



Sunday, 7th December, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A



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: Cynthia Richardson, Hilary Heaton, Jill Wulf, Glen Godbier, Doone Ford, 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, Lolita Linco.

ANNIVERSARIES: Joe Frare, Peter Craft.



REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today's readings are like Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. The biblical authors sketch profiles of individuals after whom we can model our lives as we embark on our pilgrimage to eschatological fulfilment. Isaiah depicts the righteous messianic king; Paul provides us with a glimpse of Jesus, the one who ministers to all; and Matthew describes John the Baptist, the prophet who prepared for the Advent of Christ.

The gifts Isaiah attributes to the messianic king are the same gifts that we receive with the anointing of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The image of the messianic king may have been fulfilled in Jesus, but it is also offered to us as a model after which we can pattern our lives.

Paul declares that Christ came for all. Just as the Canterbury tales describe pilgrims of all backgrounds and characters, so our companions on the pilgrimage come from diverse circumstances. Since the invitation was extended to all, we are expected to welcome all. Some of Chaucer's characters were quite unpleasant, but they were part of the group. Many of the people to whom Jesus ministered were quite unpleasant, but this did not deter him. His example is set before us today.

John the Baptist lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of others. He preached repentance or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life. He called for a return to righteousness, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He condemned presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, complacency and the shirking of

COLUMBAN CALENDARS \$10 EACH. VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS \$7 PER PACK. AVAILABLE FROM THE CHURCH FOYER



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: Is 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12
 Next Week's Readings: Is 35:1-6,10, James 5: 7-10, Mt 11:2-11

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.

6th & 7th December- Second Sunday of Advent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Kath Patterson	Sue DeCourcy	John DeCourcy Georgette Rissmiller	Miriam Chacty	Maria Bietola
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Rosemary Wickham	Tony Hughes Arthur Rizk	Jo-Anne Castaneda	Caroline Thurairatnam
Sunday 10am	Peter Elchaar	Aubon Fernando	Danielle Dona	Thomas Sissons	Margaret Coakley

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Erica Rheinberger, Sabina Peterson

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

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 4: Anna Hunt & Barbara Haddad

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

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

13th & 14th December- Third Sunday of Advent

	Welcomer	Acolyte	Reader	Computer Operator	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5.30pm	Julie Hook	Keith Henson	Georgette Rissmiller Dawn Peat	Miriam Chacty	Gillian Mobbs
Sunday 8am	John Murphy	Jim Kinsella	Julie Bonney Mark Bonney	Trish Yates	Anne-Marie Makin
Sunday 10am	Rosanne Vaughan	Peter Hrast	Sarah Cook Danielle Dona	Levi Brown	Minister needed

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Erica Rheinberger, Sabina Peterson, Terri Hirschhorn, Sarah Cook

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Jim Kinsella, Deirdre Lee, Anne-Marie Makin

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 5: Margaret Isaac & 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 December, so spread the word!

BAPTISM WELCOME

We welcome the Zhou family, Dawei, Liwei and their son Francis. May Francis' baptism be a happy and a memorable occasion and may God continue to bless his parents in this special step that they have taken to proclaim and support their child in the Christian faith.

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.



FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

35 children will celebrate their First Reconciliation this coming Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th December between 3:30 and 5pm. We keep these children and their families in our prayers. A reminder that the following weekend they will be presented with their certificates at one of the 3 weekend Masses the family have nominated.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Vigil: * 5.30pm Children's Mass
7.30pm

Christmas Day: 8.00am
10.00am

Reconciliation on Saturday 20 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 17 December from 7- 8pm



VINNIES CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

You are invited to place Gift Cards in two specially marked boxes at the entrance of the Church until Sunday, 7th December. These Gift Cards will be distributed to disadvantaged families in the area (as well as festive food donated by local schools) so that parents can choose the presents for their children.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS AND VINNIES CHRISTMAS CARDS

2026 Columban Calendars are now available from the Church foyer at a cost of \$10 each.

Vinnies Christmas Cards are also available at a cost of \$7 per packet. Please place money for cards in the Vinnies box.

CONNECT 2025

Our next Connect Meeting with Christmas morning tea and singalong with Mike Yates will be on December 11 at 10am at the Burton Centre. Everyone is welcome.

Next Book Club will meet on December 18 to discuss Sheila O'Flanagan's 'The Woman on the Bridge'.

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.



PIETY STORE

Check out the Piety store; it has lots of new items for Christmas. Credit card purchases over \$10 are welcome. Cash is also accepted.

THE PROMISE - ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS DAILY REFLECTIONS

Embark on a spiritual journey of hope this Advent and Christmas with *The Promise: Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2025* - a book of daily reflections designed to guide you from the beginning of Advent through to the Baptism of the Lord. The books are available from the church foyer with a suggested donation of \$5 for those who are able to give. Please put the money in the Communication Box in the church foyer.



MASS FOR WORLD DAY THE SICK -11 FEBRUARY 2026

Join us for the annual World Day of the Sick Mass, including the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to be held at 11am on 11 February 2026 at St Patrick's Church, Mary, Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown. All are welcome, including those who may be sick, and those who care for the sick and dying, as well as health care professionals. To register please email ofw@parracatholic.org or contact 0460 037 795

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.

BAULKHAM HILLS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON: 25 DECEMBER

The Parish of Baulkham Hills is hosting a Christmas Lunch for anyone who will be on their own on Christmas Day. You may be in town for a visit, or just moved into the area, or may simply be unable to share Christmas Day with your loved ones. So come and share it with us. It will be held on Thursday 25 December in the St Michael's Primary School hall, and everyone is welcome, families and individuals. But places are limited, so you will need to register to attend. For more information, contact the parish office on 9639 0598 or email baulkhamhills@parracatholic.org.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GLOBAL GIFTS ARE CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH PURPOSE!

Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities. View the range of Global Gifts: www.globalgifts.org.au.

Season of Creation: Catholics for Our Common Home - Faith in Action: 62 Institutions Choose the Planet Over Profit
62 faith institutions across the world—Catholic dioceses, Protestant banks, religious networks—announced their full divestment from fossil fuels. A powerful message to world leaders: the time to end the fossil fuel era is now. These communities are choosing justice, care for creation, and a future of clean energy. This is what ecological conversion looks like in action.

BLACKTOWN PARISH PRESENTS 'THE WITNESS'

The community of Mary Queen of the Family Parish, Blacktown, is bringing to life the musical "The Witness" – telling the story of the life of Jesus through the eyes of St Peter. The parish is currently looking for a variety of roles to be filled for the production including director, choreographer, singers and dancers. An information session and commissioning Mass will be held on Saturday 29 November from 9am at St Patrick's Church. To learn more, or express your interest, please visit <https://www.privyr.com/form/5W7hISmG#the-witness-musical-cast-crew>.

POSITION VACANT: Catholic Chaplain – Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. More details at: parracatholic.org/jobs.

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.