



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

126 Liverpool Road, Enfield NSW 2136

TEL: 9747 4884 FAX: 9747 8086

Email: admin@stjosephenfield.org.au

Website: stjosephenfield.org.au

Parish Priest: Father Kim Ha

In Residence: Bishop Geoffrey Robinson

All parish bulletins are online at parish website



Parish Office

Administration

Tue, Wed, Thur, Frid
9am - 3pm Linda Roberts
Fr. Kim is not available on Mondays

Sacrament Co-Ordinator

Heather Donnelly
sacraments@stjosephenfield.org.au

Catechist Co-Ordinator

Margaret Drake
margaret.drake1@gmail.com

Mass Times

Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)
Sun: 9am, 10.30am, 6pm
Mon - Thur: 9.15am
Frid - Sat: 12 Noon

Family Mass with

Children's Liturgy:
Sunday 10.30am

Sacraments

Reconciliation
Sat 11.30am - 12 noon
4.45pm - 5:15pm

Baptism

2nd & 4th Sun of the month at 12 noon

Marriage - Sat & Sun

1.30pm - 3pm (at least 6 months notice is required)

Devotions

Cenacle
Every Monday 8am

Daily Prayer

Church is open from 8am - 3.30pm

Rosary & Prayer

Monday 8.30am
Thurs & Saturday 11.30am
Sat Adoration 11am-12noon

Holy Hour of Mercy

Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri
2.30pm - 3.30pm
Adoration, Prayer's and Chaplet of Divine Mercy

SUNDAY MASS 24 DECEMBER 2017

Normal Mass times at 9am & 10:30am celebrating the 4th Sunday of Advent, followed by Christmas Vigil Masses below.

CHRISTMAS MASS CELEBRATIONS

Sunday 24th December 2017
Carols 5pm & 7pm

Mass 5:30pm (with children) & Mass 8pm

Midnight Mass 12am

Christmas Day Monday 25th December

Mass at 9am & 10:30am

Boxing Day Tuesday 26 December 9:15am

New Years Day Monday 1 January 9:15am

SACRAMENT PROGRAM 2018

RECONCILIATION Year 3 and older.

Enrolment Date Saturday 5th May 2018 at 4pm. **Sacrament Date:** Thursday 28th June at 6:30pm.

CONFIRMATION

Enrolment Date Sunday 6th May at 4pm.

Sacrament Date: Saturday TBA June 10am & 2pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Enrolment Date Saturday 4th August 2018 at 4pm.

Sacrament Dates: September Sat & Sun weekends 15th, 16th, 22nd & 23rd.

RECONCILIATION Year 2 and older.

Enrolment Date Saturday 27th October 2018 at 4pm.

Sacrament Date: Thursday 29th November 6.30pm.

ROSTERS

The new extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to the sick, and cleaners rosters are now available for collection at the entrance of the church under the Pope Francis photo. Please collect your new rosters.

ROSARY & STATUE OF OUR LADY THIS WEEK

Will be with Derick Chaves, 83 Portland St, Enfield. Please call Derick on 9747 5168 if you would like to attend and pray with the group.

PRAYER GROUP

Prayer group resumes Wednesday 24th January 2018.

HEALING MASS CHOIR PRACTISE

Will be held Friday 29th December 7:15pm.

JANUARY HEALING MASS

Friday 5th January 2018

Celebrant: Fr. Yacub Barkat

Rosary 7pm, Reconciliation 7-8pm,

Prayer & Praise 7.30pm, Mass 8pm

Exposition (after Mass)

Prayer Ministry available after Mass.

For more information contact Rose 0412 115 961.

PATH news:

The group would like to thank parishioners who bought Christmas cards and donated money recently. Around \$800 was raised by parishioners here at St Joseph's. This money will go towards gifts and clothing, and will provide general support for those rescued from slavery locally who are cared for by Sr Margaret. PATH aims to raise awareness of this great evil, to encourage people to think carefully about where their money is spent so that they are not supporting slavery. The group is privileged to be able to fund raise to provide practical assistance to those who have escaped.

LIVING SPIRIT

For us there are no certainties, no star, blazing our journey, no decisive dream to reassure hurt hearts or warn us when it's time to move. The shepherds, harassed men, are given answers to the questions they have never thought to ask, told where to go and what to look for. We try out our way unlit with angels, wondering "How far?" Yet in the story we find who we are: the baby is told nothing, left to grow slowly to vision through the coloured scheme of touch, taste, sound; by needing learns to pray, and makes the way of the flesh, dark stratagem by which God is and offers all we now. JENNIFER DINES "STORY" IN THE SECRET CHRISTMAS, ED. TERENCE HANDLEY MACMATH (DLT, 2013).

The whole of Christ's teaching is to be found in his last commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you, and therefore everybody will know that, if you love one another, you are my disciples." He does not say "if you have faith in this or that", but "if you love". LEO TOLSTOY IN A CALENDAR OF WISDOM (ALMA CLASSICS, 2015). Travellers on the road to God's wisdom find that the further they go, the more the road opens out, until it stretches to infinity. ORIGEN IN THE SAINTS' GUIDE TO HAPPINESS, ED. ROBERT ELLSBERG (DARTON, LONGMAN & TODD, 2004).

Often we feel as though we were travelling in the wrong direction; but by faith we know that we are not alone; that God is with us, leading and sustaining us all the time. Gradually, as we learn to adjust ourselves to this new way of living, we begin to understand why God must work in this secret way: He has to do so, because if we could see what he was doing we might become far too interested in the process, and then we would spoil his work by looking at ourselves instead of at him. All we are asked to do is keep moving.

Dear parishioners,

Great to be back, I was away five days last week in Brisbane to attend a retreat call "Life and Love". There were 38 young adults with eager minds and hearts desiring to know the truth of life and love according to God's plan. I helped with Mass and Confessions. It was good to support the Verbum Dei Sisters and the young lives present. Life and love is something we all have but always want to have more and deepen in its meaning. Only God has the fullness of life and love. There is a truth in life and love that makes life and love amazing and beautiful.

I would like to thank Bishop Geoff for supplying all the Masses and baptisms last week and hopefully the cancellation of the Vigil Mass was not too much of an inconvenience.

I thank those who generously donated to St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Appeal. It is such a worthy cause and good preparation to celebrate Christmas in the right spirit to give to Vinnies. You are of course not too late if you would like to give this weekend, envelopes are available at the entrance of the church.

I have noticed there have been many special appeals lately from various groups in the last month in our parish. I think we can better spread them out next year.

I thank all those involved in decorating the Church with our Christmas nativity scene and Christmas tree. I hope you like it. These people help us celebrate the love of the humanity of God in Jesus Christ. His birth has changed the world forever and now the human beings have the humanity of God to be guided and judged by.

The readings of the Church during advent help us prepare our lives for God each Christmas. We all have our customs and traditions how to prepare and celebrate Christmas each year. Whether is decorating the house with Christmas lights, or with a Christmas tree, singing Christmas carols, buying presents, or preparing for family reunion with a feast of food. But the real preparation is an internal one of mind, heart, spirit and will to live among God since He will live among us.

The correct spirit to enter these holy days of Advent and Christmas is we are not worthy for such a wonderful God among us. We have not desired and loved God enough for him to come to us. We have sinned against God and each other and don't deserve God's humanity, mind, heart, body, will, affection in Jesus Christ. But life and love is not something we deserve, but what God gives.

We say goodbye to the school community on their summer holidays. May these holy days give them time to be refreshed and renewed in body, mind and spirit. May they experience the true joy of Christmas and serve the Lord all the days of their lives.

Fr. Kim

Week 4 23/24/25 DEC 17 CHRISTMAS ROSTER	5:30pm 23 Dec	9am 24 Dec	10:30am 24 Dec	5:30pm 24 Dec	8pm 24 Dec	12am 25 Dec	9am 25 Dec	10:30am 25 Dec
Acolytes	Des	Allen	Richard	Domenic	Richard	Chris	Allen	Allen
1st Reader	Natasha	Anne	Paula	Mary	Kate	Marianne	Paula	Maria
2nd Reader	Teresa	Sr. Helena	Vesna	Josephine	Kate	Marianne	Romanta	Lalita
EMHC	Kevin F & Mary	Denise & Kate	Silvia & Helmarri	James	Julie	Chris & Marianne	Lina & Natasha	Helmarri & John S
Altar Servers	Niamh, Dan & Deegan	Gianluca & James	Ethan & Joshua	Isabella, Patrick, Dylan & Killian	Volunteers	Volunteers	Louis, Mateusz, Gideon & Grace	Annabelle, Savannah
Counters	Catherine Power & Tamara Kikirekov							
Ministers to the Sick	Gladys Touma Richard Allcock Clover Lea - Permanent Commitment Amy Alarcon							
Church Cleaning 18-24 Dec	Theresa Myong Soon Lee, Antonietta, Anne							

With St Joseph we pray ...

For the sick
Lee Tilliam
Fedorowicz Family
Sokolowski Family
Sharon Holliday
Sarah Holliday
Zachary Marsh
Sue Brancatisano
Bishop Geoffrey
Nikranicz Family
Waslowicz Family
Michael Abou-Antoun
Douglas Edwards
Helen Bache
Lan Fon Yu
Anna Pezzuto
Sonia Grigoriou
Chris Dimitriadis
Barbara Mitchell
Lina Grande
Michael Tucker
Antoniette Serci
Sean Da Silva
Alfonso Costantini
Joseph You
Martin Fleming
Sam Shepherd
Patrick Morris
Rocob Shi
Haishong Andy Shi
Theresa Lee
Urban Fernandez
Beatrice Fernandez

For the Souls of
Salvatore Cinconze
John McCartney
Carmel McCartney
Antony Chung
Teresa Chung
Philomina Chung
Chung Ah Fok
Ness Reboh
Giovanni Carlarco
Fortunata Brigante
Salvatore Calarco
George Martinus
George Mouwad
Jamilla Mouwad
John Mouwad
Joyce Bolack
Maria Pizzinga
Constance Russo
Giuseppe Scarcella
Alfio Lanzafame
Paul Lamy
Theodore Pridham
Maria Carlucci
Edna Johnson
Anna Spoljaric
Elizabeth Wallis
Salvatore Sapienza
Giovanni Cali
Ferris Abood
Beatrix Vella
Souls of the unborn children
All Holy Souls in Purgatory

Anniversary
Maureen Di Nola

Recently Deceased
Carmelo Calandra
Gennaro Ruggiero
James Baca
Victor Liew

Special Intentions
Pezzuto Family
Grigoriou Family
Dimitriadis Family

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT/B

17 DECEMBER 2017

Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

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

May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work.

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 OR II 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: Save us, Saviour of the world,

for by your Cross and resurrection

you have set us free.

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. Isa 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults

and prepare us for the coming feasts.

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.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

LIBERATION FROM CAPTIVITY

Last week we heard the witness given by John the Baptist according to the Gospel of Mark. Today we hear the same witness described, from a rather different angle, in the Gospel of John.

Such was the stature of John the Baptist in the Jewish world of the time that it was important for the early Christian believers to sort out the relationship between John and Jesus. Texts such as the one we have today show John making clear his own specific—and subordinate—role. [In the Jewish culture of the day pupils carried their teachers' sandals as a mark of respect. John places himself in an even lower category when he disclaims even this role.]

As the Fourth Gospel insists from the start, Jesus is the "light of the world" (John 1:4-5). His coming into the world replays the conquest of darkness by light that marked the very first act of God in creation (Gen 1:3-5). Wherever Jesus speaks or performs healing acts ("signs")—whether in the Gospel or in the sacramental life of the Church—the light overcomes the darkness, communicating to human beings God's gift of eternal life.

John's task is to point out Jesus as the One who will fulfil this role. Beyond identifying Jesus to his own disciples, he is also a witness in that he "vocalises" the witness of Scripture (Old Testament) to the coming of Jesus. He is the "voice in the wilderness" of which Isaiah spoke in a summons to prepare in human hearts a "way" for the Lord.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

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 9746 1140. 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, 2017. No 321. Website: www.stpauls.com.au

Today is known as 'Gaudete Sunday' or 'Rejoicing Sunday', after the first words of the entrance chant. Often, anticipating an event can bring as much joy as the event itself. So it is with the season of Advent. We know that the Son of God was born once long ago. And we prepare once again to celebrate that event with rejoicing.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Phil 4: 4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.

Indeed, the Lord is near.

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. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

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.

COLLECT

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,

enable us, we pray,

to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always

with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isa 61:1-2, 10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I exult for joy in the Lord.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,

to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,

freedom to those in prison;

to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

'I exult for joy in the Lord,

my soul rejoices in my God,

for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,

he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

'For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise

spring up in the sight of nations.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

He looks on his servant in her nothingness;

henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**

2. The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. **R.**

3. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Thess 5:16-24

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

May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.



Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18
Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 1:6-8,19-28

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.

There stands among you, unknown to you, the one who is coming after me.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light,

so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light,

only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from