

# 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"*

**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

**23RD JUNE 2024**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

## FIRST READING Job 38:1. 8-11

### A reading from the book of Job

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said:

Who pent up the sea behind closed doors when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb, when I wrapped it in a robe of mist and made black clouds its swaddling bands; when I marked the bounds it was not to cross and made it fast with a bolted gate?

Come thus far, I said, and no farther: here your proud waves shall break.

*The word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 106

**Response: Give thanks to the Lord,  
his love is everlasting .**

1. Some sailed to the sea in ships to trade on the mighty waters. These men have seen the Lord's deeds, the wonders he does in the deep. **(R.)**
2. For he spoke; he summoned the gale, tossing the waves of the sea up to heaven and back into the deep; their soul melted away in their distress. **(R.)**
3. Then they cried to the Lord in their need and he rescued them from their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper: all the waves of the sea were hushed. **(R.)**
4. They rejoiced because of the calm and he led them to the haven they desired. Let them thank the Lord for his love, the wonders he does for men. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

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

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them.

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.

*The word of the Lord*



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL Mark 4:35-41

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

# 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>ASSISTANT PARISH PRIEST</b>	Fr Pio Jang	Phone: 9630 -1951	Email: stmonicanp@bigpond.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: Fiona Bylsma

Phone: 8832 4100

Fax: 8832-4199

Email: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

## COMMENTARY

### The Voice which Accompanies to the Other Side

Every element of the universe, even the most destructive, is listening for the voice of Our Lord, "Quiet, be still." In this Gospel story, the waters of chaos respond to the voice of the Lord of all creation, allowing Jesus to accompany his disciples to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

We all know of times when chaos storms into our life, when we feel we are being swamped whether from outside or from some part of our own personality. Some part of our life is facing death. We may cry out to Jesus "Don't you care?".

He *will* come to accompany us but always to "the other side". Our Lord does not indulge the fantasy of "turning back the clock". We have to keep rowing in a new direction. There is no nostalgic return to the old situation. We may well feel displaced, disoriented, but Our Lord is our companion in the unfamiliar situation we have reached.

We could take a moment to pray for Our Lord to help us in all life-threatening situations, especially in the final transit through the wrenching chaos of death. May we hear him rebuke the Prince of Darkness and Death: "Quiet, be still" as he accompanies us to the other side, to the promised land of Heaven.

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### St. Monica's Sacraments

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

#### SACRAMENT of 1st HOLY COMMUNION

**Lessons:** 3:30pm—5pm on  
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 24, The Nativity of St John the Baptist

June 28, St Irenaeus, bishop, martyr and doctor of the Church

June 29, St Peter and St Paul, apostles

### 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.

**St. Monica's Church Roof Needs Repairing**  
If you would like to recommend a roofer to us, please call or WhatsApp  
**Sumod Abraham (0400 865 406),**  
a member of our parish council. Thanks!

**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

**St. Peter's Pence Special Collection**  
On 29th & 30th June 2024, all Masses will have a special collection of funds donating to Pope Francis. It is a **CASH ONLY** donation and no tax return. Please kindly support the Papal ministries.

29th/30th June ROSTERS			
	6pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	C. Meleca S. Meleca	J. Joseph S. Joseph	T. Jones M. Ellis
Extraordinary Ministers	L. Iemma M. Woolridge	J. Skulander S. Joseph	
Acolytes	P. Senjak	N. Joseph	J. Hilton
Cleaning	Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy (28th June)		
Children's Liturgy	Chidinma/Sheryl		
Morning Tea	Julie & Maris		
Counting			



## SOAP Reflection 23rd June

**Scripture:** Mark 4: 35-41

### Observation

Throughout the New Testament, we may find ourselves relating to the disciples in their tentative and sometimes tenuous faith in Jesus. I personally always found the humanity of the disciples comforting, knowing that even those closest to Jesus during his time on earth (and many of whom went on to become saints), struggled with their faith at times too!

In this passage, we can observe the dichotomy of trust and doubt in each half of the story, and reflect upon how impulse and fear weakens our faith in God.

Though the disciples initially trusted and were obedient to Jesus' instructions to travel with him to the other side of the lake, that faith quickly crumbled when their boat was rocked by furious winds and storms. Despite witnessing his emboldened preaching and inexplicable miracles (casting out demons in Mark 3), the disciples are quick to fall into a frenzied panic and at one point (possibly in their hysteria), even accuse Jesus of lacking regard for their welfare/well-being. It isn't until Jesus awakens and calms the winds and waves that his disciples regain their composure and marvel at his authority over nature.

### Application

Though the dangers and uncertainty of sea travel may not be of particular relevance to us in the same way it was to the disciples, I feel that this passage paints a common experience among Catholics. We may find that when times are good, following Christ comes naturally, like sparing a moment for prayer when we're not in a rush that day, or giving some spare change to someone in need when we have a few coins we have been meaning to get rid of.

However, it's when the walls come crashing down and we are feeling overwhelmed that we really need to entrench ourselves in faith and be aware of the corrosive effect fear and impulse can have on our trust in God and His plan. When we feel the furious winds and waves of life batter our boat from all sides, acknowledge your feelings and offer them up to the Lord. Lean into faith rather than pull away, and ask others to pray for you. God never gives us a cross we cannot carry, and though we may not always be able to see His plan through the storm, we too can trust in his authority and power (just like the disciples).

### Prayer

Dear Lord, help me trust you with my decisions and future. Let me lean on you with all my heart instead of relying on my own imperfect understanding. Please grant me clear guidance in my life where I need it, and direct my path as you see fit. Help me to steady the ship of my life. In Jesus' name, 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. 😊 will find the registration forms with Gabriel and Cheryl.

