

# 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"*

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES - YEAR C**

**07TH AUGUST 2022**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord,  
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.  
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,  
and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Wisdom**

**Wis 18: 6 - 9**

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

*This is the word of the Lord*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 32**

**Response:** Happy the people  
the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
They are happy, whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

**Heb 11: 1 - 2, 8 - 19**

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

*This is the word of the Lord*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of  
Man is coming.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke**

**Lk 12: 32 - 48**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

'Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Peter said, 'Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?' The Lord replied, 'What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master's arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, "My master is taking his time coming", and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

'The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord,  
who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

# 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: stmonicanp@bigpond.com

### St. Monica's School

School Principal: Lisa Crampton

Phone: 8832 4100

Fax: 8832-4199

Email: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

## COMMENTARY

### The Gospel and the Commonwealth

Jesus lived in a remote part of the Roman Empire where the majority eked out an existence. One of the few ways in which redistribution of wealth could occur was by voluntarily giving to the poor. So Jesus instructs his followers: 'Sell your possessions and give generously to those in need.'

We live in a very different society: 'The Commonwealth of Australia.' 'Common-wealth' indicates that the wealth of this nation, its people and resources, are meant to be directed to the common good.

So, we must respond to Our Lord's command in ways very different to what was possible in his day.

We have a compulsory taxation system which forces us to give up some of our possessions, some of our wealth to the common-wealth. Taxation and social justice policies help fulfil Our Lord's command to create a society more humane than anything remotely possible under the Roman Empire. And that would please Our Lord. Why?

In part because those in need are helped. But, perhaps in greater part, because it makes us larger hearted people. We have to arrive at the moment of death with a heart so capacious that it can include the billions of people we hope inhabit heavenly existence.

We might pause for a moment to pray for our hearts to be expanded by our contribution to the common-wealth of all peoples throughout the world.

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### God's Love....

As I was walking down life's highway many years ago, I came upon a sign that read 'Heavens Grocery Store'.

When I got a Little closer the doors swung open wide and when I came to myself I was standing Inside. I saw a host of Angels. They were standing everywhere one handed me a basket and said, 'My child shop with care.'

Everything a Human needed was in that grocery store and what you could not carry, you could come back for more.

First, I got some Patience. Love was in that same row. Further down was Understanding, you need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of Wisdom and Faith a bag or two. And Charity of course I would need some of that too. I couldn't miss The Holy Ghost it was all over the place. And then some Strength and Courage to help me run this race.

My basket was getting full, but I remembered I needed Grace, and then I chose Salvation for Salvation was for free. I tried to get enough of that to do for you and me.

Then I started to the counter to pay my grocery bill, for I thought I had everything to do the Masters Will.

As I went up the aisle, I saw Prayer and put that in, for I knew when I stepped outside I would run into Sin. Peace and Joy were plentiful, the last things on the shelf. Song and Praise were hanging near so, I just helped myself.

Then I said to the angel 'Now how much do I owe?' He smiled and spoke 'Just take them everywhere you go.'

Again, I asked 'now, how much do I owe?' 'My child' he Said, 'God paid your bill, a long, long time Ago.'

### FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

August 8, ST MARY OF THE CROSS  
August 10, St Lawrence  
August 11, St Clare

**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

Cyril, Florence & Thomas Rodrigues

## PARISH ACTIVITIES



**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

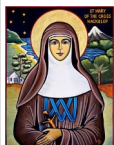


**Remember the Deceased** There is an open diary and pens next to the Sacred Heart of Jesus statue and you are welcome to write down the names of your deceased loved ones or family members on the day of their anniversaries and we will pray for them.



**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



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



**Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary (Day of Obligation)**  
14th August (Sunday) English Vigil Mass 6pm  
15th August (Monday) English Mass 9.15am & 7pm  
15th August (Monday) Chinese Mass 8pm



### St. Monica's Sacraments

[stmonicasacraments@gmail.com](mailto: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

### 13th/14th August ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
<b>Readers</b>	C. Maxwell A. Bentley	B. Hooker S. Joseph	V. Cruz D. Llevado
<b>Extraordinary Ministers</b>	A. Bentley J. Knight	J. Cruz A. Falamich	
<b>Acolytes</b>	Patrick Senjak	Peter Mooney	John Hilton
<b>Cleaning</b>	Group 2 - Vera		
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Angela & Michael Falamich		
<b>Counting</b>	Group 2 - Bernadette Fraser/Brigid Mcgettigan		



### 'I ask forgiveness'

You may recall a year ago news headlines regarding the finding of 215 unmarked children graves on the grounds of a former British Columbia residential school on Canada. These graves join hundreds more that have been unearthed in recent years on the grounds of former Indigenous residential boarding schools in Canada, many of whom were operated by the Catholic Church and other Christian churches. At these residential schools there were reports of what has been described as systematic abuse and neglect which led to many student deaths in the mid 1800s to late 1900s as the schools forced cultural assimilation onto indigenous children.

On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July this year, Pope Francis gave a formal apology for the abuses of residential schools, humbly begging forgiveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the Indigenous peoples. The Pope visited Canada between 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022, stopping by in Edmonton, Quebec City and Iqaluit to fulfil his promise made to indigenous delegations that visited him at the Vatican earlier this year.

"[I am] sorry for the ways in which, regrettably, many Christians supported the colonising mentality of the powers that oppressed the indigenous peoples. I am sorry," he said during the meeting with First Nations, Metis and Inuit people.

In seeking reconciliation for the evils done against thousands of Indigenous children, let us stop to say a prayer for children everywhere, that Christ may keep our youth safe from harm and that these mistakes may never be repeated again.

*Our Father in Heaven, we place all the children everywhere in the world of all ages today into Your gentle but powerful hands. Please save them, have mercy on them and keep them safe from harm. May they be conscious of Your presence Lord Jesus as You take away all their confusion, hopelessness, anxiety and depression. Release Your supernatural faith, love, hope and peace in them. Heal all their broken hearts as You replace it with Your joy and strength to withstand all the temptations that come before them. Teach them how to yearn for righteousness and to detest lies and immorality. Preserve their innocence and keep their hearts pure! Save these children from every snare set up by Satan and the world that surrounds them. We claim victory for each child in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Amen.

*Please share this prayer so we can keep it alight for the hearts, minds and souls of our precious children!*  
Prayer Works because God Answers

- Abby

### 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 !