

# 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"*

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -

YEAR B

13TH JUNE 2021

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf 26

O Lord, hear my voice,  
for I have called to you; be my help.  
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ezekiel

Ez 17: 22 - 24

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,  
from the highest branch I will take a shoot  
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.  
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.  
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,  
and become a noble cedar.  
Every kind of bird will live beneath it,  
every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.  
And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am  
the one  
who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow,  
who withers green trees and makes the withered green.  
I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

*This is the word of the Lord*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 91

**Response:** Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord  
to make music to your name, O Most High,  
to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your truth in the watches of the night. **(R.)**
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **(R.)**
3. Planted in the house of the Lord  
they will flourish in the courts of our God,  
still bearing fruit when they are old,  
still full of sap, still green,  
to proclaim that the Lord is just.  
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

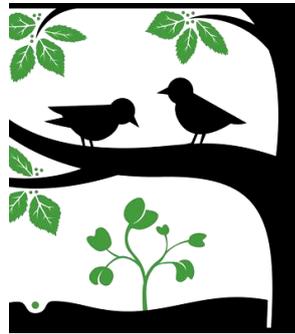
A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the  
Corinthians

2 Cor 5 : 6 - 10

We are always full of confidence when we remember that  
to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord,  
going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of  
confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the

body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we  
are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on  
pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought  
out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get  
what he deserves for the things he did in the body,  
good or bad.

*This is the word of the Lord*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God,  
Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him  
will live for ever.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
Mk 4: 26 - 34

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of  
God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and  
day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is  
sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own  
accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear,  
then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready,  
he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest  
has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is  
like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard  
seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the  
smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it  
grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big  
branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its  
shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to  
them, so far as they were capable of understanding it.  
He would not speak to them except in parables, but he  
explained everything to his disciples when they were  
alone.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON Ps 26: 4

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:  
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

# 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 10-10.30am, Saturday 4-4.40pm, 3rd Sunday of the month 10:15-11am, 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: 8832-4199

Email: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

## REFLECTION

### The Sowing of the Seed

A peasant in Galilee would hope for a return of 7:1 when sowing seed for a crop. So when Jesus pictures the Kingdom of God as a wonderful harvest (returning 100:1 as he put it in another parable), his peasant listeners would envisage a future without hunger, without servitude to rapacious landlords and money-lenders. A true liberation (such as Mary sang of in the Magnificat)!

Naturally, they and we want to know when this new way of life, this fulfilling of the Kingdom of God, will come about. Our Lord replies: 'Be patient. Your job is to sow the seed. Something will happen out of all proportion to your part in the process, just like the disproportion of the mustard seed to a mustard bush' (which he exaggerates into a tree sheltering birds).

God's creative power worked in the depths of stony ground of the tomb to raise up the Gospel Seed who is Jesus Christ. From that, a community has grown which, at its best, leads to a fair and just distribution of the world's resources, as Pope Francis insists is a major test of authenticity of our claim to be Christian.

We could take a moment to pray for the courage to sow the seed of the Gospel whenever an opportunity presents itself, and the patience to await the germinating power of the Resurrection to create the Tree of Life such that all peoples 'can shelter in its shade'.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

### Pope Francis proclaims "Year of St Joseph"

With the Apostolic Letter "Patris Corde" ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of Saint Joseph" from, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.



### Prayer to St. Joseph

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and  
courage,  
and defend us from every evil.

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,  
Margaret Dorahy, Heidi Ellich,  
Josie Estera, Philippe Kalife,  
Tim Kelly, Mary Korunic,  
Lillian Leigh, Monique Malouf,  
Maria Itang Tagle,  
Tina de Larrazabal, Rosa Santos,  
Llave Family, Sheila Watts,  
Gloria Cherote,

## MASS INTENTIONS

# 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



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

## St. Monica's Sacraments

[stmonicasacraments@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicasacraments@gmail.com)



### First Holy Communion 2021

1st Lesson : 19th June 4pm or 20th June 8am - ( Parish Hall)  
Commitment Mass : 19th June 5pm or 20th June 9am - (Church)



### Special Collections toward Parish Toilets & Kitchenette renovation:

There will be special collections taken toward the renovation and inclusion of new toilets in the Parish Centre with direct access to the toilets for the use of Parishioners who attend Mass. A new kitchenette will also be included for the use of the Parish office and Parish Centre.

Special envelopes are available at the entrance to the Church and collections will be taken up to August. Please place your donation envelopes in the collections boxes.

**We have received \$550/- in donations during the weekend of 5th & 6th June.**

Your donations toward this much needed renovation is greatly appreciated.

*Thank you.*



**St Monica's Piety Stall** run by the Catholic Women's League of St Monica's carry a selection of Rosaries, family resources, cards and great gifts for religious occasions. Please come and browse.  
Stall is open on Saturday 4.40 - 6.15pm  
Sunday 8.40 - 10.15am

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** are ready for collection at the back of the Church. If you wish to join please contact the Parish office on 02 9630 1951 or visit the Parish office (Tuesday to Friday 8.30am - 2.30pm)

### 19th/20th June ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
<b>Readers</b>	C. Maxwell T. Webje	C. Cheung J. Jacob	R. Wong-Nasara D. Cruz
<b>Acolytes</b>	Patrick Senjak	Ian Godltorpe	John Hilton
<b>Cleaning</b>	Group 2 – Vera		

# Youth Corner

## The 12 Promises of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

This week the Catholic Church celebrated the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June respectively. The first devotion, the heart of Jesus, is all about God's divine, unrelenting and unconditional love for mankind despite how His love is often ignored and rejected. The second devotion focuses on Mary's heart and how we can love as she loves Jesus. The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus always lands on the Friday that follows the Second Sunday after Pentecost, and is represented by this image (shown), a reminder that the Church was born from the pierced heart of Jesus on the cross.

The story of the Sacred Heart of Jesus begins in the 17<sup>th</sup> century when Our Lord appeared to a young girl, known now as Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. During this time, St. Margaret Mary heard Jesus make 12 special promises to those that would respond and keep a loving devotion to His Most Sacred Heart. The twelve promises to those who make an effort to follow and return his love are as follows:

1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.
5. I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
6. Sinners will find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
9. I will bless every place in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honoured.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in My Heart.
12. I promise you in the excessive mercy of My Heart that My all powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Fridays in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance; they shall not die in My dis grace, nor without receiving their sacraments. My divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

These promises, and in particular the final promise, essentially implies that if we have a true devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we will receive special sanctifying graces to help persevere through life in our journey towards eternal salvation. The particular devotions connected to the Sacred Heart of Jesus are going to Confession and receiving the Eucharist on the first Friday of each month for nine consecutive months, as well as observing the Holy Hour and celebrating the Feast of the Sacred Heart. The devotion may not be easy, but as St. Margaret Mary once said, "I do not know of any other exercise in the spiritual life that is more calculated to raise a soul in a short amount of time to the height of perfection and to make it taste the true sweetness to be found in the service of Jesus Christ."

- Abby

## 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 June we are looking at the book of Mark! 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 29<sup>th</sup> June (Tuesday)- 2<sup>nd</sup> July (Friday) at Wedderburn Christian Campsite and is open for anyone in Year 5 and above! We have extended the due date for forms until TODAY, and if you have any questions please ask Cheryl Wong (0481 507 169) or Rebecca Cheung (0449 055 395). Get excited : D

### Bake Sale 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Our FYRE youth group will be holding a bake sale TODAY outside the church to raise funds for the new toilets! Feel free to come by as we have lots of yummy baked treats prepared 😊 Everything will be by donation- thank you all for your support!