



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



**1st Sunday of Advent—Year A
26th / 27th November 2022**

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PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours 9am - 5 pm

Lunch 1pm – 1.30pm (Office closed)

PARISH EMERGENCY NUMBER: 4732 3039

PARISH STAFF

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PARISH SCHOOLS

St Nicholas of Myra

Principal : Ms. Anita Knezevic

P: 4752 3300

St Mary Mackillop

Principal : Mr. Scott Buchan

P: 4724 3200

CATHOLIC CARE

02 8843 2500

E: enquiries@ccss.org.au



MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

Dear friends in Christ,

Advent can come as a surprise to us sometimes as it comes at the beginning of a very busy month with Christmas shopping and planning. This is not unlike the surprise of Mary when she received news that she was pregnant with Jesus. Like her, we take the season of Advent as a time for pause, reflection, and preparation for the gift of God's love coming to us through the baby Jesus.



It is important to see how we can grow during this Advent in spiritual wholeness. It is easy to forget the reason for our joy in our busyness of shopping, decorating, and wrapping. May I suggest a few simple things that may help us during this Season of Advent to get closer to God and our family.

Firstly, set aside a few minutes of silence and reflection each day with Scripture, dwell quietly with the scene of the Nativity. Secondly, send Christmas cards to friends/ families that you have lost contact with and donate to a local charity and lastly make a sacramental confession close to Christmas. A prayerful journey with the Holy family and the church throughout Advent will lead us to the gifts of gratitude and joy when we enter the Christmas season.

During these four weeks of Advent, under the leadership of Liturgy team, we will begin with a contemplative two-minute reflection before each Sunday Mass to prepare us to celebrate the Eucharist. I encourage all of you to come 5 minutes early to participate in this contemplative reflection. God speaks to us, as He did to Elijah, in a whisper. To hear that, we need to turn down the noise, both external and internal in our lives. This will lead us to concentrate on the Holy Mass more actively.

Let us make a conscious effort on each day of this Advent season to shine lights of friendship, understanding, love, forgiveness, companionship, generosity, compassion, and peace.

We pray during Advent that we may open our hearts in love and hope as we await the celebration of Jesus' birth.

May God bless us and our Parish!

Fr. Joe Manjaly, PP



BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL



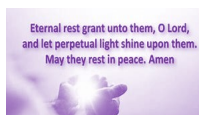
Bishop's Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service.

No one should be homeless or without support. Your Christmas gift today will enable Catholic

Care to give homeless people practical and emotional support, and a safe place to call home. Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes, at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code.



Thank you for your prayers, heart-felt compassion, and help to end homelessness



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Jadwiga Lang

Her funeral will be held on **Tuesday 29th November at 10.30am**

She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Courtney Earl

Her funeral will be held on **Thursday 1st December at 11.30am**

She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pam Dawes, Jadwiga Lang, Courtney Earl and all who have died from COVID-19.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Panayota Grielas, Arlette Grielas, Arthur Tipping, Alberto San Pedro, Margaret Donnelly, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Irene, Frank & Anjela Barglik, Michael & Maria Paulinski, Anthony Thet Win, Deceased members of Camilleri, Gordira & Baiada families and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

SICK: Bob Hardy, Kieren Brocktoft, Rita Bonello, Charles Tabone, Billy Downes, Sue Wheelahan, Heather Whitborn, Phil Thatcher, Michael Vella, Stanley Mascarenhas, Trevor Rowe, John Vella, John Wakeling, Nicholas Agius, Baby Capri Marshall, Melisa Maiseeh, Tracy Mulla, Lou Doyle, Norm Heffernan, Robin Harkin, Lisa Sperineck, Anne Maree Geagea, Roger Wilkom, Margaret Bell, Ashley Sawaya, Antonio Malicdem, Jenet Arellano, Marianne Brigden, John Sullivan, Nancy Galon, Peter Farrugia, Tadeus Gwiazda, Danielle Kazare, Georgia Sullivan, Sheryl Oszust, Ting Cecila, Moises Millena, Olga Kiss, Sydney Morris, Thanda Manjaly, Adelia Delapaz, David Wakeling, Jane McCann, Mel McSpadden, George and Lena Caruana and all who suffer from COVID-19.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The first Sunday of Advent sees the commencement of the new liturgical year. This new liturgical cycle is referred to as Year A and features the gospel of Matthew. Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus* which literally means 'coming'; it is also reflected in the Greek word *Parousia*, which is used to describe the second coming of Jesus. So Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ into the world that is celebrated in the Nativity at Christmas. The gospel passage chosen for today's reading richly expresses that anticipation and need for preparation.

It may seem a little confusing that we begin our year-long exploration of the gospel of Matthew by taking a reading from chapter 24. However, the need for readiness and alertness that Jesus speaks about in relation to the coming of the Kingdom is equally suitable for a modern audience when preparing to celebrate once again the coming of Jesus into the world. Jesus is the best expression of the Kingdom that we have yet experienced and so rather than seeing the choice of this passage as a confusion, we should recognise the alignment that exists between the anticipation of the Kingdom and the anticipation of the Nativity.

The two great feasts of Christianity – the Nativity and Easter – are each preceded by a period of preparation: Advent and Lent. The emphasis of these seasons is on the mental and spiritual preparation to fully enter into one of the great mysteries of faith. In the Nativity, we celebrate God become human; God present in the world in a physical way. Advent is a time to remember the many and varied ways that God continues to be present in the world.

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. Hampers will need to be returned to the Parish Meeting Room 1 on **Saturday 10th December** or **Sunday 11th December**, approximately 1 hour before or after each mass. Please see the Notice board for all details of Hamper categories, stickers and suggested items. Please do not include food items containing nuts or perishable items. Please ensure that food items are well within the expiry date and NO liquor is included in the hamper.



Hamper Deliveries: Once again, we ask for your generous help in the distribution of hampers. If you can spare an hour on: **Saturday the 17th Dec**, between 8am and 11:30am in PMR1. We will provide face masks, gloves, sanitiser etc, and have a Covid Safe Plan in place to ensure the safety of our parishioners. If you have any enquiries, please contact Brian Brainwood on 0433 256 518. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you and God bless.

PLANNED GIVING

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

BSB	067 950
Acct No	00004265
Acct Name	Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
Reference	6029 [SURNAME DONATION]

SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish

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

PARISH NEWS

St Nicholas Feast Day Mass December 4th at 10am

As well as celebrating our patrons feast we will also celebrate all the children who have been baptised in our church this year, invitations have been send to all these families. The mass will be followed by a morning tea in the Parish hall.



There will be a special raffle, drawn on the day, tickets will be \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00 and will be sold after each mass this weekend. The money raised will be split equally between a charity and the purchase of an advent candle stand for the Church.

1st Prize: A framed diamond dotz picture of the Last Supper. 1.1m x 0.6m (handmade & donated by Margaret Cobden)

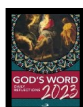
2nd Prize: Surprise Complimentary prize

3rd Prize: Surprise Complimentary prize



God's Word 2023

Copies are available to buy from the Parish Office Monday to Friday 9.00am—5.00pm and from the Piety Shop after the 8.30am and 10.00am Sunday masses. **Limited Stock.** Cost is \$20.00



Advent Spiritual Evening

December 8th at 7.00pm in the Church

All Acolytes, Minister at the Altar, Readers, Commentators, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Choir members and AV operators are invited to attend, please mark in your calendar as a priority.

Hour of Grace in our Church Thursday 8th December 12.00pm—1.00pm

Will be held in honour of Our Lady under the title Rosa Mystica. Those who attend these prayers will receive significant graces from Mother Mary. You are all welcome.



Choir Coordinators Meeting

Wednesday 1st December 7.00pm

The Parish is inviting the leaders and 1 or 2 representatives of each of our Choir groups to this meeting in the parish office to share your thoughts and reflections on our music ministry.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

December 18th at 10am

We will celebrate a special wedding anniversary mass for couples who have celebrate their 1st, or quinquennial (i.e 5th, 10th, 15th, every 5th year) wedding anniversary this year.

**If this is you please RSVP to
manager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au by 12th December if
you will be attending this mass.**

CALENDAR

Monday 28/11	Tuesday 29/11	Wednesday 30/11 St Andrew, Apostle Feast	Thursday 1/12	Friday 2/12	Saturday 3/12 St Francis Xavier Memorial	Sunday 4/12 2nd Sunday of Advent
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.30am Funeral Jadwiga Lang 7.00pm Prayer Group in Hall	9.30am Mass 11.00am Legion of Mary in PMR1 6.30pm RCIA Meeting PMR1 7.00pm Mass followed by Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 11.30am Funeral Courtney Earl 7.00pm Choir Coordinator's meeting	6.45am Mass 10.00am Mass Mountainview 12.10pm Mass (Catechist Mass)	9.00am Healing Mass & Adoration 9.30am Reconciliation 11.30am Mass for Our Lady of Penafrancia 5.00pm Reconciliation	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass (St Nicholas Feast Day and Baptism Mass) 11.45 Baptisms 6.00pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 3rd / 4th DECEMBER

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

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	R Howard R Limjap		D Conejar	M Prendeville	L Scully C Limjap	AMDG Youth	T & M Perera
7.00am	J French D Wiggins		Y Baccan	M Scicluna	R Bru L Davie	No Music	Vol. needed
8.30am	M Cobden J Jordan	G Borg	O Plucinski	J Doman	H Wakeling	J Mizzi	Ursula
10.00am	C Walsh R Wood	S Dias M Johnson	O Kiss	D Dawson	M Nyss M Knox	J Chifley	R Wilson
6.00pm	R Esteban N Nepomuceno	J Esteban R Esteban	N Joseph	C D'Mello	L D'Lima D Streher	CD	Marve

REMEMBERING ALL OUR DEARLY DEPARTED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS DURING NOVEMBER

Tomas Benzoza, Sandra Benzoza, Leopoldo Capngan, Ethan Andrew Caburian, Raymundo Caburian Jr., Eduardo Limjap, Sebastian MM, Thresia M P, Mathew M D., Annamma Mathew, Varkey C.U., Aleykuty Carkey, Leykuty, Grace Tomy, Hogan, King, Whitten, Lafferty, Monkcom families, Maximo Abad, Concordia Abad., Ester Remolador, Elaine Young, Barbara Young. , Kerop & Satenik Kherlakin., Dr Adrian Selwyn, Leyla & Garo Karibian, Arikian families, Ghougassian families, Max Silvy, Violet Hingerty, William Hingerty., Isobell Mongan, Dan Mongan, Les & Sarah Silvy, De, Al, KJ Taylor, Yvup, Piotr, Paul Wnek, Mr. T. Dawson, Mr. R. Chandran, Mrs. F. Jackson, Mrs. T. Wilson, Mr. W. Chapman, Mr. E. Chapman, Mr. A.R. Chapman, Mr. P. Chapman, Mr. J. Chapman, Mr. B. David, Mrs. J. David, Mr. M. Chapman, Mr. J. Chapman, Mrs. M. Chapman, Mrs. E. Bosen. Mr. Tony Dawson and Mr. K. Fernandez, Deceased members of the Kiss Family, Tatrai Family, Papik Family, Magda Tatrai, Tibor Kiss, Frank Huszar and family, Mr. E.P. Mathew, Mr. E.G. Peter, Mrs. M. Peter, Mr. A.S. Scaria, Mrs. M. Scaria, Mr. Jogy Scaria, Mr. E.G. Joseph, Mrs. T. Joseph, Mrs. Bincy Mol Thomas, Mr. P.T. Johnson, Mr. K.K. Ythomas, Mr. Thomas Kurian and Mrs. Agnes Peter, Marie Kershaw and Sue Herbert, Pauline & William Galea and Mario Pirrone., Rafael Posa and Nelida Posa., Lino Mapa, Bebot Mapa, Centes Mapa, Fredo Mapa, Azon Espos, Romualdo Espos, Wennie Esquibel., Salvador Esquibel Sr., Juliana Esquibel, Leonardo Galon, Elsa Galon, Frances & Morly Galon, Gina Anasco and Rosario & Roberto Mapa. Stuart Knox, John & Elizabeth McLintock, Vera Costello and all my friends who have died, Ann, Leonard & James Gable, Judith Clapham, Percival & Dorothea Wright, Percival & Alce Wright, Dominic & Maria DiNuzzo




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