



Sunday, 27th November, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C



Parish Priest: Rev Fr Ian McGinnity
Deacon: John Collins
Parish Secretary: Frances Gallagher
Parish Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 9am - 3pm

School Principal: Tony Hughes

School Phone: 8846 2700

School Web Site:

www.ctknorthrocks.catholic.edu.au

Baptisms: Every 2nd & 4th Sunday at 11:15am

Weddings: By Appointment

Reconciliation: Saturdays 9:30am

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

Children's Liturgy: The 1st & 3rd Sundays during 10am Mass (excluding school holidays)

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

PARISH SERVICES

Sunday Masses:

Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Weekday Masses:

Wednesday 9.00am

Thursday 9.00am

Friday 9:15am

Saturday 9.00am

Parish Address:

10 Statham Ave, North Rocks NSW 2151

Phone: 9871 8710

Email: northrocks@parracatholic.org

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: Ingrid Wulf, Jui-May Lee, Anthony Sullivan, Natalie De Maria, Margaret McCaffrey, Frances McKiernan, Barbara Ison, Marija Barclay, Brian & Warren Johnson, Margaret Martin, Tina Coorey, Peter Reiter, Eric Vaughan, Mimi Jayatilaka, Sandra Neill, Patrick Wheeler, Abraham Concepcion, Ace Sortisas, Oliver Ofiana, Jenny Commisso Smith, Helene Graham, Ken Sunderland, Sonia Merchant, Delia Hipolito, Bev & Pat McAppion, Edna Esmero.

DECEASED: All deceased relatives and friends, especially those whose names appear in the Memorial Book and on the Commemorative Wall.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.

Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks.

Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

The North Rocks Conference of St Vincent de Paul is holding its annual Christmas Hamper food and toy collection until the weekend of December 3 and 4. Please take a card from the Giving Tree, which is located in the Church foyer, and return your gifts of toys and food by December 4. A list of suggested donations can be found on the table near the Vinnies cards.



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 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Next Week's Readings: Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

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.

26th & 27th November - First Sunday of Advent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Phil Trainor	Inge Wienker Sue Veling	Volunteer Needed	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	Chris Brown	Lorraine Murphy	John DeCourcy Veronica Raic	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Christine Kinsella
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Peter Hrast	Rob Haddad Sam Safy	James Ryan	Marea Mooney

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Lorraine Murphy, Christine Kinsella, John Lacey

COUNTER GROUP: Counting is on the 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 8: Advent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Julie Hook; 8.00am Volunteers needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

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

3rd & 4th December - Second Sunday of Advent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Lance Parker	Liza Jilsh Zeina Chacty	Veronica Chacty	Jim Kinsella
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Veronica Raic Danielle Dona	Trish Yates	Rosemary Wickham
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Aubon Fernando	Jennie Mater Anne Gately	Dominic Choi	Jenny Roddy

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Erica Rheinberger, Terri Hirschhorn, Erin Wynne

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Rosemary Wickham, Anne-Marie Makin

COUNTER GROUP: Tony Clancy, John Lacey, Roger Brewer

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 9: Advent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Lena Henson; 8.00am Volunteers needed; 10.00am: Ellen Vaughan

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 4: Louis Kastoun, Paul Cook, Ryan Brown, Brian Euhus

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S ASSISTANCE WITH CARE AND HOUSING SERVICE

No one should be homeless or without support. Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic Care to give homeless people practical and emotional support and a safe place to call home. Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes or at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal. Thank you for your prayers, heart-felt compassion, and help to end homelessness.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S LITURGY - 24TH DECEMBER

Would you like to help make Christmas Eve Mass a special family event? We are inviting all preschoolers through to Year 6 children to come along and join our performance. We plan to perform during the Gospel, the Offertory and at Thanksgiving. Rehearsals will take place during Children's Liturgy every Sunday in December at 10.00am Mass with a church rehearsal on Sunday 18th December from 11.00am to 12.00pm. For any inquiries you can speak to Sarah Cook at Mass or via email scook@parra.catholic.edu.au. All welcome!

PARISH GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to all who were involved in any way in our parish Golden Jubilee celebrations last Saturday evening. Particular thanks go to the members of our parish Golden Jubilee committee: Tony Hughes, Sarah Cook, Jason Scanlon, Marianne Dwyer, Ron Giacomelli, Peter Elchaar, Mariana Tomasovic, Robert Haddad, Frank Gelonesi and Mike Yates. Thanks to all who provided food and to Frank Gelonesi for sponsoring the beverages. Special thanks to Filomena Orton for making that superb Golden Jubilee cake. Thanks also to Tony and Mike for leading us in song during the Mass and to Lesley Bosci who decorated the church so beautifully. Appreciation also to Frances Gallagher our parish secretary for coordinating things behind the scenes. It was a wonderful team enterprise and a worthy way of celebrating this important milestone in our parish as we continue to give thanks to God for our community of faith and move forward to our next 50 years!

VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS

The St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards are on sale and can be found on the table in the Church foyer. The cost is \$6 per pack of 10. Please place money for the cards in the Poor Boxes located in the Church foyer.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Congratulations to seminarian, Tom Green who will be ordained to the Diaconate this Sunday 27 November at 5.30pm at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE

2023 Columban Calendars are available from the Church foyer for \$10 each calendar. Please put the money in the envelope provided and place in the communication box in the foyer.



NOVEMBER MASSES

St Ambrose preached, *"We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayer into the house of the Lord."* For this reason, parishioners are invited to put the names of their loved ones on the card provided on the table near the sanctuary and place on the commemorative wall during the month of November. The daily Mass will be held for their intentions. Envelopes are available to commemorate the memory of your loved one at Mass and their name will be placed in the Parish Memorial Book. Only recently deceased persons will be listed in the bulletin during the month of November.

SAVE THE DATE – Diocesan World Day of the Sick Mass, including Anointing of the Sick, on Saturday, 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence next year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit the website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>.

"QUO VADIS?" PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL AND ROME: 5 – 23 SEPTEMBER 2023

At the request of many of his previous pilgrims, Fr Wim Hoekstra is leading a pilgrimage to Israel and Rome next year. The pilgrimage will be following in the footsteps of St Peter. Details are available at www.olivetreetravel.com.au. If you need further details, please contact Fr Wim on 0409 908 361 or email wim.hoekstra@parracatholic.org.

MEMORIAL MASS FOR THOSE BEREAVED BY SUICIDE: 28 NOVEMBER

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, together with the Diocese of Paramatta, invite those bereaved by suicide to a celebration of Mass to honour loved ones who have taken their lives, on Monday 18 November at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. RSVP for catering purposes and more information to Rita Chater on 8843 2500 or email rita.chater@ccss.org.au.

FirstCPR TRAINING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST!

The Diocese of Parramatta is participating in a program called FirstCPR that involves education and training in responding to cardiac arrest in the community. The program will provide you with CPR accredited training for parish staff and volunteers and is free of charge. Sessions will be organised across the Diocese and require a minimum of 10 people per session. For more information please visit <https://parracatholic.org/cpr-training-eoi/>.

GLENWOOD-STANHOPE GARDENS PARISH CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT: 17 DECEMBER

St John XXIII Parish, Glenwood-Stanhope Gardens, invites you to their annual Carols by Candlelight evening on Saturday 17 December at 7.30pm in the grounds of St John XXIII Catholic College, Stanhope Gardens. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact the parish office on 8883 5981.

iWitness CONFERENCE - 15 TO 18 DECEMBER

iWitness is an incredible Catholic conference which has been changing the lives of young adult Catholics (18 to 35 years) in Sydney since 2008. Located at The Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops from 15 to 18 December. Information can be found at www.witnessconference.com or email iwitnessconference@gmail.com.

TAP TO GIVE

Our Parish 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.