

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"



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- YEAR A

27TH SEPTEMBER 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

Ez 18: 25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows:
'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you
House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do
that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his
integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies
because of the evil that he himself has committed.
When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding
and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to
renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live;
he shall not die.'

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Phil 2: 1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's

interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Mt 21: 28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

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

'No, no, no, no ... Y-yes!'

Jesus tells a little story about two brothers. One said 'Yes', but never did anything. The other said 'No', but then had a change of heart and did what was required. Jesus loved the brother who came around. He was very hard on the one who said 'Yes' but did not 'walk the talk'.

That is why he loved those tax collectors who gathered the revenue for the Roman authorities, and the prostitutes who serviced the Roman occupying army, but who switched allegiance from the Empire of Caesar to the Kingdom of God. This signalled a profound change of heart.

We may have said 'No' to God at various times with various intensity in our lives. But God is wonderfully patient and prepared to hear 'No' many times in the hope of hearing 'Yes'. God's patience never runs out. But our time to say 'Yes' does run out. We only have a relatively short life span!

At the end of Mass, I will say 'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.' As St Francis of Assisi put it, 'Preach the Gospel, and occasionally use words.' Walk the talk.

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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 29, ST MICHAEL, GABRIEL, RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS

September 30, St Jerome

October 01, St Therese of the Child Jesus

October 02, The Holy Guardian Angels

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

R & A Matek

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.

New Weekend Mass Timetable

commencing this weekend, 26th/27th September 2020

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

"First come first served" for all English Masses.

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

Sacrament of First Reconciliation



School Holidays 26th September to 11th October.

Lesson 4/6 17th/18th October
 Lesson 5/6 24th/25th October
 Lesson 6/6 31st Oct/1st November

First Reconciliation – 5th & 6th November

We need your help.



On 17th November the NSW Government will deliver the state budget. With more than 100,000 people waiting for social housing and many more families struggling to make ends meet, it is the ideal time for NSW to invest in more social housing.

To convince the NSW Government to make this much needed investment, St Vincent De Paul Society will be seeking your signatures on a petition that we hope to have tabled in NSW Parliament before the budget.

So far we have collected 7,100 signatures but we need a minimum of 10,000 signatures for our petition to be eligible for discussion at Parliament.

Next weekend 26th/27th September we will have members from our Society hoping to have you sign the petition in support of this much needed investment by the Government for our brothers and sisters who are struggling to make ends meet.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Youth + Corner

Mary is someone whom we are all familiar with- she was chosen by God to conceive Jesus even before she was created yet amidst this seemingly ordinary knowledge ubiquitous to the Catholic community, there is still a lot more we can learn about the importance of Mary and the role she can play in our lives alongside Jesus Christ. This month's online youth group sessions focused on Mary and the Rosary which is something we should be more aware of so as to deepen our understanding and strengthen our faith. The Marian Dogmas constitute four fundamental beliefs about who Mary was and her relationship with God. These are grounded in Scripture, defined by the Pope and those in teaching authority of the Church:



- Divine Motherhood-** Mary is called the 'Mother of God.' You might be wondering how can she be considered this when she was a human, and God is divine? Remember that God is a trinity- the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Son is Jesus himself in the flesh- and He is the one Mary gave birth to, for Jesus is both human and divine.
- Perpetual Virginity-** refers to Mary's sustained virginity before, during and after the birth of Jesus. Impregnated by the power of the God and the Holy Spirit, she was able to maintain this integrity, indicative of her unwavering desire and dedication to the Lord's calling
- Immaculate Conception-** Mary is conceived without original sin; from the moment God created her she was in a state of sanctifying grace. She is often dichotomized with Eve, who was unaware of sin and such consequence- the creation of Mary as an archetype of true womanhood is something we should consider and meditate upon
- Assumption-** not to be confused with ascension (Jesus himself ascended into heaven by his divine power), Mary is elevated or 'assumed' into heaven by the power and grace of God.

Now that these principles have been established, it would be beneficial to reflect on these through prayer and the rosary. There are twenty mysteries manifested within, subsequently divided into four broad categories- the Joyful Mysteries, the Luminous Mysteries, the Sorrowful Mysteries and the Glorious Mysteries. Upon reflection, you may discover these events, such as from the Annunciation to the Transfiguration, the Crucifixion and Coronation of Mary- are not only circulated around the whole rosary but also align with the celebrations in the Church's liturgical year. It is therefore important to focus on these mysteries, asking yourself what is it that God wants me to know about His life through this form of prayer? Before you begin, you could even offer an intention- who or what are you praying for? Other questions and prompts you could also consider after praying each mystery:

- Joyful-** Are you willing to deepen your relationship with God? What can you do to initiate this?
 - Luminous-** Do you actively participate in learning more about your faith? Do you try and follow Christ's example that He has set for you?
 - Sorrowful-** Are you willing to uphold your beliefs and have sustained faith in God? Do you trust God to strengthen and support you when you may be struggling?
 - Glorious-** How do you adore and give thanks to the Lord? How could you do it more often?
- Hopefully these can be some deliberations that aid in your prayers. Taking time to contemplate and meditate upon this, as well as on the broader figure of Mary and her role is a way we can enhance our faith.

-Hazel

Youth Announcements



St. Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

FYRE youth group gatherings are online! Join us on Sat 8pm on Zoom using this link: <https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/j/93935934337>.

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram @fyrestmonicas Our **virtual trivia night** is happen next Friday night (2nd Oct) – check our instagram for the details!