

# St Joseph's Como-Oyster Bay Catholic Church – Fr. Jerzy Chrzczonowicz PP email:jerzy1junior@hotmail.com, mob.: 0411 125 357; 210 Oyster Bay Road, Como, Ph: 9528 0205.

Web: [www.stjosephscomo.org.au](http://www.stjosephscomo.org.au); [stjoscomo@bigpond.com](mailto:stjoscomo@bigpond.com), Parish Secretary Anne McMaster Parish Bookkeeper Patricia Low, Parish Auditor Cesar Marmolego, Office Mon. 12:00 – 3:00pm Thur. 8:00am – 3:00pm .School Principal Mr. Allan Fagerstrom; PO Box 447, Jannali 2226. Ph. 9528 8716 [info@stjcomo.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stjcomo.catholic.edu.au)

**Safeguarding Office, (02) 9390 5810**  
[karen.larkman@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:karen.larkman@sydneycatholic.org)

## WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday Vigil: 5pm  
Sunday: 8am, 9.30am

## WEEKDAY MASS TIME:

Mon. 7.00am Tues 7.30pm  
Wed. 9.00am Thurs 7.00am  
Fri 9.00 am Sat 9.00am

## HOLY HOUR: Saturday 8-9.00am

**CONFESSION:** 10 mins before Mass  
and **Saturdays** 8.00 – 8.55am

**Tuesday** 6.45pm – 7.25pm

**BAPTISMS:** at 9.30am Mass

**BAPTISM Prep** Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 7pm

**WEDDINGS:** By appointment.

**ANointing MASS:** 5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019

**DIVINE MERCY:** Tues. 6.30pm

**Our sick:** Brian Brown May Kenny, Carmen Camilleri, Jan Gurba, Mary Carmen Borg, Norma Cook, Josefa Dabu, Josie Lay, Christine Woodard, Lonza Busuttill, Maria Suszycka, Urszula Kaminska, Thea Van Gastel, Josephine Marinilli, Joan Hagley, Amy Zuschmann, Steven Marinilli and all dear friends from Mildred Symons House & house bound.

**Please read Catholic Weekly, only \$2 per copy.**

<http://catholicfaitheducation.blogspot.com.au/>

## READING MINISTRY:

<http://CATHOLICREADINGS.ORG>  
<https://www.compellingtruth.org>  
[www.vocationcentre.org.au](http://www.vocationcentre.org.au)

<http://www.ibtministries.org>  
EWTN-Kids (catechism for Kids)

**Catholic News Service,**  
Catholica; Zenith News; **Fish Eaters**  
<http://www.liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/>  
[www.catalystforrenewal.org.au](http://www.catalystforrenewal.org.au)  
<https://www.cruxnow.com>  
The Catholic Thing: First Things

**Sat: 9am:** Dantis; **Vigil 5pm:** Dantis; **Sun: 8am:** Dantis; **9.30am:** Dantis;  
**Mon:** Dantis; **Tues:** Dantis; **Wed:** Dantis; **Thurs:** Dantis; **Fri:** Dantis

**New Year's Eve: Mon. 31<sup>st</sup> Dec:** 5pm: Holy Hour; 6pm: Thanksgiving Mass  
**New Year's Day / Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God: Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Jan** Mass: 7:00 am  
**Adoration 6.30pm and Mass at 7pm.**

Dear Parishioners. Whilst enjoying this Christmas Season and end of 2018, please accept my sincere THANK YOU for your vibrant participation in the life of our Community at St. Joseph's. May the True Light dispel any symptom of darkness from our daily lives. Looking into the New Year of opportunities and unknown challenges let us put our hope and trust into the hands of the Lord. May Everlasting Living God bless us all and keep us safe. Happy New Year 2019.

Fr. Jerzy Chrzczonowicz PP



The name Janus (January) is related to ianua, the Latin word for door. Janus himself was the doorkeeper, of the heavens. The cult statue of Janus depicted the god bearded with two heads. This meant that he could see forwards and backwards and inside and outside without turning around. Janus held a staff in his right hand, in order to guide travelers along the correct route, and a key in his left to open gates to the new year.

On the Feast of the only perfect Family that ever lived on this earth, all parents might examine themselves and see how well they are fulfilling the grave responsibility which God has placed on them. As they heard during their marriage ceremony: "children are a gift from God to you." Children serve as the joy of their parents' young years and the help and comfort of their old age, but above and beyond that, they are a gift for which their parents are accountable before God, as they must, in the end, return these, His children, to Him. Let us pray for the grace of caring for one another in our own families, for each member of the parish family, and for all families of the universal Church. May God bless all our families in the New Year.

New Year's Day was celebrated on January 1 for the first time in history when the Julian calendar took effect in 45 BC. Julius Caesar decided that the traditional Roman calendar was in need of reform. Introduced around the 7<sup>th</sup> century B.C., the Roman calendar attempted to follow the lunar cycle but frequently fell out of phase with the seasons and had to be corrected. Caesar enlisted the aid of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian astronomer, who advised him to do away with the lunar cycle entirely and follow the solar year, as did the Egyptians. The year was calculated to be 365 and ¼ days, and Caesar added 67 days to 45 B.C., making 46 B.C. begin on January 1, rather than in March. He also decreed that every four years a day be added to February, thus theoretically keeping his calendar from falling out of step. Shortly before his assassination in 44 B.C., he changed the name of the month Quintilis to Julius (July) after himself. Later, the month of Sextilis was renamed Augustus (August) after his successor. Celebration of New Year's Day in January fell out of practice during the Middle Ages, and even those who strictly adhered to the Julian calendar did not observe the New Year exactly on January 1. In the 1570s Pope Gregory XIII commissioned Jesuit astronomer Christopher Clavius to come up with a new calendar. In 1582, the Gregorian calendar was implemented, omitting 10 days for that year and establishing the new rule that only one of every four centennial years should be a leap year. Since then, people around the world celebrate the precise arrival of the New Year on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

By celebrating the Sunday following Christmas as the Feast of the Holy Family, the Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and took good care of their Child so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. Jesus brought holiness to the family of Joseph and Mary as Jesus brings us holiness by embracing us in His family. *The Catechism* gives the following advice to the parents: "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by *creating a home* where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well-suited for *education in the virtues*. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery – the preconditions of all true freedom. Parents should teach their children to subordinate the 'material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones.'" The CCC adds: "Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children." (CCC #2223)



Dear Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Holy Family of Nazareth, today we turn to you our gaze with admiration and confidence; in you we contemplate the beauty of communion in true love; to you we commend our families, so that in them wonders of your grace be renewed. Holy Family of Nazareth with joy we entrust ourselves and all families to you. Amen.