

*Welcome to St Nicholas'
Catholic Parish Tamworth
For the
First Sunday of Advent
1st December 2019*

Fr Christopher Onuekwusi – Parish Priest
Fr Francis Afu – Assistant Priest
stnicholasparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
 Parish Office Phone No: 02 6766 2228

ENTRANCE: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

SPECIAL DAYS THIS WEEK: Psalter Week 1
Tuesday St Francis Xavier, priest
Saturday St Ambrose, bishop, doctor

WALK IN GOD'S LIGHT. We do not know when Christ will come again in glory. Nor do we know the day of our death. This should not worry us. What is important is to live this day well by being respectful and loving towards each other and seeking to walk in God's light. If we do this, we will be ready whenever God calls us to eternal life.

St Nicholas' Liturgy this week:

Monday St Nicholas' Mass 7am
Tuesday St Mary's Mass 9am

St Francis Xavier, priest

Wednesday St Nicholas' Mass 7am

Thursday St Mary's Mass 9am

Friday St Nicholas' Mass 7am

Saturday St Nicholas' Mass 9am

St Ambrose, bishop, doctor

Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday St Nicholas' 9.30am & 5.30pm
 St Mary's 7.30am Mass

TAMWORTH RECONCILIATION TIMES:
 St Nicholas' Saturday 4pm – 5.30pm

USE OF THE PARISH TOILET- Could all parents or responsible adults accompany children when they use the parish toilet at the back of the Church.

Home Visits: Any 'House Bound' Parishioners who would like a visit to their home from a Priest once a month, could you please contact the Parish office on 67662228.

Parish Bulletin Deadline - All materials to be in by midday Wednesday. Contact easttamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au or the Parish Office 67662228.

Anyone wishing to put Posters on the Notice Board or leave pamphlets at the back of the Church could you please ring the parish office for approval first.

Columban Calendars are available at the back of the Church \$8. **Please place money in Catholic Weekly Box.**

Fr Chris is asking if Parishioners would like to volunteer to be **Greeters in the Church before Mass.** If any Parishioner is willing to do this, could you please leave your name on the sheet at the back of the Church.

St Vincent de Paul will be conducting their Annual Appeal **8th December.** We thank you for your help in previous years & hope you can help us again this year.

COMING EVENTS

Mass for Rain – The Tamworth Catholic Community is invited to come together to pray for rain. A combined Tamworth Parishes Mass for rain will be held on Monday 2nd December at 7pm at St Patricks. Everyone is most welcome. A light supper will follow the Mass.

Home Rosary for December – T & C Dries' Home 16th December 5.30pm. Please see address in drawer at back of Church.

A Christmas Appreciation Dinner for members of our Parish Choir & Musicians, Finance Council, Parish Pastoral Council, Office Staff, Readers, Commentators, Sacristans, Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion (including those who take Communion to those outside of Mass), Collection Wardens, Money Counters, Sacristy & Sanctuary Cleaners, Catechists, Parishioners who look after the Candelabrum & Altar linen, Marriage Preparation Instructors. To be held at 6.30pm Thursday 5th December upstairs at The Tudor Hotel. Those who wish to attend please phone the Parish Office Monday, Tuesday or Friday between 9am-5pm on 6766228. or email easttamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au

St Nicholas' Feast Day – Friday 6th December. There will be Masses at 7am, with Morning Tea after & also 9.30am at St Nicholas School. In preparation for the Feast of St Nicholas the Novena Prayer will be said after Communion this weekend.

The next Eucharistic Adoration Friday December 13th, 6-7pm

The next PPC Morning Tea will be held after the 9.30am Mass Sunday 15th December.

The next Youth Mass – 29th December at 5.30pm.

Home Rosary Ministry: If you would like to host a Home Rosary, please contact the Parish Office on 67662228 or Eileen 0429667910.

Roster for Mass & Anointing to be held in 4 Nursing Homes

* **Alblas** – 9.30am – 1st Friday of the Month
 * **Kurrajong** - 11am-1st Friday of the month.
 * **Cottage Homes** – 10.30am – 2nd Monday of the Month.
 * **Tamworth Gardens** - 3rd Thursday of the Month
 * **Bupa** – 10.30am – 4th Thursday of the Month
 * **Mass at Hospital Chapel** – 4pm, the 2nd Tuesday of the Month.

Rosary & Adoration - After 7am Mass on Mondays till 8am.

PRAYER FOR RAIN

Eternal God,
 In wisdom and love you created our earth to sustain us and give us life. We turn to you now in faith, hope and love, asking you to look with favour on our drought-stricken land, on our starving animals, on our failing crops. Strengthen, sustain and give new heart to our farmers and to all who are affected by drought; be with those who support them.
 In your loving providence, send abundant rain and restore our parched earth. Father of all compassion, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, in whom the promise of new life has dawned, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life: Renew your faithful people; Renew the face of the earth.
 Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Mary, help of Christians – Pray for us.
 St Mary of the Cross MacKillop – Pray for us.

The Relic of St Therese of Lisieux & her Parents will be coming to the St Nicholas Parish from 6pm, Saturday February 22nd to 12noon, Monday February 24th. There will be more details to come, but Fr Christopher would like an all-night vigil.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULES 2019 ST NICHOLAS'

Tuesday - 24 December
 7.00pm Christmas Eve Family Mass
 9.00pm Christmas Mass
 12.00 Midnight Mass

Wednesday 25 December
 St Nicholas' – Christmas Morning 9.30am
 St Mary's Church – Christmas Morning 7.30am

PARISH RECONCILIATION – Wednesday 18th December at 6pm.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 30 November/1 December

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm

Commentator: A Jones
 Reader 1: Sr of Naz Reader 2: L Hansen
 Ex Min: E Smyth
 Altar Servers: B & E Scott Music: K Harvey
 Collection: D Raffaele/G Cannon/B Campbell

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am

Commentator: J Murphy
 Reader 1: J Newley Reader 2: G Quinn
 Ex Min: J Wallace
 Altar Servers: S Downey Music: V Frost
 Collection: J Conlon/P Heffernan/B Andren/J Vella/B Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am

Commentator: A Bowden
 Reader 1: B Cumming Reader 2: D Cumming
 Ex Min: R Kinsela/A Nealon
 Altar Servers: volunteer Music: St Nicholas Choir
 Collection: M Gruer/J Cox

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm

Commentator: M Moy
 Reader 1: C Dries Reader 2: T Dries
 Ex Min: P Flynn
 Altar Servers: volunteer Music: V Frost/R Richardson
 Collection: volunteers
 Counting Team: G Bryant/A McGuirk/T Barrett
 Sacristy Roster: L & P Prisk Altar Linen: D Fitzgerald

Collection: 24th November 2019

1st Collection (Presbytery A/C): \$ 1113.40
 2nd Collection (Church A/C)
 - Planned Giving \$ 2251.00
 - Loose Collection \$ 209.70
 - Total \$ 2460.70

From the First Sunday in Advent we will have a Christmas Tree in both of our Parish Churches. There will be Baubles you can purchase and place on the Tree for \$2. This money will then go to buy Christmas Cards for ALL residents of the Nursing Homes.

Novena Prayer for the Feast of St Nicholas

Glorious St Nicholas, my special Patron from your throne in glory You who enjoy the presence of God, turn your eyes in pity upon me and attain for me from our Lord the graces and help that I need in my spiritual and temporal necessities and especially this favour: _____ provided that it be profitable to my salvation.
 Be mindful likewise, O Glorious and Sainly Bishop, of our Sovereign Pontiff and of all Christian people. Bring back to the right way of salvation all those who are living in sin, blinded by darkness of ignorance, error and heresy.
 Comfort the afflicted; provide for the needy; strengthen the fearful; defend the oppressed; give health to the infirmed.
 Cause all people to experience the effects of your powerful intercession with the supreme giver of every good and perfect gift. Amen. St. Nicholas pray for us.

Centenary Dedication Celebrations of Sts Mary & Joseph's Cathedral Armidale

will be held Thursday 12th December.
 - 7am Mass at High Altar
 - 9.15am Mass at High Altar: Main Celebrant Most Rev Michael Kennedy, morning tea afterwards – Torreggiani Courtyard.
 - 5pm Extraordinary Form (Latin Tridentine) Mass at High Altar.
Sunday 15th December 10am Celebratory Mass in Cathedral: Main Celebrant Most Rev Michael Kennedy. Morning Tea afterwards in Cathedral forecourt. Please RSVP to your Parish Priest/Parish Office by Friday 29th November.

Dr Cameron's 3rd book, Herald Renaissance: Women & Leadership in the Catholic Church is now available at the South Tamworth Parish piety stall - \$35.

WEEKLY ROSTER – 7/8 December

St Nicholas' Saturday 6pm

Commentator: volunteer
 Reader 1: volunteer Reader 2: P Skewes
 Ex Min: C Allen
 Altar Servers: A George Music: N Greacen
 Collection: D Raffaele/G Cannon/B Campbell

St Mary's Sunday 7.30am

Commentator: B Virgen
 Reader 1: J Nolan Reader 2: J Scott
 Ex Min: F Higgins
 Altar Servers: S Downey Music: V Frost
 Collection: J Conlon/P Heffernan/B Andren/J Vella/B Higgins

St Nicholas' Sunday 9.30am

Commentator: M Gruer
 Reader 1: L Roberts Reader 2: A Hamilton
 Ex Min: R English/P Prisk
 Altar Servers: volunteer Music: St Nicholas Choir
 Collection: M Gruer/J Cox

St Nicholas' Sunday 5.30pm

Commentator: G Moy
 Reader 1: volunteer Reader 2: J Campbell
 Ex Min: A Hagley
 Altar Servers: volunteer Music: Pinoy Choir
 Collection: volunteers
 Counting Team: B Williams/B Cumming/S van Aanholt
 Sacristy Roster: CWC Altar Linen: C Whitten

ANNIVERSARIES: December

Tracey Attard, John (Jack) Baker, Patricia Berman, Allan Berthaly, Katherine (Kitty) Blanch, Colin Boulos, Bridgette Brasier, Mario Campese, Newton Cannon, Bertha (Digger) Carey, Clare Chapman, Joan Coleman, Leila (Jean) Collier, George Collins, Owen Crowe, Marie Davies, Russell Evans, Adam Fahey, Terrence Farrell, Paul Francisco, Neville Galvin, Helen Galvin, Leo Gleeson, Christopher Halpin, Maureen Hartigan, Leonard Hill, Elizabeth (Dawn) Hoban, Ambrose (Ted) Hobbins, Marie Hynes, Ellanor Ives, Ellen (Ellie) Jones, Leonard Kerrison, Jolyon Lafforgue, Helena Lane, Billie McCroary, John McIlveen, Mavis Middleton, Eileen Morris, Therese (Julianne) O'Connor, Alan O'Keefe, Cindy Olden, Peter Quigley, Eric Shanahan, Joyce Shanahan, Fr Thomas Shanahan, Myra Simpson, Michael Smith, Rowan Smith, Gordon Sneddon, Lenore Steel, Donna Stewart, Mary Thompson, Lynette Thrift, Jean Tidyman, Leswell Wainwright, Mona Warden, Una Weatherstone, Rita Welman.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Darren Graham, Margaret Brogan, Bill Press, Brindley Cavallaro (Sydney), Nicole Tierney, Pat Mooney, Fr Bernie Melville, Ken Michell, Dalton Lewis, Brian Mercovich, Dearn Law, Robyn Plunkett, Kevin Frost, Sarah Sommerlad, Vic & Colleen Hamilton, Trisha Aquino, Fr Bernie Flood, Selma Best, Frances Burdon, Bill Newton, Simone Vella, Glenda Gallagher.

SPECIAL INTENTIONS: Robin & Jeffrey Wood (Anniv.), Kenneth & Mary Stoltenberg (RIP), Burton & Mary Alexander (RIP).

We would like to invite anyone in our Parish, who would be interested in becoming a Reader/Commentator, Extraordinary Minister of Communion or an Altar Server for 2020. We have a Clipboard on the table at the back of the Church where you can place your details.

ROSTER FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES – Could Parishioners **PLEASE** indicate on the board at the back of the Church if you are here at Christmas and you are able to be a Reader/Commentator/Extraordinary Minister of Communion/Altar Server/Take up the Offertory or Money Collector. **Thank you.**

We welcome new Parishioners to St Nicholas. If you have any enquiries please contact the Parish Office on 67662228 or Fr Christopher by emailing FrOnuekwusi@armidale.catholic.org.au. There are leaflets at the back of the Church that you can fill out with all your details.