



# Sunday, 17th September, 2023

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A



**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr Ian McGinnity  
**Administrator:** Rev Fr John Hogan  
**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 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](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, Anthony Sullivan, Mark Cheeseman, Brian, Bev & Warren Johnson, Lillian Davidson, Mike Gordon, Barbara Ison; Margaret McCaffrey, Ken Sunderland, 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:** Betty Campbell (Mother of Robert Campbell. Funeral Friday 6th October at 10.30am at CTK Church).

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Damiano Raschella, Sam Bietola.

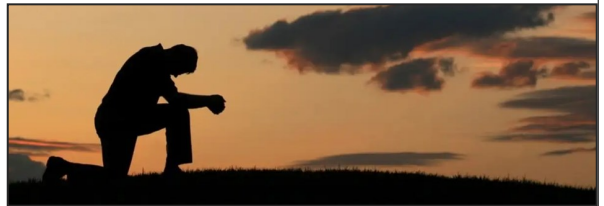
## REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given.

Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentfulness, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.



**THE RECONCILIATION INFORMATION EVENING** for parents of children in Year 3 and above will take place on Wednesday, 18th October at 7.30pm in the Parish Church.

**CATHOLIC OUTLOOK:** The 2023 Spring |Season of Creation edition of the Catholic Outlook Magazine is available from the Church foyer. Collect your free copy today.

### 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: Sirach 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 55:6-9; Phil 1:20-24,27; Mt 20:1-16

**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.*

### 16th & 17th September - Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	George Germanos	Peter Hrast	Kerry Saad John DeCourcy	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Danielle Dona Tony Hughes	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Ken Coorey
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Sam Safy Dawn Peat	Tianna Fernandes	Fadia Sleiman

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** Erica Rheinberger, Mary Cook, Rachel Parnaby

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Lorraine Murphy, Ken Coorey, Jim Kinsella

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 5:** Margaret Isaac & Barbara Haddad

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

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 3:** Clarry Barbera, Chris & Beverley Poole, Ken Coorey

### 23rd & 24th September - Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	Julie Hook	Ron Ruskin	John DeCourcy Liza Jilesh	Veronica Chacty	Minister Needed
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	Volunteer Needed	Ken Coorey	Danielle Dona Veronica Raic	Trish Yates	John Lacey
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Jennie Mater Anne Gately	James Ryan	Fadia Sleiman

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** 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: Maria Bietola; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 4:** Louis Kastoun, Paul Cook, Ryan Brown, Brian Euhus



## MIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUNDAY FUNDRAISER SALE AFTER MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

CTK Refugee Outreach is continuing to mentor a family from Iran through Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia. They are raising money for the family for some much-needed and expensive dental care. They will be selling plants, baked goods, home and gift wares after all Masses on the weekend of 23/24 September. To celebrate Migrant and Refugee Sunday, donated baked goods from your country of origin would be greatly appreciated. Please support this worthy cause! If you would like further information or would like to donate baked goods, please contact Ellen Vaughan via the parish office on 9871 8710.

### GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

The next meeting will take place on Friday, 6th October in Mary MacKillop Hall after 9:15am Mass (approx. 10:00am) and 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!

### THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

A meeting will take place on Wednesday, 18th October beginning at 7:30pm in the church for parents/guardians (not children) wishing to enrol their children in the First Reconciliation Program. To be eligible children must be in Year 3 or above. First Reconciliation is a prerequisite for children to undertake the other two sacraments of initiation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. Information regarding the sacramental program and enrolment will be explained on that evening. It is essential that parents attend this meeting.



### THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2023

We pray for the children who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation, conferred by Bishop Vincent, this Wednesday evening beginning at 7:30pm. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

### 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 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. 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 organizing these sessions, contact Deacon John through the parish office or via email [john.collins@parracatholic.org](mailto:john.collins@parracatholic.org).

### ORDINATION TO THE PRESBYTERATE THIS THURSDAY

Bishop Vincent Long and the Diocese of Parramatta invite you to the Ordination to the Presbyterate of Tom Green this Thursday, 21st September at 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. We hope you will be able to join us at this joyous event for our Diocese and our faith community. Please RSVP to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org) if you can attend.

### 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 Year 6 children during 10.00am Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during school term.

### CATALYST FOR RENEWAL

Catalyst for Renewal invites you to a luncheon with the topic 'Food for Thought' presented by Jon Owen, Pastor and CEO of Wayside Chapel on Saturday, 14th October from 12.30pm. Tickets \$30. Hunters Hill Parish Hall, Cnr Mary Street & Gladesville Road, Hunters Hill. Email [catalyst-for-renewal@outlook.com](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@outlook.com) for more information or payment.

### FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM DATE 2023

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

## WALKING TOGETHER IN PEACE: 21 SEPTEMBER

The Interfaith Commission Diocese of Parramatta invites you to join an interfaith gathering on UN International Day of Peace. On the night members of the Baha'i, Muslim and Hindu traditions will serve as open books, to share their stories, and what peace means to them and their religious tradition. It is an opportunity to have real conversation, positive dialogue, and to ask questions in a safe, non-judgemental space with people from different faiths. Be curious and join the conversation. Muslim Speaker: Firdousi Obeidullah; Baha'i Speaker: Taraneh Kassiri; Hindu Speaker: Vasu Attreya. Thursday 21 September from 6:30pm to 8:30pm (light refreshments available from 6.30pm) at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown (free parking onsite). Please scan the QR code to register your attendance.



## 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 this Wednesday, 20th September. For more information email Mariana Tomasovic: [mariana\\_tomasovic@hotmail.com](mailto:mariana_tomasovic@hotmail.com) or Deacon John Collins: [john.collins@parracatholic.org](mailto:john.collins@parracatholic.org).

## DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA SEASON OF CREATION MASS: 23 SEPTEMBER

Bishop Vincent invites everyone to join him in celebrating the Season of Creation with a Diocesan Mass held on Saturday 23 September at 9am at St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong, followed by a simple eco-friendly morning tea and talk. For more information, please email [met@parracatholic.org.au](mailto:met@parracatholic.org.au).

## VOLUNTEER FOR THE HOUSE OF WELCOME

Volunteers are needed by the House of Welcome to do odd jobs around properties which house refugees and people seeking asylum. If you are a handyman or woman with a few hours you can donate, contact Maricar at [m.tupaea@houseofwelcome.com.au](mailto:m.tupaea@houseofwelcome.com.au).

## 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.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](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.