

## Prayers of the Faithful

**Presider:** Dear friends, as we enter this time of waiting, let us bring our intentions before God.

**Reader:** That the Holy Church will unite together in this season of penance and prayer. (pause)

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That nations at war will put aside conflict and find peaceful resolutions. (pause)

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those suffering from the lure of temptation will find resistance in the message of Christ. (pause)

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans and victims of war may be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection. (Pope Francis prayer intention for November 2022). (pause)

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those affected by the earthquake in Indonesia will receive the help they urgently need. (pause)

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who have died will share in eternal redemption with Christ. (pause)

In your mercy:

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Presider:** Lord God, you teach us to be attentive in faith and heart. Hear our prayers, and help us to be ever watchful and ready for the glorious coming of our Saviour. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Please feel comfortable to wear masks if you have concerns of Covid risks at mass or when in a crowd.



**RCIA** is a program for those seeking to find out more about the Catholic faith. It takes place within the parish, local faith community. It also offers opportunity to grow in knowledge of Jesus Christ accompanied by others on a similar journey. We welcome all inquiries, and there is no pressure or obligation. Each one has their own special story.

) If you have been baptised but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation or baptised in another church.

) Have children over the age of five or teenagers (who will be supported through adapted form of the Rite).

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic please contact the parish office on 9331 4043.

**(We are looking for parishioners to be part of the RCIA 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**

**27th November 2022** – First Sunday of Advent Year A  
*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    **Email:** office@stf-stj.com  
**Website:** www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com

Perhaps most of you have read Fr Phillip Miscamble's recent letter as well as Fr Anthoni's message in our Parish Newsletter last weekend, informing you of my transfer which is to take place soon. I take this opportunity to share with you my personal thoughts and reflections as my farewell to you all before moving back to Queensland to take up my new ministry in Kedron.

It has been a joy and a great privilege for me to work and live among you in this Parish for over a year back in 2014 and again almost for the last three years. Coming from a different background and culture, I am very aware that my life and faith journey has been nurtured and enriched in this Parish community where each one of you has greatly contributed. Moreover, I feel honoured and blessed that I am warmly welcomed and accepted as who I am so that I feel good and comfortable whenever I meet you either at church or elsewhere. For this and more, I thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for your acceptance, kindness, support, hospitality and understanding.

Looking ahead, I am planning to take my belongings to Brisbane in two-week's time (6<sup>th</sup> December), getting my room and office ready, then I will come back to Sydney to take a short break for a personal retreat which I have not done for years. After Christmas, I have been asked by my Provincial to return to Vietnam to join and assist the Friars for their Provincial Chapter which is held from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, January 2023. I plan to leave Sydney for Brisbane, hopefully when I arrive back from Vietnam, sometime in mid to late January 2023.

Change is never easy or pleasant. Thinking about starting all over again: daily routine, people's names, driver's license, new doctor's appointments, faculties to work within the diocese, Blue Card (for working with children), adapting with weather and a new working environment....it is indeed a daunting feeling. To be honest, I have now settled in Sydney and I am not very excited about this move, however, I always remind myself that I must not let these things stop me from being generous with our Friars' needs and keep moving forward to wherever I am most needed. I remember the first mass I celebrated at my parents' local parish back in June 2010, it was a thanksgiving mass also a farewell mass for me, prior to leaving Vietnam for Australia. A day after my thanksgiving mass, I was packing my luggage when I turned around and saw my mother in the corner of the room crying, trying to hide her tears from me. She did not want me to go abroad. However, I said to her, it is good that I could have the opportunity to live locally, but it is better to live far away if God wants me to do so.

It has been a wonderful experience for me to live, work and do my ministry with Fr Anthoni. It is peaceful and much easier to work when we get along with one another and respect each other regardless our differences, limitations and shortcomings. May I humbly invite you all to continue to support Fr Anthoni in his leadership role as you have always done, especially during this difficult time of change.

This weekend we enter the Advent Season, a special time of waiting for the coming of our Lord. Waiting is all about our hope for something good and beautiful, but it requires patience and trust. The changing of times and seasons reminds each one of us that we are merely travellers here on earth, we come and go, our final destination doesn't belong in any earthly place, as St Paul said: "our truly home is in heaven" (Pl 3:20). As we move on our separate ways, let us be reminded that we are connected in our faith in God which keeps us together. Happy, holy Advent and thank you.

**Fr Joseph Nguyen OFM**

### Shoe Boxes from St. Francis Parish

Worrying times with more than half of our shoe boxes still to be taken and filled for our hostel elderly.



Please help if you can. There are 96 people hoping for a Christmas box from our parishioners.

### Franciscan Calendars

Kindly, please put the money (\$10 each) in the **yellow envelope marked Calendars** on the Volunteers desk. Thank you



### St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Envelopes are still available at both Edgecliff &

Paddington for Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

Receipts supplied if the box is ticked.

Envelopes can be put on collection plates or mailed.

### Forgotten (the play)

Will be performed at the Riverside Theatre 27th & 28 January  
Written by local parishioner, playwright and social historian Cate Whittaker.

<https://riversideparramatta.com.au/show/forgotten-2023/>

[Flyers available in the churches](#)

### CANA CHRISTMAS GOODS ON SALE 19/20 and 26/27 NOVEMBER Payment by credit card or cash

*Our Parish has long supported CANA.*

Cana provides relief from destitution, poverty, suffering, and helplessness for people struggling with mental illness, addiction, homelessness, loneliness, and other factors that alienate them from society. Central to the life of the Community are those who, through being rejected, powerless or violent, are most in need and have the least options.

Cana is run by volunteers and is solely reliant on donations from the community. It receives no government funding. We create a community with all the love, chaos, and frustration of a family, in which people can feel listened to and valued.

We provide shelters and homes and a sense of belonging, and our volunteers visit people in jail.

*Your support is greatly appreciated.*

### Christmas at the Cathedral

**8-25 December**

St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt.

Festivities begin at 7pm with Christmas market stalls, food, fun activities for the kids and live entertainment.

The signature light show of Christmas art will be projected onto the cathedral at 8:30pm

### 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

**Parish Administrator:** Anthoni Selvaraj ofm  
**Assistant Priest:** Joseph Nguyen ofm  
**Parish Secretary:** Vanessa Hipolito & Cate Stivala  
**Catechist Co-ordinator:** Alanna Sparks  
**Cantor, Edgecliff:** Tanith Bryce  
**Music Dir & Organist, Paddington:** Noel Debien & Bransby Byrne  
**Cantor, Paddington:** Nicole Smeulders  
**Safeguarding Support Officers:** Emma-Gai Gold & Alanna Sparks  
**Principal, St Francis of Assisi School:** Nicole Hudson

### WEEKLY SERVICES AND SACRAMENTS

#### 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.*

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

**Recently Deceased:** Prof. Joel Fernando, Norma Gay, Trever Harden, Wendy Beirne, Tony Yip, Sinead Joyce, Belinda O'Connell, Dorothy Barden, Bruce Nicholls, Fr Pacificus (Pax), John Peter Merlini, Xavier O'Grady, Carolyn Kenna, Norman McPhee, Sharan Caesar Donovan, Br. Matthew Milos ofm, Paul Flynn, Jean Dubourdieu, Daisy McDonald, Antoinette Ogilvie, Graeme Gilbertson, Francesco Cardamone, Sr Pauline Murray rsm, Margaret Richards, Margaret Malone, Ann Thomas, Helen Miller, Jennifer Peoples, Patricia Nyook Yin Hew, Joan Platt Hepworth, Armando Manalo, Suzanne O'Mahoney, Mary Carmel Maloney, Bill Roche, Denyse Gibbs.

**Mass Intentions:** Kalnejais family, Concepcion Family, Hector Barbara, Gaetano Carone & Barbera, Margaret-Mary Kiernan, Tico, Salcedo, Galan and Dia families & Cummings family, Elizabeth Considine Conley, John Jones, Marija Barclay, James Evans, Peter, Marion, Les, Harry, & Jan Harber, Van & Peter Espinoza, Rosa Carriel, Raul, Jorge, Benjamin, Irma & Sergio Soto, Lucrecia Ortiz, Finbarr O'Farrell, Marion & George Orr, Prof. Pierre Ryckmans, Molly Chapple, David de Carvalho, Giuliano Family, Patrick McDonagh, Patricia Staines, Brian Philip Rheinberger, Peter Meagher, Bernadette Richardson, Luke Cullen, Jack & Maureen Brett, Nan Kelly, Bryan Digges, David Saw, Claire Evans, Helen McCarthy, Molly Odillo Maher, Hector Destro, Dominic & Nita Casamento, Patricia Richmond-Kiernan, Mary Markovitch, Jerry Austin, Lena Kaine & Violet Kiernan, Aquino Lanojan, Feleciano Ajos, Francesco Corda.

**(PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY on Mass Intention envelopes)**

### 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, please contact the police. Alternatively, You can contact the *Safeguarding Ministerial Integrity Office: on 9390518 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.* 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.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.'

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

**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

### WALK IN THE LIGHT

There are some phrases from the scriptures which have the power to stir the imagination thousands of years after they were written. The image of hammering swords into ploughshares, spears into sickles, and soldiers becoming farmers speaks so powerfully to our deep longing for peace. Isaiah's vision was that a time would come when all people would be united in worship of the living God; when war would be replaced by understanding and all people would walk in the light of the Lord.

Paul understood Isaiah's vision was soon to become reality on the Lord's return. His concern was to make sure that the Christians of Rome were prepared for that moment. Some of them had fallen into a misplaced sense of complacency. Paul disagrees. Now was the time to get one's house in order, to put aside the ways that blur and obscure our vision, so as to come into the light of Jesus.

In a similar way, fifty years after the resurrection of the Lord it was all too easy for Matthew's community to lose hope that the Lord would return soon and bring Isaiah's and Paul's vision to reality. As this Advent season begins, the challenge is placed squarely before us – if the Son of Man were to return now would we be ready and waiting? What are we doing to bring Isaiah's vision of peace to reality? What areas of our life still need to be brought into the light of Christ?

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

Reproduction of this bulletin in any form prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from *The Psalms, A New Translation*, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2022. No 584. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

27 NOVEMBER 2022

**WALK IN GOD'S LIGHT.** We do not know when Christ will come again in glory. Nor do we know the day of our death. This should not worry us. What is important is to live this day well by being respectful and loving towards each other and seeking to walk in God's light. If we do this, we will be ready whenever God calls us to eternal life.

## 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 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.*

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come

the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,

to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways

so that we may walk in his paths;

since the Law will go out from Zion,

and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples;

these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,

their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,

let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESP PSALM Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

**R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: /

Let us go to God's house. / And now

our feet are standing / within your gates,

O Jerusalem. **R.**

2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there to praise the Lord's name. / There were set the thrones of judgement / of the house of David. **R.**

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace! **R.**

4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say: 'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of the Lord / I will ask for your good. **R.**



## SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The time has come, our salvation is near.*

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Mt 24:37-44

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.**

*Stay awake, you must be ready.*