

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"



THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

27TH OCTOBER 2024

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this:

Shout with joy for Jacob! Hail the chief of nations! Proclaim! Praise! Shout: The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel! See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here. They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back; I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 125

Response: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, It seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **(R.)**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Hebrews 5:1-6

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 10:46-52

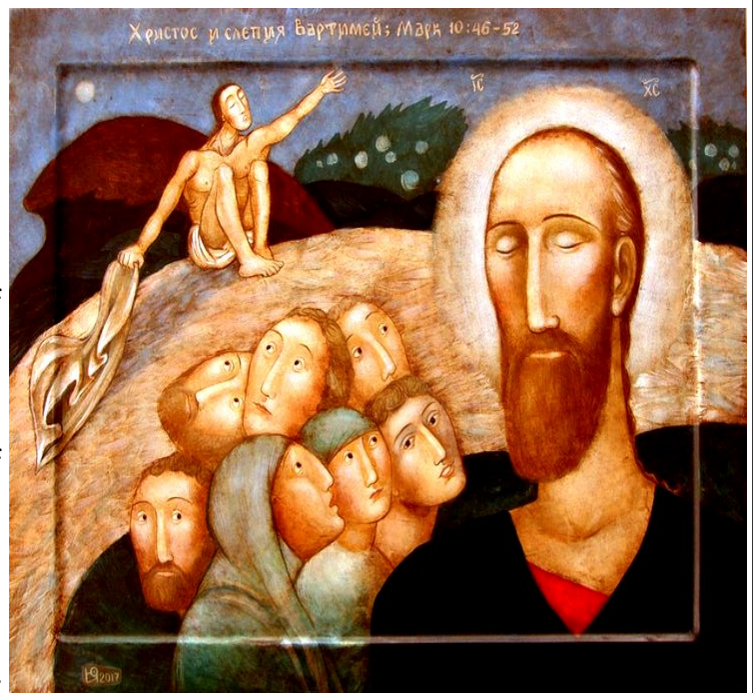
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

The Gospel of the Lord

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.



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/ 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

Jumped up Bartimaeus

Bartimaeus sat on the side of the way, having pilgrims throw coins onto his cloak spread out before him. But the presence of Jesus encouraged him to abandon his cloak, jump up from his ground level existence and ask to truly see the way from Jesus' perspective.

Jesus responded to this act of faith by curing the disease so that Bartimaeus could see ahead in the same way as Jesus and follow him on 'the Way' (the earliest name for Christianity).

You and I can remain with the security of a familiar existence, hoping to be tossed a few coins of consolation to satisfy our various hungers. But Jesus wants us to take courage, to jump up and to share his vision.

This takes faith, but we are in a better situation than Bartimaeus. He knew only that Jesus was on the way from Jericho to Jerusalem. We believe that, in Jerusalem, Jesus was lifted well above ground level and then had the astounding victory over the worst that death could do.

We might pause for a moment to pray for the courage to abandon whatever is keeping us grounded, so that with Bishop Richard of Chichester we may see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly.

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Prayer for Vision

Gracious God, source of light and truth, Your Son, Jesus, encountered the blind man, Bartimaeus. We too Lord, want to see. We want to see how we can better serve You as members of your Church. We want to see more clearly how we can honour You by honouring our sisters and brothers. Help us to see more clearly the paths You call us to follow. Give us, we pray, the spiritual gifts to faithfully answer Your call to make disciples, share the Good News and love as You loved. Help us to be the Church You call us to be. Help us to set forth a clear pastoral vision that gladdens Your heart and fulfills Your will for Your people. With the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary to aid us along the way, may we see more clearly and may our efforts bear abundant fruit for Your glory and for the good of Your Church. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

Oct 28, St Simon and St Jude, apostles

Nov 1, All Saints

Nov 2, All Souls
(Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed)

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
Third 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



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.

Catholic Women's League Melbourne Cup Luncheon

Date: 5th November 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: Midday to 4pm

Place: Parish Centre

Fee: \$30 per person

Lunch, drinks, sweets, and fruit platter are provided

Contact Julie Skulander for details (0411 988 361)

ALL are welcome and MUST wear a hat

Youth Corner

SOAP Reflection 27th October

Scripture: Mark 10:46-52

Observation: In today's Gospel Bartimaeus, a blind man demonstrated his faith in Christ, recognising that Jesus is the Son of David, the Messiah and saviour of mankind. Despite the crowd telling him to be quiet, he persisted demonstrating that true faith and belief is indifferent to the judgement of others, only the judgement of God concerned Bartimaeus.

Action: For most of us it's hard to identify with Bartimaeus. Most of us aren't physically disabled and certainly aren't blind, but I would argue many of us are worse off than Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus may not have been able to physically see, but his heart could see Jesus's true identity, the Messiah and saviour of humanity. At mass we can see the Eucharist, but how many of us only see the exterior bread and wine, how many of us truly see the body and blood of Jesus Christ. How many of us are more blind than Bartimaeus.

Prayer: Lord, I pray that we can learn from the faith of Bartimaeus. Despite the shame and suffering he endured his faith in Christ was strong and true. May we always have this faith and never allow ourselves to be blinded by sin and despair.

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.

02nd/03rd November ROSTERS

	6pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	J. Whippy E. Caruana	M. Falamich S. Jacob	M. Novak D. Llevado
Extraordinary Ministers	M. Wilkinson A. Bentley	S. Joseph M. Joseph	
Acolytes	P. Senjak	N. Joseph	J. Hilton
Cleaning	Group 1 - Chinese Chaplaincy (1st November)		
Children's Liturgy	Sheryl/ Chidinma		
Morning Tea			
Counting	Group 4 - Peter Mooney & Michael Falamich		