

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"

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES - YEAR C

21ST AUGUST 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 66: 18 - 21

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 116

Response: Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations,
acclaim him all you peoples! (R.)
2. Strong is his love for us;
he is faithful for ever. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Heb 12: 5 - 7, 11 - 13

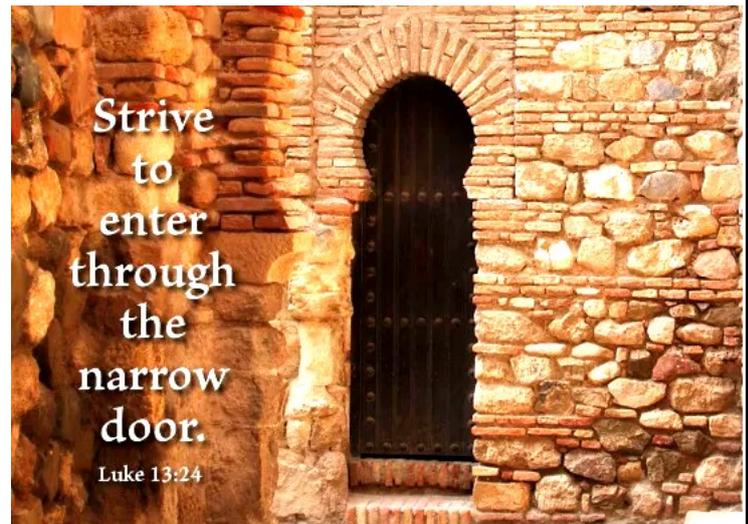
Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

This is the word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.
Alleluia!



GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Luke

Lk 13: 22 - 30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

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

Can the Dalai Lama be saved?

'[People] from east and west, north and south . . . will feast in the Kingdom of God.' Amongst those people, will there be Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus, atheists?

The surprising answer of Catholic Christianity is: 'Yes, but always through the working of the Holy Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who can prompt the heart of *any* person *anywhere* at *any* time with divine grace so that that person strives to lead a life of compassion and justice and not harming innocent creatures.' Obviously, this work of the Holy Spirit could encompass millions if not billions of people who have never heard the Gospel.

If the slogan: 'No salvation outside the Church' is taken to mean no-one can be saved unless he/she is a baptised member of the Catholic Church then it is a heresy explicitly condemned by Popes.

Nevertheless, we must pray and work for the conversion of all people so that they might have the advantage of all the aids of Word and Sacrament which we draw on as direction and strength on our journey towards the destiny which God desires for each one of us.

We could pause for a moment to acknowledge the boundless mercy of God, but also praying that all peoples might share our privilege of participating in that Holy Communion which is the foretaste of the banquet prophesied by Jesus in today's Gospel.

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PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL STRENGTH

In the mighty name of Jesus. Lord, I come into your presence today with a clean heart and a pure heart.

I ask that you strengthen me in body, mind, spirit, and emotions, so that I may have the strength and courage to resist the devil's temptation, and overcome obstacles and persecution.

Fill me with the strength to run the race set before me.

Emotional strength to work through any problem or issue that stands in my way of doing Your will today for my life.

Mental strength to focus my thoughts on You, and clear the clutter of the world out of my mind.

Spiritual strength to resist all forces of darkness, which would seek to destroy me, my family, or anyone who is dear to me.

Thank you, Lord, for answering my prayer and for granting me peace, joy in Jesus' name, Amen.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

August 22, THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

August 24, ST BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

August 27, St Monica

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

Marie Bernadette Attard
Joseph Kochubara

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



Feast of St Monica
27th August (Saturday) English Mass 9.15am

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com



First Holy Communion
24 Children in our Parish will receive their first Holy Communion at a special Mass on the 28th of August. Please keep them in your prayers.



Sacrament of First Reconciliation
Parent Meeting 30th August 7.00pm via Zoom
1st Lesson 3rd September 4.00pm (Parish Center)
5.00pm (Mass)



Bishop's Father's Day Appeal for Retired and Sick Priests of our Diocese will be collected on the weekend of Saturday 3/Sunday 4 September.

27th/28st August ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	A. Bentley G. Basha	S. Younes J. Jacob	M. Novak V. Cruz
Extraordinary Ministers	A. Bentley M. Wilkinson	A. Falamich J. Skulander	
Acolytes	Patrick Senjak	Rashane Joseph	John Hilton
Cleaning	Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy		
Morning Tea	Abby Liu & Pyra Family		
Counting	Group 4 - Peter Mooney		

Youth Corner

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names—Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption—from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity, and is a day of obligation.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory.

Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection as the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary's share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven.

Reflection- in the light of the Assumption of Mary, it is easy to pray her Magnificat (Luke 1:46–55) with new meaning. In her glory she proclaims the greatness of the Lord and finds joy in God her savior. God has done marvels to her and she leads others to recognize God's holiness. She is the lowly handmaid who deeply revered her God and has been raised to the heights. From her position of strength she will help the lowly and the poor find justice on earth, and she will challenge the rich and powerful to distrust wealth and power as a source of happiness.

Franciscan Media

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 on sale next Sunday (28th August) Thank you for all your support !