



Sunday 5th January, 2020

The Epiphany of the Lord

Year A



Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Ian McGinnity
Trainee Deacon: John Collins
Parish Secretary: Claudine Nallétamby
Parish Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 9am - 4pm
Youth Coordinator: Adam Chioatto
Mob: 0423 077 677
Email: ctk.nr.ym@gmail.com

School Principal: Tony Hughes

School Phone: 8846 2700

School Web Site:

www.ctknorthrocks.catholic.edu.au

Baptisms: Each 2nd & 4th Sundays - 11:15am

Weddings: By Appointment

Reconciliation: Saturdays 9:30am & 4pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Saturdays - 9:30am

Rosary: Saturdays - 8:30am

Children's Liturgy: 10am Mass - *during School Terms only*

Good Neighbour Group: Mary MacKillop Hall every 2nd Thursday at 10am - **Next meeting Thursday 6th February 2020.**

PARISH SERVICES

Sunday Masses:

5.30pm Saturday

8am Sunday

10am Sunday

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 7:30pm

Wednesday 9am

Thursday 9am

Friday 9:15am

Saturday 9am

Parish Address:

10 Statham Ave, North Rocks NSW 2151

Phone: 9871 8710

Email: northrocks@parracatholic.org

Parish Website: <https://northrockscatholic.org.au/>

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

The next conferral of the anointing of the sick will be on Sat 15 February 2020 at 9am Mass.

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

THE SICK: Mary Magill, Joe Frare, Afifi Elchaar, Daniele Donu, Patrick Wheeler, Sylvette Marsh.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Br Gerald McGrath cfc, Eric Michael and Greg Stephen.

ANNIVERSARIES: Shirley Lawton, Annie Scanlon.

DECEASED: Ken Graham, Guiseppina Cutrone, Beniamino Cutrone, George Cutrone Jnr, Jimmy Cutrone, Carmelina Cutrone, Maria Consuelo & All Souls.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The reading opens with a twofold summons: 'Arise!' 'Shine!' Called out of darkness, the illumination into which Jerusalem emerges is not merely the light of a new day, a new era of peace and prosperity. It is the very light of God; it is the glory of the Lord. Other nations will witness the glory of the Lord as it is revealed through the salvation of this people. The light they provide for others is really the radiance of God's glory. That glory is in fact the manifestation of Jerusalem's deliverance. Thus, Jerusalem's redemption enables others to behold and to walk in God's light. This is why it is told to 'Arise and shine forth!' The psalmist asks God to bless the king with justice so that the king in turn can exercise justice over the people. This is no ordinary king; he has been placed over the covenanted people to rule them as God would, in justice and righteousness. The test of the character of the royal rule is the care given to the most vulnerable of the society, the poor. The psalmist prays that this rule will be steadfast in peace, including the entire world and all of the nations within it. The reading ends with a picture of righteousness in action. The kingdom has been rooted in the righteousness of God and the most vulnerable in the society have an advocate in the king.

The epistle insists that in Christ the Gentiles are co-heirs, co-members and co-partners with the Jews. What qualifies one as an heir is life in the Spirit of Christ and not natural generation into a particular national group. All belong to the body of Christ, not the bloodline of Abraham. The promise at the heart of the gospel is the promise of universal salvation through Christ, not that of descendants and prosperity in a particular land. The Gentiles are co-heirs precisely as Gentiles and not as initiates who have come to Christ through the faith of Israel. The one thing necessary is to be 'in Christ'. This is a radical insight for a church with Jewish roots and traditions. The Three Kings or Wise Men were astrologers who studied the heavens in search of the meaning of human life. The gospel account is a haggadah, a Jewish story fashioned from diverse biblical material intended to make a theological point. The author of this account probably provided the theological explanation of an actual astral phenomenon. Lest the astrological details lead us to believe that the birth was a myth, he then situates it squarely in time and place: the reign of Herod, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The anonymous men come out of obscurity and return to obscurity. All we know is that they were not Israelite, and this is the whole point of the story. The child draws Jew and Gentile alike. ©Dianne Bergant



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.

This Week's Readings: Is 60:1-6, Eph 3:2-3. 5-6, Mt 2:1-12 Next Week's Readings: Is 42:1-4. 6-7, Acts 10:34-38, Mt 3:13-17
Lectors and Parishioners please note that the full text can be found on the website: www.universalis.com

4th / 5th January - The Epiphany of the Lord

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musicians
Saturday 5.30pm	Sam Bietola Ken Boys	Volunteer Required Please	John DeCourcy Sue Veling	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola Diane Campbell Gillian Mobbs Lilia Nuguid	Isabelle Chacty
Sunday 8am	John Colman Chris Kinsella	Ken Coorey	Julie Elliott Gabby Scanlon	Volunteer Required Please	Carmelita Khoo Jim Kinsella John Lacey Gerianne Sadaya	Jason Scanlon
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar Graeme Gardiner	Peter Hrast	Sam Safy Volunteer Required Please	Alik Orgun	Margaret Coakley Marea Mooney Leila Safy Natasha Todorov	Volunteer Required Please

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: No Children's Liturgy during school holidays

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Carmelita Khoo, Jim Kinsella, John Lacey

COUNTER GROUP 5: Noel White, Joe Vitetta, John Murphy

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 1: Lesley Bosci, Gloria Blackwood

PIETY GROUP 1: Maria Bietola, Mary Magill, Ellen Vaughan

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 2: Frances Gallagher, Rosemarie Maroon, Paul Cook, Helen Roumanos

11th / 12th January - The Baptism of the Lord

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister	Musicians
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos Paul Rankin	Lance Parker	Rob Haddad Georgette Rissmiller	Volunteer Required Please	Cecilie McCarron Gillian Mobbs Nesli Nuguid Volunteer Required Please	Thea Price
Sunday 8am	John Colman John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Tony Hughes Dexter Tabeta	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Carmelita Khoo Chris Kinsella Jui-May Lee Lorraine Murphy	Pauline Chen
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar Graeme Gardiner	Peter Hrast	Sarah Cook Stephen Doyle	Alik Orgun	Diane Campbell Margaret Coakley Cate Joseph Gerianne Sadaya	Dominic Wong

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: No Children's Liturgy during school holidays

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Carmelita Khoo, Chris Kinsella, Jim Kinsella, Lorraine Murphy

COUNTER GROUP 6: Robert Wallace, Peter Bosci

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 2: Gillian Mobbs, Barbara Haddad

PIETY GROUP 2: Julie Hook, Sue Quigley, Jill Wulf

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 3: Clarry Barbera, Chris & Beverley Poole, Leo & Elizabeth Bautista, Ken Coorey

2020

We have experienced, dearly beloved friends, the joy with which we celebrated, by the favour of a merciful God, the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. In that same joy, we now proclaim his new birth, the resurrection of that same Lord and Saviour and our reliving of it during the coming year.

* The 26th day of February will be Ash Wednesday.

* On the 12th day of April we will exalt in the full celebrations of Easter.

* The 24th day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

* The 31st of May will be the feast of Pentecost.

* On the 14th day of June we will celebrate First Holy Communion on the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

* On the 22nd day of November, we will celebrate the feast of Christ the King.

* The 29th day of November will be the First Sunday of Advent when we shall look forward again to the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

PARISH GOLDEN JUBILEE

On 3 February 1970 Father Eric Burton was appointed the first parish priest of North Rocks thus marking the foundation date for the beginning of the new parish of Christ the King, North Rocks. This coming 3rd of February 2020 marks the 50th year of the establishment of our parish community. The Parish Pastoral Council would like to mark this significant milestone with some events in 2020. To enable this, we would like to create a Golden Jubilee committee to assist in the organisation of the celebration of this anniversary. Particularly we would like to invite parishioners who were around at the foundation of the parish to join this committee. If you would like to be a member of such a committee please contact the parish office, via email northrocks@parracatholic.org or phone 9871 8710. A date will soon be advertised for the initial meeting of this committee.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

After a few years of wonderful service Rachel Elliott is stepping down from the role of preparing couples for their child's baptism. We are very grateful for her ministry during this time. The parish is looking for a team of people to take on this important task of welcoming and preparing young parents for the baptism of their children. If you would like to assist in this ministry, please contact the parish office. Suitable training in this ministry will be facilitated by John Collins and Rachel Elliott.

BAPTISM WELCOME

We welcome the Esterman family, Matthew and Danielle with their daughter Abigail. We also welcome the Vasconcelos family, Nelson and Emily and their daughter Olivia. May Abigail and Olivia's baptisms be a happy and memorable occasion and may God continue to bless their parents in this special step that they have taken to proclaim and support their children in the Christian faith.

SACRAMENTAL DATES – 2020

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 & ABOVE

Parent Information Evening:	Wednesday, 1st April 2020 - 7.30pm
Enrolment Weekend:	Weekend 9th & 10th May 2020 (Mother's Day) All Masses
Ceremony:	Weekend 13th & 14th June 2020 All Masses (Feast of Corpus Christi)
Presentation of Certificates:	Weekend 20th & 21st June 2020 All Masses

CONFIRMATION - FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 5 & ABOVE

Parent Information Evening:	Wednesday, 24th June 2020 – 7.30pm
Enrolment Weekend:	Weekend 25th & 26th July 2020 All Masses
Ceremony:	Wednesday, 2nd September 2020 - 7.00pm
Presentation of Certificates:	Weekend 5th & 6th September 2020 All Masses

RECONCILIATION - FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 3 & ABOVE

Parent Information Evening:	Wednesday, 16th September 2020 – 7.30pm
Enrolment Weekend:	Saturday 17th/ Sunday 18th October 2020
Ceremony:	Wednesday, 18th November 2020 - 7.30pm
Presentation of Certificates:	Weekend 21st & 22nd November 2020 All Masses

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK IS BACK AND NOW AVAILABLE!

Catholic Outlook is now available. The revised Catholic Outlook will be published quarterly as an A4 magazine with a focus on Catholic faith formation, spirituality and a look at what is happening across the agencies and ministries of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in the church foyer.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

The Plenary Council invites people to continue to participate in the journey towards the Council sessions in 2020. There are many opportunities to engage in the "Listening and Discernment" phase by participating in small group sessions within the Diocese. Ask your priests or Deanery Representatives for session dates in parishes and deaneries or contact the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3441.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Help vulnerable people in crisis turn their lives around, recover and thrive. Your compassionate gifts and prayers will help CatholicCare to connect people with support and services to build strong foundations for self-sufficiency, fulfilling family relationships and brighter futures. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal via yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

THE EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE

It is with sadness that the 2020 Epiphany Pilgrimage has been cancelled in light of the current fire situation in the Blue Mountains. We continue to keep all those affected by the fires in our thoughts and prayers and give thanks for the tireless efforts and generosity of the firefighters. There are discussions about a possible mid-year pilgrimage (July school holidays with dates TBC), with relevant information to be posted to <http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org/> as plans take shape.

OFFICE FOR WORSHIP LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES

The Office for Worship's Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will be held again next year, commencing early February 2020. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 8838 3456 or anne.alimangohan@parracatholic.org.

PASTORAL PLANNING ALPHA TEAM TRAINING WORKSHOP: 9 FEBRUARY 2020

The Pastoral Planning Office is running a training day in the Alpha Catholic program at the Institute for Mission, Blacktown, Sunday 9 February, 9.30am – 4.30pm. The workshop will look at where Alpha fits in the faith formation process in a Parish. To register, and for more information, please contact Lisa in the Pastoral Planning Office on 8838 3497 or lisa.bright@parracatholic.org

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS: 11 FEBRUARY 2020

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick will be celebrated in the Diocese of Parramatta on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, St Patrick's Church, Blacktown at 10.30am. The Mass will include the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Please RSVP to Marisa VanderHout on (02) 8838 3460 or marisa.vanderhout@parracatholic.org to assist with seating and catering.

CATHOLIC MISSION CAMINO 2020 PILGRIMAGES:

Catholic Mission is organising two pilgrimages to walk the Camino Portugués (17 days) from 11 to 27 May 2020 and the Camino Francés (16 days) from 19 September to 5 October. Each pilgrimage will offer small groups lead by an experience guide. For more information, please contact Sr Veronica Rosier OP on 0451 387 906 or visit www.catholicmission.org.au/camino2020

CREDIT CARD AND DIRECT DEBIT CHANGES

Please inform the Parish Office on 9871 8710 or send an email to northrocks@parracatholic.org 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 an email address, could you please notify the Parish Office northrocks@parracatholic.org as soon as possible. **Thank you**

ONLINE GIVING Donations may also be made online via credit card: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/ChristTheKingParishNorthRocks>

If you wish to contribute via Direct Debit, please contact the Parish Office on 9871 8710 for the BSB and Account number for the Parish or Parramatta Catholic Foundation Account.

BEQUESTS (Please contact the Parish Office for further information)

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. These kinds of gifts help the Parish free up other income to use toward pastoral care programs.