

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

24 December 2017
**FOURTH SUNDAY
 OF ADVENT
 YEAR B**



Gospel Reflection

The world in which we live and the events of which we are a part are the stage upon which the drama of salvation is enacted. God works through real flesh and blood people, those like David, who occupy the seats of power and influence as well as those like Mary and us, who are unseen and unknown. All can be agents of salvation. God's future is in our hands. Human history is really the history of salvation. Each turn of God's revealing causes us to wonder at what might come next. In this tension, mystery is revealed. What was hidden is now made known. Jesus establishes a people of covenant promise. Still, the mystery is unknown, for it continues to come to us from the future, revealing more and more of itself in the junctures of history.

The waiting of Advent is over. In the face of the impossible, God works the possible. During Advent, we have been waiting for the realisation of the promise made to David. We have been waiting for Mary's yes. With this yes, hope is enlivened, and history is changed. There is an unimaginable future for all people, a future that comes from God. Salvation is created among us, and the fate of history is altered by a godly presence. This salvation resides in the hearts of those who believe in the gift, and who stay awake eagerly to know its coming. With David we await it, with the nations we long for it, with Mary we behold it.

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ADVENT WREATH

In the Fourth Week of Advent, we consider Mary's trust in God's promise, her joy in His goodness to her. We ask, "Am I ready to receive and celebrate the coming of the Son of God?" We have considered our relationships, our love of God and God's love for us, and we have responded with an awakened concern for the needs of others. Now we may echo Mary's words: "My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord. My spirit finds joy in God my Saviour."



The fourth candle symbolizes **LOVE** and **ACCEPTANCE**. It reminds us of the light of the star in the sky which guided the Wisemen to Jesus and which keeps watch over us by night.

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:

Fr. Brian Rooney (Pastor Emeritus of St Monica's Parish Nth Parramatta—Funeral at St Michael's Baulkham Hills on Tuesday 2/1/2018 at 11.00 am); Tim Perry –Parishioner (Funeral at CTK Thursday 28/1/2017 at 10.30 am)

PLEASE REMEMBER ALL THE DEPARTED IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Jeffrey Lewis, Tony and Soraya Khalife, Morrie Khalife and Yvonne, Phillip Boulous, Kathleen Hayman, John Gannon, Bill Costello, Craig Pierce Julia, Antoni and Zygmunt Krawczyk

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT CTK

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

Reading 23/24 December 2017—Fourth Sunday of ADVENT—CYCLE B

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:38

Reading 24 December—CHRISTMAS VIGIL—CYCLE B

Isaiah 62:1-5, Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25

Reading 25 December—CHRISTMAS DAY—CYCLE B

Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

23– 25 December— Fourth Sunday of ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musician
Saturday 23rd 6.00 pm Fourth Sunday of Advent	Roger Hook Paul Rankin	Jamie Hoban	John DeCourcy Rob Haddad	Jeremy Thaman	Maria Bietola John Lacey	Dorothea Price
Sunday 24th 8.00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent	John Colman Christine Kinsella	Aubon Fernando	Bev Johnson Dexter Tabeta	Trish Yates	Anne-Marie Makin Lorraine Murphy Gerianne Sadaya	Mike Yates
Sunday 24th 10.00 am Fourth Sunday of Advent	Peter Elchaar Michael Ng	Jose Jilesh	Sarah Cook Sam Safy	Kathryn Gaudron	Marea Mooney Natasha Todorov Rosemary Wickham	Dominic Wong
Sunday 24th 6.00 pm Christmas Vigil Children's Mass	Sam Bietola Graeme Gardner	Phil Trainor	Georgette Rissmiller Gerard Sadaya	David Cook	Ilana Blazevec Nesli Nuguid Rosemary Wickham	Darren So
Sunday 24th 9.00 pm Christmas Vigil Youth Mass	Michael Nasr Brad Vergano	Keith Henson	John DeCourcy Dawn Peat	Jamie Hoban	Jennifer Alphonse Margaret Coakley sue DeCourcy	Julia Hoban
Monday 25th 8.00 am Christmas Mass	Chris Brown	Peter Bosci	Tony Hughes Rhoda Patrick	Trish Yates	Cheryl Collins annette Hoban Lilia Nuguid	Mike Yates
Monday 25th 10.00 am Christmas Mass	Ken Boys	Peter Hrast	Sam Safy sue Veling	Kathryn Gaudron	Peter Blyth Frank Lah Cecilie McCarron	Dominic Wong

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

ALTAR SOCIETY Group 3— Barbara Haddad

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

CHURCH CLEANING Group 4— Connie Este and CTK School Mums group 4

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.

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 .



Reading 30/31 December 2017— THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - CYCLE B**First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3****Second Reading : Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19****Gospel : Luke 2:22-40****30/31 December—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

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

COUNTER Group 5— Noel White, Joe Vitetta, John Murphy**ALTAR SOCIETY Group 4—** Anna Hunt, Barbara Haddad**PIETY Group 4—** Lena Henson, Dawn Muriti, Helen Templeman, Marea Mooney**CHURCH CLEANING Group 5—** Mark & Carmela Corazza, Bernadette Ghalloub, Ramona Yammouni, Maria Ellis, M. Tomaasovic**BISHOP VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

Bishop Vincent's Christmas message can be viewed online at: www.parracatholic.org

Merry Christmas from Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta.

COMPUTER OPERATOR

Urgent request for a computer operator. If anyone is able to help out temporarily for the Saturday 6pm mass. We have a shortage of computer operators for that mass because our regular family who does it is away on holiday. Please call Darren So (0410 416 063) if you're able to help. The computer operator is required from this Saturday till the 20th of January 2018.

DEANERY AND DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCILS

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv launched our new councils on Saturday 2 December at St Andrew's Parish, Marayong. He called on our councils to be listening bodies, particularly to those who are "outside the tent". Council members are to be connected to the grassroots, to help him listen and respond to the real needs and concerns of the people.

More information, including council membership, can be found on www.faithinourfuture.org.au

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**

CHRISTMAS 2017


Christmas Mass and
Reconciliation times
across **Western Sydney**

and the **Blue Mountains** can be found by VISITING:

WWW.PARRACATHOLIC.ORG

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

2018 CTK SPRING FAIR

We are very excited to announce that our next CTK Spring Fair will take place on **Saturday, September 15, 2018!**

Last week 20 enthusiastic members of our CTK community joined together to share ideas and form teams to help with the organisation of the Spring Fair. Stay tuned and start thinking about how you would like to help on the day or in preparation for this great event.



MASS OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS: 28 DECEMBER

The principal celebrant for the Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents will be Fr Benedict La Volpe OFM Conv. Mass at 11am at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, 8 Diana Ave, Kellyville, followed by a rosary procession to the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents. A luncheon will be provided – please bring a plate to share. Inquiries (02) 9629 2595

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 vocationscfn@gmail.com or 0449 656 406

YEAR OF YOUTH

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.



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

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: A GIFT TO THE WORLD

For women of any age and experience in formal leadership positions and for those who exercise leadership without a formal title in business, schools, homes, offices, parishes etc. The inspirational Sr Hilda Scott OSB (presenter at ACYF) and Dr Leoni Degenhardt will be the presenters. April 13-15 2018 at Benedictine Abbey, 695 Mountain Road, Jamberoo. Info: 02 4236 0533 or cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au

FR. BURTON

Rosary village where Fr. Eric is living has requested when visitors bring food into the village it must be in sealed containers. There is a Book to record what you bring and you are asked to check with the STAFF regarding FOOD. Small quantities are best.

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

After five years of work, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has submitted its final report to government and will now come to an end. The Diocese of Parramatta will continue working with police and other relevant authorities to ensure the Catholic Church remains as safe as possible for children and other vulnerable people.

In its submissions, the Royal Commission has released its reports on Case Study 44 relating to the Diocese of Parramatta (this report has not yet been made public) and Case Study 50 relating to Catholic Church in Australia. The Diocese of Parramatta now begins the process of reviewing this material.

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.

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.

For more information please refer to the Royal Commission website: www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au

For anyone needing information and support please contact the Diocese of Parramatta information line on (02) 8838 3419.

Concerns or allegations about any criminal offence should be reported to NSW Police on 131 444.

For anyone seeking more information about protocols or support services in Catholic Schools run by the Diocese of Parramatta they may contact the Child Protection Information Line 1300 661 015.

For further information please contact the Diocese of Parramatta Communications Office – (02) 8838 3400 or comms@parra.catholic.org.au.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv

STL DD Bishop of
Parramatta

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.