



Sunday, 19th February, 2023

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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://northrockscatholic.org.au>

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

THE SICK: Marea Mooney, Natalie De Maria, Anthony Sullivan, Margaret McCaffrey, 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 McAppin, Edna Esmero.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Irene Vaughan.

ANNIVERSARIES: Malcolm Bocking, Faye Donaldson, Anne Joseph, Ida Joseph.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

Although not a Holy Day of Obligation, Mass and the distribution of Ashes will be at 9.00am (CTK year 5 and year 6 will be present) and at 7.30pm Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

During his pontificate, Pope Francis has described Lent in many ways — as a time of recovery, renewal and conversion, a time to receive the love of God and rediscover the direction of life.

Lent is a 40-day season of intensive prayer, fasting and almsgiving which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday, April 6, 2023, just prior to the Paschal Triduum, the high point of the Church's liturgical year. The season of Lent is a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's resurrection at Easter and an opportunity for the faithful to undertake the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as a means to know Christ better and follow his will more faithfully.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence from meat for Catholics from the age of 18 to 59, meaning only one full meal and two smaller meals not equal to a full meal are permitted. The Church asks that, if possible, the fast on Good Friday, the "paschal fast," be continued until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday to honour the suffering and death of Jesus and prepare more fully for His resurrection.

Lent is also the time for the baptised to renew their baptismal commitment, while those who desire to become Catholics enter a process of learning and discernment, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, in preparation for baptism during the Easter Vigil.

As the three pillars of Lent, prayer, fasting and almsgiving are not meant to be undertaken simply to fulfill the "rules" of Lent. Prayer, from the heart; fasting from those things that interfere in strengthening a relationship with God; and almsgiving with compassion for those in need will make the Lenten journey a fruitful period of renewal. We do the latter through the Caritas Appeal *Project Compassion*.



ASH WEDNESDAY - 22 FEBRUARY

Lent will commence this Wednesday, 22 February with Masses and distribution of Ashes at 9:00am and 7:30pm.

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: Lev 19:1-2,17-18; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

Next Week's Readings: Gen 2:7-9,3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

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 not be able to attend your rostered 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.

18th & 19th February - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Peter Hrast	John DeCourcy Gabby Scanlon	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Danielle Dona Liza Jilesh	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Aubon Fernando	Jennie Mater Anne Gately	James Ryan	Jenny Roddy

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sarah Cook, Mary Cook, Rachel Parnaby

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Mario Azzopardi, Christine Kinsella

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 2: Gillian Mobbs & Lanny Carter

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

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

25th & 26th February - First Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Lance Parker	Liza Jilesh Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	Chris Brown	Lorraine Murphy	Tony Hughes Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	John Lacey
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Rob Haddad Dawn Peat	Tianna Fernandes	Leila Safy

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Lorraine Murphy, Jim Kinsella, Christine Kinsella

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - 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

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and *For All Future Generations*. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to help communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the Church foyer, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



LENTEN PROGRAMS 2023

The season of Lent commences this Wednesday, 22nd February and concludes on Holy Thursday, 6th April. It is a time for spiritual renewal, repentance and reflection. If you would like to facilitate or take part in a program reflecting on the Sunday scriptures, please let the parish office know. This year the Parish is offering a Lenten Program for Year A called 'God is on the journey too' by Melbourne priest, Christopher Monaghan CP, a Garratt publication. Parishioners may like to host groups either physically or virtually via zoom (or something similar). Copies of this program are available from the parish office.

REVEREND JACK ELKAZZI TO CELEBRATE THE VIGIL MASS

Welcome to Fr Jack Elkazzi, who was recently ordained to the priesthood and who will celebrate our Vigil Mass this Saturday at 5:30pm when parishioners will be able to congratulate him and receive his blessing. Refreshments will be served following the Mass. It would be appreciated if parishioners could bring a plate of finger food to share. Those who are bringing a plate are asked to advise Marianne Dwyer, who is co-ordinating the supper on 0418 641 412.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Two more volunteers are needed to be part of a team to clean our church once every six weeks on a Saturday morning. For information or to volunteer, please phone Brian Euhus on 9873 5603 or contact the parish office.



SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

Volunteers from Christ the King Parish teach Catholic Scripture to students at North Rocks Public School and Carlingford West Public School. We urgently need volunteers to help cover classes this year. Classes at North Rocks Public School are held on Tuesdays at 9:05 to 9:35am; 9:40 to 10:10am and 10:15 to 10:45am. Classes at Carlingford West Public School are held on Wednesdays at 1:25 to 2:05pm; 2:05 to 2:45pm and 2:45 to 3:15pm. We use the Christ Our Light and Life Program. Teachers have a handbook which gives detailed notes for teachers to follow for each lesson. Students have an Activity Book which has a variety of activities for each lesson. If you are able to be part of this rewarding ministry please contact Fr Ian or the Parish Office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council met on Wednesday evening, 15 February and elected its new office bearers for 2023. They are Chairperson: Sarah Cook, Vice Chairperson: Mariana Tomasovic and Secretary: Julie Bonney. We are delighted and grateful that these women have accepted these roles and think historically this is the first time we have had a lady as Chairperson! The next pastoral council meeting will take place on 19 April.

HELP FOR SYRIA

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has launched an emergency appeal for the people in northern Syria, desperate for help following the devastating earthquakes. ACN is begging for funds to support their long-time local project partners on the ground in Syria. To read more about what ACN is doing and to make an offering please visit www.aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake.

MOUNT ST BENEDICT OPEN DAY

Sunday, 5th March from 10am to 2pm at 449C Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills. Please book online at www.msb.nsw.edu.au. Families with a daughter in Year 5 should apply now for Year 7, 2025. Online Expression of Interest forms should be lodged by the end of Year 4.

ST GABRIEL'S SCHOOL OPEN DAY

St Gabriel's School, Castle Hill is a K-Year 11 Catholic independent school for children with a mild to moderate intellectual disability as well as Autism and sensory impairment. The school is holding two Open Days in March:

Year 7 2024 enrolments on Wednesday, 1 March at 9:30am-11am

Kindergarten 2024 enrolments on Wednesday, 8 March at 9:30am-11am.

Parents will need to register for the Open Day via the link: <https://forms.office.com/r/h8BX5exqsg>.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023

Various churches in The Hills have worked together for many years, taking turns to host the World Day of Prayer Service. Each year, the service is prepared by Christians from different countries, sometimes small islands and sometimes large countries, but everyone has concerns which need prayer. This year the service has been prepared by people from Taiwan. A speaker with a strong connection to Taiwan has been invited to share her story from her extensive time spent there. All are invited to this event at the Wesley Uniting Church, Showground Road, Castle Hill on Friday, 3 March at 7:30pm. For information phone 9894 8999.

REFLECTION MORNINGS AT HUNTERS HILL commencing Saturday 4 March from 9:30am to 12:30pm at Holy Name of Mary Parish Hall, 3 Mary Street, Hunters Hill with guest speaker Fr Michael Whelan sm. See the noticeboard in the Church foyer for more details.

LED BY THE SPIRIT

You are invited to participate in a Lenten Series, called *Led by the Spirit* presented by Disciples of Jesus (DOJ) and the Missionaries of God's Love (MGL). Sessions are on Sundays during Lent, 26 Feb to 2 April from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the Parish Hall. Each Sunday will begin with a high tea. For more information contact Matthew Leslie 0409 295 962.

SAFEGUARDING AT CHRIST THE KING

All Staff and Volunteers of the parish of Christ the King who work with children and adults at risk are required to complete Mandatory Safeguarding Training focused on protecting the most vulnerable in our community. Included in this group are Catechists, Senior Servers, those who provide Hospitality and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. The training is done in a variety of ways, face to face or online, is free and consists of the following three units.

- * Understanding Safeguarding and the Child Safe Standards
- * Legal Compliance and Safeguarding: Risk of Significant Harm & Reportable Conduct
- * Working with Adults at Risk and Understanding Boundaries

To complete the training online, go to <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>. Each session takes approx. 40 minutes. Once completed, please email a copy of your certificates to the Parish Office at northrocks@parracatholic.org.

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.