

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:
 6.00pm Saturday
 8.00 am Sunday
 10.00 am Sunday
Weekday Masses:
 Tuesday 7.30 pm
 Wednesday 9.00 am
 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

3rd December 2017
FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
YEAR B



Gospel Reflection

Today's readings contain several images: the faithfulness of those who suffer, even as they lament their predicament; the admonition to watch and wait; the expectation of the coming of the Day of the Lord. As trustees of the one who is coming, we live in the 'in between' time of ambiguity and hope. The placement of these readings at the beginning of Advent shapes the context for understanding the entire season. They fix our gaze on the world of human pain and then moves beyond it to the hope of a brighter future. Lamentation and expectation find fulfilment in the Day of the Lord. Waiting is a prominent image this Sunday. Some people wait to be released from suffering, others await the second coming of Christ. Waiting saps our energies and stifles our enthusiasm. Yet wait we must, and as we wait, we wonder: 'What should I be doing?' The readings suggest that we should wait with patient expectation for the day of reconciliation and peace; we should wait in joyful hope that what is to come will come soon. While we wait, we should faithfully fulfil our responsibilities. We believe that we have a future worth waiting for, that there are promises that God will keep. And so we look expectantly to the Day of the Lord, that future day of ultimate fulfilment.



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ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

The next conferral of the anointing of the sick will be on **Sat 17th February 2018 at 9am Mass.**

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

THE SICK : Helen Hughes, Doreen Ulbrick, Melissa Sahin, Robert Conlon, Fred Taouk, Stuart Grayson, Simon Khoury, Stan Burgin, Iris Baxter, Rosa Maria Santos, Fran Lewis, Jenn-Shin Lee and Mary Magill

THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Amkich Trsoglavic.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE ANNIVERSARY OF ALL THE DEPARTED IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Kevin Newman and Simon Khoury

PLEASE REMEMBER ALL SOULS INCLUDING DEPARTED RELATIVES, FRIENDS IN OUR 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.

ADVENT WREATH

Light is sometimes used as a sign of hope. When we come home at night it is nice to see a light shining in the window. When people are experiencing problems they sometimes say that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Many readings within the Bible show us how 'Light' has been used as a sign of God's Presence. The Prophet Isaiah wrote: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us a son given to us authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. During Advent we use an Advent Wreath to remind us of Jesus' coming on Christmas Day. The Advent Wreath is round with no beginning or end, showing us the eternity of God's creation and His never ending love and care for all of us. It is evergreen, recalling that our faith, our hope and our love are always alive when they spring from God and His Son.

There are four candles on the wreath. They remind us of the four Sundays of Advent. Three are purple and one is rose – The liturgical colours of Advent. Sometimes we have a fifth candle that is called the Christ Candle.

Reading 2/3 December 2017
First Sunday of ADVENT—CYCLE B
Is 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8; 1Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13: 33-37

Reading 9/10 December 2017
Second Sunday of ADVENT—CYCLE B
Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

2/3 December—First Sunday of ADVENT

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
Saturday 6.00 pm	Sam Bietola Ken Boys	Keith Henson	John Khoudair Dawn Peat	Veronica Chacty	Peter Blyth John Lacey	Isabelle chacty
Sunday 8.00 am	Christine Kinsella John Murphy	Aubon Fernando	Julie Elliott Marguerite Wong	Trish Yates	Cecilie McCarron Camilla Portela jenny Roddy	Mike Yates
Sunday 10.00 am	Peter Elchaar Michael Ng	Jose Jilesh	Ian McMaster Sam Safy	David Cook	Annette hoban Marea Mooney Gerianne Sadaya	Carla Manasan Darren So

COUNTER Group 1- Ron Ruskin, Eric Olson, Michael NG, Graeme Gardiner

ALTAR SOCIETY Group 9— Leni Adan,

PIETY Group 2- Julie Hook, Sue Quigley, Jill Wulf

CHURCH CLEANING Group 1— Connie Este and CTK School Mums Group 1

9/10 December— Second Sunday of ADVENT

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
Saturday 6.00 pm	Sam Bietola Paul Rankin	Ken Coorey	George Germanos Rob Haddad	Jeremy Thaman	Maria Bietola Sue DeCourcy	Dorothea Price
Sunday 8.00 am	John Colman John Murphy	David Collins	Julie Elliott Rhoda Patrick	Jamie Hoban	James Kinsella Jui-May Lee Rosemary Wickham	Toby shi
Sunday 10.00 am	Graeme Gardner Michael Nasr	Peter Bosci	Jennifer Alphonse Sam Safy	Kathryn Gaudron	Diane Campbell Margaret Coakley Natasha Todorov	Dominic Wo

COUNTER Group 2— Keith Henson, John Colman, John Lenehan, George Isaacs

ALTAR SOCIETY Group 1— Leslie Bosci, Gloria Blackwood

PIETY Group 3— Robyn Bacon, Kim Fryer, Frances Gallagher

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

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.



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Thank You to everyone who contributed to our 2017 feast of Christ the King celebrations.

Special thanks to Bishop Vincent, Fr. Ian and Deacon Tony for leading the mass and blessing of the refurbished Mary MacKillop Hall.

Thanks to the school for their continued engagement with the parish and the supporting teachers for their time and dedication. Thanks to **all** who were involved in the wonderful celebration of the liturgy. It was great to have the Bishop most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen with us to celebrate the feast of Christ the King and to bless the refurbished Hall. A special thank you to our fabulous musicians, it was a great mass, vibe and celebration with music and singing. Thanks to the Parish Life committee for coordinating and delivering a truly exceptional event and Parish Council who organised and coordinated the event. Thank you to all the volunteers, Barista, extraordinary cooks for the delicious foods and desserts and to all who gave their time and energy to setting up the hall and organised the food and cleaning the hall after the event. A particular thanks to all who gave a helping hand in making this event a beautiful and vibrant experience for our parish. It was wonderful to see the diversity of cultures which makes up Christ the King parish. Thank you to our community for making the day memorable and a great success. We also give thanks to Christ the King for the special graces received during this year.

Peter Elchaar - PPC Chairman

POSITIONS VACANT

Director, Catholic Earthcare Australia: Caritas is seeking an experienced Senior Manager to advocate for environmental and ecological sustainability and deliver educational programs to schools, parishes and related forums. To apply for the role, please visit www.caritas.org.au/jobs/positions-vacant and view the full Position Description. To enquire about this role, please contact David Armstrong on (02) 8306 3439. Please send your application to jobs@caritas.org.au by COB on Monday 04 December 2017.

MASS IN THE DOMAIN

Everyone in the Diocese of Parramatta is invited to attend Mass in the Domain on **Saturday 9 December** for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. This will be the biggest Catholic outdoor Mass since Pope Benedict XVI was here for World Youth Day in 2008.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP from the Archdiocese of Sydney is inviting all Catholics to attend the Mass which will conclude three days of festivities for young Catholics at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The Archbishop is also keen for as many Catholic families as possible to attend the Mass. The Mass starts at 6.30pm and will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm, featuring Australian and international musicians and performers.

More information about the Mass can be found here: <https://catholicoutlook.org/everyones-welcome-largest-mass-since-wyd08/>

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve – 6.00 pm

Christmas Eve – 9.00 pm

Christmas Day Mass -

Children's Mass

Youth Mass

8.00 am and 10.00 am

SATURDAY 23rd December Individual Confession at CTK **3:30-4:30 pm N.B.** an hour earlier to allow Father time to prepare for Christmas Masses



THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION QUOTA

As from July 2017 to June 2018 Financial Year our quota for the Catholic Foundation (that replaced the DWF) is **\$22,881**. When spread over the three Parish appeals (November 2017, February and May 2018) the amount is **\$7,627 per appeal**.

The amount raised as per October 2017 is **\$9307.35**

Please give generously and share the load. Funds not raised through this appeal must be met by Parish funds which are limited and means cutting back on parish projects. The appeal is 100% tax deductible.

CHANGE IN MASS TIME

On **Tuesday, 12 December**, due to the graduation celebrations for year 6 at Christ the King school, mass will begin at **7 PM** rather than the normal time of 7:30 PM for that evening only.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY: 3 DEC

The International Day of People with Disability is observed annually on 3 December. In Australia, over many years, the Church has sought to take this day as an opportunity to encourage a truly pastoral view that embraces our total community as the living Body of Christ. We especially pray that we, the Church, can strive to be a people of compassion and relationship, and a sacred place where our gifts are acknowledged, received and celebrated; for then we can truly proclaim that we are 'one Body in Christ'.

MOUNT ST BENEDICT CENTRE: 3 DECEMBER

Advent Festival of Readings and Songs - This festival of readings and songs gives expression to the Advent themes of watching and waiting, expectancy and hope, helping us to ponder the coming of Christ in history, in mystery and in glory. Date: Sunday 3 December at 3.30pm for Afternoon Tea and 4.30pm-5.30pm Advent Festival. Reserve your place by email mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au or phone 9484 6208 by Monday 27 November. Where: 449D Pennant Hills Road. Entrance off Hull Road.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS NEEDED

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

GRIEF TO GRACE

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

ST MICHAELS CHRISTMAS BRUNCH



THIS CHRISTMAS MORNING.....

If you are a single person, a couple, or a family, you

are warmly invited to share a Christmas Brunch with our St Michaels Community.

We would love to share Christmas with you!

Equally, if you know anyone who even *might* be spending Christmas by themselves, bring them along, and we'll celebrate together.

A delicious brunch will be served at 11am on Christmas Day, 25th December, in the St. Michael's Old Church at Chapel Lane Baulkham Hills.

Transport can be arranged, just let us know when you RSVP if you would like a pick up or to be dropped off. Please RSVP to David Dowling at

david.dowling@raywhite.com or on 0421 051029 .

SPECIAL EDITION OF CATHOLIC OUTLOOK

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition will be a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and will showcase the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your parishes and schools from Monday 4 December.

ARRUPE HOUSE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Don't wait for the Epiphany to bring your gifts to a family in need. St Patrick's Cathedral Parish is teaming up with Arrupe House this month to find gifts for 113 refugee families. Help us reach our target: 350 gift vouchers for adults and 120 gift vouchers for children. Gifts can be placed in the stable in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Gift cards to be dropped in the safe in the Cathedral narthex or brought to the Cathedral Office.

ST VINCENT de PAUL GIVING TREE

St Vincent de Paul will be conducting their "Giving Tree" starting on December 3rd, the first week of Advent. Christ the King Primary School is arranging to have some Mothers help us with the packing of the Hampers, which will be carried out on Monday December 11th. This only gives us one week to collect as much of the food and toys as possible before the Hamper packing. We are kindly asking you to take a tag or tags from the Giving Tree, purchase the items and return them to the foyer of the Church with the tags by Sunday December 10th.

The St Vincent de Paul Conference would like to thank the Parishioners for their most generous support of the disadvantaged in our community especially at Christmas time.

CATECHISTS—SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS



We are looking for volunteers from North Rocks Parish to teach Scripture at

North Rocks public on Tuesday mornings and Carlingford West Public School on Wednesday mornings. The volunteers are required either to teach classes or assist with teaching classes in 2018. If you are interested in becoming part of this rewarding Ministry or would like some further information, please contact the Parish Office on 9871 8710 or Terri Hirschhorn on 0407 394 332 or Cate Joseph on 0409 397 888

COMMUNITY WHEELS INC.

Community Wheels is your local community organisation that provides door-to-door transport services to eligible people (+65 years old etc) to:

- Attend medical appointments
- Go shopping (including assisting clients with their shopping bags)
- Meet a friend for a chat or coffee, and
- Go on bus tours etc.

For further information please call **88681400**

BISHOP VINCENT LONG OFM CONV STATEMENT ON MANUS ISLAND

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop Delegate for Migrants and Refugees has issued a statement on behalf of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, following the closure of the Manus Island Centre. He states: "The policy of offshore detention has failed and it is time for us to deal with the issue of asylum seekers and refugees according to this nation's proud tradition and the best nature of its citizens. We can do a whole lot better, just as we did welcome "those who've come across the seas" after the wars in Europe and in South-east Asia. The concern for maritime border security does not have to make us into a mean-spirited people. The policy of offshore detention has cost Australia dearly. But it has cost the detainees and their families even more. I appeal to the government and political leaders to act in accordance with our honourable tradition. It is time to find an alternative and conscionable solution, including accepting New Zealand's offer of resettlement and bringing the remaining detainees on Manus Island to Australia for further processing."

CTK LIGHT YOUTH GROUP - SOME UPDATES!

ACYF | Friday 8th December | NO YOUTH GROUP

Due to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival taking place, there will unfortunately be no scheduled youth group for Friday 8th December. However, we will celebrate the end of the year with...

CTK Christmas Party | Friday 15th Dec | 7pm - 8:30pm | Mary MacKillop Hall

CTK Light's annual Christmas Party is back and bigger than ever in our new parish hall! Great food, Christmas games and festivities await! See you there! For Years 5-12.