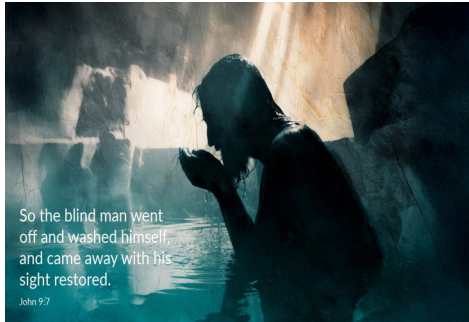




St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A 14 / 15 March 2026



PARISH PRIEST MESSAGE

As we journey through the **Fourth Week of Lent**, our parish community is delighted to introduce those who are preparing to embrace the Catholic faith through the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**. This year, we are blessed with **11 Catechumens** and **4 Candidates** who are walking this faith journey with us. In this week's Gospel, Jesus Christ heals the blind man, opening not only his physical eyes but also the eyes of his soul. Just as the man in the Gospel came to see and believe, our Catechumens and Candidates are opening their hearts to Christ and to the life of the Church. As a parish, we joyfully accompany them on this journey. May the Lord who opens our eyes and hearts continue to guide them with His grace, and may we keep them in our prayers as they journey toward the fullness of faith. I pray that Lord blesses each one of us and our families during this Lenten season, and guide us all to grow in faith, hope, and love.

I invite you to meet our Catechumens and Candidates, who share a few words about their journey of faith as they prepare to enter more fully into the life of the Church.

Fr. Joe Manjaly, Parish Priest.

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 Numbers:
4732 3039 or 0416 910 334

PARISH PRIESTS AND DEACON

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Deacon: Wilfredo (Willy) Limjap
Nepean Hospital Chaplain:
 Fr Zvonimir Gavranovic
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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
St Mary Mackillop Primary Ph: 4724 3200
 Principal: Mr. Scott Buchan

	Gabriel (ELECT)	My faith journey has been lifelong. I have always had a deep belief in God through loss and profound tragedy in my life. I still believe in God's plan for me and that He loves me through His son Jesus Christ and the Catholic church has helped me and my family through this. I come to Jesus in humility and faith and acknowledge His call for my salvation by being His disciple and believer in the faith.
	Scott (ELECT)	I was always drawn to the Catholic faith from a young age even though I did not really understand back then. My father's side of the family is Catholic, but I did not grow up in the Catholic faith. Over the decades I've felt a slight pulling towards getting to know about CATHOLICISM. And around the age of 50 it became stronger, which when I moved to Penrith, I decided to get in touch with my local parish which has led me here today. I have felt at ease a lot more since being involved with the RCIA program and I am very proud to call myself Catholic.
	Vanessa (ELECT)	My faith journey. Is one where I felt called up so felt as I belong. Feeling. That I should always be here. But now feel more calm and peaceful. Within. A sense of peace & the love of God.
	Grant (CANDIDATE)	Although not Baptised a Catholic, I have been involved with the Community here at St Nicholas of Myra for about 40 years, with both my wife and children. Over the past few years I have developed a greater understanding and have experienced a deeper faith in God, and as a result, I felt the desire to fully join in Mass as a Catholic. This has led me to now participate in the RCIA program and I look forward to Easter and in continuing my Faith Journey.
	Kim (CANDIDATE)	My faith journey began as a Protestant. Because my grandfather had been a minister in a Protestant denomination, I felt attached to Protestantism. As a teen, I felt fascinated by the concept of monastic life. There were times when I read books that crossed over into Catholicism or were actively Catholic. I wish to continue my faith journey in the Catholic church, and I look forward to growing as a Christian in the Catholic community of faith.

PARISH NEWS

	<p style="text-align: center;">Lauren (CANDIDATE)</p>	<p>My faith journey began in my early teenage years. I was raised in a Catholic family but grew up as an Anglican. In recent years, I started attending Mass with my Nan, who goes regularly, and through weekly Mass I've grown a much closer connection to Catholicism. The teachings in the Bible resonate deeply within me. Loving thy neighbour, practicing charity, not judging others, and forgiving even when it's hard, and more - all align strongly with my heart and values, and I strive to live in Jesus' presence each day.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Irene (ELECT)</p>	<p>I feel a sense of belonging with God, Jesus and Mother Mary, my church community and my family whenever I attend mass. I am begging God to help me with my health issues.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Christopher (CANDIDATE)</p>	<p>I was baptised in St Felix de Valois Parish Church Bankstown at the age of 10. This was my first experience of being in a Catholic Church. Because my parents were not Catholic, it was hard for me to learn more about my religion or keep my faith. At aged 22, my parents moved to Samoa and I was on my own so I had to work over attending church. I met my now Fiancé Shalisa 5 years later. Shalisa was brought up Catholic and was baptised at St Nicholas of Myra. We have 2 boys aged 5 and 1. It was important that they grew up in Catholic faith so we also baptised them at St Nicholas of Myra. As we began our wedding preparations I realised I hadn't completed my sacraments, and it was important to me to complete them and continue my faith journey in the Catholic church.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Heidi (ELECT)</p>	<p>My immediate family is not religious, but I grew up with many Catholic friends and extended family who invited me to Mass with them when I expressed interest in it and encouraged me to learn more about their faith. As I got older, I learnt that most of my family had been Catholic in the past, and that their faith had deep impacts on their identities and the work they did in their communities. Going through the RCIA process and focusing more of my time on God has brought me so much peace and happiness and has helped me to feel closer to my family, and I'm looking forward to becoming a full member of the Church this Easter.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Joshua (ELECT)</p>	<p>After years of spiritual drift and quiet emptiness, away from the Church, I had all but convinced myself that God was distant. One day at the gym, as I listened through my headphones, a Gospel passage about the Father's love for the lost sheep auto played unexpectedly, awakening a profound sense of His presence and bringing an immediate, deep spiritual joy as I rediscovered God and the Gospels. This encounter stirred a hunger for the fullness of truth, leading me to the RCIA program.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Brishti (ELECT)</p>	<p>I joined the RCIA program because I felt a deep pull to grow closer to God and better understand the Catholic faith. I grew up in a mixed faith household. My mother being Catholic and my Father being Muslim. My mother's way of life and devotion to the Catholic faith inspired me at a young age. Whenever I would visit my mother's home in Bangladesh my grandparents took time to teach me prayers, the Rosary and it furthered my interest. My curiosity and exposure to the Catholic faith led me here and I'm very thankful it did.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Phillip (ELECT)</p>	<p>For quite some time, I was content with how things were (at least, in my life) but felt a gap I couldn't explain in my day-to-day. I wasn't quite sure how to address it. When I met my partner Jinell, she and her family are Catholic and a visit to family in India was a quick refresher and perhaps a moment of awakening. The prayers, the nightly rosary, the church visits - It reminded me of my childhood, with mum and dad teaching me basic prayers for bedtime and how I felt after praying each night. I had not performed them for a long time. Catholicism aligns so well with my core values as a person, and I feel like the gap in my life has already been filled. There is so much more to know than I imagined. I'm excited for the journey because it never really finishes.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Binaya (ELECT)</p>	<p>My journey so far was a good experience. Seeing many candidates and Catechumens gave a lot of confidence to embrace catholic faith and join the church. Going to Cathedral for the enrolment of names and seeing the Bishop was a very different and special for me.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Jordan (ELECT)</p>	<p>I have always been somewhat of a believer but being raised in a non-religious family, I never fully accepted it, wasn't until years on when I was sitting there thinking I have a great job, a fantastic wife, beautiful children and a home of my own but something was missing and I knew what it was but not how to find it, I eventually reached out to my mother in law who has been a massive influence on my journey and someone who I hold a lot of respect for and she guided me onto the right path to where I am now (also my god mother) and I am very thankful for this journey.</p>



When: Saturday 21 March
Time: 8 - 10am
Where: Church grounds

Purpose: Mulching our gardens
What to bring: gloves, shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows, hat/cap, sunscreen, water.
Please wear **enclosed shoes**, no thongs or sandals

Your help will be most appreciated.

Pilgrimage to Egypt, Malta & Jordan
27 January – 15 February 2027
Information Meeting

When: Saturday 21 March
Time: 11am
Where: PMR1

PARISH NEWS

Mass Readings for 21 / 22 March 5th Sunday of Lent

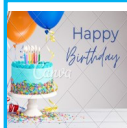
1st Reading	Ezekiel 37: 12 -14
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 129
2nd Reading	Romans 8: 8 - 11
Gospel	John 11: 1 - 45



Please come and join us to pray the Stations of the Cross **on Friday 20 March at 7.00pm**
The theme is **"Pilgrims of Hope"**



The Lent and Easter | Autumn Edition of Catholic Outlook is available after each Mass this weekend.
Please take one home to read with your family.



We wish a very Happy 80th Birthday to **Fr Zvonimir** for the **23 March**
Please join us for morning tea after the **10am mass on Sunday 22 March**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION 2026

FAMILY SESSION 3
Saturday 21 March at 4.30pm
Sunday 22 March at 8.30am

PLANNED GIVING

We are grateful for your stewardship
FIRST COLLECTION goes to the Clergy Foundation
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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]**

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rylan Gold, Redentor Guballa, Danilo Patos, George Micallef

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Vareed Manjaly, Norman Heffernan, Cesar Francis, Gerald Sultana, Francisco, Lilly Francis, Maria Theresa, Cyrus Kim Bautista, Anita Kosac, Vinka Gagro

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Margaret Donnelly, Paul Borg, Jim Fullerton Snr

SICK: Alex Biana
Isabella Agius, Nicholas Agius, Jenet Arellano, Kimberley Balandra, Zig Barglik, Ralph Beck, Margaret Bell, Ingrid Bentham, Vicenta Bernante, Noel Bernardo, Ivan Bracar, Karan Bradburn, Marianne Brigden, Aiden Burke, Ting Cecila, Cliff, Mick C, Claudia & Alfredo Cabrera, Brenda & Ronwald Cadandy, Jose & Norma Calabetto, Aiden Campbell, George & Lena Caruana, Steven Clauser, John Cluney, Mark Cluney, Nad Coder, Dylan Conway, Christine Court, Elizabeth Dawson, Adelia Delapaz, Raymond D'Lima, Diana Dooley, Lou Doyle, Helen Dowling, Holland D'Souza, Debbie Dunn, Joe Farrugia, Peter Farrugia, Theo Fitzgerald, Sister Theresa Formosa, Cheyne Fynn, Robert Galino, Nancy Galon, Elwyn Geerin, Peter Gill, Tadeus Gwiazda, Olive Gyford, Kellie Huggett, Kelly Ibram, Kellie Imray, Theresa Jordan, Danielle Kazare, Baby Yuri Pavon Lara, Helen Lazarus, Ric Limjap, Nikola Ljubic, Mary & Steve Kukac, Josephine Magro, Melisa Maiseeh, Baby Capri Marshall, Nathan Martin, Sue Martin, Stanley Mascarenhas, Bryan & Kay McInerney, Moises Millena, Nympha Miller, Sandra Miller, Angeliqe Kara Manolis, Sydney Morris, Tracy Mulla, Jacek Nawrot, Delia Nazal, Herminigilda & Donnel Nazel, Dianne Nelson, Eric Nepomuceno, Bruce Newham, Colleen Nolan, Maria Nyss, Zeny Oringo, Elsie Pajeta, Stuart Paterson, Marios Pericleous, Pam Pizzuto, Baby Harold Francis Eastman Reid, Ariane Robert, Herve Rohecousta, Luisa Emily Rosales, Trevor Rowe, Daniel Solomon Rowlands, Arren Samia, Norman Samuelu, Jason Sanderson, Brian Scott, Roseanne Shirley, Sabbir Siddique, Valentino Smiroleo, Lisa Sperineck, Brian Sullivan, Joe Tabone, Lorie Tabone, Alan Tago, Carmela Talos, Theresa M Taylor, George Try, Robert Turner, Baby Charlotte Vella, Michael Vella, Susan Voros, Ron Vukovic, Edward Wagner, Milton Watts, David Wakeling, Heather Whitborn, Bob Wrightson, Connie Xerri, Baby Stella Maiia Zanette, Michelle Zotz, Thomas Zotz.

Update on Stuart Paterson



Stuart remains in Nepean Hospital Ward D Bed 4A. He is progressing well and is currently doing rehabilitation.
Please continue to keep Stuart in your prayers.

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 16/3	Tue 17/3 St Patrick Solemnity	Wed 18/3	Thu 19/3 St Joseph, Solemnity	Fri 20/3	Sat 21/3	Sun 22/3 5th Sunday of Lent
9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Divine Office 9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 8am Pilgrimage to Poor Clares, Richmond 9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Divine Office 9.30am Mass 10.15am Young at Heart 10.30am Mother's who Pray for their Children 7pm Mother's who Pray for their Children 7pm Parish Council Mtg	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Divine Office 9.30am Mass 11am Legion of Mary 7pm RCIA 7pm Mass followed by Novena for Our Lady of Perpetual Help	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Divine Office 9.30am Mass 7pm Liturgical Ministry Course in PMR1 7pm Zumba	6.45am Mass 11.40am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Divine Office 12.10pm Mass 7pm Stations of the Cross	8 - 10am Working Bee 9am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 11am Egypt Pilgrimage Mtg in PMR1 4.30pm Confirmation Family Session 3 5pm Reconciliation 6pm Vigil Mass	7am Mass 8.30am Mass 8.30am Confirmation Family Session 3 10am Mass - Children's Liturgy 11.45am Baptisms 6pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 21 / 22 MARCH 2026

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	Lyla Tiamson Elena Xiberras	Cheryl Clark	Freeda Fernandez	Kathleen Pemberton Lee Scully	Heart & Soul	Mia Xiberras
7.00am	Alan Barnes Maryanto Josio	<i>Not required</i>	Yvonne Baccan	Sherica Valladores	Mary-Stella Sultana Bradley Whitticker	No Music	Jose Valladores
8.30am	Margaret Cobden Remy Wood	Michael Ostrea Siona Sebastian	Jennifer Letran	Rose Walsh	Erik Deveza Evette Isaaks Lyn Olander Peter Nematalla Helen Wakeling	Jeffrey Mizzi	Lesi Nagata
10.00am	Jun Relunia Johan Soertz	Elidie Gal Zackary Christie Andrew Johnson	Louise Gal	Allan Johnson	Lilian Martinez Monica Gutierrez	Br David & Marian Choir	Mark Johnson
6.00pm	Rey Esteban Jose-Elmer Simeon	Joshua Esteban Ram Esteban	Natasha Joseph	Janet Esteban	Emma Clark Carolyn D' Mello	JY Family Choir	Sharon Clarke

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES



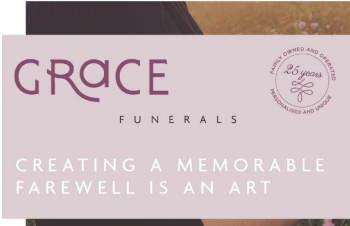
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2022 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Werrington
2021 | Cambridge Park and Kingswood
2021 | Penrith and Werrington
2020 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Penrith
2019 | Kingswood

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2021 | Cambridge Park, Kingswood & Penrith
2020 | Cambridge Park and Penrith
2017 | Claremont Meadows

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