



St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



24th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A 12 / 13 September 2026 Safeguarding Sunday

"Lord, if my brother sins against me,
how often must I forgive?"
Matthew 18:21

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: @SNOMPennrith

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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E: parishmanager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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E: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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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

This gospel passage follows directly from last week's passage. It concludes the whole of Matthew Chapter 18 that deals with sin, forgiveness and reconciliation. Peter's question to Jesus and suggested answer is a reflection of the view that there is a limit to the number of times we should forgive someone. Seven is a significant number in scripture and implies a 'perfect' amount. Even though by his use of seven, Peter is suggesting that he should forgive someone many, many times, Jesus quickly corrects Peter and says not seven, but seventy-seven times (or seventy times seven). Jesus plays on the use of the number seven and multiplies it to indicate that one should forgive as many times as is required – without keeping count; without keeping score.

The story of the unforgiving servant is a familiar one of forgiveness and mercy being shown but not passed on. The sting in the tail of this parable is Jesus' final warning that, 'So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.' This is an unsettling statement, as we believe God's forgiveness to be without measure and without end. Jesus warns that unless we seek to imitate God's forgiveness and forgive others 'from our heart' (with compassion) then we are not going to recognise the forgiveness of God and will cut ourselves off from it.

The whole idea of forgiving from the heart is a powerful contradiction of a popular concept: 'I can forgive, but not forget.' Is it really possible to forgive but refuse to forget? Surely holding on to a memory of hurt is holding on to the hurt itself and does not display that any forgiveness has occurred at all. To forgive but not forget is to keep count. How many times should I forgive the one who has hurt me? As many times as it takes!

Have you thought?

The parable sees the unforgiving servant putting his fellow servant in prison 'until he paid back the debt'. This is almost exclusively what prisons were used for until only a few hundred years ago. When a person could not repay a debt, they were held in prison until the debt was paid. Of course, being in prison, they had little opportunity to repay the debt themselves and relied on friends and relatives to repay the debt on their behalf. To pay someone's debt was to 'redeem' them. The earliest ideas of Christ as a 'Redeemer' were based on the idea of Christ paying a debt on behalf of humankind.

Living the Gospel – Just like Peter

Throughout the gospels, Peter is a fantastic example of the common person. He has insights of faith at times but usually build relationships that are life-giving for both parties, then there is no end to the number of times that we try to re-build that relationship.

Gospel Focus – How many times?

Peter asks, 'How many times should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Peter probably thought that he was being pretty generous. The religious law of his time required people to forgive three times, so by suggesting seven times, Peter would have thought that he was really going the extra mile. To forgive someone seven times is a pretty big call. But the number seven has great significance in scripture; it is regarded as a number of perfection. Peter is suggesting that there is an ideal number of times that one should forgive. Jesus blows this out of the water by saying, take that perfect number of times and multiply it by seventy. There is no perfect number of times to forgive.

Greg Sunter © Liturgy Help
Image Credit: Liturgy Help 2026

PARKING

For the safety of our parishioners especially children and the elderly, please **only park in the designated car parking space** in the carpark.



There are clear signs to indicate where **NOT** to park **particularly at the entrance to the carpark between the hall and PMR1**

PLEASE HELP KEEP EVERYONE SAFE

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

John Magro

and his family

His Requiem Mass will be held on

Tuesday 15 September at 11am

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Magro, Florentino Gajayon Geraldez, John Hill

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Alex Diana, Grace Tumalak, Beatrice Lee, Paul Landrigan, Lourdes & Orlando Palacio, Rudi von Bock, Vincenzo Monteleone. Boleslaw, Gwiazda, Betty Tabone,

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettare, Margaret Donnelly, Paul Borg, Grant McLean, Cherylyn Fortes, Abigail Dela Cueva, Victoria & Carmelo Cauchi, Beato, Ava, Jose, Cordovilla, Descabo Jnr, Luis Snr, Julia & Gutiza Ching, Johnes Aycardo,

SICK: Kate Lapsuks, Zenaida Valencia, 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, Maria Anita Ferrer, 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, Ravi Kakkar, 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, 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 Siple, 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.



CATECHISTS WANTED!

The word Catechist comes from the Greek word meaning to "echo."

Our Catechists echo the word of God to the Catholic children in the 7 state primary schools within the Parish.

Please consider joining our team to help pass on our faith to the next generation.

Complete training, mentoring and materials provided.

Come! Find out more from:

Catechist Coordinator: Margaret Wilson. Parish Office:
(02)47212509

Feast Day of Our Lady of Penafrancia

On Saturday 19 September we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Feast Day of Our Lady of Penafrancia

10am - Novena to Our Lady of Penafrancia and El Divino Rostro

10:30am - Concelebrated Mass with Fr Joe Manjaly as main celebrant with Fr Rojan Cheriyan, Fr Zvonimir, Fr Jonahan (Filipino Chaplain, Diocese of Parramatta) and Fr Meng as concelebrants.

After the mass there will be fluvial procession at Nepean River starting at Tench Reserve Emu Plains at 12pm followed by free lunch, program and entertainment from 12:30pm at the Factory Rd Tench Reserve, Emu Plains

THERE WILL BE NO 9AM MASS, ADORATION OR RECONCILIATION.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM RECONCILIATION 2026

PRACTICE AND FIRST RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 15 September 6.20pm

PLANNED GIVING

We are grateful for your stewardship

FIRST COLLECTION goes to supporting the Priests of the Diocese.

BSB	067 950
Acct No	100003570
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]

**Mass Reading for 19 / 20 September
25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A**

1st Reading	Isaiah 55: 6 - 9
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 144: 2- 3, 8 – 9, 17 - 18
2nd Reading	Philippians 1: 20 – 24, 27
Gospel	Matthew: 10: 1 - 16

BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL

Honour a lifetime of faithful service

Thank you for caring for our spiritual fathers. Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal raised over **\$5400** to provide much-needed care and support for those who have dedicated their lives to serving our community. Your generosity and love ensure they receive the care, comfort and dignity they deserve in this next chapter of their lives. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal or take an envelope available at the doors of the Church and place in any collection basket or bring to the Parish Office.

Congratulations to

Fr Joe

who celebrated the
21st anniversary of his ordination
on the **8 September**.

FR JOE'S ANNUAL LEAVE

Dear friends in Christ,

I would like to inform you that I will be taking my annual leave from 22 September to 13 October. During this time, I will be spending some time with my family and also with La Salette community in India.

I am home also for my mum's first death anniversary. I kindly ask you to keep me and my family in your prayers during this time. Your prayers and support have been a great strength to me.

Have a great weekend - Fr. Joe Manjaly

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

On Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by anyone in Church settings and acknowledge the vulnerability of some within our parishes and communities. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance.

This year the theme is Love Protects

Our Diocese offers a Healing and Support Service providing pastoral, therapeutic and spiritual care to anyone who has experienced harm in a Church context. We provide direct support, resources, and pathways to assist individuals in their process of healing and recovery. Our approach is person centred, assisting according to each person's individual needs and circumstances. If you, a loved one or someone you know has experienced abuse in a Church context, you are welcome to contact our Healing and Support Counsellor lorena.portocarrero@parracatholic.org, or for more information visit parracatholic.org/safeguarding/healing-and-support

YOUNG AT HEART GATHERING

(For over 50s)

Tuesday 15

September

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.



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 14/9	Tue 15/9	Wed 16/9	Thu 17/9	Fri 18/9	Sat 19/9	Sun 20/9 25 th 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 10:15am Young at Heart 10.30am Mothers who pray for their children 11am Funeral John Magro 6.15pm Practice and First Reconciliation 7pm Mothers who pray for their children	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass: Summit Care 11am Legion of Mary 7pm Mass followed by Novena of our Lady of Perpetual Help	9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 9:15am SMM Yr 3 Liturgy 9.30am Mass 10.30am Mass: The Royce 7pm Zumba	6.45am Mass 11.40am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary 12.10pm Mass 7.30pm Mass BNP	10am Novena and Mass for Our Lady of Penafrancia 5pm Reconciliation 6pm Mass - Milestone Birthdays & Wedding Anniversary - 180 th Anniversary of the Apparition of our Lady of La Salette	7am Mass 8.30am Mass 10am Mass - Children's Liturgy 11.45am Baptisms 6pm Mass

PARISH ROSTER 19 / 20 September 2026

If you are unable to fulfil your ministry IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ORGANISE A REPLACEMENT

	Acolytes / MATA	Altar Servers	Community Rep	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Choir	AV
Vigil	Joseph Buttigieg Jenny Hogan	Llyla Tiamson Dominic & Lucy Lenihan	Cheryl Clark	Freda Fernandez	Lee Scully Marcel Ugochukwu	AMEN Choir	Sharon Clarke
7am	Elenita Sajonia Robert Sajonia	<i>Not required</i>	Nonye Amah	Sherica Valladores	Margaret Scicluna Bradley Whiticker	No Music	Jose Valladores
8.30am	Janine Jensen Remy Wood	Michael Ostrea Siona Sebastian	Jennifer Letran	Rose Walsh	Erik Deveza Evette Isaaks Lyn Olander Peter Nematalla Helen Wakeling	Victoria Sebi	Phil Margerison
10am	Rodney Howard Paulo Ravunakaidere	Zachary Christie Andrew Johnson Amelia Ross	Lilian Martinez	Allan Johnson	Monica Gutierrez Carmen Vella	BNP Chapter	BNP
6pm	Rey Esteban Jose-Elmer Simeon	Joshua Esteban Ram Esteban	Natasha Joseph	Janet Esteban	Emma Clark Kathryn Wrightson	CFC Youth	CFC

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