



# Sunday, 1st December, 2024

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Year C



**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](http://www.ctknorthrocks.catholic.edu.au)

**Anointing of the Sick Mass:** 15th November at 9.15am

**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 Neighbour 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:** Thomas Cook, Raphael Satyo, Natalie De Maria, Mark Cheeseman, 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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Clarence (Clarry) Barbera, Fr Michael O'Toole, Vilma Pinto, Margaret McNamara (mother of Kathleen Spurr).

## REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings of the First Sunday of Advent set the stages for our reflections on the entire season. They contain a number of promises, all pointing to peace and fulfilment. Each reading depicts a dimension of suffering that was often brought on by the people themselves. The promises are assurances that the end of their suffering was in sight. The promises reveal a loving and provident, a merciful and forgiving God. These are promises full of hope.

The coming of the Lord is clearly a time of expectation, not of fear and trembling. Although the earlier tradition about the Day of the Lord included punishment of the wicked, the focus here is on redemption. The time of expectation may be preceded by apocalyptic signs in the heavens and dismay on earth, but this cosmic shift will bring fulfilment, not destruction. The love and providence, the mercy and forgiveness of God will be made manifest.

What is expected of those who receive the promise? An Advent way of life exhorts us to 'wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ'. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.

## MINISTRY END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

We invite all people involved in ministry in the parish to share in refreshments and food in McKillop Hall this Wednesday, 4th December at 7.30pm as we express our gratitude for the service that you do throughout the year. To help with catering please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/MxtTWb7rSRHyEbJ7> ASAP.



## 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: Jer 33:14-16, 1 Thess 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28,34-36

Next Week's Readings: Baruch 5:1-9, Phil 1:4-6,8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**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 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.*

### 30th November & 1st December - 1st Sunday of Advent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	Julie Hook	Sue DeCourcy	John DeCourcy Liza Jilesh	Tiana Fernandes	Jim Kinsella
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Rosemary Wickham	Tony Hughes Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	John Lacey
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Dawn Peat	Thomas Sissons	Fadia Sleiman

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Jim Kinsella, Rosemary Wickham

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 5:** Margaret Isaac & Barbara Haddad

**PIETY GROUP:** Vigil: Julie Hook; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Marea Mooney

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 6:** Ryan Brown, Luke Peterson, Barbara Craft, Steve Frare

### 7th & 8th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
<b>Saturday 5.30pm</b>	Darren Mobbs	Keith Henson	Kerry Saad John DeCourcy	Miriam Chacty	Maria Bietola
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	John Murphy	Rosemary Wickham	Mark Bonney Tony Hughes	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Christine Kinsella
<b>Sunday 10am</b>	Peter Elchaar	Peter Hrast	Rob Haddad Dawn Peat	Dominic Choi	Marea Mooney

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Rosemary Wickham, Barbara Craft, Jecy Vaz

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 6:** Carol Coorey & Barbara Haddad

**PIETY GROUP:** Vigil: Lena Henson; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 1:** CTK School Mums, Greta Metz

## Laudato Si - Earthcare News

Laudato Si: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor - It's not all doom and gloom. The Climate Council has released some encouraging statistics through its Climate Momentum Monitor. There are nearly four million Australian households with solar panels and nearly forty percent of the electricity in the grid comes from renewables. It is evidence that changing our ways does help. But that is not to say we should slow down – we need to do better.

## BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S HOUSES TO HOMES TODAY

This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home and rebuild their lives? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provide homeless mothers and their children with practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal. Envelopes can be found on the ends of the seats today. Thank you.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY PLAY - CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT 5.30PM

As Christmas season approaches, we warmly invite your children to participate in our Christmas Eve Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to share their joy and spirit through performing a simple play during this special celebration.

Children must commit to attending Sunday 10.00am Mass during December when we will practice.

Contact Sarah Cook for more information at [scook@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:scook@parra.catholic.edu.au).



### CATECHISTS NEEDED FOR 2025

We are desperate for new catechists to cover classes in North Rocks Public School and Carlingford West Public School in 2025. If you can spare a small amount of time on Tuesday mornings or Wednesday afternoons we would love to hear from you. Please call the parish office on 9871 8710 or Terri Hirschhorn on 0407 294 332. Brochures are available in the church foyer.

### FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

A reminder to parents that First Reconciliation will take place on Tuesday, 10 December and Wednesday 11 December between 3:30 and 5pm. Times and days have been allocated to each family in the program.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

The North Rocks Conference of St Vincent de Paul will be collecting food and children's presents for their 2024 Christmas Hampers until next Sunday, 8 December.

Please take a card from the Giving Trees at the Church entrance and return your food items and children's gifts to the Church foyer for collection by 8 December. Please help the needy families and individuals Vinnies assist, celebrate a happy and joyful Christmas. Please note: Do not wrap any items.



### MINISTRY END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

The Parish Pastoral Council will have its final meeting for the year this Wednesday, December 4. This will be a short meeting after which, at 7.30pm, we invite all people involved in ministry (this includes our catechists, readers, acolytes, ministers of communion to the assembly and the sick, our musicians and singers, collectors and welcomers, flower arrangers, cleaners and sacristans, all who help in Children's Liturgy, our Finance and liturgy committee, money counters and members of the St Vincent DePaul society and refugee support group in our parish) to share in refreshments and food as we express our gratitude for the service that you do throughout the year. To help with catering please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/MxtTWb7rSRhyEbjC7> ASAP.

### HOPE REIGNS - AN INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION FOR ADVENT

There is a limited supply of the booklet, *Hope Reigns*, from the Archdiocese of Brisbane, which features reflections by Br Damien Price and is available from the church foyer. We ask that you give a contribution towards the purchase of these books (\$5 recommended).



COLUMBAN CALENDARS \$10 EACH.

VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS \$6 PER PACK AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCH FOYER

### CTK SCHOOL JUBILEE VIDEO

In collaboration with our Year 6 Faith In Action Team students, Mr Andrew Kennaugh made a video celebrating 50 Years of quality Catholic education at Christ the King. Click on the [link to view the video](#).

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

• Vigil: 5.30pm Children's Mass  
7.30pm  
Christmas Day: 8.00am  
10.00am

Reconciliation on Saturday 21 December from 9.30 to 10.30am and 3.30 to 4.30pm

Communal Rite of Reconciliation at St Michael's, Baulkham Hills on Wednesday 18 December at 7.30pm

## 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.

## EPIPHANY PILGRIMAGE AND FIESTA: 2-9 JANUARY 2025

Commit the first fruits of your new year to Christ with the 2025 Epiphany Pilgrimage. Enjoy 7 days of bushwalking, fellowship and prayer as you journey from Emu Plains to the top of the Blue Mountains, experiencing the wonderful hospitality of parish communities along the way. Day 1 is a family-friendly day, with the option for a children's pilgrimage finishing with the Finnies Fiesta at St Finbars, Glenbrook. For more information and to register for all or part of the journey, visit [www.epiphanypilgrimage.org](http://www.epiphanypilgrimage.org).

## ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE OF MR CHARLES HYSON: 7 DECEMBER

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta invites you to the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Mr Charles Philip Hyson on Saturday 7 December at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral on the Memorial of Saint Ambrose. Please RSVP to Hannah Portelli at [Hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:Hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org) if you wish to attend.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS FROM PALMS!

Are you looking to give something really special this year? Something that makes a tangible difference? Palms has the shop for you. Whether it be a gift directly supporting their overseas development program, or some unique Timorese gifts for your loved one's home, you'll find that perfect gift here! Just scan the QR or go to [palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop](http://palms.org.au/donate/palms-gift-shop). Happy shopping! And yes, your purchase assists the amazing communities overseas.



## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MARIAN PROCESSION: 7 DECEMBER

Join the parish community at Our Lady of the Rosary Kellyville as they host their 2nd annual Marian Procession for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It begins with the 6pm Vigil Mass at the Parish Church on Saturday, December 7, followed by a candlelight procession to the Franciscan Shrine of the Holy Innocents. Join them as they come together to pray through the intercession of Our Lady and experience a beautiful slice of Lourdes and Fatima right here in Sydney. All are welcome!

### **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.

### **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.