

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"

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

15TH MAY 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Acts 14: 21 - 27.

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 144

Response: I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God,
to make known to men your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendour of your reign. (R.)
3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom;
your rule lasts from age to age. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

Rev 21: 1 - 5

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband.

Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them.'

He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

This is the word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!



GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John
Jn 13: 31 - 35

When Judas had gone Jesus said:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified,
and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him,
God will in turn glorify him in himself,
and will glorify him very soon.

My little children,

I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:

love one another;

just as I have loved you,

you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,
everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
bears fruit in plenty, 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

City Life for True Lovers

'Love one another as I have loved you.'
You may think that Our Lord's extravagant extreme of love in voluntarily undergoing death for us, is something no human being could ever measure up to.

But actually, something like this happens whenever a mother or father sits by the bedside of a child suffering the terrible pain of a chronic illness or traumatic accident and, perhaps, even facing the prospect of death. Such a parent will invariably say 'I would rather suffer and die than see my child suffer and die.' It is the same with a person seeing their much loved life partner in a similar situation.

Each of us, usually to a lesser degree and in less fraught circumstances, has the opportunity to absorb, to some extent, the sufferings of others. We are thus given the possibility of fulfilling the command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

The effect of this sort of loving will be realised at the end of history, not in a garden of Paradise, but as in a wonderful City where all tears will be wiped from our eyes.

We could pause for a moment on our way to that future City, resolving to be alert to opportunities to fulfil our Lord's command: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'

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Gentle Jesus,
compassionate and caring
Good Shepherd,
help me to follow You faithfully.
Strengthen me daily with Your love,
and guide me along life's paths.
Keep me free from every evil,
protect me
from sickness and danger,
and lead me to serve You
with all my mind and
heart and soul.
Hear my needs
and grant me petitions,
especially these intentions
important to me at this time:

{Mention your petitions here}

Bless me each day
with peace of mind and heart.
May I experience
Your saving power in my daily life,
as I await the fullness of life
and joy with You forever.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

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



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 0402936947) 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 6 : Saturday 21st May at 4pm

Sacrament of First Holy Communion 2022

Registrations 14th/15th/22nd May after Mass at the Parish Centre. *Please bring a Copy of child's baptism certificate and the registration fee of \$30/- is payable via cash/tp and go. For queries, please email Shanika at above email.*



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 16TH - 22ND MAY 2022 THEME: BETTER TOGETHER

Celebrating bringing people together, building Communities and creating a better Society for everyone.

St Monica's St Vincent de Paul Society has been involved in the aspect for many years with the help of our School and Parish Committees, a record of which we should be proud.

The impact of COVID, Drought, Bushfires and Floods has shown how resilient people are and the theme of Better Together rings true.

In order to keep the proud record ongoing SVDP is reaching out for NEW members in the Volunteer Week to combat these events that unfortunately will re occur as National Disasters.

On the weekend of 21/22 May an information stall at the back of the Church will be available after Mass to all who wish to find out more about becoming a member of SVDP.

Please stop and say HELLO and see what's on offer.

Peter, Peter, Jacob and Bill

21st/22nd May ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	C. Meleca S. Melaca	B. McGettigan C. Cheung	M. Novak D. Cruz
Extraordinary Ministers	L. Iemma M. Wilkinson	A. Falamich S. Joseph	
Acolytes	Patrick Senjak	Peter Mooney	John Hilton
Cleaning	Group 2 - Vera		
Morning Tea	Angela & Michael Falamich		



The Divine Mercy Chaplet

Many, if not all of you, have probably heard of the phrase "Divine Mercy" or even of the "Divine Mercy Chaplet." For me, the words were familiar, since I had heard them countless times, but if you had asked me to explain what the chaplet was, I'd have been hard pressed to give a good answer, other than maybe; it's a prayer you say using a rosary. However, the Divine Mercy Chaplet is much more than this. It is immensely important and incredibly nourishing from a spiritual standpoint.

To begin with, the chaplet finds its roots in the visions of St Faustina in 1935. To be brief, St Faustina received a vision of an angel, sent by God, to 'chastise a certain city,' but no matter how much she prayed for God to have mercy, her words seemed to have no impact. That is, until she had another vision, this time of the Holy Trinity, which was accompanied by a voice from within which gave her the words of a new prayer, one that began;

"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world; for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us." (Diary, 475)

The more she prayed, the less power the angel had. In the visions that followed, she was instructed on how to fully pray the chaplet, and that in doing so, she was praying not just for herself, but also for the whole world. St Faustina was also told to encourage others to say the chaplet, and that those who recite it accordingly would receive 'great mercy at the hour of death.' (Diary, 687)

Praying the chaplet regularly has a multitude of benefits. As St Faustina was told, it is powerful connection between us and God's mercy, and quite a simple one at that. We aren't asked for much, but in return we get something that we could never hope to repay or buy. Furthermore, the recital of the chaplet promotes our participation in the Catholic Church, by virtue of bringing us closer to Jesus and to those around us. We enforce our relationship with God and simultaneously bring his mercy to those around us. In doing so, we carry out the mission we were given by Jesus.

On a more practical note, the Divine Mercy Chaplet is a great way to get into the habit of praying. It is a simple, yet meaningful prayer, and the use of the rosary helps keep us grounded and separate from distractions. It is also quick, so if you ever feel like you don't have much time to pray, all you need is to set aside a few minutes. The chaplet is easy to understand, but this does not detract from its meaning in any way. It is one of the most powerful prayers, and the rewards we receive from it are beyond amazing, so next time you have a few minutes, have a go at it.

- Rashane

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 (0481 507 169) 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 (0449 055 395)! 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 😊