



Sunday, 19th March, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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, Jenny Commisso Smith, Margaret McCaffrey, Barbara Ison, Marija Barclay, Brian & Warren Johnson, Margaret Martin, Ace Sortisas, Tina Coorey, Peter Reiter, Eric Vaughan, Mimi Jayatilaka, Sandra Neill, Abraham Concepcion, Oliver Ofiana, Helene Graham, Sonia Merchant, Delia Hipolito, Bev & Pat McAppion, Edna Esmero, Ken Sunderland.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Maria Cummins, Ruth Austin (funeral on Friday 24 March at 11am at St Michael's Baulkham Hills)

ANNIVERSARY: Victoriana Castaneda.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

By what criteria do we judge others? Do we consider some people too insignificant for greatness? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does?

As with the other scrutiny Sundays, catechumens and long-standing members alike are exhorted to make a choice. Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ?

Welcome to the children from Years 3 to 6 at CTK who will be attending 10.00am Mass this Sunday.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2023

The Sacrament of First Eucharist (Yr 4 and above) on 10/11 June.
The Sacrament of Confirmation (Yr 5 and above) on 20 September.
First Reconciliation (Yr 3 and above) on 12 & 13 December.

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: 1 Sam 16:1,6-7,10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

Next Week's Readings: Ezek 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

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 March - Fourth Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Keith Henson	Liza Jilesh Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	Chris Brown	Rosemary Wickham	Veronica Raic Julie Elliott	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Rob Haddad Sam Safy	James Ryan	Fadia Sleiman

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Rosemary Wickham, Mario Azzopardi, Ken Coorey

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Julie Hook; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Ellen Vaughan

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1: CTK School Mums, Gemma Smart

25th & 26th March - Fifth Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Ron Ruskin	Georgette Rissmiller Liza Jilesh	Veronica Chacty	Jim Kinsella
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Lorraine Murphy	Danielle Dona Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Peter Hrast	Dawn Peat Sarah Cook	Tianna Fernandes	Jecy Vaz

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Rosemary Wickham, Lorraine Murphy, John Lacey

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Lena Henson; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Volunteer needed

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

THE BISHOP'S GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND

Our Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park is preparing 11 men who have been called by God to be good shepherds to serve his people. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal. Will you support our seminarians to humbly serve our faith community?

Envelopes are available this weekend for you to take home and return next weekend or donate at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal. Thank you for accompanying our seminarians on their journey to priesthood.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Through the Baabayn Young Mums and Bubs Group, Tereesa was able to reconnect with her culture and create a better future for her children.

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes this Lenten season to help Caritas Australia support vulnerable people around the world. Together we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*.

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.



BAPTISM WELCOME

We welcome the Fitzpatrick family, Matthew, Rose and their daughter Jade. May Jade's baptism be a happy and a memorable occasion and may God continue to bless her parents in this special step that they have taken to proclaim and support their child in the Christian faith.



THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST (HOLY COMMUNION)

Children in Year 4 or above who have already received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and whose families reside within our parish boundaries (or who worship regularly at Christ the King) are now eligible to receive the sacrament of Eucharist (First Holy Communion). In the parish of Christ the King, the sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated at the three parish Masses (Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8am and 10am) on the weekend of 11th /12th June (the Feast of Corpus Christi).

The program for preparation to receive the sacrament of First Holy Communion will commence with an information meeting for parents/guardians (children not required) on **Wednesday, 26th April commencing at 7.30pm** in Christ the King Church, where the program and enrolment procedure will be explained and any questions answered. This is a significant step in your child's journey of faith. It is essential that parents/guardians attend this meeting.

SHARING OUR STORY

Sharing Our Story is a new small group program offered at Christ the King. It provides a safe and welcoming context for people to reflect on their life and faith in the light of the Gospel reading from the previous Sunday.

Sharing Our Story is open to everyone. The only requirement is a desire to reflect on your life of faith and a willingness to ask questions. The program is conducted in the CTK Church on the third Wednesday of each month from February to November from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. The next session is Wednesday, April 19th.

For more information email Mariana Tomasovic: mariana_tomasovic@hotmail.com or Deacon John Collins through the Parish Office or via email: john.collins@parracatholic.org.

MUSICIANS/CANTORS

The parish is desperately seeking new musicians and cantors to enhance our liturgies. If you are hiding your talents and would like to consider this important ministry in our church, please contact the parish office.



CHRISM MASS VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

We need two parishioners to collect the holy oils at the Chrism Mass on Wednesday, 5th April at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. If you can assist, please see Fr Ian after Mass.

6 WEEKS OF LENT – GIVE 6 THINGS TO JRS FOODBANK

Right now, JRS is supporting 150 families a week and the demand for help keeps growing. Many of the families that are served are not eligible for centrelink, medicare and don't have work or study rights. With the cost of living rising many are struggling to have enough food to get their kids through the week. Any and all support is greatly appreciated during the Lenten season. To help keep everyone fed, parishioners are asked to donate one item a week:

Week 1: Cooking oil (1L - 2L bottles)

Week 3: Long life milk (1L bottles)

Week 5: Pantry essentials (Sugar, salt, instant coffee, tea bags)

Week 2: Basmati Rice (1kg - 5kg bags)

Week 4: Tuna in oil (425g cans)

Week 6: Liquid laundry detergent

Items can be left in the Church foyer and will be taken by a member of the parish to the JRS office.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA TURKEY AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY APPEAL

The 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Türkiye and Syria with over 50,000 people killed, and many more injured and left homeless. We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe. Your generous donation means our partners in Türkiye and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

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 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the Parish Hall. Each Sunday will begin with a high tea. For more information contact Matthew Leslie on 0409 295 962.

REFLECTION MORNINGS AT HUNTERS HILL

Enjoy reflection, silence and solitude in the beautiful Marist grounds at Hunters Hill on the first Saturday of the month with this month's guest speaker, Sr Michele Connolly rsj presenting 'Present Your Body Holy & Acceptable as a Living Sacrifice to God'. Saturday 1st April from 9:30am to 12:30pm at Holy Name of Mary Parish Hall, 3 Mary Street, Hunters Hill. See the noticeboard in the Church foyer for more details.

MISSION: ONE HEART, MANY VOICES CONFERENCE: 3-5 MAY

Catholic Mission and Catholic Religious Australia (CRA) invite you to save the date for the sixth biennial national Mission Conference. Three days of professional and personal development focused on mission. Attend either in person or online. Date: Wednesday 3 May to Friday 5 May 2023. Venue: SMC Conference & Function Centre, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney. For more information, visit www.mohmv.com.au.

MASTERCLASS FOR MENTOR MARRIED COUPLES: 24 MARCH

The Diocese is looking to more deeply accompany couples preparing to be married. If you have been married for more than 5 years, committed to living the sacrament of marriage and willing to give assistance to couples preparing for marriage, you are invited to join a Masterclass on Friday 24 March at 7:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Mentoring engaged couples in your Parish using the SmartLoving Engaged Online program. If you are unable to attend, a follow up Zoom session will be held for interested couples on Saturday 1 April at 10am. To book or to ask further questions, please email met@parracatholic.org or phone Marisa on 8838 3460.

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.