



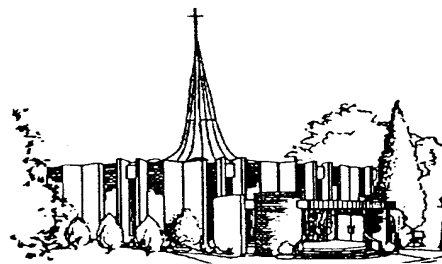
St. Nicholas

Parish Penrith

Established 1839

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

326 HIGH STREET, PENRITH



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

Parish Staff

Fr Chris de Souza
Parish Priest

e-mail: chris@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Fr John Watkins
Assistant Priest

email: john@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mrs Lyn Olander
Secretary / Office Manager

e-mail: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

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Sacramental Co-ordinator

e-mail: sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mr Fred Keuneman
Catechist Co-ordinator

e-mail: catechist@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mrs Mary Goh
Admin. Assistant

e-mail: reception@stnicholasofmyra.org.au

Mrs Ursula Gomez
Admin. Assistant

e-mail: 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

4th Sunday of Advent, Year B : 18th December 2011

Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First Reading : *Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 The Lord will always look after his people Israel.*

Response to the Psalm : For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord

Second Reading : *Romans 16:25-27 In the person of Jesus Christ the mystery of God's will for us all is revealed.*

Gospel Acclamation : Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel : *Luke 1:26-38 Mary accepts graciously God's invitation to be the mother of God's Son.*

Communion Antiphon : Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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.

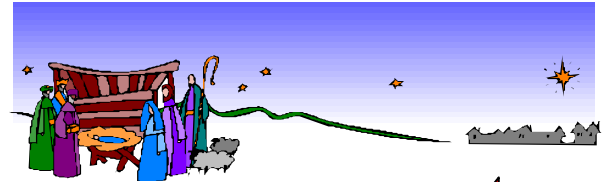


Wanted

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
NOV
EVENING

Please pray for those who are sick

Ellie Williams, 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.

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.

Please pray for Catherine Phelan, Florence Gulli, Maria Lagos and Carol Baker **who recently died and for** Brendan & Melitta Jacobs, Jonathan Xerri, Matthew Edmunds, Candic Falls, George Attard, , Ernie Costa, Peg Williams, Joy Bourke, Erin Taylor, Cosmos Leung and Thomas Gale **whose anniversaries occur at this time and also for** Norah and Bernard Wilding, Mary Rose Guillaumier, Mary Armstrong, Reg Levinge, Emanuel Vella, Tania Felice, Dorrie Bertles and Strom Gordon and deceased members of the Corcoran Family.

The Funeral Mass for Catherine Phelan will be said here at our Parish on Tuesday 20th December at 2 pm.

Congratulations : Aurelia Jones, Cooper Lyzwa, Zayne Norman and Chloe Vella who were baptized on 11th December 2011.

Rosary Statue will be at the home of John and Deanna Soretsz at 15 Nerang Cir, Penrith and the Rosary will be said at 7 pm. All welcome.



SACRAMENTAL NEWS

Your child is invited to
prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at
St Nicholas of Myra, Penrith.



If your child is going into year 3 or above they are invited to join our Parish community to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This will commence with a *parent only* session on Sunday 5 February, 2012. This meeting will be held in the Parish hall, 326 High Street, Penrith (entrance via Higgins Street) starting at 11:15am.

If you would like to enrol your child/children in this program it is necessary that you attend the first parent only session on Sunday 5 February, 2012.

If you would like further information for the preparation of Sacraments or have any questions regarding this program please do not hesitate to contact Anne Tucker at St Nicholas Church parish office on 47212509 or via email at sacramental@stnicholasofmyra.org.au after 23 January 2012.

DIOCESAN OUTREACH

St Vincent de Paul Society



The Penrith Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society wish to thank all those Parishioners who so generously contributed to this year's Christmas Appeal. The Christmas hampers donated surpassed all expectations. Thank you all.

With the additional hampers donated we were able to help two women's refuges. These hampers were very gratefully accepted.

The help in the delivery of the hampers was outstanding. In all 175 Christmas hampers and some children's presents were delivered.

Many of those delivering were so touched by the response of the recipients that they came back to deliver more of the remaining hampers. In fact, by lunch on Saturday most of the hampers were delivered. Also thank you to those who volunteered on Sunday to deliver the remaining hampers.

We also wish to extend our gratitude to the wonderful generosity of the students, teachers and parents of the following schools : St Nicholas of Myra, Mary MacKillop Primary and South Kingswood Primary. Indeed we are truly blessed to have such caring and giving schools.

The members of the Conference extend our deep thanks to all that helped to make those less fortunate have a merrier and peaceful Christmas.

May you all have a blessed Christmas. Anthony Ruzgas Conference President

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YOUNG ADULTS



Only seven days till Christmas and the excitement is reaching fever pitch! With shopping, decorations, Christmas cards, Christmas parties to be attended and taken care of we can get easily distracted as we run around trying to show love to family and friends. Despite this God, who is the source of all love, is patiently waiting for us to come to him as he sends his only son to us forming an everlasting opportunity of a loving relationship not to be missed!

So let us get excited about incredible love and grace that God is pouring out this Advent and take up his invitation for the ultimate of Christmas Parties!

From all in flock99 have a very Blessed and Happy Christmas Season!

Upcoming Events for flock99:

Sunday the 18th of December at 7pm: Join us after mass today as we draw very close to Christmas in an hour of prayer, praise, worship and contemplation before the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration. Please come and join both flock 99 and Inflamm for some Christmas Chill time with dinner and other refreshments.

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 0407 064 872 or check our facebook page (flock99).

INFLAME YOUTH

Thanks to Fr. Chris for last week's talk on the Christmas Gospel, always at his enlightening best! Our concluding event for the year is this Sunday, with the final holy hour immediately after 6PM mass (open to everyone!) It is then followed by an iconic Christmas Party, which will be the first time that all three St. Nicholas' Youth Groups get together! So if you're between the ages of 12 and 35 come along, relax and meet all of our three groups!

Sunday, 18th 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

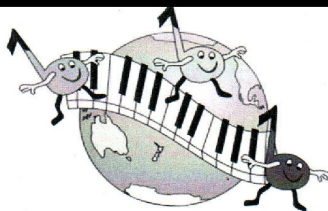
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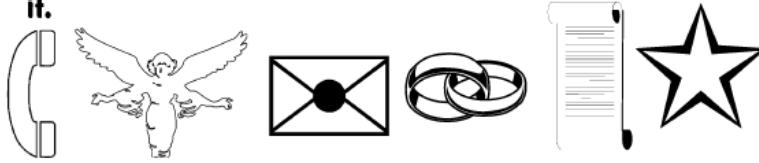


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Children's Page

Hidden Objects. This picture of today's Gospel story has 6 objects hiding somewhere within. The objects are pictured below. Find each one in the picture and draw a circle around it.



B4

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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 18 December

- New bishop 'at home' in diocese
- Christmas carols 2011
- Govt 'must act now' on aged care funds crisis
- Great day if you're Irish: heritage move
- Christmas Mass times, Reconciliation
- Dollars and Sense

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.

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 or Vanessa McDougall tel 0407 246 vanessa.mcdougall@parra.catholic.edu.au or Margaret Dawson tel 0429 660 420 margaret.dawson@parra.catholic.edu.au

Executive Officer – Renewal Program

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking applications for the role of Executive Officer to be part of a new program designed to re-engage Catholics, attract people who may be interested in the Catholic Church and generally promote its good works. Further information about this role is available at www.catholicjobsonline.com.au. Applications close 15 February 2012



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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

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.

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.

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



Christmas Timetable

St Nicholas of Myra - Penrith

326 High Street,
 Phone (02) 4721 2509
 email: enquiries@stnicholasofmyra.org.au
 web: 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 <i>Christmas Day</i>	7.00am	
	8.30am	
	10.00am	
	6.00pm	

Reconciliation (Confession)

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

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

This week at St Nic's

Monday 19 December

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

Tuesday 20 December

11 am AA Meeting - Hall1

Wednesday 21 December

7.00 pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting - Hall2

Thursday 22 December

5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall

Friday 23 December

7 pm AA Meeting - Hall1

Saturday 24 December

Sunday 25 December

Christmas Day

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 .