

Prayers of the Faithful

**Presider:** 'When I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all people to myself.' God's Word has been broken for us and we have reflected on its teaching. Now we bring before God our needs and those of all God's people.

**Leader:** For a desire to live as God wants. (pause) 'I will be their God; they will be my people', says the Lord. May the new covenant that God has written on our hearts increase our desire to live as God wants by the commandments planted deeply within us. Lord, hear us.  
**ALL: Lord Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** For a deeper understanding of God's purposes. (pause) Jesus learned obedience through suffering and became the source of salvation for all. May we grow in accepting the mysterious purposes of God who brings resurrection out of suffering and death. Lord, hear us  
**ALL: Lord Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** For a rich harvest among God's people. (pause) We believe that the death of a single grain of wheat can yield a rich harvest. May we so die to self and live for others that the world may turn from selfishness and enjoy a harvest of peace and justice. Lord, hear us.  
**ALL: Lord Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** For a spirit of service. (pause) May we be worthy disciples of Jesus, looking for ways to be of service in the community and in the church, responding to those in need as the Lord showed in his life and his death. Lord, hear us.  
**ALL: Lord Hear our prayer.**

**Leader:** We pray in thanksgiving for parishioners past and present, as we celebrate the feast of St Patrick and St Joseph. May we learn from each other how to walk as disciples of Jesus. Lord hear us.  
**ALL: Lord Hear our prayer**

**Presider:** God of love and service, your Son died to bring a rich harvest of life for others. Awaken in us a desire to be servants like him, faithful to the covenant you have written in our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
**ALL: Amen.**

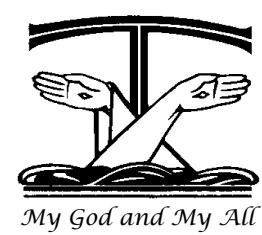
**Bishop Brady's St Patrick's Feast Day Mass**  
Bishop Terry Brady, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus warmly invites you to the attend this celebration at **St Mary's Cathedral Monday 18th March 2024 at 10:00am**

**PASSIONTIDE CAROLS**  
Come join us in preparing for the Paschal mysteries through the singing of carols and the reading of sacred scripture.  
**St Benedict's Church (as chapel of the University of Notre Dame Australia), Friday 22nd March 2024, at 6:45pm** (after 6:00pm Stations of the Cross).  
A light, meatless supper will follow in the courtyard of the University of Notre Dame. This is a wonderful opportunity to restore due prominence to Easter in our society through the singing of carols. Please be there!

**Holy Land and Project Compassion Collections**  
Our current collections will finalise at Easter Weekend. Please remember to bring in your boxes and envelopes by Easter Sunday.

**Parish Conversations on the Vatican Synod Assembly**  
The first stage of our parish Synodal conversations will be completed this weekend as we prepare our summary report. **After Easter**, we will work with Fr Anthoni to begin the practical implementation using the 'conversations in the spirit' process. A big thank you to the people who have generously participated. And a special thank you to Fr Anthoni for his support, interest, and his presence with us whenever he is able.

**Lenten Reflection Group at 11am on Wednesday St Joseph Parish Hall**  
Michael Scarf will facilitate the reflection.



**St Francis of Assisi Paddington & St Joseph Edgecliff Parish Newsletter**  
**17th March 2024 – Fifth Sunday of Lent—Year B**  
**St Francis of Assisi Church** 463 Oxford St Paddington **St Joseph Church** 12 Albert St Edgecliff  
*In the care of the Franciscans since 1879*  
**Parish Office:** 66 Gordon St Paddington 2021 **Tel:** 02 9331 4043  
**Email:** office@stf-stj.com **Website:** www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com

**Jesus became for all who obey Him the source of eternal salvation (Heb 5:9).**

Every year during this period as we celebrate the feasts of St Patrick and St Joseph I think of the countless men and women who have contributed to the life of the Church and the world because of their faith.

St Joseph is patron saint and a model for many. Reliable information about Joseph is found only in the gospels. Veneration of Joseph seems to have begun in Egypt and the earliest Western devotion to him dates from the early 14th century by mendicants. His story encourages people to develop moral character and learn to take their place with confidence and integrity in families, community and work place.

St Joseph was declared patron of the universal church by Pope Pius IX in 1870. The foundation stone for St Joseph Church was laid on February 8th of 1874. This event attracted widespread attention as it was the first official ceremony of this kind to be performed by the Most Rev. Dr. Roger Bede Vaughan, Coadjutor Archbishop, since his arrival in Sydney. For this reason, he always took a particular interest in St Joseph's parish. On Sunday, September 20th St Joseph's was blessed and opened. Archbishop Polding presided over the liturgy and Vaughan preached the sermon.

The Church in Australia were served and built by many Irish men and women and their descendants. The Irish Franciscans were given charge of the Woollahra and Paddington areas in 1879. Our two

parishes enjoy a rich history, served by the Sisters of Charity, the Christian Brothers and the Franciscan Friars. As part of a religious order, I am conscious of the generosity of many who support us and the many ministries the Church is involved in. There were countless men and women who laboured with us in our ministries and parishes.

This weekend, as we celebrate the feasts of St Patrick and St Joseph, we give thanks and remember the contribution of past and present parishioners. Their vision, generosity and hard work continues to bear fruit. The enthusiasm and hard work of our laity has continued the many parochial activities. I am conscious of the many challenges we face as parishes yet I feel confident and proud. We may be few in numbers but our talented and gifted parishioners are also committed and generous in supporting our parishes. Our laity too are great models in society. Their moral character, sense of joy and care for others and integrity make workplaces and the world better.

Significant people and saints point to a new form of human and cosmic community. We are saints in making as we follow the path of Jesus!

Your Pastor,  
Fr Anthoni ofm

**PALMS FOR PALM SUNDAY**  
**If you are able to provide palms for decorating the altar at St Francis, please drop them in at the church by Thurs or Fri 22nd.**

**Mass of the Solemnity on Monday 18th March**  
9.00am at St Francis and St Joseph. At 5.30pm

**Children's Stations of the Cross St Joseph's Good Friday 9.30am.** (29th March) All children welcome with parents and grandparents. \*Children over 7 who want to be a part of the process, are invited to a practice at St Josephs Parish Centre on Wednesday of Holy Week (27th March), 5.30 to 6.30 and will be provided with pizza dinner.

**Stations of the Cross on Friday**  
St Francis of Assisi 9.30 am ☩ St Joseph 5.10pm

**Holy Week and Triduum (Volunteer List in church).**  
Please let us know if you are available to help out during Easter weekend for both parishes, except Sunday evening as there will be no mass. The Holy Week details are now on the website.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**  
We are pleased to announce the details for 2024. Parents wishing to have their children participate in

- First Reconciliation (children Year 2 and above)
- First Holy Communion (children Year 3 and above)
- Confirmation (children Year 6 and above and over 11 years of age)

Please download the Sacramental Registration Form at from our website below. For any enquiries, please contact the parish office.  
<https://stfrancis-stjoseph.com/sacraments/2022-sacramental-program/>

Please put your mass intentions in with the collection or the office to ensure that it is published in a timely manner. Please indicate the most relevant. i.e. recently deceased, significant anniversary, health etc.

**St Joseph, Edgecliff**  
**Palm Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March:**  
9am, 10.30am, 5.30pm Mass  
**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March:**  
5:30pm Mass  
**Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March:**  
5.30pm Liturgy of the Word – Communion Service  
**Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> March:**  
5.30pm Reconciliation Ser vice  
**Holy Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> March:**  
6pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper  
**Good Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> March:**  
9.30am Children's Stations of the Cross  
11am Stations of the Cross  
3pm Solemn Good Friday Liturgy  
**Holy Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> March:**  
6pm Easter Vigil - Service of Light  
**Easter Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> March:**  
9am & 10.30am Mass  
**NO 5:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday.**

**St Francis of Assisi, Paddington**  
**Palm Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March:**  
5:30pm Mass (Palm Sunday Vigil)  
8.30am & 10.00am Mass  
**Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March:**  
9:00am Mass  
**Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March:**  
9.00 am Liturgy of the Word – Communion Service  
7.00 pm Reconciliation Service  
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7pm Easter Vigil - Service of Light  
**Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March:**  
8.30am & 10.00amMass

**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:** Fr Anthoni Selvaraj ofm  
**Franciscan community:** Fr Peter Clifford ofm, Br John Lourey ofm  
**Parish Secretary:** Enza Sinapi, Cate Stivala  
**Catechist Co-ordinator/Safeguarding Support:** Enza Sinapi  
**Cantor, Edgecliff:** Tanith Bryce  
**Music Dir. & Organist, Paddington:** Noel Debien & Bransby Byrne  
**Cantor, Paddington:** Nicole Smeulders  
**Principal, St Francis of Assisi School:** Nicole Hudson

**MASS TIMES (During Lent)**  
**St Joseph, Edgecliff**  
**Sunday:** 9am, 10.30am & 5.30pm  
**Monday, Thursday & Friday:** 5.30pm  
**Liturgy of the Word/Communion: Tuesday/ Wednesday:**5.30pm  
*(Reconciliation: prior to Thursday evening Mass - from 5pm)*  
**Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Sundays at 11.45am**

**St Francis of Assisi, Paddington**  
**Saturday Vigil\*:** 5.30pm  
**Sunday:** 8.30am, 10am with choir  
**Monday, Thursday & Friday:** 9am  
**Liturgy of the Word/Communion: Tuesday/ Wednesday:** 9am  
*(\*Reconciliation: prior to Saturday Vigil Mass - from 5pm)*  
**Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11.45am**

**Children's Liturgy 2nd & 4th Sundays during 8.30 mass.**  
Parents and Children Welcome  
4th Sunday –Join us for Morning Tea in the School Play Ground.  
**Weekly St Francis Play Group for Babies Toddlers and Preschoolers**  
**On Tuesdays: 9 - 10.30am Location: St Francis of Assisi Hall. (School)**  
Contact Family Educator—Bernice.wong@syd.catholic.edu.au

**WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER AND MASSES**  
**Prayer Intentions** – for the sick, the elderly in aged care facilities and homebound, and peace in the Holy Land and in the Ukraine.  
**Recently Deceased:** Captain Edmund Ip, Bp Austen Crapp ofm, Francesca Yii, Mary-Joan Yii, Phillip Ryan, Dianne Corrie, Peter Starr, Michelle Hegarty, Sr Annette Brown OSC, Robert Rose, Geoffrey Damian Hughes, Michael Duncan, Gabrielle McDonagh, Michael Egan, Mario Zanatta, Sr Paulina Pilkington, Sr Anne Crowley, Sr Patricia Heenan, Tim Campbell, William 'Billy' O'Riordan, Fr Arul Mariadass OFM,  
**In Memorium:** Ann Beglin, John McCue, John McLoughlin, Osbert De Rosario, Eva Curran (1yr), James Yii, Souls of Tico, Galan, Salcedo and Gania Families, John Lagudi, Annette Mary Lunney, Ian Stewart, Joan and Gus Maloney, Frank, Lena and Ann Kaine, David Roderick, Sr Mary Hereward, Woo Kam Shu, Francesco Lagudi, Tony Ponte, Jack and Maureen Brett, Patricia Brett.  
**Health and Family:** Members of the Salcedo Family, Rachel Lynch, Luke Curran, Patricia Dainer, David Crees.  
**Mass Intentions:** Frances Avery, Jacqueline Roche, McCaffery, Thyer and Buffier Families, Kevin De Souza, Shirley O'Shea, Katharina Lemech, Manfred Lemech, Hector Destro, Domenico & Nita Casamento, David Crees, Giuliano Family, Sarah Tabone, Kevin De Souza, The Silva Family, Jill N, David and Josie White, Mila Svehla, Eva Khun, Giuliano Family.

**Overview of the Archdiocese's Safeguarding Policy**  
<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/casys/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Overview-of-the-Policy.pdf>

**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 9390 5180 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto: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.

**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.**

Archdiocese  
Franciscan Friars

Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney  
Franciscan Friars Australia

Parish  
Archdiocese  
Franciscan friars

[www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com](http://www.stfrancis-stjoseph.com)  
[www.sydneycatholic.org](http://www.sydneycatholic.org)  
[www.franciscans.org.au](http://www.franciscans.org.au)



life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

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. Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. 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 LENT  
*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 Jn 12: 24  
Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION  
P. We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
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 in peace.  
R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD  
A MATTER OF TIME  
In this fifth week of Lent, we approach the crux of our belief. We are drawing near to our journey through Passion Sunday and Holy Week. Jeremiah heralds: “See the days are coming” and Jesus in the Gospel of John proclaims, “Now the hour has come!” These times are both important in their own context yet also mark God’s time.  
Jeremiah’s prophetic words announce God’s new covenant with the House of Israel, a covenant which God writes on their hearts that “I will be your God and you will be my people” (Jer 31:33).  
As John’s passage opens, it is the time of the Passover and some Greeks want to see Jesus. Their seeking of Jesus affirms the words of the Pharisees earlier “the world has gone after him” (John 12:19). The Greeks approach Philip as he has a Greek name, and Philip goes with Andrew, to Jesus. With the Greeks seeking him, Jesus recognises that the gathering has begun, “the world has gone after him,” so he announces, “the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified” (John 12:23). An Amen saying follows: “Very truly (Amen, amen), I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit” (John 12:24). In this image of a grain of wheat is firstly the revelatory sense of Jesus’ fate, destiny and mission. Secondly it is the way to see the disciples and our own lives and mission.  
DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL  
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# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / B 17 MARCH 2024

THE HOUR HAS COME. Jesus was greatly troubled as the hour of his suffering and death approached. He was tempted to ask the Father to save him from this hour. But he knew that his death would be a source of new life for all. Today’s liturgy invites us to share in Jesus’ self-sacrificing love. For ourselves, as for Jesus, the grain of wheat must die in order to produce a rich harvest.

INTRODUCTORY RITES  
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 42: 1-2  
Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

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. Lord Jesus, you were lifted up to draw all people to yourself: Lord, have mercy.  
R. Lord, have mercy.  
P. You shouldered the cross, to bear our suffering and sinfulness: Christ, have mercy.  
R. Christ, have mercy.

You open for your people the way from death into life: 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.  
*The Gloria is not said during Lent.*

COLLECT  
P. By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. 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 31: 31-34  
A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.  
*The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.*  
See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant

with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.  
R. Thanks be to God.  
RESP PSALM Ps 50: 3-4, 12-15. R. v. 12  
R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. / In your compassion blot out my offence. / O wash me more and more from my guilt / and cleanse me from my sin. R.  
2. A pure heart create for me, O God, / put a steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me away from your presence, / nor deprive me of your holy spirit. R.  
3. Give me again the joy of your help; / with a spirit of fervour sustain me, / that I may teach transgressors your ways / and sinners may return to you. R.

SECOND READING Heb 5: 7-9  
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.  
*He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.*  
During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.  
R. Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 12: 26  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! / If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; / and where I am, my servant will also be. / Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL Jn 12: 20-30  
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.  
*If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus’. Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal