



Sunday, 11th February, 2024

SIXTH 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
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, Valma Costello, 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: Fr Kevin Bates SM, Fr Michael Kelly.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ken Abood, Guiseppina Cutrone, Hugh Snaith, Johnene Giacomelli, Faye Donaldson, Marguerite & Stephen Wong, Avedis Qasabian.

DECEASED: Beniamino, Camelina & Jimmy Cutrone, George Cutrone Jnr.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

We know that we will all have to face some kind of suffering, and so we try to prepare ourselves for it. Yet when it comes, as prepared as we try to be, it can overtake us with such fury that we fall back defenceless. We look to others for support and assistance, and if we are fortunate, we find it. However, even in the most supportive of communities, suffering tends to alienate us from those who are healthy and secure. Suffering reminds us of our own finitude and the contingent nature of all of life. It threatens our sense of order.

Jesus is not deterred by human suffering. He welcomes all who approach him; his healing touch reincorporates those who have been ostracised; his loving embrace reassociates those who have been alienated. In the reign of God, there are no outsiders. All belong to Jesus, and, therefore, all belong to each other. When the one afflicted is embraced by the community, the community is an authentic manifestation of the inclusive reign of God.

In suffering we witness human vulnerability and our desperate need of each other and of God. There, at the edge of life and on the fringes of the community, we may experience the tenderness and compassion of God. The loving touch of Christ that can heal our souls, if not our bodies. It is there that we may most authentically participate in the cross of Christ. Joined to him we are anything but unproductive or worthless.

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.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES at 9am & 7.30pm

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: Lev 13:1-2,44-46; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45

Next Week's Readings: Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

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.

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

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Aubon Fernando	Georgette Rissmiller John DeCourcy	Miriam Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Tony Hughes Caroline Thurairatnam	Trish Yates	Rosemary Wickham
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Rob Haddad Sarah Cook	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

17th & 18th February - 1st Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Sue DeCourcy	Kerry Saad Georgette Rissmiller	Ruth Jilesh	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Julie Elliott Daniella Dona	Jo-Anne Castaneda	John Lacey
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Anne Gately Jennie Mater	Levi Brown	Fadia Sleiman

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sarah Cook, Mary Cook, Rachel Parnaby

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Mario Azzopardi, Rosemary Wickham

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 9: Barbara Haddad

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Julie Hook; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Ellen Vaughan

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1: CTK Mum's Group, Gemma Smart

ASH WEDNESDAY

The season of Lent begins this 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. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence from meat for Catholics from the age of 18 to 59, meaning only one full meal and two smaller meals not equal to a full meal are permitted. The Church asks that, if possible, the fast on Good Friday, the "paschal fast," be continued until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday to honour the suffering and death of Jesus and prepare more fully for his resurrection. Lent is a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's resurrection at Easter and an opportunity for the faithful to undertake the practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving as a means to know Christ better and follow his will more faithfully.



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 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

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.

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction.

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.



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.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Donald and Gloria Blackwood who are celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary.

SUNDAY NIGHT SESSION TONIGHT

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 TONIGHT, 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 practices 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.

LENTEEN REFLECTION BOOKS

Lent is a time for renewal through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity leading up to the celebration of Easter. To assist in the prayer part, you might like to utilise a small book of daily reflections for Lent available at the back of the church entitled *A Resurrected Life*. If you would like to make a donation of five dollars to subsidise the cost, place that donation in the parish locked box. If you can't afford it just take a copy. The content of this book produced by the Archdiocese of Brisbane is also available as an audio file at this link https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/arl_lent2024audios/. You may like to listen to it daily, perhaps when you're on your daily walk!

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.

PURSE FOUND

Whilst sorting the items for the Christmas Giving Tree, a money purse was found in a white calico bag. If this belongs to you, please contact the parish office to claim it.



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.

JAMBEROO ABBEY BORROWING TOMORROW ONLINE RETREAT: BEGINNING 18 FEBRUARY

Beginning 18 February, Jamberoo Abbey is hosting a series of online retreats themed around caring for our own heart which is reflected in how we care for our earth with a focus on Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*. Sessions will be held each Sunday until Palm Sunday 24 March with short readings or stories weekly. The cost of the retreat is \$200, but do not hesitate to email if you are unable to manage the full cost. Register online today at jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats. For enquiries and registration, contact online@retreat@jamberooabbey.org.au.

MOUNT ST BENEDICT COLLEGE OPEN DAY

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

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.