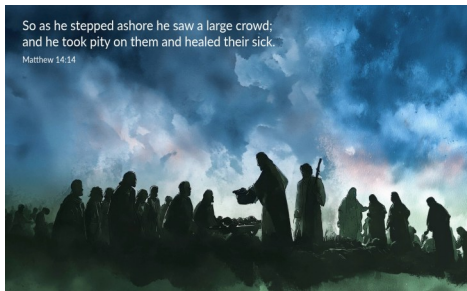




St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



18th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A 1 / 2 August 2026



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: @SNOMParrith
Parish Emergency Numbers:
4732 3039 or 0416 910 334

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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RCA 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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The response of today's psalm is an excellent summary of the theme that runs throughout today's readings: *The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs*. The compassion of God is foremost in these readings – recognising need within the people and responding with an overflowing abundance. In the gospel, the abundant response of God is the miraculous feeding of more than five thousand people with twelve baskets full of leftovers.

As it became late in the day, the disciples wanted Jesus to send the people away to the nearby villages so that they could buy food for themselves. But Jesus is moved with compassion for the people. He knows that as it is now evening they probably won't be allowed to enter any of the local villages and, even if they were, they probably didn't have money with which to buy food. So it is compassionate care that moves Jesus to act. Remember, he had tried to get away from the crowds to spend some private time mourning the death of John the Baptist. He was entitled to be frustrated and angry with them for intruding on his grief. Instead, when they tracked him down, he went ashore and healed them and taught them. When it came to the evening he went one step further in his compassion and made sure that all were fed.

At the time of writing, the gospel writer knew that his audience would be familiar with the Eucharistic meal. The words and actions of Jesus in this miraculous feeding event foreshadow the events of the Last Supper: he *took* the bread and fish, *gave thanks*, *broke* the bread, and *gave* it to the disciples to distribute. This event is a Eucharistic one just as much as the Last Supper.

Scriptural context – Food for all

This miraculous feeding is the first of two such accounts in the gospel of Matthew. (It also appears twice in Mark and once in both Luke and John.) In this account, there are twelve baskets of leftovers. These baskets represent the twelve tribes of Israel. It is a metaphor for Jesus as the one who provides nourishment and satisfaction for the entire Jewish population. The imagery in the second story (Mt 15:32-39) emphasises that Jesus also feeds and satisfies the gentile people. Between them, the two accounts present Jesus as the one who provides spiritual food for all.

Living the Gospel – Grieving John

The passage begins with Jesus receiving the news that his cousin, John the Baptist's death. In response, Jesus immediately withdraws to a lonely place where he can be alone with his disciples. His response to this terrible news is to take time out. He wants to go away to a quiet, lonely place to pray and grieve. He doesn't just take the news in his stride and carry on regardless; he steps back from the busy-ness of life to mourn. It's a lesson for us in times of stress and grief: the response Jesus models is to take time to grieve the loss.

Different View – A different miracle

A very different interpretation of this miraculous feeding suggests that what Jesus did was actually shame people into pulling out from under their cloaks the little bits of food that each of them were carrying. The scripture tells us that the event takes place in a 'lonely place'. People didn't tend to travel very far at all from home without taking with them a bit of food. This interpretation suggests that by his own generosity and willingness to share what little he had, Jesus shamed the crowd into sharing their own morsels of food and produce enough to feed the multitude that were gathered there.

Questions for Adults

Q. When have you had to respond to the needs of others when you just wanted time alone?

✍ Greg Sunter

© Liturgy Help 2026

Image Credit: Liturgy Help 2026

PARISH NEWS

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Denis Grange

and for his family

His Funeral Service will be held on

Tuesday 4 August at 1.30pm



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Pedro Donoso

and for his family

His Requiem Mass will be held on

Wednesday 5 August at 11am



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Darryl Von Bock

and for his family

His Requiem Mass will be held on

Thursday 6 August at 11am

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Denis Grange, Pedro Donosa, Peter Schembri, Darryl Von Bock

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Thomas Conroy, Joseph Xiberras, Francis Muscat, Thio Im Nio, Nazzarena Cauchi, Orlando & L:ourdez Palacio, Charlie & Doris Schembri, Charlie Galea

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettare, Margaret Donnelly, Paul Borg, Peter Chiew, Clarina Navarez Nasayao, Grant McLean

SICK: Racheal Wilson, Marylou Bailen, M D'Souza, Giselle Antoinette A, Mark Agar, Isabella Agius, Nicholas Agius, Jenet Arellano, Kimberley Balandra, Zig Barglik, Jude Delfin Bayot, Ralph Beck, Riley Beecham, Margaret Bell, Ingrid Bentham, Vicenta Bernante, Noel Bernardo, Alex Biana, Ivan Brear, Karan Bradburn, Julie Brenner, Marianne Brigden, Aiden Burke, Ting Cecilia, Cliff, Mick C, Claudia & Alfredo Cabrera, Brenda & Ronwald Cadandy, Jose & Norma Calabetto, Aiden Campbell, George & Lena Caruana, 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, Cheyenne Fynn, Robert Galino, Nancy Galon, Elwyn Geerin, Peter Gill, Tadeus Gwiazda, Olive Gyford, John Hill, Kellie Huggett, Kelly Ibram, Kellie Imray, Theresa Jordan, Danielle Kazare, Baby Alfred Knowles, Olga Kiss, Lara Langon, Baby Yuri Pavon Lara, Helen Lazarus, Ric Limjap, Nikola Ljubic, Mary Kukac, Josephine Magro, Melisa Maiseeh, Angelique Kara Manolis, Baby Capri Marshall, Nathan Martin, Sue Martin, Stanley Mascarenhas, Bryan & Kay McInerney, Moises Millena, Nympha Miller, Sandra Miller, Sydney Morris, Fr Chris Mithen CP, Tracy Mulla, Jacek Nawrot, Delia Nazal, Herminigilda & Donnel Nazel, Dianne Nelson, Bruce Newham, Colleen Nolan, Maria Nyss, Zeny Oringo, Aurora Ostrea, Elsie Pajeta, Maria Pamen, Marios Pericleous, Pam Pizzuto, Ariane Robert, Herve Rochecousta, Luisa Emily Rosales, Trevor Rowe, Daniel Solomon Rowlands, Arren Samia, Norman Samuelu, Jason Sanderson, Roseanne Shirley, Sabbir Siddique, Len Sigle, Valentino Smiroleo, Lisa Sperineck, Brian Sullivan, Joe Tabone, Lorie Tabone, Alan Tago, Carmela Talos, Maria Tamer, Theresa M Taylor, Alicia Tecson, 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 Maria Zanette, Michelle Zotz, Thomas Zotz.

ST NICK'S GROUPS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

10am Mass Sunday

MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN

10.30am & 7pm Tuesday in PMR2

YOUNG AT HEART - over 50's

10.15am 3rd Tuesday of month in PMR1

LEGION OF MARY

11am Wednesday in PMR 2

ZUMBA CLASSES

7pm Thursday in the Hall

ST NICK'S FLICKS MOVIE NIGHT

7pm last Friday of month in Hall

YOUTH GROUP - Holy Rollers (9 - 12's)

6pm 2nd Friday of month in Hall

YOUTH GROUP - over 16's

4.30pm 2nd and 4th Saturday of month in PMR 2

ST MARY MACKILLOP
Feast Day MARKETS
AT ST MARY MACKILLOP PRIMARY SCHOOL
150 FRAGAR RD
SOUTH PENRITH NSW 2750
8TH AUGUST 2026
2:45PM TO 7PM
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PRAYER & BLESSING TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST MARY MACKILLOP AT 2:45PM BEFORE MARKETS COMMENCE AT 3PM
FREE
FACE PAINTING
BALLOON TWISTING
KIDS ACTIVITIES
MARKET STALLS
FOOD TRUCKS
BBQ

We congratulate Fr Peter Wood, Remy's son, who celebrates his 16th anniversary as a Priest this week. He often celebrates mass here during January when he comes to visit Remy.

PLANNED GIVING

We are grateful for your stewardship
FIRST COLLECTION goes to supporting the Priests of the Diocese.

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Acct Name Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
Reference 6029 [SURNAME]

SECOND COLLECTION goes to the support of the Parish

BSB 067 950
Acct No 100001692
Acct Name Penrith St Nicholas Catholic Church
Reference [ENVELOPE # OR SURNAME]

PARISH NEWS

Mass Readings for 8 / 9 August 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A

1st Reading	1 Kings 19: 9, 11 - 13
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 84: 9 - 14
2nd Reading	Romans 9: 1 - 5
Gospel	Matthew 14: 22 - 33



On the Saturday **8 August**, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of **St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop**, the Patron Saint of Australia.

Please come and join us at **9 am Mass**. Adoration and Reconciliation will follow the Mass.

On Saturday the **15 August** we celebrate the Solemnity of the **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. This is a Holy Day of obligation.



Image Credit:
mrc.tes.edu.au

We will have the following Masses

7pm on Friday 14 August (Vigil)
7am & 9am on Saturday 15 August.

We encourage you to bring the **statues and icons** of Our Lady and Saints from your home to the **9am mass on the 15 August** to be blessed.

There will be **NO** Adoration or Reconciliation following the 9am Mass.

DIVINE MERCY ADORATION

On the first Friday of each month we have Divine Mercy Adoration following the 12.10pm Mass.

Please come and join us on **Friday 7 August**

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE PRESENTATION

Our monthly Eucharistic Miracle Presentation will take place

Thursday 6 August at 7pm in PMR1.

All are warmly invited to come, to deepen your faith, and grow in love for the Eucharist.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will celebrate our Thanksgiving mass for
Milestone Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

and the 180th Anniversary of the Apparition of our Lady of La Sallette

at 6pm Vigil Mass on 19 September 2026

- ◆ We celebrate all those who celebrate milestone birthdays this year, 18th, 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
parishmanager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

PARISH YOUTH

HOLY ROLLER

No meeting this month due to Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass

Next Meeting: Friday 11 September, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, in Hall.



YOUTH GROUP - OVER 16'S

Next Meeting: Saturday 8 August 4:30 – 6pm, in PMR2



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM RECONCILIATION 2026

Enrolments are

OPEN

On our website

www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au

The website contains the dates, requirements and commitment for parent and children.

Children **MUST BE** in Year 3 or above
and must be baptised.

Enrolment forms are also available from the Parish Office.

All enquiries to Rodney Howard on 4721 2509 or
sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.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 3/8 St Dominic Memorial	Tue 4/8 St John Vianney Memorial	Wed 5/8	Thu 6/8 The Transfiguration of the Lord Feast	Fri 7/8	Sat 8/8 St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Solemnity	Sun 9/8 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time
9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass	6.45am Mass 9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 10.30am Mother's who Pray for their Children 1.30pm Funeral Denis Grange 7pm Finance Council Mtg 7pm Mother's who Pray for their Children	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 11am Funeral Pedro Donoso 11am Legion of Mary 7pm Mass followed by Novena of our Lady of Perpetual Help	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 11am Funeral Darryl Von Dock 7pm Zumba 7pm Eucharistic Miracles Presentation	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass followed by Divine Mercy Adoration	9am Mass, Adoration and Reconciliation 4.30 Youth Group Meeting 5pm Reconciliation 6pm Mass	7am Mass 8.30am Mass 10am Mass - Children's Liturgy 11.45am Baptisms 6pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 8 / 9 August 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 Rodney Howard	Evalina Hasna Olivia Spain Elena Xiberras	Cheryl Clark	Lauren Hasna	Jim Fullerton Marcel Ugochukwu	JY Family Choir	Corey Gauci
7.00am	Elenita Sajonia Robert Sajonia	<i>Not required</i>	Nonye Amah	Yvonne Baccan	Louisa Davie Bradley Whiticker	No Music	Brian Rees
8.30am	Michael Tolentino Ryan Clarke	Jostick Joseph Jacob Barretto	Agnes Suluape	Carol Wright	Shane Didier Serre Evette Isaaks Peter Nematalla Helen Wakeling Peter Wheller	J Mizzi	Phil Margerison
10.00am	Jun Relunia Johan Soertsz	Lucas Besa Adrio & Jadrian Maheswaran	Christine Besa	John Jordan	Bonita Thomas Carmen Vella	AMDG Adult	Sharon Clarke
6.00pm	Jose-Elmer Simeon Manuel Credo Jnr	Isabel, Jerome & Marybel Joseph	Daniel Whalen	Queenie Reales	Carolyn D'Mello Nina Nepomuceno	CFC	CFC

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

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