

Mass Intentions (10th Dec.-16th Dec.)
Vigil 5pm: Lesley & May Ellesmore +. **Sun.:** 8am Pro Populo; 9.30am:+Josica Beba Ivin & 3pm: Norma & Keith Cook; **Mon.:**+Deceased Priests ; **Tues.** +Lim Family; **Wed.:** +Peter & Scholastica; **Thurs.** Truda & Wladek; **Fri.** + Barry Dunn; **Sat .** +Norma Cook



PEACE

The wreath as a whole is meant to remind us of both the immortality of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life to us through Christ. The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the colour violet is a liturgical colour that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.



Safeguarding, Child Protection and Ministerial Integrity. Please scan QR for more information.

Young Adults Summer Events "18+ Event" YA Festival 2023 "Emanuel Community"



Catholic news: The Catholic Thing, National Catholic Reporter; EWTN; Crux, L'Osservatore Romano Vatican News. PopeFrancis@Pontifex

On Sundays after 8am Mass there is cuppa.

We acknowledge the Gweagal People, the traditional Custodians of this land.

St. Joseph's Como cares for safeguarding children. Safeguarding Office at 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org.

Daily Masses: 7:30am **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday** (Saturday: Mass, Cenacle, Confession & Benediction); **Tuesday** 5:30pm: Adoration, Novena, Confession, Benediction and 6pm Mass. **First Fridays** 5:30pm Devotions & 6pm Mass. **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 at 9:30 Mass.
 Marriage and Baptism inquiries please contact Parish Office.

Our sick: Elizabeth Mercieca, Nerida Tullio, Steven Leeke, Helen Cramer, Max McLeod, Richard Davis, Michele McQuillan, Joan & Vince Fernandez, Drago Mikan, Therese Dorff, Steve Smith, Barbara Moore, Albert McMaster, Elizabeth Kinsela, Katrina Marinilli, Rita Shah, Julia Lock, Marie Lawsen, Ian Duffey, Elette Majdandzic; Dragica Furda, Mary Carmen Borg, Josefa Dabu, Josie Lay, Christine Woodard, Urszula Kaminska, Josephine and Steven Marinilli, Nicholas Mircevski and all Dear Friends from **Mildred Symons House: Next Mass 10.45am, 7th Feb.2024.**

1st Coll. \$321 2nd Coll: \$228 P.G. \$460; CWF \$25 ; Piety Shop \$20.

"Prayer should be the key in the morning... and the lock of the evening" (Owen Felltham)

The second Advent candle ("The Bethlehem Candle") is also purple and represents peace. In some traditions, the second candle and the fourth one ("The Angel's Candle," representing love) may be interchanged. Peace is a central theme of the Advent season but the main focus of the second week of Advent. One of the prophecies about Jesus calls him "the Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6-7). When the angels appeared to the shepherds, they ended their message by saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests" (Luke 2:14). When Simeon saw baby Jesus in the temple, he thanked God that he could now die in peace for he had seen the Messiah (Luke 2:29-33). On a broader level, the Bible talks in various places about a spiritual war going on between goodness and evil (or "powers and principalities" [Ephesians 6:12]). The combination of Satan fighting against goodness and humans fighting against God has made the earth a battleground in an ongoing fight.

At the Last Supper, Jesus told his disciples that He would leave them soon and comforted them by saying, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (John 14:27).

Piety Store
25% off Sale 16th -17th December.

Christmas at the Cathedral.
 Christmas market stalls, food, fun activities for the kids and live entertainment. The event will begin on Thursday 14thDecember and end on 25th December. From 8:30pm to 10:30pm.

Christmas at St Joseph's Como.
Sunday 24th December
Christmas Vigil 6:00pm
Christmas Carols 10:30pm
Night Mass of the Nativity 11:00pm
Christmas Day Monday 25th December
Masses at 8:00 am and 9:30am.

On behalf our people in need we say "A BIG THANK YOU" to our teachers, parents and students for the provision of a variety of goods for Christmas table. Your indispensable role and participation each year is always outstanding and very much appreciated.

Penitential Rite with Confessions
Friday 22nd December at 6:30pm.

Holy Anointing for the people with health conditions will be administered at all Masses on the **16th /17th December.** Please help those who don't have transportation to come to the church on that weekend.

Though absent from the summit in Dubai (3rd Dec.) due to ongoing concerns for his health, Pope Francis sent a message for the inauguration of the first-ever Faith Pavilion at a United Nations climate event, stressing the responsibility of religious leaders in caring for the planet. Pope Francis thanked the various representatives present for the inauguration of the COP-28 Faith Pavilion. The Faith Pavilion, the pope said, "is the first of its kind and it shows that all authentic religious beliefs are a source of encounter and action. It is important to see ourselves, beyond our differences, as brothers and sisters in the one human family, and, as believers, to remind ourselves and the world that, as sojourners on this earth, we have a duty to protect our common home," he said. Religions are a reminder that humanity is finite and has limits, Francis said, insisting that life must be protected and that this is done by "opposing the rapacious illusion of omnipotence that is devastating our planet."

We are invited to help our retired priests with our Christmas Offerings. Please use provided envelopes.

TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/comooysterbayparish>

Thank you for your generosity and compassion heart .