

# 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  
 10am Mass-During Term  
**Children's Liturgy:**  
**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

10 December 2017  
 SECOND SUNDAY  
 OF ADVENT  
 YEAR B



### Gospel Reflection

In the wilderness God's salvation comes to a broken people. In the midst of what is seemingly an impossible situation, hope emerges with vigour. In this context, hope is an openness to surprise, the surprise that God is in no way limited to the imaginings of human minds and the consequences of human history. This is the kind of hope that is proclaimed in the wilderness by John; it is the kind of hope that trusts that from the impossible, God can work a new creation.

There is something of a time warp in Christianity. What is future is made present. The prophetic oracle announces the future as if it is already happening. This sense of the future-present prompts new ways of living. As the future takes root in human lives, the present is transformed into a new creation and the Day of the Lord appears.

God's future comes through the wilderness into the broken city and inspires a broken-hearted people. The contrite heart is a broken heart, an emptied-out heart, a hope-filled heart. It is a heart that is unencumbered by the past and that lives currently in the passing of time and the fragility of being alive. The contrite, broken heart can be filled only by what is promised in the future. This is the paradox of Advent. In the middle of the wilderness, God works the impossible in those whose hearts are ready for the surprise of hope.

© Dianne Bergant CSS

#### 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 :** Afifi Elchaar, 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:

Betty McLaren, Jan Reynolds

**PLEASE REMEMBER ALL THE DEPARTED IN YOUR PRAYERS.**

Amkich Trsoglavic, Mary Ribbons, Autel Basha, John Doyle, Doreen Davison, Kevin Gately and Neil O'Hara

**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

Last week we lit the candle of EXPECTATION. (*Relight the first candle*)

The second candle, which we light today, is that of HOPE. It reminds us of the dark night when Joseph and Mary found LIGHT and WARMTH in the stable. As the wick and the wax give way to the flame, we ask for violence and fear to give way to God's reign. (*Light the second candle*)



**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**

**Reading 16/17 December 2017**  
**Third Sunday of ADVENT—CYCLE B**  
**Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28**

### 9/10 December—Second Sunday of ADVENT

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
<b>Saturday 6.00 pm</b>	Sam Bietola Paul Rankin	Ken Coorey	George Germanos Rob Haddad	Jeremy Thaman	Maria Bietola Sue DeCourcy	Dorothea Price
<b>Sunday 8.00 am</b>	John Colman John Murphy	David Collins	Julie Elliott Rhoda Patrick	Jamie Hoban	James Kinsella Jui-May Lee Rosemary Wickham	Toby shi
<b>Sunday 10.00 am</b>	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, Rosemarie Maroon, Paul Cook, Marlene Galea

### 16/17 December— Third Sunday of ADVENT

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
<b>Saturday 6.00 pm</b>	Ken Boys Roger Hook	Ron Ruskin	John DeCourcy Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Frank Lah Lilia Nuguid	Isabelle Chacty
<b>Sunday 8.00 am</b>	Chris Brown John Murphy	Peter Hrast	Tony Hughes Margaret Noonan	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Cheryl Collins James McMaster Rosemary Wickham	Pauline Zhao
<b>Sunday 10.00 am</b>	Peter Elchaar Michael Nasr	Jose Jilesh	Anne Gately Jennie Mater	David Cook	Lisa Hoban Jenny Roddy Leila Safy	Carla Manasan Darren So

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY Group 2—** Barbara Haddad

**PIETY Group 4—** Lena Henson, Dawn Muriti, Helen Templeman, Marea Mooney

**CHURCH CLEANING Group 3—** Clarry Barbera, Chris and Beverly Poole, Leo and Elizabeth Bautista, Ken Coorey

#### 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.

# RECONCILIATION DURING ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT CTK

## Christmas Mass times:

Christmas Eve- 6.00 pm	Children's Mass
Christmas Eve- 9.00 pm	Youth Mass
Christmas Day Masses-	8.00 am and 10.00 am

## RECONCILIATION DURING ADVENT:

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION** at North Rocks:

**Saturday 16 December**

9:30-10am, 4:30-5pm

**Saturday 23 December**

9:30-10am, 3:30-4:30 pm

## **2<sup>ND</sup> RITE OF RECONCILIATION:**

**Monday 18 December** at St. Michael's Church, Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills at 7:30 pm

**Wednesday 20 December** at St. Bernadette's Church, 367 Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill at 7:30 pm

**Thursday 21 December** at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Diana Ave, Kellyville at 7:30 pm

## **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.

## **YEAR OF YOUTH**

**YEAR OF  
YOUTH  
2018**

This weekend launches the Year of Youth for the Australian Catholic Church. A time to refocus our faith communities on walking with young people in their midst and for young people to answer Pope Francis' call to 'open new horizons for spreading joy'. The Year of Youth invites the

church into dialogue about the importance and life-giving presence of young people in the Church and society. It calls for dialogue and active engagement that reconnects and renews this generation of young people in the life of the Church ten years on since World Youth Day in Sydney. Please pray for the 19,000 young people from across Australia and the 2,500 from the Diocese of Parramatta sharing their faith at Olympic Park these last few days for the triennial Australian Catholic Youth Festival. For more information contact James Camden at Catholic Youth Parramatta (02) 8838 3428.

## **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.

## **CHRISTMAS 2017 MASS TIMES**

Christmas Mass and Reconciliation times **across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains** can be found by visiting: [www.parracatholic.org](http://www.parracatholic.org)

## **THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION QUOTA**

**CATHOLIC FOUNDATION**

Our quota for this appeal is **\$7, 627.00**

The amount raised so far **\$3995.80—the shortfall to meet our quota is \$3631.20**

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.

## **CHRISTMAS FLYER**



Parishioners, Please take a Christmas flyer advertising our Christmas Mass and Reconciliation times — available at the back of the church to distribute to your neighbours, friends and

relatives and invite them to celebrate with us the Nativity of our Lord.

## **POSITIONS VACANT**

Youth Minister – St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill.

More details at: [www.parracatholic.org/employment](http://www.parracatholic.org/employment)

## **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](mailto:info@smom.org.au)

## 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](mailto:david.dowling@raywhite.com) or on 0421 051029 .

## SPECIAL EDITION OF CATHOLIC OUTLOOK

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook is back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition is a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and showcasing the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Take a copy from the church foyer.

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 11<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY VIGIL: 30 DECEMBER

The Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth cordially invite families and youth (aged 18-35) to join us for a Celebration Vigil for Feast of the Holy Family on Saturday 30 December at 2:30 pm. Pizza from 5:30pm. 116-132 Quakers Road, 2148 Marayong NSW. Please RSVP to Sr Paula by 28 December on [vocationscsfn@gmail.com](mailto:vocationscsfn@gmail.com) or 0449 656 406

## 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 Terri Hirschhorn on 0407 294 332 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**

## ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse will shortly release its final findings on public hearings, and its recommendations, related to the Catholic Church in Australia. The Diocese of Parramatta once again offers its unreserved and deepest apologies to those many people who have suffered because of the child sexual abuse that has occurred in the context of Church ministry. In particular, the Diocese of Parramatta apologises to survivors of abuse and their families for the hurt and suffering this abuse has caused throughout their lives. During the Royal Commission, the Diocese of Parramatta has strived to engage in their processes with openness, transparency and a commitment to learning about our history so that our child protection policies and procedures are strengthened and there is restored confidence in Church ministry. The Diocese of Parramatta is committed to continuously reviewing and improving its child protection policies and procedures. For more information please visit

[www.safeguarding.org.au](http://www.safeguarding.org.au). For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website:

[www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au](http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au)

For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3470. Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

## 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@griefftoGraceaus.org.au](mailto:info@griefftoGraceaus.org.au) or phone 0407704539. For more information visit [www.griefftoGrace.org](http://www.griefftoGrace.org)