



# Sunday, 1st January, 2023

## MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

### Year A



**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.cknorthrocks.catholic.edu.au](http://www.cknorthrocks.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](mailto:northrocks@parracatholic.org)

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

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

**THE SICK:** Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI, Jui-May Lee, Natalie De Maria, Anthony Sullivan, Paul Sullivan, Irene Vaughan, 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Ingrid Wulf, Michael Cummins, Christopher Friery.

**DECEASED:** Giuseppina & Beniamino Cutrone, George Cutrone Jnr, Jimmy & Camelina Cutrone.

## **REFLECTION**

**by Dianne Bergant CSA**

Liturgically, the Octave of Christmas commemorates: the Solemnity of the Mother of God; the day designated for prayers for global peace; and the beginning of the New Year. Though the shepherds gain insight into the presence of God by seeing this holy family, it is Mary who holds all these things in her heart. She is the one who ponders the significance of these mysterious events.

Mary becomes for Christians an inspiration of contemplation and reflection. She inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events, lest we go blandly through life without meaning or direction. She inspires us to fidelity to the practices of our faith, practices which are the disciplines of soul that lead the community to a clearer focus on God's presence in human affairs.

The theme of peace appears today on many levels. Its meaning, 'fullness of life', bursts forth in every one of the readings. The ancient prayer or blessing of peace is an appropriate start for the New Year. It resonates well with the angels' wish for people of good will. Peace is also our inheritance in Christ. As adopted children of God, we have been given the freedom to live in a godly manner, calling God our Abba. Right relationships in the covenant activity of God are the pathways of peace. The beginning of a New Year is a good time to reach out to others and to pray for God's blessing of peace for each dimension of human encounter.

### **FUNERALS THIS WEEK**

- Ingrid Wulf: Funeral Tuesday 3rd Jan at 10.00am
- Michael Cummins: Funeral Wednesday 4th Jan at 10.00am.
- Christopher Friery: Funeral Thursday 5th Jan at 10.30am.



### **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: Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Next Week's Readings: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**Lectors and Parishioners please note that the full text can be found on the website: [www.universalis.com](http://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](mailto: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.*

### 31st December & 1st January - The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	George Germanos	Peter Hrast	Liza Jilesh Kerry Saad	Volunteer needed	Maria Bietola
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Lorraine Murphy	Julie Elliott Tony Hughes	Volunteer needed	John Lacey
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Volunteer needed	Aubon Fernando	Dawn Peat Rob Haddad	Volunteer needed	Leila Safy

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** School holidays - No Children's Liturgy

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Peter Hrast, John Lacey, Lorraine Murphy

**COUNTER GROUP 2:** Ron Ruskin, Keith Henson, John Lenehan, John Coakley

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 4:** Anna Hunt, Barbara Haddad

**PIETY GROUP:** Vigil: Lena Henson; 8.00am Volunteers needed; 10.00am: Marea Mooney

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 2:** Paul Cook, Rosemaree Maroon, Louise Howitt, Frances Gallagher

### 7th & 8th January - The Epiphany of the Lord

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	Darren Mobbs	Keith Henson	Inge Wienker Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	Volunteer needed	Jim Kinsella	Danielle Dona Liza Jilesh	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Rosemary Wickham
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Peter Elchaar	Mariana Tomasovic	Jennie Mater Anne Gately	Tianna Fernandes	Marea Mooney

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** School holidays - No Children's Liturgy

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Jim Kinsella, Rosemary Wickham, Ken Coorey

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 5:** Margaret Isaac, Barbara Haddad

**PIETY GROUP:** Vigil: Maria Bietola; 8.00am Volunteers needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

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

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL THANK YOU

The North Rocks Conference of St Vincent de Paul would like to thank the Christ the King parishioners for your most generous donations to our 2022 Christmas Appeal.

If you would like to contribute to this appeal, you can leave a donation in the Poor Boxes located in the foyer of the Church. If you need a tax deduction, please place your donation in one of the envelopes located near the Poor Boxes and place in the Poor Box or in the second collection bag.

Thank you for your continued support of the very needy in our community.

## SPECIAL COMMEMORATIONS 2023

### The Holy See

- \* 1 January World Day of Peace
- \* 2 February World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life
- \* 30 April World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- \* 23 July World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
- \* 1 September World Day of Prayer for Creation
- \* 24 September World Refugees & Migration Day
- \* 22 October World Mission Day
- \* 19 November World Day of the Poor
- \* 26 November World Youth Day (Diocesan Celebrations)

### Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

- \* 5 February Word of God Sunday
- \* 19 February Project Compassion
- \* 14 May World Communications Day
- \* 21-28 May Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- \* 2 July National Aboriginal and TSI Sunday
- \* 9 July Apostleship of the Sea
- \* 23 July Bible Sunday
- \* 6-13 August Vocations Awareness Week
- \* 27 August Social Justice Sunday
- \* 10 September Child Protection Sunday
- \* 4 November Anglican-Roman Catholic Reconciliation



## 2023

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 22nd of February will be Ash Wednesday.
- \* On the 9th of April we will exalt in the full celebrations of Easter.
- \* The 21st of May will be the Ascension of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
- \* The 28th of May will be the feast of Pentecost.
- \* On the 11th of June we will celebrate First Holy Communion on the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.
- \* On the 20th of September we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- \* On the 26th of November, we will celebrate the feast of Christ the King.
- \* The 3rd of December will be the First Sunday of Advent when we shall look forward again to the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
- \* On the 12th and 13th of December we will celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

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

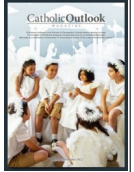
At the request of many of his previous pilgrims, Fr Wim Hoekstra is leading a pilgrimage to Israel and Rome next year. The pilgrimage will be following in the footsteps of St Peter. Details are available at [www.olivetreetravel.com.au](http://www.olivetreetravel.com.au). If you need further details,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

## **SR NATHALIE BECQUART SYDNEY PUBLIC FORUM AND LECTURE: 3 FEBRUARY**

Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCL, the Vatican's most influential female, is coming to Australia for a whirlwind tour in February. Sr Nathalie will be in Sydney on Friday 3 February, presenting at a public forum at 4pm and a public lecture at 7pm, both held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Places are limited, so please register via <https://parracatholic.org/srnathalie/>.

## **CATHOLIC OUTLOOK**

The Christmas edition of the Catholic Outlook is available from the church foyer today. A photo from the Parish Jubilee Mass is included in this edition. To see all the photos from the Parish Golden Jubilee celebration, go online to Catholic Outlook at [catholicoutlook.org](http://catholicoutlook.org), open the News section and scroll down the page till you come to 'Christ the King Celebrates 50 years'. Click the heading to view the article and scroll down the page for the full album.



## **'TAP TO GIVE' - AN EASY WAY TO DONATE**

More than ever, Christ the King Parish is needed to bring love, hope, care and Christ's message of salvation into our community. Our Parish now has Tap to Give devices to make it easier for our faith family to give an offertory gift to help sustain our liturgical, sacramental, pastoral and charitable ministries. The 1st collection Tap to Give is for the support of the priest and the 2nd collection Tap to Give is for the upkeep of the parish.

The devices, located in the Church Foyer, enable us as a Parish to accept cashless donations which are automatically deposited into our bank. Safe and easy, Tap to Give allows people to give an offertory gift of support without anyone needing to handle cash. The devices have been pre-set with a gift amount of \$10. If you wish to give more, please tap the device multiple times to increase your giving. Your gift will nurture the spiritual vitality of our Parish and ensure we can continue to provide Christian pastoral care that brings hope to our community.

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## **CREDIT CARD AND DIRECT DEBIT CHANGES**

Please inform the Parish Office on 9871 8710 or send an email to [northrocks@parracatholic.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.