



Sunday, 25th February, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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
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

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, George Vumbaca, Natalie De Maria, Mark Cheeseman, Bev Johnson, Warren Johnson, Lilian Davidson, Anthony Sullivan, Edna Esmero, 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.,

RECENTLY DECEASED: Valma Costello (Funeral this Wednesday at 10.30am).

ANNIVERSARIES: Patrick Wheeler, Edith Azzopardi.

DECEASED: Eric Yeung, Chi Sum Goretti.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

We all have dreams for the future, dreams about success and well-being. We all want a better world for our children and grandchildren. Our religious tradition sets before us aspirations that call for personal transformation. However, sometimes when we follow the inspiration of our most devout aspirations, obstacles are thrown in our path preventing us from following our dreams. Still, God does not call us out of our dreams into a vacuum. If we are asked to relinquish a possible future, it is only to be offered God's future. Our aspirations may be noble, but the possibilities that God offers will outstrip them in excellence.

Abraham was promised an heir; he relinquished his hold on his heir, and he was granted heirs beyond counting. Jesus came as a Rabbi; he allowed himself to be handed over to death, and he was revealed as the beloved Son of God.

Those preparing for Baptism might be asked to relinquish the dreams that they previously held in order to embrace the future God has in store for them. We who are already joined to Christ will be asked to recommit ourselves to this transformative experience. Do we have faith, or do we need a glimpse of Christ's transfiguration in order to believe in his resurrection? Do we have to see and touch Jesus, or are we able to believe because we have heard his message? God's future in Christ is open to us, but we must accept it in faith, even when we do not fully understand what it means.

ANNIVERSARY

Next Sunday, 3 March, marks the 28th anniversary of the opening of the new Christ the King Church.



THE EASTER VIGIL MASS THIS YEAR WILL BE AT 6.30PM

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: Gen 22:1-2,9-13,15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10

Next Week's Readings: Ex 20:1-17; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

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 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.

24th & 25th February - 2nd Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Lance Parker	John DeCourcy Georgette Rissmiller	Miriam Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	Volunteer required	Lorraine Murphy	Tony Hughes Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Sarah Cook Dawn Peat	James Ryan	Marea Mooney

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Lorraine Murphy, Barbara Craft, Rosemary Wickham

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - No flowers

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

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 2: Lou Howitt, Paul Cook, Frances Gallagher

2nd & 3rd March - 3rd Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Phil Trainor	John DeCourcy Liza Jilesh	Ruth Jilesh	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Tony Hughes Danielle Dona	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Christine Kinsella
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Dawn Peat Rob Haddad	Dominic Choi	Margaret Coakley

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Peter Bosci, Ken Coorey, Rosemary Wickham

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP: Lent - No flowers

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Maria Bietola; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

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

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES

After the birth of her children, 22-year-old Ronita was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the Church foyer, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



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.

Classes at North Rocks Public School are held on Tuesdays from 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 from 12.45 to 1.25pm; 2:05 to 2:45pm; 2:45 to 3:15pm

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.

CHRIST THE KING PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY - FRIDAY 8TH MARCH

Liturgy starts at 11.30. Tours start at midday. Tours will run from midday to 1.30pm

Enrolment packs available on the day.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

Spread the word! The Good Neighbour Group has started up again for 2024. Every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month in the Church Hall at 10.00am. Good company, tai chi, bingo and lunch all for \$5. Hope to see you there.

GIFTS AND TALENTS

Please don't hide your gifts and talents. We are looking for a musician to help out at 10.00am Mass on a Sunday (not every week) to play an instrument while our talented choir, led by Jecy Vaz, sing. Imagine the joy you will bring to the congregation and choir. Please contact the parish office or Sarah (scook@parra.catholic.edu.au) if you think you can help.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Council met last Wednesday and re-elected to the executive Chairperson: Sarah Cook, Vice-Chairperson: Mariana Tomasovic, Secretary: Julie Bonney. We congratulate and are very grateful for the generosity of these women to take on these positions again.

THANK YOU

Many thanks to Robert Campbell and Robert Haddad for their assistance in transporting a large second-hand mahogany board table with 14 chairs purchased for the Burton centre and to be utilised in the meeting room area. Particularly as it was located on a third-floor unit in Double Bay!

A CARBON FAST FOR LENT

You are invited this year to focus your Lenten acts of love and kindness on our contribution to climate change and those impacted by it. Pick up a sheet from the church foyer with suggestions of things to do during Lent.

6 WEEKS OF LENT – GIVE 6 THINGS TO JRS FOODBANK

Right now, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia is supporting close to 200 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.

NORTH ROCKS PARISH SOCIAL PROFILE

Anyone interested in looking at the makeup of Catholics in our parochial area from the last national census in 2021 can go to this site for a comprehensive picture: <https://ncpr.catholic.org.au/2021-Parish-Social-Profiles/Parramatta/North%20Rocks.pdf>. It is certainly worth a look and the information may help us in pastoral planning for the future as well as clarify some of our misconceptions!



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.

OPEN DAYS AT ST GABRIEL'S SCHOOL

St Gabriel's School, Castle Hill is a K-Year 12 Catholic independent school catering for children with a mild to moderate intellectual disability, as well as students who are deaf or hard of hearing; blind or have low vision; have Autism and other disabilities. St Gabriel's School are holding two Open Days in March:

Kindergarten 2025 enrolments on Friday, 8 March from 9.30am-11am

Year 7 2025 enrolments on Thursday, 14 March from 9.30am-11am

Register for the Open Days at: <https://stgabriels.nsw.edu.au/events/kindy-open-day-2024> or

<https://stgabriels.nsw.edu.au/events/year7-open-day-2024>.

MOUNT ST BENEDICT COLLEGE OPEN DAY

On Sunday, 3rd March from 10am to 2pm. Families with a daughter in Year 5 should apply now for Year 7, 2026. Location: 449C Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills.

YOUNG ADULT FAITH FORMATION: 3 MARCH

Young Adult Faith Formation sessions continue on Sunday 3 March at The Hustle (Unit 4, 4-6 Purdy Rd Minchinbury) at 7pm. The speaker is Monica Doumit who will talk about and lead discussion on 'How to speak about Hot Topics in the public sphere'. All adults 18-35 are encouraged to come along and enjoy some faith formation, pizza and fellowship! If you have any questions please call Mark on 0477 004 687.

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.