



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



**20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**19th / 20th August 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 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



This week's gospel provides a fascinating illustration of Jesus' response to those in need. Jesus has travelled to the area of Tyre and Sidon – part of modern day Lebanon. He was physically removing himself from the place of his very active ministry and taking a break. When the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus and his disciples, she is an interruption; a nuisance. Jesus is very abrupt with her. He tells her simply that his ministry is to the house of Israel – the Jews – and is not for her. But the woman is persistent and again asks Jesus to help her. Jesus is even more abrupt and tells her that it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs. Through this use of metaphor, Jesus refers to the children of Israel (the Jews) and to the gentiles and pagans – sometimes referred to as 'dogs' to reflect their lowly status in the eyes of the Jewish tradition. Still the woman persists and turns Jesus' metaphor back on him, saying that even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table.

The woman's persistence and faith pay off. Jesus is moved by her faith and through that faith heals the woman's daughter. Despite his initial abruptness and reluctance, Jesus responds with compassion to the woman's request. It is as though she needed to demonstrate that she was really serious and that she did in fact believe that Jesus could make a difference in her life and the life of her daughter. This is an important story in Matthew's gospel. This gospel was written predominantly for Jewish Christians but this story reveals that the ministry of Jesus and the reign of God is open to anyone who believes.

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### From the perspective of ... A disciple.

As we passed through a little village near Sidon this Canaanite woman suddenly started calling on the master to help her daughter. We all expected the master to help her out as usual but he really put her in her place! He told her that his ministry was not for pagans like her. That should have stopped her, but she kept on and on, even turning the master's words back on him! She was so rude. We were about to push her out of the way so that the master could move on when he suddenly told her that her faith was great and that her daughter was better. Great faith? A Canaanite? He never ceases to surprise us!

### Scriptural Context

This passage sits in the middle of a group of three stories that make up Chapter 15 of Matthew's Gospel. The first story deals with Jesus challenging traditional views of cleanliness and uncleanness – one of the great separators between Jews and Gentiles. The story of this week's gospel follows with its account of the Canaanite woman's great faith being recognised. Finally, Matthew's gospel relates the story of the feeding of the four thousand – a dramatic sign by Jesus of the open invitation to receive his message and ministry. The three stories, taken together, form a powerful chapter that makes clear that the message of Jesus is not exclusively for the Jews.

✉ Greg Sunter

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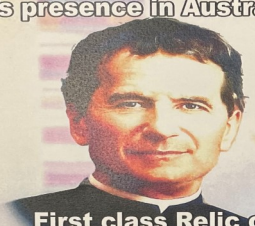
Image Credit: Liturgy Help 2023

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### Adult Confirmation 2023

Adult Confirmation 2023 will be held on Tuesday 5 September at 7:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral with the Catechesis and Formation Day to be held on Saturday 2 September at 9:30am – 2pm at the Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown (formerly known as the IFM). Adult Confirmation is a community celebration for those who have reached the age of 16 years and have received both the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but are yet to receive the Confirmation. If you would like more information, please contact the Office for Worship on 0460 037 795 or [hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org](mailto:hannah.portelli@parracatholic.org).

Centenary Celebrations of  
Don Bosco's presence in Australia: 1923-2023



First class Relic of  
**Saint John Bosco**  
is coming to St Marys

Wednesday August 23 to  
Sunday August 27 at  
**Our Lady of the Rosary Church,**  
Cnr Mamre Rd and Swanston St, St Marys

- All welcome to visit the church and to venerate the Relic any time the church is open.
- School group bookings available:

Ring parish office (96231962) during office hours.  
- Friday August 25, 7pm Mass with Bishop Vincent Long.

See notice in Foyer for full details of other masses and adoration times.

## PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jan Maunders and all who have died from COVID-19.

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Gloria Sajonia, Leonard Cobden, Iggi Paiva, Melanie Goonesekera, Milka Static, Estelita Almiraza, Alexander Donaldson, Pearl Lvinge, Frances Hendry, Thomas Ko, Boleslaw Gwiazda, Joseph Xiberras, Maryam Jejou, Jamila Faransi and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

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

**SICK:** Eric Nepomuceno, Peter Gale, Janice Cannon, Sabbir Siddique, Thomas Zotz, Olive Gyford, Vince Hardy, Peter Gill, Isabella Agius, Karan Bradburn, Aiden Burke, Elwyn Geerin, Helen Wakeling, Susan Wheelahan, Gregory Hurney, Marios Pericleous, Ivan Bracar, Baby Ema De-Gioga, Daryle Young, Todd Soden, Connie Xerri, Maria Nyss, Ivan Topic, Lyn De Vos-Brocktoff, Nympha Miller, Robert Galino, Theresa Jordan, Nad Coder, Herve Rochecousta, 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 Cecilia, Moises Milena, Olga Kiss, Sydney Morris, Thanda Manjaly, Adelia Delapaz, David Wakeling, Jane McCann, George and Lena Caruana and all who suffer from COVID-19.

### Mass Readings for 26th / 27th August 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading	Isaiah 22: 19 - 23
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 137: 1 - 3, 6, 8
2nd Reading	Romans 11: 33 - 36
Gospel	Matthew 16: 13 - 20

### St Nicholas of Myra Penrith

The Parish and Couples for Christ would like to extend a fund raising invitation to all families to join us in celebrating

## FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

SUNDAY - 3rd September 2023 from 7.00am - 11.00am

St Nicholas of Myra Parish, Penrith  
326 High Street, Penrith NSW 2750  
Parish Meeting Room

Ticket \$5.00

## BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

On Sunday 20th August at the 7.00am, 8.30am, 10.00am and 6.00pm Masses, BNP will be holding a bake sale. Please support this event.



## 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](mailto:edmund.bishara@bigpond.com)

## PLANNED GIVING

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

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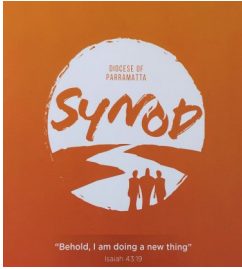
**SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish**

BSB 067 950  
Acct No 00000487  
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Reference [ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME]



## PARISH NEWS

### SYNOD NOVENA



At weekend masses we will be praying a special Novena for wisdom and guidance of the Holy Spirit as we begin the process of discernment and planning for the Synod. This Novena will take place after the good news sharing each week

### Sacramental Program **Reconciliation**

#### Parent Information Meeting

Tuesday 22nd August  
7.00pm in the Church

#### Commitment Masses

Saturday 26th 6.00pm  
Sunday 27th August 8.30am, 10.00am, 6.00pm

### FATHER'S DAY APPEAL - 2nd / 3rd SEPTEMBER



This annual appeal raises much needed funds for our Diocese's Clergy Support Foundation to continue its work of supporting retired clergy and those in ill-health.

### Join Our Finance Council and Make a difference in Our Parish

We are reaching out to you with a special invitation to join **the Finance Council of our Parish**. Your expertise and experience in areas such as accounting, property or real estate, fundraising events, and financial management make you an ideal candidate to contribute to our council's important work. Our Finance Council plays a crucial role in ensuring the financial health and sustainability of our parish. The Parish Finance Council meets every 2 or three months in the evenings for around one and half hours.

If you are interested in accepting this role or learning more about it, please feel free to reach out to me at [joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au).

Fr. Joe Manjaly

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our Children liturgy will take place at the 10.00am mass each week.



### CATECHIST THANKSGIVING MASS

A Thanksgiving mass to celebrate the special ministry of teaching about Jesus and understanding his message by all past and present Catechists in our parish, will be held on **Friday 20th October at the 12.10mass**. This will be followed by a get together in PMR1, Margaret, Catechist Coordinator, is looking forward to having as many past Catechists to share their stories.

Please contact Margaret at

[catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

before the 16th October to register your name and the number of years served in this ministry.

### ST NICK'S FLICK MOVIE NIGHT

On Friday 25th August at 7.00pm

we will be showing

#### What's Love got to do with it?



Zoe, a documentary maker follows the journey of her neighbour Kaz as he travels to Pakistan for an arranged marriage. She begins to wonder if she might have something to learn from a profoundly different approach to finding love.

Please come along with your family and friends.

Popcorn and soup will be provided.

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

Mon 21/8 St Pius X Memorial	Tue 22/8 The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial	Wed 23/8	Thu 24/8 St Bartholomew Feast	Fri 25/8	Sat 26/8	Sun 27/8 21st Sunday of Ordinary time
<b>RECONCILIATION COMMITMENT MASSES</b>						
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 7.00pm Reconciliation Parent Information Meeting	9.30am Mass 11.00am Legion of Mary in PMR1 7.00pm Mass & Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass Thornton Park	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass 7.00pm Movie Night	9.00am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass - Children's Liturgy 11.45 Baptisms 6.00pm Mass

## PARISH ROSTER 26th / 27th AUGUST

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

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	Jenny Hogan Ric Limjap	Sreya Dias	Marie Prendeville	Sharon Falleiro	Arts Calub Nerissa Calub	Heart & Soul	Samara Dias
7.00am	Denis Wiggins Anthony Ruzgas		Stuart Paterson	Evette Isaaks	Ramon Bru Luisa Davie	No Music	Brian Rees
8.30am	Caitlin Nepomuceno Craig Walsh	Michael Tickner	Peter Nematalla	Rose Walsh	Elenita Sajonia Robert Sajonia	Jeffrey Mizzi	Carol Gillaus
10.00am	Joe Tabone John Jordan	Elidie Gal Nathan McWhirter	Liza Alimangohan	Louise Gal	Kathleen Pemberton Carmen Vella	Br David & Marian Choir	Mark Johnson
6.00pm	Rey Esteban Jose-Elmer Simeon	Ram Esteban Joshua Esteban	Caroline D'Mello	Daniel Whalen	Darlene Streher Kathryn Wrightson	Sound of Worship	Jedd Kosman

## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES



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

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