

OUR LADY OF FATIMA, KINGSGROVE

Opening to the challenge of renewal

Living out the Eucharist & Gospel of Jesus Christ

Fostering communal compassion and service

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 29 October 2023

MASS TIMES

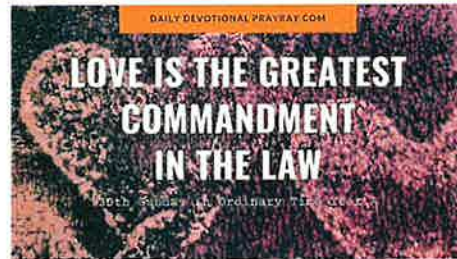
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 9:15am
Wednesday: 9:15am
Thursday: 9:15am
Friday: 12noon
Saturday: 9.15am & Vigil
 5.00pm
Sunday: 8:30am 10am &
 5.00pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday: 11.00am -12noon
 Rosary at 8:45am, Tuesday to Thursday and Saturday
Baptisms: Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. (Please call Parish Office)
Weddings: By Appointment (Please call Parish Office)

ALL SAINTS' DAY MASS
 WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER, 9:15AM
 Blessing of the Shrine of Remembrance

ALL SOULS' DAY MASSES
 THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER
 9:15AM & 7:00PM

On behalf of our Lady of Fatima Parish Community, the Caring and Support Group invites you and your family members to attend a special Remembrance Mass to celebrate all deceased parishioners, family members and friends from the past year.
To be held on: Friday, 3 November, 6:30pm



REFLECTION

The scriptures offer a profound and multi-faceted revelation of God. In different situations, God is revealed as judge, as a savior, as servant, as creator, as father, as mother, as lover, etc. One of the most powerful and perhaps shocking images we find, especially in the book of Exodus, is of God as a warrior who frees the Israelites from slavery by slaying their enemies.

Clearly, God, the warrior is not one to ignore. The Israelites would not have treated lightly the Lord's threat to kill them with the sword if they molested or oppressed the stranger in their midst or treated widows and orphans harshly.

This warrior God is praised in today's responsorial psalm. The Scriptures put this psalm on the lips of David after the Lord had rescued him from the clutches of his enemies. Using military images, David praises the Lord for being his fortress, his shield, his stronghold and his mighty strength against his foes.

The image of God as a warrior can be very disturbing. We need to see that what motivates the Lord to be a warrior is a deep love for those who are oppressed. We can think of the fierce love of parents who will do anything to protect their vulnerable children. We cannot love this God without also loving God's people. Not to love our neighbour is to put ourselves at enmity with God. Today's first reading urges us not to adopt a narrow definition of neighbour. The stranger in our midst will always be the object of the special love of our warrior God.

God's Word 2023



Love is present in our Parish community by supporting our Catholic Mission Appeal last week. We received \$2,965.35, that will help their medical and health projects. Your donations are 100% tax deductible. Thank you.



NOVEMBER IS A SPECIAL MONTH TO PRAY and REMEMBER ALL OUR DECEASED LOVE ONES, PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS.

During all of November there will be a sanctuary to place all the names of our deceased RELATIVES & FRIENDS. The November mass offering envelopes are available beside the mass offering box of the presbytery AND IN CHURCH FOYER. PLEASE WRITE NAMES CLEARLY. PLEASE DROP YOUR ENVELOPE AND OFFERINGS INTO THE MASS OFFERING BOX IN THE PRESBYTERY OR IN PARISH OFFICE DURING OFFICE HOURS. Thank you.

Sacramental Corner: All Saints and All Souls Feast Day

By Bernadette Bassil

It is a joyous time to celebrate the two consecutive Feast days at the beginning of November, as they bring the living and the dead together at the conclusion of our Church Calendar.

In the very beginning of the Early Church, people who were called to be Baptised completed this Sacrament on their deathbeds. This was to ensure that their entire life's sins were forgiven. Later as the people of the Early Church kept records of the faithful departed, they were known as the *elect* – those who are *called* by God. The term '*elect*' is now commonly used for all who are called by God. Namely those who are undertaking Baptism, the enlistment of person becoming a Saint or holding an office in the Catholic Church.

Do you ever wonder why All Saints and All Souls Day are so close to each other? The answer comes from the notion that we are all marked by the Holy Spirit from our Baptism. We are marked with God's seal so that when we are alive, we live for our Lord. Then, when we die, our Soul has that marking to show that we belong to Christ.

Saints start their earthly life, the same as many of us. They all had upbringings that relate to their environments. What sets them apart is the fulfilment of their calling to God. As we are all called to live a Holy life united to God, we see that the Saints united their entire life – the good, the bad, the sorrowful, the hard, the joyful, the confusion, their study, the disbelief and more – to God. Their death would be like all of us. The journey of their Soul would also be the same. BUT the heavenly connection to God will be different. The saints are lucky to stand at the forefronts of Heaven and have direct contact with God. We know this as we are constantly asking them to 'pray for us'. It is invigorating to know we have this notable *elect* praying to God with us for our Earthly causes. Hence why we should acknowledge every single Saint that is known or unknown to us on the 1st November.



What about the Holy Souls? We all know a person that 'was taken away so early' or 'was such a saint'. Their legacy will never be forgotten, and the Catholic Church ensures all Souls are prayed for on the 2nd November. As you remember them, it is ideal to thank God for having them in this life and that we had the ability to know or hold them. Their Baptism of Water or by Blood (meaning the intention of their life was to Baptise them before their death) means they have the seal of the Holy Spirit and they too, would have the ability to stand at the front line of Heaven after their purification in purgatory.

Our earthly job is to find our way to become closer to God and to take the cross we are given and allow it to become the pavement to Heaven. Let us always pray that God will comfort, and hold close all members of His Church. May the Holy Souls who have departed from our Parish rest in peace.

We will remember them.

Do you like to sing, dance, act or entertain a large crowd?

This year, the Parish Christmas Carols Night is on 16/12/23, Saturday after vigil mass. We would love to invite the many talented people, young or young in heart, who would be interested in showcasing God's gifts and performing at this Event.

**IT'S NEVER
too early for
Christmas,
MUSIC**

GROWING IN FAITH

**Scriptural readings and Saints for this week
YEAR A**

OCTOBER 2023

Thirtieth week of ordinary time

30 Mon

Rom 8:12-17/Lk 13:10-17 (479)

31 Tue

Rom 8:18-25/Lk 13:18-21 (480)

NOVEMBER 2023

1 Wed

ALL SAINTS

Solemnity [Holyday of Obligation]

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a (667) Pss Prop

2 Thu

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Any readings from no. 668 or from the Masses for the Dead (1011-1016)

3 Fri

Saint Martin de Porres, Religious

Rom 9:1-5/Lk 14:1-6 (483)

4 Sat

Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Memorial

Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29/Lk 14:1, 7-11 (484)

5 SUN THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12 (151) Pss III

"As a caring faith community, we reach out in love and prayers to our brothers and sisters in Farrell and Flat Rock Roads praying for their needs and intentions. "



Angels Choir is calling!

Sunday 5pm Angels Choir is currently recruiting 2024 Year 5-9. If you want to know us more or have a

feel of participating mass from a different perspective, pop in and join us at 4pm on Sunday. Consistent choir members will be singing at the upcoming Christmas Family mass. Contact: Antonia 0404 807 595 or parish office.

JOIN US

7:00PM
FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER

EASTFEST
PRESENTS
JOURNEY

WITH FR.
ROB GALEA

AT OUR LADY OF THE SACRED
HEART CHURCH RANDWICK

FOR MORE INFO & TO
BOOK YOUR TICKETS:
TRYBOOKING.COM/CLNRB

SCAN
ME



*EARLYBIRD DISCOUNT AVAILABLE UNTIL OCT.31ST



ATTENTION READERS CHRISTMAS 2023

The next roster commences on 18/19 November and will cover the Christmas/January period. Please advise of any dates you are unavailable during that time, as it can be difficult for you to organise a swap at that time of year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. The Hobans.

OLF PARISH PILGRIM STATUE

The home visits of Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrim Statue have resumed. Please contact the Parish Office on 9150 9665 if you wish to be included in the weekly roster. Name of host family will be published in the Bulletin. Host family from Saturday, **28 October: Freda & Guy Cassar**

The Planned Giving envelopes for the financial year 2023/2024 were in the church foyer since end of June 2023. We had removed them from the church. These can be collected from the Parish Office. Tax Receipts for the year ending 30 June 2023 will still be at the church foyer until further notice. Thank you.



Women's Social Support Group Christmas Party Dinner

Date: Wednesday 6th December 2023
 Location: EBP RSL – The Creek Room
 Time: 6.30pm for 7pm
 Cost: To be confirmed

There will be a raffle and lucky door prizes.



Our Christmas Party is an open invitation for any woman in the Parish who would like to attend. It would be really great to have you there.

Please RSVP by Friday 29th November 2023 to Veronica on 0412 216 166 or vtierney37@optusnet.com.au

THE ST GEORGE NETWORK OF FAMILY EDUCATORS INVITES YOU TO



MEN'S BUSINESS

FAITH
FRIENDSHIP
FOOD



WEDNESDAY 15 NOV 6.30PM
ST DECLAN'S PENSHURST
SCHOOL HALL
ENTER VIA PENSHURST ST

Cost - \$10 includes guest speakers, light meal, drinks and lucky door prizes.
Register and pay via QR code by 10th November



OLF FAMILY MASS

Family Mass Sunday 5th November,
10am.



Please join us as we gather as a community and celebrate Mass together.

We especially extend an invitation to the Year 1 and Year 2 students and their families as they lead our Mass.



"In His Presence: A Women's Retreat of Healing and Renewal"

With

Fr Justin Torres

Sunday 5th November 2023

1pm - 5pm

St Joseph's Catholic Church
126 Liverpool Rd Enfield

rosetwymansydney@gmail.com

Rose: 80683845

0412115961

ST URSULA'S COLLEGE KINGSGROVE PRESENTS



GOLDEN TICKETS ON SALE!



\$20 per person
Shows commence at 6:30pm
on 21, 22 and 23 November

BOOK NOW!



OUR YOUTH.....

OUR YOUTH.....

During our September youth group gathering, Father Casey blessed the meal before we commenced. The gathering centered around the theme of

"The Cross" with Tuione and Joe leading the discussion. They explored the various ways Catholics perceive the cross, whether as a religious symbol representing Jesus' sacrifice or simply as a piece of jewellery.

Throughout the session, we encouraged the youth to look up specific Bible verses, helping them develop their skills in using and reading the Bible for future gatherings. One of the key verses discussed was Romans 5:8, which states, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this, while we were still sinners Christ died for us." We also delved into the story of the Bronze Snake (Numbers 21:4-9), which serves as a powerful metaphor for God's grace, forgiveness, and the role of faith in bringing healing and salvation.

During the gathering, the youth engaged in open discussions about their perspectives on the cross and their emotional responses when looking at it. Some expressed feelings of gratitude, as the cross symbolised Jesus' sacrifice for sinners like themselves. Others associated it with the Catholic Church and the concept of forgiveness through confession. Following these discussions, which expanded the youth's understanding of the Cross, we concluded the gathering with team-building activities.

The youth were divided into two groups, and we organised four rounds of different activities. These included a crossword puzzle, a word search, trivia questions related to the crucifixion, and a spelling bee. Congratulations to Group 2 who were our all-rounder champions. To end our gathering, Father Casey offered a final blessing to the youth group.

October 29th, following the 5pm Sunday Mass

Pizza-making night!

We welcome old and new youth members participate our journey with Christ together.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Parishioners living in retirement:
Mavis Armour, Bambina Canosa, Patricia North, Noelene Bennett, Enid Taylor; Nancy Dawson; Frances English, Anne Sheerin, Caterina Ancona, Justina De Bellis, Patricia Gray, Antonietta Roberto, Netta Donnelly, Mary Melville.

(Should you want to know the place of their retirement homes, please call Parish Office 9150 9665).

Parishioners/friends who are Sick:

Beatriz Nucum, Violet Bozic, Antoninette McGahan, Guy Cassar, Ben McNeill, Merci Valix, Antoinette Taza, Marie Toutounji, Therese Cardinali, Nicholas Reed, Agnes (Sonju) Lee Wong, Swastika Hawach, Fiapai To'oto'o, Michael Talbot, Frank Crimi, Chris Banks, Am Gonzales, Justin Bautista, Laura Smith, John Aleixo, Isaias Alaso, Lydia Arrogante, Annalisa Castagnone, Anna Glinatsis, Jeanette Affara, Colin Elliott, Samar Munoz, Luisa Maria Karin, Peter & Patricia Matt, Christine Ureta, Alvin Ureta, Jasmin Ghasan, George Chayeb, Pat McGuirk, Thelma Gribocck, Bill Taylor, Jun Letran, Diane Salem, Philip Maguire, Kamala Reddy, Maximino Ilaya, Maria (Thi Quyen) Lee, Carlos Munoz, Aileen Munoz, Peter Carter, Priscilla Watson, Aidan Ravallion, Steven Holman, Dhiren Boidya, Leonardo Pagano, Nelly Vanzyl, Paolo & Rhea Primavera, Tom De Michele, Rosemary Theodoris, James Crito, Alida Banks, Peter Nair, Grazia Passeretti, Stephen Doyle, Renae Corban, Amanda Teer, Raigan Kerr, James Genco.

Please pray for our Recently Deceased:

Eileen Monaghan, Paolo Meduro (Maria La Spada's father), Kelvin Dark, Colin Chandler, Eddie Gallagher, Peg Denny, Norman Arena, Merle Kenna, Tony Redford, Agripino Estrellas. Maurice Sahlani, Abdullah Khoury, Giuseppe Roppolo, Angelo Rossetti, Leon Ung, George Coorey, Clare McBriarty, Jim O'Connor, Francesco Talotta.

Anniversaries: Mary Deacon, Maria Ierace, Ida Pagnaco, Laureana Encabo, Celestina Sanna, Lino Maini, Luba Ancic, Joe Ancic, Betty Maguire, Maria Camuglia, Maria Iacono, Italo Giannoccolo, Frances Merenda.

We had started last May 2022, list of parishioners whose death anniversaries occur during the particular month will be included in Bulletin once at the beginning of each month and will be offered masses.

Also For: Thanksgiving and intentions of Peter celebrating 85th birthday; for Stephen Southworth's successful career; deceased Fr Terence Mahedy, and prayers and intentions requested through the OLF Kingsgrove Intercessory Prayer Group, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.



BAPTISM PREPARATION NIGHT

Wednesday 8th November 2023
7:00pm. RSVP 4th November 2023
Coordinators: Imelda Dela Cruz Ph: 0414 979 241; Myrna De La Pena Ph: 0490 410 896

ROSTERS 4/5 November 2023

	5:00pm	8.30am
Reader:	P Simon	E Russo
Commentator:	K Doherty	Rana MN
Acolyte:	Michelle	Pak
	10:00am	5:00pm
Reader:	Family Mass	Youth
Commentator:	Family Mass	
Acolyte	Wilson	Anthony

Altar Servers:

Sat Vigil	: P Brunet, A Shen
Sun 8.30am	: C & N Badr
Sun 10.00am	: D Yazbeck, M Serraglio, A Liontos
Sun 5.00pm	: E Loho, A Nehme



Safeguarding in our Parish

It is my responsibility and your responsibility! Most of the members of our Children's Liturgy, Children's choir, Sacramental Programme educators, Youth Ministry, Acolyte or Minister of Holy Communion, Senior Altar Server, Reader, Warden or counters undertook

Safeguarding training in 2019. If you are new to these Ministries and have not attended a parish Safeguarding Induction Training session, please register for an on-line training course at <https://forms.gle/9ebT3voEAtP7P8R9> or via Zoom by sending an email to safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org

The Safeguarding Office of our Archdiocese has decided that a 3 yearly **Refresher Training** is required for members of these ministries, i.e. those trained in 2019 or earlier. Volunteers can register for the new Refresher Training **on line** via this link <https://forms.gle/XuQFsRsvq3BYtXqT9> or via Zoom by sending an email to safeguardingtraining@sydneycatholic.org Just a reminder that volunteers only need to complete the Refresher Training if they have completed the Induction Training prior to 2020. **A message from the**

Archdiocese of Sydney Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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 safeguarding@equies@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.

PARISH CALENDAR 2024

To assist in preparing the calendar, leaders of various ministries are requested to submit their dates for the calendar to the parish secretary, Katrina or Imelda by 30/11. Thank you in anticipation for your cooperation.

PLEASE NOTE: THE NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS: OPEN FROM 8:30AM TO 2:30PM (TUESDAY TO FRIDAY).

Our New email address: kingsgroveolf@gmail.com

Sunday 29 Oct 2023 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading

Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

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

You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

LET'S PRAY FOR ISRAEL

O God the creator of all life, we bring before you
all the people who call Israel and Palestine home.
We particularly remember those living in Jerusalem and Gaza
whose lives are marred by restrictions to their freedom,
the threat of eviction from their homes
and the constant fear of armed conflict.
We ask your forgiveness for the anger, hatred and violence
that all of us have the potential to carry within us.
We beseech you to soften hearts and open minds
so that the sanctity of life is always protected,
the right to freedom of worship upheld
and the security of a safe home defended.
We pray that justice will flow like rivers.
That human dignity will be respected and,
that each of us may strive to do justice,
love mercy and walk humbly with you our God. Amen