



# St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



**20th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year C**  
**16 / 17 August 2025**



## 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:** @SNOMPernith  
**Parish Emergency Number:** 4732 3039

## PARISH PRIESTS AND DEACON

**Parish Priest:** Fr Joe Manjaly  
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**Assistant 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  
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## 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

This week’s short and sharp gospel brings to mind two popular sayings (sometimes regarded as blessings, and sometimes regarded as curses). The first is fictitiously ascribed as an ancient Chinese saying, 'May you live in interesting times!' The inference of the blessing/curse is that ‘interesting times’ equate to disturbing, tumultuous times or times of rapid change. Some people thrive on such change and upheaval, while others dread the thought of change.

The second blessing/curse is, 'May the peace of Christ disturb you!' It occasionally turns up around Christmas or Easter and is sometimes provocatively used by those who advocate for justice and peace. The saying cuts to the heart of what Jesus says in today’s gospel: the message he brings is not a cosy, complacent peace, but rather a message that confronts and challenges, even turning loved ones against each other.

Jesus reminds us that if we take on his message of compassion, hospitality and table fellowship then it can set us apart from those who have not accepted the message – even family members. It’s a challenging message that even love and loyalty within a family can be disrupted by seeking to authentically live the model of Jesus. If we authentically place the needs of the lowly and the outcast ahead of our own and ahead of our family, then this can be very confronting and very disrupting. What are the consequences for family gatherings? What might the gathering at Christmas dinner look like if we take this message seriously? Jesus says that the normal obligations to family have to take second place to acting on his message and bringing about the kingdom of God.

### Living the Gospel – Speaking a hard message

Today’s gospel reminds us that the message of Christianity is not always a popular one. Sometimes we are called upon to speak a hard message; a challenging message; a confronting message. The message of the gospel frequently confronts our popular culture and accepted social practice. It often contradicts the expedient decisions of our political leaders. There is a responsibility on us to speak the hard message of the gospel even at the risk of unpopularity and even in the face of threat. The Christian heroes of our time are those who call leaders to measure up to the demands of the gospel.

### Scriptural context – Turning point

As we’ve seen over the last few weeks, chapter 12 of the gospel of Luke presents a collection of sayings by Jesus exhorting his followers to take up his message fearlessly and assuring them that if they do so then God will protect them – even in the hardest of times. The chapter captures what must have been a period of frustration for Jesus in his ministry: he has been preaching and performing miracles, yet his followers don’t seem to understand his purpose. The chapter has an urgency and a sharpness of tone that reflect the frustration of Jesus at this mid-point in the gospel.

### Historical Context – Family ties

In the ancient world, and particularly in Jewish culture, family meant everything. One’s identity was completely tied up with family. Families absolutely depended on one another for survival and for personal identity. Young men were identified by who their father was. Women quite literally ‘belonged’ to their father or husband. The entire fabric of society and tradition was held together by extended families. For Jesus to say that his message would tear families apart was to say that all of society would be transformed by the message. The kingdom of God turns expectations and society on their head, breathing new life into tired, restrictive structures.

✉ Greg Sunter

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## PARISH NEWS

### Mass Readings 23 / 24 August 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

<b>1st Reading</b>	Isaiah 66: 18 - 21
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Psalm 116
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Hebrews 12: 5 - 7, 11 - 13
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 13: 22 - 30

### 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.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

#### Charlie Grima

and for his family

His Requiem Mass will be held on

**Tuesday 19 August 12.00pm**

### PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Josph Vella, Charlie Grima, Fe Cristeta Uy, Patrick O'Flynn

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** Manuela Uy, Francis PV, Joyce David, Milka Stapic, Leonard Cobden, Hillaria Marmita, Maryam Jejou, Jamila Faransi

**DECEASED:** Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Margaret Donnelly, Paul Borg, Fe Fernandez, Concepcion Frecia, Teng Kok, Domingo Frecia, Rosendo Fernandez, Jose Ricafort, Jesus Frecia, Frank James, Joe Culhane, Lonzu Mallia

#### **SICK:**

Kyla Aggar, Isabella Agius, Nicholas Agius, Jenet Arellano, Kimberley Balandra, Ralph Beck, Margaret Bell, Ingrid Bentham, Noel Bernardo, Ivan Brear, Karan Bradburn, Brian Brainwood, Marianne Brigden, Aiden Burke, Joe Buttigieg Snr, Ting Cecila, Cliff, Mick C, Claudia & Alfredo Cabrera, Brenda & Ronwald Cadandy, Jose & Norma Calabetto, Aiden Campbell, George & Lena Caruana, Fr David Catteral, John Cluney, Mark Cluney, Nad Coder, Dylan Conway, Christine Court, Adelia Delapaz, Raymond D'Lima, Diana Dooley, Lou Doyle, Helen Dowling, Debbie Dunn, Joe Farrugia, Peter Farrugia, Theo Fitzgerald, Cheyne Fynn, Robert Galino, Nancy Galon, John Gatt, Elwyn Geerin, Peter Gill, Tim Green, Tadeus Gwiazda, Olive Gyford, Bernadette James, Theresa Jordan, Angelique Karamanolis, Danielle Kazare, Baby Yuri Pavon Lara, Helen Lazarus, Ric Limjap, Josephine Magro, Melisa Maiseeh, Thanda Manjaly, Baby Capri Marshall, Nathan Martin, Stanley Mascarenhas, Bryan & Kay McInerney, Moises Millena, Nymphia Miller, Sandra Miller, Sydney Morris, Tracy Mulla, Jacek Nawrot, Delia Nazal, Herminigilda & Donnel Nazel, Dianne Nelson, Eric Nepomuceno, Maria Nyss, Alice O'Hare, Zeny Oringo, Elsie Pajeta, Marios Pericleous, Pam Pizzuto, Baby Harold Francis Eastman Reid, Ariane Robert, Herve Rochecousta, Trevor Rowe, Daniel Solomon Rowlands, Arren Samia, Norman Samuelu, Jason Sanderson, Roseanne Shirley, Sabbir Siddique, Valentino Smiroleol, Lisa Sperineck, Carmel Stein, Brian Sullivan, Joe Tabone, Lorie Tabone, Alan Tago, Carmela Talos, Theresa M Taylor, Bernadette Tecson, George Try, Robert Turner, Susan Voros, Michael Vella, Edward Wagner, David Wakeling, Heather Whitborn, Bob Wrightson, Connie Xerri, Michelle Zotz, Thomas Zotz

### ST NICK'S GROUPS

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

**MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN**  
7.00pm Tuesday in PMR1

**PRAYER GROUP**  
6.30pm 2nd and last Tuesday of the month in the Parish Hall.

**YOUNG AT HEART - over 50's**  
10.15am 3rd Tuesday of month in PMR1

**LEGION OF MARY**  
11.00am Wednesday in PMR1

**ZUMBA CLASSES**  
7.00pm Thursday in the Parish Hall

**ST NICK'S FLICKS MOVIE NIGHT**  
7.00pm last Friday of the month in the Parish Hall

**YOUTH GROUP**  
4.30pm **23 August, 6 & 20 September** in PMR1

### EARLY REMINDER

#### FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST



On **Sunday 7 September** we will be holding our annual Father's Day breakfast from 7.30am to 11.30am in PMR1. Cost is \$8 per person.

Come along with Dad to celebrate his special day with a delicious breakfast prepared by Couples for Christ.

### ST NICK'S FLICK MOVIE NIGHT

On Friday 29 August at **7.00pm**  
we will be showing

#### Soul Surfer



The true inspirational story of Bethany Hamilton, who lost her arm in a shark attack and courageously overcame all odds to become a champion again.

**Please come along with your family and friends.**

**Popcorn and soup will be provided.**

### PLANNED GIVING

*We are grateful for your stewardship*

**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

### Prayers for Fr Joe's mother

Dear Parish family,

I wish to share with you that my dear mother, **Miss Thanda Manjaly**, has suffered a very severe stroke this week. Her condition is not good even though she responds with minimum words. I will be travelling to India this **Saturday, 16 August**, to be by her side. This is a deeply difficult time for our family, and I humbly ask you to keep my mum and all of us in your prayers. Your love, support, and intercession means more than words can express. During this time Fr. Rojan and Fr. Zvonimir will continue to help us in our pastoral needs. Thank you everyone for your prayers. Please continue your prayers as I believe in the power of Prayer. Let God's will be done.

With gratitude and trust in God's care, - Fr Joe

### YOUNG AT HEART GATHERING

(For over 50s)

**Tuesday 19 August  
after the 9.30am mass  
at 10.15am in PMR1**



Please come along with your friends to enjoy some light refreshments and to have a chat.

At this gathering we have a guest speaker, Merilyn Hancock who will present a "Virtual Pilgrimage to places of significance for Mary, the first disciple"

**Please come and join us.**

### WELCOME



We welcome Jose Valentine Lim (JV), a seminarian from Holy Spirit Seminary, Harris Park to our community.

He will be joining us from Friday to Sunday each week until Christmas.

Please make him feel very welcome.

### Jubilee Year Spiritual House Visits

As part of Jubilee Year of Hope, our priests have begun visiting families for Spiritual House Blessings and prayers of deliverance. These visits are a special time of grace, healing, and renewal for each household. If you and your family would like to request a visit, please take a leaflet from the Church foyer. It includes helpful guidelines on how to book, prepare your home and heart for this sacred blessing. We kindly ask the whole community to keep in your prayers the families that are being visited each week, may the Lord continue to bless and strengthen them in faith and love.

With prayerful blessings,  
Fr. Joe Manjaly

### UPCOMING EVENTS

We will celebrate our Thanksgiving masses at 10.00am on the following days:

#### 28 September 2025 Milestone Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

- ◆ We celebrate all those who celebrate milestone birthdays this year, 21st, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, 80th, 90th and those over 90 years of age.
- ◆ We celebrate all those couples who are celebrating their 1st, or quinquennial (i.e. 5th, 10th, 15th, every 5th year) wedding anniversary this year.

**To register please contact the Parish Office  
on 4721 2509 or manager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au**

#### 7 December 2025 Baptisms

We celebrate all those children and their families who have been baptised in our Church over the past year.

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

#### FIRST RECONCILIATION 2025

#### PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

**Tuesday 19 August 7.00pm in the Church**

If you have not enrolled your child or grandchild please come to the information evening and complete an enrolment form.

#### COMMITMENT MASSES

Saturday 23 August 6.00pm

Sunday 24 August 8.30am, 10.00am, 6.00pm

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 18/8	Tue 19/8	Wed 20/8 St Bernard Memorial	Thu 21/8 St Pius X Memorial	Fri 22/8 The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial	Sat 23/8	Sun 24/8 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time
					First Reconciliation Commitment Masses	
9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 10.15am Young at Heart Gathering 12.00pm Funeral Charlie Grima 7.00pm Parent Information Evening for Reconciliation 7.00pm Mother's who prayer for their	9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass Summit Care 11.00am Legion of Mary 7.00pm Mass followed by Novena of Perpetual Help	9.00am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass The Royce 7.00pm Zumba	6.45 Mass 11.40am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 12.10pm Mass	9.00am Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation 4.30pm Youth Group 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 23 / 24 AUGUST

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFIL YOUR MINISTRY IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ORGANISE A REPLACEMENT

	Acolyte MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers	Music	AV
Vigil	Joseph Buttigieg Jenny Hogan	Dominic Ear Matilda Ear	Sharon Falliero	Connie Limjap	Jim Fullerton Lee Scully	Heart & Soul	Phil Margerison
7.00am	Alan Barnes Anthony Ruzgas	<i>Not required</i>	Yvonne Baccan	Sherica Valladores	Luisa Davie Mary-Stella Sultana	No Music	Jose Valladores
8.30am	Brian Scott Michael Tolentino	Claire George Pio George Vincent George	Rose Walsh	John Jordan	Erik Deveza Peter Nematalla Lyn Olander Deb Scott Agnes Suluaape	Jeffrey Mizzi	Carol Gill
10.00am	Manuel Credo Jnr Remy Wood	Marco Credo Manuel Credo Andrew Johnson	Mia Credo	Alan Johnson	Arnel Alimagohan Carmen Vella	Br David & Marian Choir	Mark Johnson
6.00pm	Maryanto Josio Rey Esteban	Joshua Esteban Ram Esteban	Janet Esteban	Carolyn D'Mello	Ninea Nepomuceno Darlene Streher	CFC Youth	CFC

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