 9pm

Saturday, 25th December (Christmas Day)
7.30am, 9am, 11am

Sunday, 26th December
7.30am, 9am, 11am, 5.30pm

Helpers needed for masses, ring Parish Office

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
Alanna Sparks, Cate Stivala, Celia Olazabal - Parish Secretary
Tanith Bryce - Cantor, Edgecliff
Noel Debieen & 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 SERVICICES AND SACRAMENTS

No Bookings required. check-in is required as well as mask to be worn.

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.

Subscribe to our newsletter-on parish website home page click on blue sign up box.

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

Recently Deceased:

Kevin Gale, Bishop William (Bill) Wright - Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle, Patricia McAlary, Benjamin Barillas, Geoffrey Dominic McAlary, Sue Coorey, Chew Shia Hoong, Patricia Mary Brett, June Fabbro, Doug Malouf, Ciro Gallifuco, Michael Gearin, Otilia Batisita, John Henry Jones, Margaret Hunsiecker, Sheila Freckmann-Dillon. Peter John Little, Angela Catherine Egan, Marcia Jackson (Nee Keenan) Kevin Finegan, Mike Bailey, Vittoria Sora Borgese
Sr Margaret Mines rsc, Sr Marguerite Maloney rsc, Sr Mark Lehmann and Sr Judith Clark rsc and Holy Souls.

Mass Intentions: Benigna Suarez, Margaret Mary Kiernan, Denisse & Xavier-Miss Pep, Mrs Hirma O'Sullivan, Lita Dimatatac, Elle Margaret Paton, Kerina Kwong, Margaret Austin, Janice Hui, Lica Bailey, the Kelly family, Frank Kaine, Paula Margaret Norsa, Rev. Dr Michael Giffinis, Eileen & James Hoare, Anthony McDonald, Dr George & Anne Duncan, George Anthony Duncan, Hector Barbara, Debbie Hope, Elizabeth Considine Conley, Catherine Wu-Hutchings, Pat and Ned Theodore and daughter Virginnia Ross, deceased relatives of Orly-Soto-Cariel, Patricia Ann Dillon, Ron Sang, Jim Evans, Keith Steele, Andrew Georgiou, Hector Destro, Giuliano family and Holy Souls.

The parish is advertising two positions Parish Secretary and Bookkeeper. If interested please contact the parish office.

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.



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Franciscan Friars

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Parish
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www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com
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.

fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.'

'Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.'

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

FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISE

The Portuguese have a proverb that 'God writes straight with crooked lines.' We know that it is not always easy to discern what God is writing. Our world, indeed our own lives, can be marked by so many contradictions and tensions. Can there be faith in the midst of disappointment? Can there be hope in the face of suffering? The readings for today agree in proclaiming that the answer is 'yes' for the person of faith.

Jeremiah writes words of hope and promise in the midst of the massive upheaval and loss of faith that accompanied the people of Israel going into exile in 587BC. To speak words of faith in the face of such horror and disappointment would have required a great deal of faith indeed.

Paul's letter to the Thessalonians was written only some twenty years after the death of Jesus at a time when the earliest Christians believed that the Lord Jesus would return at any moment. Paul advises them about how best to prepare and encourages them to keep their vision and commitment while they are waiting. Some twenty years later Luke's Christians ran the risk of being discouraged due to the delay in the return of the Lord. They found themselves fearful of that day when the Lord Jesus would return and needed encouragement and consolation. Luke reminds them of Jesus' words, to give them hope so that when he returns, he will find them confident and hopeful, ready and waiting.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / C

28 NOVEMBER 2021

YOUR LIBERATION IS NEAR! The early Christians expected the Lord's return in glory to be very soon. St Paul explained to them that the Lord was delaying in coming for a good purpose, to give them the opportunity to grow in love and make progress in the kind of life they were meant to live. May we also make good use of the present time to deepen our love for one another that we may be ready on the day Christ comes to set us free.

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

Jer 33:14-16

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

'In those days and at that time,

I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14. R. v. 1

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

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. 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.**

3. His ways are faithfulness and love / for those who keep his covenant and will. / The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; / to them he reveals his covenant. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Thess 3:12-4:2

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the



whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

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

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Your redemption is near at hand.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of