



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



## 1st Sunday of Advent Year C 1st December 2024

There will be signs  
in the sun and  
moon and stars.

Luke 21:25

### PARISH OFFICE

**Office Hour:** Monday—Friday 9 am—5 pm  
**Lunch:** 1pm – 1.30pm (*Office closed*)  
**Telephone:** (02) 4721 2509  
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**Website:** [www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au](http://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](mailto:joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
**Asst Priest:** Fr Rojan George  
E: [rojan.cheriyadan@parracatholic.org](mailto:rojan.cheriyadan@parracatholic.org)  
**Deacon:** Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap  
**Nepean Hospital Chaplain:**  
Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic  
E: [Zvonimir.Gavranovic@parracatholic.org](mailto:Zvonimir.Gavranovic@parracatholic.org)

### STAFF

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**Volunteer Admin Support:** Margaret Cobden  
**RCIA Coordinators:** Allan & Josephine Linga  
E: [enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:enquiries@ccss.org.au)  
02 8843 2500

### PARISH SCHOOLS

**St Nicholas Primary** Ph: 4752 3300  
Principal : Miss Kirsty Reynolds (Acting)  
**St Mary Mackillop Primary** Ph: 4724 3200  
Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

## PARISH PRIEST MESSAGE - ADVENT

### A Time of Renewal and Joy: Embracing Advent and Our Patron's Feast



As we begin the first week of Advent, we are called to renew our lives in Christ and deepen our relationships with one another. This sacred season invites us to embrace humility, reflect on God's presence in our lives, and cherish each moment as a gift. Through love,

generosity, and kindness, we prepare our hearts to encounter the Lord more fully.

In this **Sunday's Gospel (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36)**, Jesus urges us to pay attention to the "signs" of God's Advent presence. He calls us to "**stand erect and raise our heads,**" reminding us that God is near, even during life's challenges and uncertainties. This powerful message invites us to stay awake, remain hopeful, and recognize God's presence in our daily lives. Advent is not merely a time of waiting but a time of *awareness* and *preparation*, a time when we open our hearts to God's grace.

**December** is also a meaningful month for our St. Nicholas of Myra Parish. In addition to preparing for the birth of Jesus, **we celebrate the feast of our patron, St. Nicholas of Myra, on Friday, December 6th.** St. Nicholas embodied the spirit of Advent by recognizing God's presence in the needs of others and responding with generosity and love.

We will honour our patron during all Masses on the weekend of December 7th and 8th, praying for our families and asking for St. Nicholas' intercession. After each Mass, parishioners will receive a **blessed cake** to take home. Sharing this cake with family members is a **symbolic act** of love, care, and unity, reminding us of the importance of sharing our blessings and nurturing family bonds. Just as St. Nicholas brought joy through his generosity, we too are called to begin our acts of kindness within our homes.

Let this Advent be a time of renewed vigilance and joyful anticipation. By paying attention to God's presence in our lives and sharing His love with others, we prepare for the true joy of Christmas. May the example of St. Nicholas inspire us to live with hearts open to giving, sharing, and caring, especially for those closest to us.

**Stay awake. Stand ready. Love generously.**

This is the path to experiencing the fullness of God's joy this Advent season.

Blessings,

Fr. Joe Manjaly



## PARISH NEWS

### Mass Readings for 7 / 8 December Second Sunday of Advent

**1st Reading** Baruch 5: 1 - 9

**Responsorial Psalm** 125

**2nd Reading** Philippians 1: 4 - 6, 8 - 11

**Gospel** Luke 3: 1 - 6



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**  
10.00am Mass every Sunday.

### MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN

Tuesday night at 7.00pm in PMR1



### Fr Zvonimir's Book

The title of the book is "Bleiburg: Massacre of the Croatian People 1945" focusing on the Croatia during the Second World War and immediately afterwards. The price of the book is \$50.00. It may be obtained from the Parish Office.

### SUMMER CAMP

Lowana will be holding a Summer camp for girls in Years 5 to 8 (in 2025) from 21 - 24 January 2025. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for further details and how to register your child.

### PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

#### RECENTLY DECEASED:

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Arthur Tipping, Maria Elena Trujillo, Orlando & Lourdes Palacio, Filomena Marcelino

**DECEASED:** Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Margaret Donnolley, Paul Borg, Theresa Lee

**SICK:** Robert Turner, Alice O'Hare, Josephine Magro, John Cluney, Debbie Dunn, Mark Cluney, George Try, Louise Godierie, Kyla Aggar, Carmel Stein, Joe Farrugia, Betty Keavy, Norman Samuclu, Theo Fitzgerald, Rome Michael Valentino Smiroleo, Ralph Beck, Bryan and Kay McInerney, John Cluney, Arren Samia, Cheryl Clark, Zeny Oringo, Noel Bernardo, Christine Court, Baby Harold Francis Eastman Reid, Michael Nolan, Bernadette Tecson, John Slater, Cliff, Carmela Talos, Venus and Shan Cabacar, Ursula Gomez, Michelle Zotz, Aiden Campbell, Mick C, Olive Gyford, Raymond D'Lima, Stanley Mascarenhas, Pam Pizzuto, Jose & Norma Calabetto, Claudia & Alfredo Cabrera, Ric Limjap, Elsie Pajeta, Karen Goderie, Connie Farrugia, Eneliko Tuliatu, Jim Fullerton, Nathan Martin, Wilfredo Alcantara, Susan Voros, Bob Wrightson, Roseanne Shirley, Fr David Catteral, AJ, Eric Nepomuceno, Sabbir Siddique, Thomas Zotz, Peter Gill, Isabella Agius, Karan Bradburn, Aiden Burke, Elwyn Geerin, Susan Wheelahan, Marios Pericleous, Ivan Brcar, Connie Xerri, Maria Nyss, Nympha Miller, Robert Galino, Theresa Jordan, Nad Coder, Herve Rochecousta, Ariane Robert, Billy Downes, Heather Whitborn, Michael Vella, Trevor Rowe, Nicholas Agius, Baby Capri Marshall, Melisa Maiseeh, Tracy Mulla, Lou Doyle, Norm Hefferman, Lisa Sperineck, 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.



## Congratulations



**BRUCE POWELL** (ticket 2888) winner of our raffle drawn last Sunday.

An enormous **THANK YOU** to everyone who purchased tickets and helped us to raise **\$27010.00** towards the construction of our Pavilion of Fellowship



### 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

### BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S HOUSES TO HOMES 30 NOVEMBER / 1 DECEMBER

**This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home to rebuild their lives?**

*"Let all that you do be done in love." - 1 Corinthians 16:14*



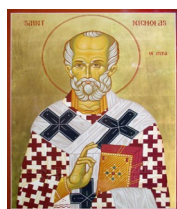
This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home and rebuild their lives? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provide homeless mothers and their children with practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home.

Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal at [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal) or scan this QR code or use the envelopes available on the pews and at the doors of the Church and place in the special collection to give your gift of a new beginning today.



Thank you.

### ST NICHOLAS FEAST DAY MASS



Our Patronal Saint, St Nicholas of Myra, Feast will be celebrated as a community on the weekend of 7 / 8 December at all masses. A small piece of individually wrapped cake will be blessed at the each mass to share with your family.

### THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FEAST 9th DECEMBER

We will be holding an **Hour of Grace** on Monday 9 December, from 12.00pm - 1.00pm in our Church.

### **\*\*Embrace the Magic of the Christmas Spirit with the Kindred Spirit!\*\***

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended the first Kindred Spirit Social Group event in October. To spread the joy of the season, please join us for a Christmas-themed dinner on **Saturday, December 14, 2024, from 7:00pm to 9:30pm** at St. Nicholas of Myra Parish Hall.

**For more details and to make a reservation, please contact Evette Isaaks at 0425840686 or reach out to the parish office.**

### CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

The Penrith Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society invites parishioners to prepare Christmas hampers for the poor and disadvantaged families in the Penrith Area. Hampers will need to be returned to the PMR1 on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December** or **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**, approximately **one** hour before or after each mass. Please see the noticeboard for all details of hamper categories, stickers and suggested items. Please do not include food items containing nuts or perishable items. Please ensure that food items are well within the expiry date and **NO** liquor is to be included in the hamper.



**Hamper Deliveries:** Once again, we ask for your generous help in the distribution of hampers. If you can spare an hour on: **Saturday the 21st December**, between 8am and 11am in PMR1. We will provide face masks, gloves, sanitiser etc. available to ensure the safety of our parishioners. If you have any enquiries, please contact Brian Brainwood on 0433 256 518 or Joe Tabone on 0412 234 651. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you and God bless.

### GOD'S WORD 2025

A limited number of copies are available from the Parish office, weekdays 9.00am - 5.00pm and after masses this weekends at the carpark entrance door.



**Price: \$20.00**

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 2/12	Tue 3/12 St Francis Xavier Memorial	Wed 4/12	Thu 5/12	Fri 6/12 St Nicholas of Myra	Sat 7/12 St Ambrose Memorial	Sun 8/12 2nd Sunday of Advent
9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.30am Mass 7.00pm PPC Mtg 7.00pm Mothers who Pray for their Children	9.30am Mass 10.00 - 2.00pm Priest's Advent Reflection 11.00am Legion of Mary 2.00pm Mass Governor Phillip Manor 7.00pm Mass & Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena	9.30am Mass 7.00pm Minister Coordinator's Mtg	6.45 am Mass 10.00 Mass Mountainview 12.10pm Mass - Catechists Thanksgiving Mass	9.00am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 11.00 Our Lady of Penafancia Mass 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass	7.00am Mass 8.30am Mass 10.00am Mass - Children's Liturgy 6.00pm Mass

## PARISH ROSTER 7 / 8 DECEMBER

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFIL YOUR MINISTRY PLEASE ORGANISE A REPLACEMENT.**

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	Joseph Buttigieg Jenny Hogan	Ann Naceua Llyla Tiamson	Freeda Fernandez	Natasha Joseph	Kathleen Pemberton Jessica Couto	Sound of Worship	Josephine Linga
7.00am	Alan Barnes Anthony Ruzgas	<i>Not required</i>	Margaret Scicluna	Sherica Valladores	Louise Davie Mary-Stella Sultana	No Music	Brian Rees
8.30am	Craig Walsh Michael Tolentino	Jostick Joseph Jacob Barratto	Victoria Sebi	Railala Mateiwai	Margaret Cobden Peter Nematalla Elenita Sajonia Robert Sajonia Peter Wheller	Jeffrey Mizzi	Ursula Gomez
10.00am	Peter Spiteri John Jordan	Sreya Dias Michael Ostrea	Del Conejar	Olga Kiss	Carmen Vella Puleiala Samuelu	AMDG Adult	Samara Dias
6.00pm	Aish Sebastian Rodney Howard	Angelo Aish Frances Obama	Cheryl Clark	Carolyn D'Mello	Nina Nepomuceno Kathryn Wrightson	CFC	CFC

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