

<p>We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land of the Gweagal People of the Dharawal Nation.</p>	<p>Mass Intentions (8th – 14th Jan.)</p> <p>Sat. 7.30am Jan. Birthday Celebrants Vigil 5pm +Dr Patrick Lim Snr Sun. .8am +Iris Johnson Sun. 9.30am. +Anna Gurba and +Czeslaw Niemen</p> <p>Mon. +Souls in Purgatory Tue. +Teresa & Wilhelm Wed. +Scholastika & Piotr Thurs. +Souls in Purgatory Fri. +Souls in Purgatory</p>		<p>Long before Christianity, the idea of baptism developed. Jews had been practicing ritual immersion in the form of entering into a mikveh means purification. There is evidence that ritual immersion in bath (mikva'ot) were practiced around Jerusalem and in a place called Qumran (Dead Sea Scrolls). Certain ancient authors like Josephus (37-100 AC) talk about groups of the Essenes who would practice ritual immersion. The Christian approach to baptism was like many other approaches to Jewish rituals; for instance, Jesus took the Passover meal and invested new meaning upon it at the Last Supper by saying "this is my blood, this is my body". Encouraged by Jesus Christ ascending into heaven, the Apostles preached the Word of God to the nations and baptised them in the name of the Holy Trinity. This is the beginning of a Christian Baptism.</p>		<p>Julian Tomasz, with parents and godparents after the Baptism last Sunday.</p>
<p>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 2m apart. 6) vaccination advisable.</p> <p>Masses can be viewed on YouTube: Streaming: stjosephcomo</p>		<p>The Oil of Catechumens (CAT) is the oil used during baptism; it is believed to strengthen the one being baptized to turn away from evil, temptation and sin. Chrism (CHR) is essential for the Catholic Sacrament of Confirmation, and is prominently used in the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Orders. The oil they receive is the "Oil of Chrism," a mixture of olive oil, cinnamon, cassia, calamus, and myrrh blended according to an ancient recipe prescribed in the book of Exodus 30:23-33.</p>	<p>Spiritual fellowship, such as attending church or a meditation group, can be sources of social support which may provide a sense of belonging, security, and community. Strong relationships have been proven to increase wellbeing and bolster life expectancy, which is perhaps a strong association between church attendance and improved health, mood, and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Pope Francis' New Year's homily focused on motherhood and women — saying it was they who kept together the threads of life — and used it to make one of his strongest calls yet for an end to violence against women. "And since mothers bestow life, and women keep the world [together], let us all make greater efforts to promote mothers and to protect women," Pope Francis said. "How much violence is directed against women! To hurt a woman is to insult God, who from a woman took on our humanity — not through an angel, not directly, but through a woman," he said, in a reference to Jesus' mother Mary. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began nearly two years ago, he has several times spoken out against domestic violence, which has increased in many countries since lockdowns left many women trapped with their abusers. (From Spirit Daily)</p>	
<p>Daily Masses: 7:30am Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (Saturday: Holy Hour, Confession and Mass); Tuesday 5:30pm: Adoration, Novena, Confession, Benediction and 6pm Mass. First Friday of the month: 5:30pm Holy Hour and 6pm Mass.</p> <p>Weekend Mass times: Saturday: Vigil 5pm Sunday: 8am, 9:30am and 2nd Sunday of the month at 3pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet with Benediction and Mass. Baptisms after 9:30 Mass</p> <p>Marriage and Baptism inquiries please contact Parish Office.</p>	<p>There is no doubt that the early Church practiced infant baptism. The New Testament itself, while it does not explicitly say when believers should have their children baptized, is not silent on the subject. Luke 18:15–16 tells us that they were bringing even "infants" to Jesus. Therefore, Peter declared, "Repent, and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you <i>and to your children</i>" (Acts 2:38–39). The Apostolic Church baptised whole "households" (Acts 16:33; 1 Cor. 1:16), a term encompassing children and infants as well as servants.</p>	<p>Mass marking Anniversary of Death of Eileen O'Connor to be livestreamed on Monday 10th Jan. at 11am: www.eileenconnor.com.au</p>	<p>"Every creature, every plant, every rock and grain of sand proclaims the glory of its Creator, worships through colour, shape, scent and form. A multi-sensory song of praise. Creator God, may we join with the whole of your creation, in praising you, our Creator, through the fragrance and melody of our lives".</p>		
<p>Google: Sydney Centre for Evangelisation</p> <p>"Catholic SRE Learning from Home" materials; https://www.cress.org.au/learnin-g-from-home-sre-lessons/</p>	<p>Pope John Paul II initiated the day in 1992 to encourage people to pray for those who suffer from illness and for their caregivers. The Pope himself had been diagnosed with Parkinson's a year before, in 1991, and it is considered that his own illness was impetus for his designation of the day. World Day of the Sick was first observed on February 11, 1993.</p>	<p>Mass marking Anniversary of Death of Eileen O'Connor to be livestreamed on Monday 10th Jan. at 11am: www.eileenconnor.com.au</p>	<p>Please pray for the soul of Mrs Thea Van Gastel, who peacefully passed away on Tuesday 4th Jan. Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Friday, 14th Jan. 10.30am at St Joseph's Como-Oyster Bay church. We convey our sincere condolences to Thea's Family.</p>		
<p>St. Joseph's Como is a <i>Community that cares for safeguarding children</i>. Safeguarding Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.</p>	<p>For the first month of 2022, Pope Francis has asked Catholics to pray for those facing religious discrimination and persecution. The Pope called religious persecution "inhuman" and "insane."</p>	<p>On New Year's Day, Pope Francis encouraged us to place our lives under the protection of Mary, the Mother of God. "The new year begins under the sign of the Holy Mother of God, under the sign of the Mother. A mother's gaze is the path to rebirth and growth. We need mothers, women who look at the world not to exploit it, but so that it can have life," Pope Francis said in St. Peter's Basilica on January 1.</p>	<p>Commemoration of Saint Josephine Bakhita, Patron Saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking, on Tuesday 8 February 2022, the Catholic Anti-Slavery Day.</p>		
<p>Our sick Drago Mikan, Steve Smith, Barbara Moore, Jimmy Chandra, David Low, Roger Minshull, Jim Hagley, Elizabeth Kinsela, Ida Melis, Katrina Marinilli, Rita Shah, Julia Lock, Marie Lawsen, Ian Duffey, Glennise Hall, Elette Majdandzic; Dragica Furda, May Kenny, Carmen Camilleri, Mary Carmen Borg, Norma Cook, Josefa Dabu, Josie Lay, Christine Woodard, Maria Suszycka, Urszula Kaminska, Josephine Marinilli, Steven Marinilli and all homebound and dear friends from Mildred Symons House.</p>	<p>"The Lord bless and keep you. May His countenance be upon you and give you peace. May His face shine upon you. May your feet never falter. May you not stumble or fall. The peace of the Lord will rest upon you and your household. " (Numbers 6:24-26)</p>	<p>NASA has been convening two dozen theologians to advise on how the discovery of intelligent extraterrestrials may shake up various religious doctrines and those who believe in them. One of the researchers is a Cambridge University priest (bing.com/news).</p>	 <p>Scan the barcode on the left with your mobile phone camera and follow the instructions therein. https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/COMOOYSTERBAYPARISH</p>		