

## Church Opening Hours

Monday	6.30am – 7.00pm
Tuesday	6.30am – 8.00pm (7.30pm Mass)
Wednesday	6.30am – 6.00pm
Thursday	6.30am – 6.00pm
Friday	6.30am – 7.00pm
Saturday	6.30am – 6.00pm
Sunday	8.30am – 11.00 am & 4.00 pm - 6.00pm

Please remember as you enter the church to wear your mask, sign on to our COVID register and sanitise your hands. On leaving, please wipe the area you have occupied with the disinfectant wipes found with the sign in register.



## Revised Reconciliation Times

Days	Morning	Evening
Monday	8.30am – 8.50am	N/A
Tuesday	N/A	6.00pm - 7.00pm
Thursday	8.30am – 8.50am	N/A
Friday	8.30am to 8.50am	N/A
Saturday	N/A	3.30pm - 4.30pm

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Silent Prayer

Monday	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Tuesday	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Friday	5.00pm – 7.00pm



Fr Chaminda Wanigasena,  
Parish Administrator  
2 Burke St, Concord West NSW 2138  
[admin@stambrose.org.au](mailto:admin@stambrose.org.au)  
[sacraments@stambrose.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stambrose.org.au)  
[parishcouncil@stambrose.org.au](mailto:parishcouncil@stambrose.org.au)  
[www.stambrose.org.au](http://www.stambrose.org.au)  
Phone: 02 9743 1023  
VASA: 9736 3686, 8765 1295  
St Ambrose Primary School  
Stuart St, Concord West  
Principal: Ms Linda McFadden  
Ph: 9743 5605  
[info@stambconcord.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stambconcord.catholic.edu.au)

**Sunday Masses:** Sat Vigil 5pm, Sunday 9.30am & 5pm  
Live-streamed Mass: Sat Vigil 5pm. You can participate from your home online & receive the Spiritual Communion.

**Weekday Masses:** 9am Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri (or Fri 9.15am school Masses)  
Tuesday evening 7.30pm

Saturday **8.00am** Devotions to Our Lady of Lourdes  
Saturday **8.30am** Mass

Reconciliation: Sat 3.30 – 4.30pm

Adoration: Mon & Fri 6-9pm, Tues 5.45pm – 7.15pm,  
Sat 3.30 - 4.30pm, Italian Cenacle: Mon 9.30am

Holy Hour & Cenacle: Wed after 9am Mass, Fri 9.30am

Baptisms: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at **11.30am** by appointment.

Weddings: by appointment. Contact Parish Office.

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B), 17 January, 2021

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3b–10, 19. The Lord calls Samuel.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 40:2, 4, 7–8, 8–9, 10  
A prayer of commitment to follow the will of the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13c–15a, 17–20  
Paul reminds the Corinthians that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading: John 1:35–42

**Newness of Life**

Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas”—which is translated Peter. [John 1:42](#)

In this passage, the Apostle Andrew brings his brother Simon to Jesus after telling Simon that he has found the Messiah. Jesus immediately receives them both as Apostles and then reveals to Simon that his identity will now be changed. He will now be called Cephas. “Cephas” is an Aramaic word that means “Rock.” In English, this name is usually translated as “Peter.”

When someone is given a new name, this often means that they are also given a new mission and new vocation in life. For example, in the Christian tradition, we receive new names at Baptism or Confirmation. Additionally, when a man or woman becomes a monk or a nun, they often are given a new name to signify the new life they are called to live. Simon is given the new name of “Rock” because Jesus intends to make him the foundation of His future Church. This change in name reveals that Simon must become a new creation in Christ in order to fulfill his high calling.

So, it is with each one of us. No, we may not be called to be the next pope or a bishop, but we are each called to become new creations in Christ and live new lives fulfilling new missions. And, in a sense, this newness of life must happen each and every day. We must daily strive to fulfill the mission that Jesus gives us in a new way every day.

Reflect, today, upon the fact that God invites you to live a new life of grace in Him. He has some new mission for you to daily fulfill, and He promises to give you all you need to live it. Say “Yes” to the call He gives you, and you will see incredible things happen in your life.

*Lord Jesus, I do say “Yes” to You and to the calling that You have given to me. I accept the new life of grace that You have prepared for me, and I willingly accept Your gracious invitation. Help me, dear Lord, to daily answer the glorious vocation to the life of grace I have been given. Jesus, I trust in You.*

### **Restoration of the Church Statues.**

One of our devout families in the parish has undertaken to restore two of our statues in the church, namely the statues of, Mother Mary and St Joseph.

A professional artist and sculptor who came to inspect those statues was amazed by the value of them. She advises that these Pieces of Artwork no longer exist, and that this type of work dates back to the last century. The value of the statues is not in the material used but rather in the technique, type of work and fine details. It is a Traditional Sculpture that is newly made and shaped to a highly realistic level. The value is also in the amount of time and work involved to create such masterpieces. Sculptors who work in such style are exceedingly rare around the world. To produce such unique pieces of art is very time consuming which reflects in the cost, making them very costly to purchase.

The consultant artist says that she has not seen a copy of this Statue of Our Lady during the last 33 years working in this field, and in Australia. She strongly believes that it is an original piece. She also feels the same of the statue of St Joseph holding Jesus. They may look similar to more modern looking statues but they are unique in their attention to detail.

As parishioners it is our duty to maintain these statues so that we may avoid any damage to them and keep their value intact. We Catholics consider ourselves lucky to have such great Statues in our churches created by great artists like Michelangelo and many others who followed his steps.

If you are interested in contributing towards this restoration project please let us know.



## Year of St Joseph

The Holy Father, Pope Francis has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021.

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled [\*Patris corde\*](#) (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Holy Father encourages us to pray together the following prayer to St Joseph

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.  
Amen.*

*(You can click on the following link to have access to the apostolic letter -  
[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap\\_20201208\\_patris-corde.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html))*



**Live streaming services at St. Ambrose Church are available for funerals, weddings and special services.  
Terms and conditions apply.  
Please contact Sean on 0406 339 011**

## Nominations for the Parish Pastoral Council

Parish pastoral Councils are one of the structures which were strongly recommended by the Bishops of the Second Vatican Council. The purpose of the councils was seen as furthering the work of the Church by fostering the spiritual growth of parishioners and leading them to respond actively to their universal call to mission. Therefore, we need parishioners who have a passion for God and the Church and have time to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council with joy and energy. Members hold their positions for a period of two years with the option for a further two years. The priests and school principal are automatic members of the Parish Council. Meetings are held bimonthly.

We are looking for new members right now!!

Send an email expressing your interest to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council or meet with Fr Chaminda personally.

The last date to submit your nomination is 24th January 2021.

### COVID-19 restrictions with effect from 2nd January 2021

- The 4 sqm rule should be enforced strictly.
- Masks will be compulsory in most indoor settings including churches. This would seem to apply to clergy, ministers and congregation alike. A lector, after reaching the lectern, could remove the mask for the duration of reading. When people come to receive Holy Communion, it is recommended that they remove their mask only in order to consume the Host.
- Anyone not wearing a mask will be subject to a \$200 fine and the parish may also be liable. Therefore, From Monday, no one will be allowed to enter/remain in the church without wearing the mask, until this restriction is lifted.
- QR codes will now be compulsory for churches. It will be made available soon. Once it is done, all attendees will be required to use the QR code. It is assumed that the government will show some leniency in the case of technically-challenged, perhaps elderly, parishioners who are unable to use the QR Code.
- The upper limit for church services in Sydney is now 100 attendees. Please inform your family members and friends about this change.

**Please remember in your prayers the following for whom Masses will be offered.**

**Recently Deceased:** Elizabeth (Betty) Gattenhoff, Patricia Mountford

**Anniversaries:** Kitty Egan, Lorraine Noyes



**Please pray for the sick especially:**

Sr Judith, Bill McLoughlin, Denise McCaffery, Dr Bede Muller, Joe Abbate, Patricia Christosi, Dalton James Bonnici, Maria Manno, Joseph Borg, Yuan Sheng Ye, Veronica Rutherford, Paul Dovico, David Bagnato, Angela, Rosaria Natalina Patamia, Felice Minutillo, Charlie Rossini, Kelly & Ursula, Giuseppina Algozzino, Viru, Esther Tully, Rosa Mastro, Tanya Greenaway, Gianna, Matthew, Luisa, Zia Pina, Grace Comare, Elizabeth Esguerra, Juliet Walsh, Barbara Wayne, Marilyn Deguara, Elijah, Adrian Vanzella, Matthew Chan, John Rodrigues, Belinda Nicholls, Nan Peters, Carmela Smigliani, Shinta Widzaza, Alan Borg, Rosa Maria Santos, Bhupinder Tamber, Rebecca Sinclair, Marina Arasaratnam, Teresa Domalewski, Adel Abraham, Anne Vassily, Gloria Clark, Kim Long, Bob & Marion Merrell, Stacey Spencer, Joanne Ford, David, Celia and Gomes Family, Warwick Cook, Louise, James Anthony Manassa, June Corcoran, Rosina Morson, Celina Shaw, Laurence O'Connell, Sam Carroll, Robert Carey, Mario Bianco, Rochelle Rodrigues, Kevin Desouza, Pat Toohey, Charmaine Yu, Anne Collins, Anna Viteznik, Adrian Walker, Lauren Wedd, Peter Weinfeoe, Ivy Ross, Dr Siri Kannangara, Maria Rosa de Angelis, Frank Zappia, Cecily Culligan

**Obituary** – The Funeral Mass for Elizabeth (Betty) Gattenhoff will be held here at St Ambrose Church on Monday 18 January at 10.30am. Betty's family warmly welcome parishioners to attend and also join them at Mary Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood for service and wake.

The Religious Sisters of Charity Congregation have informed us that Sr Judith is now a permanent resident of St Vincent's Aged Care Facility, 2-6 Albert Street Edgecliff NSW. We thank you for your continued prayers.

### St Ambrose Building and Maintenance Donation Envelopes



Envelopes are scattered near the entrances /exits. If you feel that you can contribute, please take one. Take it home and with your own liabilities in mind, assess what you think you can contribute. Donations will, unfortunately, not be tax-deductible.

Other ways to donate to this project include –

- Cheques - made payable to St Ambrose Church.
- Donations can be made via our website. Please use the Building Renovation and Maintenance tab to ensure your donation is directed to the correct account.
- Soon we will also have a dedicated tap and go facility.

Donations of any amount are welcome, but for the overall program to be successful, we are hoping for some substantial amounts to be donated.

### A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) or call (02) 9390 5810 or You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

