

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"

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- YEAR A

04TH OCTOBER 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 5: 1-7

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah, I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.
What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?
Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard:
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah that chosen plant.
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. (R.)
2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. (R.)
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
4. And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. (R.)

SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
Phil 4: 6-9**

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need,
pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,
and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we
can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts,
in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with
everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything
that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour,
and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of
praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and
have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do.
Then the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Mt 21: 33-43**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people,
'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner,
who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress
in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went
abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants
to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized
his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a
third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger
number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally
he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said.
But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other,
'This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his
inheritance.'" So they seized him and threw him out of the
vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard
comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered,
'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease
the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to
him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you
never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from
you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.

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: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

REFLECTION

Good Wine requires Hard Work

In the Hebrew scripture, Israel is spoken of as the Vineyard of God. We can say that now the Church is the vineyard of God. God is the Landlord, we are the tenants. It is our job to faithfully tend it and make sure it bears good fruit. If we are unfaithful, then God *will* find other people to carry on his plan, other tenants to tend his vineyard.

Certainly, we see that within the Universal Church. With the decline of the Eurocentric church, who has God turned to as new tenants for his vineyard? Look at the surging numbers of Catholics in sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria, the Philippines, Korea. The persecuted Church in Vietnam and China is surviving and growing despite the severity of oppression.

I think we may agree that the vineyard of the Church in Australia is not as fruitful as it could be. This is a challenge for us. It is wonderful to see the energetic work of the new immigrants and refugees in our parishes (including the Bishop of Parramatta!).

We could pause for a moment to commit to taking up the privilege and duty to work in the vineyard of the Church.

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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

October 07, Our Lady of the Rosary

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

Gabriella Wehbe
Hasna Takchi
Mouris Takchi
Joseph Sagih Wehbe
Hinid Wehbe
Elias Hkeik
Daniel Younan & Family
John Muir
Jim McGettigan

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 – October 2020

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

“First come first served” for all 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



Collection of Re-cyclable

for St Vincent de Paul charitable works. Please continue to bring and leave **during weekend Masses ONLY** your plastic/glass bottles, aluminum cans, car batteries, copper & brass items.

at the area were the clothing bin was located for pick up, to provide funding for St Vincent de Paul charitable works. Alternately you can Contact : Ian Goldthorpe on 0414 716 005 for pickup.

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

THANK YOU!

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIAL HOUSING PETITION -

On behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society we take this opportunity to thank our Parishioners who responded **MAGNIFICENTLY** last weekend in signing the petition.

We were successful in obtaining 107 signatures and no doubt this will ensure our target is met.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Fr Ephraim for his on going support in matters relating to St Vincent de Paul.

S.V.D.P.



Youth + Corner

Faith & Friendship



Many of us, I'm sure, have friends who are not Catholic – friends who we've met through school, university, work, or so on. While friendship is a great thing that can stretch past religion, race and so on, there will undoubtedly be times when differences in faith manifest themselves,

and in such times, you may find yourself at odds with something your friend believes in. At times like this, what can we do?

Do we leave it alone, hoping the misunderstanding passes? Do we try and force our own beliefs upon them? Do we cut ties with them?

While all of the above are potential solutions, I doubt anyone would be completely happy with any of them, and why is that? Because none of those solutions actually consider both sides.

If you break it down, there are two things that come to mind. First, is our duty to evangelise and to spread our faith so that others may be brought to the light. And second, on the other side, is the dignity that is inherent to all human beings.

As Christians and followers of Christ, it is our duty to follow in his example. A huge part of this, and something that is apparent through the actions of his earliest followers, is our obligation to spread the Word to those who have not yet found solace in Jesus, or those who do not believe. We acknowledge that a strong faith in Jesus and a willingness to follow his example are essential for salvation, and with this in mind, we are called to give others the opportunity to share in this salvation. So then, if we were to try and force our ideals upon another, wouldn't that be considered carrying out our vocation?

Well, not exactly. While it is important that we evangelise, every human being possesses dignity. This means that they all deserve to be treated with fairness, respect, and with an understanding that they are free to choose their own path. As part of this, to try and force one's ideals on another would be to disregard this dignity – something that history has shown does not end well.

So, what can we do? Make it a conversation. Listen to each other, discuss, tell them about your beliefs and your perspectives, and let them make the choice for themselves. Friendship is about respect, and eventually, as long as they have someone beside them, chances are they will find their own flame of faith.

- Rashane

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 to keep track of the latest FYRE news and events.