

**GOSPEL REFLECTION** 

In today's gospel, Jesus provides his disciples, and all Christians, with a model for prayer. In keeping with this modelling by Jesus, it is significant that the Lord's Prayer, or Our Father, is the common prayer of all Christians, regardless of denomination. The parable and teaching that follow the Lord's Prayer make clear the particular purpose of prayer that Jesus was highlighting –

prayer as petition. In this instance, Jesus assures us that if we pray for what we need with conviction and confidence, then God cannot fail to respond to our prayer. Jesus in fact encourages us to be demanding and persistent in our prayer. However, the parable used to demonstrate the persistent nature of prayer is not focused on demands for selfish purposes, but rather the neighbour needs assistance in fulfilling his obligations of hospitality to a traveller. He is not waking his neighbour in the middle of the night to ask for bread for himself; he asks for bread to give to his guest. He asks for help to fulfil his duty and responsibility. This gives us something of an idea about how we might focus our prayer. Praying for a pony or new bike isn't quite in the same league!

The final element of the gospel passage provides us with a description of God's love and care by something of a negative comparison: if human parents would not do harm instead of good to their children, God is even less likely to act like this towards us. It's a bit of an odd way around of saying that God's love is greater than anything within our experience or imagination.



Living the Gospel – Ask, Search, Knock

Jesus says in the gospel, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.' The actions of asking, searching and knocking are means by which we initiate the encounter with God. If we don't ask, search and knock, how is anyone (including God)

> to know our needs or know what it is that we are searching for. Particularly in our spiritual lives, it is only through the search and the knocking on the doors of different experiences that we ever come closer to finding answers.

#### **Gospel Focus - Relationship**

A crucial aspect of prayer is the attitude with which we view God. We trust in God's character that it is not a pointless exercise to ask for something. We trust that God is even more loving than a parent who tries to give their child what they need. If we did not make these basic assumptions about God, there would be little point in prayer. When our prayer lives falter at times, perhaps we need to first

check out our relationship with God and our attitude towards God before trying to 'fix' the ways we pray.

> ✓ Greg Sunter © LiturgyHelp 2022 Image Credit: LiturgyHelp 2022

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Image Credit: Sparkle.co.uk

NO FOOD OR DRINK OTHER THAN WATER IS ALLOWED INSIDE OUR CHURCH AT ANY TIME.



# IN ACCORDANCE WITH NSW HEALTH RECOMMEN-DATION, WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO WEAR A FACE MASK IN OUR CHURCH.

*Lost and Found:* A Flybuys card has been handed into the office. If you have lost a card, please contact the Parish Office.

Acolytes & Ministers at the Altar: The parish is inviting all acolytes and ministers at the altar to a social gathering on 11th September commencing at 11.30am. Please place in your diaries.

*Advertise in our Bulletin:* If you or someone you know would like to advertise in our bulletin please contact the Parish Of-



# **RECENTLY DECEASED**



Please pray for the reposed soul of Anne Potts a much loved and long time parishioner. She was born on 25th September 1922 and entered into eternal life on the 8th June 2022. May she rest in peace.

Her funeral will be held on Friday 29th July at 10.00am

She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

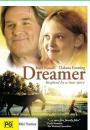
**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Esme Gomesz, Anne Potts, Raymond Joseph Gale and all who have died from COVID-19.

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Fausta Da Costa, George Attard, Luis Limjap, Anne Tucker, Shane Eric Jordan, Bill Hawkins, Lolita F Declaro, Paul & Gino Vassallo, Olga Moniz, Tess & Eddie Evangelista, Marcy Mejia, Kumari & Luke De Saipath and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**DECEASED**: Tania Felice, Margaret Donnolley, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Sam Chetcuti, Reno Camilleri, Ian Howitt, Enrique & Camila Esmayor, Celina Moronha, members of the Camilleri, Baiada, Moriera, Pace, Cordina & Moroney families & all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**SICK:** Charlie Camenzuli, Norm Heffernan, Robin Harkin, Lisa Sperineck, Anne Maree Geagea, Roger Wilkom, Margaret Bell, Ashley Sawaya, Antonio Malicdem, Jenet Arellano, Marianne Brigden, Cheryl Clark, John Sullivan, Nancy Galon, Peter Farrugia, Tadeus Gwiazda, Louise Goderie, Danielle Kazare, Georgia Sullivan, Sheryl Oszust, Ting Cecila, Moises Millena, Olga Kiss, Ursula Gomez, Sydney Morris, Thanda Manjaly, Adelia Delapaz, David Wakeling, Jane McCann, Raymond Gale, Mel McSpadden, George and Lena Caruana and all who suffer from COVID-19

### **ST NICK'S FLICKS MOVIE NIGHT**



His daughter has a dream and he's going to help her live it.

Ben Crane is the most talented horseman in the industry, but his career ends the day prized horse, Sonya, breaks her leg. She is considered as good as dead by her owner, Ben's boss, so along with his walking papers, Ben is given Sonya as severance pay. A bleak future awaits both Ben and his maimed horse

... that's until his daughter, Cale, askes the

impossible of her father to rescue and rehabilitate Sonya, so she can race again.

Kurt Russell, Dakota Fanning, Elisabeth Shue, Kris Kristofferson and David Morse star in this uplifting and heart-warming story inspired by a true story of a little girl's dream, a father's undying love and the miracle that saved them both.

#### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM



Enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation open on our website on Wednesday 3rd August. All the dates for the program are available our website now.

To be eligible for Confirmation the child must be in Year 5 or above and have received Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion

#### **CATECHISTS REQUIRED**

Can you spare an hour a week to be a scripture teacher in public primary schools?

If so, please contact Margaret Wilson at

catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au or phone the Parish 4721 2509.

This voluntary teaching in our parish assists the spreading of the Word of God to the children. Mentoring and training will be provided.

#### **NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING**



The parish will be training new altar servers to serve at the altar. The training will be held on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm in the Church. Parents and grandparents, please encourage and support your children to become altar servers especially if they finished their First Holy Communion this year.

#### **GOOD NEWS SHARING**

Dear friends, the celebration of the Eucharist is not a private devotion but rather a communal gathering much like a family meal. The actual partaking of the food is referred to as "communion," a joining together of the members of the community, not only with our God but also with each other. The Gospel itself is Good News. Too many of us, because of all the bad news, forget to share the Good News! So as a parish family we will resume our 'Good News' sharing after the announcement. It is important to share all that is good in our life. People need to hear, see, and experience the Good News. People need our witness and conviction in a world filled with doubt and suspicion. They need to see our joy in a world filled with sadness and numbness. Following Jesus is living live abundantly! By sharing the good news, we in fact thank our Lord, who is author of all that is good. This good news can be your birthday or your friend's birthday, marriage anniversary, a new job, a newborn child, a healing experience, a special faith experience, etc...

Fr Joe Manjaly

## PARISH ROSTER 30th/31st July

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	D Wellfare B Scott	L Perera A Perera	S Perera	N Perera	K Pemberton M Svelva	Vic and Alana	Joshua & Jordan
7.00am	C Nepocumeno D Wiggins		M Scicluna	Y Baccan	R Bru L Davie		Volunteer Needed
8.30am	J Jordan R Sajonia	M Tickner	R Walsh	C Wright	M Nyss U Gomez	Jeffrey Mizzi	Tuckers
10.00am	J Simeon R Wood	M Johnson	D Conejar	Alan Johnson	C Gillaus A Kosman	Billy	Sharon Clarke
6.00pm	L Moniz N Nepocumeno	E Moniz	K Smith	D Whalen	C D'Mello K Wrightson	CFC Youth	Olivia Plucinski

If you are unable to attend Mass please find a replacement.

			CALENDAR			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
25/7	26/7	27/7	28/7	29/7	30/7	31/7
St James, Apostle Feast	Saints Joachim & Anne Memorial			Saints Martha, Mary & Lazarus Memorial		18th Sunday of Ordinary Time
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass	9.30am Mass 7.00pm Mass followed by Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass Thornton Park	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass	9.00am Mass & Adoration 9.30am Reconciliation 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 11.45 Baptisms 6.00pm Mass
	7.00pm Prayer Group Meeting in Hall	11.00am Legion of Mary in PMR1		10.00am Funeral Anne Potts 7.00pm St Nic's Flicks Movie Night 7.30pm CFC Christian Life Program		

#### **PLANNED GIVING**

We are grateful for your stewardship during these difficult times FIRST COLLECTION goes to the Clergy Foundation

BSB	067	7 950
Acct No	000	04265
Acct Name	Par	ramatta Diocesan Clergy
Reference	60	29 [SURNAME DONATION]

SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish

Reference	[ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME]
	Church
Acct Name	Penrith St Nicholas Catholic
Acct No	00000487
BSB	067 950



# Planned Giving Envelopes:

# The 2022/2023 Planned Giving envelopes are available, please collect from the Church Foyer.

Dear friends in Christ,

The 2022/2023 Planned Giving envelopes period will commence on the weekend of 2/3 August. We thank all those who give so generously through the envelopes and we also thank the many parishioners who have taken up the option to give to the St. Nicholas of Myra, Parish Planned Giving via Credit/Debit Card payments or Direct Debit/ Credit. If we have not had any contact from you by the end of June no further envelopes will be issued and you will be removed from the Parish Planned Giving.

If you would like to alter your way of giving or join the Parish Planned Giving, please phone the Parish office to make arrangements.

#### Before Covid-19 the average weekly collections

First collection: \$2400.00

2<sup>nd</sup> collection Loose: \$1800.00

2<sup>nd</sup> collection envelopes: \$2200.00

Direct debit and direct credit monthly: \$ 6500.00

**Collections for June (average weekly collection)** 

First collection: \$1800.00

 $2^{nd}$  collection loose: \$1600.00

 $2^{nd}$  collection envelopes: \$1200.00

Tab & Go: \$400

Direct debit and direct credit monthly: \$4600.00

