

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"

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY – YEAR B

26TH MAY 2024

ENTERANCE ANTIPHON

Blest be God the Father, and the Only Begotten Son of God, and also the Holy Spirit, for he has shown us his merciful love.

FIRST READING Deu 4:32-34. 39-40

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32

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

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
2. With his word the heavens were made, by the breath of his mouth all the stars. He spoke; and they came to be. He commanded; they sprang into being. **(R.)**
3. 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.)**
4. 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 Rom 8:14-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children

we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matt 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Since you are children of God, God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son, the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.



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
ASSISTANT PARISH PRIEST	Fr Pio Jang	Phone: 9630 -1951	Email: stmonicanp@bigpond.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: Fiona Bylsma Phone: 8832 4100 Fax: 8832-4199 Email: stmonicasparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

COMMENTARY

The Full Picture

We humans are created into the image of God. If our idea of God is wrong then we can imagine ourselves in a way which is dangerously de-humanising.

If we think of God as solitary Being then we might imagine that the best way of being human is to be solitary, self-sufficient, totally independent of others. However, Jesus Christ revealed a different way for the eyes of faith to see God.

He had a sense of the most intimate communion with 'Abba', Father, and he had such a close relationship with the Holy Spirit that his very breathing on his disciples imparted this Breath of God upon them. The early Church was forced to conclude that Being and Relationship were both fundamentally primordial and true of the Tri-une God, or the Trinity for short.

Now, if we are created into this image of God, then our very existence needs to be relational for us to be fully human in this life and the next. To be totally self-absorbed is to consign oneself to a Hellish existence. To be open to communion with God, other human beings and the whole of creation is to enjoy a Heavenly existence.

We can take a moment to pray to thank God for this revelation not granted to, or at least not believed by, other great world religions. We thank Jesus Christ for satisfying our yearning to know the truth about our Creator, and helping us to understand what it is to be fully human. May we recall this every time we dip our fingers in the holy water font on entering a church, remembering our baptism: 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'

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Te Deum

O God, we praise you; O Lord, we acclaim you. Eternal Father, all the earth reveres you.

All the angels, the heavens and the Powers of heaven, Cherubim and Seraphim cry out to you in endless praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are filled with the majesty of your glory.

The glorious choir of Apostles sings to you, the noble company of prophets praises you, the white-robed army of martyrs glorifies you, Holy Church throughout the earth proclaims you, Father of boundless majesty, with your true and only Son, worthy of adoration, and the Holy Spirit, Paraclete.

You, O Christ, are the King of glory, you are the Father's everlasting Son; when you resolved to save the human race, you did not spurn the Virgin's womb; you overcame the sting of death and opened wide the Kingdom of Heaven to those who put their faith in you.

You are seated at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe you are the Judge who is to come. And so we beg you, help your servants, redeemed by your most precious blood. Number them among your saints in eternal glory.

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance. Shepherd them and raise them to eternal life. Day by day, we bless you and praise your name for endless ages evermore.

Be gracious, Lord, on this day, and keep us from all sin. Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy. May your mercy be upon us, Lord, as we place our trust in you. In you, O Lord, I rest my hope: let me never be put to shame.

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

May 31, The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

June 1, St Justin, martyr

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,
Gesualda Borg, Monica Teresa
& Fernanda Carigliano,
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

Please refer to the notice board at the entrance.

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.
Enquiries : Lynn McBride : 0423 696 961



Christian Meditation Every Thursday, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. Participation via zoom is available. Enquiries: Nathan Cook, email:cookn4@gmail.com



Catholic Women's League St Monica's Branch
Last Monday 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



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.



Bible Brekkie Every FIRST and LAST Sunday of the month, 10.15am - 11am, at the Parish Office. Fr. Ephraim will talk about interesting topics from the Bible. All are welcome.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY
Every Sunday at 9am Mass (during School Terms)
Young children haven't receive Holy Communion are welcome to join.

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com



SACRAMENT of 1st HOLY COMMUNION

Timetable and Enrolment Form are available at the main entrance of the church. Catholic Children who are studying Year 4 or above, have learned the Sacrament of Reconciliation are eligible.

Registration can be done after the

- **5pm Mass on 25th May 2024 (Sat), or**
- **9am Mass on 26th May 2024 (Sun)**

Commitment Mass for parents and children

- 5pm Mass on 1st June 2024 (Sat), or
- 9am Mass on 2nd June 2024 (Sun)

Parents' Zoom Meeting:

7:30pm on 3rd June 2024 (Mon)

Lessons: 3:30pm—5pm on

15th, 22nd, 29th June &
3rd August 2024 (Sat).

Then all join the 5pm Mass.

1st Communion Mass:

3pm on 18th August 2024 (Sun)

Youth Corner

SOAP Reflection 26th May

Scripture: In today's gospel, Jesus commissions His disciples to preach to all the nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey God's commandments and teachings.

Observations: Jesus outlines the two key important elements of preaching His message to the nations: faith in trinitarian God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and adherence to God's commandments. Obeying God's commandments not only involve adhering to the moral principles that underpin the Ten Commandments, but also to live by the two greatest commandments of loving God with all your heart, soul and mind and loving your neighbour. Jesus reminds His disciples that faith should motivate a person to strive to act in a morally upright manner and have the right intentions. Having faith in God is not just about what you assert you believe, but truth faith means God's will and moral imperatives influences your words, actions and thoughts. However, it is also important to remember that even if a person believes in God and is commissioned by God to share their faith, their faith may not be perfect. In the gospel, some disciples were described as being doubtful in their faith. This is likely a reference to doubts about whether Jesus really was resurrected. This did not deter Jesus from commissioning them, which shows Jesus still saw value and potential in His doubting disciples. It is evident that at the time Jesus appeared to His disciples after resurrection, some Jewish leaders wanted to contest the authenticity of Jesus' resurrection, and this social environment affected the disciples. In the same chapter (chapter 28), soldiers were bribed to spread a false story that Jesus' body was stolen away by His disciples in order to prevent people from believing that Jesus had risen from the dead (28:11-15).

Application: Some of us may be at different points in our faith. Some of us may believe in God and His mission easily, while some of us may doubt God. We may wonder whether He really exists or intervenes in the world and in the lives of people. We may be more apathetic about our faith because we are distracted by other things that are happening in our lives. It's important that we take the time to consider what doubts we may have about God and our faith, why we may have those doubts and take the time to learn more about our faith so that we are motivated to find out the answers to some questions we may have. We need to consider what role we can play in God's mission to teach, spread the faith and encourage people to follow God's commandments using our talents, interests and abilities. But we must have a strong foundation in our faith and understand why we believe if we are to evangelize effectively.

Prayer: Dear God, please guide those who may be struggling and have doubts about their faith to strengthen their faith and share it with others. Help those who are apathetic to find inspiration from your example, from your love and mercy. Guide people on their journey to discover, utilise and build on their skills and talents so they can strengthen the faith of others, and support others and themselves to always abide by your moral precepts. Amen.

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! Over the next few months, we will be talking about the theology of the body. ☺

Youth Camp 9-11th July

Registration for youth camp 2024 is out! This year's theme will be Mulan! We will look at what it means to serve the community, church and God. If you would like to find out more, you can speak to any of the leaders. You will find the registration forms with Gabriel and Cheryl.

01st/02nd June ROSTERS

	6pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	E. Caruana G. Basha	S. Jacob J. Pinto	T. Jones M. Novak
Extraordinary Ministers	L. Iemma M. Wilkinson	J. Payra S. Joseph	
Acolytes	P. Senjak	I. Goldthorpe	J. Hilton
Cleaning	Group 2 - Vera (31st May)		
Children's Liturgy	Maria/Tresa		
Morning Tea	Raj & Innu Kakumanu & Beth		
Counting	Group 4 - Peter Mooney		