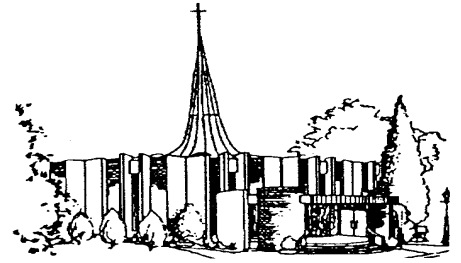




St. Nicholas

Parish Penrith
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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

Mrs Anne Tucker
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:

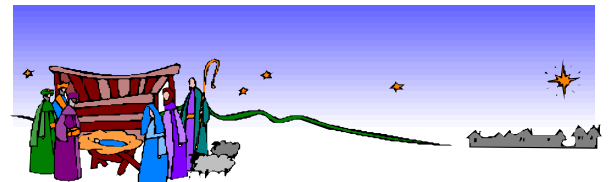
Saturday 9.30am - 10.30am
5.00pm - 5.45pm

Adoration: After Sat Morning Mass

Weekday Mass :

Monday **9.30 am**
Tuesday **9.30 am**
Wednesday **9.30 am**
Thursday **9.30 am**
Friday **9.30 am**
Saturday **9.00 am**

Nativity of our Lord : 25th December 2011



Dear Parishioners and visitors,

From all of us in the parish house, we wish you a very happy and blessed Christmas.

On this day we remember that God fulfils His promise and sends us the Messiah. Jesus.

He is the one who saves us from all that would harm and diminish the beauty and wonder of God's creation. In Jesus we see the loving and caring hand of God for all people and for all creation. He was born in humility and simplicity to become all in all and for all. We are invited to participate in God's saving plan and help build the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of love and peace here on earth by trying to mirror His actions in our lives. His Holy Spirit is at our side to pick us up when we fall and remind us again and again that we were made to love and for love and by love. We are all made in God's image and likeness. At Christmas we remember and celebrate that God is Love borne to teach us to love and in this we are forever blessed.

Happy Christmas and a Joyful New year.

Fr. Chris

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.

PARISH OUTREACH

Reminder for the different ministries for the week end 31 / 1st January 2012. If you can't fulfill this commitment, please arrange for someone to take your place. Thanks.

Time	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Community Rep.	Reader	Eucharist Ministers		
6 pm	Dexter Isaaks J Buttigieg	Jessica Buttigieg Rachel, Samuel & Joshua Vella	S Falleiro	F Jackson	M James	N Calub	A Calub
7 am	A Ruzgas		G Nunn	K Masters	A Sciberras	M Edmunds	J McSpadden
8.30 am	J Relunia H McCann	Ben, Luke & Jacinta Wheelahlan	B Burns	K Smith	A Fletcher C Fletcher	G Burns B Oxlade	M Ryan P Wheeler L Olander
10 am	E Thomas D Cocksedge	Luke & Samuel Bourke Diego Gutierrez	A Hewitt	Alan Johnson	J Dumas	C Gotzman	J Spillane
6 pm	Brian D'Lima B Wrightson	Alec Linga	Youth	Youth	K Pemberton	M Herrick	C Rondeau

Please pray for those who are sick

Sister Mary White, RSJ, Katelyn Reid.
 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 and Alice Massey.

Please pray for Joan English, Kevin Heaton, Tom Hoey, Catherine Phelan and Ivan Jenej **who recently died and for** Emanuel Vella, Martin Ryan, Ernie Costa, Peg Williams, Lionel Bernie, Ottie Olszewski, Peter Ryan, Jaime Tuite, Joy Bourke and Thomas Gale **whose anniversaries occur at this time and also for**
 Norah and Bernard Wilding,
 Mary Rose Guillaumier, Mary Armstrong,
 Reg Levinge, Tania Felice,
 Dorrie and Jack Bertles, Jack McKillop,
 Ettie Attard, Mary, Joseph and
 Gejtu Spiteri, Bryan Melville, Ricque Deshto,
 Joy and Tony Camilleri, Ryan, Stimson, Murphy,
 Poole and Irving families, Higgins, Halloran, Paul and Brennan families, Trinidad Gibbons, Attard family, Karl Engsmyr and Clive Chapman.

Congratulations :

***Savannah Harradine and
 Kira Petterson who were baptized on
 18th December 2011.***



Rosary Statue will be at the home of Polly Melder sat 1/143 Evan Street, Penrith and the Rosary will be said at 7 pm. All welcome.



Congratulations to Joe and Louise from **Jodana Video Productions (JVP)** for being voted a finalist in the NSW Australian Bridal Industry Academy (ABIA) awards. They received an overall rating of 98.54% from their bridal couples. They were placed in the top five in NSW under the category of video production. **A great achievement .**

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.

A Christmas Message

(Following Paul's message to the Corinthians: 'If I should give away to the poor all that I possess, but have not love, it will profit me nothing.')

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cakes, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the tree with shimmering angels, attend a myriad of parties and sing in the choir but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.

Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.

Merry Christmas and lots of love to you and yours!

PS Isn't that good? 'Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way.'

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YOUNG ADULTS



Merry Christmas

flock99

All the members of flock99 would like to wish everybody a very blessed and holy Christmas season and a happy and safe New Year! Thanks to all your continued support in a fantastic year of fun and spiritual growth but especially to **Fr Chris, Fr John and John Paul** who contributed so much throughout the year. We look forward to seeing you all and contributing to our lovely faith community in the year ahead in 2012!

flock99 will now be on a break from weekly meetings until the first weekend after the New Year but 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 check our facebook page (flock99) with our events and join us in the New Year.

January 21st 2012: The Nepean Deanery Sports Day. A fun filled day of competitive but fun sports day which includes soccer, volleyball, touch football and basketball. If you are interested make inquires at the email address below and keep your ear to the ground for more information.

Contact us at 99flockers@gmail.com

INFLAME YOUTH

On behalf of all Inflamm Youth Group, thank you again to the entire Parish for your generous support over the past year. We can't exist without your help!

Merry Christmas and all the best for 2012!

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

facebook @ /inflammStNicks

phone @ 0433179068 / 0430230458

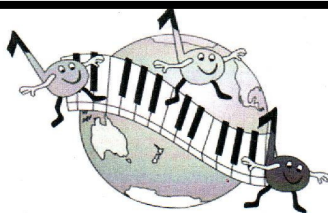
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MASS TEXTS FOR CHRISTMAS



SATURDAY 24th December : 6 pm, 9 pm and Midnight Mass :

Entrance Antiphon: Today you will know that the Lord will come and he will save us, and in the morning you will see his glory.

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon : The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God.

SUNDAY 25th December : 7 am

Entrance Antiphon: Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of Peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.

Responsorial Psalm: A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon : Rejoice, O Daughter Zion; lift up praise Daughter Jerusalem: Behold, your King will come, the Holy One and Saviour of the world.

SUNDAY 25th December : 8.30 am, 10 am and 6 pm

Entrance Antiphon: A child is born for us, a son given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

Responsorial Psalm: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord. Today a great light has come upon the earth. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.



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DIOCESAN OUTREACH

Catholic Weekly 25 December

- Student Christmas art show: 8-page liftout
- 'Outstanding' HSC results for Sydney CEO schools
- Five new priests ordained
- Sr Mary and 'Boree Log' parish win cash
- Parish Nativity scenes
- God gave Lauren strength to say 'no' to 'impure' roles

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.

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.



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

Position Vacant: Coordinator Social Justice & Diocesan Caritas Officer

This is a full-time position with the Diocese of Parramatta based in the Chancery Office. The role will support and resource Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation activities, ministries and initiatives in the Diocese.

You will also respond to the social justice issues of the day through research, writing, education, action and collaboration with other like-minded organisations. Part of the role will be to liaise and support the parish priests and parish social justice groups of the Diocese. Salary: \$49,000 pa + super. Further details: John Sheehy tel (02) 9683 6277. For a full role description go to "Employment" at the Diocese of Parramatta website: www.parra.catholic.org.au Applications close on Sunday 15 January at 5pm.

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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.

Feast Days of the Week

Mon Dec 26 St Stephen – the First Martyr

Stephen was one of the first group of seven deacons to be ordained in the early Church. Their role was to take care of the daily distribution of food to those in need. Falsely accused, Stephen was stoned to death but died praying for his executioners. See Acts of the Apostles Ch.7 for an account of Stephen's speech before the Sanhedrin and for an account of his death.

Tue Dec 27 St John – Apostle & Author of John's Gospel

John and his brother, James, were originally fishermen with their father, Zebedee, in the Lake of [Gennesaret](#). With Peter and James, John shared a close relationship with Jesus and in the fourth Gospel he speaks of himself as the "the disciple whom Jesus loved". John alone remained at the foot of the Cross on Calvary and at the invitation of Jesus took the Mother of Jesus into his care.

Fri Dec 30 Holy Family

The Holy Family is the name given to the family unit of Jesus, his mother Mary, and his foster-father Joseph. The Scriptures speak only of the early years of the Holy Family: the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the flight into Egypt, and the finding of Jesus in the temple.

Devotion to the Holy Family is a recent development, but one that naturally grows out of a love for Jesus and his family. The cult of the Holy Family grew in popularity in the 17th century, and several religious congregations have been founded under this title. Today the Church celebrates the Feast on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year's Day. If Christmas falls on a Sunday, the Church celebrates the Holy Family Feast on December 30.



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

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

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 Christmas Day	7.00am	
	8.30am	
	10.00am	
	6.00pm	



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.

This week at

St Nic's

Monday 26 December

St Stephen, first martyr
10 am Legion of Mary Meeting - PMR1
5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall

Tuesday 27 December

St John, apostle, evangelist
11 am AA Meeting - Hall1

Wednesday 28 December

Holy Innocents, martyrs
7.00 pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting - Hall2

Thursday 29 December

5 pm Tae Kwon Do - Hall

Friday 30 December

Holy Family
7 pm AA Meeting - Hall1

Saturday 31 December

Sunday 1 January

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

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 .