



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



*First Sunday of Advent*  
**3rd December 2017**

**Grounded in Faith    Growing in Love    Living in Hope**

## Parish Staff

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

**Fr Pio Jang - Assist. Priest**  
E-mail: papio.penrith@gmail.com

**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**  
**Monday & Thursday only**  
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

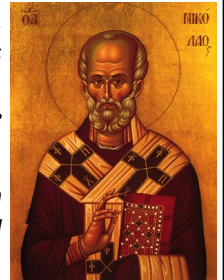
**St Nicholas Primary 4721 2623**  
**Principal - Ms Anita Knezevic**

**St Mary Mackillop Primary 4736 3466**  
**Principal - Mr Scott Buchan**

## **St Nicholas Feast Day Wednesday 6th December**

*Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, children, brewers, pawnbrokers and students in various cities and countries around Europe. The historical **Saint Nicholas**, as known from strict history: He was born at Patara, Lycia in Asia Minor (now Turkey).*

*Several sources state **St. Nicholas** is believed to have died on December 6, 343. Over the years, stories of his miracles and work for the poor spread to other parts of the world. He became known as the protector of children and sailors and was associated with gift-giving.*



## **Christmas Reconciliation**

### *Individual*

Wed & Thurs 20th / 21st 10am- 11am

Fri 22nd 11am- 12noon

7pm—8.30pm

Sat 23rd 9.30am-11.30am

5.00pm-5.45pm

**There will be NO 2nd Rite Reconciliation**

### **Gospel Reflection; Mark 13:33-37**

*Today we begin the season of [Advent](#), which marks the start of a new liturgical year for the Church. The readings for Sunday Mass are arranged on a three-year cycle. Each year features a different Gospel—Matthew, Mark, or Luke. Readings from the Gospel of John are interspersed throughout all three years. With this year's first Sunday of Advent, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. This week and next week, our readings from Mark's Gospel present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.*



*Today's Gospel reminds us that Advent is about more than our preparation for the Church's celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. Advent is also about preparing ourselves for Christ's return in glory at the end of time. Like the disciples and the faithful in Mark's community, we must also stay alert and watchful. Our faithfulness to God, through the good times as well as the difficult times, shows us to be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.*

*From Loyola Press*

## PARISH OUTREACH

### Welcome

A very warm welcome to anyone who is new to the parish. So that we can get to know you better, it would be great if you would please fill out a Census Card available in the foyer.

**Please pray for** *Romana Brencovich, Nicholas Contestabile and Jacob Silia who died recently and for Reno Camilleri, Constance, Bede & Darryl Enright, Max & Bruce Gale, Daniel Kelly, Jack McKnight, Grace McInerney, Lesley Nelson, Vicki O'Connor, Trevor Ross, Perpetua Servan, Max Silvy, Ruth Traynor, Murray Ware, Peg Williams and Colin, Mercy & Neil Woodward whose anniversaries occur at this time and for Mary Armstrong, Dennis Bryant, Tania Felice, Peter & Frances Hendry, John Lee and all souls, Reg Levinge, Angelo Muscat & members of the Muscat & Bugeja families, John Nettare, Bernard & Norah Wilding and Rajan Yatawara.*

**Please pray for those who are sick** *Dianne Constable, Vera Costello, Canute D'Souza, Allen Eyles, Marion Engsmayr, Enrique Esmayor, Romnick Estores, Darren Gallagher, Yanka Garan, Pamela Gold, Patricia Hansan, Rose Kenny, Sue Herbert, Nathan King, Annie Langan, Rosemary Matthews, Jane McCann, Daniel McEntee, Melissa McNamara, Lynn O'Hare, Fr George O'Mara, Baby Phoenix, Barbara Sawyer, Isabella Savage, Chris Tabone, Elizabeth Terrones, Rachael Wilson and Margarit Youssef.*

### Hospital Masses Parishioners are welcome

- ◆ **Nepean Hospital** every Friday at Midday
- ◆ **Edenglassie Lodge (Lemongrove)** 1st Tuesday of each month at 11 am
- ◆ **Governor Phillip Manor** 1st Wednesday of each month at 2pm

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.

**Young @ Heart morning tea for December is cancelled.** ←

**Rosary Statue** is in the home of John & Deanna Soertsz 15 Nerang Circuit Penrith.

**Hour of Grace** will be held on **Friday 8th December** here at St Nicholas of Myra from 12pm-1pm in PMR1.

**Readers:** "Break open the word" book available for purchase for \$20 per copy from Parish office.

### This Week at St Nicholas

<b>Monday</b> 6.30pm	<b>4th December</b> Alpha Course (PMR1)
<b>Tuesday</b> 10.15am 11.30am 12.30pm	<b>5th December</b> Alpha Course (PMR1) AA Meeting (Hall) Legion of Mary (Piety store)
<b>Wednesday</b> 6pm	<b>6th December</b> St Vincent de Paul Meeting
<b>Friday</b> 12pm	<b>8th December</b> Hour of Grace (PMR1)

### Next Week's Readings

#### 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

2 Peter 3:8-14

Mark 1:1-8



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## PARISH / DIOCESAN OUTREACH



## St Vincent de Paul Society



### Christmas Hampers

The Penrith Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society invites you this year to prepare Christmas hampers for the poor and disadvantaged families in the Penrith Area.

Hampers to be returned to the Parish Meeting Room 1 on:

**Saturday 9th Dec or Sunday 10th Dec. Before or after each Mass**

**Hamper Deliveries:** Once again, we ask for your generous help in the distribution of prepared hampers. If you can spare an hour on: **Saturday 16th Dec**, between 8.30am and 11.00am in PMR1. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any enquiries, please contact Brian Brainwood 0433 256 518 or Joe Tabone

0412 234 651. Thank you and God Bless.

### Sacramental Program First Reconciliation 2018

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at St Nicholas of Myra Parish will be in Term 1 next year. 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 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018 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.

**Bus trip to** St Marys Cathedral to see the Christmas lights on Monday 18th Dec.

All need to be at the church by **4.30pm**, as we are on a tight schedule.

Buses will be leaving **4.45pm sharp**. Dinner at the Marconi club, then heading off to the Cathedral and arriving back to the parish approximately 10.30pm.

**Full balance of payment is required by Friday 8th December.**

You are all invited to a  
Morning tea in honour  
of St Nicholas feast  
day on 10 December  
after the 10am Mass.

Fr Mathew

#### Pope Quote

Advent is a journey towards  
Bethlehem. May we let  
ourselves be drawn by the  
light of God made man.



Pope Francis

#### Happy Anniversary

Jane & Hugh McCann



### The Alpha Course: next session

- Monday 4th December at  
6.30pm PMR1
- Tuesday 5th December at  
10.15am PMR1

If you wish to attend either session please let us know for catering purposes.

Contact Craig or Lesley Walsh by SMS or 0428 284 568 or mamreintaid@gmail.com

### Parish Mission Statement

*At St Nicholas of Myra we strive to be an inclusive faith community.*

*We aim to build on our past, be grounded in Faith, live in Hope and grow in Love.*

*We will continue to build a spirit-filled and prayerful community whilst nurturing responsible stewardship, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ.*



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**Everyone** in the Diocese of Parramatta is invited to attend Mass in the Domain on Saturday **9 December** for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. This will be the biggest Catholic outdoor Mass since Pope Benedict XVI was here for World Youth Day in 2008.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP from the Archdiocese of Sydney is inviting all Catholics to attend the Mass which will conclude three days of festivities for young Catholics at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The Archbishop is also keen for as many Catholic families as possible to attend the Mass.

The Mass starts at 6.30pm and will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm, featuring Australian and international musicians and performers.

More info: <https://catholicoutlook.org/everyones-welcome-largest-mass-since-wyd08/>

### Special edition of Catholic Outlook

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition will be a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and will showcase the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your parishes and schools from Monday 4 December.

9th/10th December	Vigil	Parish		Roster	
		7am	8.30am	10am	6pm
Acolytes	R Howard C Pemberton	A Ruzgas	R Kroon C Walsh	J Tabone J Jordan	V Graham J Simeon
Servers	L & L Smee	G Grady	B Payyappilly	W Ezekiel K Ross V Sebi	T Keane
Comm. Rep.	L Alimangoha		M Prendeville	M Varua	C D'Mello
Reader	C Limjap	H Ryan	L Gal	P Samuelu	A.M Pletkan
E.M.	V Emerson K Pemberton M Svehla	L Davie J McSpadden S Sweeney	B Brainwood C D'Mello E Isaaks B Keavy H O'Connor B Oxlade P Wheller	M Gutierrez L Kochappu N Perera	A Alimangoha D Lee D Streher

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