

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"



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A - MISSION SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 45: 1,4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:
It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the
setting of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R.)
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R.)
4. Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1 Thes 1: 1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 22: 15-21

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

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

Whose Image and Likeness?

Jesus first cleverly throws his questioners on the defensive. *They* are the ones carrying the coinage, not him. Then he poses the crucial question, 'Whose image is it and whose inscription?' They said to him, 'Caesar's'. Then he said to them: 'Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.'

The coin bore the image and inscription of Caesar. Genesis teaches us that human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. Our Lord is saying, 'Let the political and financial authorities have their coinage. It is their legal tender. But they cannot have human beings. Human beings belong to Another. They belong to God.'

We are fortunate to live in a wonderful democracy. But even a democracy can violate the dignity of a human being created in the image and likeness of God. As Pope John Paul II said: 'Authentic democracy is possible only in a state ruled by law, *and on the basis of a correct conception of the human person.*' (Italics added)

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the inscription, 'Child of God', effectively engraved on our hearts by baptism.

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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

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

Gerard McDonald



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

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

First Reconciliation – 5th & 6th November

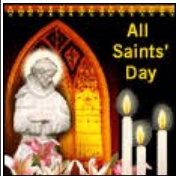
Catholic Mission Appeal 2020



There will be a special collection this weekend (17th & 18th October).

Please use the envelopes provided near the Sacred Heart statue if you wish to claim a tax return or you can place your cash donation directly in the special Collection basket.

All donation above \$2/- placed in an envelope are tax deductible. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



All Saint's Day 1st November (Sunday)
Normal Sunday Mass schedule



All Souls Day 2nd November (Monday)
9.15 am (English)
7.00 pm (English) - Live Streamed
8.00 pm (Cantonese) - Live Streamed

Friends and differing values

Many people in the Catholic community have friends who are not Christians. For Catholics who are involved and active in the Church, and who are committed to living by Catholic values, having friends who aren't as committed in their faith, are believers of a different faith or who are irreligious may on occasion create situations where their values differ from each other, including in circumstances where you and your friends may disagree on what is acceptable or not, or what the right thing to do is. How do you, as a Catholic, deal with these situations?

1) If a friend asks you to do or participate in something that contradicts your values as a Catholic, explain why you do not wish to participate, but also affirm your friend's right to make personal decisions about their own lives as long as they do not have a negative impact on other people. If your friend does not respect or agree with your reasoning and your values, acknowledge this but it's important that your friend does not pressure you, shame you or belittle you for your decision.

2) If differing values are raised in a conversation, and your friend disagrees with the Catholic Church's beliefs on certain issues or theological matters, give your friend the opportunity to explain why they disagree, and also, if you feel knowledgeable and confident enough, explain to your friend why you believe in the values of Catholicism. It may be counterproductive to try and persuade your friend to agree with you, as some people may be particularly wary of their own values and principles being challenged in an attempt to try and induce conformity and acceptance of another person's viewpoint. A discussion may enable both you and your friends to understand where each person's moral boundaries are and encourage respect for those boundaries.

3) Try and find values that you and your friend have in common and where possible make collective decisions based on those principles. When making decisions such as whether to be involved in a social group or participate in certain activities, it may be useful to consider these common values and reflect on whether you and your friends' actions reflect these values or help achieve desirable outcomes, such as maintaining and restoring healthy relationships.

4) If you find it difficult to know what the right thing is to do in certain situations, or are worried about how disagreements over values may impact your relationship with your friends, it may be helpful to discuss with your friends about respecting each other's rights and making decisions based on a person's own conscience. Consider all the decisions that you and your friend agree are a matter of personal conscience, and other decisions which are not solely a matter of personal conscience as they affect other people. It's important you and your friends consider where the boundary is between respecting personal decisions and any limitations on this that may be justified by its impact on others.

Youth Announcements



St. Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

FYRE youth group gatherings are online! Join us on Sat 8pm on Zoom using the link: <https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/j/93935934337>. This month we are focusing on symbols in the Bible!

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram @fyrestmonicas to keep track of the latest FYRE news and events.

HSC 2020 Lifted Special with Bishop Vincent

Catholic Youth Parramatta is inviting Year 12's and their families and friends to tune into the HSC 2020 LIFTED Special with Bishop Vincent on Sunday 18th Oct from 8pm. Come receive a blessing 36hrs before the first HSC exam by tuning in to this 25-minute broadcast on CYP's Facebook page!