



# Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



## Weekly Newsletter

### Fifth Sunday in Lent 21 March 2021

#### Liturgy Times

##### SUNDAY:

8:30am, 10:00am.

Children's Liturgy during school term

**TUESDAY:** 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

**WEDNESDAY:** 7:00am

**THURSDAY:** 9:15am

**FRIDAY:** 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

**SATURDAY:** 9:00am

(Adoration and Reconciliation after Mass)

5:00pm (Vigil Mass)

##### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 9:30-10:00am; 4:25-4:50pm



I hardly watch the news these days, for more reasons than one, not the least of which is that watching too much of it last year has brought out for me the senselessness of it all - 'Vanity of vanities! All is vanity.' (Ecclesiastes 1:2) I will probably have to find a happy balance at some stage but for now I am rather enjoying the new freedom - the freedom of ignorance. So the only reason I found out about the recent shooting in Beverly Hills was because a prominent singer in our parish was unable to attend Mass last Sunday, after having been forced into a lock down of sorts, not by the threat of the coronavirus, but by the need for forensic testing by the police. Our parishioner was neither harmed nor suspected. May the whole matter be brought to a peaceful resolution soon.

Last Friday was the solemn feast of St Joseph. One of the reasons why Pope Francis was keen to promulgate the Year of St Joseph was because of the quiet heroes - those who weren't on television or under the spotlight and yet quietly went about doing good during the pandemic. The pope wrote, 'we experienced, amid the crisis, how our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked. People who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines, or on the latest television show, yet in these very days are surely shaping the decisive events of our history...How many people daily exercise patience and offer hope, taking care to spread not panic, but shared responsibility.'

Speaking of quiet heroes, St Joseph was the greatest of them all! This might come to some as a surprise, but there is not a single word of St Joseph which has been recorded in the scriptures. He is certainly mentioned there, but only in the most succinct of manners. And yet there is so much that we can learn about St Joseph, for, such is the nature of the mystery of faith - seemingly compact enough to be simple and yet expansive enough to fill the entire universe.

Quietly, St Joseph walked by faith rather than by sight, learning to let go of his own preconceived ideas/plans in favour of those of God. This was his great strength: his unwavering trust which allowed the Author of Life to write with Joseph's life the greatest possible story - a story which was beautiful, honourable and meaningful; a story which he could be proud of for all eternity. And he did all this quietly, without promoting himself or vying for honour.

Speaking of St Joseph, who seemed more than happy to be outshone by his most glorious wife Mary, I am reminded of another person, a parishioner, who has just passed away. Never had I seen a husband speak with so much admiration for his wife, albeit after she had passed away (for that is when I met him). It was as though her glory was his glory, to the point that his eyes lit up every time he spoke of her. He also happened to be the original owner of the house which is currently serving as the presbytery. I know that he used to sit in the living room from where he could look out toward the church/school, like a gentle guardian of the premises. In this way, again, I am reminded of St Joseph, the Guardian/Patron of the entire Catholic Church. *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. May he rest in peace. Amen.*

- Fr Peter -

#### Pastoral Team:

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## The Week Ahead

<b>Sun 21 March</b> 5th Sun of Lent	8.30am 10.00am	<b>No need to book for Mass</b>
<b>Mon 22 March</b>		No Mass
<b>Tue 23 March</b>	9.15am	Mass
<b>Wed 24 March</b>	7am 9am	Mass School Only Mass
<b>Thu 25 March</b> Annunciation	9.15pm 10.30am	Mass <b>Funeral Mass for Chris Byrne</b>
<b>Fri 26 March</b>	9.15am	Mass
<b>Sat 27 March</b>	9.00am 9:25- 9:55am  4:15- 4:45pm 5pm	Mass Stations of the Cross & Reconciliation  Reconciliation Vigil Mass
<b>Sun 28 March</b> 6th Sunday of Lent	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

### Recently Deceased

Chris Byrne, William Cheung

### In Loving Memory

Giuseppe Graniero

**Please remember those who are in ill health especially:** James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camellotti.

### Rosary Statue

**Mrs R. Carnevale**  
**20 Mayfair Crescent**  
**Ph: 0401 934 348**



#### Parish Secretary

Mrs Margaret  
Doherty-Brady  
9554 8155  
Tues 8:30am-  
1:30pm Wed & Fri  
10.30am—3.30pm

#### Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO

Mrs Elizabeth Gooley  
9554 8155  
reginasacramental@gmail.com  
Tuesday **and** Thursday from  
11.30am - 3.30pm

#### School Principal

Mr Chris Egan  
Asst. Principal  
Mr Peter Busch  
  
**REC**  
Mrs Elizabeth  
Webster

## HOLY WEEK ROSTER

Dear Readers and Acolytes,

Please take a look at the roster at the back of the church. It is currently empty. Please write your name down for the ceremonies at which you wish to volunteer.

Thank you very much.

## Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Family Spirit needs your help to find part-time, short-term or long-term carers for children and young people of all ages.

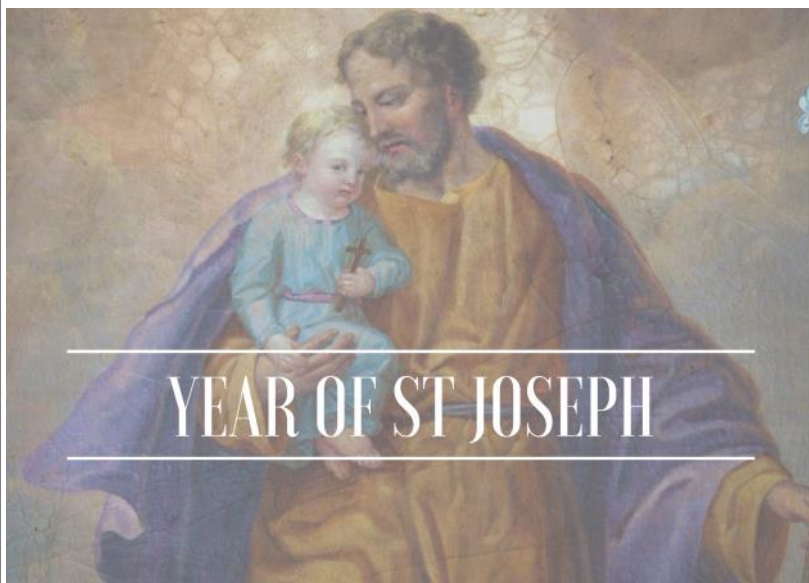
To find out more, you are invited to our online information sessions on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 6.30 – 7.30pm and Wednesday 28 April at 12.30 – 1.30pm.

To book call:

**Family Spirit 13 181 9**

connect@familyspirit.org

8am – 6pm Monday – Friday



*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*



# St Joseph: an accepting father

By POPE FRANCIS, ON THE 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH  
AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

*Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history. Unless we are reconciled with our own history, we will be unable to take a single step forward, for we will always remain hostage to our expectations and the disappointments that follow.*

*The spiritual path that Joseph traces for us is not one that explains, but accepts. Only as a result of this acceptance, this reconciliation, can we begin to glimpse a broader history, a deeper meaning. We can almost hear an echo of the impassioned reply of Job to his wife, who had urged him to rebel against the evil he endured: "Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" (Job 2:10).*

*Joseph is certainly not passively resigned, but courageously and firmly proactive. In our own lives, acceptance and welcome can be an expression of the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude. Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.*

*Jesus' appearance in our midst is a gift from the Father, which makes it possible for each of us to be reconciled to the flesh of our own history, even when we fail to understand it completely.*

*Just as God told Joseph: "Son of David, do not be afraid!" (Mt 1:20), so he seems to tell us: "Do not be afraid!" We need to set aside all anger and disappointment, and to embrace the way things are, even when they do not turn out as we wish. Not with mere resignation but with hope and courage. In this way, we become open to a deeper meaning. Our lives can be miraculously reborn if we find the courage to live them in accordance with the Gospel. It does not matter if everything seems to have gone wrong or some things can no longer be fixed. God can make flowers spring up from stony ground. Even if our heart condemns us, "God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything" (1 Jn 3:20).*

*Here, once again, we encounter that Christian realism which rejects nothing that exists. Reality, in its mysterious and irreducible complexity, is the bearer of existential meaning, with all its lights and shadows. Thus, the Apostle Paul can say: "We know that all things work together for good, for those who love God" (Rom 8:28). To which Saint Augustine adds, "even that which is called evil (etiam illud quod malum dicitur)". In this greater perspective, faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad.*

**To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the  
canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop**

**We invite you to order your free copy of  
*Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer***

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to **"take fresh courage..."** as Mary did so often.

These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to:  
[www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book](http://www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book)  
or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777

**MARY MACKILLOP**  
*today*



**First Reading Jer 31:31-34**

*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.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12**

*(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

1. Have mercy on my, 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**

*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.

**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 12:20-33**

*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 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 men to myself.'

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



**Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past ('the days when Christ was in the flesh'), the future ('the days are coming'), and the present ('the hour has come'). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the 'already-but-not-yet' time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night.

This 'hour' brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God's own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life.

Although the 'hour' brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ's blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.

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