



Sunday 9th May, 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year B



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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: **Suspended until further notice**

Rosary: **Suspended until further notice**

Children's Liturgy: **Suspended until further notice**

Good Neighbour Group: Mary MacKillop Hall every 2nd Thursday at 10am - **Suspended until further notice**

PARISH SERVICES

Sunday Masses:

ONLINE REGISTRATION before Saturday 3:30pm

<https://northrockscatholicparish.eventbrite.com.au/>

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 to be confirmed.

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

THE SICK: Bev McAppion, Pat McAppion, Ace Sortisas, Oliver Ofiana, Jui-May Lee, Tony Basha, Tina Coorey, Jenny Commisso Smith, Margaret Martin, Jessica Campbell, Mary Magill, Afifi Elchaar, Daniele Donu, Patrick Wheeler, Sonia Merchant, Janet Sullivan, Abraham Concepcion.

RECENTLY DECEASED: John McCreanor

ANNIVERSARIES: Giuse Nguyen Van Nu, William Lum.

DECEASED: Guiseppina Elizabeth Cutrone, Carmelina Cutrone, Beniamino Cutrone, Jimmy Cutrone, George Cutrone Jr, Rodney Jayatilaka, Rito Jayatilaka, Angelina Jayatilaka, Colin Brown & All Souls.

Happy Mother's Day!

I said a Mother's Day prayer for you to thank the Lord above for blessing me with a lifetime of your tender-hearted love. I thanked God for the caring you've shown me through the years, for the closeness we've enjoyed in time of laughter and of tears. And so, I thank you from the heart, for all you've done for me and I bless the Lord for giving me the best mother there could be !



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: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 Jn 4:7-10, Jn 15:9-17

Next Week's Readings: Acts 1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23, Mk 16:15-20

Lectors and Parishioners please note that the full text can be found on the website: www.universalis.com

TO OUR MINISTERS OF THE PARISH

Should you be rostered and feel you are not ready to return to Mass, please email the parish office:

northrocks@parracatholic.org or ph 9871 8710 or indicate on the roster through Ministry Scheduling, that a volunteer is required. A replacement can then be organised on your behalf.

Thank you for your ongoing participation in these important ministries.

8th / 9th May - Sixth Sunday of Easter / Mother's Day

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	One Eucharistic Minister Required	COVID Safety Warden
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos Roger Hook	Lance Parker	Inge Wienker Gabby Scanlon	Volunteer Required Please	Gillian Mobbs	Sam Bietola George Germanos Roger Hook
Sunday 8am	Chris Kinsella John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Julie Elliott Tony Hughes	Trish Yates	Rosemary Wickham	Chris & Jim Kinsella John & Linda Murphy
Sunday 10am	Michael Nasr Michael Ng	Aubon Fernando	Sarah Cook Dawn Peat	Volunteer Required Please	Marea Mooney	Rosanne Vaughan

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: *Suspended until further notice*

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, John Lacey, Anne-Marie Makin, Lorraine Murphy

COUNTER GROUP: *Suspended until further notice*

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 8: Nat Bertie

PIETY GROUP: *Suspended until further notice*

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 6: Estela Li, Myrna Santiago, Ellen Vaughan, Brian Euhus

15th / 16th May - Ascension of the Lord

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	One Eucharistic Minister Required	COVID Safety Warden
Saturday 5.30pm	Sam Bietola Roger Hook	Keith Henson	Kerry Saad Sue Veling	Veronica Chacty	Nesli Nuguid	Sam Bietola George Germanos Roger Hook
Sunday 8am	John Murphy Volunteer Required Please	Peter Bosci	John DeCourcy Bev Johnson	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Chris Kinsella	Chris & Jim Kinsella John & Linda Murphy
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar Graeme Gardiner	Acolyte Required Please	Stephen Doyle Sam Safy	Volunteer Required Please	Leila Safy	Rosanne Vaughan

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: *Suspended until further notice*

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Mario Azzopardi, Peter Bosci, Chris Kinsella, Rosemary Wickham

COUNTER GROUP: *Suspended until further notice*

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 9: Leni Adan

PIETY GROUP: *Suspended until further notice*

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1: CTK School Mums Group 1, Julie Bechara



Please
**WEAR
A FACE
MASK**
Help stop
the spread
of COVID-19

CHRIST THE KING PARISH MASSES

eventbrite

- Saturday 5:30 pm Vigil
- Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Do I need to make a reservation for weekend Mass? Yes ✓

The maximum number of people allowed inside a place of worship is still

240 persons per Mass.

It is still a NSW government requirement to register all attendees to assist in contact tracing should it be required.

The Eventbrite website is now to open to register for Mass attendance in MAY 2021.

Be sure to reserve your place.

<https://northrockscatholicparish.eventbrite.com.au>

SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST 2021

This weekend we continue the celebrations of First Eucharist for our children. They will be making their first Holy Communion at one of the 3 parish Masses (Sat 5.30pm, Sun 8am and 10 am) during the Easter season. It is important that the parish is part of this celebration and a reminder to us all that they are being initiated into the ongoing sacramental life of the parish at Sunday Mass, not a once in a lifetime event. It is an occasion for the parish community to minister to them in our parish liturgy. It is a time for the whole assembly to welcome these children to the table of the Lord. The children will sit in the first three rows of pews (with their immediate families) in the middle 2 blocks of Christ the King Church. These pews will be reserved for them. Communion will be initially distributed to the first Communicants and families down the centre aisle. Special Ministers of Holy Communion will distribute Communion to other family members and parishioners at the side aisles. Your cooperation is appreciated to joyfully celebrate with these children. We congratulate the following children and welcome their families and friends joining our parish community: Tom Murray Hollier, Joshua Jilesh, Benjamin Khoury, Olivia Le, Sienna Maurer, Louis Maurer, Oliver Puglisi & Cooper Ross.

LEADERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We have had a number of wonderful Children's Liturgy volunteers whose circumstances have changed and are now "going on leave" from Children's Liturgy. **We thank them very much for their generous contributions over many years.** So this is an urgent request for new leaders / teachers of Children's Liturgy. We would like to recommence Children's Liturgy at 10am Mass each week from Trinity Sunday (30th May) and we are in desperate need of parishioners who could lead a small group of primary school-aged children. All volunteers will be supported by resources and by experienced leaders of Children's Liturgy. You do not need teaching experience nor any theological background but will require a Working With Children Check. Lesson plans, Scripture readings, discussion questions and worksheets are all provided. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact

Erica Rheinberger via email: rheinberger.eric@gmail.com

CALLING FOR MIDDLE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CHILDREN

Do you like working with computers? We are looking for some new AV operators to help out at our weekend Masses.

Duties will include arriving 15 minutes early to find out if there is anything special on, following any queues from Fr Ian and ensuring the slide show runs smoothly. **Full training and support will be given.** Once you have completed the training and are confident, you will be rostered on a weekend Mass (the Mass you usually or can attend) every couple of weeks. If you or your child are interested, **there will be a training day held next Saturday 15th May in the church at 10am** for approximately 45 minutes, please contact Sarah Cook: scook@parra.catholic.edu.au to come along. We look forward to this exciting new technology time for our community.

Thank you - Sarah Cook: Vice Chair - Parish Pastoral Council

DEANERY CCD MASS

This Tuesday 11th May, Special Religious Education Teachers (Catechist) Mass will take place at Christ the King Church at 7:30pm within the normal Tuesday evening Mass.

CHRIST THE KING - YOUTH GROUP "SQUIRES & KNIGHTS"

Come along to find out more about different topics and what our challenges are. **Join in this Friday evening in**

Mary MacKillop Hall commencing at 6.45pm. For all youth news & upcoming events, check out

Facebook@CTKLifeTeenYouth. For more information, contact Adam Chioatto on 0423 077 677 or

ctk.nr.ym@gmail.com

BISHOP VINCENT'S PASTORAL LETTER ON THE PROPOSED PARENTAL RIGHTS BILL

Bishop Vincent has released a pastoral letter to the pastors, parents and the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on the proposed Parental Rights Bill. The letter can be read in the church foyer, at the end of the parish bulletin (email version) or here: <https://parracatholic.org/pastoral-letter-to-the-people-of-parramatta-on-the-parental-rights-bill/>

COVID-19 GUIDELINES: THURSDAY 6TH MAY - MONDAY 10TH MAY 2021

NSW Health has revised the COVID-19 guidelines for indoor venues (including places of worship), effective from 5pm, 6 May 2021 to 12am Monday 10 May 2021.

The following rule changes apply for venues across Greater Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

FACE MASKS: Face masks will be made mandatory at all indoor venues (including places of worship) for the next three days.

SINGING: There should be no singing at any indoor venues, including at a place of worship. There has been no change to the number of people allowed at places of worship and religious services. The maximum number of people will continue to only be limited by the 2 square metre rule.

NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE

The National Count of Attendance will again be conducted this weekend. All dioceses and parishes are urged to take part. Church attendance is perhaps the most basic measure of religious practice. Most dioceses conduct counts of attenders, but not every diocese does it with the same frequency, in the same way or at the same time. According to the most recent national count, conducted in 2016, about 11.8 per cent of Australia's Catholic population, or 623,400 people, went to church on a typical weekend. Most of those attended Mass in a parish, but the figure also included people attending Mass in non-parish centres, such as migrant centres, hospitals, gaols and boarding schools, and also some who were not attending Mass at all, but rather a Sunday assembly. The National Count is conducted in the same year as the Australian Census so that the information collected can most effectively be used in association with results from the other project. It is intended that the 2021 count will be conducted in all parishes throughout Australia. The count will be as comprehensive as possible and include people of all ages at Mass (including babies).

GET VACCINATED FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

TAP TO GIVE

Our Parish now has a Tap to Give device to make it easier for our faith family to give an offertory gift to help sustain our liturgical, sacramental, pastoral and charitable ministries.

Our Tap to Give device, located in the Church Foyer, enables us as a Parish to accept cashless donations which are automatically deposited into our bank. Our Tap to Give device has been pre-set with a gift amount of \$10.

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. -

Parishioners who wish to make a donation to the parish, can access the facility on the front page of the Parish website by clicking "Donate Now" on the top right-hand side of the page or donating directly to <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/ChristTheKingParishNorthRocks> via Credit Card. Should you wish to make a donation via direct debit, please use the following details:

BSB: 067-950

Account Number: 00000479

Account Name: North Rocks Catholic Church

FIRST COLLECTION:

If you would like to contribute towards the support of the priests, please use the following details:

BSB 067-950

Account No. 00004265

Account Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy

Reference Number: 6027

Thank you to everyone in the continual support of the parish and the clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta.

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**

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.

**Diocese of Parramatta submission into the
Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020
5 May 2021**

1. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Parramatta (Diocese of Parramatta) makes this submission to the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committee No.3 - Education about the *Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020* (Bill).
2. This submission supersedes the submission dated 26 February 2021 (Submission No 32) from Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta.
3. This submission by Diocese of Parramatta proposes improvements to that Bill.
4. Diocese of Parramatta, through its education agency, Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, runs a system of 80 faith-based schools in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. Diocese of Parramatta educates over 43,000 students and employs almost 5,000 staff.
5. Diocese of Parramatta covers 16 State Electorates including: Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Camden, Castle Hill, Granville, Hawkesbury, Londonderry, Mount Druitt, Mulgoa, Parramatta, Penrith, Prospect, Riverstone, Seven Hills, and Wollondilly.
6. Diocese of Parramatta is committed to responding to the needs of all students. Diocese of Parramatta collaborates with parents, students, and staff to realise the mission of bringing the person of Jesus Christ into the lives of the young people in its care and their families.
7. Catholic educators are called to accompany students from diverse backgrounds in dialogue with different perspectives.ⁱ All students - including those who identify as gender diverse should have the opportunity to reach their God-given potential, to learn with their peers and feel a sense of belonging in their learning environment.
8. Diocese of Parramatta proposes amendments to clarify and improve parts of the Bill. As an education provider schooling one in five students in Western Sydney, Diocese of Parramatta is trusted by local families to make appropriate discernments regarding sensitive matters in student learning.



9. Diocese of Parramatta strongly affirms the Catholic teaching that parents are the primary educators of their children in matters of faith and education.ⁱⁱ
10. Diocese of Parramatta recognises parents as each child's most influential, primary, and essential educator and actively partners with parents and caregivers, encouraging open communications and supportive learning environments. Diocese of Parramatta works in partnership with parents and carers to provide holistic Catholic education programs for our students.
11. Diocese of Parramatta affirms the prohibition of teaching gender ideology (gender fluidity) in an educational setting. As I explain in my attached Pastoral Letter (attached Appendix 1) I have serious concerns, echoing Pope Francis, about this ideology.
12. Our Catholic position is well outlined in *Male and Female He Created Them: Toward a Path of Dialogue on the Question of Gender Theory in Education*ⁱⁱⁱ and *Amoris Laetitia*.^{iv} In his apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis says that "the young need to be helped to accept their own body as it was created".
13. Our major overriding concern is also to affirm that each and every child is loved, supported, comforted, extended emotional and pastoral assistance, and given appropriate accompaniment. That is our essential mission as Catholics called to live the Gospel and reach out compassionately to those experiencing harassment and marginalisation.
14. Diocese of Parramatta also affirms that parents are the primary educators of their children, provided it occurs within a framework of open collaboration with the school. These two elements should work together harmoniously and with transparency.
15. Parents' role in education is vital, necessary and sought after at all times because parents are their children's first teachers (Canon 793 §1).^v In addition, "the family's right to be recognised as the primary pedagogical environment for the educational formation of children" must be paramount.^{vi}
16. This Bill, in our view, however, should not in any way be used as a means to diminish or reduce the professional capacity and expectations of a teacher and the school community.
17. Certainly, steps must be taken to ensure such legislation respects the rights of children which Australian governments have ratified in international agreements.



18. Diocese of Parramatta therefore encourages respectful and intelligent dialogue with students, with our deeply committed teaching staff, and within a caring Catholic environment about sensitive or challenging topics such as consent, sexuality, and gender. It is important that the school community is able to challenge unhealthy, ill-informed and discriminatory attitudes. Our primary concern is to affirm, like Pope Francis, the absolute dignity and uniqueness of each child of God. This is best fostered where there is an inclusive and healthy atmosphere among all students and staff.^{vii}
19. We are of the view that the Bill should not be used to prohibit a school from supporting children who are already at risk of marginalisation because of gender identity issues.
20. Diocese of Parramatta supports the individual and loving the individual, regardless of their sexual orientation. Catholic teaching requires us to uphold the dignity of each human person and invites us to accompany all people and provide all people with pastoral care. We strongly endorse the leadership of Pope Francis and his pastoral approach which places great emphasis on inclusivity, dialogue and the acceptance of each unique child of God.
21. I am thankful on behalf of the Diocese of Parramatta for this opportunity to present a submission into this important topic that will impact the lives of children for generations.

+ *Vincent Long*

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta**

ⁱ Congregation for Catholic Education (for Institutes of Study). (2013). *Educating to Intercultural Dialogue in Catholic Schools. Living in Harmony for a Civilization of Love*. Vatican City. 28 October, cls. 61-63 Retrieved on 22 February 2021 from https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccatheduc/documents/rc_con_ccatheduc_doc_20131_028_dialogo-interculturale_en.html

ⁱⁱ The Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education. (1982). *Lay Catholics In Schools: Witnesses To Faith*. Vatican City. 15 October, cl.12. Retrieved on 22 February 2021 from http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/ccatheduc/documents/rc_con_ccatheduc_doc_19821015_lay-catholics_en.html

ⁱⁱⁱ http://www.educatio.va/content/dam/cec/Documenti/19_0997_INGLESE.pdf

^{iv} https://w2.vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia_en.pdf

^v http://www.vatican.va/archive/cod-iuris-canonici/eng/documents/cic_lib3-cann793-821_en.html

^{vi} http://www.educatio.va/content/dam/cec/Documenti/19_0997_INGLESE.pdf

^{vii} See attached Appendix 1 Pastoral letter to the pastors, parents and the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on the proposed Parental Rights Bill, April 27th, 2021 <https://parracatholic.org/pastoral-letter-to-the-people-of-parramatta-on-the-parental-rights-bill/>



Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv DD STL
Bishop of Parramatta

Bethany Centre, 470 Church St, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia
PO Box 3066, North Parramatta, NSW 1750

☎ 02 8838 3400 📠 02 9630 4813

✉ bishop@parracatholic.org

🌐 parracatholic.org

Pastoral letter to the pastors, parents and the faithful of the Diocese of Parramatta on the proposed Parental Rights Bill

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta recently made a submission to the NSW Legislative Council's inquiry into the *Education Legislation Amendment (Parental Rights) Bill 2020* (introduced by the Hon. Mark Latham, NSW State Leader of Pauline Hanson's One Nation party). I felt it was important to write to reassure you that the decision to oppose the Bill was guided both by our strong Catholic faith and teachings, and concern for the wellbeing of our students and their families.

Our Catholic schools remain resolutely committed to our Catholic values which are at the heart of teaching children and young people. This means approaching these matters with sensitivity, compassion and truth, acknowledging at all times the dignity of each person. Dedicated staff respond to the needs of each student in an age-appropriate way.

As the Bishop of Parramatta, with oversight of Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta, I take seriously the trust you have placed in us to educate your children and will uphold that trust with an education based on Catholic Scripture, Tradition and Values. Parents' role in education is vital, necessary and sought after at all times because parents are their children's first teachers (Canon 793 §1). This is made very clear in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta's submission to the parliamentary inquiry.

At issue is whether or not certain sensitive or challenging topics such as consent, sexuality, gender et cetera can be discussed in the classroom. Some have quickly made a judgment that our Catholic education system panders to dangerous ideology. I can assure you that we take all the vital questions of our culture seriously and reflect on them through the prism of Jesus' solidarity with the marginalised.

As a Catholic community, we believe that all students - including those who identify as gender diverse - should have the opportunity to reach their potential, to learn with their peers and feel a sense of belonging in their school. The Bill prohibits the schools from affirming and supporting these children who are already at risk of marginalisation. We have to remember that at times the teachers are the only people these children might trust in helping them in these sensitive matters. By banning their discussion, the school community is unable to address unhealthy and discriminatory attitudes that may exist in their learning environment.

I emphatically reject the notion of gender ideology. What I advocate for is a compassionate, respectful, inclusive, Gospel-centred learning environment and a deep commitment to the wellbeing of all students, particularly those at risk. Their lives must not be made more intolerable by unjust laws such as elements of the “Latham” Bill that I have articulated above.

We have nothing to fear from a respectful and intelligent dialogue with our sons and daughters, with our deeply committed teaching staff, and in a caring Catholic environment. Life can be complex; but the Church is not a cult that refuses to engage and challenge our contemporary culture. I believe when faced with a choice, we need to acknowledge and stand with those who are ostracised rather than consigning them to the margins of society.

Catholics believe all people are made in the image and likeness of God. As our Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminds us, the Catechism of the Catholic Church invites us to accompany all people. As the parable of the Gospel’s Good Samaritan tells us, we are called to walk with and care for everyone in our community.

As always, I welcome respectful discussion and acknowledge the good intentions of many of those with an interest in this important issue. Yet I ask that the dignity of each person be maintained at all times, regardless of the view being expressed. Thank you for working with us in partnership for the best outcomes for children and young people.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "+ Vincent Long Van Nguyen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta**

*Given at Parramatta on 27 April 2021
Tuesday of the 4th Week of Easter*