



Sunday, 12th May, 2024

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

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, Raphael Satyo, George Vumbaca, Natalie De Maria, Mark Cheeseman, Bev Johnson; Warren Johnson, Lilian Davidson, Anthony Sullivan, Edna Esmero, 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, Michael Gordon.

RECENTLY DECEASED: William Carpenter (Funeral this Tuesday at 10.30am at CTK); Margaret Merritt, Bishop Peter Ingham.

ANNIVERSARY: Jenn-Shih Peter Lee.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place in our journey, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast itself celebrates one aspect of the resurrection itself, namely, the exaltation of Jesus. The readings help us through this paradox. They allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering both the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ.



MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

Lord God, we lift up all mothers to you. Grant them the strength to face the daily challenges with courage and the wisdom to guide their children towards a life of faith and service. Encourage them when they are weary and inspire them when they feel overwhelmed. Bless them with your peace and love, now and forever. Amen



Planned giving envelopes for the next financial year are available for collection from the Church foyer.

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: Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mk 16:15-20

Next Week's Readings: Gen 11:1-9; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39

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.

11th & 12th May - The Ascension of the Lord

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Lance Parker	Liza Jilesh John DeCourcy	Tiana Fernandes	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	Volunteer Needed	Peter Bosci	Caroline Thurairatnam Tony Hughes	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Christine Kinsella
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Mariana Tomasovic	Dawn Peat Rob Haddad	Levi Brown	John Lacey

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Peter Bosci, Barbara Craft, Lorraine Murphy

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 3: Maria Bietola & Barbara Haddad

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

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1: Greta Metz & School Mums

18th & 19th May - Pentecost Sunday

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Phil Trainor	Kerry Saad Georgette Rissmiller	Veronica Chacty	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	Christine Kinsella	Rosemary Wickham	Danielle Dona Tony Hughes	Trish Yates	Jim Kinsella
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Aubon Fernando	Rob Haddad Dawn Peat	Dominic Choi	Fadia Sleiman

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

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

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 4: Anna Hunt & Barbara Haddad

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

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

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE MOTHER'S DAY GIFT APPEAL

Thank you to the very generous parishioners who donated cash to the value of \$2,908 plus many gift vouchers towards the Mother's Day Gift Appeal. All funds raised in excess of the Mother's Day Vouchers requirement will be provided for 'Emergency Food Relief' vouchers.

SYNOD PARISH THINK TANK

Tuesday 28th May, 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm, Mary MacKillop Hall.

One of the fruits of the Diocesan Synod that took place in October last year is a Draft Diocesan Plan. To assist in the development of the final Plan a number of "Think Tanks" are occurring across the Diocese. Christ the King was well represented at the Synod. The parishioners who were at the Synod are conducting a parish-based *Think Tank* to reflect on the Draft Plan. All are invited to participate in this event.

All parishioners are invited to influence the priorities and direction of your Diocese. To view the draft Plan visit <https://parracatholic.org/synod/>. For more information contact Deacon John at john.collins@parracatholic.org.



FIRST EUCHARIST SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM ENROLMENT CARDS

This weekend parishioners are invited to take an enrolment card of the First Communion Candidates and pray for the child and his/her family during the program. Parents will continue to work with their children at home for the next three sessions. A reminder that the practice for First Eucharist will take place on Wednesday, 29th May beginning at 7:30pm. At least one parent should be present on this evening.

CHRIST THE KING PRIMARY SCHOOL JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Our school is celebrating 50 years in its current location. Why not organise a table of past and present families and friends. Held at the Epping Club on Saturday 29th June, for \$99 you get a three course meal and a five hour drinks package. Tables are of 10-12 attendees. If you have a table group in mind, you can email it directly to ewynne@parra.catholic.edu.au. Alternatively, we can place you on a table as the event gets closer. We kindly ask that you secure your seat and make payment for this event as soon as possible.

Payment can be made via the Qkr app or through the school office. Please pass this onto any ex Christ the King families you are still in touch with. To attend this event please click [RSVP for Jubilee Dinner](#) or use the QR code.



CARER'S GROUP

Are you aware that currently our parish has an aging population? Do you want to be able to help people of our community in times of need? Are you available to cook for others in their times of crisis?

Our Christ the King community is looking for people to help rejuvenate our Carer's Group. After being involved since the beginning of our church, Maureen Alexander is now ready to hand the coordination of this important service over to others in our community. Although a simple job, the contribution of this team of people has made a huge difference to the lives of many in our church. We thank Maureen and her team for countless years of helping others. We look forward to seeing a new, wonderful group of people once again walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me." (Mt 25:35-40)

Please contact the church office if you are able to help in some small way.

GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP

The next gathering of the Good Neighbourhood Group will be this Friday, 17th May in the Burton Centre (old Presbytery) at 10.00am. The following session will be back in the hall. Good company, tai chi, bingó & lunch all for \$5.

FAMILY PICNIC DAY



We would like to invite parishioners to a Family Picnic Day next Sunday, 19 May at 11.30am. The venue will be Don Moore Reserve, Tiernan Ave, North Rocks. Please save the date for this exciting community event. This event is for past and present parishioners and families. All ages are welcome. We encourage everyone to bring a picnic lunch to share with their family. There will be some organised games and activities for the children planned for the day.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: MINISTRY TO THE SICK IN HOSPITALS

Are you interested in bringing Communion to the Sick in the Hospitals of the Diocese? You will receive formation and information necessary for this ministry. Note you will not be required to do this every week but will be placed on a roster. For more information, please contact bernard.ellis@catholiccarewsbm.org.au by 15 June 2024.

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

*Basmati rice;

*Cooking or olive oil;

*Long life milk;

*Dishwashing detergent;

*Laundry detergent;

*Dried red lentils.

CHILD SAFETY

As you'd be aware, the Diocese is committed to keeping children, young people, and vulnerable adults safe. We have processes in place to keep this commitment. The Diocesan Safeguarding website has links to Government and non-Government safeguarding websites with useful information for parents in relation to keeping their children safe (<https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding>).

Our relationships with our children, however, place us in a privileged position where we can have important conversations about how they can keep themselves safe, and who to talk to when they don't feel safe.

It's not always easy to know where to start the "safety" conversation, but a range of resources are available to parents on the internet which can advise parents on what to discuss and even how to approach the conversation!

Age Specific Information - <https://raisingchildren.net.au/>

Personal Safety - <https://www.napcan.org.au/tips-for-talking-to-children-about-personal-safety/>

Online Safety - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2024

The Sacrament of First Eucharist (Yr 4 and above) on 1 & 2 June.

The Sacrament of Confirmation (Yr 5 and above) on 18 September.

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation (Yr 3 and above) on 10 & 11 December.

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: 0000479

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.