

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"



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- YEAR A

16TH AUGUST 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 56: 1. 6-7

Thus says the Lord:

Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Rom 11: 13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them.

Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News
of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew Mt 15: 21-28

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

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

On Catholic Dogs

A *pagan* woman approaches a *Jewish* man and she begs Jesus to heal her daughter.

Jesus gives a dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people.

This remarkable *pagan* woman stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Jesus recognises *her* faith and the daughter was healed. This story was put in the Gospels to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is Good News for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'world-wide'.

We could pause for a moment to celebrate this Canaanite woman as the first 'Catholic'!

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

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 20, St Bernard
August 21, St Pius X
August 22, Queenship 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

Gabriella Wehbe
Joseph Sagih Wehbe
Hinid Wehbe
Hasna Takchi
Mouris Takchi
Elias Hkeik
Steve & Hien

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)	

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

Sacrament of First Holy Communion



Reconciliation & Rehearsal 7/7	22nd August -
Both Compulsory attendance	2.00 pm (Group 1)
	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 only 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 1st 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.

St Monica's Primary School North Parramatta



Enrolments for 2021 (K-6) are now open!

Enrolment forms are available on our school website. For more information please visit our school website or contact the office on 8832 4100. www.stmonicasparra.catholic.edu.au

Youth + Corner

The Assumption of Mary



One of the most important Marian feasts in the liturgical year is that of the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, which happens each year on August 15th. In some parts of Europe, it is referred to as the "Easter of the Summer", such is its significance. The Assumption of Mary is a dogma of the Church as pronounced by Pope Pius XII in 1950 who stated 'We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.' Prior to this pronouncement however, Catholics have long held and accepted the belief that Mary is in Heaven. History shows that while there are relics of the Apostles, of Jesus's Cross and the venerated remains of Saints that have been remarkably preserved, there has never been a grave or tomb of Virgin Mary, nor even a legend of her place of burial. And that of course is because, the doctrine of our faith follows, we believe she was assumed into Heaven.

Interestingly, this feast day is not known as the "ascension" but rather the "assumption" of Mary. There is a slight but significant difference in the meaning of these two words. While Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven of his own power because he is God, Mary was 'assumed', meaning she was lifted or taken up and remains there to this day. Mary's assumption into Heaven, both body and soul, gives us hope after death where we too may be in final communion with God. Her assumption is a testimony of God's love, and for all us children of God, the possibility of eternal life if we dare to say yes to Him and entrust in the divine plan that he has for us. The Virgin Mary called herself the handmaid of the Lord, highlighting her humbleness, and because of this God performed marvels through her and raised her up to Heaven. And so, especially in this difficult time where we as a global community face challenge upon challenge every week as disasters of both human and natural alike are brought to our attention, we pray for the intercession of Our Lady and we thank her for bringing us hope and teaching us about discipleship here on Earth.

- Abby

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!