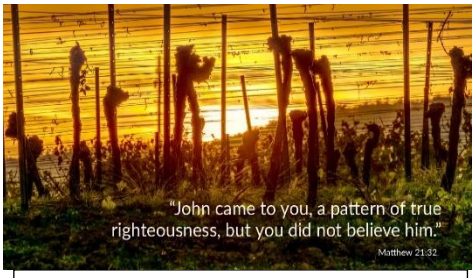
St Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish



26th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A
26 / 27 September 2026
World Refugee & Migration Day



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
E: parishmanager@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Admin Assistant: Sharon Clarke (Th, F)
E: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
Sacramental Coord: Sharon Falleiro (W, Th)
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

This week's gospel passage is one of many within Matthew's gospel that show Jesus at odds with the religious authorities of his day. The picture of the religious leaders that comes through Matthew's gospel is one of hypocrisy. Jesus is frequently portrayed as criticising the leaders for holding too strongly to the letter of the law and ignoring the spirit of the law and the call to compassion. This week's passage has Jesus seeking the opinion of the chief priests and elders on a hypothetical situation (a common style of debating a point of law in the Jewish tradition). He describes two sons, each asked by their father to go and work in the family vineyard. The first says 'No' but later does his father's bidding. The second says 'Yes' but doesn't follow through on his commitment.

Jesus is criticising the religious leaders of his time who, with their words, said 'Yes' to God but by their actions said 'No'. He most certainly would have upset the leaders by telling them that tax collectors and prostitutes would enter the kingdom of God before them. Whilst these tax collectors and prostitutes were regarded by the religious authorities as 'sinners' beyond redemption, Jesus holds them up in the image of the first son of the story. Although they may have said 'No' to God through their poor choices, ultimately, they are saying 'Yes' to God in their acceptance of Jesus and the message of the kingdom of God. On the other hand, the leaders have said 'Yes' to God publicly through abiding by all the religious laws and maintaining a 'religious profile' but in their hearts and actions they have not truly said 'Yes!'

From the perspective of … A Tax Collector

Hey, Jesus is talking about me again! I love it when he says that I'm better than some of those stuck-up chief priests. All my life they've looked down on me; pretending they're better than me. I've seen the way some of them behave when they think no-one's watching! They're no better than me! And Jesus says that people like me will enter the kingdom before people like them! Yes! I know I've done the wrong thing plenty of times – Jesus has helped me to see that. Maybe that's what makes me different from those priests; I don't pretend that I've never done anything wrong.

Historical Context – Chief Priests and Tax Collectors

Only men of the Israelite tribe of Levi could become Priests and Levites. Men from the other eleven tribes were prohibited. It was not a religious 'call' but rather a fact of birth that led men to be priests. The chief priests and high priest performed all the rituals in the Temple in Jerusalem – it was they who performed sacrifices on behalf of others. They were very important and influential. Tax collectors were regarded poorly because they acted on behalf of the Romans – collecting revenue for an occupying and pagan force. They made their living by collecting extra amounts. They were looked down upon by most people.

Living the Gospel – Saying 'Yes!'

In many ways, it is easy to say 'Yes' and not really mean it. Some people do it all the time in their lives. They say 'Yes' when they have no intention at all of following through on their commitment. It's easy to say 'Yes' and not mean it when it comes to faith as well. It's pretty easy to turn up at Church on a Sunday and be seen to be doing the 'right' thing. But if our faith doesn't change the way we live, then maybe we're really saying 'No' to God.

Greg Sunter © Liturgy Help Image
Credit: Liturgy Help 2026

MINISTERY ROSTER

The roster for **October - December** has been emailed and some hard copies are available in the sacristy.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of



Norma Hey

and her family

Her Funeral Service will be held on

Wednesday 30 September at 2pm

✞ ✞ ✞ ✞ ✞ ✞ ✞

Please pray for the repose of the soul of



Edward Harnett

and his family

His Funeral Service will be held on

Thursday 1 October at 11am

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED: Edward Harnett, Norma Hey, Carol Coady, Len O'Riordan, Ravi Kakkar, Brian Cornet-Marqez,

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Vincenzo Monteleone, Peter Howard, Valsamma John, Boleslawa Gwiazda, Betty Tabone, Marlyn Rata, Theresa Duncan, Jure Stapic, George Nematalla, Godfrey Gomez, Regina, Evelyn, Irene, Leah, Maria, Lucy Ramalho

DECEASED: Tania Felice, Margaret Mary Sullivan, John Nettar, Margaret Donnolley, Paul Borg, Frank & Irene Barglik, Michael-Mara Paulinski, Baniuska Sophie Rzepecki, Wally Kanzler, Anjela Barglik, Joe & Lorna Melder,

SICK:

Giselle Antoinette A, 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 Brcar, 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, John Cluney, Mark Cluney, Nad Coder, Dylan Conway, Christine Court, Elizabeth Dawson, Adelia Delapaz, 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, Danielle Kazare, Baby Alfred Knowles, Olga Kiss, Lara Langon, Baby Yuri Pavon Lara, Kate Lapsuks, 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 Sigle, Valentino Smiroleo, Lisa Sperineck, Brian Sullivan, Joe Tabone, Lorie Tabone, Alan Tago, Carmela Talos, Maria Tamer, Theresa M Taylor, Alicia Tecson, Ken Thompson, George Try, Robert Turner, Zenaida Valencia 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.

THE CALL FOR CATECHISTS



I wish to thank all parishioners for their support and response to our call for new catechists and catechist helpers.

There is always a need for more catechists to echo the Word of God to the Catholic children in our 7 State Primary schools.

If any parishioners would like to know more, please do not hesitate to contact

Margaret Wilson, Catechist Coordinator

at the Parish Office (02) 4721 2509

EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE PRESENTATION



Our monthly Eucharistic Miracle Presentation will take place

Thursday 1 October at 7pm in PMR1.

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

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 2 October**

HEALING MASS



On the first Saturday of each month at the 9am Mass, we have an anointing of the sick and prayers for healing.

Please come and join us on **Saturday 3 October**

THE BIBLE AND THE VIRGIN MARY

A series of one-hour presentations on the Bible and the Virgin Mary

When: Wednesday 14, 21, 28 October

4, 11, 18, 25 November

Where: Hall

Time: 5.30 – 6.30pm

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 3 / 4 October 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A	
1st Reading	Isaiah 5: 1 - 7
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 79: 9, 12 – 16, 19 - 20
2nd Reading	Philippians 4: 6 - 9
Gospel	Matthew: 21: 33 - 43

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.

An information meeting will take place on

Wednesday 7 October

at 7.00 pm in our PMR 1 (in the building with white gate as you enter the carpark from Higgins Street)

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Our Children liturgy will not be held during the school holidays; it will recommence on

Sunday 18 October

at the 10.00am Mass.

MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN

These meetings will not be held during the school holidays and will resume on

Tuesday 13 October

at 10.30am or 7pm

ROSARY FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

All are warmly invited to join us in praying the Rosary during October.



Regular Rosary Times

- Weekdays: 30 minutes before Mass begins.
- Weekends: 5.30 pm before the Vigil Mass and Sunday 6.00 pm Mass.

10-Day Rosary Evening and Mass

A 10-day Rosary evening and Mass will be held from **Wednesday 21 October to Friday 30 October.** The Rosary will begin at 7.00 pm in the Church on weekdays and at 5.30 pm on weekends followed by Mass.

On **Friday 30 October,** the Rosary and Mass will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians Grotto, followed by a procession around the Church grounds.

Families are invited to lead the Rosary on each evening during this period, as well as on the weekends leading up to it. To take part, please register your family's name on the sheet in the foyer.

Major Pilgrim Relic Visit of St Carlo Acutis

28–30 September | St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Come and pray with the relic of **St Carlo Acutis** and discover his inspiring devotion to the Eucharist.

The three-day visit beginning at 4pm on Monday 28 September includes Holy Mass, relic veneration, blessings, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession and an exhibition on Eucharistic Miracles.

Please see the flyer at the doors of the Church for the full program, times and activities.

All are welcome - bring your family and friends!

MASS FOR HSC STUDENTS

There will be a special mass for our HSC students on

Saturday 3 October at 6pm or

Sunday 4 October at 10.00am and 6.00pm.

Please call the parish office to register their names.

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 28/9	Tue 29/9 Sts Michael, Gabreil & Raphael Feast	Wed 30/9 St Jerome Memorial	Thu 1/10 St Therese of the Child Jesus Memorial	Fri 2/10 The Holy Guardian Angles Memorial	Sat 3/10	Sun 4/10 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time
9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary **9.30am Mass** 10.30am Catechist Mtg	**6.45am Mass** **9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary** **9.30am Mass** 10.30am Catechist Mtg	**9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary** **9.30am Mass** 11am Legion of Mary 11am Funeral: Norma Hey **7pm Mass followed by Novena of our Lady of Perpetual Help**	**9am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Rosary** **9.30am Mass** 11am Funeral: Edward Harnett 7pm Eucharistic Miracles Presentation PMR1 7pm Zumba	**6.45am Mass** **12.10pm Mass followed by Divine Mercy Adoration**	**9am Healing Mass, Adoration & Reconciliation** 11am Novena Mass for Our Lady of Penafrancia **5pm Reconciliation** 5.30pm Rosary **6pm Mass**	**7am Mass** **8.30am Mass** **10am Mass** **11.45am Baptisms** 5.30pm Rosary **6pm Mass**

PARISH ROSTER 3 / 4 October 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 Buttigeg Brian Scott	Dominic & Matilda Ear	Joan Torres	Del Conejar	Jim Fullerton Marcel Ugochukwu	AMDG Youth	BK Ugochukwu
7am	Alan Barnes Maryanto Josio	*Not required*	Margaret Scicluna	Nonye Amah	Louisa Davie Bradley Whiticker	No Music	Lesi Nagata
8.30am	Elenita Sajonia Robert Sajonia	Emmanuel Aurisch Jacob Barretto	Carol Wright	Maria Varua	Evette Isaaks Peter Nematalla Lyn Olander Kathleen Pemberton Helen Wakeling	Jeffery Mizzi	Phil Margerison
10am	Peter Spiteri Remy Wood	Isaac & Hudson Spiteri Nathan Couto	Olga Kiss	Bonita Thomas	Jessica Couto Rebecca Spiteri	Billy C	Sheldon Couto
6pm	Rachel Conteh Rey Esteban	Joshua Esteban Ram Esteban	Janet Esteban	Daniel Whalen	Emma Clark Ninea Nepomuceno	BNP Youth	BNP

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

LIGHTWATER Plumbing & Electrical
A HANDY COMBINATION
LIGHTWATER Plumbing Pty Ltd
Joey Buttigieg
0432 147 251
LIGHTWATER Electrical Pty Ltd
Chris Buttigieg
0412 569 739

GRACE FUNERALS
CREATING A MEMORABLE FAREWELL IS AN ART
Our team is here to help.
First we listen, then we curate an authentic funeral for your loved one.
Call us today for an obligation-free conversation about your funeral needs.
02 4735 6900 or info@gracefunerals.com.au
Penrith | Blue Mountains | North Shore
GRACEFUNERALS.COM.AU

NEPEAN VALLEY FUNERALS
Traditional Care with Dignity & Respect
Tel: 4722 8222
Local family owned and operated.
24hrs / 7 days
Shop 4
2-6 Castlereagh St
Penrith
Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria
Care, Compassion, Choice

Bateman Battersby | Complete Legal.
We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services.
02 4731 5899
bbcl.com.au
enquiries@bbcl.com.au
Conveyancing and Property Law
Business and Commercial Law
Family Law
Wills & Deceased Estates
Disputes and Litigation
Criminal Law
Employment Law

Reflections Funerals
John and Sue Hibbert
For Family By Family
Locally Owned
02 4732 4440
www.reflectionsfunerals.com.au
Caring Industry Professionals

WHITE LADY FUNERALS
Let our strength help you find yours.
Penrith | whiteladyfunerals.com.au

WHALE BATHROOMS
Licence # 180584C
Quality Bathroom Renovations
Trustworthy & Friendly Service
25 Years' experience
Portable Bathroom Hire
0407417553
47738700
Free Quotes

RE/MAX Lifestyle Marketing
Unlock Your Home's True Value!
Sell with Gizzelle
Get a FREE Market Appraisal
Multi Award Winning Agent : International | National | Local
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 | Claremont Meadows
Gizzelle Powell 0428 934 618 | 02 4732 6007
gizzellepowell@remax.com.au 233 High Street, Penrith, NSW