



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 - for weekly bulletins
 Parish Priest: Father Kim Ha
 Priest in Residence: Father Mirko Integlia
 Personal Assistant & Bookkeeper: Mrs Linda Roberts



Parish Office Hours of Administration
 Tue, Wed, Thur, Frid
 9am - 3pm

Parish Council Chairman
 Rocco Sergi
Finance Committee Chairman
 Bruno Alimonti

Catechist Co-ordinator
 Margaret Drake
margaret.drake1@gmail.com

Mass Times
 Sat: 5:30pm (Vigil)
 Sun: 9am, 10.30am, 6pm
 Family Mass Sunday 10.30am
 Mon - Frid: 9.15am
 Sat: 9am

Sacraments
Reconciliation
 Tue - Fri 9am
 Sat 4.30pm - 5:15pm

Baptism by appointment
 2nd & 4th Sun of the Month
 at 12 noon

Marriage - Fri, Sat & Sun
 Contact Parish Office (at least
 6 months notice is required)

Parish Devotions
Canicle & Rosary
 Every Monday 8am

Daily Prayer
 Church is open from
 8am - 3.30pm
Rosary & Prayer
 Tue, Wed, Thur & Frid
 8.30am / Saturday 9:30am

Holy Hour of Mercy
 Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri
 2.30pm - 3.30pm
 Adoration, Prayer's & Chaplet
 of Divine Mercy with Relics

Saturday Adoration
 9:30am - 10am

Anointing of the Sick
 Every first Saturday of the
 Month at 9:30am after the
 9am Mass

**Healing Mass - First Friday of
 the Month**

**Prayer Group - Every Wed
 7pm in Church**

Statue of Our Lady
 will continue to visit homes,
 Contact Rosina 0414 084 574

Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Mass at 9am & 10:30am

Christmas Eve Celebrations
 Sunday 24th December

Carols at 5pm & Mass 5:30pm
 (with children)

Carols at 7:30pm & Mass 8pm

Midnight Mass 12am

Christmas Day Celebrations
 Monday 25th Dec
 Mass at 9am & 10:30am

Boxing Day Mass Tuesday
 26th December 9:15am

New Years Day Mass
 Monday 1st January 9:15am

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ENFIELD PRESENTS

The Christmas Story LIVE

TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2023
 6:30PM ON THE SCHOOL OVAL

PLEASE COME AND REFLECT ON THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS WITH OUR 'LIVE' NATIVITY OF DONKEY, SHEEP AND CAMELS. ALL ARE WELCOME!

PATH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE - This weekend, Path will be having their annual Christmas Raffle. Tickets are \$2 each or \$5 for 3. The Raffle will be drawn this Sunday, after the 6pm Mass. All money that is raised is for the survivors of human trafficking including help with living expenses e.g. rental assistance, electricity, and groceries. It will also be helping a mother to bring her daughter to safety in Australia and giving a little Christmas cheer to those living in the (Salvation Army) Safe House. Thank you for your generous support. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.

CHRISTMAS at the Cathedral

a festival evening at St Mary's

14-25 DECEMBER

We invite the community of Sydney to come together at St Mary's Cathedral during Advent to prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Festivities begin at 5.30pm with: Christmas market stalls, food, fun activities for the kids and live entertainment

Use the hashtag #ChristmasAtTheCathedral on your social posts.

For more information, visit our website: christmasatthecathedral.org.au

St Vincent de Paul Society NSW
good works

This weekend is the beginning of advent, a time of preparation for the joy of Christmas. It also marks the beginning of our **Vinnies Christmas Appeal**. Research shows that more than one million people in NSW are living in poverty, so please contribute and give hope to those in need.

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - If you have some spare time to share for cleaning the church, please contact the parish office, or speak with Fr. Kim after Mass.

Dear friends,
 We are familiar with the public service announcement every year of staying awake to stay alive. This applies to all drivers on the roads, around the Christmas holiday period. Fatigue is a major killer on our roads. Sleeping for even one second while operating a vehicle will likely end in tragedy. Well, this warning does not just apply for drivers, but living in general. It is so easily to be dragged along in life half asleep. The philosopher Socrates wrote: **"The unexamined life is not worth living."**

Let's examine our lives and world, as we start another liturgical year. As we examine our world, we realise human beings are getting better and stronger dominating our natural surroundings. Through mining, engineering on a macro and micro level, humans have such tremendous power to transform the elements of the earth, to whatever we like. But despite building a world more connected, through technological advancement by planes, cars, smartphones, and the internet, human beings although king of the world, are broken and empty in our hearts when tested. Even though the world is set up for more togetherness and solidarity, people have no strong sense of belonging to each other, wanted and loved in the human family. Something is missing. For us Catholics, we believe, the missing piece in the human DNA and psychic is God and his Church. Without God behind everything, nothing has meaning, nothing matters. It is only in God that everything has a place and value, even the bad things.

On a personal level, let's examine our lives so we can stay awake. We know to stay away on a physical level is to be conscious and alert, ready for any emergency. But what about on a spiritual level, are we awake? Are we living in God's presence? Do we recognise God's creative love in creation? Are we aware of God's redemptive love available in the brokenness of humanity? Can we find the source of life and love in the Eucharist? Does each day invite us new hope, new love, new life, new horizons? Our God is God of the living not of the dead.

Jesus is the One who is always awake, desires we live on edge and awake. Not knowing when our life ends or life as we know it ends, makes us live on the edge. He will come back on the Last Day to judge. Jesus wants us to see our lives as a gift from him not to be taken for granted, but to lived out purposefully to his design. It is so easy to be asleep living by the flesh. But if we live by the spirit, we can stay awake. Jesus said: **"The spirit is willing but flesh is weak."** What does it mean to be ready for the master? We can get ready for Jesus who is the master by desiring God's Kingdom to come, to start living our eternal life now. This is when, those living by the Beatitudes, will have no fear but only hope all will be realised in the Second Coming of Jesus.

For those who would like to participate in this years Advent Program, I will lead and commence the program on Monday the 4th December in the parish meeting room. The program will start at 7pm and the last day will be Monday 18th December, everyone is welcome. Fr. Kim.

NEXT WEEKENDS ROSTER

09/10 DEC SAT 5:30pm SUN 9am SUN 10:30am SUN 6pm

Acolytes	Domenic	Allen	Emmanuel	Des
1st Reader	Maria D	Kate	Juliet	Elizabeth
2nd Reader	Jenny	Rose T	Vesna	Josephine
Music	Julie & Choir	Justine & Choir	Angels Choir	The Carpenter's Voice Choir
Altar Servers	Grace Niamh, Patrick & Dan	Vol	Crispin	Louis
Wardens	Patrick	Rocco R	Rocco S	Sylvia I
Ministers To the Sick	Home Visits — Gladys T	Clover Lea — Dr. Margaret M	Alwyn — By Request	
Cleaning (11/17 Dec)	Anne, Joel, Mar, Nymia & Nelia			
Sacristans	Rocco & Rosina R			

Jesus said to his disciples,
"Be watchful, be alert"
 Mark 13:33

"You.....must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."
 Matthew 24:44

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY

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 and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 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

- With St Joseph we pray ...**
- For the sick**
 Carmelo Ilardo
 Rafaela Lindfors
 Gaetano Currenti
 Ljuban Martinovic
 Isabella Eva Rotunno
 Yuban Martinovic
 Eduardo Nobrega
 Anna Maria Livolsi Kurby
 Licia Heinein
 Clyde Crow
 Josephine Attard
 Megan Nelson
 Pochulo Caparros
 Ljuban Martinovic
 Dr. Margaret McGarrity
 Joseph Maroun
 Haifa Mannah Karam
 Lois Sander
 Robert Thomas
 HansGeorg Sander
 Maura Turija
 Marija Barclay
 Vince Napoli
 Angelo Napoli
 Joseph Cavallaro
 Kevin Bolton
 Mark Downie
 Margaret Dredge
 Svetlana Rakvin
 Salis Trambul
 Meri Trambul
 Christian Bartolotta
 Antonio Bartolotta
 Carmen Aboud
 Peter Gaynor
 Bonnie Orton
 Robert Southcombe
 Jeanette Northey
 Vera Mustac
 Linda Pilato
 Christine Scanlon
 Dominic Paul Ng
 Jeanette Northey
 Elizabeth Swe
 Francis Lim
 Alice
- For the Soul of**
 Ang Family
 Cap Family
 Viet Family
 Vinh Family
 Phuc Family
 Nguyen Family
 Evelyn Angelo Salas
 Nicola Romano
 Duong Family
 Nho Family
 Thanh Family
 Thuy Family
 Nam Family
 Xuan Family
 Souls of Unborn Children
 All Holy Souls in Purgatory
- Recently Deceased**
 Anna Clapoudis
 Lorraine Walker
 Mary Sammut
 Lina Marzini
- Anniversary**
 Emanuele Ziino
 Mateo Tambaed Sr
 Ariston Villawel
 Andrew McKinley
- Intentions From**
 The Parishioners of St Joseph's Enfield
 Praying for
 Calix Society Sydney
 Peace in Israel
 Peace in Palestine
 Peace in Ukraine
 Peace in Russia
 Peace in the World

and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!

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

WATCHING AND WAITING

The liturgical year begins, Advent dawns, and the readings call us into reflection and renewal of our relationship with God. The prophet Isaiah's plea resounds across the ages, lamenting the current state of affairs. Having already asked God to see how bad things are, he beseeches God "Oh that you would tear the heavens open and come down." Then and now, God's help is needed to turn our lives around.

The psalm invites us to raise our voices in response "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved." Paul writing to the Corinthians offers a thanksgiving to God for the revelation of Jesus Christ and prays with all gratefulness so that they, and we, "will not be without any of the gifts of the Holy Spirit while waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ."

In today's Gospel four imperatives emphatically call upon our hearts: "see" and "be alert" come in rapid succession, then "stay awake" is repeated. This warning to stay awake is echoed twice to the disciples in Gethsemane. The beginning of Mark's Gospel announces, "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ" (v1) and "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news" (v15). The ultimate moment of revelation of Jesus comes with the resurrection and the empty tomb. This is our time to turn our hearts to God, to hear the good news, to wait with gratitude and renew our souls before celebrating anew the birth of Jesus, God among us.

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / B

3 DECEMBER 2023

COME, LORD JESUS. The prophet Isaiah implored God to tear the heavens open and come down to save the people. God, however, did not come among us in such a dramatic way but in the humble form of Jesus of Nazareth. God continues to enter our lives in unexpected ways. If we are watchful for the presence of Christ in each day, we will recognise him when he comes in glory.

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 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.

Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down — at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind.

You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.

We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.

We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.

No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you.

For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins.

And yet, Lord, you are our Father;

we the clay, you the potter,

we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 79:2-3, 15-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us, / shine forth from your cherubim throne. / O Lord, rouse up your might, / O Lord, come to our help. **R.**

2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen, / the man you have given your strength. / And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**



SECOND READING 1 Cor 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

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 Mk 13:33-37

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task;

WELCOME AND THANK YOU

Today we welcome Dr Rosemary Canavan as our reflection writer. Rosemary is Senior Lecturer in New Testament at Catholic Theological College, Melbourne. In her reflection, she will briefly consider each of the Scripture readings set down for the Sunday.

We are very grateful and thank Fr Christopher Monaghan CM, for his insightful reflections on the readings over the past three years.