

# 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"*

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C**

**4TH MAY 2025**

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

## FIRST READING

**Acts 5:27-32. 40-41**

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

*The word of the Lord.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 29**

**Response: I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me  
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,  
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. **(R.)**
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,  
give thanks to his holy name.  
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life.  
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. **(R.)**
3. The Lord listened and had pity.  
The Lord came to my help.  
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing;  
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

**Revelation 5:11-14**

### A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen'; and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

*The word of the Lord.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia!  
Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation;  
he has shown pity on all people.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**John 21:1-19**

### A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

'I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.' In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, 'Follow me.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*



## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

# 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 Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am		
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Friday 10-10.30am, Saturday 4-4.30pm, 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, temporarily serving Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill		
<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: <a href="mailto:stmonicanp@bigpond.com">stmonicanp@bigpond.com</a>

St. Monica's School

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## COMMENTARY

### You know I love you

You and I, like Peter, are enabled by grace to repent of our betrayals of Our Lord, some major, most minor, and to claim: "Lord, you know that I love you."

But, this claim has to be evidenced by concrete action. In the case of Peter it was to feed and shepherd "my lambs, my sheep." What will manifest our professed love? In the words of Father Richard Rohr, it is to love what God loves.

Of course, we have to love our fellow human beings, but leaving it there would be inadequate. "For God so loved the cosmos as to give the Son." (Jn 3:16,17) So what must we do?

Recall, Our Lord says elsewhere, "You are the Salt of the Earth." You must preserve the Earth so that it does not decay and so that it is a suitable habitation for all the creatures, including us, for whom the Earth is a common home.

He went on: "You are the Light of the Cosmos." You are the enlightened mind and the enflamed heart of the whole cosmos, enabling it to understand its existence and to love God for it.

We could pause for a moment to reflect on the words of Pope Francis: "We, the women and men of the Church, we are in the middle of a love story and each of us is a link in this chain of love. And if we do not understand this, we have understood nothing of what the Church is."

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## The Jubilee Prayer

*Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen*

### Sacramental Programs for Baptized Children

Confirmation—Year 5, First Holy Communion—Year 4  
Reconciliation—Year 3



← Information for parents, by scanning this QR code, or email to [stmonicasacraments@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicasacraments@gmail.com).

For enrolment please come to the office at our working hours or using this QR code →



## FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE OF OUR PARISH FAMILY WHO ARE SICK, ESPECIALLY**

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, 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 ACTIVITES



**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, at the Parish Centre. 5:25pm-6:25pm Tai Chi, 6:30pm-7:30pm Christian Meditation.  
Participation via zoom is available. Enquiries: Patricia Brown, email:pabrown02@bigpond.com



**Catholic Women's League St Monica's Branch**  
Every third Monday of the month at 10.30 am 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 - 6.15 pm  
Sunday 8.40 - 10.15 am  
Contact : Julie Skulander on 0411 988 361



**St Monica's Art Group** Every Saturday 6pm-8pm at the Parish Centre. New workshops are available each week. Please contact Vera (WhatsApp 0402936947) for details.



**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.



**Children's LITURGY** Every Sunday at 9am Mass (during School Terms) Young children haven't received Holy Communion are welcome to join.

**Catholic Women's League Mothers' Day Raffle.**  
Tickets on sale after Mass today.  
Cost is **one ticket for \$2, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10, 15 for \$20. Cash only.**  
Thank you for your generous support.

**Information Session for July Youth Camp**  
**An Introduction of the**  
**Theology of the Body of Pope St John Paul II**  
*by Simon Carrington (Fire Up Ministry)*  
Date: 4th May 2025 (Sunday)  
Time: 2pm—4pm  
Place: Parish Hall  
***This is most suitable for adults, especially parents who are interested to let their children to join the July Youth Camp, in which this theology will be focused at. Please JOIN!***



**Scripture:** John 21:1-19

**Observation:** After Jesus' resurrection, He appears to His disciples by the Sea of Tiberias. Here the disciples have had no luck in catching any fish. The importance of this is that despite their previous encounters with Jesus after his crucifixion, the disciples had given up hope and returned to their former occupation of fishing, symbolising their sense of despair and uncertainty about the future. Jesus meets them in this state addressing them as "children" indicating His deep love and sense of protection he has over them. Jesus instructs the disciples to cast their nets out on the right side, as a result the disciples catch many fish. This miraculous event mirrors an earlier event in Luke 5, reminding the disciples of their initial calling to follow Jesus. As they eat the fish, they had just caught Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves Him, corresponding to Peter's three denials. Each time Peter responds he is met with a calling to care for Jesus' followers, symbolising forgiveness. This dialogue highlights Jesus' grace and restorative love He offers to those who have faltered.

**Application:** This passage illustrates that Jesus meets us in our moments of failure and offers us restoration. Like the disciples, we may find ourselves returning to old patterns when faced with uncertainty or guilt. Jesus' approach is not one of condemnation but of compassion. He calls us "children" reminding us of our identity in Him and he invites us to reaffirm our love for Him. Peter's restoration demonstrates that our past mistakes do not disqualify us from serving God's purposes. Instead, Jesus transforms our failures into opportunities for growth and renewed commitment. We are encouraged to accept His forgiveness, embrace our identity in Him, and step into the roles He has prepared for us.

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, thank You for Your unwavering grace and the restoration You offer. In times when I feel lost or burdened by past mistakes, remind me of Your love and calling. Help me to accept Your forgiveness, reaffirm my love for You, and faithfully serve in the roles You've entrusted to me. May my life reflect Your compassion and grace to others. Amen.

10th/11th May ROSTERS			
	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
<b>Readers</b>	S. Meleca G. Basha	B. Hooker A. Espiritu	D. Cruz M. Ellis
<b>Extraordinary Ministers</b>	K. Handcock A. Bentley	J. Cruz M. Joseph	
<b>Acolytes</b>	P. Handcock	N. Joseph	J. Hilton
<b>Cleaning</b>	Group - 2 Vera (9th May)		
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	Maria Fleming / Maria Corera		
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Raj & Innu Kakumanu & Beth		
<b>Counting</b>	Group 1 - Jacob Payra		

**Youth Announcements**

- Youth Camp 2025 with Simon Carrington**  
This year, we have the privilege of hosting Simon Carrington as a guest speaker at our youth camp! Simon is the co-founder of Fire Up Ministries and a well-known speaker on chastity, dating, theology of the body and masculinity. He will be hosting an information session on 4<sup>th</sup> May on what we can expect at this year's camp. This is truly a unique opportunity for our youths and we invite ALL parents to come along to the information session.
- Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2025**  
Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) will take place in Melbourne this year from 30/11 – 2/12. We're looking to take a group of St Monica's youths down to Melbourne and are now taking expressions of interest for youths aged 15 and over. We will be aiming to travel to depart Sydney on 28<sup>th</sup> November and return on the 4<sup>th</sup> December. The estimated cost at this early stage is \$2500-\$3000 total. Please contact Cheryl on 0481 507 169 for more information.

