



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B 28TH APRIL 2024



GOSPEL REFLECTION

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

The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the ‘classic’ gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many ‘famous’ or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt – we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don’t need to pay it much attention.

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

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to ‘prune’ our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

STAFF
Office Manager: Rodney Howard (M,Th, F)
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E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
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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

I am reminded of the old *Karate Kid* movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.

ORGANISATIONS
St Vincent de Paul
Hub: 8861 9770
Catholic Care
E: enquiries@ccss.org.au
02 8843 2500

Living the Gospel – Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

PARISH SCHOOLS
St Nicholas Primary Ph: 4752 3300
Principal : Mr. Tim Vane -Tempest
St Mary Mackillop Primary Ph: 4724 3200
Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

Scriptural context – In context

The imagery that Jesus used in his parables and in extended metaphors such as the one used in this week’s gospel sometimes seems a little foreign to a 21st century audience. However, the world in which Jesus lived and taught was dominated by small scale farmers and producers in an agrarian economy. His use of images such as ‘shepherd’, ‘vine’, ‘tenants’, ‘farmers’ and ‘wineskins’ would all have been immediately recognisable to his audience. They would also have appreciated much more than we do the subtlety of Jesus’ use of such images when he twists them in an unexpected way.

Historical Context – The ‘True’ vine

The image of the vine has its origins in Psalm 80 where the nation of Israel is likened to a vine: ‘You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.’ (Ps 80:8-9) However, the people of Israel have forgotten who they are and who it was that planted them in their country – it is like the rootstock of a grafted plant has taken over and gone wild. Jesus’ presence as the ‘true vine’ reminds them of what they are called to be.

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

MINISTERS ROSTER

The Roster for May to July will be emailed next week and copies will be available in the sacristy.

SICK LIST

If any of your loved ones who are on our sick list have recovered from their illness through our continued prayers, can you please contact the Parish office to let us know so they can be taken off the list.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ann Bryant, Therese Lee, Rose Anna Quinney

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Gloria Sajonia, Gillian Hill, Raymond Roberts, Reynaldo Lupisan, Cathy Shipway, Jovito Coresis Jnr, Paul and Angela, Mira Kulas, Daniel Jay Crestani and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, Margaret Donnelly, John Nettar, Ruza Baristic, Slavko Saric, John Ashford, and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

SICK: Peter Gale, Mary Roberts, 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 Bracar, Daryle Young, Connie Xerri, Maria Nyss, Lyn De Vos-Brocktoff, Nymphha 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 Maisseh, 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 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

Parent Information Night
Tuesday 30th April
7.00pm in the Church

ANZAC Day



They shall not grow old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them
Or the years condemn them
At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

NEW PARISHIONERS

We wish to welcome all new parishioners who have started attending Mass here within the last 12 months on Pentecost Sunday the 19th of May at our 10.00am mass. Please call the parish office to give your name and details for us to prepare your welcome.

HEALING MASS

On the 1st Saturday of each month at the 9am Mass, we have an anointing of the sick and prayers for healing. Please come and join us on **Saturday, 4th May**.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Our Children's Liturgy will resume on
Sunday 5th May at the 10.00am mass

PARISH CONTACT LIST

If you would like to receive emails from the Parish for the Parish Bulletin and other Pastoral information please contact the Parish office to have your email added to our contact list.

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 4th / 5th May 6th Sunday of Easter Year B

1st Reading	Acts 10: 25 - 26, 34 - 35, 44 - 48
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 97: 1 - 4,
2nd Reading	1 John 4: 7 - 10
Gospel	John 15: 9 - 17



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

PARRAMATTA
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DONATE NOW

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal for our Holy Spirit Seminarians.

Thank you for your generous support of the Bishop's Good Shepherd appeal last weekend. If who haven't had a chance to support our seminarians, you can give by completing an envelope available on the pews or at the doors of the Church and hand it in at any collection or go to yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal or scan this QR code .



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 www.lowana.org.au

Calling for volunteers for

CAMP LEADERS

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

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

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.

Register as a Leader Here

This camp is being lead by the volunteer leaders from Lowana Study Centre.

For more information contact Eva Lay 0916 338 629

TIMETABLE

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



326 High St Penrith NSW 2750

stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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 29/4 St Catherine of Sienna Memorial	Tue 30/4	Wed 1/5	Thu 2/5 St Athanasius Memorial	Fri 3/5 Sts Phillip and James Feast	Sat 4/5	Sun 5/5 6th Sunday of Easter
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 7.00pm Parent Information Evening for Holy Communion 7.00pm Mother's Who Pray for their Children 7.00pm Prayer Group Mtg	9.30am Mass 11.00am Legion of Mary PMR1 2.00pm Mass Governor Phillip 6.30pm RCIA PMR1 7.00pm Mass & Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 7.00pm Music Workshop - Hall	6.45am Mass 10.00am Mass Mountainview 12.10pm Mass	9.00am Healing 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 4th / 5th May 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	Joe Buttigieg Damian Wheelahan	Lucas Besa	Sharon Falleiro	Del Conejar	Lyn Orlander Allan Linga	AMDG Youth	Josephine Linga
7.00am	Alan Barnes Anthony Ruzgas	Irene Jobin	Evette Isaaks	Yvonne Baccan	Ramon Bru Margaret Scicluna	No Music	Jose Valladores
8.30am	John Jordan Rodney Howard	Isaac Spiteri	Stuart Paterson	Peter Nematalla	Orlan Nugpo Carol Wright	Jeffrey Mizzi	Volunteer Needed
10.00am	Jun Relunia Joe Tabone	Claire George Pio George Vincent George	Maria Varua	Liza Alimangohan	Arnel Alimangohan Carol Gill	Jane Chifley	Sharon Clarke
6.00pm	Aish Sebastian Margaret Cobden	Angelo Aish	Natasha Joseph	Caroline D'Mello	Lynda D'Lima Kathryn Wrightson	BNP Youth	BNP

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

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- Family Law
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- Court Appearances

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-  RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS
-  SUBURB WINNER

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 2022 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Werrington
 2021 | Cambridge Park and Kingswood
 2021 | Penrith and Werrington
 2020 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Penrith
 2019 | Kingswood

Multi Award Winning Agency | SUBURB WINNER
 2023 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
 2022 | Cambridge Park, St Marys and Werrington
 2021 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Penrith
 2020 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
 2017 | Claremont Meadows

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