

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"

PENTECOST SUNDAY – YEAR C

8TH JUNE 2025

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech. Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 103

Response: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!
The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!
May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light,
From the clear celestial height
Thy pure beaming radiance give.
Come, thou Father of the poor,
Come with treasures which endure;
Come, thou light of all that live!
Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;

Solace in the midst of woe.
Light immortal, light divine,
Visit thou these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill:
If thou take thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay;
All his good is turned to ill.
Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away:
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.
Thou, on us who evermore
Thee confess and thee adore,
With thy sevenfold gifts descend:
Give us comfort when we die;
Give us life with thee on high;
Give us joys that never end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 20:19-23

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them,

'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again,

'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord



COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

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, temporarily serving Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill
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

Holy Ghost, Holy Gust

In the very old days, the 'Holy Spirit' was known as the 'Holy Ghost'. It comes from the old English word 'gust' which 'blows wherever it pleases'. St Luke's account of Pentecost tells of what 'sounded like a powerful wind from heaven'. This is the Divine Wind, this is the Holy Gust, the Holy Spirit. Out of nowhere, this mighty Gust burst into the disciples' lives with gale force, sweeping away their fear.

The Divine Wind is nothing less than the Breath of God. 'O Breathe on me Breath of God' is one of the most beautiful hymns, sung to a traditional Irish melody. One verse goes: 'O Breathe on me Breath of God . . . until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine'. It is like a log at the back of the fireplace late at night. The log is intact but absolutely glowing through and through with fire. It is to be the same with us.

Peter was inspired to preach to the crowds 'with a loud voice' about 'Jesus the Nazarene' and the fact that 'God raised him to life'. That is the gospel. That is the message which those who breathe with the breath of God have been preaching since the birthday of the Church at Pentecost.

We could pause for a moment to pray an ancient chant of the Church:

'Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they will be created, and you will renew the face of the earth.'

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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

First Holy Communion—Year 4
Reconciliation—Year 3



← Information for parents, by scanning this QR code, or email to stmonicasacraments@gmail.com.

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



FEAST DAYS & COMMEMORATIONS

9 June, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

11 June, St Barnabas, apostle

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

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 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, 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.



Scripture: John 20:19-23

Observation: Jesus appears to his disciples while they are hiding from the Jews, scared for their lives. He appears to them and shows them his hands with holes in them and says, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you", as evidence that he is the same Jesus who had led them before his death. He proceeds to bless them with the holy spirit.

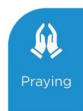
Application: As another Sunday for Pentecost comes around, I'm sure there are times in the past year when you have asked yourself if Jesus is watching you. Does Jesus know that my faith isn't as strong as it could be? Jesus is always looking out for us, his followers, in simple ways, such as attending church and praying, which connect us to Him. Church is a central location for connection to prayer, where we communicate with Jesus through prayer. We reaffirm our faith every time we go to church because we believe in Jesus. Praying to him is not only us talking to Jesus; he listens to us and takes care of whatever troubles us. A friend once told me a story about a man and God walking in the sand together and when the man looked back he realised there are gaps in his path and these gaps happen to be when he was at his lowest and he asks God why there's only one set of footprints, why would God leave him at his lowest times but He tells the man that at the lowest times he was too weak to walk with God so He carries him until he feels strong enough to walk again. I sometimes interpret this story as God will never leave us, and when we hit our lowest points, He will always do something to bring us back up, whether it be an appearance or just small miracles.

Prayer: Jesus, in the fear of unknown days, You come to us with peace no matter what. As You stood with Your disciples, showing them Your scars, we ask You to stand with us to strengthen our faith in You. We thank you for the courage You gave us to stand against our moments of fear and doubt. Fill us with Your holy spirit so that we can carry out Your mission of forgiveness and spread Your word. Amen.

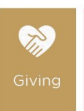
JOIN OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

A Call to Prayer, Service and Generosity

Your support helps our parish grow and flourish, ensuring our faith community remains strong for years to come.
Every gift is a blessing.
Thank you!



Praying



Giving



Serving

To donate, update your giving details, or volunteer: Please contact our Parish Office on 02 9630 1951 or complete and submit a Parish Stewardship envelope.



JOIN HERE

14th/15th June ROSTERS			
	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	C. Meleca A. Bentley	A. Espiritu S. Joseph	D. Cruz M. Ellis
Extraordinary Ministers	K. Handcock L. Iemma	S. Joseph M. Law	
Acolytes	P. Senjak	P. Mooney	R. Joseph
Cleaning	Group - 2 Vera (13th June)		
Children's Liturgy	Jesuna/ Maria Corera		
Morning Tea	Julie & Maris		
Counting	Group 1 - Jacob Payra		

Youth Announcements

- Youth Camp 8th to 11th July 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. Please contact Cheryl (0481 507 169) or Brian (0491 138 451) for more details and application forms.

- 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 28th November and return on the 4th December. The estimated cost at this early stage is \$2500-\$3000 total. Please contact Cheryl on 0481 507 169 for more information.