

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-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (MISSION SUNDAY) – YEAR B

20TH OCTOBER 2024

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

FIRST READING Isaiah 53:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering. If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over he shall see the light and be content. By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32

Response: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

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. 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.)**
3. 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 Hebrews 4:14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for all. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 10:35-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to

them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**FOR EVEN THE SON OF MAN
DID NOT COME TO BE
SERVED, BUT TO SERVE,
AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE
AS A RANSOM FOR MANY.**

MARK 10:45

THE CONSECRATED WOMAN . COM

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

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 Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am		
RECONCILIATION:	Friday 10-10.30am, Saturday 4-4.30pm, 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/ EUCARIST 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: 4721 2509	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

Three Hummock Island

The sons of Zebedee expected Jesus to lead a Messianic revolt to throw off the yoke of imperial Rome. But they wanted to be part of a similar sort of power structure. They had not grasped that Jesus had come to turn that sort of society upside down.

However, over the centuries, the Church took on much of the trappings of power of imperial Rome. The popes governed much of Italy. Giuseppe Garibaldi was one of those generals who defeated the forces defending the Papal States, and in doing so actually liberated the papacy from its role as feudal overlord of much of Italy.

In the course of the campaign, when despondent, Garibaldi often reflected on the delightful time he spent on Three Hummock Island just off the coast of Tasmania. So we may say that the liberation of the papacy, enabling it to respond more clearly to today's Gospel, began in Tasmania!

Pope Francis embodies the spirit of today's Gospel. He rails against a Church exhibiting 'the leprosy of a feudal court'. Rather, he has said: 'I see the Church as a field hospital after battle. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds.' And in his actions he has shown himself as a true 'Servant of the servants of God' as Jesus commands in today's Gospel.

We may pause for a moment to pray for Pope Francis that he may have the strength and time to persevere in his responding to today's Gospel so that the papacy may be truly liberated so as to practise a radically different way of exercising leadership in the Church and for the world.

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Pope Francis Mission Prayer

Heavenly Father,
when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ
rose from the dead,
he commissioned his followers
to "go and make disciples of all nations"
and you remind us
that through our Baptism
we are made sharers
in the mission of the Church.
Empower us by
the gifts of the Holy Spirit
to be courageous and zealous
in bearing witness to the Gospel,
so that the mission
entrusted to the Church,
which is still very far from completion,
may find new and efficacious expressions
that bring life and light to the world.
Help us make it possible for all peoples
to experience the saving love
and mercy of Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever. Amen.

St. Monica's Sacraments

stmonicasacraments@gmail.com

SACRAMENT of 1st RECONCILIATION

Lesson 4 Saturday 26th October - 3.30pm
(Mandatory)

Special Masses in November 2024

1st November 2024 (Friday)

All Saints' Day

9:15am Mass (English)

7:30pm Mass (English + Chinese)

2nd November 2024 (Saturday)

All Souls' Day

10am Mass (English + Chinese)

FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

**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 book near
the altar of
the Sacred Heart of Jesus*

PARISH ACTIVITIES



Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
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.



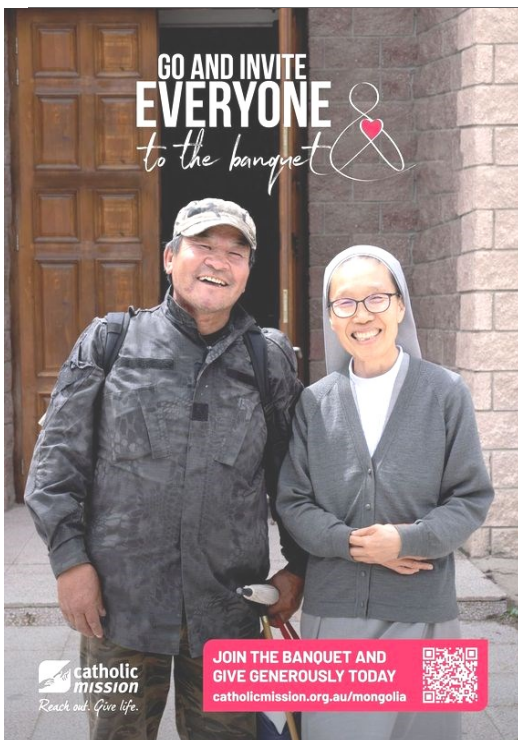
Bible Brekkie Every FIRST Sunday of the month, 10.15am - 11am, at the Parish Office.
Fr. Ephraim will talk about interesting topics from the Bible. All are welcome.



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



Bible Supper Every FIRST & THIRD Thursday of the month, 8pm-9pm, via Zoom.
Fr. Ephraim will introduce every book from the Bible. All are welcome. To get the Zoom Link please scan the QR code on the left.



26th/27th October ROSTERS

	6pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	J. Whippy A. Bentley	J. Jacob P. Fleming	D. Cruz
Extraordinary Ministers	M. Samson M. Woolridge	S. DeAraujo J. Skulander	
Acolytes	P. Handcock	I. Goldthorpe	R. Joseph
Cleaning	Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy (25th October)		
Children's Liturgy	Jesuina/Tresa		
Morning Tea	M Falmich & J DeAraujo		
Counting	Group 3 - Maria David & Tibu Corera		

Month + Corner

SOAP Reflection 20th October

Scripture: 10:35-45

Observation: When we read the Gospel today, we may get caught up in the seeming arrogance of James and John but this week's Gospel highlights two important elements of discipleship. When James and John asked Jesus to let them sit at His right and left hand respectively, they may not have been doing so out of selfishness or arrogance but simply because they wanted to demonstrate their loyalty and willingness to submit to God. Jesus alludes to his suffering and death when he asks James and John whether they'd be able to drink the same cup he drinks to which the brothers state that they can. They proved that these were not just empty words said at the moment, and demonstrated their loyalty and commitment to God. James was the first of the disciples to be martyred and John was sent into exile. James and John highlighted a key part of discipleship in their ability to submit themselves to God's will. In the second part of the Gospel, the idea of servitude is highlighted. Jesus states that to follow him, the disciples must first have a heart of servitude. He told them that even He, the son of man, came to Earth to serve, and give his life.

Application: Often in life, we crave a sense of control. We often have an idea or a plan of how we want things to go-whether that be in our relationships, in our careers, in exams and tests and even down to each nitty-gritty decision in our lives. But sometimes, we need to take a step back and not get so caught up on these grand plans we have made for ourselves and learn to submit to God's plan. It may not be what we had in mind, but it will be so much better than we could've planned. In today's world where society is so obsessed with the idea of "self", it is hard to see how servitude can eventually come around and allow you to put others first. However, Jesus teaches us that even He came to the world to serve. So if even God himself lived to serve us, with what reason do we have to put ourselves above everyone else or above God?

Prayer: Lord, let not my will but Yours be done and show me how to live a life of true discipleship and servitude.

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! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of our leaders Rebecca Cheung on 0449 055 395.

Nursing home visits

On the 4th Sunday of this month (27th October) we will once again be going to Goondee Aged Care Home in Strathfield as part of our ongoing volunteering work! We will be singing to the residents there, led by our music team. Please speak to Brian Wong or Gabriel Lau if you want to come along! Please be aware that we need to confirm attendance 2 weeks in advance so we can finalise all the logistics and transport. You don't have to know how to sing to come, it's all about giving back to the community and having a bit of fun in the process!

St Monica's Got Talent! - 23/11/2024 Saturday 7:00-9:30pm

St Monica's is blessed with many talented parishioners, so why not come see them perform at the first St Monica's Got Talent, to be held in the hall on 23/11/2024 at 7pm! There will be a diverse range of musical and dance performances that are sure to wow you. Some light snacks and non-alcoholic drinks will be served, but we recommend having dinner before the event. Tickets will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for under-12s. All proceedings will go towards funding the maintenance and repair costs of the church buildings. We look forward to seeing you! Currently, we still have timeslots for 3 more performers (1 song or 5 minute routine), so if you want to show off your skills or just want to have some fun, please contact Raphael Cheung on 0420 947 121 to be added to the performer's list. This will be on a first come first serve basis. Performers will have a free ticket for the event.