

# 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"*



**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - YEAR B 11TH APRIL 2021**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants,  
you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,  
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 4 : 32 – 35**

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul;  
no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as  
everything they owned was held in common.  
The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord  
Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.  
None of their members was ever in want, as all those who  
owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money  
from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed  
to any members who might be in need.

*This is the word of the Lord*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'  
Let the sons of Aaron say:  
'His love has no end.'  
Let those who fear the Lord say:  
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the first letter of St John 1 Jn 5: 1 - 6**

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ  
has been begotten by God;  
and whoever loves the Father that begot him  
loves the child whom he begets.  
We can be sure that we love God's children  
if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;  
this is what loving God is –  
keeping his commandments;  
and his commandments are not difficult,  
because anyone who has been begotten by God  
has already overcome the world;  
this is the victory over the world – our faith.  
Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;  
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,  
not with water only, but with water and blood;  
with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.  
*This is the word of the Lord*

**Please join in the Sequence on Page 2**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You believe in me, Thomas,  
because you have seen me;  
happy are those who have not seen me,  
but still believe!  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John Jn 20: 19 - 31**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the  
doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for  
fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said  
to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and  
his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the  
Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.  
For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not  
with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We  
have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that  
the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the  
holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side,  
I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the  
house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were  
closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be  
with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger  
here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into  
my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied,  
'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the  
disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book.  
These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the  
Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life  
through his name.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

# St. Monica's Catholic Parish

**Cnr Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta**

<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b>	Saturday Vigil - 5pm; Sunday - 9am, 11.30am (Cantonese/Chinese Mass) and 6pm	
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES:</b>	Tuesday-Friday - 9.15am	
<b>EXPOSITION:</b>	Every Thursday 8pm—9pm Every Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am,	
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Friday 10-10.30 am Saturday - 4-4.40pm or on request	
<b>MARRIAGES:</b>	Please contact the Parish Priest at least 12 months prior	
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Please contact the Parish Office for appointment with the Parish Priest. Phone: 9630-1951	
<b>ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ EUCHARIST AT HOME</b>	Please contact the Parish Office or Fr Ephraim Lam Phone: 9630-1951	
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR/ CHINESE CHAPLAIN:</b>	Fr. Ephraim Lam Phone: 9630 -1951	Email: shingmanlam@gmail.com
<b>POSTAL ADDRESS:</b>	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, 2151	Website: <a href="http://www.stmonicanp.org.au">http://www.stmonicanp.org.au</a>
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	Tuesday-Friday 8.30am-2.30pm	Phone: 9630-1951 Fax: 9630-8738 Email: stmonicanp@bigpond.com

## St. Monica's School

School Principal: Lisa Crampton Phone: 8832 4100 Fax: 9683-4984 Email: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

### REFLECTION

#### Thomas the Doubter seeing the wounds

The true believers in the Risen Christ kept Thomas the Doubter within their circle, rather than expelling him. This gave him a further opportunity to experience the very Real Presence of the Risen Lord and his gift of peace. Companionable patience is our best response to those struggling with belief in even fundamental tenets of the faith.

Thomas saw that the wounds of Christ were still present, not obliterated. Does this suggest that our redeemed bodies will bear the marks of the wounds unjustly inflicted on us? However, they will not be disabling to our personality because they will be incorporated into the resurrection life of Christ. Incredibly, our self-inflicted wounds, i.e. our sins, will be obliterated in the mercy of God.

Pope Francis emphasises that it was in responding to the invitation to touch the wounds of Christ that Thomas understood Christ's true identity, exclaiming: 'My Lord and my God'. It is only by touching the wounds of Christ in many different people in many different situations that we can authentically make the same act of faith.

We could take a moment to pray for the strength to touch the wounds of Christ in others, 'the least'. And we could pray that, wounded as we may be by the vagaries and injustices of life, we may be liberated from their evil effects as the Risen Lord adopts our wounds as his own.

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### Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim  
offer sacrifice and praise.  
The sheep are ransomed  
by the Lamb; and Christ,  
the undefiled,  
hath sinners to his Father  
reconciled.  
Death with life contended:  
combat strangely ended!  
Life's own Champion, slain,  
yet lives to reign.  
Tell us, Mary: say what thou  
didst see upon the way.  
The tomb the Living did enclose;  
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!  
The angels there attesting;  
shroud with grave-clothes  
resting.  
Christ, my hope, has risen:  
he goes before you into Galilee.  
That Christ is truly risen  
from the dead we know.  
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

### 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.  
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

Aenne Loof  
John Chigwidden  
Letticia Bartholomeusz  
Delishia Stephens  
Rodrigo Catapusan  
Anatolia Corpin  
Uy Lin Suy  
Enrique Platon  
Casiano Corpin  
Willy & Erica Schlieper  
Ashley Lorraine  
Hunter Curtis  
S sriPathmanathan

# PARISH ACTIVITES



**St. Monica is on Facebook!** Please join and get updates of the Parish during this current period.  
Please like our page : **St Monica's North Parramatta**



**Christian Meditation** Every Friday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Enquiries/facilitator : Patricia Brown, 0418 406 661 or email: pabrown02@gmail.com.



**St Monica's Parish Rosary Group** Every Wednesday from 10.00am to 12.00pm in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.



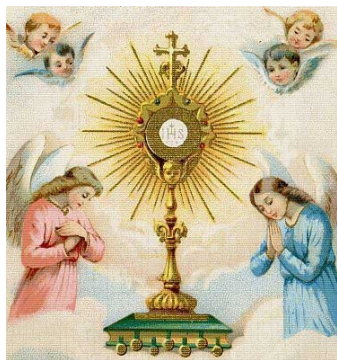
**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE ST MONICA'S BRANCH** meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 10.30am in the meeting room. Enquiries : Julie Skulander on 0411 988 361

## "Marriage Enrichment Weekend"



Come and join us on April 16 -18, 2021 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW.

Book at [www.wmme.org.au](http://www.wmme.org.au) or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419



## Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Thursday  
from 8pm—9pm.

All are welcome.

# Youth + Corner

## The Diary of St. Faustina

The Diary of St. Faustina is an important and treasured literary work of faith. It is most well-known for documenting the instructions given by Jesus himself to St. Faustina in regards to how He desired the new devotion to His Divine Mercy to be established. The diary details the last few years of St. Faustina's life (1934-1938) during which time many supernatural events took place in her life, and she was instructed by Jesus and her spiritual directors to record her visions, revelations and prophecies as well as her contemplation on the mystery of God's mercy. Below are some extracts of her diary, and how they reveal the important teachings that the Lord wished to impart to the world:

**"...I saw two roads. One was broad, covered with sand and flowers, full of joy, music and all sorts of pleasures. People were walking along it, dancing and enjoying themselves. They reached the end without realising it. And at the end of the road there was a horrible precipice; that is, the abyss of hell. The souls fell blindly into it; as they walked, so they fell. And their number was so great that it was impossible to count them. And I saw the other road, or rather, a path, for it was narrow and strewn with thorns and rocks; and the people who walked along it had tears in their eyes, and all kinds of suffering befell them. Some fell down upon the rocks, but stood up immediately and went on. At the end of the road there was a magnificent garden filled with all sorts of happiness and all these souls entered there. At the very first instant they forgot all their sufferings"** (Diary, 153).

*In this vision of St. Faustina's we see a stark divide between the worldly people who revel in the comforts and pleasures of this life but are lost in the next, and those who suffer whilst carry their crosses on Earth but who enter into eternal life with Him.*

**"Act in such a way that all those who come in contact with you will go away joyful. Sow happiness about you because you have received much from God; give, then, generously to others. They should take leave of you with their hearts filled with joy, even if they have no more than touched the hem of your garment."** (Diary, 55)

*Joy shared is joy multiplied. Be joyful in all you do and be a light for others as Jesus was for us. A single ray of light can cast away many shadows.*

**"I am Love and Mercy itself (Diary, 1074). My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners... it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from my Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy (367). Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet (699). My mercy is greater than your sins, and those of the entire world. I let my Sacred Heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you. Come then with trust to draw graces from this fountain" (1485).**

*How often it can be that we feel unworthy of Jesus' love for us. And yet here he reveals his Divine Mercy, his desire for us and to heal the wounds caused by our sins and iniquity. How he longs to gather us in and hold him close to His Sacred Heart!*

-Abby



## Youth Announcements

**St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)** Face to face/ in person youth group will resume on **April 11<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30AM in the community room! It would be wonderful to see everyone together again 😊 so please come along~ Our sessions will continue to focus on books of the Bible from both Old and New Testaments- in April we will be looking at the book of Psalms/ Proverbs. Note you will need to sign in with QR code/ write your name down in compliance with the COVID rules. Also follow us on Instagram @fyrestmonicas to keep track of the latest FYRE news and events!

**Games Night** Thank you to everyone who attended our games night on Thursday! We hope you had a great time and had a good laugh : hoping to see a few of you at youth group as well!

## 17th/18th April ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
<b>Readers</b>	C. Maxwell T. Webhe	A. Dolehenty E. Espiritu	W. Sassine M. Ellis
<b>Acolytes</b>	Peter Handcock	Ian Goldthorpe	John Hilton
<b>Cleaning</b>	Group 2 – Vera		