



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
29 January 2017



Grounded in Faith Live in Hope Grow in Love.

Gospel Reflection Mathew 5:1-12

The repeated use of the word "happy" is striking in the words that Jesus spoke to the crowd from his seat on the hill. Parts of Jesus' prescription for happiness is attractive, like being gentle and merciful, whereas others are harder to equate with happiness. Most of us would not feel happy being abused, persecuted or maligned.

These words of Jesus are often portrayed as a description of what a Christian should be, with the emphasis on being gentle and merciful. The strong sentences about "hunger and thirst for what is right" and being "persecuted in the cause of right" are overlooked.

The sermon on the mount is a package. We cannot select the appealing parts and ignore the hard parts. What Jesus said to the people that day - and to us - is like an expansion of the words of the prophet Micah written centuries earlier: "What then does the Lord require of you? To act justly, love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). These three aspects of the spiritual life were also an integrated package for Micah.

As followers of Christ we cannot be truly happy in the presence of injustice, especially if it is possible for us to do something about it. Acting in the cause of right requires courage and commitment. It begins with awareness and the willingness to take small steps in our daily lives, perhaps by addressing injustices which can be found in our family or workplace or a local aspect of a global issue.

God has an amazing way of helping us to grow into new aspects of discipleship if we take the first few steps, no matter how small.

**Birthday greetings dear Stuart,
Thank you for all your work.
God Bless you**



**Regular Masses
will resume
Friday 3 February**

Parish Staff

Fr Mathew Antony MS - Parish Priest
e-mail: mathew@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fr Joe Manjaly MS - Assist. Priest
e-mail: joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fr Porathur Joy (PJ)
Catholic Chaplain - Nepean Hospital

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

Marthese Sultana - Admin. Assistant
e-mail: bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mary Goh - Admin. Assistant
e-mail: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Colleen Nicholas - Sacramental Co-ordinator
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 during January

Monday 9.30 am
Tuesday 9.30 am
Wednesday 9.30 am
Thursday 9.30 am
Friday 9.30am only
Saturday **9.00 am**
Healing Mass 9.00am 1st Saturday of month
Filipino: 11.00am 1st Saturday of month

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment only

Schools

St Nicholas Primary 4721 2623
Principal - Ms Anita Knezevic
St Mary Mackillop Primary 4736 3466
Principal - Mr Scott Buchan

Please pray for Rudy Lesseps- Fonseca, Margaret Hawkins, Gianni Panozzo, Mary Ryan and Patricia Wayman **who died recently** Joseph Antony, Dorrie Bertles, Brian Bourke, Boscriol family, Gessipina Carbone, Domenico DiMunno, Francis Jordan, Kuria Kose Conrad Marks, Marianne Mintoff, Mary Pace and Joe Pace **whose anniversaries occur at this time and for** Mary Armstrong, Dennis Bryant, Tania Felice, Peter & Frances Hendry, Reg Levinge, and Norah & Bernard Wilding.

Please pray for those who are sick Cyril Burborough, Michael Burke, Dianne Constable, Noel Langdon, Jane McCann, Lisa McDeed, Daniel McEntee and Chris Tabone.

Hospital Masses Parishioners are welcome

- ◆ **Edenglassie Lodge (Lemongrove)** 1st Tuesday of each month at 11 am
- ◆ **Governor Phillip Manor** 1st Wednesday of each month at 2pm
- ◆ **Mt View Village** 1st Friday of each month at 10am
- ◆ **Nepean Hospital** every Friday at Midday
- ◆ **Summit Care (Jamison Gardens)** 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10.30am
- ◆ **Newmarch Nursing Home** 3rd Tuesday of each month at 10.30am

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 Margaret Donnelley 165 Evan Str Penrith.

Prayer Meeting resuming Tuesday 31 January

We warmly invite all parishioners, families and friends to join us here at St Nicholas on the **SECOND AND LAST TUESDAYS of every month at 7pm in the Hall** to celebrate in Song, Prayer and the Sharing of God's Word.

SRE meeting (Catechist) will be held on Monday 6 January with Mass at 9.30am followed by meeting. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea.

CATECHIST URGENTLY NEEDED PLEASE CONTACT PARISH OFFICE .

4/5 February	Vigil	Parish		Roster	
		7am	8.30am	10am	6pm
Acolytes	D Cocksedge H McCann	A Ruzgas	G Isaaks R Kroon	J Tabone R Wood	M Pletkan D Welfare
Servers	Joshua & Jordan Lay Dylan & Jakob Lestal	Georgia Grady	Benson Payyappilly Puluno & Malachi Lufe	L & J Wheelahan D Dawson Aleena Joseph R Idris	Ethan Moniz David Pletkan
Comm. Rep.	L Alimangoha	Y Baccan	N Joseph	F Jackson	AM Pletkan
Reader	I Bentham	M Wilson	P Nematalla	Alan Johnson	K Smith
E.M.	A Linga M Gutierrez D Lee	L Davie G Wiggins M Sultana	L Kochappu G Burns R Bryan Aly Alaya-ay E Isaaks M Nyss A Fletcher	J Tallada M Knox A Yuzon	M Herrick A Sebastian C Vagg



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Sacramental Program First Reconciliation 2017

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at our parish will be in Term 1.

To be eligible for First Reconciliation,

children must be in year 3 or above and must be baptised.

Parents wishing to enrol their children in the program must attend an information meeting, which will be at

St Nicholas of Myra Church on

Tuesday 28 February 2017 at 7.00pm.

Further information regarding the program will be given at this meeting.

If your child has not been baptised, and you wish to enrol them in the program, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator, Colleen Nicholas.

Attention; Readers/Commentators & Eucharistic Ministers

There are some discrepancies appearing on the records regarding contact numbers for some ministers. If you have changed phone number (home /mobile), e-mail address, home address will you please let the Parish Office or Mairead know as soon as possible. To maintain effective communication, it is vital that this information is up to date.

If you are unable to attend your allocated Mass, please arrange for another minister to 'stand in' for you.

God bless, Mairead

Mass for World Day of the Sick: 9 February 2017

Everyone is welcome to this annual Mass in acknowledgment of carers and those for whom they care. Includes the Sacramental Rite of Anointing of the Sick and Prayers for Healing. Bishop Vincent Long will be the principal celebrant for Mass at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church, 51 Allawah St, Blacktown. Plenty of parking – refreshments to follow.

For more events please go to: <http://parracatholic.org/events/>

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses in 2017

The Office for Worship is taking enrolments for the Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses beginning in February 2017. This course is for all those interested in becoming Readers of the Word, Ministers of Holy Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Dying, Adult Servers and/or Acolytes. There is no cost for these formation courses which are offered in two locations, Blacktown and Penrith.

- Mondays from 7pm-9pm at the **Institute for Mission Hall**, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown, commencing on 20 February.
- Thursdays from 7pm-9pm, **St Nicholas of Myra Parish Meeting Room 1**, 326 High St, Penrith, commencing on 23 February.

If you would like to attend this course please phone Parish Office for more information.

Retreat for Women - "Treasures in Earthen Vessels" 10th to 12th February

An Invitation: ... to reflect on our life, ... to gain new perspectives, ... to gratefully accept your life, ... to think of each other, .. to pray for and with one another, ... to let God enter, .. to take Mary's hands and with her discover God's traces here and now in his story with us. Retreat Led by: Sr M Elizabeth Foley. At: Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa Cost: \$170 shared rooms; \$180 single room. Includes all meals. Deposit \$50. Sat only \$40 (includes lunch). BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL Ph4773 8338 or email info@schoenstatt.org.au

Lenten Retreat for Young Adults - "Jesus invites you to journey with Him this Lent and allow your heart to be transformed".

From Friday 24th February 8pm to Sunday 26th February 4pm
Cost: Students: \$180 Employed: \$210. At: Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa
Registration essential. Contact Sr M Julie juliebrcar@gmail.com

Next Week's Readings 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10
1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Matthew 5:13-16

Happy Birthday

Mike Ryan 70th



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Bereavement Support Program - CCSS Solo Parent Services will begin a seven session Bereavement Support Program for anyone whose spouse or partner has died. This will run fortnightly in Blacktown from Wednesday 15th February. If you have suffered the loss of your spouse or partner, please come along to an Information session and overview of the Program on Wednesday 1st February.



This is an opportunity to learn about the Program and experience yourself in a supportive group setting. Venue: 38 Prince St, Blacktown Time: 10.30 am - 12pm. Registration essential: Contact Rita on 8822 2222, or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au See notice board for flyer.

Stepping Beyond Support Group - CCSS Solo Parent Services will commence our monthly support group for anyone who is divorced or separated.

The group meets on the last Tuesday of each month. First gathering for the year will be held on Tuesday 31st January. Please note new time: 7pm -9pm.

Venue: 38 Prince St, Blacktown. Registration essential: Contact Rita on 8822 2222 or email soloparentservices@ccss.org.au See notice board for flyer

Launch of Human Trafficking and Slavery Paper

A response from Australian Catholics: 8 February

World Day of Prayer, Reflection and Action Against Human Trafficking will be the diocesan launch of *Human Trafficking and Slavery – A response from Australian Catholics*. Join Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv and Sr Noelene Simmons SM for the launch from 7.30pm-9.00pm at the Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown. RSVP to Sr Louise McKeogh FMA at Lmckeogh@parra.catholic.org.au or nswprojects@acrath.org.au

Catholic Charismatic Renewal 50th Anniversary: 17-19 February

Everyone is invited to join CCR's Holy Spirit Mission for a weekend of Renewal, Restoration and Revival. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv will preside at the opening Mass in St Patrick's Cathedral on Friday at 7.30pm. On Saturday & Sunday, the program at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills, includes children's ministry, Reconciliation from 1.00pm-2.00pm, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, closing Mass at 4pm on Sunday. Presenters include: Archbishop Christopher Prowse and Fr Ken Barker MGL. Entry is free. For more information, visit www.ccrparramatta.org

Pilgrimages

- Fr. Joe Pilgrimage to the Continent of Asia.**

This will be a great opportunity to experience the culture, faith, nature, people and food of different countries as well as instil a life-long memory of your travels. Some of the places that we will be visiting are: Dubai (3 days including a Dinner Cruise) , Sri Lanka (Colombo-4 days), and the rest of the tour to India (10 days) . The Indian leg will include ; Bangalore, Mysore (Jungle Safari), Delhi, Agra, Kozhikode, Cochin and more. There will be an Information morning on Saturday, 18 February, at 11.30 am in PMR1. For enquiries please email Fr. Joe at jmv112003@yahoo.com or joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

- Fr Wim's Pilgrimage Information Session: 12 March**

Fr Wim Hoekstra, Parish Priest of St Michael's Parish, Baulkham Hills, is accompanying a pilgrimage 'Of Celtic Saints, English Martyrs and Aussie Links'. The pilgrimage to Ireland, Scotland and England will depart on 25 September and return on 25 October. Places include Birmingham, Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, Glastonbury, Dublin, Knock, Fort William, Iona, Holy Island (Lindisfarne), Durham, York, Cambridge, Walsingham, London and Canterbury.

Information afternoon starts 2.30pm in the Downey Room, St Michael's Parish Offices, 1-3 Chapel Lane, Baulkham Hills. Brochures available via e-mail to Fr Wim at wimh@parishofbaulkhamhills.org.au or PO Box 1501, Baulkham Hills, NSW, 1755.

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