



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



14th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
8th / 9th July 2023
Apostleship of the Sea Sunday

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

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E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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(T,W)

E: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Catechists Coordinator: 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

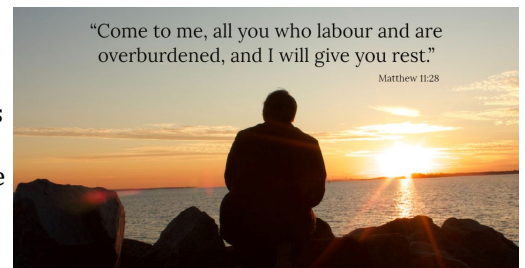
Principal : Mr. Tim Vane -Tempest

St Mary Mackillop Primary Ph; 4724 3200

Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

GOSPEL REFLECTION

When we hear the term, *yoke*, we tend to think about the yoke that is used to harness oxen together or the yoke that someone might carry on their shoulder to balance a heavy load. This yoke across the shoulder was adopted into tailoring and so the shoulder piece set into a shirt is also called a yoke. However, in the Jewish tradition there is a completely different meaning to the term. The yoke of a rabbi was his particular interpretation of Torah (the Law); his particular teaching. Disciples who followed a particular rabbi sought to take on his yoke; his particular interpretation. The yoke of any rabbi was best identified by asking him, 'Which is the greatest commandment?' A rabbi's answer to this question revealed his interpretation of Torah. When Jesus is asked that question, he answers, 'Love God and love your neighbour,' and goes on to say that all of the rest of the Law and the prophets flows on from these two commandments. This is the yoke – the interpretation of Torah – that Jesus taught. In today's gospel, Jesus calls to him all those who labour and are overburdened. It is the Pharisaic interpretation of the Law that burdens these people. Trying to maintain the Law was burdensome and complicated for the everyday person. Jesus says, 'Shoulder *my* yoke and learn from me ... my yoke is easy.' The yoke of Jesus was easy: Love God and love your neighbour. Compared to the 613 *mitzvot* (commands) set out in the Torah and strictly maintained by the Pharisees, the yoke of Jesus was incredibly easy to understand and adopt. So simple, in fact, that it required a child-like simplicity to accept this yoke.



Living the Gospel – Shoulder my yoke

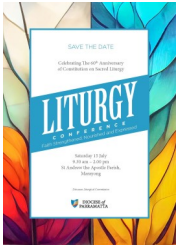
Jesus invites us to shoulder his yoke and learn from him for he is gentle and humble in heart. The yoke he invites us to shoulder is the deceptively simple teaching: love God and love your neighbour. To love God is to consciously make a place in our lives for God. The busy spin that tends to be characteristic of so many people's lives today does not allow room for God; does not allow room for prayer and quiet; does not allow room for compassionate response to others. To love God and love our neighbour we must first make room for them.

Have you thought? Thank God!

Jesus' quite intimate words to the Father in today's passage carry with them an enormous amount of relief and perhaps released frustration. It is almost a cry of 'Thank God!' for his disciples have finally 'got it'. Jesus blesses the Father for revealing the truth to these simple men whom Jesus had chosen to follow him. The men Jesus chose as disciples were not following another rabbi and so had not been the very best students from their village. They had the education of most children but nothing more – otherwise they would have been following someone else!

✍ Greg Sunter
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Image Credit: Liturgy Help 2023

LITURGY CONFERENCE



The Diocese is holding a Liturgy Conference on Saturday 15th of July from 9.30am to 2.00pm at St Andrew the Apostle Parish at Marayong. Keynote speaker is Very Rev Peter G Williams AM VG. There will be a choice of workshops, 2 will held on the day. Lunch provided. Cost \$30.00

For further information, program and to register scan the QR code.



Be the face of Christ to our First Nations people



There is still time to donate to Aboriginal Catholic Care

If you've donated, thank you for your compassionate, life-changing help! If you haven't had a chance, **you can still help the homeless and people experiencing hardship**. Our community drop-in centres provide practical assistance for anyone in need. With Government funding for Catholic Care's Housing, Care and Support program **ceasing 30 June, your support and tax-deductible gift is critical**. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code. **Thanks for being a Good Samaritan!**



PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Yardley, Rosa Aquino Punzalan and all who have died from COVID-19.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Joe Melder, Shane Jordan, Sid Marshall, pHugh Keavy, Anthony Chia, Teresa Tan Avila, Keith McSpadden, Richard Gale, Josef Lusch, Ivor Keuneman, Eliana Ganderilles and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Margaret Donnelly, John Nettare, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

SICK: Sabbir Siddique, Thomas & Dawne Zotz, Olive Gyford, Saxon Oxlade, Pauline Morton, Vince Hardy, Bob Rideout, Peter Gill, Isabella Agius, Karan Bradburn, Aiden Burke, Elwyn Geerin, Helen Wakeling, Gregory Hurney, Marios Pericleous, Ivan Bracar, Baby Ema De-Gioga, Daryle Young, Todd Soden, Connie Xerri, Maria Nyss, Ivan Topic, Lyn De Vos-Brockhoff, Nympha Miller, Robert Galino, Theresa Jordan, Nad Coder, Herve Rochecosta, Ariane Robert, Charles Tabone, Billy Downes, Heather Whitborn, Michael Vella, Stanley Mascarenhas, Trevor Rowe, Nicholas Agius, Baby Capri Marshall, Melisa Maiseeh, Tracy Mulla, Lou Doyle, Norm Heffernan, 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.

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Our parish community will hold a consultation on **Tuesday 11th July at 7.00pm in the Hall. Please register on the form in the foyer of the Church**

The fundamental question that will guide our listening and consultation process towards the synod is:

In what ways can we respond to the call of the Holy Spirit to be a more synodal Church in the Diocese of Parramatta?

The Diocese of Parramatta will use the three key dimensions expressed as pillars of a synodal church to guide local discussions for submissions. These are **Communion, Participation, and Mission**.

To assist participants to explore the fundamental question, the following questions aim to provide a framework for discussion in a one-on-one or group setting. These questions serve as a catalyst for discussion. Participants are welcome to explore topics relating to the life and mission of the local Church beyond the questions provided.

Communion

1. What are the factors that make a great community? What brings people together?
2. How can the church in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains deepen communion, and still honour the rich diversity of our community?
3. How do you try to accompany or 'walk with' family and friends through their struggles and joys?

Participation:

1. What are the challenges or pressures that stop you from being more engaged in your local faith community?
2. How can we encourage greater participation in the life of the Church at both a local and Diocesan level?
3. How does your community effectively identify and share the gifts of its people?

Mission:

1. What do you believe the mission of the Church is in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains?
2. How do we ensure the ongoing nourishment of our faith communities, while expanding the tent for others to be included?
3. Describe your local community and the needs you perceive. What are the ways in which we can meet the needs of today and into the future? Provide one practical suggestion on how we could meet that need.

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

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

PARISH NEWS

Mass Readings for 15th / 16th July 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading	Isaiah 55: 10 - 11
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 64: 10 - 14
2nd Reading	Romans 8: 18 - 23
Gospel	Matthew 13: 1 - 23

Planned Giving Envelopes

The 2023/2024 Planned Giving envelopes period will commence on the weekend of 5th / 6th 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.

Over the last 3 years we have had a number of Planned Giving envelopes issued with many of them not being collected. **If you have not collected your envelopes this year (2022/2023) but you wish to remain on the Planned Giving envelope system, please phone, or email the Parish office.**

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

**The new envelopes will be available in the
foyer of the Church from the weekend of
15th / 16th July.**



LEGION OF MARY

Our meetings time is 11.00am each Wednesday in PMR1. All are welcome to join. For further enquiries on Legion of Mary email Edmund Bishara at edmund.bishara@bigpond.com



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our Children liturgy will not be held during the school holidays, **it will recommence on Sunday 23rd July at the 10.00am mass.**



The parish will be training new altar servers to serve at the altar. The training will be held on July 19th and 26th and August 1st and 8th 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.

Please contact the Parish office to register their names.



**Fr Chris de Souza will
celebrate the 10.00am
mass on Sunday the 9th
of July at St Nicholas.**

**Please come along to say thank you and to wish him
well in his new position.**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN ONE OF OUR MINISTRIES IN THE CHURCH?

Become a Minister of the Word, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Communion to the Sick and Dying or Minister at the Altar.

The Liturgical Ministry Formation Course is running again starting on 4th of September in Blacktown. Application forms are available from the Parish Office and must be returned to the Office by Monday 21st August.

St Nicholas of Myra Prayer Group

You are invited to come and listen to God's reflection on the Sunday's liturgy every 2nd and last Tuesday of month at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall.

The Parish will be taking photos during major liturgical celebrations and other events to promote the Parish mission and may use these photos in the Parish Bulletin, Facebook page or website. If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Office.

CALENDAR

Monday 10/7	Tuesday 11/7 St Benedict Memorial	Wednesday 12/7	Thursday 13/7	Friday 14/7	Saturday 15/7 St Bonaventure Memorial	Sunday 16/7 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 7.00pm Prayer Group PMR1 7.00pm Parish Synod Listening Consultation Hall	9.30am Mass 11.00am Legion of Mary in PMR1 7.00pm Mass & Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 7.00pm SVDP Regional Mtg	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass followed by Divine Mercy Adoration	9.00am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 11.45 Baptisms 6.00pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 15th / 16th July

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

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	Rodney Howard Damian Wheelahan		Connie Limjap	Jenny Hogan	Arts Calub Nerissa Calub	Amen Choir Eric	Josephine Linga
7.00am	Anthony Ruzgas Jacob French		Margaret Scicluna	Stuart Paterson	Ramon Bru Sue Sweeney	No Music	Carol Gill
8.30am	John Jordan Margaret Cobden	Michael Ostrea	Peter Nematalla	Marie Prendeville	Yvonne Baccan Orlan Nugpo	Jeffrey Mizzi	Volunteer Needed
10.00am	Jun Relunia Remy Wood	Manuel Credo Marco Credo	Dominic Dawson	Puleiala Samuelu	Mary Knox Carmen Vella	BNP Chapter Cary	BNP
6.00pm	Cheryl Clark Ninea Nepomuceno	Jonathan Joseph	Carolyn D'Mello	Kathleen Smith	Lynda D'Lima Darlene Streher	Br David & Marian Choir	Sharon Shahoud

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