



Sunday, 30th March, 2025

FOURTH 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: Bruce Straub & Fay Helson (husband and mother of Leanne Straub), Ray Parsons (brother of Maurie Parsons), Bill Outch.

ANNIVERSARY: Raymond Magill, Karen Euhus, Kazimiera Adamski.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the midst of Lent we are given a moment for rejoicing, Laetare Sunday. All of the readings provide us with reasons for rejoicing. The overarching theme is the prodigal goodness of God. The responsorial psalm sets the context for the reflections. The other readings show how needy people were showered with divine favour. Even in the midst of this rejoicing, we find a challenge. We must undergo a change of heart if we are to rejoice in God.

The goodness of God is strikingly portrayed in the radically new image of father. This is a God who allows us to follow our own dreams, who is partial to no one, who faithfully and patiently waits for us to return, who gently corrects our misperceptions. God longs to be reconciled with us even more than we long to be reconciled with God.

The challenges placed before us set out some of the conditions required if we are to be a new creation. We are called to a profound and total reconciliation, first with God and then with each other. Christ was identified with sin so that we might be identified with God's righteousness. Reconciliation requires that we be open to giving and receiving forgiveness. It requires that we both remember and forget. We must always remember the causes of alienation, so that we not succumb to them again. However, we must forget the resentment that we felt so that we not allow it to influence our lives.

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

This Lent, will you be a pilgrim of hope to people who may break in the face of suffering? Your gifts and prayers will help our chaplains at Catholic Care Western Sydney and Blue Mountains offer pastoral care, comfort and Christian companionship that can bring healing and transformation. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal next weekend. Thank you.



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: Josh 5:9-12, 2 Cor 5:17-21, Lk 15:1-3,11-32

Next Week's Readings: Is 43:16-21, Phil 3:8-14, Jn 8:1-11

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.

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, 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

5th & 6th April - Fifth Sunday of Lent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Darren Mobbs	Lance Parker	Liza Jilesh	Miriam Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Ken Coorey	Tony Hughes Julie Elliott	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Dawn Peat Rob Haddad	Tiana Fernandes	Minister needed

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Ken Coorey, Deirdre Lee, Jecy Vaz

COUNTER GROUP 2: Ron Ruskin, Keith Henson, John Lenehan, John Coakley

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 5: Lent (No flowers)

PIETY GROUP: Vigil: Maria Bietola; 8.00am Volunteer needed; 10.00am: Marea Mooney

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

Laudato Si - Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor: Sustainability Saturday: Experience the beauty and variety of creation. Visit your local botanic gardens or the beach. Sit in a park and listen to the birds. Be present.

Sustenance Sundays: "Be praised, my Lord, for sister water, who is very useful and humble and precious and pure." Water is scarce in some parts of the world and companies are commodifying it against the common good. Clean water is a human right.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Irene lives in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.



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*.

CONNECT 2025



The Connect Group has two gatherings in April in the Burton Centre (old Presbytery, next door to the Church):

- * Thursday, 10 April, BOOKCLUB from 10.30am till Noon to discuss this month's book "The Masterpiece" by Belinda Alexandra.
- * Friday, 11 April from 10am to Noon with guest speaker, Kate Bates from NSW Government ID Support, who will talk about '*keeping yourself safe online and on your phone*'. Following this gathering 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.

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 and I will call you back.



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 the Burton Centre on the third Wednesday of each month from February to November from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. The next session is Wednesday, April 9. For more information email Mariana Tomasovic: mariana_tomasovic@hotmail.com or Deacon John Collins: john.collins@parracatholic.org

SUNDAY NIGHT SESSIONS

A series of presentations, seminars, workshops, discussions and stories designed to invite adults (young and old) to grow and develop in their faith. Each session begins at 7:00pm and finishes at 8:30pm and is held in the Burton Centre. They are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month from February to November.

The next Session is Sunday, 13 April and the topic is "Easter Lectio Divina": A prayerful reflection on the three Resurrection accounts that are choices for the Easter Sunday Gospel Readings.

Everyone 16 and over is welcome to participate. A Gold Coin Donation to assist with the cost of coffee, tea and biscuits is welcome. For more information, or if you would like to assist with organizing these sessions, contact Deacon John Collins through the parish office or via email john.collins@parracatholic.org.

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!

DEFIBRILLATOR VIDEO: https://youtu.be/mE-ZlaE_9fw. For future reference, please find this website address in the 'Pink Section' on the back page.

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.

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.

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/.

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

DEFIBRILLATOR VIDEO: https://youtu.be/mE-ZIaE_9fw.

Thank you to everyone in the continual support of the parish and the clergy of the Diocese of Parramatta.