

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"

PENTECOST SUNDAY -

YEAR B

23RD MAY 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world
and that which contains all things
understands what is said, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 2 : 1 - 11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 103

Response: Lord, send out your Spirit
and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

Gal 5: 16 - 25

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed

that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desire.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord

Please Join in the Sequence on Page 2



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jn 15: 26 - 27; 16: 12 - 15

Jesus said to his disciples:

'When the Advocate comes,
whom I shall send to you from the Father,
the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father,
he will be my witness.
And you too will be witnesses,
because you have been with me from the outset.
I still have many things to say to you
but they would be too much for you now.
But when the Spirit of truth comes
he will lead you to the complete truth,
since he will not be speaking as from himself
but will say only what he has learnt;
and he will tell you of the things to come.
He will glorify me, since all he tells you
will be taken from what is mine.
Everything the Father has is mine;
that is why I said:
All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Acts 2: 4, 11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

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 Thursday 8pm—9pm Every Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am,	
RECONCILIATION:	Friday 10-10.30am, Saturday 4-4.40pm, 3rd Sunday of the month 10:15-11am, 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 Crampton

Phone: 8832 4100

Fax: 8832-4199

Email: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au



FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

May 24, OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS, (Patron of Australia)

May 26, St Philip Neri

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,

Sequence:

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.

Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures
which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!

Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;

Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:

If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.

Heal our wounds,
our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:

Bend the stubborn heart
and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold
gifts descend:

Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

REFLECTION

Divine Energy and being Catholic

The term 'Holy Ghost' is an unfortunate rendering of 'Holy Gust', the divine wind, the breath of God, the Holy Spirit which can come into the lives of individuals and communities, sometimes as the merest whisper of a breeze, sometimes at gale force. This is what happened at Pentecost. St Luke, writing the Acts of the Apostles, grasps for imagery to portray the force of the Holy Spirit's descending on Mary and Peter and other disciples. This divine flaming Gust cleared away the undergrowth of timidity and anxiety imprisoning those disciples in the upper room. Then they became like seed pods germinating in the ashes, allowing a new community to take root, a community where barriers of language, ethnicity and race were overcome.

The primary task of St Peter, then as now, is to present the Resurrection in a way understandable by people of every language group around the world. Everything else his successor does is secondary to his preaching 'the marvels of God'. Pope Francis is doing this by word and deed. We could take a moment to pray for forgiveness for the wind breaks which we, individually and as a parish or larger church community, erect to shield us from the Holy Spirit gusting into our lives. Let us ask for the courage to allow ourselves to be a wind-swept people ignited by Divine Love.

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mtate@bigpond.com

PARISH ACTIVITIES



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



Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Every Thursday from 8pm–9pm.
All are welcome.

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com



First Holy Communion 2021 Registrations will take place on the 29th/30th May weekend after 5 pm and 9 am Masses only. The child is eligible to receive the sacrament if he/she has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and is in year 4 or above. Please bring in a copy of the child's baptism certificate if First Reconciliation was received at another Parish. A donation of \$30/- is payable at the time of registration.

Confirmation 2021 22nd of May (Saturday) at 2.00 pm - Reconciliation and Rehearsal, for the candidates (ONLY) who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. **(Compulsory attendance for all candidates)**

Confirmation Mass - Saturday, 29th May at 5 pm.



There will be special collections toward the renovation and inclusion of new toilets in the Parish Centre for the use of Parishioners who attend Mass. Envelopes will be available from the 6th of June to August. Please place your donations in the envelopes provided. Thank you.

Help them answer God's call

AND SUPPORT THE FUTURE SHEPHERDS OF OUR CHURCH



Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal
yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal 2021 supporting the Seminarians and the Holy Spirit Seminary

Appeal weekend : Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 May 2021
Envelopes will be available near the sacred heart Statue. Please place your cash donations/complete envelopes in the box provided. Gifts over \$2/- are tax deductible.

29th/30th May ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	S. Melecca C. Melecca	E. Calabria B. McGettigan	W. Sassine M. Ellis
Acolytes	Peter Handcock	Nishan Joseph	John Hilton
Cleaning	Group 2 – Vera		

Youth + Corner

Pentecost

We've all heard the story of Pentecost – a group of frightened disciples were baptised with the holy spirits, adorned with tongues of fire and given the ability to speak tongues. Most of us are familiar with the facts, but how often do we stop to consider what Pentecost meant not only to the disciples at the time, but also to us. What does it mean for our faith?

For one, Pentecost is one of the greatest displays of the Holy Spirit's power. Imagine you were one of the disciples, huddled in silence, feeling as if the world were against you... and then suddenly a powerful wind blows through the darkened room, filling you with the power of the Holy Spirit. This power gave the disciples courage, and it allowed them to speak with people from many nations and different walks of life. If you have ever tried public speaking, chances are you have felt the nerves that always seem to accompany it, and yet the disciples, emboldened by the Holy Spirit spoke through that fear – a fear compounded by the circumstances surrounding them. The power of the Spirit wasn't just limited to the wind and flames – it manifests in the way it inspired the disciples, and how by doing so it led to a Christian community that spread across the world.

The disciples were no strangers to hardship, but even then, travelling the world, going to often hostile states and preaching the word of God was in a league of its own. Many disciples experienced persecution, torture and even death. It was no easy feat, but they pushed through. One of the last things Jesus said to his disciples was 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18-19)'. The events of Pentecost remind us that this is our mission. We are called to spread the word, to teach others as Jesus taught his disciples. The Holy Spirit baptised the Disciples and spurred them on in this mission. It gives us strength, and no matter how hard things may get, It is always with us.

So, as you celebrate Pentecost, consider the Holy Spirit and the great works It has made possible – let it be a guide and support for your life as well.

- Rashane

Youth Announcements



St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

Face to face/ in person youth group has resumed at 10:30AM in the community room! Feel free to come along. Our sessions will continue to focus on books of the Bible from both Old and New Testaments- in May we are looking at the book of Job/ Ecclesiastes! Also follow us on Instagram @fyrestmonicas to keep track of the latest FYRE news and events!

Youth Camp 2021: Mission Impossible

We are happy to announce that our most anticipated event of the year- **Youth Camp**- will be back on again in June! It will be during the Term 2 holidays from the 29th June (Tuesday)- 2nd July (Friday) at Wedderburn Christian Campsite. If you are interested in coming, please grab a form from Cheryl Wong (0481 507 169) or Rebecca Cheung (0449 055 395).
Get excited : D