



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR B  
29TH NOVEMBER 2020

Tel: (02) 4721 2509 | Website: [www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au](http://www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au) | P O Box 1868, Penrith 2751 |

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## 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](mailto:joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Asst Priest:** Fr Jobi Payyappilly E: [joby@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:joby@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
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**Catechists:** Fred Keuneman E: [catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Volunteer Admin Support:** Margaret Cobden & Ursula Gomez E: [bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**PARISH EMERGENCY NUMBER: 4732 3039**

During this Pandemic time **Craig Walsh** is our Health & Safety Coordinator. Contact 0428 284 568

**Nepean Hospital Chaplain:** Fr Porathur Joy (PJ)

**Deacon:** Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap

**RCIA Coordinators:** Ina & Norm Heffernan  
[inanorm@optusnet.com.au](mailto: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 3200



*Easing of restrictions announced 23/10 means that we are able to accommodate 150-175 people at Mass this weekend. Please remember to bring your masks to Mass and observe social distancing. Read our Covid-19 Safety guidelines on Page 3.*

## BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL | 28/29 DEC 2020

The Bishop's Christmas Appeal is an important opportunity for us to actively reach out to the most vulnerable and show the compassionate face of Christ to all. The Appeal highlights the important work of CatholicCare's Project Elizabeth, a comprehensive pregnancy-related counselling and support service run by CatholicCare for women and their families. **Sharen was significantly affected by violent relationships, with only one of her children allowed to live with her. After an abusive childhood, Dale had turned to drugs and alcohol to numb the pain. When they met six years ago, they knew they had been given a chance to build a new life.** Through CatholicCare, Dale and Sharen participated in family support and positive parenting programs. They were very happy with what they learnt and how much it improved their family relationships. After five years of trying to fall pregnant, their prayers for a baby of their own were finally answered. Determined not to be forced to give up their child, Dale and Sharen turned to CatholicCare again for help as soon as they found out they were having a baby. "Because of their history with domestic violence, Sharen and Dale wanted to make sure they had the best support and could do everything possible to ensure their baby was kept in their care," recalls Natalie Jacobi, CatholicCare's Project Elizabeth and Family Support Caseworker and Social Worker. **With Natalie's help, they prepared for the birth of their miracle baby through ongoing counselling, practical parenting groups and parenting strategies sessions. When little Jackson was born six weeks premature and had to spend several weeks in intensive care, CatholicCare caseworkers were there to support Sharen and Dale.** They also helped connect the couple with hospital workers, social workers and community services to ensure they were able to take their son home and continue their new life as a loving family. Thanks to the care and support they found through CatholicCare, Sharen and Dale are building strong, loving relationships and are looking forward to a life of hope and joy with their new baby, Jackson. Next, Dale and Sharen hope to work with Natalie in a new one-on-one program called Bringing Baby Home. Designed for first-time parents and people with children from different relationships, it teaches parents about attachment connection, how to positively parent, and allows them to ask questions and seek support as they go. "I'd like to give Jackson a better childhood than mine," says Dale, "because my life wasn't too good. All I want for my son is to be around good people and to point him in a good direction as he gets older. Having the help from CatholicCare is amazing. Through the pregnancy we had Natalie, Frances and Linda, and the way they helped us was just brilliant. They're all just beautiful people – I've never met people like that before." With thanks to the support of your Parish and faith community, our CatholicCare team can help more vulnerable families in their efforts to give their children a positive start in life and be the best people they can be. We are always so grateful for your kind-hearted compassion and generosity, and with your continued help, we can provide the emotional and practical support that will enable our brothers and sisters in Christ to live their potential, in a true spirit of hope.



## PARISH ANOUNCEMENTS

*Farewell Fr Jobi Payyappilly*  
To Fr Jobi: Leader, Model, Servant: Wherever the Spirit calls you in the Church, may you always strive to do the will of the Father and bring more souls to Christ. God bless you for being our Assistant priest and go in peace and love to Castle Hill Parish. Farewell, you will be sadly missed!



*Bishop's Christmas Appeal*  
If you cannot donate this weekend, please take an envelope home and return it in any collection basket at Mass. If you are watching Mass online, you can donate securely through <https://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/bishops-christmas-appeal-20/> don't forget to select Penrith as your Parish.

### *Advent Reflections*

Before each weekend Mass in Advent, the community is invited to partake in a 2-minute reflection leading up to the Eucharistic celebration. This is in place of Advent groups this year.

### *Parish Patron Saint Nicholas of Myra Feast Day*

Next Sunday we celebrate the Feast of St Nicholas of Myra. Unfortunately, due to restrictions we are not able to hold a morning teas. We will show a short video on the life of St Nic at each Mass.

### *2nd Rite of Reconciliation*

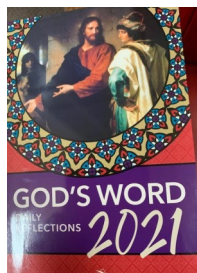
Reconciliation in the 2nd Rite before Christmas will be held on Monday 21st December at 7pm. Reconciliation in the 1st Rite is available at the normal time: Saturdays from 9.30am and 5pm. Please observe social distancing.

### *Hour of Grace*

All are invited to attend the 'Hour of Grace' which will be held on Tuesday the 8th December at 12nn—1pm in the Church. This is a special devotional honouring the Blessed Mother as the Mystical Rose.

### *Ceramic Lamps for Sale (Holy Family)*

Last weekend we held a fundraiser for our Solar Panel Project and it was a huge success. We thank all the volunteers and the Parish Council who helped us sell out. Due to popular demand, we have ordered more 'Holy Family' LED Ceramic lamps – which will be available for sale next weekend.



### *God's Word 2021 for Sale*

These beautiful Daily Reflections on the Gospels of the day are available for purchase at the Piety Stall for \$17.

### *Thanksgiving & Welcome*

We welcome Fr Jesse our new Assistant Priest this week. Hugh & Jane McCann celebrated their 49th Wedding Anniversary on the 27th November. Congratulations and God bless your marriage.

## OUR MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday		
Monday	9.30am	
Tuesday	6.45am	9.30am
Wednesday	9.30 am	
	7.00pm	(followed by Our Lady of Perpetual help Novena)
Thursday	9.30am	
Friday	6.45am	12.10pm
Saturday		
Mass	9.00am	
Reconciliation	9.30am-10.30am & 5pm-5.45pm	
Adoration	After Saturday Morning Mass	
Filipino Mass	11.00am (1st Sat of the month)	
Vigil Mass	6.00pm	
Sunday		
Mass	7.00am, 8.30am	
	10.00am *(no Children's Liturgy)	
	6.00pm	

Mass marked with an Asterix \* is live streamed on Facebook and will be held simultaneously in the Church and Hall allowing for up to 70 people in the Hall.

## SPECIAL FEASTS THIS WEEK

NOV 30 MON ST ANDREW, APOSTLE  
DEC 3 WED ST FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST

## PRAYERS

### Morning Offering



Lord, I give you today my prayers, thoughts, works, and actions, that they may be for your glory and for the good of the world.

### Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Pray for us O holy Mother of God. That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Ray Wiggins, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Vivienne Justine Almeida & all those who have died from COVID-19.

### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES & DECEASED

Waseem Jibrail, Arthur Tipping, Arelette Griplas, Jack McKnight, Peg Williams, Terry Cuttall and Paul & Gino Vassallo. For all those listed in the 'Book of Remembrance' and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

### SICK

Charlie Camenzuli, Jocelyn Powell, Romas Leveris, Olga Kiss, Thomas P J, Annamma Thomas, Mildred Fitzgerald, Jaime Calero, Raymond J Keuana, Moveen Stewart, Ronilo Galido, Fab Chavez, Nympha Miller, Ken Beatson, Melanie Castle, Eva Gil-mour, Peter Gale, Joanne Portelli, Daniel Varlow, Theresa Jordan, Jane McCann, Mark McSpadden, Pat McGovern and all who suffer from COVID-19.

## SVDP CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

The Penrith Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society invites parishioners to prepare Christmas hampers for the poor and disadvantaged families in the Penrith Area. Please see the Notice board for all details of Hamper categories, stickers and suggested items.

**If you are watching Mass online, you do not have to pick up a sticker.** You may prepare a hamper for a single, couple or a family with some of the suggested items: Tinned food, Long Life Milk, Biscuits, Cereal, Fruit cups, Chips, Soft drinks, Cup of soup, Tea/ Coffee, Spreads (Vegemite, Jam etc), Christmas Bon bons, Paper plates, Napkins, Paper Towel, Toilet Paper, Rice or Pasta, Stir-fry or Pasta sauces. Etc. *This is a guide only. If you would like to include other food items, please ensure they do not contain nuts or perishable items. Please ensure that food items are well within the expiry date and NO liquor is included in the hamper.*

**HAMPER RETURN:** Hampers will need to be returned to the Parish Meeting Room 1 on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec or Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December, approximately 1 hour before or after each mass.

**HAMPER DELIVERIES:** Once again, we ask for your generous help in the distribution of hampers. If you can spare an hour on: **Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> Dec**, between 8am and 11:30am in PMR1. We will provide face masks, gloves, sanitiser etc, and we have a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place to ensure the safety of our parishioners. If you have any enquiries, please contact Brian Brainwood on 0433 256 518 or Joe Tabone on 0412 234

## RCIA NEWS

### What is happening in RCIA this week - Advent 2

✠ We will read the Gospel for the coming Sunday - Mark 1:1-8.

**Our gospel reflection question to think about is:**

✠ *During this Advent Season in a spirit of repentance what changes do I need to make in my life, not just now but in the year that is to come.*

What kind of person would I like to be?

What kind of person should I be?

What kind of person could I be?

What kind of person do I think God would like me to be?

For more information:

Ina & Norman Heffernan  
4732 1751  
inanorm@optusnet.com.au

### ROSTER 5/6 TH DECEMBER 2020

*Please Note: December Rosters will be emailed out to all those who have indicated that they wish to be rostered during the next 3 months. If you are unable to attend Mass please find a replacement. Thankyou*

**[VIGIL]**

Music: AMDG Youth AV: J.Linga

**[7.00 A.M.]**

AV: Natasha

**[8.30 A.M.]**

Music: J Mizzi AV: V Rodrigues

**[10.00 A.M.]**

Music: **Volunteer needed** AV: S Clark

**[6.00 P.M.]**

Music: BNP Youth AV: Donnie

## COVID-19 SAFETY

• **New easing of restrictions allows places of worship to have up to 300 people, however funerals are still 100 and weddings 150.**

• **The number of people inside the church are limited to 150- 175, which allows for social distancing of 4 sm. This number excludes essential persons to the Liturgy**

• There is now only one extra Mass in the Parish Hall with maximum of 70 parishioners on Sundays at 10 am.

• The aisles and pews are marked to facilitate the observance of social distancing practices. Please only sit where it is marked with a number on the pews. Groups to sit in smaller pews. There is no standing permitted.

• Please leave your name and contact details on the sign on sheet - these will be kept confidential- but are necessary in case anyone contracts the virus.

• Please sanitize your hands as soon as you enter the church.

• Please occupy the central seat of pews first, starting from the front pews of the church, so that others who come after you will be able to occupy the aisles while observing social distancing.

• There will neither be a solemn entrance procession nor a recessional by the celebrant and ministers.

• No altar servers will be needed and there will be no procession of gifts, gifts will be kept at the credence table near the altar.

• The sign of peace will be exchanged without physical contact.

• During the communion, the social distancing will be observed and therefore communion will be brought to your seat. Communion should be received only in the hand.

• Only one acolyte/ senior server and one Extra-ordinary minister of communion would be required other than priests/ deacon to serve during the Mass.

• The collection baskets are now taken around by Wardens with a new basket with a long handle. This is to minimise touching the collection plate.

• As you prepare to exit the church please exit starting with the rows that are closest to the entrances.

• The obligation to participate in Sunday Mass is still lifted.

• It is important for everyone to maintain physical distancing and follow all health and safety guidelines. Our utmost concern is the health and well being of our parishioners. Therefore, those who are feeling ill, or who have symptoms of fever, cold, dry cough or sore throat should not come out to attend Mass but watch our live stream Mass at 10am on Sundays.

## PLANNED GIVING & DONATIONS

If you wish to make a direct deposit of your Planned Giving envelopes or a donation to the Parish, you can give through credit card by contacting the Parish office or through your bank account with the following details.

**FIRST COLLECTION goes to the Clergy Support**

BSB 067 950 (Commonwealth Bank)

Acct No 00004265

Acct Name Parramatta Diocesan Clergy

Reference 6029 [SURNAME ]

**SECOND COLLECTION goes to the Parish Support**

BSB 067 950 (Commonwealth Bank)

Acct No 00000487

Acct Name Penrith St Nicholas Catholic Church

Reference [ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME] **or**  
Solar Panels [Surname] to contribute to our Solar Panel Project.

• **IF YOU WISH TO CHANGE YOUR DIRECT DEBIT** please contact Jacinta for a form.



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