



Sunday, 27th August, 2023

TWENTY-FIRST 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 1st & 3rd Friday at 10:00am

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, Mike Gordon, 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; Sue Ferguson.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sharon Spencer.

ANNIVERSARIES: Sylvette Marsh, Emilia Pignatelli.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings highlight two different but related themes: the character of our understanding of Christ, and our understanding of discipleship that flows from it. Christological reflections reach a climax in the question posed to the disciples: Who do you say I am? In this liturgical context, the same question is posed to us. Who is this one who multiplies loaves of bread, who walks on turbulent waters, who breaks the boundaries that separate insider from outsider? It is none other than the messiah.

When Peter testified to Jesus' identity, it was a relevant religious and political statement, for messianic expectation was a burning question at that time. But what does it mean for the average Christian today? Many believers consider messianic expectation a theological theme that belongs to the past. They feel that it is difficult to get excited about the coming of someone who we believe has already come and gone. If Jesus were to pose this question today, how would we answer?

Like Peter, we too may have good intentions, but when they are put to the test we realise that that was all that they were – good intentions. Still, we should not be discouraged by our weaknesses, for just as Peter's failure did not deter God from entrusting him with power and authority, so our failures need not be obstacles to God's grace in our lives. We watch God entrust the church to individuals who are weak and undependable, and we realise that judgments are inscrutable and God's ways unsearchable.



WELCOME to Father John Hogan (former Rector of Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park), who will celebrate Masses at Christ the King during Father Ian's absence. Father John can be contacted through the parish secretary.

The official cutting of one of the special cakes acquired to commemorate Fr Ian's 40th Anniversary of Ordination lasts Sunday.

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: Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

Next Week's Readings: Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

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.

26th & 27th August - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Keith Henson	John DeCourcy Georgette Rissmiller	Veronica Chacty	Minister Needed
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Lorraine Murphy	Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	Anne-Marie Makin
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Sam Safy Dawn Peat	Levi Brown	Jecy Vaz

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

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

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 2: Gillian Mobbs & Lanny Carter

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

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

2nd & 3rd September - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Sue DeCourcy	Kerry Saad Georgette Rissmiller	Veronica Chacty	Minister Needed
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Rosemary Wickham	Danielle Dona Veronica Raic	Jo-Anne Castaneda	John Lacey
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Jenny Mater Anne Gately	James Ryan	Jim Kinsella

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Erica Rheinberger, Terri Hirschhorn, Mary Cook

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Rosemary Wickham

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 3: Maria Bietola & Barbara Haddad

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

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1: CTK School Mums, Gemma Smart

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND

On Father's Day, we acknowledge and give prayerful thanks to all our priests who have dedicated their lives to being servants of the Gospel, for God's people. Even in retirement, in sickness and in health, our priests continue to carry out God's ministry without question, staying involved in parish life and doing our Father's work for as long as they are able. Their vocation never ends, and neither does our shared responsibility to support them in any way we can. As Catholics, we are called to ensure there is always someone to care for our retired priests and those in ill-health, just as they will always love and care for us. With your generous gifts and prayers, our Clergy Support Foundation can ensure our priests will have personalised, compassionate care when needed.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Donation envelopes will be available next weekend or you can donate by scanning the QR code. All donations are tax deductible.



CONFIRMATION 2023



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on 32 of our parish children in a ceremony officiated by Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen on Wednesday, 20th September at 7.30pm. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they journey towards this important event in their spiritual life.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

The Good Neighbourhood Group began on Friday 21st July with a bang. Those who attended had a wonderful time doing Tai Chi, chatting, playing bingo and having delicious morning tea. The next meeting will take place this Friday, 1st September in Mary MacKillop Hall after 9:15am Mass (approx. 10:00am) then every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month till the end of the year. A cost of \$5 is asked to help cover food and prizes. Spread the word, all are welcome!

THANK YOU

The 40th Anniversary celebration last weekend was a huge success. Fr Ian sends his greetings from Bucharest and extends his appreciation for your generosity and kindness and a thank you to all who were involved in the celebrations. A very special thank you to Sarah Cook, who co-ordinated the event with the help of her colleagues, Barbara Haddad, Marianne Dwyer and Kerry Saad and to all who helped in any way to make Father Ian's special day such a memorable occasion.

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/>.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY WORKSHEETS

We are excited to share with families an extra to the regular parish bulletin each week. We have available a Children's Worksheet to print off at home or to take home with you after Mass. The sheets are available from the Church foyer, and include the Sunday's Gospel in child-friendly language as well as some worksheet tasks to do at home. A reminder also that Children's Liturgy is offered for preschool to Yr 6 children during 10.00am Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during school term.

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. They are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month from February to November.

The next session, on Sunday, 10th September is a response to a request from the Parish Pastoral Council. The session is a facilitated conversation on 'The Voice' and will provide an opportunity to explore the personal, social and cultural factors that are currently in play as, as a nation, we move towards this important Referendum. The session is to be facilitated by Deacon John Collins Ph.D. Everyone 16 and over is welcome to participate. A Gold Coin Donation to assist with the cost of coffee, tea and biscuits is welcome. 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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2023

On 20th September we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 5 and above)

On 12th and 13th December we will celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation (Year 3 and above).

THE AUSTRALIAN CHURCH CELEBRATES SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY: 27 AUGUST

Today, the Australian Church celebrates Social Justice Sunday. Since the 1940s, the Australian Catholic Bishops have published annual statements that urge the Catholic community to reflect and act on social, economic, and ecological issues. This year's statement, Listen, Learn, Love: A New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, was launched last week in Emerton. "One of the objectives of this statement is that we want Catholics to understand that Catholic social teaching and Catholic social action are not simply theoretical and academic exercises," Bishop Vincent said during the launch. Read and download a copy by visiting bit.ly/SJS2023-24. A limited number of copies are available in the church foyer.

SHARING OUR STORY

Sharing Our Story is a 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 CTK Church on the third Wednesday of each month from February to November from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. The next session is Wednesday, 20th September. For more information email Mariana Tomasovic: mariana_tomasovic@hotmail.com or Deacon John Collins: john.collins@parracatholic.org.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR PAPAL, CIVIL AND DIOCESAN AWARDS

Until Thursday 7 September 2023, you can nominate an outstanding individual who has contributed to the Catholic Church and society for a Papal Honours Award, Civil Award or Diocesan Award. Please visit parracatholic.org/awards. The Awards Ceremony will be held in November. More details to come.

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANT AND REFUGEES CELEBRATION

You are warmly invited to a family-friendly event with Bishop Vincent and our migrant communities for the World Day of Migrants & Refugees on Saturday 16 September, 2pm – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills. Come hear stories, enjoy free entertainment and activities. RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/celebrating-world-day-of-refugees-and-migrants-tickets-675662363317?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

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.