



Sunday, 30th July, 2023 SEVENTEENTH 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 Friday at 10am

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: Bishop Peter Ingham, Irene Chow, Natalie De Maria, Betty Campbell, Anthony Sullivan, Mark Cheeseman, Brian & Warren Johnson, Margaret McCaffrey, Ken Sunderland, Barbara Ison, Marija Barclay, Pat McAppion, Ace Sorditas, Margaret Martin, Tina Coorey, Helene Graham, Peter Reiter, Mimi Jayatilaka, Sandra Neill, Abraham Concepcion, Oliver Ofiana, Delia Hipolito, Edna Esmero, Sonia Merchant; Sue Ferguson.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Helen Harris,

Freshly picked **LEMONS** from Fr Ian's tree are available from the church foyer.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Two themes seem to weave through the readings for this Sunday: treasure and delight. The treasure is the extraordinary gift that comes from God; the delight is the joy that we experience when we realise that the treasure is ours. A third theme, which is found in the first reading, picks up a theme that we have considered several times during this period of Ordinary Time, namely, service of others.

The treasure is the kingdom of heaven. It is the prize that gives meaning to the present, and its fullest delight draws us into the future. The reign of God is the fulfilment of our deepest desires and our fondest hopes. Nothing in the world can compare with it, and that is why we are willing to sacrifice everything to attain it. The treasure that we find is really a gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God. All we have to do is accept it.

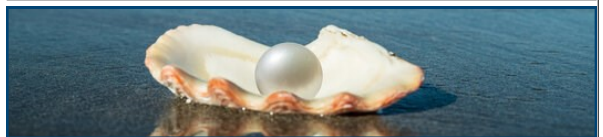
Solomon chose to be of service to others. In this he is a model for disciples to follow. We have discovered the treasure in the field; we have found the pearl of great price. What we have been given, we must now give to others. In giving we will lose nothing. In fact, we gain an abundance of blessings. All things work for good, and God is glorified in all. Such is the character of the kingdom of God.

SAVE THE DATE

Father Ian will be celebrating his 40th anniversary of ordination at the 10:00am Mass on Sunday 20th August. Please join us to help him celebrate this special event.

REPLACEMENT PRIEST

The Diocese has announced the appointment of Fr John Hogan (former Rector of Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park) to substitute for Fr Ian whilst he is away on long service leave (from 21 August to 3 November). Father John will remain living at Harris Park (where he resides) and commute to North Rocks to celebrate the sacraments. He can be contacted through the parish secretary. We wish Fr John well in the time he spends with us.



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 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52
 Next Week's Readings: Dan 7:9-10,13-14; 2 Pet 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

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.

29th & 30th July - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Lance Parker	Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Tony Hughes Veronica Raic	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Jennie Mater Anne Gately	Tianna Fernandes	Leila Safy

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Rosemary Wickham

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 7: Ada Cheung

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

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

5th & 6th August - The Transfiguration of the Lord

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Sue DeCourcy	Inge Wienker Liza Jilesh	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Julie Elliott Danielle Dona	Jo-Anne Castaneda	John Lacey
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Sarah Cook Sam Safy	Levi Brown	Fadia Sleiman

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Peter Bosci, John Lacey, Anne-Marie Makin

COUNTER GROUP 3: Noel White, Peter Bosci, John Hunt, Graeme Gardiner

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 8: Barbara Haddad & Louise Howitt

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Carole Frare & Sue Hales; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Marea Mooney

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 2: Clarry Barbera, Chris & Beverley Poole, Ken Coorey



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred in our parish on Wednesday, 20th September commencing at 7:30pm. In accord with Parramatta Diocesan policy we will conduct a parish-based, family centred, school supported method of preparation for the children to receive this sacrament.

A pre-requisite of children being confirmed is that they have already received First Holy Communion. Children who have been baptised in Eastern Rite (Uniate Churches, e.g. Maronite, Melchite, Ukranian, Chaldean etc.) may have already been confirmed at Baptism and do not need to participate in this programme if this is the case.

Children in Year Five and above are eligible to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. **Registrations are now open.**

To register your child, please go to the parish website using the following link: <https://northrockscatholic.org.au/faith-sacraments/> and scroll down to the Confirmation link. **Registrations close on Friday, 4th August.**

ASSUMPTION MASSES

Masses for the Feast of the Assumption, Tuesday 15 August will be at 9:15am (school children attending) and 7:30pm.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

The Good Neighbourhood Group began on Friday 21st July with a bang. We had a wonderful time doing Tai Chi, chatting, playing bingo and having yummy morning tea. Our next meeting will be Friday **11th August** in Mary MacKillop Hall after 9:15am Mass (approx. 10:00am) then dates as follows: 18th August, 1st & 15th September. A cost of \$5 is asked to help cover food and prizes. Spread the word, all are welcome!

YOUR STORIES MATTER! SEND SUBMISSIONS TO THE FIRST DIOCESAN SYNOD BY 31 JULY

Our Diocesan Synod is calling you to share stories and have conversations at our parish, with a friend, or with family, about how we can walk together to become the Church that Christ calls us to be. The success of the Synod relies on your participation. Your submissions will inform the development of the agenda for the Synod, from 12-15 October 2023, which will gather clergy, consecrated and laity to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Make a submission before 31 July to <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>.

VINNIES WINTER APPEAL THANK YOU

The North Rocks St Vincent de Paul Conference wish to thank the Christ the King parishioners and the school community for the overwhelming response to our recent Winter Appeal. Starter packs consisting of kitchen utensils, provided by the school community, are being distributed to our clients via the Harris Park Hub. Your financial assistance and your continued generosity will enable us to continue to support the homeless, refugees and the poor and needy people in our local district. Thank you.



PARISH PLAYGROUP INTEREST

As our community continues to return to normal after the Pandemic, we are seeking interest to restart the Parish Playgroup. In the past, young families from our school, parish and local community met one morning a week/fortnight in the Parish Hall to share some collegiality and socialise with their children. If this is something that you would like to participate in, please email the parish office with your details.

APPLY TO BE A MEMBER AT OUR DIOCESAN SYNOD

If you are someone with a commitment to discern prayerfully with others what God wants for the whole diocese, then you might be called to be a member at our first Diocesan Synod! Details of the selection criteria and requirements are available on the Diocesan website now parracatholic.org/synod2023. Applications are welcome until 31 July. Further enquiries can be sent via email synod2023@parracatholic.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSE

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence in September. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit their website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>.

DIOCESAN ADULT CONFIRMATION: 5 SEPTEMBER

Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day on Saturday 2 September from 9:30am to 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Adult Confirmation is for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. For information, contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org.

MET MARRIAGE RETROUVAILLE PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION: 25 AUGUST

The Diocese of Parramatta aims to offer the Retrouvaille program for couples who are having difficulties in their marriage. They are looking for married couples who are committed to helping others heal their marriage relationships. You will be trained to facilitate this program. An information evening will be held on 25 August at 7:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Contact Karin on 8838 3460 or register at marriage@parracatholic.org.

Get #Active4Vocations in the City2Surf: 13 August

Join the Parramatta Catholic Foundation #Active4Vocations team in the City 2 Surf. Walk, stroll, jog, or run with our Holy Spirit seminarians, deacons, priests and community. Visit tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations to register or donate. Funds raised support our Diocesan seminarians to become priests. Thank you for getting #Active4Vocations.

CASTLE HILL PARISH - AN EVENING OF SACRED MUSIC: 25 AUGUST

St Bernadette's Parish, Castle Hill will be hosting an evening of Sacred Music on Friday 25 August at 7:30pm. The event will be a night of performances by choirs, music groups and soloists from around the Diocese, performing a selection of hymns and choral music. Tickets are \$5 per person and can be purchased at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJISM>. Entry includes light refreshments during intermission. For more information, please contact the St Bernadette's parish office on 9634 2622 or email admin@stbernadette.org.au.

JRS FOODBANK

Thank you to those who have donated to the Jesuit Refugee Service which is supporting 150 families a week with demand for help still growing. 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. The following essential items are especially needed:
Cooking oil (1L - 2L bottles) Basmati Rice Tinned tomatoes Dry/canned chickpeas Canned/dry red or green lentils
Long life milk (1L bottles) Toiletries Tuna in oil Red kidney beans Detergent (laundry & kitchen)
Pantry essentials (Sugar, salt, instant coffee, tea bags) Biscuits & snacks Nappies (sizes 1-6)
Items can be left in the Church foyer and will be taken by a member of the parish to the JRS office.

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.