



Sunday, 14th September, 2025

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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: To be advised.
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: Hilary Heaton, Jill Wulf, Liliana Cugola, Andrew Halmarick, Joseph Keece, Sue Ferguson, Kim Armstrong, Thomas Cook, Natalie De Maria, Peter Aw, Abraham Concepcion, Lilian Davidson, Delia Hipolito, Mark Cheeseman, Barbara Heaton, Edna Esmero, Gary Bailey, Ken Sunderland, Helene Graham, Pat McAppion, Ace Sortisas, Mimi Jayatilaka, Oliver Ofiana, Lolita Linco.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Alfie Illek-Poole, Destyn McAuliffe (Campbell), Eric Taylor.

ANNIVERSARY: Sam Bietola.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we concentrate on the power of the cross in our lives. It is the ultimate demonstration of the nature of God. Christ gave of himself even to death on the cross. This is characteristic, not only of the man Jesus, but of the Godhead. Creation is the first example of divine emptying; redemption is the ultimate example. Unlike Good Friday when we stand before the stark cross and mourn the death of our innocent messiah, today we stand before the glorious cross and praise God for God's incomprehensible goodness toward us. God's graciousness is poured out indiscriminately, prodigally as only profound love can be given. Such is the nature of our God, and the cross is the symbol of this nature.

Jesus compares the pole in the wilderness on which was fixed the serpent to the cross which becomes the source of our healing. It was through the cross that Jesus conquered sin and death and won for us access to God. It is through the cross that we die to sin and rise to new life in Christ. As painful as life's crosses may be, they serve to transform us. It can be our hope in the midst of pain and suffering and brokenness, because it promises to carry us into new life.

Through the goodness of God, which has been poured out for us, we have been granted eternal life. It is incomprehensible to think that death is the way to life, but that is the message of this feast. The cross, which is a sign of shame and misery, is now a symbol of glory and exaltation.



COLA AREA CLOSED FOR PARKING

Unfortunately, due to water damage to the asphalt surface and a number of large potholes under the COLA (covered outdoor learning area), this area temporarily cannot be utilised for car parking. We are awaiting an engineer's appraisal and some major digging (before this area can be redeemed). For safety reasons we have to close this area. We will however open the gates to Bowral St and Burradoo Close to allow people to park and enter through the school grounds to the Church.

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: Num 21:4-9, Phil 2:6-11, Jn 3:13-17

Next Week's Readings: Amos 8:4-7, 1 Tim 2:1-8, Lk 16:1-13

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.

13th & 14th September- The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Carole Frare	Keith Henson	Kerry Saad Dawn Peat	Volunteer needed	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Julie Elliott Tony Hughes	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Lorraine Murphy
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Wilma Fernandes Danielle Dona	Volunteer needed	Margaret Coakley

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

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Jim Kinsella, Mario Azzopardi, Deirdre Lee

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 1: Leslie Bosci & Gloria Blackwood

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

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

20th & 21st September- 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Kath Patterson	Lance Parker	John DeCourcy Kerry Saad	Volunteer needed	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Peter Bosci	Julie Elliott Tony Hughes	Trish Yates	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Jim Kinsella	Rob Haddad Danielle Dona	Levi Brown	Minister needed

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sarah Cook, Sabena Peterson, Mary Cook

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

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 2: Lanny Carter & Barbara Haddad

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

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

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, 19th September so spread the word!

THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

A meeting will take place on Wednesday, 22nd October beginning at 7:30pm in the parish hall for parents/guardians (not children) wishing to enroll their children in the First Reconciliation Program. To be eligible children must be in Year 3 or above. First Reconciliation is a prerequisite for children to undertake the other two sacraments of initiation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. Information regarding the sacramental program and enrolment will be explained on that evening. It is essential that parents attend this meeting.

THANK YOU FOR CARING FOR OUR SPIRITUAL FATHERS

Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal raised over \$2,000 to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, envelopes are still available on the seats today or please give through parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal.

SCRIPTURE TEACHING INFORMATION EVENING

We are holding an information evening this Thursday, 18th September at 7.00pm in the Burton Centre for anyone interested in teaching scripture in our State Schools in the coming years. Please ring Terri Hirschhorn on 0407 294 332 for further details.



CONFIRMATION PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

Congratulation to the 23 children who were confirmed last Wednesday evening and to all involved in their Preparation. This weekend they will receive certificates acknowledging this event at all Masses.

SUNDAY NIGHT SESSION TONIGHT

A series of presentations, seminars, workshops, discussions and stories designed to invite adults 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 TONIGHT, Sunday, 14th September and the topic is "*Spirituality of Struggle: Some Insights from Sr Joan Chittister OSB*". The presenter is Deacon John Collins. 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.

CONNECT 2025



Our last CTK Connect meeting, with Bridge, chats and morning tea was enjoyed by an impressive number of community members last Thursday. We look forward to our next meeting on October 9 which will also include 'Fun with Printmaking', generously organised by Trish Yates. Everyone is welcome. The next Bookclub meeting will be Thursday, 25th September from 10am in the Burton Centre. If you have read 'Mao's Last Dance' you may also enjoy our September book, 'Mary's Last Dance' which was written by Li Cunxin's Australian wife, Mary Li. A few copies are currently available from the Parish Office. Again, everyone is welcome. Please contact us if transport is needed for any gathering: Terri 0407294332 email mthirschhorn@yahoo.com.au, Vivien 0413027507 email vivien.brewer@gmail.com or Marianne 0418641412 email dave.dwyer1@bigpond.com

MASS FOR MUSICIANS: 24 SEPTEMBER

All those involved in Music Ministry across the Diocese are invited to attend a Mass for Musicians on Wednesday, 24 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta celebrated by Bishop Vincent. Please arrive at 7pm to be seated by 7:15pm. To register your attendance and the number of guests you are bringing, please RSVP via ofw@parracatholic.org by Friday, 19 September. If you are unable to register via the form, please call 0460 037 795.

CATHOLIC OUTLOOK

The latest FREE edition is available from the Church foyer. Take a copy home with you today.

Season of Creation: Peace with Creation - The first words of *Laudato Si'* are Italian and translate as "praise be to you." They are part of a quotation from St. Francis of Assisi's "*Canticle of the Creatures*" that opens the encyclical in which the saint praises God by meditating on the goodness of sun, wind, Earth, water, and other natural forces. The choice of this passage to begin *Laudato Si'* is a reminder of how people of faith should not only respect the Earth but also praise and honour God through their engagement with creation.

GIVE TO JRS FOODBANK

Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia is supporting close to 200 families a week. 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.

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, September 17. For more information email Mariana Tomasovic: mariana_tomasovic@hotmail.com or Deacon John Collins: john.collins@parracatholic.org.

SUPPORT OUR PARISH THROUGH RETURN AND EARN!

Have you registered to support our parish through the Return & Earn initiative? We hope to raise funds to repair the church roof and to help the environment!

1. Download the Return & 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 barcode in the app at your local Return & Earn machine.
5. Return your containers and press "TRANSFER" on the screen.

Please contact Sarah Cook should you be having any trouble with the app: cook@parra.catholic.edu.au



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

You are warmly invited to attend the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to be held Sunday 26th October at the new time of 2pm. Please join them for 2pm Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta celebrated by Bishop Vincent followed by afternoon tea at the Cathedral Hall. All couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary will receive a certificate from Bishop Vincent. Please register your name, years of marriage and numbers attending to marriage@parracatholic.org by 15th October. Family and friends are welcome.

BAULKHAM HILLS PARISH COMMUNITY FETE: 21 SEPTEMBER



Join the Baulkham Hills Parish for their Community Fete on Sunday, 21 September from 10am-4pm, at St Michael's Primary School, Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills. There will be delicious food, music, entertainment, games and activities for all!

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.