

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"



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- YEAR A

09TH AUGUST 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING

A reading from the first book of the Kings

1 Kgs 19: 9. 11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**
3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Rom 9: 1-5

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ

if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Mt 14: 22-23

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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:	Friday 10-10.30 am Saturday - 4-4.40pm or on request	
MARRIAGES:	Please contact the Parish Priest at least 12 months prior	
BAPTISMS:	Please contact the Parish Office for appointment with the Parish Priest.	
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

Keep Rowing!

The disciples had started off from the Jewish side of the Sea of Galilee, familiar territory. Jesus guided them through the stormy situation to 'the other side', the pagan side, unfamiliar territory where they would not have felt at home.

Buffeted by storms, the Church is in the midst of a journey from familiar to unfamiliar territory.

Some of the storms include a new attitude to authority, to gender roles. There is anger and suspicion at sexual abuse and its cover up. In all these situations and many more, Our Lord will not allow us the indulgence of nostalgic yearning for the safety of the past country inhabited by the Church. We must make our way to the other shore.

We could pause for a moment, resolving to row with courage because we know we are in the same boat as Peter whom our Risen Lord assures:

'Do not be afraid.'

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Act of Spiritual Communion



My Jesus, I believe you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things and desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

August 10, St Dominic
August 11, St Clare
August 14, St Maximilian Kolbe
August 15, THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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, Tony Iaria

MASS INTENTIONS

Marie Bernadette Attard

PARISH ACTIVITES



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 on Saturday at 5.00 pm (English) and Sunday at 11.30 am (Cantonese) Please add Fr Lam (**Shing-man Lam**) as a friend on Facebook to watch the Live stream Masses.

Weekend Mass Timetable August 2020

Saturday Evening :	5.00 pm (English)	Live Streamed
	5.30 pm (English)	
Sunday :	9.00 am (English)	
	9.30 am (English)	
	11.30 am (Cantonese)	Live Streamed
	12.00 pm (Cantonese)	
	6.00 pm (English)	

Special Mass in August:

Assumption of Our Lady 15th August (Saturday)
Mass in English at 9.15 am and in Cantonese at 10.00 am

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

Sacrament of First Holy Communion



Lesson 6/7	15/16 August
Reconciliation & Rehearsal 7/7	22nd August - 2.00 pm (Group 1)
Both Compulsory attendance	2.30 pm (Group 2)
First Holy Communion Masses	23rd August - 3.00 pm (Group 1)
	3.30 pm (Group 2)

Please keep in mind there may be further changes to the First Holy Communion Mass due to the ongoing situation with Covid. Updates via email.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation



Registrations will take place via email on the 15th and 16th of August.

Please email the Sacraments email for a copy of the registration form.
Once completed & signed, return email with a copy of your child's baptism certificate by the 22nd of August.

Lessons Packs will be available from the 01st of September for those who register on time. Lessons will commence on the 5th and 6th of September.



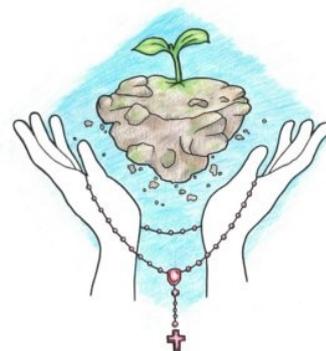
S.V.D.P. WINTER APPEAL The annual S.V.D.P. Winter Appeal envelope collection has been cancelled this year due to COVID-19, however you can still donate to the general Winter Appeal.

1. Donate ONLINE at VINNIES.ORG.AU
2. Phone 13 18 12

All donations of \$2 or over are Tax deductible. With most of our retail shops closed and the cancelled envelope collection, our funds for the less fortunate have decreased accordingly. Being traditional supporters of the Winter Appeal, please use one of the above methods to donate. Thank You **S.V.D.P.**

Youth + Corner

Stewardship of Creation



The environment, to all of us, is the greatest provider, the source of materials that are used to produce the products that bring us comfort and make our life easy. But more than this, it is an example of God's love for us, in that he left so much for us to benefit from. However, it is often forgotten that rather than purely benefiting from the environment, God left us as stewards of it. Being a steward of creation does not solely mean being in full control of the environment; it means that rather than purely exploiting it for our benefit, we need to cherish it and nurture it.

The biblical concept of stewardship over creation is mostly present in the Book of Genesis (though it is mentioned elsewhere in the Bible as well) and draws its central tenets from God's creation of the world and everything in it.

The most important of these, is that creation is centred around God. Without God, there would be no world, no creation, no nature, and as such, to nurture creation is to show our love for God. While many people view conservation in terms of how well the environment can be used by future generations, we, as Christians, should treat it as an expression of love.

Furthermore, the creation of order from chaos is not just a singular event, but an ongoing process. Just like we need God to survive, so too does creation, and as God's chosen stewards, it falls upon our shoulders to make sure that we are continually nurturing the environment. We need to look past momentary benefits and make decisions based off what is best for creation as a whole. The creation of order from chaos also relates to the harmonious working of creation, and a fair relationship between us and the environment. We have an ethical responsibility to conserve this order – a responsibility given to us by God.

With convenience being highly valued, we often fail to see what it costs the environment. As God's chosen people, we have a responsibility to take care of creation, and while it may seem daunting to go against large corporations and such, we can all make small changes that, when put together, can have a resounding impact.

- Rashane

Youth Announcements



St. Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

FYRE youth group gatherings have moved online! Join us this Saturday at 8pm on Zoom using this link: <https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/j/93935934337>. Find a quiet spot with decent wifi and get comfy as we explore The Eucharist this month and chill afterwards~ See you guys there :)

Don't forget to also follow us on Instagram @fyrestmonicas. Our instagram is currently featuring a series of faith-inspired insta stories!