

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"

TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

09TH JUNE 2024

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; whom should I dread?
When those who do evil draw near, they stumble and fall.

FIRST READING Genesis 3:9-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God called to the man after he had eaten of the tree. 'Where are you?' he asked. 'I heard the sound of you in the garden;' he replied 'I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.' 'Who told you that you were naked?' he asked. 'Have you been eating of the tree I forbade you to eat?' The man replied, 'It was the woman you put with me; she gave me the fruit, and I ate it.' Then the Lord God asked the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman replied, 'The serpent tempted me and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this,

'Be accursed beyond all cattle, all wild beasts.

You shall crawl on your belly and eat dust every day of your life.

I will make you enemies of each other:

you and the woman, your offspring and her offspring.

It will crush your head and you will strike its heel.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 129

Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. **(R.)**
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. **(R.)**
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak. **(R.)**
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy,
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. **(R.)**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

A reading from the 2nd letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

As we have the same spirit of faith that is mentioned in scripture – I believed, therefore I spoke – we too believe and therefore we too speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.

That is why there is no weakening on our part, and instead, though this outer man of ours may be falling into decay, the inner man is renewed day by day. Yes, the troubles which are soon over, though they weigh little, train us for the carrying of a weight of eternal glory which is out of all proportion to them. And so we have no eyes

for things that are visible, but only for things that are invisible; for visible things last only for a time, and the invisible things are eternal.

For we know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens.

The word of the Lord

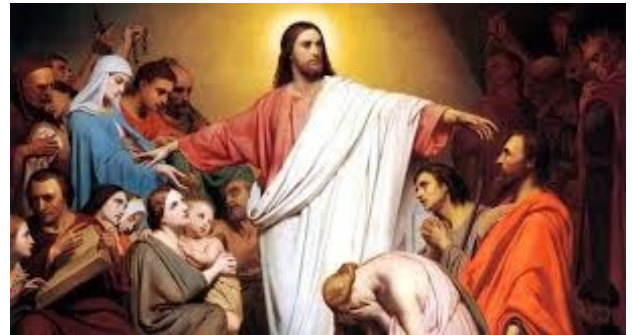
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The prince of this world will now be cast out,

and when I am lifted up from the earth

I will draw all to myself, says the Lord. Alleluia!



GOSPEL Mark 3:20-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus went home with his disciples, and such a crowd collected that they could not even have a meal. When his relatives heard of this, they set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind.

The scribes who had come down from Jerusalem were saying, 'Beelzebul is in him,' and, 'It is through the prince of devils that he casts devils out.' So he called them to him and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot last. And if a household is divided against itself, that household can never stand. Now if Satan has rebelled against himself and is divided, he cannot stand either – it is the end of him. But no one can make his way into a strong man's house and burgle his property unless he has tied up the strong man first. Only then can he burgle his house.

'I tell you solemnly, all men's sins will be forgiven, and all their blasphemies; but let anyone blaspheme against the Holy Spirit and he will never have forgiveness: he is guilty of an eternal sin.' This was because they were saying, 'An unclean spirit is in him.'

His mother and brothers now arrived and, standing outside, sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting round him at the time the message was passed to him, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you.' He replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking round at those sitting in a circle about him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.'

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer;
my God is my saving strength.

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: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

COMMENTARY

Avoiding the real Jesus

The first way to reject the real Jesus is to domesticate him, and that is what members of his blood family were trying to do. They thought he was 'out of his mind', madly putting himself [and them] in harm's way and he had to be restrained.

Have you or I tried to domesticate Jesus Christ, to reduce him to a non-threatening Jesus-meek-and-mild? If so, we are closer to the family of Nazareth standing just outside his circle, ready to run for cover, than to the new family seated around him, really listening to him and therefore vulnerable.

The second way is to misconstrue all the evidence of Jesus' mission on earth and to claim that he must be in league with the devil, 'He has an unclean spirit'.

If you do this publicly, as did these religious leaders, then you have deliberately put God's plan for the salvation of others at risk, and it is this which is unforgivable. This is real blasphemy.

We might pause for a moment, implore the grace of God, determine to really hear the Gospels, discern the will of God for our lives, and so come back within the ultimate family allegiance of those who dare to call God 'our Father'

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

SACRAMENT of 1st HOLY COMMUNION

Lessons: 3:30pm—5pm on
15th, 22nd, 29th June &
3rd August 2024 (Sat).
Then all join the 5pm Mass.

Rehearsal:

2pm on 10th August 2024 (Sat)

1st Communion Mass:

3pm on 18th August 2024 (Sun)

Half Day Retreat for Adults

(hosted by Fr Ephraim Lam)

Topic:

**On the REAL PRESENCE of
Jesus Christ in the Eucharist**

Date & Time:

6th July 2024, Saturday, 9am-12pm

Place:

**Holy Innocent Chapel
8 Greyfriar Pl, Kellyville, NSW 2155**

Registration please call the parish office
9630 1951 or using
the QR code.

*Inspirational talks,
silent prayer time,
Mass.*



FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

June 11, St Barnabas, apostle

June 13, St Anthony of Padua, priest
and doctor of the Church

**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: Patricia Brown, email:pabrown02@bigpond.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. New workshops are available each week. 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.

BISHOP APPEAL

(Parramatta Catholic Foundation)

Helping Catholic Care in supporting struggling mothers.

Please use the special envelopes for donations or scan this QR code to donate online.
THANKS!

**GIVE
your gift**



Special Masses in June 2024 9:15am ENGLISH MASSES

24th June (MONDAY)

The Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist

29th June (SATURDAY)

The Feast of St. Peter & St. Paul

15th/16th June ROSTERS

	6pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	G. Basha A. Bentley	B. Hooker C. Cheung	D. Cruz O. Holsinger
Extraordinary Ministers	M. Wilkinson K. Handcock	J. DeAraujo S. DeAraujo	
Acolytes	P. Senjak	P. Mooney	J. Hilton

Cleaning	Group 2 - Vera (14th June)
Children's Liturgy	Tresa/Chidinma
Morning Tea	Jacob Payra Family & Cheung
Counting	Group 1 - Joel Pinto & Jacob Payra



SOAP Reflection 9th June

Scripture: Mark 3:20-35

Observation: This passage once again shows just how much opposition Jesus faced in his ministry. Of course, the scribes and teachers have been prominent antagonists throughout the Gospel and continue to do so till the end. However, what is especially striking is that even his family seems to be against him. They do not believe in his ministry, and instead think he has lost his mind. Because of this, they seek to control him out of a fear that he will make them look bad, similar to what the scribes do out of their fear of the romans. While family is an important part of life – the relationship between Jesus and Mary is a powerful example of this – there may also be times when those closest to us do not provide the support we need. When faced with this same issue, Jesus points out that his mothers and brothers were who were willing to listen and who stood by him were his family.

Two interesting things to note in this passage are that, firstly, a lot of the opposition against Jesus was because he was upsetting the social order, and secondly, the people were so detached from God that they couldn't even recognise His Son. At times it takes courage to go against the grain for what we believe, and it is not easy, but as Jesus highlights the Father is always with us. Fitting in may be easy, but it is not always what is best for us.

Application: Something that I am sure weighs on many Christians is a fear that expressions of their faith will isolate them - that modern society will criticise our traditions and values because they may not conform to the public opinion. However, like Jesus points out, we have another family around us in the form of the Church. Having a community that can empathise with your worries and provide solace is a powerful thing. It helps us be proud of our faith because we know there are others around who will always support us. While fitting and conforming to the things we see online, through social media and in our daily lives may be easy, sometimes finding the right community means distancing ourselves from the things that may lead us astray, and while it is a hard thing to do, being able to be comfortable in your faith is a great reward in itself.

Prayer: I pray that all those around the world who feel isolated may find solace in you God. Please guide them towards those who will understand them and will help bring them closer to you. In our daily lives we may be challenged but I pray that you give us the strength to avoid these temptations and focus on what is truly important. 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.

