

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"

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

10TH APRIL 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Six days before the Passover,
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
the children ran to meet him;
in their hands they carried palm branches
and with a loud voice cried out:

* Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!
O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?

He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

* Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 50: 4 - 7

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.

Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.

The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.

So, too, I set my face like flint;

I know I shall not be shamed.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 125

Response: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)
2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. (R.)
3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)
4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Phil 2: 6 - 11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality
with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a
slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he
was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above
all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and
in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death

dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high

and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!



GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke

Lk 22: 14 - 23:56

Please refer to the booklet.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mt 26

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it,
your will be done.

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 PRIEST/ 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: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

COMMENTARY

Lowly Prince of Peace

Jesus entered Jerusalem, not as a warrior in the tradition of King David as many had hoped for, but riding simply on a donkey. The disciples and the crowd applauded him, but they proved fickle in their support.

On the other hand, Jesus remained steadfast in his commitment to *non-violent* revolutionary change of the religious and political systems so as to establish the reign of God. Why did he renounce marshalling human and angelic warriors to further his cause?

First, Jesus embodied God-for-us, and God does not want the destruction of those he has created out of love. Second, Jesus had a premonition that an armed revolt would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people (as occurred in 70AD).

Third, Luke's Gospel recounts that as Jesus laboured up Mount Calvary he turned to some wailing women and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children.' He knew that they suffer grievously in armed uprising. This is seen in barbaric reality in our own time with women being tortured and raped in campaigns of terror, trafficked into sexual slavery, suffering the loss of sons, husband and lovers.

We could take a moment to pray that the Church of the 21st century, successor of the pacifist Church of the first three centuries, may enter on a new period of reflection on these issues, grappling with the desire to protect the innocent, yet always challenged by the man on a donkey, Divine Prince of Peace.

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A Palm Sunday Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ,
when you entered
Jerusalem,
great crowds waved
palm branches and
cried "Hosanna."

Save us now
from our sins,
and make us to
rejoice in you,
our only Redeemer;
through your mercy,
O our God,
you are blessed,
and live and govern
all things,
now and forever.

Amen.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

April 14, Thursday of the Lord's Supper
(Maundy Thursday)
April 15, Friday of the Passion of the Lord
(Day of fast and Abstinence)
April 16, Easter Vigil of the Holy Night
April 17, Easter Sunday of the
Resurrection of the Lord
April 18-24 Octave of Easter

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
Esteria, 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

Lucy David
Yin Mei Lui
Cyril & Florence Rodrigues
Marian, Cecylia, Betty & Gina
Lilian
Wally Karam & wife
Tony Risk & wife

PARISH ACTIVITIES



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 every Wednesday,
from 10.00am to 12.00pm in the Parish Centre.
All are welcome.



Christian Meditation every Thursday, from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Participation via Zoom is available. Enquiries/
facilitator : Patricia Brown, 0418 406 661 or email:
pabrown02@gmail.com.



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



St Monica's Piety Stall (open alternate weeks commencing
this Sunday 27th March)
Stall is open on Saturday 4.40 - 6.15pm
Sunday 8.40 - 10.15am



Project Compassion 2022

Please return your Project Compassion boxes by Good
Friday (15th April) to the Parish Office or to Father
Lam or place them in the Box provided at the
entrance to the Church.
All donations above \$2/- is tax deductible.

Holy Week /Easter Liturgy 2022

Date	Event	Language	Time
14th April	Holy Thursday Mass	English + Chinese	7.30pm
	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to 10pm		
15th April	Good Friday (Fasting & Abstinence)		
	Stations of the Cross	English	10am
	Stations of the Cross	Chinese	11.30am
	Passion of the Lord	English	3pm
	Passion of the Lord	Chinese	5.30pm
16th April (Saturday)	<i>Confession</i>	<i>English + Chinese</i>	<i>4pm to 4.30 pm</i>
	Easter Vigil Mass	English	6pm
	Easter Vigil Mass	Chinese	8.30pm
17th April	Easter Sunday Mass	English	9am 6pm
	Easter Sunday Mass	Chinese	11.30am

16th/17th April ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	J. Whippy M. Whippy	J. Jacob B. McGettigan	M. Novak D. Llevado
Extraordinary Ministers	L. Iemma J. Knight	A. Falamich J. Skulander	
Acolytes	John H/Peter H	Rashane Joseph	Adrian Cheung
Cleaning	Group 2 - Vera		
Morning Tea	Julie Skulander/Maris Strong		

23rd/24th April ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	S. Meleca C. Meleca	C. Cheung P. Fleming	V. Cruz D. Cruz
Extraordinary Ministers	M. Samson M. Wilkinson	S. Joseph B. Hooker	
Acolytes	Patrick Senjak	Nishan Joseph	John Hilton
Cleaning	Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy		
Morning Tea	Angela & Michael Falamich		

Youth Corner

Jesus as King

In today's gospel, we read an account from Luke recounting the Last Supper as well as the trial, execution and death of Jesus. When you read the account of Jesus' trial before Pontius Pilate in particular, you may notice that the members of the Sanhedrin tell Pilate that Jesus 'has been leading our people astray by telling them not to pay their taxes to the Roman government and by claiming he is the Messiah, a king.' (Luke 23: 2). They try to portray Jesus as a dangerous subversive figure who has the potential to encourage civil unrest by also accusing Jesus of causing riots through his preaching. (Luke 23:5). When Pilate asks Jesus if he is the king of the Jews, Jesus replies, 'you have said it.' (Luke 23:4). From the perspective of the Roman authorities, someone who claims to be the King of the Jews could potentially be a challenge to the authority of the Roman government, because the title of 'king' implies that a person exercises the supreme political power over a particular nation. If a person describes himself as King of the Jews, or King of Israel, then this implicitly may mean that he is claiming to be the legitimate authority in Israel, the legitimate authority over Jewish people, and not the Roman government or rulers who are under the Romans' influence and control. It seems that the Sanhedrin, in particular, call Jesus a 'messiah' because they know that the conception of the 'messianic' figure has the potential to be particularly subversive, and augments the idea that Jesus claims to be the 'king of the Jews.' In the Old Testament, particularly in Isaiah, the messiah is presented as a ruler who will unite the kingdoms of Judah and Israel, and who will conquer foreign lands and descend from King David. So what the Sanhedrin are potentially trying to do is to present Jesus as a 'deluded' person who panders to the nationalistic ideals of an independent, Jewish nation that is ruled by a king descended from David.

However, Jesus has none of the trappings of a king and shows not intention of being the king of any nation. He makes no attempt to claim that Pontius Pilate or Sanhedrin have no 'earthly authority' over him. He is treated as a prisoner, who is ultimately subject to the judgement of Pontius Pilate, and he is eventually sentenced to what was considered an ignoble death. The fact that Jesus is treated as a common prisoner during his trial is a salient reminder that Jesus has no trappings of kingship because his kingship is not limited to a particular nation or people on earth. His kingship supersedes earthly kingship. His kingship is that of God's. It is eternal and all-powerful. God's kingship refers to his sovereignty over all living creatures, over the universe, his dominion over people's souls, his power to punish and give grace. In fact, the fulfilment of God's plan of salvation for humans can be considered an act of kingship because it is an assertion of God's power to save souls and to defeat original sin. Jesus does not have the trappings of earthly kingship because he willingly rejects it and as a result, people do not recognise him as the 'King of Kings'.

- Rachel

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! Over the next few months, we will be looking at the foundations of our faith/Catholicism, and in April we are looking at prayer, led by Rebecca and Brian! See you there 😊

Youth Camp: Mission Impossible 2022

Youth Camp is back on this year (for real this time!) from Tuesday 5th July to Friday 8th July in Gerringong. Apologies for all the pushbacks these past two years so thank you all for your patience 😊 The theme will still be the same and we will be going over some of the challenges we youth might face in our modern society today, and how we can best tackle them. Please note forms are due by June 5th. Please see Cheryl Wong (0481507169) or Rebecca Cheung (0449055395) for any questions/queries. We hope you are as keen as the leaders are!!

Altar Serving

If you/ your child have received their first Holy Communion and are interested in joining altar serving, please contact Rebecca Cheung (0449055395)! Training for new servers will begin around August. It is a wonderful way to take the next step in deepening your faith and commitment to the Church so it is definitely encouraged 😊