

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"



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- YEAR A

06TH SEPTEMBER 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
Ez 33: 7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me,
though they saw my work.' (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Rom 13: 8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation
he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew Mt 18: 15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. 'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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. Phone: 9630-1951	
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: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

REFLECTION

Boundaries and Juries

Our Lord acknowledged that the community he was establishing had to set boundaries. Who is to decide who is within or outside those boundaries?

In today's Gospel, Our Lord teaches that a nuanced step by step process should be invoked. First, there is private conversation, then slightly extended to bring in two or three others, then a sort of church community jury before a person is put beyond the pale. Our Lord promises to be with them to help guide their decision.

We all know of marriages which are fractured and where one partner has found intimacy and security in a second (civil) marriage.

Pope Francis has not suggested that the second marriage be regarded as valid. But he has suggested a process of discernment to allow a divorced person to receive 'the Eucharist . . . a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.'

Could a jury of ordinary Catholic lay people help make that discerning judgement, and then advise the Bishop as to the next step?

We could pause for a moment to ponder the promise: 'Where two or three are gathered into my name, I am there with them.'

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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

September 08, THE NATIVITY 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,

MASS INTENTIONS

Tony Iaria
Anthony Khalil
Gabriella Wehbe
Joseph Wehbe
Hinid Wehbe
Mouris Takchi
Hasna Takchi
Elias Hkeik
Sam Takchi
Maria Joseph Abraham

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 Reconciliation



Lessons Packs have been sent home for those who registered. Thank you to the Parents who joined in the Zoom Meeting with Father Lam on the 2nd of September. At home lessons will commence this weekend – 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.**

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL FOR RETIRED PREISTS - FATHER'S DAY APPEAL 2020

Owing to COVID19 pandemic and its social and financial impact on families, communities and Churches, the Clergy Support Foundation of the Diocese of Parramatta will not be holding its Annual Bishop's Collection for Retired Priests, i.e. the Father's Day appeal, this September. Like many other organisations, the CSF will use its own resources to support the retired priests in this financial year. Donations will always be accepted, however, via our BPOINT portal at www.parracatholic.org/csf or electronic funds transfer to BSB 067950 Account No 00001691 Account Name CSF No 1 with Reference your name. IF you would like a tax deductible receipt for your donation, please send email to csf@parracatholic.org with your name and address details.

The CSF Committee thanks you for your support of the Clergy Support Foundation over the last 15 years. May God bless you at this difficult time in all our lives.

St Monica's Primary School North Parramatta

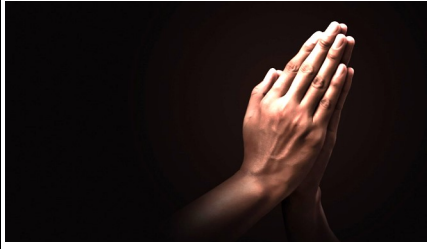


Enrolments for 2021 (K-6) are now open!

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

Praying after Holy Communion



The time directly after receiving Holy Communion when you enter into union with Christ and receive spiritual nourishment is the perfect time to

pray. While all prayer is good, and helps develop our relationship with God, there are times when certain types of prayer are more suited or relevant. Personally, I'd often spend my time after communion praying for my family, myself or asking Christ to help me with certain things – like getting a good mark on that test, or maybe making sure it doesn't rain when I'm going out.

However, while it is fine to ask Christ to help you, it's important to note that when we receive communion, we receive a whole host of gifts – all because God gave up his only son so that we may be freed from sin. The Eucharist allows us to form an intimate union with Christ, and in doing so we are given some of his grace, meaning that, among other things, we are protected from mortal sins to a degree, nourished spiritually and forgiven of venial sins. Usually, when we receive a gift, we thank the person who gave it to us, right? So, whenever we take communion, we should remember that we have been given an amazing gift from Christ.

So instead of praying for ourselves first, we should give thanks for the gifts we have received. We should adore and praise the Lord, and there are two specific types of prayers that allow us to do these things.

The first is thanksgiving. When praying, we give thanks to God for all the things He has done for us, whether it be the things we have, the opportunities we've received, or most importantly, the fact that we are able to partake in the Eucharist. The second is praying in adoration, in which we praise God for all the things he has done as our God, and all that he has created.

So next time you take communion, keep in mind all the gifts you have already received and remember to thank Christ for all that he has done.

-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 ready to explore Mary and the Rosary with us :)

Also don't forget to follow us on Instagram @fyrestmonicas!