

Prayers of the Faithful

Presider: We have listened to those who journeyed alongside Jesus, in our scriptures today, and we can hear their passion for us to believe, and so to follow.

Reader: 'Let your face shine on us'. Let us dare to gaze up at Jesus and believe we are totally loved and treasured. Lord hear us.
ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: As humans, we inwardly crave deeply meaningful and nourishing relationships. Help us to respond with trust and eagerness to the best relationship we will ever entertain: that with our loving God. Lord hear us.
ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: May we seek forgiveness each day, with deep humility and trust, as we have the absolute reassurance that when we turn to God in repentance, our sins will be 'wiped out'. Lord hear us.
ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: In a wider world where we see so much suffering and inhumanity to our brothers and sisters, it is vital we turn to our advocate Father God and not succumb to despair and bitterness. Lord hear us.
ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader: We place our beloved dead into the ever-open arms of our risen Christ: may they rest in eternal peace. Lord hear us.
ALL: Lord hear our prayer.

Presider: God of love and forgiveness, our sublime advocate, hear our earnest prayers. 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

14th April 2024 – Third 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

'Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread'.

The first sentence of the gospel reading sets the context for the themes of today. Who is the Jesus that they recognised? And what does this recognition require?

Jesus is the servant of the God of the early ancestors, the long-awaited messiah, and the innocent sufferer portrayed in the prophetic tradition.

He is the fulfilment of our deepest aspirations. When we gather around the table for the sacramental meal, we encounter the Risen Lord. There the sacred traditions of our religious heritage are opened for us and we are enabled to recognise him in the traditions and in the breaking of the bread.

In order to encounter the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread and in the breaking open of the word, we need docile hearts ready to embrace the deepest meaning of our religious heritage. We need hearts that have been purified in the love of God; hearts that have been totally transformed.

The commandment of love requires nothing less.

Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people described in the first reading, must live reformed lives.

Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people addressed in the second reading, must be obedient to God's commandment of love.

Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the disciples

portrayed in the gospel, must preach the good news of God's forgiveness to all nations. Easter faith assures us that all of this is possible.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Dear Parishioners,

In October I will be celebrating 25th anniversary of ordination. Last year in July was the anniversary of my solemn profession. Our province allows us to have three months of holiday. I feel uncomfortable to be absent from our parishes for that long at this point, disrupting parish life and putting pressure on friars. So, I have decided to split my holidays. I plan to take six weeks from 29th of May to 17th of July. Fr Peter Clifford and Fr Carl Schafer have generously offered to assist us in my absence. I may take the rest of my holidays later this year and early next year.

I know you will step up to support Fr Peter, Fr Carl and Bro John and staff in managing parish life.

In my absence I hope you take time to reflect on parish life. Have some healthy conversations, pray and discern the needs of people. On my return in July, we will have meetings at parish level.

Thank you for your understanding and please continue to pray for me and our parishes.

Fr Anthoni Selvaraj ofm

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 from our website below.

For any enquiries, please contact the parish office.

<https://stfrancis-stjoseph.com/sacraments/2022-sacramental-program/>

Thank you to...

Rosemary Gearin, Mark Askew, Therese Lovell, and Brian McMahon for assisting the Parish in writing the prayers of the faithful.

We are coming up to our winter appeals.

**Just a reminder if you are planning to give to St Vinnies Winter Appeal, please give via St Francis - A percentage of this collection goes Centre 360 in support of their many services.

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.

'Feast of Our Lady of Fatima Procession' St Mary's Cathedral.

Beginning with a vigil mass St Mary's Cathedral followed by a candle-lit Procession around the Cathedral Forecourt. Attendees are recommended to arrive by 5:30 p.m. and be seated by 5:45 p.m.

Saturday 11th May 2024

6:00 p.m. St Marys Rd, Sydney.

CAMINO of ST JOSEPH

An overnight walking pilgrimage for men in honour of St Joseph the Worker.

26th-27th APRIL 2024

More Details:

www.sydneycatholic.org/MAXIMUS.

Called & Gifted Discernment Process -Zoom Training

29th April – 15th July 2024 (8 sessions).

\$140 plus booking fees.

For more information: www.gomakedisciples.org.au/called-gifted-discernment-process/

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

Wedding: Garth Clarke & Kathleen Cotter.

Baptisms: Beau Anthony Nicholl.

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: Gregory Scarf, Eloise Morton, Bro. Ignatius Hickson ofm, Fr Michael Daly, John Patrick Jones, Captain Edmund Ip, Bp Austen Crapp ofm,

In Memoriam: James Alexander Adamovich, 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,

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.

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.

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 were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them. 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

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. Receive, O Lord, we pray, these offerings of your exultant Church, and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness, grant

also that the gifts we bring may bear fruit in perpetual 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-V 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 Lk 24: 46-47

The Christ had to suffer and on the third day rise from the dead; / in his name repentance and remission of sins / must be preached to all the nations, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord, and grant, we pray, that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries may attain in their flesh the incorruptible glory of the resurrection. 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

YOU ARE WITNESSES

What was it like in the aftermath of Jesus' death and the joy of the good news of the resurrection? As we hear more accounts and reflections on the resurrection in today's readings, we also understand something of the dilemma of the early witnesses as to how to pass on this experience.

Luke is writing the Gospel and Acts at least 40-50 years after Jesus' resurrection. There are no photographs, no hard evidence, only the testimonies of those who were there.

Today's Gospel opens with the returnees from Emmaus telling their story and then Jesus appearing among them. The Gospel ends reminding the audience 'you are witnesses' (v. 48). It is not only to the first century audience that this is addressed. We too are witnesses. This is the term we find in Acts, the second volume of the Lukan narrative: the apostles, disciples, believers are witnesses. We are witnesses to the faith and belief of those gone before. We cannot touch and see Jesus for ourselves, but we can engage the scriptures. We can see in Luke's account Jesus' appearance among them, speaking to them, taking some food, inviting them to touch him. Luke's comment that Jesus 'opened their minds to understand the scriptures' (v. 45) repeats what was heard by those on the road to Emmaus. It is our reading and contemplation of the Word that deepens our faith and belief as witnesses and calls us forward in the transformation of our lives in the light of the resurrection.

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

14 APRIL 2024

UNDERSTANDING THE SCRIPTURES. The disciples of Jesus had great respect for the Jewish Scriptures: the Law of Moses, the prophets and the psalms. They came to full belief in the resurrection of Jesus only after he had opened their minds to see that his shameful death and glorious resurrection were prefigured in the sacred texts. The ancient Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament provide valuable witness for us also, strengthening our faith.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 65: 1-2

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

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, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, 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.

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. May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection. 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 3: 13-15, 17-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.
You killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.'

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PS Ps 4: 2, 4, 7, 9. R. v. 7

R. Lord, let your face shine on us. (or Alleluia!)

1. When I call, answer me, O God of justice; / from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! **R.**

2. It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; / the Lord hears me whenever I call him. **R.**

3. 'What can bring us happiness?' many say. / Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. **R.**

4. I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, / for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Jn 2: 1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John.
Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Lk 24: 32

Alleluia, alleluia! / Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: / make our hearts burn with love when you speak. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 24: 35-48

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.