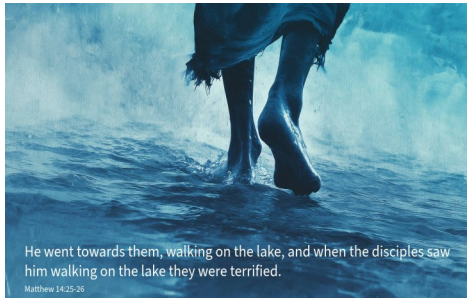




St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



19th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A 8 / 9 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: @SNOMPenrith
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

Office Manager: Rodney Howard (M, Th, F)
 E: parishmanager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Admin Assistant: Sharon Clarke (Th, F)
 E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Sacramental Coordinator: Rodney Howard (T,W)
 E: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Catechists Coordinator: Margaret Wilson
 E: catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

I don't know that we've ever properly understood the significance of the disciples in the gospels; our attention is always focused on Jesus. The disciples certainly got the inside running on all of Jesus' teachings; they witnessed the miracles; and were themselves empowered to carry on the work of Jesus. They can be seen as the prototypes for all the followers of Jesus that have come since. When we read the gospel stories we can perhaps place ourselves in the position of James or John or Peter or Andrew.

To be a disciple to a rabbi was not just to be a supporter or an interested bystander. To be a disciple was to hungrily learn from your rabbi. The fact that all of Jesus' disciples were called from other walks of life means that no other rabbi had already chosen them. They had been passed over as not good enough to study with a rabbi. When they were called by Jesus it was an opportunity they would never have dreamed possible; of course they left everything and followed him.

To be a disciple was effectively an apprenticeship to becoming a rabbi. To be discipled to a rabbi was to believe that you could do what your rabbi did. It is this belief that makes Peter get out of the boat. His rabbi is walking on the water and Peter believes that he can do what his rabbi does. And extraordinarily, Peter begins to walk on the water just like Jesus. It is only when he starts to think about what he's doing that he sinks. When Jesus asks Peter, 'Why did you doubt?' he is asking Peter why he doubted himself. It wasn't that Peter doubted Jesus; he doubted his own ability to be the equal of his rabbi!

Historical Context – Separation

The image of Jesus still ashore while the disciples battled against strong winds and rising seas must have been an evocative one for the Matthean community. Like the disciples, they were acutely aware of their separation from Jesus. Unlike the disciples, they were separated by time and the raging storm that beset them was a tide of suspicion and persecution. At times they felt the strength and courage of Peter to step out of the boat and be Jesus in their world, but at other times they doubted their own abilities. It is a message for the Church of the day and the Church of today.

Living the Gospel – Christian

What does it mean to describe oneself as a Christian today? A common understanding might be 'one who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ'. Perhaps, based on the understanding of what it meant to be a disciple, we might better describe a Christian as one who learns from the teachings of Jesus and seeks to emulate the work of Jesus. That is, a Christian is someone who models their life on the example of Jesus and is the face of Jesus to others. That's a tougher job description than just turning up to church once a week or putting a bumper sticker on your car.

Gospel Focus – 'Lord! Save me!'

The cry of Peter is one that each of us feels the need to cry out at some stage in our life. Jesus trusted Peter's ability to walk to him on the water; otherwise he would not have called Peter to do so. It is Peter who doubts himself. In this moment of realising that he can't do it alone, he calls out to Jesus. One of the enduring images of Jesus is as the one who saves – the Saviour. When the realisation eventually comes to each of us that we can't do it all alone, we need only call on the one who saves.

Questions for Adults

Q. In what way would the command to walk on water have been a confirmation of Jesus' identity for Peter?

Q. How do you imagine the other disciples reacted to Peter stepping out of the boat?

✍ Greg Sunter

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Image Credit: Liturgy Help 2026

PARISH NEWS

RECENTLY DECEASED



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Peter McIlvenna

and for his family

His Requiem Mass will be held on

Tuesday 11 August at 11am

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠



Fr. Eugene Stockton, a retired Parish Priest of our Diocese died peacefully on 5th August. He was 91 years old. He served our Parish community as an Assistant Priest from 2000 to 2001.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held on

Friday 14 August at 11am

at St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood.

Please include the departed soul in your prayers

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Peter McIlvenna, Fr Eugene Stockton, Peter Schembri, Colleen Nolan

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Joe Bartolo, Pauline Margerison, Rodolfo Calub, Antonio Cleto., Ama Gomes, Valemtima Machado, Peter Schembri, Charlie & Doris Schembri, Lesnee & Calixtus Pinto, Clerance Gomesz, Charlie Grima, Paul Borg, Joseph Vella,

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Margaret Donnelly, Paul Borg, Jose & Elsie Pajeta

SICK: Maria Anita Ferrer

Giselle Antoinette A, Mark Agar, Isabella Agius, Nicholas Agius, Jenet Arellano, Marylou Bailen, Kimberley Balandra, Zig Barglik, Jude Delfin Bayot, Ralph Beck, Riley Beecham, Margaret Bell, Ingrid Bentham, Vicenta Bernante, Noel Bernardo, Alex Biana, Ivan Bracar, Karan Bradburn, Julie Brenner, Marianne Brigden, Aiden Burke, Ting Cecila, 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, M 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, 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 Maisech, 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, Donnel Nazal, 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, Racheal Wilson, 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

You are invited to attend a

Married Couples' RETREAT

"Reflect, Renew & Reconnect"

Saturday 5th September 2026
Bishop Bede Heather Centre,
1 Marion Street, Blacktown
8:30am to 4:30pm

\$45 per couple
Bookings essential
 Places strictly limited
Register at:
parracatholic.org/marriedcouplesretreat/

Sessions

- Expressions of Love
- Living your Vocation of Marriage
- 7 Principles of making Marriage Work
- Creating a Marriage First Aid Kit
- Couple Prayer + Commitment Ceremony + Mass with Bishop Vincent

Included

- Lunch + refreshments

PLANNED GIVING

We are grateful for your stewardship

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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 15 / 16 August 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A

1st Reading	Isaiah 56: 1, 6 - 7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 66: 2 - 3, 5 - 6, 8
2nd Reading	Romans 11: 13 - 15, 29 - 32
Gospel	Matthew 15: 21 - 28

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

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.



Image Credit:
mrc.tes.edu.au

SECURITY FENCE & GATES

The installation has been completed around the perimeter of the Church grounds.

Please be advised that the entrance gates will automatically lock each night at 10.30pm.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM RECONCILIATION 2026

Enrolments are
OPEN

on our website
and close on Wednesday 12 August
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

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 the 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

Discover the Path to Catholic Faith with RCIA



Curious about the Catholic faith?

If you're an adult interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or thinking about becoming Catholic, we warmly invite you to join our **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** journey.

Our first information meeting will take place on

Tuesday 9 September
at 7.00 pm in our PMR 1.

To find out more or register your interest, please contact the Parish office on **02 4721 2509** or
joe@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Please share with your families and friends about this Information evening.

RCIA is a welcoming and relaxed program where you can discover the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church and ask questions in a friendly, supportive environment.

Fr. Joe

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 10/8 St Lawrence Feast	Tue 11/8 St Clare Memorial	Wed 12/8	Thu 13/8	Fri 14/8	Sat 15/8 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Solemnity	Sun 16/8 20th 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 11am Funeral Peter McIlvenna 2pm Mass Newmarch House 7pm Mother's who Pray for their Children	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 11am Legion of Mary 7pm Pastoral Council Mtg 7pm Mass followed by Novena of our Lady of Perpetual Help	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.15 SMM Mass 9.30am Mass 7pm Zumba	6.45am Mass 12.10pm Mass followed by Divine Mercy Adoration 7pm Mass	7am Mass 9am Mass and statue Blessing 5pm Reconciliation 6pm Mass	7am Mass 8.30am Mass 10am Mass - Children's Liturgy 11.45am Baptisms 6pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 15 / 16 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	Brian Scott Jenny Hogan	Celine & Vivian Chanpowsee Dominic & Lucy Lenihan	Sharon Falleiro	Freda Fernandez	Deb Scott Bradley McGregor	AMEN Choir	Sheldon Couto
7.00am	Alan Barnes Maryanto Josio	<i>Not required</i>	Agnes Suluape	Yvonne Baccan	Bradley Whiticker Margaret Scicluna	No Music	Lesi Nagata
8.30am	Peter Spiteri Rebecca Spiteri Janine Jensen	Isaac Spiteri Hudson Spiteri	Rose Walsh	Sue Von Bock	Evette Isaaks Peter Nematala Darlene Streher Helen Wakeling Peter Wheller	Victoria Sebi	Phil Margerison
10.00am	Rodney Howard Paulo Ravunakaidere	Claire Vincent & Collette George	Lisa Alimangohan	John Jordan	Arnel Alimangohan Bonita Thomas	BNP Chapter	BNP
6.00pm	Rachel Conteh Rey Esteban	Joshua Esteban Ram Esteban	Janet Esteban	Janell Ilagan	Carolyn D'Mello Kathryn Wrightson	CFC Youth	CFC

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

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

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