

25th April, National Commemoration Day

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land of the Gweagal People of the Dharawal Nation.

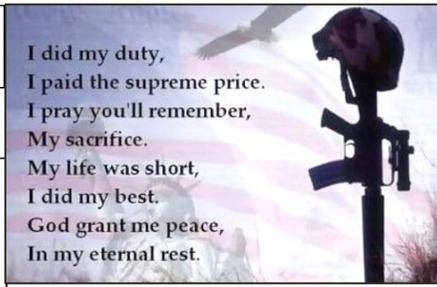
Our COVID-19 Safety Plan: 1) those with flu symptoms must not enter the church; 2) register via QR code on entry or sign in; 3) sanitise hands on entry; 4) sanitise seats after each service; 5) social distancing 1.5m apart or mask wearing recommended if distancing not possible (Covid Capacity 180 seats).

Daily Masses: 7.30am **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday** (Saturday: Holy Hour, Confession and Mass); **Tuesday** 5.00pm: Adoration, Novena, Confession, Benediction and 6pm Mass. **First Friday** of the month: 5pm Holy Hour and 6pm Mass
Weekend Mass times: Saturday: Vigil 5pm **Sunday:** 8am, 9:30am and **2nd Sunday** of the month only at 3pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet with Benediction and Mass. **Baptisms after 9:30 Mass**
 Marriages and Baptisms inquiries please contact Parish Office.

Mass and Holy Hour via You Tube: stjosephcomo

St. Joseph's Como is a Community that cares for safeguarding children. Safeguarding Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

Our sick: Elizabeth Kinsela Ida Melis, Katrina Marinilli, Rita Shah, Julia Lock, Marie Lawsen, Ian Duffey, Glennise Hall, Eliette Majdandzic; Barbara Eadie, Helen McGuirk, Dragica Furda, May Kenny, Carmen Camilleri, Jan Gurba, Mary Carmen Borg, Norma Cook, Josefa Dabu, Josie Lay, Christine Woodard, Maria Suszycka, Urszula Kaminska, Thea Van Gastel, Josephine Marinilli, Steven Marinilli and all homebound and dear friends from Mildred Symons House (1st Wed. 10.30 mass).



I did my duty,
 I paid the supreme price.
 I pray you'll remember,
 My sacrifice.
 My life was short,
 I did my best.
 God grant me peace,
 In my eternal rest.

Pope Benedict the 15th, who became Pope on the third of September, 1914, and who in November that year grieved: "There is no limit to the measure of ruin and of slaughter; day by day the earth is drenched with newly-shed blood, and is covered with the bodies of the wounded and of the slain. Who would imagine, as we see them thus filled with hatred of one another, that they are all of one common stock, all of the same nature, all members of the same human society? Who would recognise brothers, whose Father is in Heaven?" He urged the warring parties to negotiate.



Dear Rosa, Steve and Family, we are grateful to God for sending you to our community. You are Jesus' disciples sharing tremendously amongst us your deep faith in the Risen Lord.

Humanity's interest in the heavens has been universal and enduring. Humans are driven to explore the unknown, discover new worlds, push the boundaries of our scientific and technical limits, and then push further. The intangible desire to explore and challenge the boundaries of what we know and where we have been has provided benefits to our society for centuries. Human space exploration helps to address fundamental questions about our place in the Universe, our destiny and God the Creator.

"Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord...in your neighbour." Under this motto your loving hands, kindness and goodness help those disadvantaged in the Region. May God bless you on this Special 60th Birthday (25th April).



"The Gospels mention various appearances of the risen Christ, but not a meeting between Jesus and his Mother. This silence must not lead to the conclusion that after the Resurrection Christ did not appear to Mary; rather it invites us to seek the reasons why the Evangelists made such a choice," St. John Paul II said at a general audience May 21, 1997. At an audience a year earlier, he reminded that Mary witnessed the entire paschal mystery and "alone remains to keep alive the flame of faith, preparing to receive the joyful and astonishing announcement of the Resurrection." If the evangelists didn't write about Mary's encounter with her risen Son Jesus, this can perhaps be attributed to the fact that such a witness would have been considered too biased by those who denied the Lord's Resurrection, and therefore not worthy of belief," John Paul II contended in 1997. He offered another reason too. The Gospels list only a few appearances by the risen Lord, "certainly not a complete summary of all that happened during the 40 days after Easter". For instance, St. Paul highlights that Jesus appeared "to more than 500 brethren at one time" (1 Corinthians 15:6). How is it, John Paul II asked, "that an exceptional event known to so many is not mentioned by the Evangelists?" Obviously, the Evangelists didn't record all Jesus' appearances. "How could the Blessed Virgin, present in the first community of disciples (Acts 1:14), be excluded from those who met her divine Son after he had risen from the dead?" asked John Paul II. Indeed, it is legitimate to think that the Mother was probably the first person to whom the risen Jesus appeared.

Heraclitus of Ephesus (535-475 BC.) said πάντα ῥεῖ (panta rhei) "everything flows". Indeed everything passes and time with it. Each year on 25th April I reflect upon the Divine call to priesthood which was bestowed upon me. On this day I praise God for selecting me from many to be His messenger and priest. Nothing stays still all is moving "panta rhei" for Greater Glory of God.

The fourth stage in the RCIA is called "mystagogy", from the Greek words meaning "to lead through mysteries." Traditionally mystagogy extends throughout the Easter season, until Feast of Pentecost. This is a period of accompaniment for the new Catholics as they discover what it means to fully participate in the sacramental mystery of the Church. The newly baptised are called "neophytes", from the Greek words meaning "new plant", because of the faith having been planted in them. Even though their catechetical preparation has been completed, they still have much to learn about what it means to live as Catholic Christians. They need the ongoing support of the community.



The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that through Baptism, we become members of the Body of Christ and are incorporated into the Church, but the Baptised also "share in the priesthood of Christ, in his prophetic and royal mission." (CCC1268)



To donate to the parish: 1) Scan the bar code on ← left with your mobile phone camera and follow the instructions therein. 2) Visit our website: <https://www.stjosephscomo.org.au/> and click on the "DONATE NOW" button. 3) Copy following link to your web browser: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/COMOOYSTERBAYPARISH>

The National Count of Attendance will again be conducted throughout Australia this year. All parishes are urged to take part. The count is conducted over the first four consecutive Sundays (and Saturday evenings) in May. This year, parishes will also be asked to provide estimates of the age and sex of those who attend Mass as well the number of 'views' of Masses or Sunday assemblies streamed online. (2021 National Count of Attendance)