



Sunday, 5th March, 2023

SECOND 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, 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 McAppion, Edna Esmero.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Patrick Wheeler, Gary Parker, Michael Agius, Margaret King.

ANNIVERSARIES: Hector Joseph, Bery Vaz, John Vaz, Richard Dias.

REFLECTION

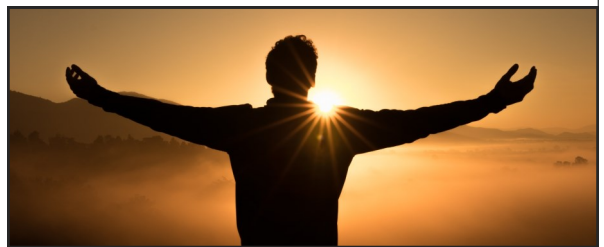
by Dianne Bergant CSA

The blessings upon which we meditate today are undeserved gifts from God. They were not earned. The graciousness of God transforms us in such a way as to effect new beginnings. It can be seen in the promises made to Abram. He leaves the past behind and moves into a new future. It can be seen in the psalm response. The Lord delivers us from death and inspires us to look to the future.

It can be seen in the reading from 2 Timothy. Through Christ Jesus we are called to a new life of holiness; we escape the fetters of death and are brought into the freedom of the resurrection. We see it in the gospel, a glimpse into the future glory of Jesus which, through grace, we will be able to share. Lent is a time of new beginnings which find their origin in the abundant blessings of God.

The ultimate blessing of God is Jesus himself. As Abram was called to be the source of blessing for all others, as Peter, James and John were chosen to witness the transfiguration of Jesus, so today we too are invited to look to Jesus for inspiration during this holy season.

Paul speaks of the salvation that Jesus brings as having come, not because of any works of righteousness that we might have performed, but because of the grace of God. Once again the Lenten readings focus on the merciful action of God in our lives, and in the end they point to Jesus.



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.
The Sacrament of 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: Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9

Next Week's Readings: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42

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.

4th & 5th March - Second Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Phil Tranor	Inge Wienker Zeina Chacty	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Lisa Jilesh Julie Elliott	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Lorraine Murphy
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Sam Safy Dawn Peat	Dominic Choi	Jecy Vaz

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Peter Bosci, Ken Coorey, Jim Kinsella

COUNTER GROUP 1: Tony Clancy, John Lacey, Roger Brewer

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Maria Bietola; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Volunteer needed

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 5: Marc & Carmela Corazza, Angela Lee, Jecy Vaz, Mariana Tomasovic

11th & 12th March - Third Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Sue DeCourcy	John DeCourcy Zeina Chacty	Veronica Chacty	Fadia Sleiman
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Veronica Raic Danielle Dona	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Aubon Fernando	Anne Gately Sam Safy	Levi Brown	Margaret Coakley

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Jim Kinsella, Anne-Marie Makin, Lorraine Murphy

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Carole Frare & Sue Hales; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 6: Ryan Brown, Luke Peterson, Ellen Vaughan, Brian Euhus

PROJECT COMPASSION

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 Catanzaro family, Carlo and Vanessa and their son John-Carlo. May John-Carlo's baptisms be a happy and a memorable occasion and may God continue to bless his parents in this special step that they have taken to proclaim and support their child in the Christian faith.

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 on Wednesday, March 15th.

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.

THANK YOU FROM CTK REFUGEE OUTREACH

Thank you to the parishioners who donated or offered to donate a phone. Our mentee is very happy with her donated phone and is so grateful to have a phone that works well. Thank you again! *CTK Refugee Outreach*

LENTEN PROGRAM 2023

The season of Lent is upon us. It is a time for spiritual renewal, repentance and reflection. 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. Copies of this program are available from the Church foyer.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need two volunteers 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 more volunteers to help cover classes this year.

Classes at North Rocks Public School are held on Tuesdays mornings and classes at Carlingford West Public School are held on Wednesdays afternoons. If you are able to be part of this rewarding ministry or would like to know more about this ministry, please contact Fr Ian or the Parish Office.

SUNDAY NIGHT SESSIONS

A series of presentations, seminars, workshops, discussions, and stories designed to invite adults (young and old) to grow and develop in their faith. Each session begins at 7.00pm and finishes at 8.30pm and is held in the CTK Parish Hall. Sessions are designed to provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions, share thoughts and ideas and learn new stuff.

The aim of the sessions is to further develop a community of mature inquisitive Catholics at Christ the King. Everyone 16 and over is welcome to participate. Sunday Night Sessions are to be held on the 2nd Sunday of the month from February to November. A Gold Coin Donation to assist with the cost of coffee, tea and biscuits is welcome.

The next session on 12th March is 'Vatican II and Pope Francis' and is to be presented by Deacon John.

For more information or if you would like to assist with organizing these sessions contact Deacon John through the parish office or via email john.collins@parracatholic.org.

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.

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 would be 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 2: Basmati Rice (1kg - 5kg bags)

Week 3: Long life milk (1L bottles)

Week 4: Tuna in oil (425g cans)

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

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.

THE SWAG The latest free copy of *The Swag* magazine is available from the Church foyer.

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.

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.