

# 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 IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

16TH JANUARY 2022

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,  
and shall sing to you,  
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

## FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Is 62: 1 - 5

About Zion I will not be silent,  
about Jerusalem I will not grow weary,  
until her integrity shines out like the dawn  
and her salvation flames like a torch.  
The nations then will see your integrity,  
all the kings your glory,  
and you will be called by a new name,  
one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.  
You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord,  
a princely diadem in the hand of your God;  
no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken',  
nor your land 'Abandoned',  
but you shall be called 'My Delight'  
and your land 'The Wedded';  
for the Lord takes delight in you  
and your land will have its wedding.  
Like a young man marrying a virgin,  
so will the one who built you wed you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride,  
so will your God rejoice in you.  
This is the word of the Lord

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 95

**Response:** Proclaim his marvellous deeds  
to all the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name. (R.)
2. Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R.)
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power,  
give the Lord the glory of his name. (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 St Paul to the Corinthians

1 Cor 12: 4-11

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there  
are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same

Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

*This is the word of the Lord*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
God has called us with  
the gospel  
to share in the glory of  
our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John

Jn 2: 1 - 11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.' This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Ps 22

You have prepared a table before me,  
and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

# 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 PRIEST/ 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: <a href="mailto:stmonicanp@bigpond.com">stmonicanp@bigpond.com</a>

## St. Monica's School

School Principal: Lisa Crampton

Phone: 8832 4100

Fax: 8832-4199

Email: [stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au)

## COMMENTARY

### Unsung Heroes

Today's gospel ends: 'He let his glory *be seen*.' Where? In a nondescript Galilean village at a wedding feast about to become a disaster for the couple. The wine is running out. A fiasco is impending. A hero was needed to step in and save the situation. Jesus and Mary are good candidates for hero status.

But, it is the servants who are the unsung heroes. They take a huge risk. They are going to look utterly stupid if they give the steward water to ladle out. Nevertheless, they follow the stranger's directions exactly and end up serving the best of wines, saving the couple from terrible embarrassment.

The Divine Glory is not going to enter people's lives with great pyrotechnics. Rather, when we do as Jesus requires, even if it looks ridiculous to the crowd, His healing and enhancing Presence can enter and save a situation of apparent disaster.

We could pause for a moment to pray for a certain naïve trust in the Lord as we follow his directions, so that Cana may enter someone's life, so that His glory may be seen.

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### FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

January 17th, St Anthony  
January 21st, St Agnes

### 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, Sheila Watts, Tina de Larrazabal, Rosa Santos, Llave Family, Gloria Cherote,

### MASS INTENTIONS

Plilemena Bechara & others  
Diago Cardozo

# PARISH ACTIVITES



Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Every Thursday from 8pm–9pm.  
Every Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am.



**St Monica's Parish Rosary Group** Commencing  
Wednesday, 2nd February from 10.00am to 12.00pm in  
the Parish Centre. All are welcome.



**Christian Meditation** Commencing Thursday, 4th February  
from 6:30pm to 7:30pm Enquiries/facilitator : Patricia  
Brown, 0418 406 661 or email: pabrown02@gmail.com.



**Remember the Deceased** There is an open diary and  
pens next to the Sacred Heart of Jesus statue and you  
are welcome to write down the names of your deceased  
loved ones or family members on the day of their  
anniversaries and we will pray for them.



### Collections toward Parish Toilets & Kitchenette renovation:

We have received a total of **\$ 52,038.50** in donations  
to date. To achieve our target of \$70,000 your  
continued support is most appreciated. Donations can be handed  
into Church or the Parish Office. Please use the special envelopes  
provided at the entrance to the Church. **Thank you.**



**St Monica's Parish and Chinese  
Chaplaincy Raffle tickets** will be on  
sale from the 12/12/21 to 12/02/22.  
All monies collected will go toward the  
Renovation at the Parish Centre. For

inquires please contact the Chinese Chaplaincy on 0411 192 278.  
Tickets are priced at \$2/- each. Please refer to the Poster on the  
notice board for prize list.



### Holiday Office Hours:

It is highly recommended to please  
call the office on 02 9630 1951 prior  
to visiting the Parish office during the  
school holiday break.

**Happy Holidays!**

## 22nd/23rd January ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
<b>Readers</b>	C. Meleca K. Handcock	P. Fleming S. Joseph	T. Jones D. Cruz
<b>Extraordinary Ministers</b>	J. Knight K. Handcock	J. Skulander S. Joseph	
<b>Acolytes</b>	Peter Handcock	Ian Goldthorpe	Adrian Cheung
<b>Cleaning</b>	Group 2 - Vera		

# Youth + Corner

## Baptism of the Lord

Last week we celebrated the baptism of the Lord- remember the day of your baptism? It's highly unlikely, but your parents and godparents and an assortment of relatives probably do. Perhaps they remember the event itself, or the party, or something that went wrong. When we were baptized as infants, we were the star of the show, but, unless we were older, we had no clue about what was happening or the commitment the baptism entailed. When it comes to Jesus' baptism by John, the opposite is true: he knew exactly what he was doing and those closest to him were uncomfortable with the memory and played it down. Among the evangelists, John doesn't even mention Jesus' baptism, Mark openly depicts it, and Matthew qualifies the event by having John protest that Jesus should baptize him. Luke, our guide for this liturgical year, alludes to Jesus' baptism, then spotlights the descent of the Spirit and the divine voice that named Jesus as God's beloved son. For the early Christian community, Jesus' baptism was an embarrassing admission that Jesus began his ministry as one of John's disciples.

The early community's embarrassment about Jesus' relationship to John helps us understand Jesus in his own context. Luke tells us that John's preaching left people filled with expectation. John preached radical conversion. He had set up camp along the Jordan River, a site with enough water for his ceremonies and near a well-traveled trade route that assured a steady flow of people could hear his preaching. Most of all, the site was near Jericho, the place where Joshua had first entered the Promised Land. John preached and baptized from a desert spot from where his converts could cross the river and enter renewed into the life God offered them. John's baptismal rite, unlike people's ordinary ritual washings, had to be received — people did not do it for themselves. This established a unique relationship between John and the baptized, symbolizing their acceptance of his call to radical conversion. Baptism was a public proclamation of commitment.

After allowing himself to be baptized, Jesus heard the divine voice say, "You are my beloved Son." Whatever it had taken to get him to that moment, whatever the options he had discarded and doubts he had to overcome, Jesus had received not just a baptism, but an affirmation and a naming. When Luke describes the Spirit and the voice that came to Jesus, the background music is that of the Servant Song of Isaiah 42 in which God says, "Here is my servant, my chosen one upon whom I have put my spirit." That song about God's servant reaffirmed Jesus' choices and set him on a path to serve the neediest of God's people. The day of Jesus' baptism might be compared to the day a couple marries, a priest is ordained, or a woman or man religious pronounces their vows. Each of those is an extension of our baptismal call and grace. As on the day of our baptism, we have precious little idea about all that these commitments will call forth, except that they will call us to live radically, losing ourselves in love and serving others in the manner of Jesus.

*Adapted from Mary M. McGlone*

## Youth Announcements



### St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

We have resumed face to face youth group! Feel free to join us in the community room at 10:30AM!

### Youth Camp January 2022- Mission Impossible POSTPONED

Unfortunately, because of the COVID-19 situation over the past few weeks, we will be postponing youth camp again until the **Term 2 holidays in July (Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022)**. We're really sorry for having to push it back, but we'd prefer to keep everyone safe, especially during this time. Thank you to those who were so eager to come to camp, the leaders truly appreciate your enthusiasm! Let's keep it up until July! In the meantime, we hope to see you at youth group for a new year of topics and games! Please see Cheryl Wong (0481507169) or Rebecca Cheung (0449055395) for any further questions/ queries.