



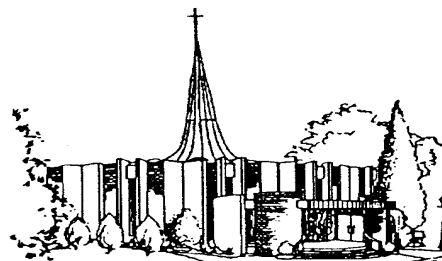
# St. Nicholas

Parish Penrith

Established 1839

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

326 HIGH STREET, PENRITH



\* Tel: (02) 4721 2509 \* Fax: (02) 4731 4259 \* Website: [www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au](http://www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au) \* P O Box 1868, Penrith 2751

## Parish Staff

**Fr Chris de Souza**  
Parish Priest

e-mail: [chris@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:chris@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Fr John Watkins**  
Assistant Priest

email: [john@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:john@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Mrs Lyn Olander**  
Secretary / Office Manager

e-mail: [enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Mrs Anne Tucker**  
Sacramental Co-ordinator

e-mail: [sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Mr Fred Keuneman**  
Catechist Co-ordinator

e-mail: [catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Mrs Mary Goh**  
Admin. Assistant

e-mail: [reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Mrs Ursula Gomez**  
Admin. Assistant

e-mail: [bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:bulletin@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)

**Office Hours 9am - 5 pm**  
*Lunch 1pm - 1.30 pm Office closed*

### Schools

**Mary MacKillop Primary**  
**Mr Michael Siciliano,**  
Principal Phone : 4736 3466  
**St Nicholas of Myra Primary**  
**Mrs Anne Hines,**  
Principal Phone : 4721 2623

### Weekend Mass:

Saturday 6.00pm Vigil  
Sunday 7.00am, 8.30am,  
10.00am, 6.00pm

### Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am  
5.00pm - 5.45pm

**Adoration:** After Sat Morning Mass

### Weekday Mass :

Monday 9.30 am  
Tuesday 6.45 am & 7 pm  
Wednesday 6.45 am & 9.30 am  
Thursday 9.30 am  
Friday 6.45 am & 12.10 pm  
Saturday 9.00 am

## 3rd Sunday of Advent, Year B : 11th December 2011

**Entrance Antiphon:** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

**First Reading :** *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 Words of comfort that speak to the heart characterize this reading from Isaiah, together with the promise of a new Exodus and the revelation of divine glory.*

**Response to the Psalm :** My soul rejoices in my God.

**Second Reading :** *Peter 3:8-14 Against those who deny Christ's future return in glory, the author contrasts God's transcendence and forbearance with all that is transitory. He urges us to live in such a way as to be ready to meet the Lord who will come unexpectedly.*

**Gospel Acclamation :** Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia, alleluia!

**Gospel :** *Mark 1:1-8 John the Baptist is the last of the Old Testament prophets. He heralds the imminent coming of Jesus the Messiah.*

**Communion Antiphon :** Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

**IMPORTANT:** *The Parish Office will be closed from Friday 23rd December, 2011 to Monday 23rd January 2012.*

*There will be ONLY ONE Mass on weekdays (Mondays to Fridays) at 9.30 am and Saturdays at 9.00 am.*

### Next Week's Readings :

*Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28*

## PARISH OUTREACH

**Reminder for the different ministries for the week end 17/18 December, 2011. If you cannot fulfill this commitment, please arrange for someone to take your place. Thanks.**

Time	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Community Rep.	Reader	Eucharist Ministers		
6 pm	M Pletkan Kevin D'Lima	Jasmine, Lillian & Bethany Neal Renee Taylor	F Jackson	A M Pletkan	M Svehla	M James	C Coyte
7 am	D Wiggins		K Masters	S Paterson	G Wiggins	M Viswasam	J McSpadden
8.30 am	D Wheelahan C Walsh	Ben, Luke & Ja- cinta Wheelahan	K Smith	L Walsh	R Bryan U Gomez	B Hansen L Olander	P Wheeler A Fletcher C Fletcher
10 am	J Tabone	Simone Dawson Natalie Moniz	A Hewitt	D Dawson	J Spillane	K Pemberton	J Dumas
6 pm	J Mowbray V Graham	Kaitlyn, Luke & Daniel Hooker	L Streher	C D'Mello	D Streher		

### *Please pray for those who are sick*

Mary Korunic, Mary Woods, Rowan Mullins, Ruth Thornton, Alice Massey, Jenny Burdzy, Ben and Max Kroon, Joseph Farrugia, Maria Kukac, Edward Goh, Sharon Littlejohn, Maddison, Charlene Stiles, Gemma Morin, Maria Lawton, Paul Mullins, Lorraine Phibbs, Alan Newman, Evelyn Gray, Alister Bout, Paul Williams, Patrick & Cathy Clarke, Karen Titheradge, Hilda Murray, Ivana Secolo, Angela Zecick, Bill Rohan (Junior), Margaret Goldrick, Rebecca Vinci, Vanessa Jacobs, Ben Slaughter, Connie Faba, Sr Carole Gibbons, Sr Margaret Keane, Tymika, Mary Dallat, John Ryan, Therese Fitzgerald, Paul Fitzgerald, Cheryl Davie, Baby William Marr, Peter Francis, Paul Rodgers, Noelene Lilley, Baby Mia, Sharon Gorrell, Michelle Kay, Trish Smith, Max Sedl, Martha Dierick, Lesley Malicki, Marianne Goc-ong, Thomas Meehan, Gwen Robinson, Millie Bugden, Linda Moran, Marie Rivet, Geraldine and Matthew Lowe, Kevin Armstrong, Marie Orth, Mary Howland, Alf Armstrong, Esmee White, Josie Newman, Paul Landrigan, Keith Gordyn, Alice Massey and Katelyn Reid.

**Please pray for Gracia Teuma who recently died and for Max Silvy, Lionel Bernie, Peter Ryan, Brendan & Melitta Jacobs, John Trad, Msgnr. John Trad, Ernie Costa, Terry Cuttell, Joy Bourke, Peg Williams, Ampora Ortua, Marie Gatt, Gerald Barnes and Murray Johnson whose anniversaries occur at this time and also for Trinidad Gibbons, Norah and Bernard Wilding, Mary Rose Guillaumier, Mary Armstrong, Reg Levinge, Emanuel Vella, Tania Felice, Dorrie & Jack Bertles, William Davison, Andrew Harnett, Santiago Santiago, Armando Enriquez, Almario Enriquez, Rhea Rayos, Mr & Mrs Cornlius Flexis D'Souza and Theresa D'Souza.**

**HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY**

**JOHN NETTAR**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**BRIAN WILCOX**



**Congratulations : Dominic Fitzpatrick, Euon Milton, Mason Reynolds, Hayden Richards and Cassandra Wade who were baptized on 4th December 2011.**

**Rosary Statue** will be at the home of Alice O'Hare at 17 Nerang Cir, Penrith and the Rosary will be said at 7 pm. All welcome.



### **Recipe Book**

Unfortunately publication of the parish recipe book has had to be delayed until early 2012.

## PARISH OUTREACH



### VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS INVITATION

To all our helpful and dedicated volunteers who have kept the different ministries and services in our parish alive and vital. We the Priests and staff at St Nicholas would like to invite you for Christmas drinks

on Thursday 15th December between 4 pm and 6 pm in PMR1.

It is our way of thanking you for your kind and generous help throughout the year and it is an opportunity for us to share a drink and laugh together. For catering purposes could you kindly phone the office on 4721 2509 if you will be attending. *Frs Chris and John*



# Wanted



## Angels & Shepherds



All children of the Parish are invited to come dressed as angels or shepherds to take part in the Children's Mass at 6pm on Christmas Eve. (NO practice required)



## Attention all ministers

**Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Readers & Community Reps**

are needed to serve at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Please add your name to the Roster located in the Sacristy.

ONE  
YOUNG  
FOR  
ALL

**Josephite Associates :** Next meeting will be a little "Christmas Get Together". This will be held on December 21st in Parish Meeting Room 1 at 10 am, following the 9.30 am Mass. Look forward to seeing you all. Contact : 4732 6732/

**Hey!** If you regularly attend mass at St. Nicholas of Myra, have the support of your parents, are Baptised and have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist and would like to become an Altar Server, have a wee chat with Fr. Chris or Fr. John. I promise you, the only two answers they'll give you are: "Yes, please" or "Yes, soon."  
*Rodger Kroon*

### ST MARY'S MEDICLINIC

Dr. M. I. Morian  
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Phone : 9673 2000



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## YOUNG ADULTS



Thank you to Fr John Watkins for leading us in discussion about the many Bioethical issues, like Euthanasia, Abortion and IVF, which are at stake in our current world. It was great to hear or be reminded about the Catholic Church's position on these matters and discuss our concerns. An enthralling and complex subject which could potentially fill many evenings!

Thanks also go to those who helped out with Vinnies Van on Friday night! Your continued support of such a great cause is much appreciated!

Upcoming Events for flock99:

**Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December at 7pm:** This night will look at media articles on the definition of marriage which have been published recently will be explored and discussed briefly before committing our concerns to God through prayer and supplication.

Join us in prayer calling on Jesus to protect that which he gave us as a sacred gift from the lies of the evil one. Let us pray that the beautiful message of Marriage and Vocations within the Church would not be misinterpreted or twisted out of context so the saving grace of Jesus as well as the happiness he wants for us can be known! Most importantly that God's will be done in this situation and that we would hear and follow his lead.

Stand up and let our spiritual voice be counted!

**Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December at 7pm:** Join us as we draw very close to Christmas in an hour of prayer, praise, worship and contemplation before the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration. An opportunity not to be missed to draw close to our saviour in preparation for the celebration of his coming to examine ourselves in his light this little lent.

See anything that you are interested in? If you are aged between 21 and 35 and you want to hang out with fun, loving people who love God and want to explore their faith, then you are more than welcome to come and join us.

Contact us on [99flockers@gmail.com](mailto:99flockers@gmail.com) on 0407 064 872 or check our facebook page (flock99).

## INFLAME YOUTH

So we're coming to the end of another wonderful year and we're sending of 2011 with a bang! Our final session of the hit Theology on the Couch is this Sunday with special guest, Parramatta Youth Director and Priest Fr Suresh Kumar. Then we look into the real meaning of Christmas on the 11<sup>th</sup> and finish off with our final Holy Hour of the year followed by a Christmas Chill Party afterwards, more details to come on that one! Hope to see you guys at one or all Sundays!

### Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December

Exploring the Christmas Gospel – A Bible Study on John 1, Special Guest TBA!  
7PM for a 7.30PM start @ PMR2.

### Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December

Holy Hour & Christmas Chill Party  
Straight After Mass! | Followed by Party @ 8.15PM, PMR2

Want more info? Keen to get involved? Get in touch!

facebook @ /inflammStNicks

phone @ 0433179068 / 0430230458

*Season's greetings to all of you out there! Have an awesome Christmas with fam and friends*

*Cheers, on behalf of all of us at Inflamm*

# York

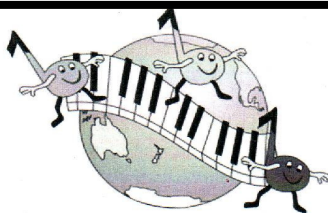
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## FAITH DEVELOPMENT & FORMATION



RCIA News... More information: Ina & Norman Heffernan 47 321 751  
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process that makes it possible for adults to be received into the Catholic Church.



### UNDERSTANDING THE RCIA a journey for the entire parish

**Sponsors:** The RCIA is an opportunity to share ministries. In addition to the prayers we offer for our Catechumens and Candidates and the examples we provide, there are other specific ways parishioners are involved in RCIA. Baptised members of the community serve as sponsors for Catechumens and Candidates in the RCIA. A sponsor is an active member of the parish who walks with the Catechumens and Candidates on the journey to a new, fuller life in Christ. The sponsor supports and guides the Catechumens and Candidates along the way. The sponsor is the Catechumens and Candidates personal connection to the parish.

#### The RCIA Sponsor is....

*Open Minded*

*Understanding*

*Prayerful*

*Honest and Accepting*

*Endurance*

*Freeing*

- Is a confirmed Catholic
- Accepts the call to be guide, example, support and witness
- Is committed to the RCIA community and journey
- Is a friend and companion during an important time in someone's life
- Listens to the Catechumens and Candidates story – their background, their real concerns and their doubts about themselves and their present endeavour
- Respects what they hear – the Catechumens and Candidates past is also part of their spiritual journey
- Undertakes a ministry of facilitation and interaction with the Catechumens and Candidates and RCIA group Is eager to learn to benefit themselves and the Catechumens and Candidates
- Assists the Catechumens and Candidates to feel welcome and at home in our parish community
- Introduces the Catechumens and Candidates to other parishioners. This makes the experience one of sharing in all that our faith community has to offer.
- Witnesses **to and for** the Catechumens and Candidates



#### What's in it for the Sponsor?

- The journey is an experience and adventure in faith
- This is an opportunity to further develop your faith
- Support and assistance from The RCIA core team
- Meeting new people and making new friends

#### The Sponsor.....

is not required to satisfy every need, but interpret and seek information or other people who can assist They don't have to be 'perfect', **just be themselves.**  
They are called to the ministry of Sponsor because their faith life is evident in the community.

RCIA meetings will resume at the end of January 2012.

Please keep us in your prayers over the next few weeks.

### Bateman Battersby

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## DIOCESAN OUTREACH

### *Christmas Shopping*

The **TRADING CIRCLE** (an initiative of the Good Shepherd Sisters) provides a unique ethical CHRISTMAS shopping experience for people to contribute to the sustainable economic development of marginalized women in developing countries. Help empower women to earn money for their families to survive and live with dignity. Visit **TRADING CIRCLE** shop 27 Lackey Street, Summer Hill. Phone 9798 0373. (For further info phone Sister Pat 4732 1209).

### *Catholic Weekly December*

- Marriage Act – ‘Let’s not legislate for lesser good,’ says bishop
- We need to make the disabled welcome
- New head for inter-diocesan tribunal
- A visit to the place where Jesus was born

### *Saint Mary MacKillop National Pilgrimages 2012*

In 2012 two National Australian Pilgrimages will be conducted from 11 - 21 April and 24 October - 3 November. The pilgrimage offers you an opportunity to reflect on your own life as you walk with Mary MacKillop the journey of her life. Fly to Melbourne and then journey by coach to Hamilton, Portland, Penola, Adelaide, fly to Sydney and then home. Cost from Sydney \$2,540 pp twin share \*Single Supplement \$410. For a brochure and further information please contact: Sister Monica Barlow on 02 8912 4818 or email [mmp.ministries@sosj.org.au](mailto:mmp.ministries@sosj.org.au).

### *Be a mentor to a student in your workplace*

The Lighthouse program is looking for mentors throughout Western Sydney for 2012 in all trade areas and in hospitality, retail and office settings to host a Year 9 or 10 student from our local Catholic secondary schools one day a week in your workplace.

The Lighthouse program is strongly supported by the workplace trainers who are there to offer guidance to mentors throughout the 18 weeks, visiting students in the workplace fortnightly and available for consultation at all times. Free TAFE training for all new mentors help them feel confident about their role.

For more information about how to join our team of valued mentors, contact:

Maree Armstrong-Ley tel 0417 060 132, [maree.armstrong@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:maree.armstrong@parra.catholic.edu.au) or Vanessa McDougall tel 0407 246 [vanessa.mcdougall@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:vanessa.mcdougall@parra.catholic.edu.au) or Margaret Dawson tel 0429 660 420 [margaret.dawson@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:margaret.dawson@parra.catholic.edu.au)

### *Sisters of Life Women's Retreat: 14 December*

Theme: 'Behold I make all things new'. Four Sisters from an American community called the Sisters of Life will be visiting Sydney next month and running an afternoon retreat for women of all ages, so bring your mothers, sisters & friends. Hosted by The University of Notre Dame Sydney Chaplaincy, iWitness Conference 2011 & The Archdiocese of Sydney. Time: from 12.30pm (beginning with Mass) till 5pm. St Benedict's Church & Hall, 104 Broadway.

Cost: It is free (including arvo tea & lunch), but registration is essential. RSVP: tel (02) 8204 4135, [jessica.langrell@nd.edu.au](mailto:jessica.langrell@nd.edu.au)



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### *Music & Readings for Christmas: 18 December*

The concert is produced by Sydney Town Hall Organist Robert Ampt who, with his wife, Amy Johansen, will play the heritage listed Hele Pipe Organ in the beautiful stone church of St Finbar's at Glenbrook. Four choirs will be leading the carol singing: Warrimoo Chorale, Penrith City Choir and two German choirs. The true story of Christmas is told by readers in the parish and beautiful solos are sung by talented singers, including young boy soprano Matthew Phillips. Finally, the mountains echo and rejoice as the assembly stands to sing the jubilant Hallelujah chorus by Handel, assisted triumphantly by Penrith City Brass with timpani and trumpets. It's a night not to be missed. Inquiries (02) 4754 1780.

### *Youth Ministry Formation Opportunities*

If you have a strong passion for youth ministry and a desire to serve God and his people this will allow you to be formed or strengthened as a leader in Youth Ministry. There is always more to learn and build upon. Both are opportunities to learn or develop your skills and knowledge, while providing the formation that is essential in effectively ministering to young people.

### *Fertility Educators Needed*

Natural Fertility Services is looking for suitable applicants in the Parramatta and greater Sydney area to train as Fertility Educators.

Thorough, in-depth training over a 12-month period is provided to successful applicants. Some prior experience of Natural Family Planning is desirable but not essential. Sessional work is available to those who complete the training and become accredited educators. For more information and application forms call: The Manager NFS (02) 9390 5156.

### *Position Vacant : Pastoral Care Worker*

Cumberland Hospital at Westmead. Part-time, commencing 2012, 4 days per week (T-F). Closing date: 17 December 2011.

For details of these positions go to "Employment" at [www.parra.catholic.org.au](http://www.parra.catholic.org.au)

### *St John of God Institute of Counselling Life/Skills Course*

Applications now being accepted for the two-year course starts Tuesday evening 7 February 2012.

Time: 7.30pm at Holy Cross College Library, Victoria Road, Ryde. Inquiries: Ann McDowell (02) 9150 4038, email [tarrilli@westnet.com.au](mailto:tarrilli@westnet.com.au)

### *Xt3.com launches Advent Calendar*

Catholic social networking site Xt3.com has launched its annual Advent Calendar both online and as an App for iPhone and Android mobile phones.

Extremely popular with everyone but especially young people, youth groups and schools, this year's calendar is packed with even more multimedia Catholic resources and reflections. Go to [www.xt3.com/advent/](http://www.xt3.com/advent/)

### *Mass of the Holy Innocents: 28 December*

The Conventual Franciscan Friars invite you to join them for the annual Mass for the Reparation of the Sin of Abortion and Sanctity of Human Life.

Principal Celebrant: Bishop Anthony Fisher OP. Where: Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 8 Diana Avenue, Kellyville. Mass at 11am followed by Rosary procession to the Shrine for the Unborn, Mount St Francis, 8 Greyfriar Place, Kellyville. Lunch available - please bring a plate to share. Inquiries: (02) 9629 2595.

### *Carols at Mt Schoenstatt: 28 & 29 December*

Come and enjoy the Christmas season with carol singing at Mt Schoenstatt on 28 & 29 December from 7pm-8pm. Children are invited to come dressed as angels, shepherds, sheep and kings. 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa. Details: Sr M Luka Junemann (02) 4773 8338, 0439 537 843.

### *Schoenstatt Girl's Camps: January 2012*

- Ages 9-12: Wednesday 4 January to Saturday 7 January 2012.
- Ages 13-16: Sunday 22 January to Wednesday 25 January 2012.

Program includes discussions, prayer and outdoor fun activities. Mt Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Rd, Mulgoa.

Cost: \$120 (includes food and accom).

Inquiries: Sr M Luka Junemann, [sr.m.luka@bigpond.com](mailto:sr.m.luka@bigpond.com).

### *Life & Family National Conference: 26-29 January*

Defending the Defenceless: Family Life International presents this Australia Day conference. Defending the sanctity of life is one of the defining struggles of our times. This conference is a unique opportunity to combine education, inspiration and fellowship with local and international pro-life heroes. Speakers include: Bishop Julian Porteous; Sr Moira Debono RSM, lecturer at the University of Notre Dame; Eamonn Keane, head of social sciences at Redfield College. Registration \$240: includes 8 sessions and 3 after-dinner addresses. Single-day registration available. Where: Lake Hume Resort, Albury. Registrations close 16 January. Details [www.fli.org.au](http://www.fli.org.au)

## Christmas Timetable

### St Nicholas of Myra - Penrith

326 High Street,  
 Phone (02) 4721 2509  
 email: [enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au](mailto:enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au)  
 web: [www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au](http://www.stnicholasofmyra.org.au)



### CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday 24th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	6.00pm	Family Mass
	9.00pm	
	11.30pm	Carols in St Nicholas Church
	Midnight	
Sunday 25th December Christmas Day	7.00am	
	8.30am	
	10.00am	
	6.00pm	

### Reconciliation (Confession)

Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> December	10 am – 11 am	<i>Individual Rite</i>
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> December	5.30 pm – 6.45 pm	<i>Individual Rite</i>
Wednesday	21st December	10 am – 11 am	<i>Individual Rite</i>
Thursday	22nd December	7.00 pm - 8 pm	Communal Rite
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> December	10 am – 12 noon	<i>Individual Rite</i>

Please note: There will be **NO** Reconciliation on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2011

## This week at St Nic's

### Monday 12 December

10 am Legion of Mary Meeting - PMR1  
 5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall

### Tuesday 13 December

*St Lucy, virgin, martyr*  
 11 am AA Meeting - Hall1

### Wednesday 14 December

*St John of the Cross, priest, doctor*  
 7.00 pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting - Hall2

### Thursday 15 December

5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall

### Friday 16 December

7 pm AA Meeting - Hall1

### Saturday 17 December

### Sunday 18 December

*4th Sunday in Advent Year B*

Please take note of the Christmas Timetable printed above.

There will be a 9 am Mass on Saturday 24th.  
 There will be NO Adoration on Saturday

*Please support the businesses  
 that advertise in our Parish  
 Bulletin*

#### 1st & 2nd Collection

The first collection pays for the priests of the parish and any surplus money from this collection helps fund our retired and sick priests.

The second collection (planned giving envelopes) pays for the running costs of our parish.

**Warning** Parishioners are warned while in the church to ensure their personal belongings/handbags are secured, and that they cannot be reached from behind. Please carry your handbag when going to communion.

*Following proclamation of the Privacy Act 1988(Cth) at the end of 2001, this parish reviewed its records and methods for holding and collecting information about parishioners. A privacy policy has been developed in accordance with Diocesan norms and has been approved by the Parish Priest. A copy is available from the parish Office .*