

# 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-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES - YEAR C**

**25TH SEPTEMBER 2022**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All that you have done to us, O Lord,  
you have done with true judgement,  
for we have sinned against you  
and not obeyed your commandments.  
But give glory to your name  
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the Prophet Amos**

**Am 6: 1. 4 - 7**

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those  
who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria.  
Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they  
dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal;  
they bawl to the sound of the harp, they drink wine by the  
bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves,  
but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all.  
That is why they will be the first to be exiled;  
the sprawlers' revelry is over.

*This is the word of the Lord*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 145**

**Response:** Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down.  
It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)
3. He upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy**

**1 Tim 6: 11 - 16**

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and  
religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle.  
Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the  
eternal life to which you were called when you made your  
profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many  
witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and  
before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the  
truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of  
doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures,  
until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the  
due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only  
Ruler of all,  
the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is  
immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no  
man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour  
and everlasting power. Amen.

*This is the word of the Lord*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor,  
to make you rich out of his poverty.  
Alleluia!



## GOSPEL

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

**Lk 16: 19 - 31**

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'There was a rich man who  
used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast  
magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor  
man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill  
himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table.  
Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man  
died and was carried away by angels to the bosom of  
Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a  
long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out,  
"Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip  
of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony  
in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember  
that during your life good things came your way, just as  
bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being  
comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all:  
between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop  
anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours,  
and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send  
Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to  
give them warning, so that they do not come to this place  
of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said  
Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father  
Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to  
them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said  
to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the  
prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone  
should rise from the dead."

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,  
by which you have given me hope.  
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

# 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

### Insects, Heaven and Hell

The rich man ('Dives') is so totally self-absorbed in the self-indulgence of his wealth that he does not even notice poor Lazarus at his gate. He created such a huge chasm between himself and the poor that not one crumb of food or companionship could cross over to Lazarus.

This chasm, created by Dives, was fixed at the moment of his death so that not one part of the life of Paradise could cross over to him – not even a drop of water. Hell is not a punishment sent by God. It is simply the continuation of the Divide which some have chosen as that which defines who they are. Hell is of our own making.

We could pause for a moment to check that we are making such choices that we become amongst those 'carried gently by the angels into Paradise'.

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### Renewed Strength Prayer

*Mighty God,  
thank you that you are  
my strength and my song,  
you fill my heart with joy.  
You have promised  
that those who hope in you  
will have their strength renewed.  
They will soar on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.  
Strengthen me according to your word.  
Remind me that my strength  
is found in you  
and your mighty power.  
Blessing and glory,  
wisdom and thanksgiving, honor,  
and power and strength,  
be unto you my God  
for ever and ever.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen.*

Author: Natalie Regoli

### FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

September 27, St Vincent de Paul  
September 29, STS MICHAEL, GABRIEL  
& RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS  
September 30, St Jerome  
October 1, St Therese of the Child Jesus

### 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  
Esteria, 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

Lynus Rodrigues  
Hanna Younan & His 2  
Grandsons

# 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.



## St. Monica's Sacraments

[stmonicasacraments@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicasacraments@gmail.com)

### Sacrament of First Reconciliation

Reconciliation

Lesson 4 - Saturday, 22nd October at 4.00pm (after School break)  
For any question/queries please email me at the above email.  
*Shanika Joseph - Sacramental Coordinator*



Tap & Go is now available for donation for ongoing Church building maintenance fund. Machine is placed near the Statute of Saint Joseph. Envelopes are also available on the tables at the entrance to the Church if you wish to donate via cash/credit card. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

## Home Rosary

You can invite our Parish Priest to your home and pray the Rosary with your family in the afternoons or nights of the weekday of October. You can call (or leave a voice message) at the Parish Office (02 9630 1951), or send an email to [mother.of.god.st.monica@gmail.com](mailto:mother.of.god.st.monica@gmail.com). Please leave your name, contact number, address and your preferred date.



**Rosters:** for Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers & Morning Tea available at the entrance to the Church. Please take a copy.

## 01st/02nd October ROSTERS

	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
<b>Readers</b>	C. Maxwell G. Basha	J. Pinto M. Joseph	V. Cruz M. Novak
<b>Extraordinary Ministers</b>	M. Woolridge M. Samson	J. Skulander S. Joseph	
<b>Acolytes</b>	John Hilton	Ian Goldthorpe	Adrian Cheung

**Cleaning** Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy

**Morning Tea** Julie Skulander & Maris Strong

**Counting** Group 4 - Peter Mooney

# Youth Corner

## Communicating with non-Catholic friends

Many of us, I'm sure, have friends who are not Catholic – friends who we've met through school, university, work, or so on. While friendship is a great thing that can stretch past religion, race and so on, there will undoubtedly be times when differences in faith manifest themselves, and in such times, you may find yourself at odds with something your friend believes in. At times like this, what can we do?

Do we leave it alone, hoping the misunderstanding passes? Do we try and force out own beliefs upon them? Do we cut ties with them?

While all of the above are potential solutions, I doubt anyone would be completely happy with any of them - and why is that? Because none of those solutions actually consider both sides.

If you break it down, there are two things that come to mind. First, is our duty to evangelise and to spread our faith so that others may be brought to the light. And second, on the other side, is the dignity that is inherent to all human beings.

As Christians and followers of Christ, it is our duty to follow in his example. A huge part of this, and something that is apparent through the actions of his earliest followers, is our obligation to spread the word to those who have not yet found solace in Jesus, or those who do not believe. We acknowledge that a strong faith in Jesus and a willingness to follow his example are essential for salvation, and with this in mind, we are called to give others the opportunity to share in this salvation. So then, if we were to try and force our ideals upon another, wouldn't that be considered carrying out our vocation?

Well, not exactly. While it is important that we evangelise, every human being possesses dignity. This means that they all deserve to be treated with fairness, respect, and with an understanding that they are free to choose their own path. As part of this, to try and force one's ideals on another would be to disregard this dignity – something that history has shown does not end well.

So, what can we do? Make it a conversation. Listen to each other, discuss, tell them about your beliefs and your perspectives, and let them make the choice for themselves. Friendship is about respect, and eventually, as long as they have someone beside them, chances are they will find their own flame of faith.

- Rashane

## 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 😊 In September we will be looking at Vocation, led by Cheryl and Gabriel!

### HSC Exams

Best of luck to all the Year 12s from St Monica's (Terence, Nicholas, Monica and Olivia) sitting their HSC next month 😊 May God give you strength and perseverance to get through your final exams ! Keeping you all in our prayers.