



Sunday, 16th March, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Year C



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

Anointing of the Sick Mass: Friday, 16 May 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

Website: <https://northrockscatholic.org.au>

IN YOUR MERCY, PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE FOR WHOM PRAYERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED

THE SICK: Joseph Keece, Sue Ferguson, Thomas Cook, Raphael Satyo, Natalie De Maria, Peter Aw, Warren Johnson, Mark Cheeseman, Abraham Concepcion, Lilian Davidson, Edna Esmero, Marija Barclay, Margaret McCaffrey, Barbara Heaton, Ken Sunderland, Pat McAppion, Helene Graham, Ace Sortisas, Tina Coorey, Mimi Jayatilaka, Oliver Ofiana, Delia Hipolito.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Gracy Dias (mother of Jecy Vaz).

ANNIVERSARY: Ruth Austin

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Second Sunday of Lent celebrates the epiphanies of God, the ways in which God's divine presence is revealed. The first divine epiphany is the manifestation of God as one who initiates a covenant, an intimate relationship with human beings. Not only does God initiate this agreement, but God also seals it with blood, making it official. Although we ritualise our relationship with God in a religious setting, the call to enter into the covenant can come in the ordinary events of life. The important thing to remember about this covenant is that God enters into our lives and initiates the relationship. No life is too simple; no life is too busy. Human history in all of its contours is the setting for the encounter with God.

The glory of God is revealed in the transfigured Jesus, the one who discussed his suffering and death with Moses and Elijah. Lent is a time for us to enter into this suffering, not merely through reflection, prayer and penance, but concretely, by sharing in the suffering of the body of Christ. We see this suffering all around us.

God is revealed through women and men who live lives of Christian commitment. In those whose integrity strengthens us, in those whose religious sentiments inspire us, in those whose endurance gives us confidence. God is revealed in those who get involved in bettering the lives of others. God is revealed in very ordinary ways, if we but open our eyes to see.

BOOK CLUB - THURSDAY 10 APRIL

Join us on Thursday, 10 April from 10.30 till Noon to discuss this month's book "The Masterpiece" by Belinda Alexandra. If you wish to be part of our first Connect Book Club but have not collected a book yet, please pick one up from the parish office.



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 15:5-12,17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36

Next Week's Readings: Ex 3:1-8,13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12; Lk 13:1-9

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.

15th & 16th March - Second Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Keith Henson	Liza Jilesh Kerry Saad	Volunteer needed	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Tony Hughes Caroline Thurairatnam	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Christine Kinsella
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Aubon Fernando	Dawn Peat Danielle Dona	Dominic Choi	Marea Mooney

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sarah Cook, Mary Cook, Terri Hirschhorn

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Jim Kinsella, Mario Azzopardi, Lorraine Murphy

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 2: Lent (No flowers)

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Carole Frare & Sue Hales; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Marea Mooney

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 3: John & Sue DeCourcy, Chris & Beverley Poole, Ken Coorey

22nd & 23rd March - Third Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	George Germanos	Peter Hrast	Kerry Saad	Miriam Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Julie Elliott Caroline Thurairatnam	Trish Yates	Anne-Marie Makin
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Jim Kinsella	Anne Gately Jennie Mater	Levi Brown	Jecy Vaz

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Peter Bosci, John Lacey, Anne-Marie Makin

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 3: Lent (No flowers)

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Julie Hook; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Sarah Cook

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

GOOD NEIGHBOUR GROUP

The Good Neighbour Group meets in the Parish Hall on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at 10.00am for good company, Tai Chi, bingo and lunch, all for \$7. All are welcome to join including people outside the parish and non-Catholics. The next gathering is Friday, 21st March so spread the word!

PROJECT COMPASSION



Toefuata'iga - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah), a primary school student from Samoa, faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 litre water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.

Your generous support this Lenten season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, and water shortages, while building resilience against future challenges. Together, through faith and action, we can bring compassion and opportunity to those most in need. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes or envelopes which are available this weekend in the church foyer. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

SUPPORT OUR PARISH THROUGH RETURN AND EARN!

The Parish Pastoral Council is excited to introduce the **Return and Earn** recycling initiative as a way to raise funds for much-needed repairs to our **leaking church roof**. By recycling eligible bottles and cans, you can help both the environment and our parish! It's simple to get involved:

- Download the Return and Earn app for iPhone or Android. You will need to register on the app with your name.
- Click on charities then search for Christ the King. The title is Church Roof.
- Select "SET AS PAYOUT" to set us up as your preferred payout method
- Scan the app at your local Return and Earn machine
- Return your containers and press "TRANSFER" on the screen



Join us in **caring for creation and our church**—small actions lead to big changes!

Please contact me should you have any trouble with the app scook@parra.catholic.edu.au and I will call you back.

SAFEGUARDING MORNING TEA - 28 MARCH

The Safeguarding Council of the Diocese of Parramatta has asked us to explore what strategies we can implement to safeguard the elderly in our Parish communities. As a first step, we would like to listen to our community, those who work in our ministries and those members of our parish who would benefit from any changes implemented.

You are invited to morning tea on Friday 28th March at 10.00am in the Burton Centre where we will discuss our circumstances and opportunities concerning our parish's situation. Please let the parish office know or email Sarah Cook if you are able to attend and offer some insights. scook@parra.catholic.edu.au We look forward to a wonderful and fruitful discussion.

CONNECT 2025



Our next gathering is on Friday, 11 April in the Burton Centre (the old Presbytery, next door to the Church). Time 10am to Noon. The guest speaker is Senior Constable Michael Barnes who will talk about *'keeping yourself safe online and on your phone'*.

Following this will be morning tea, craft and Bridge. Please contact us for enquiries or for help with transport on the day. Terri (0407294323 email tmhirschhorn@yahoo.com.au), Vivien (0413027507 email: vivien.brewer@gmail.com) Marianne (0418641412 email: dave.dwyer1@bigpond.com).



The Connect Group gathering in the Burton Centre last Friday.

Laudato Si - Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor: Sustainability Saturdays -Refrigerator Rescue. Throwing out food? Don't throw out those leek tops, or mushroom stems. Wash and freeze them and add them to stock for soup. Sustenance Sundays - "May you be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures, especially brother sun through whom you lighten the day for us." Brother sun provides clean renewable energy!

URGENT CALL FROM JRS FOODBANK

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia has put out an urgent call for food donations. With the rising cost of living, many are struggling to have enough food and essential items to meet their family's weekly needs. As stocks are running very low, 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.

RESTORATION OF THE OLD ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

St Michael's Parish, Baulkham Hills is attempting to restore the old church in their grounds which was built in 1844 and is heritage listed. They will be releasing 1000 brass plates to be placed inside the back wall. With each donation of \$1000 or more, you can have your family name inscribed on the plate, which will face the altar. All funds from this effort will contribute to the restoration project. Each plate will be approx. 100mm X 50mm in size. For enquiries go to <https://oldchurchfundraising.parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au/>



NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR THE 2025 PAPAL & DIOCESAN AWARDS

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Papal and Diocesan Awards, recognising individuals—both religious and lay—who have made outstanding contributions to the Catholic Church and its community. Do you know someone who deserves to be recognised? Nominations close at midnight on 31 May 2025. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/.

THANK YOU FROM JRS

On behalf of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) - Australia, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Parish of Christ the King North Rocks and the local St Vincent de Paul for their support of the foodbank, especially at the moment when supplies have been low. Your generosity will enable us to support our clients as they navigate a life in a new country where they feel welcome and safe. If you would like to know more about JRS and its work, follow the link, <http://aus.jrs.net/>. The Lenten Appeal will continue through until the Easter celebrations.

OFFICE OF TENEBRAE: 14 APRIL

All are welcome to attend the annual Office of Tenebrae at St Patrick's Cathedral on Monday 14 April at 7:30pm. The Office of Tenebrae is a Holy Week reflection liturgy including Scripture, psalm chanting and motets and will feature the Cathedral Choir. As the Diocese and the global Church prepares for Holy Week, the Tenebrae service is a reminder of the eternal light and hope brought into the world through Christ's Resurrection.

COMMISSIONING MASS OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS: 13 MAY

All liturgical ministers: readers, servers and extra ordinary ministers, their family and friends are invited to the Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 13th May at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. To register attendance: parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/.

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 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.