



Sunday, 8th January, 2023

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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.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://northrocksatholic.org.au>

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

THE SICK: 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: Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI, Ingrid Wulf, Michael Cummins, Christopher Friery.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary Magill, Deacon James Phelan, Jane Wilkinson.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

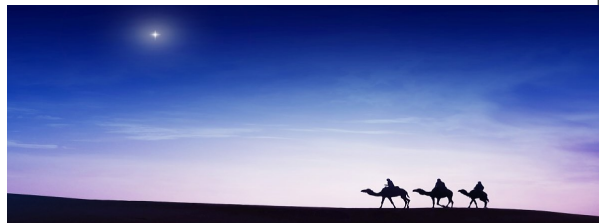
The Christmas season reaches an apex with the Epiphany. In some liturgical traditions, it is the central celebration of Christmas. It commemorates not only the birth of Christ and the visit of the Magi, but also his baptism in the Jordan and the manifestation of his glory at the wedding feast of Cana. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the focus is on the visit of the Magi and the implications of that visit for the glorious manifestation of God to all the peoples of the world.

There is a wonderful summons to alertness and presence of mind and heart, a call for all the nations to witness the marvellous works of God that shine as light in the midst of the surrounding darkness. The light of God is known in the ways in which the most vulnerable in the city are cared for and acknowledged. In just action and righteousness, the city becomes the beacon of God, and all the nations are attracted by this light. The quality of the light leads the way through the darkness and sustains the world in goodness and peace.

The manifestation of God among us changes the ways in which we perceive each other. Christ's birth provides us with the light by which we see a new criterion for relating. The Magi represent the multi-ethnic and cultural diversity in civic and parish situations, as well as the many religions of the world. All people, regardless of race or ethnic origin, can be co-heirs with Christ.

FR IAN AWAY

Fr Ian is taking a few days off this week so there will be no Mass on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (11-13 January). Communion services will be conducted at the normal Mass times on these days.



POPE BENEDICT XVI - MY SPIRITUAL TESTAMENT

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2022-12/the-spiritual-testament-of-pope-emeritus-benedict-xvi.html>

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 49:3,5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

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.

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

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Keith Henson	Inge Wienker Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	Volunteer needed	Jim Kinsella	Danielle Dona Liza Jilesh	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Rosemary Wickham
Sunday 10am	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 2: 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

14th & 15th January - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Phil Trainor	Zeina Chacty John Decourcy	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Liza Jilesh Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	John Lacey
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Sam Safy Dawn Peat	Dominic Choi	Minister needed

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Mario Azzopardi, Peter Bosci, John Lacey

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 5: Carol Coorey, Barbara Haddad

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Carole Frare & Sue Hales; 8.00am Volunteers needed; 10.00am: Ellen Vaughan

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

DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS: 11 FEBRUARY 2023

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 11 February 2023 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February 2022 to hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

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.

PLEASE CONSIDER?

An invitation is extended to parishioners over the age of 18 to seriously consider joining the Parish Pastoral Council which assists the parish priest in administering the Parish. Our current Pastoral Council is looking for new members as some members have resigned due to other commitments and others have been on the Council for a significant period of time.

The Parish also requires two representatives from the Parish to sit on the Northern Deanery Pastoral Council to similarly assist the Dean in the pastoral care and unity of the Northern Deanery.

Father Ian is also seeking new members for the Parish Finance Committee to renew and replace existing members.

These are important ministries in our local Church so we ask all parishioners to reflect honestly on whether they can be of service to the Church in any of these roles to help build up the Body of Christ and to participate in decision-making.

Anyone wishing to offer themselves for any of these positions or for further information can contact us via email northrocks@parracatholic.org or phone the parish office on 9871 8710 or speak to Fr Ian after Mass.

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, 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.



'NEW YEAR'S DASH' TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

This year over 700 people across the Diocese participated in Face-to-Face Training and achieved their 6 points of mandatory Safeguarding Training as volunteers in parish ministry. Have you had a chance to complete your Safeguarding Training yet? Please take advantage of these New Year's dates in readiness for ministry in 2023.

The Office for Safeguarding is offering a range of opportunities across the Diocese to complete your Safeguarding Training to kick off 2023. Please choose one of the following venues and register for your Safeguarding Modules.

Mary Immaculate Parish – 125 Barnier Drive Quakers Hill Monday 13th February: 9.30am - 2.30pm

St Bernadette's Castle Hill – 367 Old Northern Road Castle Hill Saturday 4th March (All modules: 9am - 2pm)

Please register by emailing safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org or, if you would like to complete your training online, go to <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>.

SR NATHALIE BECQUART SYDNEY PUBLIC FORUM AND LECTURE: 3 FEBRUARY

Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, 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/>.

"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.

SACRED CONNECTIONS RETREAT: BEGINNING 12 FEBRUARY

Starting 12 February, Jamberoo Abbey is hosting a series of online retreats pondering the values of Silence/Listening, Reverence and Community, which are integral to both Aboriginal and Benedictine Spirituality. Register online today at jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats. For enquiries contact online retreat@jamberooabbey.org.au. The cost of the retreat is \$300. All videos and texts from the retreat sessions will be available on the Jamberoo Abbey website

PARRAMATTA PONGAL TAMIL HARVEST FESTIVAL: 21 JANUARY

The Community Migrant Resource Centre invites you to celebrate the annual Tamil Farmers' Festival (Thai Pongal), signifying the end of the traditional farming season on Saturday 21 January from 11am to 2pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Mass, followed by entertainment and lunch. Entry is free and all are welcome. For enquiries, please contact James Atanasious from the Mission Enhancement Team on 047 873 519.

'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 to accept cashless donations which are automatically deposited into our bank. They 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.

JOIN THE CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB

The Sydney-based Catholic Bushwalking Club is seeking new members to join their club. Membership is not restricted to Catholics, and is open to all who share an interest in bushwalking and the outdoors. Membership offers a choice of graded walks for a variety of fitness levels on most weekends, and some on weekdays. To learn more about the Club and to become a member, visit <http://www.cbcnsw.org.au/> or call Adriana on 0478 919 427.

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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 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.