

Prayers of the Faithful

PRIEST: Jesus came among the disciples to allay their fear and inspire them to preach the good news. Inspired with the same confidence, we offer up these prayers.

READER: We ask for the generosity of spirit to share what we have with our community. May the example of the early church, in which everything was held in common, direct us to imitate this charity, giving what we can to those in need. Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: St Thomas overcame his doubts to confess his faith in the risen Christ. May we also face our doubts head-on, drawing confidence from his experience and the faith of all the saints. Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Through our faith, we are transformed. As we recall the first Easter, when Christ rose from the dead, we ask for the wisdom to better understand and appreciate what this means for us and for our world. May we, who have received the Holy Spirit, work tirelessly to share our faith through our words and actions. Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: Jesus said to his disciples "peace be with you". We pray for peace throughout the world, especially in Ukraine, Haiti and the Holy Land. Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

READER: For those who have died, we pray that they may share with Jesus in eternal life. Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

PRIEST: God of all goodness, you know the secrets of all our hearts. Grant these prayers, we ask, in Jesus' name. Amen.
All: Amen

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. We invite you to contact the parish priest if you:
–Have been baptised but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation or were 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, in May, on 9331 4043.

We invite you to contact the parish priest if you have been baptised but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation.

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

St Francis of Assisi Paddington & St Joseph Edgecliff Parish Newsletter

7th April 2024 – Second Sunday of Easter —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

That you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Today we consider the presence of the Risen Lord. Where is he found? Each of the readings offers an answer to this question. The Risen Christ is found in the community of believers who follow the example of Jesus. Even non-believers recognised something marvellously different about the Christian community, and they exclaimed: 'These Christians, see how they love one another.'

The Risen Christ is found in those who accept the truth of the resurrection on the word of others. The word of God preached by others has often brought us out of darkness into light, from the stranglehold of death to the birth of new life. The preaching of the disciples has been not only instructive, it has also been transformative.

The Risen Christ is found in the forgiveness of sin. Jesus made the frightened disciples ministers of divine forgiveness. The Spirit reconciles sinners with God and, thereby, with the rest of the believing community. Forgiveness is a tangible sign of Christ's mystical presence.

The Risen Christ is found in the physical manifestation of Christ's own wounds, the wounds that he offered to be touched. Since the community is the body of Christ, we touch the wounds of Christ when we touch the wounds of the community, when we go out to the sick and infirm, the dispossessed and the violated. As shocking as these wounds may appear, they are really glorious, because the Risen Lord has identified with them and has made them his own.

Dianne Bergant CSA

Thank you

Fr Anthoni thanks all those who have so generously given of their time and talent to support and prepare our churches for the Easter liturgies. A special thanks to St Joseph parishioners in supporting Fr Peter.

*You are most welcome to provide any feedback on Palm Sunday and Easter Liturgies and how we might improve for next year please send an email to the office.

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.

CATECHISTS NEEDED! Training Provided

We have openings for teachers and helpers(who can fill in)for Catechists.

Currently we have need of teachers for classes on Fridays at 11.30am. The classes only run during school terms. If you can spare some time each week or would like to learn more about becoming a Catechist please contact the Parish Office.

Parish Priest at Conference

Please note that Father Anthoni will be a conference next week from Monday 8th April to Thursday 11th April. He will celebrate Monday morning mass and Thursday evening mass.

**For weekday masses please note the return to usual mass times.

St Francis Concert—Bach 'The Benefactor'

Friday 12th April 7.30pm

Ph: 1300 785 377. Bookings at

<https://www.bachakademieaustralia.com.au/events>

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 Debieen & Bransby Byrne
Cantor, Paddington: Nicole Smeulders
Principal, St Francis of Assisi School: Nicole Hudson

MASS TIMES **

St Joseph, Edgecliff

Sunday: 9am, 10.30am & 5.30pm

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 5.30pm

Liturgy of the Word/Communion: Tuesday/ Friday: 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

Baptisms: Niahm Gleeson, Romeo & Sienna Purificacao

Weddings: Katrina Castro & Renzo Rodriguez, Hannah Grimble & James Watt

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: Eloise Morton, Bro. Ignatius Hickson ofm, Fr Michael Daly, John Patrick Jones, 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.

In Memoriam: Carl Leberne, Mavis De Rozario, James Evans, 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.

Health and Family: Kenny Newksee, Noel Bureau, 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

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. 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
www.sydneycatholic.org
www.franciscans.org.au

they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and of those you have brought

to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. 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 EASTER

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 cf. Jn 20: 27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, / and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. 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, alleluia, alleluia!

R. Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

RADICAL TRANSFORMATION

As we bask in the light of resurrection, today we see two witnesses to the resurrection, and the transformation of lives.

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, the second volume attributed to Luke, and it presents to us a changed way of living. Firstly, the whole group of believers are described as 'of one heart and soul' (v. 32). The apostles appear as testifying with great power to the resurrection and 'great grace was upon them all' (v. 33). The remarkable addition here is that they shared everything in common, sold property and distributed funds so no-one was in need (v. 34-35). This radical transformation of their way of life is not a defining feature of our communities today, even though adopted by many religious congregations throughout the Church's history. While not diminishing the great charitable works operating today, this way of life remains a challenge to us in a world where rich become richer and poor increase in number and poverty.

In juxtaposition to the Acts account, the Gospel outlines the appearance of Jesus among the apostles and the repetition of 'Peace be with you' (vv.19, 21). In this gathering behind closed doors, Jesus tells the apostles that he is sending them out. He breathes the Holy Spirit upon them, commissioning them. Eight days later in the same room Jesus arrives saying once again 'Peace be with you' (v. 26) and here is the experience of the doubting Thomas, forever recorded for anyone who might doubt that the resurrection happened and is real.

How will our lives be transformed by the resurrection?

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) / B

7 APRIL 2024

THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE. Our belief in the teachings and resurrection of Jesus prompts us to be a part of the Christian community. In turn, our experience of Christian community strengthens our faith. It was only when Thomas was with the other disciples that he met the risen Christ and came to believe in him. It is a simple truth that faith builds community and community builds faith.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

1 Pet 2: 2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

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 the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: 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

P. God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,

increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. 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

Acts 4: 32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 117: 2-4, 15-18, 22-24. R. v. 1

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; / his right hand raised me up. / I shall not die, I shall live / and recount his deeds. / I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, / but not doomed to die. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Jn 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John
Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves



the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 20: 29

Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 20: 19-31

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.

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you,'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,