



St Nicholas of Myra

Catholic Parish

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A)

26 April 2020



Tel: (02) 4721 2509 | Website: www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au | P O Box 1868, Penrith 2751 | [Find us on facebook](#) @SNOMPenrith

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours 9am - 5 pm
Lunch 1pm – 1.30pm (*Office closed*)

PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Manjaly E: joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Asst Priest: Fr Jobi Payyappilly E: joby@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Office Manager: Jacinta Paulo E: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Admin Assistant: Mary Goh E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
on leave
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on leave
Catechists: Fred Keuneman E: catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
on leave
Volunteer Admin Support: Margaret Cobden & Ursula Gomez E:
bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au *on leave*

PARISH EMERGENCY NUMBER: 4732 3039

Nepean Hospital Chaplain: Fr Porathur Joy (PJ)

Deacon: Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap

RCIA Coordinators: Ina & Norm Heffernan
inanorm@optusnet.com.au Ph: 4732 1751

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Nicholas Primary Principal : Ms Anita Knezevic Ph; 4752 3300
 St Mary Mackillop Primary Principal : Mr Scott Buchan Ph; 4724

Live Streaming Mass Daily

Mon – Fri at 9.30am

Saturday at 9.00am with Adoration

Vigil Mass at 6pm

Sunday Mass at 10am



GOSPEL REFLECTION: THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2:14,22-33; 1 Pet 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

We all know today's gospel passage as the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. It all sounds fairly bland; it's as though it is the story of two people out for a Sunday stroll. But it is not so simple. The clue comes from when the storyteller informs us that their faces were downcast. This is not the story of two disciples: it is the story of two ex-disciples. It is not the story of two heading to Emmaus, but of two running away from Jerusalem. They had been followers of Jesus, they had seen what he could do and they had believed. But they believed in what they wanted to believe in, not in what God was offering them. They wanted a prophet who would set Israel free. For them that meant one thing: get rid of the Romans and restore the old kingdom of David. They wanted a future that met their expectations. Instead, the God of surprises gave them something different. God had given them someone handed over to be sentenced to death and crucified. As far as they were concerned it was game over; there was nothing positive in that. God had failed them and they were going home. Even when some of their group told them they had seen the risen Lord, these two did not believe them. Dying, let alone rising again, was not part of the plan; it was not what they had signed up for. They were out of there, their minds were closed. Their minds were so closed that even when the risen Lord himself came and walked beside them they failed to recognise him.

Augustine of Hippo was aware of this, when he said in one of his homilies, 'These two, even when the Lord was talking to them, did not have faith, because they didn't believe he had risen, nor had they any hope that he could rise again. They had lost faith, lost hope. They were walking along, dead, with Christ alive, they were walking along, dead, with life itself. Life was walking along with them, yet in their hearts life had not yet been restored' (Sermo 235). How many of us, or how many members of our families or people we know, are like this? We have given Christianity a go and it has not worked out for us. We wanted God to do something for us, and it did not happen. We put God to the test, and God let us down. The message of today's gospel is that when life is getting us down, when we feel all alone and just want to run away and hide, there is the risen Lord walking along side us. As the psalmist says, if we know and see that the Lord is at our right hand, then we can stand firm. We look around

us and we see nothing, lo! he is here with us. Here is the reality we proclaim: we do not have to find God: God has already found us. All we have to do is see the grace of God that surrounds us.

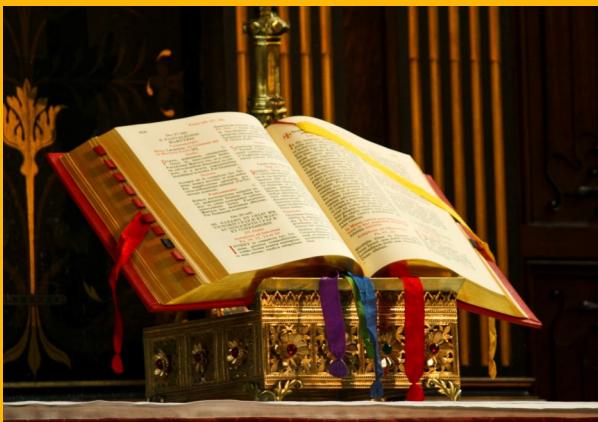
How did Cleopas and his friend open their eyes? Augustine tell us in that same homily he preached, 'You too, then, if you want to have life, do what they did in order to recognise the Lord. They showed him hospitality ... Constrain the stranger, if you want to recognise the saviour. What had been lost through infidelity was restored through hospitality'. Already their hearts were burning within them and their hospitality was their response to the gift of hope that he was giving them once again. Be kind to the stranger, for that person may just be the risen Lord.

In the hospitality of the meal, they suddenly realised. Israel was indeed free, not free from the Romans but free from sin. Jesus had bought freedom not by spilling other people's blood, but by spilling his own. In the wine poured out into the cup Cleopas and his friend saw the truth of who God is. Only when bread is broken and shared are people nourished. Israel was indeed restored, not for power but for service. The broken bread we eat here each week, and the poured-out wine we drink here each week, tell us that living comes from dying and receiving comes from giving. The challenge for those of us who eat his body and drink his blood is to become him for others. Our mission is to be the risen Lord walking beside those who have lost hope and faith. Our mission is to explain the Scriptures to others, to make their hearts burn with new life. Our mission is to have our bodies broken in love and service of others, particularly the stranger; to have our blood poured out in love and service of others, particularly the downtrodden.

There are so many things to thank God for today: for the risen Lord who finds us when we run away; for the Lord who changes despair into hope; for the Lord who rekindles our hospitality; for the Lord who gave himself that we may live; for opening our eyes to see him who is no longer with us in the flesh, through his body and blood that we share. We are an Easter people and alleluia is our song.



Geoffrey D Dunn © Liturgia 2020



MASS FOR YOU AT HOME

Here are some suggested sites and TV channels where you can access Mass while isolated from the usual parish celebrations:

- Channel 10 (Aurora on Foxtel), Sunday 6am
- Mass livestreamed with Fr Joe Manjaly & Fr Jobi Payyappilly from St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith (Saturdays at 6pm and Sundays at 10am)
www.facebook.com/SNOMPenrith.
* Daily Mass Mon—Fri at 9.30am
* Saturday Mass & Adoration at 9am
- Mass with Bishop Vincent (Sunday, 10am)
[www.youtube.com/user/Parramatta Diocese](https://www.youtube.com/user/ParramattaDiocese) or
www.facebook.com/parracatholic
- Mass with Archbp. Anthony Fisher (Sun, 10.30am) on
www.facebook.com/SydneyCatholic or YouTube: St Mary's Cathedral Sydney
- Mass on Demand on (YouTube, any time of the day)

PARISH OFFICE

- The Parish Office is currently operating with one person only, from 9am—5pm. If the phone is unattended please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. As there is evidence of Community transmission of Covid-19 in Penrith LGA please avoid visiting the Parish Office, unless you have an appointment.
- Mass is being offered up daily, please continue to send in your Mass intentions to enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
- All Baptisms, Reconciliation & Holy Communion Sacramental Programs have been cancelled until further notice.
- There is no Individual Rite of Reconciliation unless there is a grave need or in case of death.
- Please direct any enquiries for Funerals or Weddings to Fr Joe at the Parish Office.

PLANNED GIVING/DONATIONS

- After considering your own needs at this difficult time, if you wish to make a direct deposit of your Planned Giving envelopes or a donation to the Parish, you can give directly with the following details.
- **FIRST COLLECTION goes to the Clergy**

BSB	067 950
Acct No	00004265
Acct Name	Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
Reference	6029 [SURNAME DONATION]
- **SECOND COLLECTION goes to the Parish**

BSB	067950
Acct No	00000487
Acct Name	Penrith St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church
Reference	[ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME]
- We are unable to allocate the following contributions to the correct place. If you recognise these as your contributions, could you please email Jacinta with your envelope number or surname.
 1. 14 Apr St Nicolas G and
 2. 16 Apr Planned Giving EnvKATHL
 3. 17 Apr Planned Giving ProJUDITH
 4. 20 Apr St Nicolas G and
 5. 20 Apr RCPT: 3XXX99X5SBBQV S S
 6. 20 Apr 54 LOUIS
- If you wish to give by Direct Debit or alter/cancel your contribution, please contact Jacinta for a form.

PARISH OUTREACH

Attached to this Bulletin are Resources from Liturgy Brisbane to assist you in your Worship at Home. Please let us know about your experience using these by emailing

enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

SUNDAY READINGS READ AT HOME FAMILY PRAYER WEEK BY WEEK

PROJECT COMPASSION GO FURTHER TOGETHER

You can send your donations by electronic funds transfer or visit www.lent.caritas.org.au.

Call 1800 024 413 for details.

If you wish to hand in your Project Compassion box, please hold onto them until restrictions are lifted and then hand them in at that time.



ANZAC DAY

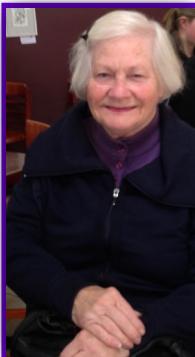
Saturday 25th April 2020

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

- Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

Spiritual Communion

O my divine Jesus, how great is my desire to receive your sacred body! Oh, come now into my soul, at least, by a spiritual communion! O Jesus, my divine Saviour, save me. O my God, hiding myself with a humble confidence in your dear wounds, I give up my soul into your divine hands. Oh, receive it into the bosom of your mercy.
Amen.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

MARIA JAMES

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Maria will be laid to rest on Tuesday 28th April 2020.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

27 Apr: St Louis Grignon de Montfort

Acts 6:8-15 | Psalm 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]
| John 6:22-29

28 Apr: St Peter Chanel

Acts 7:51—8:1a | Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a,
17 and 21ab [6a] | John 6:30-35

29 Apr: St Catherine of Siena

Acts 8:1b-8 | Psalm 66: 1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1] | John 6:35-40

30 Apr: St Pius V

Acts 8:26-40 | Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1] | John 6:44-51

1 May: St Joseph the Worker

Acts 9:1-20 | Psalm 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15] | John 6:52-59

2 May: St Athanasius

Acts 9:31-42 | Psalm 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]
| John 6:60-69

3 May: 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 | Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1] |
Peter 2:20b-25 | John 10:1-10

DAILY MASS LIVE STREAMED ON FACEBOOK

@SNOMPENRITH

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED Maria James, Raul del Rosario, Harry Slaughter, Garry Rumble, Sr Maria Alipia Vella & all who have died from COVID-19

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES Cathy Shipway, Reynaldo Lupisan

DECEASED Donald & Annette Ferdinands, Tania Felice, John Nettar, Bernard and Norah Wilding, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

SICK Daniel Varlow, Joanne Portelli, Jane McCann, Patrick McHugh, Felicity Godbrie, Catherine Kirk, Arly Vitello, Sean Pender, Daphne Paris, Graeme Cobden, Christopher Pemberton, Br David Curtin, Br Jerry Reagan, and all who suffer from COVID-19.

Special Request from Mary O'Connor: Please pray for Kevin O'Connor who has recently been admitted to Cardinal Gilroy Village in Merrylands. Please also pray for the Connor Family at this time.

*Please send Mass intentions to
enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au*



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