



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



21st Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year C 23 / 24 August 2025



Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem.

Luke 13:22

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: @SNOMPernith

Parish Emergency Number: 4732 3039

PARISH PRIESTS AND DEACON

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Manjaly

E: joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Rojan George

E: rojan.cheriyadan@parracatholic.org

Deacon: Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap

Nepean Hospital Chaplain:

Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic

E: Zvonimir.Gavranovic@parracatholic.org

STAFF

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Volunteer Admin Support: Margaret Cobden

RCIA Coordinators: Allan & Josephine Linga

E: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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 : Miss Kirsty Reynolds (Acting)

St Mary Mackillop Primary Ph: 4724 3200

Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

GOSPEL REFLECTION

This week's gospel passage picks up one of the major themes that runs throughout the gospel of Luke: the message of salvation is not reserved exclusively for the Jews, but is for all people; Jew and Gentile alike. A number of times in this gospel, the writer makes a point of having Jesus relate this controversial and fairly unpopular message to his audience. Today's gospel makes clear that to gain salvation, you have to do more than just show up! Like those knocking on the locked door and claiming friendship, we can't just turn up at the last minute and expect to be received. Salvation – entrance into the kingdom of God – belongs to those who accept the message of Jesus and act on it for the rest of their lives.

The gospel makes plain to the Jewish people of the time that unless they accept the message of Jesus and act upon it, they will get a terrible shock ('weeping and grinding of teeth') at the coming of the kingdom. Those who believe in name only will find themselves looking in from the outside and will see the greatest prophets in the kingdom while they themselves are denied access. To further make the point, they are told that people from east and west, north and south will be welcomed into the feast of the kingdom. References to people from the four points of the compass always indicate people from other lands – non-Jews. Jesus tells his audience that people who are faithful to his message, even though they may be Gentile, will gain salvation before anyone who thinks they deserve it because of their birth or title. The kingdom must be earned through faithful effort, not by just turning up and claiming to be a believer.

Scriptural context – A gospel of the least

The gospel of Luke portrays Jesus as focusing his ministry on those considered the least in society. In the Lukan version, the birth of Jesus is witnessed by lowly shepherds as opposed to the regal wise men of Matthew's version. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, it is the Samaritan outsider who responds with compassion. The Lost (Prodigal) Son is welcomed back with great rejoicing. Zacchaeus, the resented tax collector, is treated with acceptance and makes a conversion of heart. All of these stories are unique to this gospel and paint a very particular picture of a compassionate Jesus.

Gospel Focus – First and Last

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.' These words of Jesus carry with them a major thrust of his ministry in the gospel of Luke. Jesus reminds his audience that their status in society means nothing when it comes to their status in the kingdom of God. What will make people 'first' in the kingdom is their acceptance of Jesus' message, their faith and their compassionate actions toward others. Jesus' insistence on the inherent value of the 'last' in society must have been a constant irritant to those who considered themselves 'first'.

Living the Gospel – Consequences

To be Christian is more than a name; more than a title. If we put our hand up and claim the title of Christian, then there are consequences that flow from that.

Those who are disillusioned by religion frequently name hypocrisy as the major reason for their disillusionment. Sometimes, that's an easy out. We can't all live like Jesus all of the time. However, we are called to take Jesus as our model of the Christian life and to use his example as a guiding beacon. To call ourselves Christian is to try to be Christ-like in all our actions.

Questions for Adults

Q. What is the message of the gospel for a modern audience?

Q. What are the observable actions of someone who is trying to live like Jesus taught?

Q. How would you answer someone who claimed that Christians say one thing and do another?

✍ Greg Sunter

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PARISH NEWS

Mass Readings 30 / 31 August 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

1st Reading	Sirach 3: 17 - 20, 28 - 29
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 67: 4 - 7, 10 - 11
2nd Reading	Hebrews 12: 18 - 19, 22 - 24
Gospel	Luke 14: 1, 7 - 14



Parishioners and visitors are reminded that the carpark off Higgins Lane is a private carpark for patrons of the New Fortune Palace Chinese restaurant and **SHOULD NOT** be used for parking during mass

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

Joseph Vella

and for his family

His Funeral Service will be held on

Wednesday 27 August at 11.00am

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Joseph Vella, James Mullan, Nelia Valdivia Gastrock, Rosa Marigormen

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Ester Villanueva, Tibor Kiss, Clare Parker, George Attard, Maryann Portelli, Benita Azores, Lynette Moss, Enrico Alcantara, Fredrico Alcantara, Bruce Fredrick Jackson

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Margaret Donnoloy, Paul Borg

SICK: Nikola Ljubic, Ron Vukovic, Colleen Nolan, Kyla Aggar, Isabella Agius, Nicholas Agius, Jenet Arellano, Kimberley Balandra, Ralph Beck, Margaret Bell, Ingrid Bentham, Noel Bernardo, Ivan Brcar, Karan Bradburn, Brian Brainwood, Marianne Brigden, Aiden Burke, Joe Buttigieg Snr, Ting Cecilia, 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, Nympha 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 Rocheousta, Trevor Rowe, Daniel Solomon Rowlands, Arren Samia, Norman Samuelu, Jason Sanderson, Roseanne Shirley, Sabbir Siddique, Valentino Smiroleo, 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 **6 & 20 September** in PMR1

DIOCESAN NEWS

Safeguarding Face-to-face Training Opportunities: 1-3 September

The next sessions of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Training will be held on the following days at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre:

- Monday 1 September for Initial training (Modules 1-3) from 9.30am to 2.30pm
- Tuesday 2 September for Renewal training (Modules 4 and 5) from 10am to 1.39pm
- Wednesday 3 September for Refresher training (Module 6) from 10am to 12noon.

Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.

For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

LOST AND FOUND

The following item was found in our Church.

- ⇒ Small foldable umbrella
- ⇒ Child's beanie

If you have lost one of these please come to the Parish office to claim.

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 ROSTER 30 / 31 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	Margaret Cobden Jenny Hogan	Annie Naceva Llyla Tiamson	Del Conejar	Freeda Fernandez	Jim Fullerton Jessica Couto	CD	Sheldon Couto
7.00am	Alan Barnes Anthony Ruzgas	<i>Not required</i>	Yvonne Baccan	Margaret Scicluna	Bradley Whiticker Mary-Stella Sultana	No Music	Vinita Jobin
8.30am	Brian Scott Michael Tolentino	Jostick Joseph Jacob Barratto Jerome Soji	Jennifer Letran	Maria Varua	Michelle Davis Shane Didier Serre Peter Nematalla Deb Scott Darlene Streher	Amelia & Anna Lay	Lesi Nagata
10.00am	Peter Spiteri Remy Wood	Elidie Gal Joseph McWhirter Nicholas McWhirter	Louise Gal	Dominic Dawson	Mary Knox Puleiala Samuelu	Billy Cabillan	Sharon Clarke
6.00pm	Rachel Conteh Caitlin Nepomuceno	Angelo Aish Francis Obama	Maria Baltazar	Daniel Whalen	Carolyn D'Mello Orlan Nugpo	CD	Rodney Howard

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LAWYERS

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- Business Law
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RMA AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

2023 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
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 | SUBRUB WINNER

2023 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
2022 | Cambridge Park, St Marys and Werrington
2021 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Penrith
2020 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
2017 | Clarendon Meadows

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