

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"



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

01ST MAY 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Acts 5: 27 - 32. 40 = 41

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 29

Response: I will praise you, Lord,
for you have rescued me.

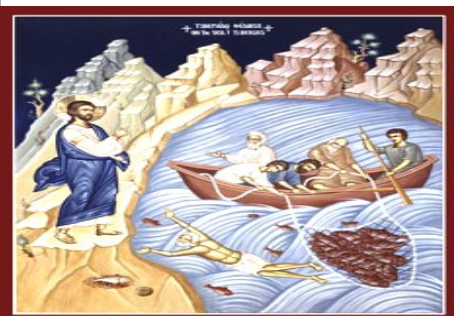
1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. (R.)
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. (R.)
3. The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing;
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
Rev 5: 11 - 14

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation - everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ is risen, the Lord
of all creation; he has
shown pity on all
people.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John
Jn 21: 1 - 19

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.'

Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.'

In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Lk 20

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread, 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 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: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

COMMENTARY

You know I love you

You and I, like Peter, are enabled by grace to repent of our betrayals of Our Lord, some major, most minor, and to claim: "Lord, you know that I love you."

But, this claim has to be evidenced by concrete action. In the case of Peter it was to feed and shepherd "my lambs, my sheep." What will manifest our professed love? In the words of Father Richard Rohr, it is *to love what God loves*.

Of course, we have to love our fellow human beings, but leaving it there would be inadequate. "For God so loved the cosmos as to give the Son." (Jn 3:16,17) So what must we do?

Recall, Our Lord says elsewhere, "You are the Salt of the Earth." You must preserve the Earth so that it does not decay and so that it is a suitable habitation for all the creatures, including us, for whom the Earth is a common home.

He went on: "You are the Light of the Cosmos." You are the enlightened mind and the enflamed heart of the whole cosmos, enabling it to understand its existence and to love God for it.

We could pause for a moment to reflect on the words of Pope Francis: "We, the women and men of the Church, we are in the middle of a love story and each of us is a link in this chain of love. And if we do not understand this, we have understood nothing of what the Church is."

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Totus Tuus (Totally Yours)



(Written and prayed by Pope Saint John Paul II)

Immaculate Conception,
Mary my Mother,
Live in me,
Act in me,
Speak in me and through me,
Think your thoughts in my mind,
Love through my heart,
Give me your dispositions and feelings,
Teach, lead and guide me to Jesus,
Correct, enlighten and expand
my thoughts
and behaviour,
Possess my soul,
Take over my entire personality and life,
replace it with Yourself,
Incline me to constant adoration,
Pray in me and through me,
Let me live in you and keep me
in this union always.

Amen.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

May 2 St Athanasius
May 3 STS PHILIP & JAMES,
APOSTLES

**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

Thomas Rodrigues
Robert Cook

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 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)
Stall is open on Saturday 4.40 - 6.15pm
Sunday 8.40 - 10.15am



St Monica's Art Group Every Saturday, 6pm–8pm,
the Art Group will gather at the Parish Centre .
Mini workshops are available.
Please contact Vera (WhatsApp 0402 936 947) for
details or take a pamphlet at the main entrance of
the church.



St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

Sacrament of Confirmation 2022

Lessons resumes : Saturday 7th May at 4pm

Sacrament of First Holy Communion 2022 Registration for
those who wish to receive First Holy Communion will take place on
the 14th/15th & 23rd May after Mass. Candidates must be
baptized and have received First Reconciliation and in year 4 or
above. A new lesson format is being introduced with Lessons being
conducted by the Sacramental Coordinator. Lesson attendance
and Mass after Lesson is compulsory to be eligible to receive the
sacrament. Please email Shanika Joseph at the above email
address for enquires/questions.

*Please bring a Copy of child's baptism certificate and the
registration fee of \$30/- payable via tap and go.*

Sydney Alliance Parramatta Federal Candidates Forum:

Thursday 5th May 6:30pm for 7pm-8:30pm (sharp) at Parramatta
Mission hall, 119 Macquarie St Parramatta. Cost: free.

This will not be a 'debate' format. Our guidelines are "courteous
accountability" and "engaged citizenry"! Each candidate will have
4 minutes for their general pitch. Following this will be set
questions and stories shared on key areas. Those key areas were
prioritized at an Alliance listening process convened in late April
with 55 local community leaders. Register at

<https://events.humanitix.com/sydney-alliance-parramatta-federal-candidates-forum>

Terrence Jordan - Social Justice coordinator
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Seven Hills
socialjustice@olol7hills.com.au
0409 373 715

7th/8th May ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	M. Whippy J. Whippy	B. Hooker S. Younes	V. Cruz D. Cruz
Extraordinary Ministers	M. Woolridge M. Samson	J. Cruz S. Joseph	
Acolytes	Patrick Senjak	Rashane Joseph	John Hilton
Cleaning	Group 1—Chinese Chaplaincy		
Morning Tea	Abbey Liu & Pyra Family		

Youth + Corner

Prayer- April Youth Group Session

During the month of April, we went through the topic of prayer, which is one of the four pillars of the Catholic Church. Over the 4 weeks we covered the different aspects of prayer: What is prayer, the battle of prayer in our lives, the forms/expressions of prayer and Lectio Divina.

Prayer is simply the act of communicating with God. It is the process of approaching God in a position of humble trust. We open our hearts to Him, speaking to him like we would to our most trusted and beloved friend. So, we can pray to God about anything -whether it be asking Him for guidance or simply praising him. Prayer is a meaningful conversation, and it calls us to be attentive listeners so that we are able to see God speaking to us. It isn't an easy task, because we may find it difficult in hearing God. God can communicate with us in many different ways whether that be through the scripture readings, your own thoughts or something you see in your day that relates to something you prayed about. Everyone faces a constant battle against themselves to pray frequently. These challenges we face can be split into two categories: distraction and dryness. Distractions are the most common challenge as we can often forget to pray when we are so caught up with the things going on in our lives. It could also be our mind wandering off when we are in the act of prayer. These distractions reveal to us that we are attached to other things when our main focus should be on God. Dryness is different from distractions as we are already praying habitually but we may find it mundane or the prayers we say are ingenuine. When prayer begins to feel mundane it is because we are just saying a prayer and not thinking about what we are saying. Because of this we struggle to see and hear God acting in our lives, causing a loss of motivation to pray. In order to overcome this constant battle of prayer we need to persevere and continually pray. We need to ensure our prayers have meaning and to remember that prayer is building your personal relationship with God.

It may seem hard to pray but there are a few things you can do to help you integrate prayer into your daily lives. Lectio Divina is a contemplative prayer that can encourage you to pray more frequently. It is a way of praying the scriptures that leads us deeper into God's word. First, you want to find a passage or verse (this would typically be the Gospel for that day) you want to focus on and start by taking in the message. You would read this passage again and again, reading it slowly every time focusing on the words/phrases that stand out. Ponder it for a moment and really question it. What does it mean to you and how does it apply to your own life? The next step is to pray, allow the Word you have taken in to touch your hearts. The final step is to contemplate. It is the act of practicing silence, enjoying the experience of being in the presence of God.

- Brian

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, starting with the Creed, led by Rachel and Hazel!. 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!!

Good Friday Night Walk

The Good Friday Night Walk is back on this year on April 15, starting at 10PM! Come join us (and many other young Catholics from across the diocese) on this overnight pilgrimage! Please note this is open to anyone 14 and above- if you are interested, please let any of the leaders know 😊