



Sunday, 18th August, 2024

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Parish Priest: Rev Fr Ian McGinnity
Deacon: John Collins
Seminarian: Jeff Hood
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: Raphael Satyo, George Vumbaca, Natalie De Maria, Mark Cheeseman, Warren Johnson, Lilian Davidson, Anthony Sullivan, Edna Esmero, Leilamani Pereira. Marija Barclay, Margaret McCaffrey, Barbara Heaton, Ken Sunderland, Pat McAppion, Helene Graham, Ace Sortisas, Tina Coorey, Mimi Jayatilaka, Oliver Ofiana, Michael Gordon, Sue Ferguson. Abraham Concepcion, Delia Hipolito.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Elizabeth O'Hara (funeral this Thursday at 10.30am), Solomon Abraham, Sr Maria Marin PBVM.

ANNIVERSARIES: Sharon Spencer, Mary Lum, William Floyd, Luigi Giacomelli.

REFLECTION

by Greg Sunter

This gospel passage continues the 'Bread of Life' discourse that we have been following through the Gospel of John for a few weeks now. It overlaps with the reading from last week with Jesus announcing that his flesh is the 'bread of life'. Not surprisingly, the Jewish audience is horrified by the idea of eating human flesh. Jesus drives his point home further with his audience by also referring to the drinking of blood. In Jewish tradition, even to touch blood made a person ritually unclean. Any meat that was to be eaten had to be drained of blood, according to kosher rules. The words used by Jesus in this passage are so confronting that they cannot possibly be taken literally. It is a complete overstatement of the image to try to make sure that a literal interpretation is impossible.

When the gospel writer has Jesus speaking about eating his flesh and drinking his blood he is drawing on a very old image of eating and drinking as representing 'absorbing'; or 'comprehending'; or 'understanding' the message of the speaker. In this ancient understanding, to 'eat the flesh' of Jesus is to take into yourself and accept everything that Jesus stands for; everything that Jesus teaches; everything that Jesus believes. It is an act of faith. When we received Christ in the Eucharist, is this the depth of significance and purpose with which we take communion? Unmistakably, this passage points us to the Christian sacrament of Eucharist. The practice of sharing Eucharist as a memorial of Jesus was already well established in the Christian communities by the time this gospel was written and throughout this extended discourse on the 'Bread of Life' the author provides a direct link between the practice of Eucharist and the teachings of Jesus.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Next meeting is this Wednesday, 21st August at 7.30pm in the Burton Centre.



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: Next Week's Readings: Prov 9:1-6; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58

Next Week's Readings: Josh 24:1-2,15-18; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

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.

17th & 18th August - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Peter Hrast	Liza Jilesh	Veronica Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Rosemary Wickham	Tony Hughes Danielle Dona	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Ken Coorey
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Anne Gately Jennie Mater	Levi Brown	Margaret Coakley

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 8: Barbara Haddad & Lou Howitt

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

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

24th & 25th August - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Ron Ruskin	Georgette Rissmiller Liza Jilesh	Tiana Fernandes	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Lorraine Murphy	Mark Bonney Danielle Dona	Trish Yates	Jim Kinsella
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Peter Hrast	Sarah Cook Dawn Peat	Levi Brown	Marea Mooney

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Lorraine Murphy, Barbara Craft, Jim Kinsella

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 9: Barbara Haddad

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Carole Frare & Sue Hales; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Ellen Vaughan

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 4: Louis Kastoun, Paul Cook, Ryan Brown, Ejay Hwang



PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - CONFIRMATION

During the Masses last weekend, 21 children were liturgically enrolled in the Confirmation program and have now begun their preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, 18th September. This weekend we invite parishioners to take the enrolment card of a Candidate and pray for that child and his/her family during the program. A reminder also to parents that they email the child's chosen confirmation name and sponsors names to the parish office as soon as possible.

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL - 1 SEPTEMBER

This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. They have dedicated their lives to guiding us spiritually and emotionally, often at great personal sacrifice. Your donation cares for our clergy's health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement. Please give generously to this appeal on August 31 and September 1.

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 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 Wednesday, August 21. For more information email Mariana Tomasovic: mariana_tomasovic@hotmail.com or Deacon John Collins: john.collins@parracatholic.org.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION INTRODUCTION AND RENEWAL DAY: 18 AUGUST

You are invited to a Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day on Sunday 18 August from 10am to around 3pm at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia. There will be an introduction to Christian Meditation for newcomers with periods of meditation for ongoing meditators, presentations and prayer with the monks. Mass will be celebrated in the afternoon. Morning tea will be provided, but please bring your own picnic lunch. Donations are welcome. For enquiries, please contact Ann Lomas on atlomas@bigpond.com or call 0437 340 250.

MET FAITHLIFE SPIRITUALITY SHORT COURSE: STARTING 17 SEPTEMBER

Searching for a deeper understanding of spirituality? Hoping to find renewed ways of expressing your faith? Wanting to further discern God's call in your life? Sign up now for the free 3-session FaithLIFE Spirituality short course with spiritual director Jeff Hood on Tuesdays 17 & 24 September and 1 October. Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. Registration and more dates and details via QR or get in touch with the team via met@parracatholic.org.



SCAN ME

LITURGICAL MINISTRY COURSE

This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. To register or find out more contact lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or phone 0460 037 795.

ADULT CONFIRMATION 2024 FORMATION DAY: 24 AUGUST.

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates 16 and over interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 24 August from 9.30am to 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$25 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day. For more information please contact Lucy Woodbury on lucy.woodbury@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

ACBC 2024-2025 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT LAUNCH: 20 AUGUST

All are warmly invited to attend the official launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, 'Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World' on Tuesday 20 August from 10am to 12pm in St Paul's Catholic College Sports Hall, 198 Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. Please RSVP your attendance via: <https://forms.office.com/r/1Wd96tbpso>.

Laudato Si - Earthcare News

Reducing Waste: Imagine the impact if every person in the world replaced one disposable plastic bottle with a reusable bottle. We could prevent millions of tons of plastic from entering the oceans each year. With small personal changes, big cultural changes happen. This week, our action is reducing waste. Let's take action to protect our oceans and our planet!

GIVE TO JRS FOODBANK

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia is supporting close to 200 families a week, and the demand for help keeps growing. 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: Basmati rice; Cooking or olive oil; Long life milk; Deodorant; Men's shavers; Dried red lentils; Laundry detergent. These goods will be taken down to the JRS Centre each week for distribution to the needy.

SUPPORT SERVICES - DO YOU NEED HELP?

National telephone counselling service - 1800 737 732

Domestic Violence Line (NSW): 180065 64 63

For emergency refuge or housing assistance: 1800 152 152

THE CATHOLIC OUTLOOK is available now from the Church foyer. Take one home with you today.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE JRS FOODBANK



JRS would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude for your generous support of Jesuit Refugee Service Australia Food Bank. Your donations have been instrumental in providing essential assistance to the 200 families they serve each week. Your kindness and solidarity has brought joy and hope to those facing hardship, and they are deeply thankful for your support. Your partnership enables them to continue their vital work empowering individuals and families to rebuild their lives with dignity. Thank you for your dedication to helping others and for your compassionate spirit.

LAUNCH OF THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH

On Saturday 10 August, the Diocese of Parramatta launched the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months. To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit parracatholic.org/synodality.

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.

These kinds of gifts help the Parish free up other income to use toward pastoral care programs.