

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Prisider: *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. In the peace of this holy season, let us pray:*

Reader: For our Church, the people of God, that the light of Christ may illuminate our life together: let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For our parish family, that our work and worship together, may celebrate Christ's presence among us: let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For all children and young people, that they may know the joy of Jesus' coming every day of their lives: let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For all families, that they are able to come together and celebrate their unity and love for one another: let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For the poor, the suffering, and the forgotten, and for those who must spend this day alone, that in the miracle of Christ's birth they may experience the healing and hope of God: let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For all who have died in the peace of Christ, that they may be reborn in the life of the Risen Saviour: let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Reader: For the prayers we now offer to our Heavenly Father in the silence of our hearts....(pause) :let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord hear our prayer

Prisider: Gracious God, your love knows no limit, your compassion no end. Hear the prayers we make as we celebrate your most perfect gift to your human family: the Messiah, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit as the one God, for ever and ever.

HOSTEL CHRISTMAS BAGS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED!!
Thank you Marion and Stephen

OFFICE UPDATE

Parish office will be closed for Christmas holiday from Thursday 23 December till 20 January 2022. Due to office closure the weekly bulletin will not be available .

For pastoral or urgent matters please ring the friars on 9331 4043 and leave a message if unattended.

Wishing all our parishioners a happy and holy Christmas, regards the parish team.

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.



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
CHRISTMAS 2021-Year C

O Emmanuel, King and Saviour!

This great antiphon expresses our desire for the Lord our God, that he might come to save us. The Rising Sun, the Sun of Justice, the Splendour of Eternal Light, whose kingdom herald peace, justice and mercy. In the eyes of the faithful Jesus will complete the Messianic task as saviour of the world.

We believe in God the Most High Creator of the universe, is also the One who sustains the whole of creation, and is very much present to his creatures. We believe God is not far from us. In fact, he is the source of life and in whose image and likeness we are created, everything about us reflects God. We believe God came to us as one of us in Jesus Christ and that he will come again! Advent and Christmas reflect the mystery of Emmanuel, God with us, Wisdom made flesh, fulfilling the promise waited by men and women for centuries. The story of Simeon and Anna illustrates they were not disappointed, they were privileged to see Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:22-40).

I have come to appreciate the title Saviour more than ever because Covid-19. All the problems associated with Covid, not just illness and death, are complicating the existing problems of our world. From poverty to mental health crises, financial difficulties faced by many, and for young people lives and plans are on hold...when will all this end. Desire for salvation is open to all, and so is desire for God's presence. Do we think enough of salvation?

The meaning of Christmas and God's presence in our lives?

May Christmas this year help us to understand, the feast of Incarnation, the divinisation of men and women and the coming of Jesus, when the transformation of the whole universe will take place. Have a safe and wonderful Christmas. God is with us!

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj ofm

"Our Saviour, dearly-beloved, was born today: let us be glad. For there is no proper place for sadness, when we keep the birthday of the Life, which destroys the fear of mortality and brings to us the joy of promised eternity. No one is kept from sharing in this happiness." – St. Leo the Great

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas. May the New year 2022 bring abundance of joy and peace to your life.

Fr Francisco Basnayake ofm

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (Jn 1,14)

Dear Parishioners and visitors,
Christmas and New Year is perhaps a holy and happy time for most of us when we gather with our loved ones to celebrate. However, for many, it can be a stressful time to get things organised: shopping, presents, travel, family events...just to name a few.

We are lucky enough this year to celebrate Christmas with Covid restrictions lifted a little bit while many parts of the world won't have the same opportunity to celebrate as we do. Fr Anthoni, Fr Francisco and myself would like to take this chance to wish you a very blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year. Don't forget that during this happy time, thousands of people are still not able to be reunited with their loved ones for whatever reason and many others don't have any one to celebrate with. Let us keep all these people in our prayers whenever we can. Like last year, I can't return to my family just yet but I would like to express my gratitude to the Lord who kept me safe and healthy throughout this year, and all my extended family and friends including you who have given me support on my faith and life journey. Merry Christmas to you all.

Fr Joseph Nguyen OFM

FACE MASKS AT MASS

Due to the current situation, it is strongly recommended that all mass attendees wear face masks.

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

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 Debien & Bransby Byrne - Music Dir. & Organist Paddington
Nicole Smeulders - Cantor Paddington
Emma-Gai Gold & Alanna Sparks - Safeguarding Support Officers

WEEKLY SERVICES 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)

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:

Dr Bruce Roberts, Dawn King, Teresita, Angela Balog, Kevin Gale, Bishop William (Bill) Wright – Bishop of Maitland-Newcastle, Patricia McAlary, Benjamin Barillas, Geoffrey Dominic McAlary, Sue Coorey, Chew Shia Hoong, June Fabbro, Doug Malouf, Ciro Gallifuco, Michael Gearin, Otilia Batisita, John Henry Jones, Margaret Hunsiecker, Peter John Little, Angela Catherine Egan, Marcia Jackson (Nee Keenan) Kevin Finegan, Mike Bailey, Vittoria Sora Borgese.

Mass Intentions: Jack & Maureen Brett, Patricia Brett, Nan Kelly, Darlene Hagan, Carolyn Kenna, Debbie Hope, Patrick McDonagh, Gabrielle McDonagh, Genevieve Scarf, Joseph Rezallah, Peter Herro, Rosita Napoli, Carmen Rios Berrocal, Lola Giovenali, Paul Tse, Des O'Shea, Marie Nestor Mchoney, George Farah, Giuliano family, O'Sullivan, Killen, O'Brien & McDonagh families, Patricia Dillon & Sheila Freckmann-Dillon, Margaret-Mary Kiernan, Benigna Suarez, Denise & 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, Elizabeth Considine Conley, Catherine Wu-Hutchings and 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 demands that the Christian Churches including the Catholic Church provide full and meaningful reparation for those who have suffered clerical and institutional sexual abuse.

VIGIL MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ex 16:6-7

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption, grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer, we may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 62:1-5

RESP PSALM Ps 88: 4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Alleluia!
Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be destroyed:
The Saviour of the word will be our king.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 1:18-25

Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

As we look forward, O Lord, to the coming festivities, may we serve you all the more eagerly for knowing that in them you make manifest the beginnings of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Isa 40:5

The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may draw new vigour from celebrating the Nativity of your Only Begotten Son, by whose heavenly mystery we receive both food and drink. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – see front page

MIDNIGHT MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 2:7

The Lord said to me: You are my Son. It is I who have begotten you this day.

or

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, for our Saviour has been born in the world. Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendour of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 9:1-7

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 95: 1-3, 11-13

R. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

SECOND READING Titus 2:11-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 2:10-11

Alleluia Alleluia!
Good news and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 2:1-14

Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the oblation of this day's feast be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we may be found in the likeness of Christ, in whom our nature is united to you. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 1:14

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, that we, who are gladdened by participation in the feast of our Redeemer's Nativity, may through an honourable way of life become worthy of union with him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – see front page

DAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Isa 9:5

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Greeting, Penitential Act, Gloria – see front page

COLLECT

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 52:7-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97:1-6

R. All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

SECOND READING Heb 1:1-6

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia Alleluia!
A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 1:1-18

Profession of Faith – see front page

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Make acceptable, O Lord, our oblation on this solemn day, when you manifested the reconciliation that makes us wholly pleasing in your sight and inaugurated for us the fullness of divine worship. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 97:3

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O merciful God, that, just as the Saviour of the world, born this day, is the author of divine generation for us, so he may be the giver even of immortality. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Solemn Blessing – see front page

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / C

25 DECEMBER 2021

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

see back page for relevant Mass

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 are mighty God and Prince of Peace: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the Son of God and the Son of Mary: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Word made Flesh, the splendour of the Father: 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 see back page for relevant Mass

LITURGY OF THE WORD

see back page for relevant Mass

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS:

see back page for relevant Mass

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, II OR III OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

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

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

see back page for relevant Mass

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

see back page for relevant Mass

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

SOLEMN BLESSING

P. May the God of infinite goodness, who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night (day), drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with the light of virtue.

R. Amen.

P. May God, who willed that the great joy of his Son's saving Birth be announced to shepherds by the Angel, fill your minds with the gladness he gives and make you heralds of his Gospel.

R. Amen.

P. And may God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favour and make you sharers with the Church in heaven.

R. Amen.

P. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

CHRISTMAS
GREETINGS
TO YOU ALL.

