



# Sunday, 4th February, 2024

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Year B



**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  
**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:** Sr Catherine Maddock, Bishop Peter Ingham, Valma Costello, Natalie De Maria, Margaret Martin, Mark Cheeseman, Bev Johnson; Warren Johnson, Lillian Davidson, Anthony Sullivan, Margaret Merritt, Marija Barclay, Margaret McCaffrey, Barbara Heaton, Ken Sunderland, Pat McAppion, Helene Graham, Ace Sortisas, Tina Coorey, Mimi Jayatilaka, Oliver Ofiana, Sue Ferguson. Abraham Concepcion, Delia Hipolito, Edna Esmero, Reg Bonnici, Mary Ahern, Tessie Bonney.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Fr Kevin Bates SM.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Marie & Les Carey.

## REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we see three snapshots from the photo album of life.

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented.

Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the broken-hearted, to bind up their wounds.

Paul was a messenger of this gospel of salvation and fulfilment. He was so committed to his mission that he empathised with all those who heard his preaching – the slaves, the weak, the broken-hearted, all those who knew well the harshness of life. Now it is our turn. We are the disciples who must bring the good news to the broken-hearted, to those who are enslaved, to those who are weak. We are the ones who will then share in the blessings of this good news.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The first meeting of Christ the King Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Wednesday, 21 February beginning around 7:15pm in the Christ the King school staffroom. Any parishioners over 18 who would like to be members of this council please contact Fr Ian via the parish office.



## 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: Job 7:1-4,6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Next Week's Readings: Lev 13:1-2,44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45

**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 phone 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.*

### 3rd & 4th February - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	Julie Hook	Ron Ruskin	John DeCourcy Kerry Saad	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Caroline Thurairatnam Julie Elliott	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Anne-Marie Makin
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Sarah Cook Dawn Peat	James Ryan	Marea Mooney

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Jim Kinsella, John Lacey, Anne-Marie Makin

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 7:** Ada Cheung

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

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

### 10th & 11th February - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	George Germanos	Aubon Fernando	Georgette Rissmiller John DeCourcy	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Tony Hughes Caroline Thurairatnam	Trish Yates	Rosemary Wickham
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Rob Haddad Liza Jilesh	Tianna Fernandes	Jecy Vaz

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Peter Bosci, Ken Coorey, Lorraine Murphy

**COUNTER GROUP:** 1st Sunday of the month

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 8:** Lou Howitt & Barbara Haddad

**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

## OPEN HOUSE

At the conclusion of Masses this weekend, parishioners are welcome to visit the new presbytery. Access to the new presbytery will be via the church left-hand side pathway and through the fence. You are then invited to climb the stairs at the back of the building to see the new quarters. If you wish to see downstairs where the priest retirement unit is located go down the interior stairs and turn right and enter via the left-hand door. Children should only enter if they are accompanied by an adult.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

The beginning of the season of Lent (at least for Latin rite Roman Catholics) begins on Wednesday 14 February. The parish will celebrate two Masses on that day, 9am with the primary students from the school and Mass at 7:30pm. At both of these Masses Ashes will be distributed on the forehead. It is interesting to note, as we have many Lebanese living in our parish, that the blessing and distribution of the Ashes on Ash Wednesday is originally a Latin (Western) Rite celebration. The Maronites adopted this celebration from the Western Church and placed it on the Monday after Cane Sunday which is why they begin Lent on Ash Monday (12 February). No matter what day Lent begins for you in your tradition, it is a period of preparation for the great feasts of Easter and a time of discernment, reflection, and repentance.



## 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 volunteers, particularly to help us cover classes this year. If you are able to be part of this rewarding ministry, please contact the parish office on 9871 8710 or at [northrocks@parracatholic.org](mailto:northrocks@parracatholic.org).

Classes at North Rocks Public School are held on Tuesdays at the following times: 9:05 to 9:35am; 9:40 to 10:10am; 10:15 to 10:45am

Classes at Carlingford West Public School are held on Wednesdays at the following times: 1:25 to 2:05pm; 2:05 to 2:45pm; 2:45 to 3:15pm

We use the Christ Our Light and Life Program. Teachers have a handbook which gives detailed notes to follow for each lesson. Students have an Activity Book which has a variety of activities for each lesson. Training for volunteers is held each year with classes being held either face to face or online. All volunteers must complete the Office of Safeguarding training prior to commencing. This can either be done online or face to face. The online details are: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>.

## BURTON CENTRE

When Father Ian moves into the new presbytery, to distinguish between the two buildings, the old presbytery will be called the Burton Centre, in commemoration of Christ the King's foundational parish priest, Fr Eric Burton. This building will continue to host the parish offices and allow for small meeting rooms for parish activities.

## CHRIST THE KING OPENING SCHOOL MASS

Mass for the beginning of the school year will be celebrated this Wednesday, 7 February at 9:15am in the Church. Parishioners, please note the change of time for the start of Mass. The extra 15 minutes will allow the school time to enter the church. Mass will return to 9am start the following week.

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

The next Session is on Sunday, 11th February and the topic is "Why Do Lent". This topic, led by Dr Debra Snoddy, will take broad looking perspective on the Season of Lent. What does it mean to "do" Lent, and "do it properly"? We will look at the reasons and motivations for Lent and why, as Catholics, we continue with this tradition which seems so out of step with the modern world. What can we gain from the experiences that Lent has to offer? And why bother keeping its practises alive anyway?

Come along to be challenged and guided into this significant season in the Catholic calendar.

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 Collins through the parish office or via email [john.collins@parracatholic.org](mailto:john.collins@parracatholic.org).

## LENTEN REFLECTION BOOKS

'A Resurrected Life' from the Archdiocese of Brisbane is a new Lent and Holy Week reflection resource for individuals to use during Lent. These books will be available shortly for you to take home.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to the members of our community who were able to attend the Synod Resolutions meeting last Wednesday evening. A fruitful discussion was had by all with a few positive ideas agreed upon. Watch this space!

### 6 WEEKS OF LENT – GIVE 6 THINGS TO JRS FOODBANK

Right now, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia is supporting 150 families a week, and the demand for help keeps growing. The families we serve are not eligible for Centrelink or Medicare and many don't have work or study rights. With the rising cost of living, many are struggling to have enough food and essential items to meet their family's weekly needs. Any and all support would be greatly appreciated during the Lenten season where we are called to remember Jesus' sacrifice and love.

To help keep everyone fed, we are asking parishioners to donate one item a week:

1st Sunday of Lent, 18 Feb: Basmati rice; 2nd Sunday of Lent, 25 Feb: Cooking or olive oil  
3rd Sunday of Lent, 3 March: Dried red lentils; 4th Sunday of Lent, 10 March: Dishwashing detergent;  
5th Sunday of Lent, 17 March: Laundry detergent; Palm Sunday, 24 March: Long life milk.

### DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS: 10 FEBRUARY

A Mass for the World Day of the Sick, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, will be held at 11am on Saturday 10 February at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying and health care professionals. RSVPs are required by 6 February to [mary.gale@parracatholic.org](mailto:mary.gale@parracatholic.org).

### BISHOP VINCENT PRESENTS A CONVERSATION WITH MONS TOMAS HALIK: 12 FEBRUARY

The Diocese of Parramatta invites you to a conversation with Czech priest and theologian Monsignor Tomas Halik on Monday 12 February at 6pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta. Registration is free, but places are strictly limited. Visit <https://parracatholic.org/events/tomashalik/> to register.



### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE - 1 MARCH

You are invited to attend a World Day of Prayer Service on 1 March at 7.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Baulkham Hills which will be presented by the women of Palestine who will share stories and prayer.

### 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.