

Septuagesima Sunday

Sermon of the Curé d'Ars on Family – Part I

Beloved in the Lord! Our Holy Father stands on a watchtower and looks down upon his children with enlightened eyes. He is aware of the melancholy fact that family life is in a disturbed and wavering condition. For this reason he draws our attention toward the Holy Family at Nazareth, and calls upon all the faithful of the entire world to join the Society of the Holy Family, which he has inaugurated. In plain words, we will now consider: the foundation of the family, what it is, and what it should be, the reason of its ruin, as well as the means of its restoration. May God bless my words at the intercession of the Mother of God and St. Joseph!

The family is the most ancient institution which God founded in Paradise, when He called the first pair of human beings into existence. The first blessing which God gave was for the well-being of the family. With family life the history of the world commences. In the course of centuries many dynasties have been established and mighty kingdoms founded; they lasted for a short while, and have disappeared. An institution, however, which has not been destroyed by the many revolutions of time, is the family; generations come and go, but family life remains. It outlasts everything, until finally, the whole of humanity will at the end of time be divided by God into two great families: God's family in heaven, and the devil's family in hell. As it was at the commencement, so will family life be the end of the world's history. In the little word 'family,' there reposes happiness and peace for some, and likewise for the greater part of mankind, at the same time, however, also misery and curses, heaven and hell.

The family received from God a threefold mission: The care of the material life, the spiritual life and the supernatural life. We will [to-day], in particular, consider closer the two last questions, because by the very fact of this great duty being neglected the ruin of the family must follow in consequence, bringing with it a miserable eternity for parents and children.

It is, of course from a natural standpoint, understood that when man is born into the world, he should receive all the bodily care possible which the state of life will allow. Protection and attention in health and sickness are indispensable to him. The benevolent, loving and inventive care of a family, how it beautifies and makes easy man's path through life! In his old age he longs for this family, and he would wish to close his eyes in its bosom.

Church of the Child Jesus & St Joseph



Society of St Pius X

Fr M Stafki, Prior

Fr A Cranshaw, Assistant

Fr R Taouk, Assistant

Fr A McNamara, Assistant

280 West Botany Street, Rockdale NSW 2216

Tel: (02) 9567 7088

(Calling hours: 9-midday; 2-5pm; 8-8.30pm)

Email: sydney@sspx.au

Emergency Only: 0403 576 663

School Tel: (02) 9597 6956

Parish Bank Account Name: Society of St Pius X, Ltd
BSB 012395 and Account No. 230356299

Regular Confession Times:

Sundays:	7:20-7:50am; 9:50-10:20am
Thursdays:	10:30-10:50am
First Fridays:	6:30-6:50pm
Saturdays:	8:30-8:50am

Liturgical Offices	
Sunday, 28th January: Septuagesima Sunday (II cl)	
8:00 am	Low Mass
10:30 am	Sung Mass
5:30 pm	Vespers, Rosary and Benediction
2nd Collection: School	
Monday, 29th January: St Francis de Sales, BCD (III cl)	
7:15 am	Low Mass
8:45 am	School Benediction
9:00 am	Low Mass
6:00 pm	Rosary
Tuesday, 30th January: St Martina, VM (III cl)	
7:15 am	Low Mass
9:00 am	Low Mass
6:00 pm	Rosary and Benediction followed by Low Mass
Wednesday, 31st January: St John Bosco, C (III cl)	
5:45 am	Low Mass
7:15 am	Low Mass
9:00 am	Low Mass
6:00 pm	Rosary
Thursday, 1st February: St Ignatius of Antioch, BM (III cl)	
7:15 am	Low Mass
10:00 am	Holy Hour for Vocations followed by Low Mass
Friday, 2nd February: PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (II cl) Candlemas Day <i>FIRST FRIDAY</i>	
--	<i>There will be no 7:15 am Mass available today.</i>
8:50am	Sung Mass & Procession
7:00 pm	Low Mass followed by Adoration until 11:00 pm
Saturday, 3rd February: <i>FIRST SATURDAY, St Blaise, BM</i> <i>Blessing of Throats will follow both Masses</i>	
7:15 am	Low Mass followed by First Saturday Devotions
9:00 am	Low Mass followed by Novena to the Infant of Prague
Sunday, 4th February: Sexagesima Sunday (II cl)	
8:00 am	Low Mass
10:30 am	Sung Mass
5:30 pm	Vespers followed by Rosary and Benediction

Retreats in Goulburn 2024:

Women's Ignatian Retreats: 29 Jan-3 Feb and 14-19 October

Men's Ignatian Retreats: 12-17 Feb and 22-27 April

To register contact: retreats@holycrossseminary.com or 0248295177

Blessed palms: Please place your blessed palms from last year in the box provided in the parish hall by 11th February. These are burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Parish Help	
Cleaning Roster – Saturday – 3rd February – Maja Sweeten	
Morning Tea & Cakes: Sunday 4th February	
8:00am	Mr & Mrs Almendrala Coffee: Margaret Marcelo
10:30am	Baxter Family Coffee: Baxter Girls
In your charity, please remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Marion Murphy; Edward Black; Joseph Camilleri; John Quinlan; Emily Baynie; Elisa Gulia.	
Other Mass Centre Sunday, 4th February	
Singleton	10:00 am

Registration for Sunday Catechism: Register in the parish hall on Sunday, 28th January or 4 February. Classes will be held each Sunday between the Masses. Every Catholic parent has a grave duty before God to see to the religious instruction of his children. Please permit us to help you a little in this.

Candlemas Day, 2 Feb: No 7:15 am Mass. Candles will be blessed at the 8:50 am Mass. If you wish to bring your own candles for blessing, please bring them to the sacristy at 8:40 am. MI enrollments will be postponed until 8 April due to First Friday.

Perpetual Adoration, 5th Feb: Every day, in an SSPX chapel somewhere in the world, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed & adored for 8 hours. This practice has been on-going since 1989. Next Monday it is our turn to adore. Exposition will take place at 8:45 am and will end with Rosary & Benediction at 6:00 pm. There must be at least two people present at all times. Please sign up in the hall.

Handmaids' Meeting: Saturday, 10 February. Usual schedule: Begins with 7:15 am Mass. Bring a sack lunch. Ends at 2:30 pm. New members welcome! See the Sisters on Sunday 28th January.

St Stephen's Guild Meeting: Saturday, 10 February. Usual schedule: 8:45 am to 2:15 pm. New members welcome!

Adult Catechism: On Friday, February 16th, adult catechism will resume at 7:30 pm for men and women, ages 14+. This year's topic will be: Marriage and the Family. No need to register or RSVP. Bring a friend!

Eucharistic Crusade February Intention: For priestly and religious vocations

Save the dates:

- 40 Hours Devotion: 1-3 March (*Note the change of dates!*)
- First Mass and blessings of Fr Rafael Faustino at 9am on Saturday, 17 Feb
- Pere Receveur Mass at La Perouse at 8am on Sunday, 18 Feb
- First Day of Sunday Catechism, All Ages: 25 Feb