

St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

"Our mission is to build up an active parish community with the Eucharist as the centre, foster deeper prayer and spirituality and reach out as a witnessing community"



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

26TH APRIL 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 2: 14, 22-23

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.
So my heart was glad
and my tongue cried out with joy:
my body, too, will rest in the hope
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.
You have made known the way of life to me,
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.' (R.)
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter 1 Pt 1: 17-21

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything

corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.
This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke Lk 24: 13-35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

St. Monica's Catholic Parish

Cnr Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

SUNDAY MASSES:	Saturday Vigil - 5pm; Sunday - 9am, 11.30am (Cantonese/Chinese Mass) and 6pm	
WEEKDAY MASSES:	Tuesday-Friday - 9.15am	
EXPOSITION:	Every Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am,	
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday - 4-4.40pm or on request	
MARRIAGES:	Please contact the Parish Priest at least 12 months prior	
BAPTISMS:	1st Sunday of the month at 2 pm by arrangement	
ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ EUCHARIST AT HOME	Please contact the Parish Office or Fr Ephraim Lam Phone: 9630-1951	
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR/ CHINESE CHAPLAIN:	Fr. Ephraim Lam Phone: 9630 -1951	Email: shingmanlam@gmail.com
POSTAL ADDRESS:	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, 2151	Website: http://www.stmonicanp.org.au
OFFICE HOURS:	Tuesday-Friday 8.30am-2.30pm	Phone: 9630-1951 Fax: 9630-8738 Email: stmonicanp@bigpond.com

St. Monica's School

School Principal: Lisa Howell

Phone: 8832 4100

Fax: 9683-4984

Email: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

REFLECTION

Companionable Breaking of Bread

This story is the story of each one of us at Mass. Each Mass is structured on the Road to Emmaus travelogue.

Two men set off on a journey of their own making. At the beginning of Mass we confess that we have gone off course.

The traveller helps the men on the road to Emmaus understand what had happened to Jesus of Nazareth by showing God's plan revealed in the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Liturgy of the Word, we hear Scriptures expounded, revealing more fully the true identity of Jesus of Nazareth. Every so often you will experience the burning sensation in your heart as something that is said hits home.

The traveller takes bread, blesses it, and gives it to them to eat. In that moment of bread-sharing, the two men recognised their travelling companion as the Risen Lord. Eat the bread consecrated at Mass, and we receive into our very being the Divine Companion for our journey through life.

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the privilege at every Mass of having our eyes opened so that we recognise Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia!

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FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

April 28 St Peter Chanel

April 29 St Catherine of Sienna

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE OF
OUR PARISH FAMILY WHO ARE SICK.
ESPECIALLY**

Paul Chiu, John Rodrigues,
Dave & Fan Lin Wilson,
Francis Lee, Jerry A, Michelle Barnes,
Levi Bell, Grace Boitano,
Gesualda Borg, Monica Teresa
& Fernanda Carigliano,
Veronica Coorey, Antoinette Coorey,
Margaret Dorahy, Heidi Ellich,
Josie Estera, Philippe Kalife, Tim Kelly,
Mary Korunic, Lillian Leigh,
Monique Malouf, Tina de Larrazabal,
Rosa Santos, Maria Itang Tagle,
Llave Family,
Sheila Watts, Gloria Cherote

MASS INTENTIONS

PARISH ACTIVITIES



Like

St. Monica is on Facebook!

Please join and get regular updates of the Parish during this current period.

Please like our page : **St Monica's North Parramatta**



Sunday Mass is live streamed!
Please check our Facebook.

English Mass Live Streaming
25th April 2020 (Sat) 5pm
2nd May 2020 (Sat) 5pm
9th May 2020 (Sat) 5pm

粵語主日彌撒直播

4月25日 (星期六) 6:30pm
5月2日 (星期六) 6:30pm
5月9日 (星期六) 6:30pm



**Anzac Day Special Mass
(Live Streaming)
24th April 2020 (Friday)
7.30 pm**



"A GIFT IN YOUR WILL"

The foundation stone for the first St Monica's Church was laid on 24 July 1888 at North Parramatta, then known as the District of Waitematta. Since that time many people and families, often through generations, have developed a special connection with our Church/Parish. This connection has been founded on faith and friendship developed through mass, the school and Church functions. You may greatly appreciate the role of our Parish in your life and the lives of your family. This appreciation can be acknowledged by you leaving a gift to the Church in your Will which may not be possible during your lifetime. A Will gift (bequest) may allow the Church to attend to much needed maintenance and improvements to our beautiful historic Church and other Parish property."

(Please contact the Parish Office for further information).

For Donations (Sunday Offerings) to our Parish please call the Parish office on 9630 1951

Youth + Corner

The ANZAC Event through the Eyes of Faith



ANZAC Day is a poignant and meaningful commemoration for so many Australians. For many soldiers and their families the harrowing experience of war was transformational even within an adverse, horrifying and evil reality. We are told that this event

was the anvil giving rise to a rich human reality expressed through mateship, duty, honour, raw courage and valour. As Catholics though how can we individually and as a Church community draw meaning and find hope in catastrophic events like war which seem to destroy hope? How does our Christian faith support us in our search for meaning and purpose in all the human realities we face?

In daily embracing the Easter event that we are still celebrating, we are challenged to interpret the realities of our everyday lives holistically through the eyes of faith and respond to these challenges with hope in Christ. But how is it that the suffering and death of young men in a lost battle can be seen as an event that is life giving? Why is it that their lives and war service can be seen as examples of faithfulness and virtue? Just asking the questions in the first place can help us begin searching and identifying the presence of God and how His Grace abounds.

ANZAC can be broadly described as sacred, even though it is a human event. Why? Because God walks in and is present to us through every human event within our imperfect world. The birth of Christ, His taking flesh and living amongst us is enduring and transformational. Christ lives with us and is immersed within our human condition, both good and evil. ANZAC is also sacred because human life is sacred. Each human being is precious in God's sight. The life and fate of each soldier who died at Gallipoli matters to God. The nobility, the courage, heroism, the selfless acts and mateship of each person matters to God and indeed are graced by Him. The immense grief of loved ones for the dead matters to God who grieves as we grieve. The communal mourning of a nation stripped of so many young lives matters to God. The sacredness of each human life compelled God to send his Son so that through his Death all may have life.

Each generation will find new meaning in the celebration of ANZAC day. Our faith will hopefully allow us a far deeper and richer understanding of the human condition in the person of Jesus as we ponder the significance of this ANZAC event and deal resiliently with world events. Ritual is sacred; as Catholics we know this better than most. This year as we keep to the ritual of commemorating ANZAC Day we pray for eternal life for those men and women who gave their lives so that we might have peace in this country and in this world, just as Jesus himself gave up His life to bring peace and salvation to us all through the violent death He suffered.

**This piece has been revised from an article by Peter O'Keefe, Director-General of the Air Force Chaplaincy Service.
The original article can be found at <http://military.catholic.org.au/anzac-day/>*



Youth Announcements

St. Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

St. Monica's youth group will not be congregating at 10:45am on Sundays until further notice. Follow our youth group on Instagram @fyrestmonicas for more updates.

Online mass is live streamed on Facebook on Saturday evenings (join the group on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/105707033257/>). If you wish to watch the live please add Fr Lam (Shing-man Lam) on Facebook as a friend and spread the news!

Confession is available by calling the Parish office on 9630 1951.