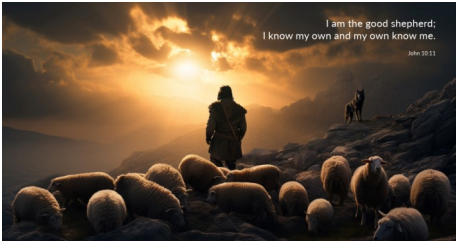




St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B 21ST APRIL 2024



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
Deacon: Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap
Nepean Hospital Chaplain:
Fr Chadi Ibrahim SBD

STAFF

Office Manager: Rodney Howard (M,Th,F)
E: manager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Admin Assistant: Sharon Clarke (Th,F)
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: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
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 REFELCTION

The image of Jesus as the good shepherd is such a familiar image that it can sometimes become over-familiar and cease to engage us. Countless works of art have presented this image literally, picturing Jesus as a shepherd with a crook and surrounded by sheep or even with a lamb draped around the back of his neck. The image from this week’s gospel often gets merged with the image from the parable of the lost sheep that appears in the gospels of Luke (15:1-7) and Matthew (18:10-14) where artists frequently place Jesus as the hero of his own parable and portray him as the ‘good shepherd’ going out to retrieve the one lost sheep. Such amalgamations of different gospel images can become very confusing. Some of this confusion and literal interpretation stems from the gospel writer’s choice of metaphoric language. In the gospel, Jesus says, ‘I am the good shepherd’, not ‘I am like the good shepherd’. The writer’s use of metaphor, rather than simile, provides a much more compelling image but can result in a more literal interpretation.

The emphasis of the image is on the adjective. Jesus is the good shepherd. Shepherds generally were not regarded as particularly good people – more like the scum of the earth! – so the choice of image is a deliberate one to unsettle the listeners. Unlike their normal expectation of shepherds – cut-throats who would run away at the first sign of danger – Jesus is the good shepherd: the one who does not abandon his flock; the one who has concern for his sheep; the one who will lay down his own life for his sheep. The final verses of the passage make an interesting extension to the image of shepherd and sheep. Unlike the ‘sacrificial lamb’, the good shepherd chooses to lay down his life and also has the power to take it up again.

Historical Context – The GOOD Shepherd?

The John gospel writer’s use of the image of Jesus as the good shepherd would have been a confronting image for the initial audience. Shepherds in first century Palestine were far from the idyllic pastoral image that we generally associate with the image. They occupied one of the lowest steps on the social ladder – men of such poor reputation that they could only be trusted to herd sheep; they certainly couldn’t be trusted around other people! Jesus’ use of the image cut two ways: it was a confronting image for the audience; but it was also a challenge to those leaders who had been charged to ‘shepherd’ their people and behaved no better than thieves – Jesus was giving them an image of what it means to be a good shepherd.

Scriptural context – The Shepherd Messiah

The gospels go to great lengths to affirm the lineage of Jesus and associate him with the house of David, the first great Jewish king. David began life as a simple boy tending his father’s flock of sheep. When the line of kings was instigated through David they were charged with being ‘shepherds’ of their people. However, down through the line of kings, this care for the people was lost and they ceased to be ‘shepherds’. Jesus’ claim to be the good shepherd is his claim to be in the line of the true kings of Israel – a shepherd of the people.

Different View – The Australian Shepherd

Australian audiences can tend to struggle a bit with the image of Jesus as the good shepherd. The Australian image of sheep is one of huge flocks of sheep that number in their hundreds and thousands and roam freely over enormous open plains. I guess we also tend to look on sheep as pretty stupid animals that will follow anything anywhere. It doesn’t seem to work to put Jesus into this image of vast sheep stations. The idea of a shepherd knowing his sheep individually seems a bit ridiculous in this context.

PARISH NEWS

Love One Another as I have loved you

John 15:12



Worldwide Marriage Encounter [WVME] is a weekend getaway, offering couples a special 'time-out' to enrich their marriage. Take this opportunity to step back from daily distractions and rediscover your relationship.

When: 28th - 30th June 2024 and 25th - 27th October 2024

Where: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW 2566

Marriage Encounter volunteers will tell you more about this on the weekend of 04/05 May 2024.

Book online at www.wvme.org.au or

contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or

email: nswbookings@wvme.org.au

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

James Drinan

and for his family

His Requiem Mass will be held on
Wednesday 24th April at 11.00am

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jane McCann, Winifred Bell, James Drinan

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Alice Nematalla, Coriazon & Nicnor (snr) Cauilan, Maria Theresa Saguin, Kristine Ann Bernadette Raguza, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Margaret Donnolley, John Nettare, Ruza Baristic, Slavko Saric, Leonardo Villfuerte and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

SICK: John Slater, Carmela Talos, Venus and Shan Cabacar, Ursula Gomez, Michelle Zotz, Aiden Campbell, Mick C, Olive Gyford, Raymond D'Lima, Stanley Mascarenhas, Genaro Chan, Pam Pizzuto, Jennifer McPhee, Lyn O'Hare, Jose & Norma Calabetto, Claudia & Alfredo Cabrera, Ric Limjap, Elsie Pajeta, Karen Goderie, Christine Dagworthy, Connie Farrugia, Eneliko Tuliatu, Jim Fullerton, Nathan Martin, Georgia Eleftheriades, Wilfredo Alcantara, Susan Voros, Bob Wrightson, Roseanne Shirley, Fr David Catteral, Kyla Aggar, George Try, AJ, Charlie Spiteri, Eric Nepomuceno, Janice Cannon, Sabbir Siddique, Thomas Zotz, Peter Gill, Isabella Agius, Karan Bradburn, Aiden Burke, Elwyn Geerin, Helen Wakeling, Susan Wheelahan, Gregory Hurney, Marios Pericleous, Ivan Brerar, Daryle Young, Connie Xerri, Maria Nyss, Lyn De Vos-Brocktoff, Nympha Miller, Robert Galino, Theresa Jordan, Nad Coder, Herve Rochecousta, Ariane Robert, Charles Tabone, Billy Downes, Heather Whitborn, Michael Vella, 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, George and Lena Caruana and all who suffer from COVID-19.

Sacramental Program **Holy Communion**

Enrolments **CLOSE** on
WEDNESDAY 24th APRIL

Children must be in Year 4 or above, have been Baptised and made their Reconciliation.

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities

If you need to renew your safeguarding training and wish to complete Modules 4 and 5 face-to-face, a session will be held on Saturday 27 April at Our Lady of the Way Parish, Emu Plains. You can register at parracatholic.org under the Safeguarding tab.



ANZAC Day Mass on 25th April is at 9.30 am

In this special Mass, we commemorate the fallen and we encourage ex-servicemen and women to attend our Mass in your service uniform with medals.

We pray for all airmen, sailors and soldiers who served and bravely lost their lives in battle during times of conflict, especially members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. May they rest in the peace of Christ and rise in glory on the last day. Amen.

If you wish to place any material / pamphlets or objects in the Church foyer or on the noticeboards, you **MUST** get permission from the Parish Office first.

ALL UNAUTHORISED MATERIAL WILL BE REMOVED.

PLANNED GIVING

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

BSB	067 950
Acct No	100003570
Acct Name	Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
Reference	6029 [SURNAME DONATION]

SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish

BSB	067 950
Acct No	100001692
Acct Name	Penrith St Nicholas Catholic Church
Reference	[ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME]

PARISH NEWS

Mass Readings for 27th / 28th April 5th Sunday of Easter Year B

1st Reading	Acts 9: 26 - 31
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 21: 26 - 28, 30 - 32
2nd Reading	1 John 3: 18 - 24
Gospel	John 15: 1 - 8



Good Shepherd Appeal
Support our seminarians to
"go out into the deep."



DONATE NOW

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians. 20th / 21st April

Will you support our seminarians to "go out into the deep" and serve? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal scan this QR code or use the envelopes on the pews. Thank you.



Please continue to keep Fr Joe and our pilgrims in your thought and prayers as they continue on their Marian Pilgrimage. We pray for safe travel, spiritual growth, and for God's blessings.

St Nicholas of Myra
8-10TH JULY
WINTER WONDERLAND
Holiday Day Camp 2024
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED KINDY TO YEAR 4

ARTS. CRAFTS. SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS.
GAMES AND MORE!

TIME 10:30-3:30pm
WHERE St Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall
326 High St Penrith NSW 2750

COST

No. Days Attending	Cost for 1 Child	Family rate (cost for 2 or more children in the same household)
1	\$40	\$30 per child
2	\$80	\$60 per child
3	\$100	\$80 per child

REGISTER NOW!

Applications close June 15 2024

Lowana This camp is being hosted at the St Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall, 326 High St, Penrith NSW 2750. For more information contact Eva Lay 0916 288 629 www.lowana.org.au

Calling for volunteers for **CAMP LEADERS**

Help lead the St Nicholas of Myra Winter Camp for kids aged kindy to year 4!

For girls in Year 9 and 10

Gain experience planning, organising and leading while giving back to the community

Come along to our Info Session on the 4th of May to find out more!

Leaders Workshops

As a camp leader, you will be responsible for leading activities for the children as well as giving talks growing in Friendship with God, their family and friends. These will be prepared together during the training workshops.

WORKSHOPS
Saturday (1-3pm)
 4th May
 25th May
 22nd June
 6th July

WINTER CAMP
8-10th July 2024
(10:30-3:30pm)

WHERE
St Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall
326 High St Penrith NSW 2750

Attending ALL the workshops is important to plan the activities and be trained to run the camp.

TIMETABLE

1:00pm	Afternoon tea
1:30pm	Guest Speaker Talk
2:00pm	Plan Camp Activities
3:00pm	Finish!

Register as a Leader Here

This camp is being held by the volunteer leaders from Lowana Study Centre.
For more information contact Eva Lay 0916 288 629

Lowana www.lowana.org.au

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 22/4	Tue 23/4	Wed 24/4	Thu 25/4 ANZAC Day Parish Office closed	Fri 26/4 St Mark Feast	Sat 27/4	Sun 28/4 5th Sunday of Easter
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 7.00pm Mother's Who Pray for their Children	9.30am Mass 11.00am Funeral James Drinan 11.00am Legion of Mary PMR1 6.30pm RCIA PMR1 7.00pm Mass & Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 10.30 Mass Thornton Park	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass	9.00am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 11.45am Baptisms 6.00pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 27th / 28th April 2024

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 Dennis Wellfare	Lucas Besa	Connie Limjap	Natasha Joseph	Deborah Scott Lee Scully	Heart and Soul	Josephine Linga
7.00am	Anthony Ruzgas Alan Barnes		Stuart Paterson	Yvonne Bacchan	Evette Isaaks Margaret Scicluna	No Music	Brian Rees
8.30am	Craig Walsh Remy Wood	Isaac Spiteri Jostrick Joseph	Kathleen Smith	Rose Walsh	Helen Wakeling Peter Wheller	Jeffrey Mizzi	Carol Gill
10.00am	John Jordan Joe Tabone	Andrew Johnson Amelia Ross	Dominic Dawson	Maria Varua	Carol Gill Andrew Kosman	Br David and Marian Choir	Mark Johnson
6.00pm	Aish Sebastian Cheryl Clark	Sreya Dias Irene Jobin	Daniel Whalen	Carolyn D'Mello	Lynda D'Lima Darlene Streher	Sound of Worship	Samara Dias

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

PENRITH | BLUE MOUNTAINS | WESTERN SYDNEY

GRACE FUNERALS




FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED
20 years
PERSONALISED AND UNIQUE



**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

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
enquiries@batemanbattersby.com.au

Reflections
Funerals

John and Sue Hibbert

For Family By Family

Locally Owned
02 4732 4440

www.reflectionsfunerals.com.au

Caring Industry Professionals

**WHITE LADY
FUNERALS**

Let our strength help you find yours.



Penrith | whiteladyfunerals.com.au



**WHALE
BATHROOMS**

Licence # 180584C

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

0407417553 **Free**
47738700 **Quotes**

RE/MAX Lifestyle Marketing

Unlock Your Home's True Value!

Sell with Gizzelle
Get a **FREE** Market Appraisal

Multi Award Winning Agent: International | National | Local



-  INTERNATIONAL AWARD 2023
-  PLATINUM AWARD 2023
-  GOLD AWARD 2023
-  SILVER AWARD 2023
-  BRONZE AWARD 2023

-  RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2023
-  RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2022
-  RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2021
-  RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2020
-  RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2019

Multi Award Winning Agency | SUBRUB WINNER
 2023 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
 2022 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Werrington
 2021 | Cambridge Park and Kingswood
 2020 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
 2019 | Kingswood

Gizzelle Powell ☎ 0428 934 618 | 02 4732 6007
 ✉ gizzellepowell@remax.com.au 📍 233 High Street, Penrith, NSW

Scan QR code for more info: 