



Sunday, 1st March, 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Year A



Parish Priest: Rev Fr Ian McGinnity
Deacon: John Collins
Priest-in-Residence: Rev Fr Trevor Hird
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: Keith Henson, Hilary Heaton, ,
Mark Ford, Kerry & Bruce Wright, 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, Lolita Linco, Bruce Wright.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Glen Godbier
(brother-in-law of Susan Doyle).

ANNIVERSARIES: Patrick Wheeler.

DECEASED: Eathna O'Sullivan RSM

REFLECTION

by Greg Sunter

In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events. However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration. Furthermore, all three versions are directly followed by an account of a man who brings his possessed son to Jesus for healing after the disciples have tried and failed to cast out the demon.

When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're confused and scared by what they witness. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is.

During this Lenten season, like the disciples, we are called to consider who Jesus is and what role he plays in our lives.

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL ENROLLING NOW FOR 2027

OPEN DAY - 6 MARCH 9am to 11am

Contact the school office on 8846 2700 or register online at
www.ctknorthrocks.catholic.edu.au.



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 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Rom 5:12-19, Mt 4:1-11

Next Week's Readings: Gen 12:1-4, 2 Tim 1:8-10, Mt 17:1-9

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 phone 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.

28th February & 1st March - 2nd Sunday of Lent

| | Welcomer | Acolyte | Reader | Computer Operator | Eucharistic Minister |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Saturday 5.30pm | Carole Frare | Ron Ruskin | Liza Jilesh Georgette Rissmiller | Volunteer needed | Gillian Mobbs |
| Sunday 8am | John Murphy | Peter Bosci | Arthur Rizk Danielle Dona | Jo-Anne Castaneda | Caroline Thurairatnam |
| Sunday 10am | Peter Elchaar | Jim Kinsella | Tiana Fernandes Dawn Peat | Miriam Chacty | Marea Mooney |

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Erica Rheinberger & Alyce Bertolissio

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Peter Bosci, Deirdre Lee, Lorraine Murphy

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

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 7: Lent - No flowers

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

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

7th & 8th March - 3rd Sunday of Lent

| | Welcomer | Acolyte | Reader | Computer Operator | Eucharistic Minister |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Saturday 5.30pm | Kath Patterson | Phil Trainor | Georgette Rissmiller Kerry Saad | Miriam Chacty | Maria Bietola |
| Sunday 8am | John Murphy | Rosemary Wickham | Tony Hughes Julei Elliott | Trish Yates | Lorraine Murphy |
| Sunday 10am | Rosanne Vaughan | Aubon Fernando | Liza Jilesh Sarah Cook | Thomas Sissons | Margaret Coakley |

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

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

COUNTER GROUP: 1st Sunday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY GROUP 8: Lent - No flowers

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 \$10. All are welcome to join including people outside the parish and non-Catholics. The next gathering is this Friday, 6th March, so spread the word!

PROJECT COMPASSION

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a Project Compassion donation box or envelope, you'll be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable.



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 2026 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*.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council met for the first time in 2026 on 25th February and elected office bearers for this year. We are grateful to Sarah Cook (chairperson), Stephen Doyle (vice-chairman) and Julie Bonney (Secretary) for again accepting these positions for this year. We welcome also a new member of the parish council, parishioner Jacinta Dunne and thank all existing members for renewing their commitment for another year.

SAFETY CONCERN

The Parish is investigating what can be done to alleviate the risk of slipping on the paving in the sloping area of the forecourt of the Church in wet weather. Whilst we are doing this, could we please encourage parishioners, especially those who are elderly and have mobility problems to walk near and use the railing on the right-hand side entrance to the church particularly when it is raining. We also urge people not to run if they are late for church in wet weather on this surface.

FR IAN AWAY

Father Trevor Hird will celebrate the Saturday evening Mass this weekend as Father Ian will be attending his niece's wedding. We thank our retired priest for his generosity.

THE JOURNEY HOME - DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT

Written by Archbishop Emeritus Mark Coleridge, this Lenten booklet has been created with both groups and individuals in mind. Each weekday includes a short scripture text and reflection, as well as some questions to provoke prayer and discussion. The booklet is available from the church foyer and a donation of \$5 is recommended. Please place the money in the Communication Box near the inner doors.



CONNECT BOOK CLUB

Lively discussions were enjoyed at Thursday's Book Club meeting, focussing on Sue Williams' 'That Bligh Girl', a fascinating story of Governor Bligh's trouble-making daughter, Mary. The CTK Connect Group will next meet on Thursday March 13. Please contact us for information or if transport is needed for any event: Terri 0407294332 email mthirschhorn@yahoo.com.au, Vivien 0413027507 email vivien.brewer@gmail.com or Marianne 0418641412 email dave.dwyer1@bigpond.com.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

This year St Matthew's Uniting Church at Baulkham Hills is hosting the World Day of Prayer on 6th March at 7.30pm. The country to learn about and bring to God in prayer is Nigeria. Everyone is very welcome. The evening will conclude with a light supper. For more information phone Pamela Leslie on 0404 023 588.

2026 ACBC SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT ON THE COST OF LIVING

The Australian Bishops have released the first of two Social Justice Statements for 2026, titled *"The Cost of our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good"*. The new statement and accompanying resources can be found at socialjustice.catholic.org.au.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST JOSEPH

On Saturday 21 March from 8:00am to 10:00am at Mary MacKillop Spirituality Ministry, 33 Barina Downs Rd, Baulkham Hills. Cost: \$20 per person (breakfast included). All women are warmly invited to a special community breakfast celebrating the Feast of St Joseph and honouring the legacy of Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph. Guest speaker: Sr Virginia Bourke rsj. Bookings essential via <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1543336>.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM DATES 2026

The Sacrament of First Eucharist (Yr 4 and above) on 6/7 June.
The Sacrament of Confirmation (Yr 5 and above) on 9 September.
The Sacrament of First Reconciliation (Yr 3 and above) on 8 & 9 December.

GIVE TO JRS FOODBANK

JRS is once again running its Lenten Appeal over the 6 weeks leading up to Easter. Food insecurity is a significant challenge for the families and individuals that JRS Australia serves. Long waits for resolution of asylum applications means many of their clients spend extended periods of time without work rights, access to Federal Government support or other ways of supporting themselves. The JRS Foodbank feeds and provides necessities for families who would otherwise have nowhere else to go. Each week of Lent, we will be collecting a different item:

WEEK 1 - Cooking oil (750 ml or 1L) **WEEK 2** - Dishwashing liquid **WEEK 3** - Canned tuna (unflavored in oil)

WEEK 4 - Laundry detergent **WEEK 5** - Dried red lentils (375g or 1kg) **WEEK 6** - Long life milk (1L, full cream)

The Parish of Christ the King's ongoing support is greatly appreciated and thank you for helping bring hope and comfort to those doing it tough this Lent.

ST GABRIEL'S SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

Located in Castle Hill, St Gabriel's School is an independent K-12 school that welcomes students with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, as well as students who are deaf or hard of hearing; blind or have low vision; have autism and other disabilities. The school is holding 2 open days in March:

Kindergarten 2027 enrolments on Thursday, 5 March at 9.30am-11am. Bookings: [St Gabriel's School – Open Day – Kindergarten 2027](#)

Year 7 2027 enrolments on Thursday, 12 March at 9.30am-11am. Bookings [St Gabriel's School – Open Day – Year 7 2027](#)

ST EDMUND'S COLLEGE WAHROONGA OPEN DAY INVITATION

St Edmund's College campus caters for students from Years 5 to 12 who have a range of disabilities. Their Open Day will take place on Tuesday, 10 March from 9.30am till 12 noon. Please register at www.stedmunds.nsw.edu.au/open-day.

CATALYST FOR RENEWAL REFLECTION MORNING AT HUNTERS HILL

March 7 with Br Julian McDonald cfc - *Making the Sunday Readings relevant to our lives*. Holy Name of Mary Parish Hall, 3 Mary Street, Hunters Hill from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Enquiries phone Dawn: 0419 967 773.

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY PARRAMATTA CENTENARY CELEBRATION: 14 MARCH

The St Patrick's Parramatta School Community warmly invites all former staff, students, and families to join them in celebrating 100 years of faith, learning and community on Saturday 14 March at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Mass begins at 1.30pm with an afternoon tea to follow. RSVP via <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfZCpRA1DLrNEICkwCltsabrOw43I5RYq3LiRTzvAlkOfmaA/viewform>.

TAP TO GIVE

Our Parish has Tap to Give devices 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 devices, located in the Church Foyer, enable us as a Parish to accept cashless donations which are automatically deposited into the 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.

EMAIL ADDRESS

If you have changed your email address or now have an email address, could you please notify the Parish Office northrocks@parracatholic.org as soon as possible. Thank you.

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