



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



The Nativity of the Lord
25th December 2018

Grounded in Faith

Growing in Love

Living in Hope

* Tel: (02) 4721 2509

* Website: www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au

* P O Box 1868, Penrith 2751

Parish Staff

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

Fr Pio Jang - Assistant Priest email: papio.penrith@gmail.com

Fr Porathur Joy (PJ) Catholic Chaplain - Nepean Hospital

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

Ursula Gomez - Admin. Assistant email: 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

Welcome

*A very warm welcome
to any visitors
here in our parish
during Christmas*



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It is Christmas, the birth of the Lord Jesus. At Christmas we celebrate the God of small things. The immense and infinite God, the God whom the universe cannot contain, made himself small, a tiny Babe, confined in the womb of a teenage girl, cradled in her arms, sleeping in her warm lap, sheltered in a stranger's stable. Littleness is a kingdom value. Unless we become like little children we cannot enter the Kingdom of God says Jesus.

Our God is a God who comes in the ordinary events of life. He is a God who loves us and is in constant search of us like the good shepherd, searching for the lost sheep. Why has Jesus come? God so loved the world so that he gave his son, everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We are inspired and rejoice that God has become human and dwells amongst us. It is also saddening to note that not everyone accepts him. He is rejected, even by his own people. However, we know that many people did accept him and to them he gave the power to become children of God.

The best way to celebrate Christmas is to live out our calling as children of God. We can do wonderful things for the people of our communities and parishes. Many are doing a lot of charitable activities which are signs of his presence in our midst. We can take time to forgive others. We can deepen our understanding of the teaching of Christ. In the spirit of Christmas let us break into songs at the coming of the One who brings good news, heralds peace, brings happiness and proclaims salvation.

For our God is a God who always wants to be with us.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you. Thanks for everything, please keep us in your prayers.

Frs Mathew, Pio, PJ and Parish Staff

Change in Mass Timetable Starting 1st January 2019

Monday - Friday 9.30 am ONLY - Saturday 9 am

Weekend Masses : Saturday Vigil 6 pm : Sunday 7 am, 8.30 am, 10 am and 6 pm



Normal weekday Mass will resume 11TH FEBRUARY 2019.
Parish Office will reopen Monday 7th January, 2019

- ◆ **Sacramental Program - First Reconciliation 2019** 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 26th February 2019 at 7.00pm. If your child has not been baptised, and you wish to enrol them in the program, please contact our Sacramental Coordinator, Colleen Nicholas .
- ◆ **SRE Volunteer Teachers** required to teach Scripture in our 6 Public Primary Schools in the Penrith area. Training will be provided. Contact Mr Fred Keuneman at the parish office.
- ◆ **Parish Mass Roster**— for those who may not have received it, copies can be found in the front foyer of the church.

Farewell Mass for Fr Mathew -

(He has been called home to mission in India after 11 years of priestly ministry here in Australia). He will concelebrate his farewell Mass with Fr Peter Williams on Sunday 6th January at 10am. All welcome to join in this celebration followed by a morning tea on the front lawn to wish him well .



- ◆ **Please pray for** Ezequiel Caceres, Yanka Garan, Syd Goode and Mary Harnett (Funeral on 3rd January at 11 am) **who died recently** and for George Attard, Anne Bedding, Dennis Bryant, Jean Cobden, Arthur Cram, Duncan Crozier, Jean & Joe Culhane, Mr & Mrs K W Duckworth, Matthew Edmunds, Connie & Darrel Enright, Tania Felice, Grant McLean, Estela Racelis, Col Williams and Jonathan Xerri **whose anniversaries occur at this time.**
- ◆ **If you or any family member is homebound and wish to receive communion in your home please contact the parish office.**
- ◆ **Hospital Visitation:** If in need of a Catholic Chaplain whilst a patient is in hospital phone 47343150 or require a Priest urgently for an anointing phone 47342000 and request switch board or the nurse on duty to contact the Catholic Priest on duty.
- ◆ **Bishop Vincent's Christmas Message** can be viewed online at:
www.parracatholic.org
Merry Christmas from Bishop Vincent and the Diocese of Parramatta.
- ◆ **St Vincent de Paul – Thank You Penrith Conference** express sincere thanks to all parishioners that prepared Christmas hampers and volunteers who gave their time to deliver the hampers. Without the assistance of all involved, many of the less fortunate within our community would not have been able to celebrate the Christmas Season. All help was greatly appreciated.



ALERT: Drivers :

Please follow the signs painted in the carpark and park in marked parking bays. This is for the safety of all persons walking in the area especially our young and frail elderly.

**This is monitored by
of presbytery.**

cameras mounted on the walls

