

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"

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES - YEAR C

31ST JULY 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O God, come to my assistance;
O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help;
O Lord, do not delay.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

Ecc 1:2; 2: 22 - 23

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities.

All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skillfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 89

Response: In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust
and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**
2. You sweep men away like a dream,
like grass which springs up in the morning.
In the morning it springs up and flowers:
by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**
3. Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**
4. In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Col 3: 1 - 5, 9 - 11

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self

which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

This is the word of the Lord



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in
spirit;
the kingdom of heaven
is theirs!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke

Lk 12: 13 - 21

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied, 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do; I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,
endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

St. Monica's Catholic Parish

Cnr Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

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|---|--|
| 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

Stop Talking to Yourself!

Conversation is what makes us human: we are word animals. Anyone who has been in hospital for some time knows that it is the lack of conversation which starts to tell. We need mouth to mouth resuscitation.

Did you notice in today's Gospel that the rich landowner is constantly murmuring to himself. He poses questions which *he* answers. He is so bound up with his possessions that there is no room in his life for real conversation with people or with God.

In muttering to himself, the rich man was becoming dehumanised and in danger that at the moment of death, he could find himself monologuing for all eternity, and that is a Hellish existence. He, and we, need to learn the language of Heaven and we begin that on earth.

There are two partners of conversation we need: With God we call it prayer. The Our Father is the conversation of the children of God with their heavenly Father. With other people, real dialogue might reveal something about them such that we need to respond wholeheartedly.

And then, draw closer to Our Lady who was the greatest conversation partner with God: 'Be it done unto me according to Thy word.' She is constantly trying to draw us into her conversation with God.

We could pause for a moment to ask Our Lady to help us to learn and practise the language of Heaven: 'now, and at the hour of our death.' Amen.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Thanks Giving Prayer.

"Thank you, Father,
for having created us
and given us to each other
in the human family.

Thank you for being with us
in all our joys and sorrows,
for your comfort in our sadness,
your companionship
in our loneliness.

Thank you for yesterday,
today, tomorrow,
and for the whole of our lives.

Thank you for friends,
for health, and for grace.
May we live this
and every day conscious
of all that has been given to us."

—From *The Catholic Prayer Book*,
compiled by Msgr. Michael Buckley

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

August 1, St Alphonsus Ligouri
August 2, St Peter Faber
August 3, St Dominic
August 4, St John Mary Vianney
August 6, THE TRANSFIGURATION
OF THE LORD

**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
Ester, 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 ACTIVITES



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

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 6.30pm to 7.30pm. 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
Contact : Julie Skulander on 0411 988 361

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.

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.

Special Mass in August 2022

4th August (Thursday)
Feast of St John Vianney (Patron Saint for all Priest , Masses for Vocation)
English Mass 9.15am
English & Chinese Mass 7.30pm
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament to 9pm

6th August (Saturday)
Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
English Mass 9:15am

8th August (Monday)
Feast of St Mary MacKillop
English Mass 9:15am

St. Monica's Sacraments
stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

Sacrament of First Reconciliation
Registration for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation will take place on the weekend of 13th & 14th August after Saturday 5pm Mass and Sunday 9am Mass. Children who are baptized and is in year 3 or above is eligible to receive this sacrament. If you wish to register your child please bring in a copy of his/her baptism certificate and complete a registration form. A donation of \$30/- is payable (in cash or Tap & Go) at the time of registration. For any question/queries please email me at the above email.
Shanika Joseph - Sacramental Coordinator

06th/07th August ROSTERS

| | 5pm Vigil | 9am | 6pm |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Readers | M. Whippy J. Whippy | M. Falamich P. Fleming | W. Sassine M. Ellis |
| Extraordinary Ministers | M. Woolridge M. Samson | A. Falamich S. Joseph | |
| Acolytes | Patrick Senjak | Peter Mooney | John Hilton |
| Cleaning | Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy | | |
| Morning Tea | Julie Skulander & Maris Strong | | |
| Counting | Group 1 - Joel Pinto/Jacob Payra | | |

St Joseph of Arimathea

Today marks the feast day of one particular Saint we may have heard of- St Joseph of Arimathea, known for burying Jesus' body after his crucifixion. Saint Joseph followed Jesus, but initially was not open about his beliefs, as he was a prominent Jewish leader. Moreover, he was a well-respected and wealthy civic leader yet he showed courage in asking Pilate for Jesus' body, foregoing his social status and standing for God instead. He then buried the body in a tomb on his property – a tomb that he had likely intended to be his own. Not only did he donate his personal tomb so that Jesus could have a proper burial, but he risked his own social status by publicly declaring himself a follower of Christ. The account of Joseph of Arimathea is recorded in three of the four gospels. Matthew 27:57-60 says: "When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be handed over. Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it [in] clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a huge stone across the entrance to the tomb and departed."

Mark 15:43 describes him as "a distinguished member of the council" and says that he went "courageously" to Pilate. John 18:39 mentions that Nicodemus also came with him, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes. With this bold act, Joseph proclaimed his faith, and, as a result, the greatest miracle in history occurred in his garden. We can take inspiration from his example, and not be afraid to boldly proclaim our faith, no matter what effect it may have on our social standing. For this, St Joseph is considered the patron saint of funeral directors and pallbearers. Despite his great riches, Joseph kept his humility and was an obedient servant of Christ in his lifetime.

- Adapted from *The Basilica Newsletter*

Youth Announcements



St Monica's Youth Group (FYRE)

Youth group continues for another month in the community room, starting at 10:30AM! Feel free to drop by for some games and friendly chats 😊 Next month in August, we will be looking at Relativism, with a focus on our mother Mary, led by Rashane and Ginny!

WYD Mid-Autumn Festival Mooncake Fundraiser

This year the WYD team will be making mooncakes to help raise funds for our trip to Lisbon next year! There will be two flavours available (sweet potato or red bean) sold in a box of 6 for \$20. Tickets will be available towards the end of next month, so watch this space for further updates 😊 Thank you for all your support !