



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



**4th Sunday of Ordinary Time
28th / 29th January 2023**

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hour: Monday—Friday 9 am—5 pm

Lunch: 1pm – 1.30pm (*Office closed*)

Telephone: (02) 4721 2509

Email: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Website: www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Facebook: @SNOMPenrith

PARISH EMERGENCY NUMBER: 4732 3039

PARISH PRIESTS AND DEACON

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Manjaly

E: joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Asst Priest: Fr Chinonye Akamadu

E: chuk.akamadu@parracatholic.org

Nepean Hospital Chaplain: Fr Porathur Joy (PJ)

Deacon: Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap

STAFF

Office Manager: Rodney Howard (M,Th,F)

E: manager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Admin Assistant:

E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Rodney Howard (T,W)

E: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Catechists: Margaret Wilson

E: catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Volunteer Admin Support: Margaret Cobden

RCIA Coordinators: Allan & Josephine Linga

E: allan.linga@gmail.com

P: 0410 638 421

Health & Safety Officer: Craig Walsh

P:0428 284 568

ORGANISATIONS

St Vincent de Paul

Hub: 8861 9770

Catholic Care

E: enquiries@ccss.org.au

02 8843 2500

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Nicholas Primary Ph; 4752 3300

Principal : Mr. Tim Van Tempest

St Mary Mackillop Primary Ph; 4724 3200

Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The gospel of Matthew is keen to cast Jesus in the role of the ‘new Moses’. Moses was revered in Jewish history not only as the one who led the people out of Egypt, but even more importantly as the one who received the Ten Commandments from God. The first five books of the Bible, known to Jews as the Torah, or the Law, were accredited to Moses for a very long time. So Moses was seen as the one who received the Commandments from God and who also wrote down the Law of the people, the Torah. He was the Law-Giver for the Jewish people. When the gospel of Matthew portrays Jesus as the new Moses it emphasises the way in which Jesus sought to bring the Law of Moses to fulfilment and bring about a new understanding and appreciation of both the Law and God. Jesus introduced a new way of perceiving God; as a God of compassion and mercy, rather than the jealous, vengeful God that is often expressed in the Old Testament.

The Sermon on the Mount that begins with the Beatitudes comes out of this historical context. Jesus is trying to present a new interpretation of the right way to be in relationship with God; one that is not dominated by rules and regulations. The text is so familiar to us today that it is almost bland. However, at the time it must have been incredibly confronting. The attitudes and states of being that Jesus blesses were not the characteristics that were valued in the society of his time. Poverty, gentleness and mourning were not considered strong, desirable qualities. So, the picture Jesus paints of how to be in right relationship with God and others was confronting the standards and expectations of the time.



Living the Gospel – Be-attitudes

One way to read the Beatitudes is that Jesus was commending and blessing the various people who found themselves in those sorts of conditions. Another, is as a list of qualities that all people should strive to exhibit. It’s not just some people who happen to be economically poor who are blessed. Rather, we must all have a poverty of spirit – a humility about our need for God’s merciful action in our lives. All are called to hunger and thirst for justice and all are called to be merciful. The Beatitudes are not a menu to select from, but rather an essential list of ingredients.

Gospel Focus – Covenant

The structure of the Beatitudes can be seen as yet another attempt by God to re-establish a covenant between Godself and the people. Throughout Jewish history, God called the people back into relationship and re-established God’s covenant with them. Like all the previous versions of the covenant, the Beatitudes contain both a series of demands and a series of promises. It is a two-way deal. The first part of each Beatitude is a statement of what the people are called to do and the second part is God’s promise of how they will be rewarded for their right action.

✍ Greg Sunter

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DIOCESAN NEWS

Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses 2023

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Courses will recommence this year in February. This is formation for anyone interested in serving within the Liturgical Ministries either as Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying and Ministers at the Altar. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or mary.gale@parracatholic.org or visit our website to download an enrolment form at <https://officeforworship.org.au/>

SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN OUR PARISH AND ENROLMENT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 10TH FEBRUARY



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
David O'Connor
and for his family.

His funeral will be held on **Thursday 2nd February at 10.30am**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Noah (Lily) O'Brien (14years old)
and for her family.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: David O'Connor, Cathy Coghlan, Noah (Lily) O'Brien and all who have died from COVID-19.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Carmela Sultana, Kevin John Taylor, William & Kathleen Duckworth, Freddie & Carmela Fenech, Maria Relunia, PT Thomas, Francis Anthony Jordan and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Margaret Donnelly, John Nettar, Ismenia Moniz, Fausta Da Costa, Godfrey Gomez, Lawrence & Rosaria Cacciottolo and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

SICK: Robert Galino, Theresa Jordan, Michael Nolan Nad Coder, Herve Rochecousta, Ariane Robert, Bill Hardy, Bob Hardy, Kieren Brocktoff, 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 Margee Geagea, Roger Wilkom, Margaret Bell, Antonio Malicdem, Janet Arellano, Marianne Brigden, Nancy Galon, Peter Farrugia, Tadeus Gwiazda, Danielle Kazare, Sheryl Oszust, Ting Cecila, Moises Millena, Olga Kiss, Sydney Morris, Thanda Manjaly, Adelia Delapaz, David Wakeling, Jane McCann, George and Lena Caruana and all who suffer from COVID-19.

Diocese of Parramatta WYD23 Pilgrimage Registrations Open!

Registration for WYD23 in Lisbon has now opened. Young people aged 16-35 can now view our itinerary, inclusions, indicative pricing, register and pay their \$800 deposit to secure their place. Limited spaces still available to join our team of 170 pilgrims with Bishop Vincent. Visit www.parrawyd.org

PARISH OFFICE

The renovated parish office is open. You walk into the reception area via the door off the verandah. **No need to ring the front door bell.**

Office hours are 9.00am - 5.00pm weekdays.

Closed from 1.00pm - 1.30pm



Parishioners are reminded that the carpark off Higgins Lane is a private carpark for patrons of the New Fortune Palace Chinese restaurant and **SHOULD NOT** be used for parking during mass times.

Message from Emu Plains Parish

WHO IS JESUS in St Matthew's Gospel? You are invited to an **ENQUIRY SESSION on TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY** about fortnightly facilitated small groups in Emu Plains, to explore this question. **Day and Evening groups (just 2) start the week beginning 27 February. Inquiries** Jim Potts 0421 125 722 (We can discuss your preferences for a time on both 14 Feb and a day/ time for the ongoing meetings)

SAVE THE DATE: Dr Laurie Woods, Scripture Scholar - on Matthew's Gospel: Saturday 25th February, 9am-12.30 pm Emu Plains. **RSVP** 18 February to Jim Potts 0421 125 722

PLANNED GIVING

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

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Reference 6029 [SURNAME DONATION]

SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish

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Acct Name Penrith St Nicholas Catholic Church
Reference [ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME]

PARISH NEWS

Mass Readings for 4th / 5th February 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading	Isaiah 58: 7 - 10
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 111: 4 - 9
2nd Reading	1 Corinthians 2: 1 - 5
Gospel	Matthew 5: 13 - 16

OUR NORMAL WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE RE-SUMES THIS WEEK.

SEE CALENDAR BELOW

Sacramental Program

Confirmation

Enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation are
now open
on our website, stnicholasofmyra.org.au
and close on
Wednesday 8th February 2023

The website contains the requirements and commitments for parents and children and the dates of the Parent Information Evening, Commitment masses, Family sessions, Practice afternoon and Reconciliation

To be eligible for Confirmation,
Children must be in Year 5 or above, must be baptised, have made their First Reconciliation, and received First Holy Communion

*All enquiries to Rodney Howard at
St Nicholas Parish
Ph: 4721 2509*

Email: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au



On Sunday 5th February, 11.00am - 12.30pm (just after the 10.00am mass), we are having a cyber security awareness session to be held in the Parish Hall. This event is an opportunity to learn and discuss the challenges of today's cyber security and what we can do to prevent being a victim of cyber crime. You are all invited in this awareness campaign especially those who feel vulnerable, anxious and overwhelmed with all the news of cyber attacks on big and well-known Australian companies."

SAVE THE DATE

The Parish will be holding a Lenten Reflection for all Acolytes, Ministers at the Altar, Readers, Commentators, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion on
SATURDAY March 25th (note change of date)

Further details to follow in coming weeks.

WE NEED MORE WARDENS!

Our Church offerings / collections need to be re-organised. We are lacking wardens to cover all areas in each mass. We would like your support to run our collections smoothly.

Fr Joe is calling a meeting on

Saturday 4th February at 8.00am

in the Church for all existing and new wardens.

We are looking at changing the 1st collection to immediately after the homily and the 2nd Collection will be during the offertory (as it is now)

Please come ... we really need your help.

Come, join our Catechist team, 2023.

To "be" catechists!
Not to "work" as catechists.
Catechesis is a vocation:
"being a catechist".
This is the vocation,
not "working" as a catechist.
Handbook on Catechesis



We need more Catechists for the next school year to work in the ministry of spreading the Gospel message to the Catholic

students in our 6 local State schools. Ongoing training, mentoring and excellent resources available. If interested please contact Catechist Coordinator, Margaret Wilson at the Parish Office, (02) 47212509, catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au.

CALENDAR

Monday 30/1	Tuesday 31/1 St John Bosco Memorial	Wednesday 1/2	Thursday 2/2 The Presentation of the Lord Feast	Friday 3/2	Saturday 4/2	Sunday 5/2 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 7.00pm PPC Meeting	9.30am Mass 11.00am Legion of Mary in PMR1 7.00pm Mass followed by Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 10.30am Funeral David O'Connor	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass	9.00am Healing Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation 11.00am Mass for our Lady of Penafancia 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 11.45am Baptisms 6.00pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 4th / 5th FEBRUARY

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

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	J Buttigieg B Scott		N Joseph	D Conejar	A Linga D Scott	AMDG Youth	Volunteer Needed
7.00am	J French A Ruzgas		C Bonus	Y Baccan	R Bru M Scicluna		Volunteer Needed
8.30am	J Jordan R Wood	G Borg	J Doman	P Nematalla	B Brainwood P Wheller	Jeffrey Mizzi	Ursula Gomez
10.00am	J Tabone J Relunia	M Johnson A Joseph	M Varua	L Alimangohan	A Alimangohan C Gillaus	Jane Chifley	Volunteer Needed
6.00pm	S Aish M Cobden	A Aish I Jobin	K Smith	C D'Mello	L D'Lima K Wrightson	BNP Youth	Marve

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