

CATHOLIC PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

NORTH ROCKS

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Ian McGinnity
Deacon : Rev. Tony Hoban
Parish Secretary: Nadine Lucas
 Ph: 9871 8710
Youth Coordinator: Bradley Vergano
 Mob: 0434 938 312
School Principal: Tony Hughes
 Ph: 9871 7438
Baptisms Monthly 2nd & 4th Sun
Weddings: By Appointment
Reconciliation: Sat 9.30 am & 4.30pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Sat 9.30am
Rosary: Sat 8.30am, Tue 7pm
Children's Liturgy: 10am Mass-
 During Term
Parish Services
Sunday Masses: **Weekday Masses:**
 6.00pm Saturday Tuesday 7.30 pm
 8.00 am Sunday Wednesday 9.00 am
 10.00 am Sunday Thursday 9.00 am
 Friday 9.15 am
 Saturday 9.00 am
Parish Address:
 10 Statham Ave, North Rocks NSW 2151
Email: northrocks@parracatholic.org
Web Site: www.northrockscatholic.org.au

SUNDAY 08 JANUARY 2017,
 YEAR A
*The EPIPHANY of
 the LORD*



Gospel Reflection

The Christmas season reaches an apex with the Epiphany. In some liturgical traditions, it is the central celebration of Christmas. It commemorates not only the birth of Christ and the visit of the Magi, but also his baptism in the Jordan and the manifestation of his glory at the wedding feast of Cana. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the focus is on the visit of the Magi and the implications of that visit for the glorious manifestation of God to all the peoples of the world.

There is a wonderful summons to alertness and presence of mind and heart, a call for all the nations to witness the marvellous works of God that shine as light in the midst of the surrounding darkness. The light of God is known in the ways in which the most vulnerable in the city are cared for and acknowledged. In just action and righteousness, the city becomes the beacon of God, and all the nations are attracted by this light. The quality of the light leads the way through the darkness and sustains the world in goodness and peace.

The manifestation of God among us changes the ways in which we perceive each other. Christ's birth provides us with the light by which we see a new criterion for relating. The Magi represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations, as well as the many religions of the world. All people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

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ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

The next conferral of the anointing of the sick will be on **Sat 18th February 2017** at 9am Mass.

IN YOUR MERCY, PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE FOR WHOM PRAYERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED:

THE SICK : Mary Magill, Simon Khoury and Stan Burgin.

THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Sam Laban (Father of Barbara Haddad) Mary Titmuss (wife of Allan), Maurice Coorey, Autel Basha (husband of Violet and father of Kamlee), Levent Ali Ozbek.

PLEASE REMEMBER ALL THE DEPARTED IN YOUR PRAYERS.

MISSION STATEMENT

Centred on the Gospel of Jesus,

**Christ the King Church is a warm, welcoming
 community of faith.**

**We continue to strive to be open and to embrace
 diversity, as we love and grow in relationship to God
 and in service to one another.**

LITURGICAL CALENDAR—January—February

- 9 January** The Baptism of the Lord (No Mass)
- 25 January** The Conversion of St Paul, apostle
- 2 February** The Presentation of the Lord
- 22 February** The Chair of St Peter, apostle

Baptism *Congratulations!*

To the Catanzaro family on the baptism of their son Leonardo today. May the Lord bless his parents, Carmelo and Vanessa, his godparents and extended family as they initiate their son into the community of the Church and as they see the hope of eternal life shine on him.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS: The EPIPHANY of the LORD
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary time
Is 49:3, 5-6; 1Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Jan 7/8—THE EPIPHANY of the LORD

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
Saturday 6.00 pm	Sam Bietola George Germanos	Aubon Fernando	Gerard Sadaya Sue Veling	Divine Breen Jeremy Thaman	Peter Blyth Lisa Hoban	Dorothea Price
Sunday 8.00 am	Sam Burgin Christine Kinsella	David Collins	Tony Hughes Dexter Tabeta	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Margaret Coakley Ken Coorey Lorraine Murphy	Pauline Zhao
Sunday 10.00 am	Anthony Davies Michael Nasr	Peter Hrast	Stephen Doyle Ian McMaster	David Cook	Gerianne Sadaya Natasha Todorov Dianne Vogt	Dominic Wong

COUNTER Group 3– Sam Bietola, Ken Abood, Roger Brewer, Cass Joyce

ALTAR SOCIETY Group 6– Carol Coorey, Barbara Haddad

PIETY Group 1– Maria Bietola, Tony and Catherine Hughes, Mary Magill

CHURCH CLEANING Group 2– Frances Gallagher, Rosemaree Maroon, Paul Cook, Marlene Galea

Jan 14/15—2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
Saturday 6.00 pm	Ken Boys Paul Rankin	Aubon Fernando	George Germqanos Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty Jeremy Thaman	Frank Lah Lilia Nuguid	Isabelle Chacty
Sunday 8.00 am	Stan Burgin John Murphy	John Colman	Rhoda Patrick Dexter Tabeta	Trish Yates	Cheryl Collins Christine Kinsella James McMaster	Pauline Zao
Sunday 10.00 am	Peter Elchaar Mark Rea	Jose Jilesh	Anne Gately Jennie Mater	Kathryn Gaudron	Diane Campbell Marea Mooney Jenny Roddy	Dominic Wong

COUNTER Group 4– Carl Lao, Peter Bellamy, John Hunt

ALTAR SOCIETY Group 7– Ada Cheung

PIETY Group 2– Julie Hook, sue Quigley, Jill Wulf

CHURCH CLEANING Group 3– Clarry Barbera, Chris and Beverley Poole, ken Coorey

LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSES IN 2017

The Office for Worship is offering Liturgical Ministry Courses in 2017, open to all parishes and individuals seeking formation and training for serving at the altar. Held at the Diocesan Assembly Centre in Blacktown on Mondays and at St Nicholas of Myra in Penrith on Thursdays, the formation courses are for anyone who is interested in becoming a Minister of the Word, Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying, Adult Altar Server or Acolyte. For more information and an enrolment form tel the Office for Worship 8838 3456 or send an email to

MLWalsh@parra.catholic.org.au

Bookings close 16 February 2017.

RUNNING ALPHA IN 2017?

Alpha is a very effective means of bringing people to the starting point of faith, an encounter with Jesus Christ. If your parish is running Alpha in 2017 or considering this option, please contact the Pastoral Planning Office. We have a range of handy hints and parishes interested in networking with those already experienced in Alpha. Please contact Richard McMahon tel (02) 8838 3459,

RMcmahon@parra.catholic.org.au

POSITION VACANT

The Institute for Mission requires a full time Team Assistant – Communications & Admin for their office in Blacktown. More details can be found at:

<http://parracatholic.org/employment>

CREDIT CARD AND DIRECT DEBIT

Please inform the Parish Office on 9871 8710 or send an email of any changes to your credit card number/expiry date or direct debit account.

Thank you for your ongoing support

EMAIL ADDRESS

If you have changed your email address or now have a email address, could you please notify the Parish Office as soon as possible. **Thank you**

ONLINE GIVING

Online donations may be made at any time from the comfort of your own home or any place with internet access. Please call the Parish Office for the BSB and Account number for the Parish or DWF Account.

BEQUESTS

Many of us have a special connection to our parish, nurtured by years of faith-sharing, schooling, friendships and support. A bequest to your parish, no matter how small, will help the faith community which has meant so much to you to continue its good works and its loving outreach. It is also a means by which you can plan a lasting gift for your parish which might not be possible in your lifetime.

In receiving a bequest, a parish may be able to use the gift to attend to much needed maintenance and improvements to the church and other Parish property or put the gift towards building a new church or refurbishing their existing one. These kinds of gifts help the Parish free up other income to use toward pastoral care programs.

GIRLS' CAMP AT MOUNT SCHOENSTATT: 11-14 JANUARY 2017

Girls aged 10-12 are invited to a three-day camp at Mt Schoenstatt. We will explore how our faith connects with our everyday lives. Program also includes prayer, craft and fun activities. From 4pm on Wednesday 11 January to 4pm on Saturday 14 January. Venue: Home of Light, Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Cost: \$110 (includes food and accomm). **RSVP: Monday 12 December.** Inquiries: Sr M Luka 0439 537 843, sr.m.luka@bigpond.com

NEW CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE SERIES PAPER ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A new paper by the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council is the latest publication in its Catholic Social Justice Series. The paper, *Human Trafficking and Slavery: A response from Australian Catholics*, is by Christine Carolan and Sr Noelene Simmons SM, members of Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans. The paper is available at: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au

New year Reflection

As we look forward to another year, we acknowledge Jesus as our light. May we all be inspired by Minnie Louise Harkins' (1875-1957) famous poem 'At the Gate of the Year'
*I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year
'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'*

And he replied,

'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way!'

So I went forth and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night .

He led me towards the hills, and the breaking of day in the lone east.

So heart be still!

What need our human life to know, if God hath comprehension?

In all the dizzy strife of things, both high and low, God hides his intention."

Best wishes to you all.

PRE-MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Marriage is a sacrament that takes place in the Church, and which also makes the Church by giving rise to a new family community. The love between spouses is an image of the love between Christ and His Church.

To speak to a course coordinator, contact 8838 3460 or lmf@parra.catholic.org.au

The cost of either the weekend course or the marriage inventory is \$295 per couple.

Please make your payment online as part of your booking.

The courses are held on Fridays 7pm –10pm & Sundays 9am-4:30pm-

The course dates for 2017 are:

17th & 19th February,

3rd & 5th March, 17th & 19th March, 31st March &

2nd April, 21st & 23rd April,

19th & 21st May

2nd & 4th June, 16th & 18th June, 30th June &

2nd July, 21st & 23rd July,

4th & 6th August, 18th & 20th August

8th & 10th September, 15th & 17th September,

6th & 8th October, 20th & 22nd October,

3rd & 5th November 17th & 19th November and

1st & 3rd December

Location: IFM, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown, NSW, 2148 (enter from car park)

FREE CATHOLIC SUPER PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS

The Government has recently shifted the incentive for saving via superannuation. Catholic Super can help you to learn more about your superannuation, take control of your finances and plan for a rewarding future. Catholic Super's FREE seminars during January cover wealth-related issues as well as broader health and lifestyle issues to consider now and for retirement. Non-members, friends and family are welcome. Thursday 19 January from 10am-2pm at Burwood RSL Club, 96 Shaftesbury Rd, Burwood, and on Tuesday 24 January from 10am-2pm at Fairfield RSL Club, 14 Anzac Ave, Fairfield. For other dates and venues call 1300 658 776 or visit www.catholicssuper.com.au/seminars

PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL INFORMATION NIGHT: 6 FEBRUARY

Fr Paul Marshall, Parish Priest of Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes, is accompanying a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 7-21 October 2017. An information night will be held on Monday 6 February at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. RSVP for catering purposes (Middle Eastern treats) by Friday 27 January tel 1300 550 830 or katrina@olivetreetravel.com.au Bookings are being taken up to early February. For more details or booking forms, please contact the parish office tel (02) 9631 8135.

MASS FOR WORLD DAY OF THE SICK: 9 FEBRUARY

Everyone is welcome to this annual Mass in acknowledgment of carers and those for whom they care. Includes the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Bishop Vincent Long will be the principal celebrant for Mass at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church, 51 Allawah St, Blacktown. Plenty of parking – refreshments to follow.

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY: 17-19 FEBRUARY

Everyone is invited to join CCR's Holy Spirit Mission for a weekend of Renewal, Restoration and Revival. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will preside at the opening Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday at 7.30pm. On Saturday & Sunday, the program at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills, includes children's ministry, Reconciliation from 1.00pm-2.00pm, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, closing Mass at 4pm on Sunday. Presenters include: Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Fr Ken Barker MGL. Entry is free. For more information, visit www.ccrparramatta.org

BISHOP VINCENT LONG'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

In his first Christmas message as the Bishop of Parramatta, Bishop Vincent calls on us to "live the spirit of Christmas which is to be found in self-giving love. Then, we will experience the true joy which comes from him who is our source of peace and love." Watch a video of Bishop Vincent's Christmas message at www.catholicoutlook.org

ANNUAL FILIPINO DIOCESAN FIESTA

The Filipino Chaplaincy of the Diocese of Parramatta will once again celebrate its Annual Filipino Diocesan Fiesta in honour of St Joseph, the Husband of Mary, on **Sunday, 19 March 2017**, commencing at 10:45 am with the Eucharistic celebration with the Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta as main celebrant. Lunch sharing and entertainment will follow. It will be held at the grounds of the St Michael's School, 155 Reservoir Road, Blacktown.

The theme of this year's fiesta is "**St Joseph: Solidarity and Fraternity**"

All welcome—We would very much appreciate your presence and support of this event. **Kindly confirm your availability by 17 February 2017** by contacting one of the following:

Violy Bada - Mob: 0425 397 057

Email: vbada@bigpond.net.au

Lina Flores - Mob: 0423 049 840

Email: lina.flores@gmail.com

ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION is nothing more than falling in love with the earth – again, or for the first time. In *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis calls us to "profound interior conversion" as the fundamental underpinning of the shift in consciousness and lifestyle needed to change humanity's headlong course towards ecological – and hence human – disaster.

Sat 25 February– Sat 11 Mar and Sat 25 Mar

In three sessions with Patricia Gemmell, you will explore the words of Pope Francis and renowned eco-theologians (Thomas Berry, Denis Edwards, Elizabeth Johnson and Sallie McFague among others), in an effort to understand what is being asked of us and how we might respond. These sessions will include **five talks, as well as time for reading and reflection, discussion and questions.**

The seminars will take place at the **Grail Centre, 22 McHatton Street, North Sydney**, on **Saturdays from 10am to 2pm**. The Grail Centre is well served by public transport (bus and train) and 2 hour parking is available in McHatton Street from 9:30am. **Cost:** \$15 per session (or what you can afford) \$35 for the entire series Payment at the door.