



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



**2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday  
8th / 9th April 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:** Michelle Zotz

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 Vane -Tempest

**St Mary Mackillop Primary** Ph; 4724 3200

Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Because the focus of this week's gospel passage is usually placed on poor old doubting Thomas, we sometimes overlook the way the passage begins. The disciples are huddled in a room, 'for fear of the Jews'. Just a couple of weeks earlier they had been on top of the world. Jesus was enormously popular with the people, and the disciples, by association, were caught up in that affection. Their man, the one they had chosen to follow, was making waves and stirring the authorities – thumbing his nose at the rules. This, of course, made the disciples feel good to be around Jesus. However, in the space of just a few short days, their world had turned upside down. They'd gone from riding the crest of a wave to being utterly dumped! They were cowering in a closed up room, afraid for their lives in case those who

handed Jesus over for death came for them as well. They'd already had an experience of the resurrected Jesus yet they were still hiding and afraid. Into this fear and uncertainty steps Jesus who says, 'Peace be with you'. It is a reminder of Jesus calming the storm out on the lake – in the midst of turmoil and anxiety he brings peace and calm.



"As the Father sent me, so am I sending you."

John 20:21

Thomas has received a pretty bad rap for the last 2000 years, forever labelled as 'Doubting Thomas' because he wasn't prepared to take someone else's word for the fact that Jesus had risen. However, despite his demand for evidence, once Jesus is before him, he abandons all his thoughts about placing his fingers in the wounds and proclaims, 'My Lord and my God!' This is an absolutely extraordinary statement of faith. For the very first time, someone recognises Jesus, not as Messiah, prophet or Lord, but as God.

**Have you thought? Those who have not seen**  
Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

### Have you thought? Those who have not seen

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

### Scriptural context – Not an ending?

The final two verses of today's gospel passage (Jn 20:30-31) read like the conclusion to the whole gospel. They are a statement of finality about the purpose for writing the gospel and something of a blessing for those who read it. Yet, surprisingly, there is another whole chapter that follows this passage that deals with still more post-resurrection appearances. Most scripture scholars believe that the end of Chapter 20 was the original ending of the gospel and that Chapter 21 is a later addition – possibly added by the community for whom the gospel was originally written

✉ Greg Sunter

© Liturgy Help 2023

Image Credit: Liturgy Help 2023

## DIOSCEAN NEWS / COURSES

### Diocesan Synod

A Synod is both an event and a process where clergy, religious, and the laity gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Synods are transformative events that lead to renewal in the Church's life.

**Our Diocesan Synod will be held from 12-15 October 2023.**

Our Synod will gather clergy, religious, and the laity across our Diocese to listen, discern, and respond to the Holy Spirit through voices of the People of God in Western Sydney and The Blue Mountains.

From May to July 2023, in the lead up to the Synod, all are invited to participate in deanery and parish listening consultations, organising time to discuss with family and friends, and engaging in opportunities to dialogue.

There are information and prayer cards in the foyer and at the doors of the Church, please take one home with you. Scan to QR code for more information or visit [parracatholic.org/synod2023](http://parracatholic.org/synod2023)



**CCD St Matthew's Gospel Series: Starting 28 April**  
 CCD is hosting Dr Laurie Woods presenting A Study of St Matthew's Gospel - April 28; May 5, 12, 19 & 26. 10 am to 2pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. To book please email Maree Collis [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

### MET FaithLIFE Scripture Course: Starting 2 May

Want to learn more about different ways to pray? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on "Prayer" with Br Barry Donaghue, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). 6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 2 + 9 + 16 May. Downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparr.org.au/faithlife/>

### MET Worship Liturgical Music Workshop: 4 May

Musicians, Clergy & Liturgy Planners are invited to attend a Music Workshop Presented by Eric Grella on Singing the Psalms & Chant on Thursday 4 May from 7pm to 8:30pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. RSVP by 1 May to [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org)

## PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Mercedita Catalan and all who have died from COVID-19.

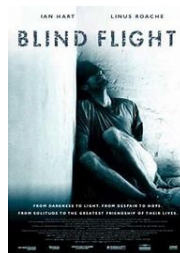
**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Jean & Joe Culhane, Grant McLean, Alice Nematalla, Shelia Fullerton, Fredrick George Smith and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**DECEASED:** Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Margaret Donnelly, John Nettar, Evangelina 'Helen' Bayola and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**SICK:** Connie Xerri, Maria Nyss, Ivan Topic, Michelle Zotz, Lyn De Vos-Brocktoff, Ricardo Limjap, Nympha Miller, Robert Galino, Theresa Jordan, Michael Nolan, Nad Coder, Herve Rochecousta, Ariane Robert, Bob Hardy, Charles Tabone, Billy Downes, Sue Wheelahan, Heather Whitborn, Phil Thatcher, Michael Vella, Stanley Mascarenhas, Trevor Rowe, John Wakeling, Nicholas Agius, Baby Capri Marshall, Melisa Maiseeh, Tracy Mulla, Lou Doyle, Norm Heffernan, Robin Harkin, Lisa Sperineck, Roger Wilkom, Margaret Bell, Antonio Malicdem, Jenet Arellano, Marianne Brigden, Nancy Galon, Peter Farrugia, Tadeus Gwiazda, Danielle Kazare, 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.

## ST NICK'S FLICKS MOVIE NIGHT

**ST NICK'S FLICKS MOVIE NIGHT IS BACK IN 2023**



**On Friday 30th April we will be showing "Blind Flight"**

It stars Ian Hart and Linus Roache.

It is the true account of the kidnapping of Brian Keenan, an Irish man who went to Lebanon as a teacher, and his subsequent captivity with John McCarthy, a journalist who was there covering Brian's captivity.

**Please come along with your family and friends.**

**Popcorn and snacks will be provided.**

## HOLY WEEK CELEBRATIONS



## 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

### Mass Readings for 22nd / 23rd April 3rd Sunday of Easter

<b>1st Reading</b>	Acts 2: 14, 22 - 33
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Psalm 15: 1 - 2, 5, 7 - 11
<b>2nd Reading</b>	1 Peter 1: 17 - 21
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 24: 13 - 35



### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

COME & CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF DIVINE  
MERCY WITH OUR PARISH AT

ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA CHURCH,  
326 HIGH ST, PENRITH  
**2:30PM on 16th APRIL 2023**

- ❖ Blessing of Divine Mercy Image
- ❖ Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- ❖ Stations of the Cross
- ❖ Homily and Benediction
- ❖ Reconciliation till 5PM
- ❖ Afternoon Tea from 4:15PM - 5:15PM
- ❖ Divine Mercy Mass 6PM

JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

*Jesus Promised - "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy." Diary 1109*

### Sacramental Program

#### Holy Communion

Enrolments for the Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion are open on our Website .  
To be eligible your child must be in Year 4 or above and have made their 1st Reconciliation.  
The Parent Information session will be held on Tuesday 9th May at 7.00pm in our Church  
All other information regarding dates is on the website.

*Thank you for your generous support of Caritas through the Project Compassion boxes.*



*If you have not returned yours please bring to the Parish office this week.*



We thank you for your generous support of the annual collection for the La Salette seminarians and the Holy Land last week.

We also thank you for your continued support of our parish so we can continue our mission and ministry in Penrith.

See tables below for totals and comparison to last year.

For the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal in support of our seminarians we have raised \$4716.00 not including online donations.

### Holy Week Collections: Last year 2022

La Salette Seminarian's support on Holy Thursday - \$1724.40

Good Friday collections for Holy Land - \$1980.85

#### Easter Collection

Pastoral revenue (First collection) - \$3700.00

Second collection - \$ 4886.00

Project compassion boxes - \$6909

### Holy Week Collections: This year 2023

La Salette Seminarian's support on Holy Thursday - \$1644.25

Good Friday collections for Holy Land - \$ 2659.25

#### Easter Collection

Pastoral revenue (First collection) - \$ 4250.00

Second collection - \$ 4965.10

Project compassion boxes so far - \$ 5100.00

## CALENDAR

Monday 17/4	Tuesday 18/4	Wednesday 19/4	Thursday 20/4	Friday 21/4	Saturday 22/4	Sunday 23/4 3rd Sunday of Easter
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 10.30 Mass Newmarch House 7.00pm Prayer Group Hall	9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass Summit Care 11.00am Legion of Mary in Hall 7.00pm Mass followed by Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 10.30 Mass The Royce	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass 7.30pm Mass BNP	9.00am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 11.45 Baptisms 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass

## Parish Roster 22nd / 23rd April

*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	S Dias	S Falleiro	K Smith	L Scully R Debono	Heart & Soul Arts	Samara Dias
7.00am	J French D Wiggins		Y Baccan	S Paterson	R Bru M Scicluna	No Music	Brian Rees
8.30am	C Nepomuceno C Walsh	M Tickner	P Nematalla	R Walsh	C Wright P Wheller	Jeffrey Mizzi	Ursula
10.00am	J Relunia J Tabone	E Gal N McWhirter	A Johnson	M Varua	K Pemberton C Gillaus	Br David	Mark Johnson
6.00pm	R Esteban C Geraldez	I Jobin	N Joseph	D Whalen	C D'Mello K Wrightson	Adrian Catt	Sharon Shahoud

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES



**LIGHTWATER**  
Plumbing & Electrical

A HANDY COMBINATION

**LIGHTWATER**  
Plumbing Pty Ltd  
Joey Buttigieg  
0432 147 251

**LIGHTWATER**  
Electrical Pty Ltd  
Chris Buttigieg  
0412 569 739

**BEAUTIFUL  
SIMPLE  
FAREWELLS**

☎ 4735 6900    💻 [gracefunerals.com.au](http://gracefunerals.com.au)

PENRITH | BLUE MOUNTAINS | WESTERN SYDNEY

**GRACE FUNERALS**

A family owned Australian business    AUSTRALIAN FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION    Formerly Lady of Grace Funerals

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED  
20 years  
PERSONALISED AND UNIQUE

**NEED A HANDYMAN?  
S. Dane Bonus  
Carpenter**

Call to arrange a free quote

**0433 382 372**

[sdane.bonus@gmail.com](mailto:sdane.bonus@gmail.com)  
Licence no. 285266C  
ABN 98 874 664 402  
Fully insured NPC WWCC



**NEPEAN VALLEY  
FUNERALS**

Traditional Care with Dignity & Respect :

**Tel: 4722 8222**

Local family owned  
and operated.  
**24hrs / 7 days**

Shop 4  
2-6 Castlereagh St  
Penrith

 Catholic Cemeteries  
& Crematoria  
Care, Compassion, Choice

*Reflections*  
**Funerals**

John and  
Sue Hibbert

**For Family By Family**

Locally Owned  
**02 4732 4440**

[www.reflectionsfunerals.com.au](http://www.reflectionsfunerals.com.au)

Saving  
Industry  
Professionals

Ultimate  
care for you  
and your  
family



**WHITE LADY  
FUNERALS**  
*a woman's understanding*

Rachael Kilpatrick 4731 4385  
219-221 High Street, Penrith  
[whiteladyfunerals.com.au](http://whiteladyfunerals.com.au)

**Bateman Battersby  
LAWYERS**

*We invite members of the parish to  
take advantage of our legal  
services specialising in:*

- Property Law
- Family Law
- Business Law
- Negligence Law
- Wills & Estates
- Court Appearances

**Ph: 02 47315899**

[www.batemanbattersby.com.au](http://www.batemanbattersby.com.au)  
[enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au](mailto:enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au)



**WHALE  
BATHROOMS**

Licence # 180584C

**Quality Bathroom Renovations**  
Trustworthy & Friendly Service  
25 Years' experience  
Portable Bathroom Hire

**0407417553      Free  
47738700      Quotes**

  
Best Disability Solution Services  
Helping hands for stronger ability



SIL / SDA



Household Tasks



Nursing & High  
Care Needs



Specialised Support  
Coordination

+61 451 811 220  
[info@bestdisability.com.au](mailto:info@bestdisability.com.au)  
[www.bestdisability.com.au](http://www.bestdisability.com.au)

