



# Sunday, 23rd March, 2025

## THIRD 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](http://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](mailto: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, Lillian 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:** Robert Collins (brother of David Collins), Eileen O'Mullane.

**ANNIVERSARY:** Victoriana Castaneda.

## REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

One major theme emerges from today's readings: incomprehensibility of God. We see it in the mysterious divine name, which distinguishes the God of Israel from all others and yet leaves us in the dark as to its meaning. We see it as God communicates with us through inanimate objects and the people in our lives. Finally, we see that God both pardons iniquities and decides to root out unfruitful branches, and we are confused by such inconsistency.

In the midst of this ambiguity we have one sure source of stability – Christ. It is Christ who reveals the nature and meaning of the divine name; it is Christ who intercedes for us before God. Christ, the one who set his face toward Jerusalem, there to suffer and die, is the great messenger through whom God is revealed. He is the one who reveals majesty through the simplicity of a bush; he is the one who judges with the patience of a gardener. However, the limits of the experience and mercy of God in our lives are defined by our own openness. Despite the blessings that we receive in the wildernesses of our lives, it could happen that God is not pleased with us. We must not take God's goodness for granted.

These readings close on a note of caution. Take care! We might be able to rest secure in the knowledge of the love and mercy of God, but these readings tell us that we should not dare to rest passively or complacently.

### 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: Ex 3:1-8,13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6,10-12; Lk 13:1-9

Next Week's Readings: Josh 5:9-12, 2 Cor 5:17-21, Lk 15:1-3,11-32

**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.*

### 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	Volunteer needed	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

### 29th & 30th March - Fourth Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Phil Trainor	Ministers needed	Volunteer needed	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Lorraine Murphy	Mark Bonney Julie Bonney	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Rosemary Wickham
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Minister needed	Rob Haddad Danielle Dona	Thomas Sissons	Christine Kinsella

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

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** Lorraine Murphy, Barbara Craft, Rosemary Wickham

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 4:** Lent (No flowers)

**PIETY GROUP:** Vigil: Lena Henson; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Ellen Vaughan

**CHURCH CLEANING GROUP 5:** Marc & Carmela Corazza, Jecy Vaz, Mariana Tomasovic

### 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, 4th April so spread the word!

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.



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. 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.

2. Click on charities then search for Christ the King. The title is Church Roof.
3. Select "SET AS PAYOUT" to set us up as your preferred payout method
4. Scan the app at your local Return and Earn machine
5. 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 [cook@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cook@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 this 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. [cook@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cook@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](mailto:tmhirschhorn@yahoo.com.au)), Vivien (0413027507 email: [vivien.brewer@gmail.com](mailto:vivien.brewer@gmail.com)) Marianne (0418641412 email: [dave.dwyer1@bigpond.com](mailto:dave.dwyer1@bigpond.com)).

## REFLECTION MORNING AT HUNTERS HILL

You are welcome to Hunters Hill on Saturday, April 5 for the Catalyst for Renewal Reflection Morning when Sr Michele Connolly rsj will reflect on "*2025 is a Year of Jubilee, focused on Christian hope. What does St Paul say about hope; as an ideal we can live in the real world*". Holy Name of Mary Parish Hall, 3 Mary Street, Hunters Hill, 9.30am till 12.30pm. Entry by donation. Tea/coffee provided. Enquiries to Carole 9869 1036 or Michelle 9958 5963.

## BAPTISM WELCOME TEAM MEETING - TUESDAY 25TH MARCH AT 4.30PM

A meeting of parishioners interested in forming a Baptism Welcome Team will take place in the Burton Centre this Tuesday, 25 March at 4.30pm. If you are interested in supporting families as they prepare for Baptism, please join us.



## Laudato Si - Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor

Sustainability Saturday: Take the kids to the library to read an environmentally themed book. (Celebrate World Water day and Earth Hour today).

Sustenance Sunday: "Be praised, my Lord, for brother wind and the air and clouds, clear skies and all weathers by which you give sustenance to your creatures."

## URGENT CALL FROM JRS FOODBANK

Jesus 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/](http://parracatholic.org/contribute/papal-diocesan-awards/).

## 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/](http://parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/).

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: 27 APRIL

You are invited to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at St Agatha's Pennant Hills, on Sunday, 27 April:

1:00pm Confessions will commence and be available for the whole afternoon. 1:30pm: Welcome, Rosary, Act of Entrustment to Our Lady, Prayers for the Pope. 2:00pm: Mass. 3:00pm: Adoration and Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. 3:45pm: Benediction and Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. Enquiries: Church Office 9484 1427 or Therese 9651 3028.

## 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.*