



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



Fourth Sunday of Lent

26 March 2017

Grounded in Faith Growing in Love Living in Hope

Parish Staff

Fr Mathew Antony MS - Parish Priest
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Fr Pio Jang - Assist. Priest
E-mail: pio@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fr Porathur Joy (PJ)
Catholic Chaplain - Nepean Hospital

Lyn Olander - Secretary / Office Manager
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e-mail: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fred Keuneman - Catechist Co-ordinator
e-mail: catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Office Hours 9am - 5 pm

Lunch 1pm - 1.30 pm (*Office closed*)

Weekend Mass

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil
Sunday 7.00am 8.30am
10.00am 6.00pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am
5.00pm - 5.45pm

Adoration: After Saturday Morning Mass

Weekday Mass

Monday 9.30 am
Tuesday 6.45 am & 9.30 am
Wednesday 9.30 am & 7.00 pm
Thursday 9.30 am
Friday 6.45 am & 12.10 pm
Saturday 9.00 am
Healing Mass 9.00am 1st Saturday of month
Filipino: 11.00am 1st Saturday of month

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment only
Marriage Prep courses can be booked at
Parish Office.

Schools

St Nicholas Primary 4721 2623
Principal - Ms Anita Knezevic

St Mary Mackillop Primary 4736 3466
Principal - Mr Scott Buchan

Gospel Reflection; John 9:1-41

It must have been a very confusing and emotional day for the blind man. He saw for the first time ever as he had been blind since birth, so there was a huge new sensory and experience occurring for him. He would have been trying to make sense of the world he saw, and to relate it to his pre-sight knowledge. Words he knew now needed to be connected to objects and to people. How would he have reacted to seeing colours for the first time? Or the sun?

While all this was happening, people began to hassle him and to try to use his experience as a means of incriminating Jesus. He also found that being sighted did not remove the sinner status that went with blindness in people's minds. They drove him away, so some experiences were all too familiar.

Exposure to a completely new situation or experience is often disorientating. It can often disable coping strategies which have served us well in more normal situations. A new situation can be profoundly hurtful, such as the unfaithfulness of a partner or losing a long-held job. A new situation can also be positive and potentially beneficial, such as falling in love or winning Lotto or experiencing unanticipated goodness or insight. The blind man experienced both on the same day, being given the gift of his sight followed by being driven away by his neighbours.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Children in our parish will be making their First Reconciliation on Tuesday and Saturday this week.

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers as they continue their journey of faith.

*2nd Rite Reconciliation (Communal) will be held
Thursday 6 April 7 pm*

Pastoral Council Vacancies

The Parish Pastoral Council invites nominations for 2 vacant positions. The goal for the council this year is to make our parish a welcoming community with a greater sense of belonging for all.

If you feel that you would like to contribute to the well being of the parish community, you are encouraged to nominate. Nominations will be taken next weekend (1&2 April) at all Masses.

For further information, please contact Fr. Mathew via the Parish Office.

**Day light savings ends next weekend Sunday 2 April 2am
clocks to go back 1 hour.**

Please pray for *Varghese Manjaly (Fr Joe's father), Theresa Colbert and Stella Mintoff who died recently* *Mary Chetcuti, Jean Culhane, Mary Cuttell, Anne Drayton, Joe Hutchinson, Bill Howard, Marian & Severine Lewis, Francis Masny, Thelma McSpadden, Marianne Mintoff, Kenneth Minney, Mary & Joe Pace, Francisco Sariato and Gerald & Karista Sultana whose anniversaries occur at this time and for Mary Armstrong, Dennis Bryant, Tania Felice, Peter & Frances Hendry, John Lee, Reg Levinge, and Norah & Bernard Wilding.*

Memorial Mass for Fr Joe's father Varghese Manjaly, who died in India on 18th March will be celebrated for the eternal repose of his soul on the 41st day of his passing **Thursday 27 April at 7pm here at our church.**

Please pray for those who are sick *Carol Baldwin, Cyril Burborough, Dianne Constable, Enrique Esmayor, Anna Gal, Darren Gallagher, Jane McCann, Lisa McDeed, Daniel McEntee, Chris Tabone and Margaret Wright.*

Hospital Masses Parishioners are welcome

◆ **Nepean Hospital** every Friday at MIDDAY

If in need of a Catholic Chaplain whilst a patient is in hospital phone 47343150 or requiring a Priest urgently for an anointing phone 47342000 and request switch board or the nurse on duty to contact the Catholic Priest.

Rosary Statue is in the home of Pauline Landrigan 4 Hand Avenue Penrith.

Prayer Meeting We warmly invite all parishioners, families and friends to join us here at St Nicholas on **Tuesday 28 March at 7pm in the Hall** to celebrate in Song, Prayer and the Sharing of God's Word.

Affordable Housing meeting will be held Monday 27 March 6.30pm-8pm in Vinnies Room.

Stations of The Cross is celebrated on Fridays during Lent at 7pm in the Church.

Lenten Reflection will be on Monday 27 March 7pm PMR1. You are invited to join for Prayer & Reflection during the weeks of Lent.

This Week at St Nicholas

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Monday | 27 March |
| 6.30pm | Affordable Housing Meeting (<i>Vinnies Room</i>) |
| 7pm | Lenten Reflection (<i>PMR1</i>) |
| Tuesday | 28 March |
| 11.30am | AA Meeting (<i>Hall</i>) |
| 12.30pm | Legion of Mary (<i>Piety store</i>) |
| 7pm | Prayer Meeting (<i>Hall</i>) |
| Wednesday | 29 March |
| 6pm | St Vincent de Paul Meeting |
| Thursday | 30 March |
| 7pm | Ministry Course (<i>PMR1</i>) |
| Friday | 31 March |
| 7pm | Stations of the Cross |

Happy Birthday

Brett Beath

Shirley Fitzgerald (89th)



Next Week's Readings

5th Sunday of Lent

*Ezekiel 37:12-14
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45*



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Ben Tucker on the 18th March, last Saturday, at Freestyle Barbers in Penrith with family and friends Ben Tucker honoured his Mum, Anne, by raising awareness and donations for the Leukaemia Foundation in the World's Greatest Shave.

Thank you to the amazing support that he received from family and friends but most especially the Penrith St Nicholas Parish and at this stage he has raised nearly **\$2000** for the Foundation. Donations are still welcomed simply follow the web link below.

<http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/bentucker>



Mount Carmel Retreat Centre

247 St Andrews Road, Varroville 02 8795 3400
retreats@carmelite.com.au

April 1 Getting comfortable with helplessness
10:30 am – 4:00 pm Cost: \$25.00

Presenter: Cathy Kennedy Registrations from 9.30am. Pick-ups from Minto train station at 9.45am and 10am.

Please bring your own lunch.

A Mass & Blessing for People WITH AUTISM:

In celebration of Autism Awareness Month at St Benedict's Church, Broadway
Sunday 2nd April 2017, 2:00pm.

For inquiries or to RSVP by Tuesday 28 March, contact LMFevents@sydneycatholic.org or phone (02) 9307 8404.

MALTESE MISSION (EŻERĆIŻI)

The Maltese Community invite you to join them in daily Mass and Prayer run by

Rev Fr Mark Grima MSSP

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Greystanes Church
Monday 27 to Thursday 30 March
10:30 am with Mass.

More Info Fr Tarcisio on 9380 8398

1st & 2nd Collection

- * **1st collection** pays for the priests of the parish and any surplus money from this collection helps fund our retired and sick priests.
- * **2nd collection (planned giving envelopes and cash) pays for the running costs of our parish.**

Pope Quote

*'He became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich'.
(2 Cor 8:9)*



Pope Francis

Job or Ministry

Some people have a **JOB** in the church
Others involve themselves in a **Ministry.**

What's the difference?

*If you are doing it because no one else will, it's a **JOB***

*If you are doing it to serve the Lord, it's a **MINISTRY***

*If you quit because someone criticized you, it was a **JOB.***

*If you keep on serving, it's a **MINISTRY.***

*If you'll do it only if it does not interfere with your other activities, it's a **JOB.***

*If you are committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a **MINISTRY***

*If you quit because no one praised you or thanked you, it was a **JOB***

*If you stay with it even though nobody recognises your efforts it's a **MINISTRY.***

*It's hard to get excited about a **JOB.***

*It's almost impossible not to be excited about a **MINISTRY.***

*If our concern is success, it's a **JOB***

*If our concern is faithfulness, it is a **MINISTRY.***

An average church is filled with people doing **JOBS.**

*A great and growing church is filled with people involved in **MINISTRY.***

*If God calls you to a **MINISTRY, don't treat it like a **JOB.*****

Diocesan News & Events

The Diocese of Parramatta is developing an app to help you keep in touch with what is happening in the Catholic Church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. You will be able to find the latest news, events and local Mass times. To sign up to be the first to know when the app is released go to: <http://parracatholic.org/app/>
You can also keep up-to-date with news and events across the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond by subscribing to Catholic Outlook's website to receive daily updates: <http://catholicoutlook.org/subscribe/>

Positions vacant

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking applications for three positions: **Facilities Management Coordinator, Property Officer** located in Parramatta and **Parish Secretary** at St Finbar's Parish at Glenbrook.
For further details, go to <https://parracatholic.org/employment/>
Applications for these positions close on Monday 27 March 2017.

Scripture Reflection Evening: 29 March

We invite you to join the Institute for Mission (IFM) for a Scripture reflection evening during this season of Lent. 6.45pm Wednesday 29 March (tea, coffee and snacks available from 6.30pm), 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. The focus will be on the Gospel of Matthew with the theme: *Jesus and our personal lives in the 21st Century*. To register contact Charbel 9831 4911 or email charbel.dib@ifm.org.au RSVP 27 March.



In Vietnam, young Nguyet was isolated as a result of her severe disabilities, until a Caritas-Australia supported program offered her education, creative outlets and community interaction.



Please donate to Project Compassion 2017 and give children living with disabilities in Vietnam the opportunity for education and inclusion in their community.

You can donate through Project Compassion boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

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| 1/2 April | Vigil | Parish 7am | Roster 8.30am | 10am | 6pm |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Acolytes | H McCann J Buttigieg | D Wiggins | J Tabone C Walsh | J George A Ostrowski | B Wrightson M Pletkan |
| Servers | Logan & Ryan Smee Dylan & Jakob Lestal | Georgia Grady | Puluno & Malachi Lufe Alison & Leah Joseph | K Ross, J Crispin B Powell D Dawson H & J Jacobs | Xavier Whalen Michael Ticker |
| Comm. Rep. | M Prendeville | Alison Johnson | M Wilson | D Dawson | P Margerison |
| Reader | S Falleiro | S Paterson | P Nematalla | O Kiss | C D'Mello |
| E.M. | M Gutierrez M Edmunds A Linga | G Wiggins A Yuzon L Davie | R Bryan P Wheller H O'Connor E Isaaks P Morson B Oxlade M Stynes | K Pemberton P Samuelu V Emerson | K Wrightson D Streher A Alimangoha |