



# Sunday, 23rd July, 2023

## SIXTEENTH 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](http://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](mailto: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 Sortisas, Margaret Martin, Tina Coorey, Helene Graham, Peter Reiter, Mimi Jayatilaka, Sandra Neill, Abraham Concepcion, Oliver Ofiana, Delia Hipolito, Edna Esmero, Sonia Merchant.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Helen Harris (funeral this Thurs at 10.30), Renzo de Luca, Caroline Maroon (Mother of Morris Maroon), Fr Carl Ashton, Fr Michael Mullins SM.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Charles Bonney, Judith Lum

## REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

## SAVE THE DATE

Father Ian will be celebrating 40 years as a priest at the 10:00am Mass on Sunday 20th August. Please join us to help him celebrate this special event.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to Princess and Angel Obi and Hugo Kasprzak who will receive First Communion at the Vigil Mass this weekend.



## 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: Wis 12:13,16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

Next Week's Readings: 1 Kgs 3:5,7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

**Lectors and Parishioners please note that the full text can be found on the website: [www.universalis.com](http://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](mailto: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.*

### 22nd & 23rd July - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	George Germanos	Phil Trainor	Inge Wienker Georgette Rissmiller	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	Volunteer Needed	Jim Kinsella	Danielle Dona	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Christine Kinsella
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Peter Elchaar	Aubon Fernando	Liza Jilech Rob Haddad	Dominic Choi	Jecy Vaz

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Jim Kinsella, Ken Coorey, John Lacey

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 6:** Carol Coorey & Barbara Haddad

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

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1:** CTK School Mums & Gemma Smart

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

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	Darren Mobbs	Lance Parker	Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Tony Hughes Veronica Raic	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	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



## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION MEETING THIS WEDNESDAY

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, Ukrainian, 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.

The program for preparation will commence with an information meeting for parents/guardians this **Wednesday, 26th July commencing at 7:30pm** in the Church, where the program will be explained and any questions answered.

This is a significant step in your child's journey of faith. It is vital that parents/guardians attend this meeting.

## 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. A cost of \$5 is asked to help cover food and prizes. Our next meeting will be Friday **11th August** in Mary MacKillop Hall after 9:15 am Mass (approx. 10:00am). Then dates as follows: 18th August, 1st & 15th September. 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 your 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. Applications to be a member at the Synod are now open. Apply to be a member or make a submission before 31 July: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>.

## 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.

## BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL 2023 UPDATE

Through our parish's partnership and leadership; and our faith community's generosity, we have raised \$200K towards our Aboriginal Catholic Care drop-in centre at Emerton, supporting First Nations people, and anyone in need. Thank you so much for your support!

## 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 our website now [parracatholic.org/synod2023](http://parracatholic.org/synod2023). Applications are welcome now until 31 July. Further enquiries can be sent via email [synod2023@parracatholic.org](mailto:synod2023@parracatholic.org).

## 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.

## YOU CAN BE EMOTIONALLY FREE- A SESSION ON INNER HEALING BY DIANA INGLE

You are invited to a session on inner healing by Diane Ingle in Christ the King Parish Hall on Tuesday 25th July at 7:30pm. Diana is currently the International CEO of Christian Renewal Association Inc, an ecumenical ministry. She travels internationally training trainers in evangelism, empowerment in the Holy Spirit and charisms, inner healing, and deliverance. Please use the QR code to register for this event.



## **SUNDAY NIGHT SESSION - 13 AUGUST**

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. The next session, on Sunday, 13th August is 'Mary Magdalene: The Myths and the Biblical Texts' presented by Dr Debra Snoddy from the Catholic Institute of Sunday and the University of Notre Dame.

This talk will engage parishioners in the process of recovering the biblical portrait of Mary Magdalene. In 1969 Paul VI confirmed that she was a disciple who came with Jesus from Galilee and stayed with him at the cross when most of his followers had left. On the third day, she went to his tomb early, searched for, and encountered the risen Christ. Her discipleship of Jesus is confirmed when Jesus himself sent her to be the apostle to the apostles. So, how was it that, for much of the Christian era, she has been viewed as a penitent, a fallen woman? Why has her image as a penitent remained so strong in Christianity, and particularly in Roman Catholicism? Even in more recent publications used in popular Roman Catholic devotion, she is still portrayed as "the adulterous woman the Pharisees want to stone." There is an attempt to make a determined effort in Roman Catholicism to improve the biblical literacy of the faithful and their understanding of this Saint of Saints. For more information, or if you would like to assist with organising these sessions, contact Deacon John through the parish office or via email [john.collins@parracatholic.org](mailto:john.collins@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](mailto: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](http://tinyurl.com/Active4Vocations) to register or donate. Funds raised support our Diocesan seminarians to become priests. Thank you for getting #Active4Vocations.

## **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](mailto: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.bpoin.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](mailto: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.