



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

28th January 2018

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

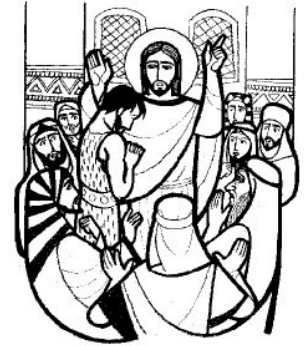
**St Nicholas Primary** 4721 2623  
Principal - Ms Anita Knezevic

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

## Gospel Reflection; Mark 1:21-28

**Jesus heals a man with an unclean spirit and his fame spreads throughout Galilee.**

Today's Gospel continues our reading from Mark and describes what some believe was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus' ministry. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week's Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus' teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus' authority and contrasting it with the scribes'. Early in Mark's Gospel we already find evidence of the tension that will manifest itself fully in Jerusalem.



After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the prescientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark's Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee.

From Loyola Press

**Regular Masses**

**will resume**

**Friday 2nd February**

## 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** Norma Alston, Peter Howlett and Frank Margerison **who died recently and for** Maria Fastrich, Rudy Lesseps– Fontseca, Tom Gale, Conrad Marks, Mununi Mintofoff, Egmedio Nierras, Narcisa Pa-anad, Mary Pace, James Penlington, Anecita Sajonia and Carmela Sultana **whose anniversaries occur at this time and for** Mary Armstrong, Dennis Bryant, Tania Felice, Peter & Frances Hendry, John Lee, Reg Levinge, John Nettar, Bernard & Norah Wilding and all souls.

**Please pray for Fr George O'Mara who is gravely ill.**

### 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
- ◆ **Mt View Village** 1st Friday of each month at 10am

*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 Charlie & Josie Spiteri 5 Carinda Drive Penrith from Sunday– Saturday at 7pm.
- **Prayer Meeting** We warmly invite all parishioners, families and friends to join us here at St Nicholas on Tuesday 30 January **at 7pm in the Hall** to celebrate in Song, Prayer and the Sharing of God's Word.
- **Young at Heart** Morning tea will be held Wednesday 7 February at 10am. Please bring a plate of food to share.
- **Divine Mercy Holy Hour** will be celebrated 9 February directly after 12.10pm Mass also 4th Friday of month at 7pm at 102 Factory Rd, Regentville. Information 47 334274 (John & Helen).

### Urgent:

- **AV operators needed for Sunday Masses**
- **Helpers are needed for Children's Liturgy.**

**For more info phone office 47212509. Training provided.**

**Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses** Readers of the Word, Ministers of Holy Communion, Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Dying, Adult Servers and /or Acolytes. **Where:** St Nicholas of Myra Parish Meeting Room 1, on Thursdays from 7pm-9pm, commencing 15th February. Courses are FREE. **Bookings close on 8th February.** To obtain an enrolment form please see Parish office.

## 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 the 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.

### Next Week's Readings 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Job 7:1-4. 6-7  
1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23  
Mark 1:29-39

### Pope Quote

*Life is a precious gift, but we realize this only when we give it to others.*

**Pope Francis**

