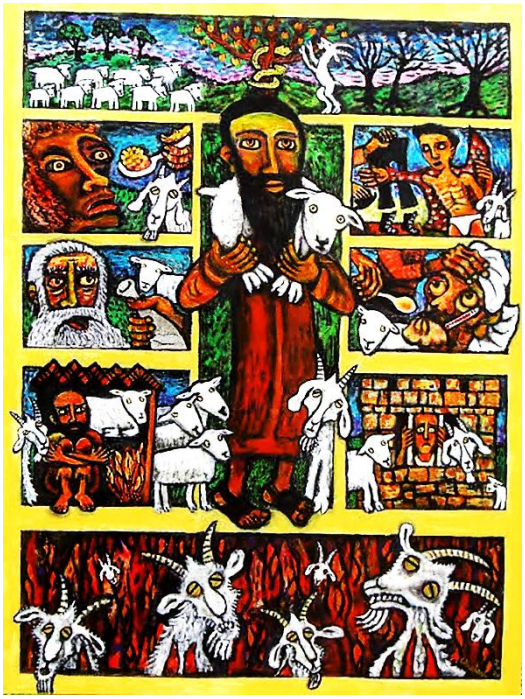
St. Monica's Parish

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"

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe — 22nd November 2026



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

FIRST READING Ezek 34 : 11-12, 15-17

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **Ps 22**

R: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **(R.)**

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING **1 Cor 15 : 20-26, 28**

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

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all. *The word of the Lord.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL **Mt 25 : 31-46**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

St. Monica's Catholic Parish
Cnr Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

Sunday Masses:	English: Saturday Vigil - 5pm; Sunday - 9am, 6pm Cantonese: Sunday 11.30am
Weekday Masses:	English: Tuesday-Friday - 9.15am
Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:	Every Friday following 9.15am Mass until 10.45am Every 3rd Sunday of the month 10:15-11am
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
Postal Address:	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, 2151 Website: https://stmonicanp.org.au
Office hours:	Tuesday-Friday 8.30am-2.30pm Phone:9630-1951 Sunday 9am-11am Email: stmonicanp@bigpond.com

St. Monica's School
School Principal: Fiona Bylsma Phone: 8832 4100 Email: stmonicasnparra@parra.catholic.edu.au

COMMENTARY

Necessities of [Eternal] Life

The eternal destiny of every human being of a certain maturity is determined by decisions made in relation to food and drink for the famished, clothing and housing for those without decent clothing or shelter, visiting those in circumstances which cut them off from life-giving contact with others (the sick and prisoners).

Those who provide such assistance, in the words of Pope Francis, touch the wounds of Christ! A Christian can be fully conscious of this, but for non Christians it is possible to do so without any of our awareness or belief. Christ is *completely* incognito to them: 'When did we ever see you hungry and feed you …?'.

We know the doctrine of the Real Presence in the poor and marginalised. Woe betide those of us who ignore this fact of faith. We are on the way to a Hellish state of existence. That is equally possible for those who do not share our faith, but who ignore the plight of the marginalised and continue in a self-absorbed way.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we, and many billions of non-Christians, may hear the invitation: 'Come you blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

© Fr Michael Tate

Eucharistic Congress 2028 Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed. By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others. Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ. Amen

Christmas & New Year Mass Times (2026-2027)

Event	Date	Time	Language
Christmas Eve	24th Dec 2026 (Thursday)	6pm	English
		9pm	Cantonese
Christmas Day	25th Dec 2026 (Friday)	12am *(Midnight & Candlelight Mass)*	English
		9am	
		11:30am	Cantonese
Feast of the Holy Family	26th Dec 2026 (Saturday)	5pm (Vigil)	English
	27th Dec 2026 (Sunday)	9am	English
		6pm	
		11:30am	Cantonese
Solemnity of the Mother of God	1st Jan 2027 (Friday)	9am	English & Cantonese
Epiphany of the Lord	2nd Jan 2027 (Saturday)	5pm (Vigil)	English
	3rd Jan 2027 (Sunday)	9am	English
		10:30am (Youth Mass)	
		6pm	
		11:30am	Cantonese

PARISH ACTIVITES



St Monica's Parish Rosary Group
Every Wednesday from 10.00am to 12.00pm in the Parish Centre. Enquiries: Lynette Iwachiw 0423 696 961



Christian Meditation
Every Thursday, at the Parish Centre.
6pm-6:25pm Gentle Exercises,
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

Bible Supper via ZOOM.
Every FIRST Thursday of the month, 8pm-9pm,
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 or send an email to Fr Ephraim.



St. Vincent de Paul Society
Please come to their monthly meeting on the last Wednesday of the month, 6.30pm, at the Parish Centre, or contact Jacob Payra 0431 881 697



2027 Sacramental Program for Baptized Children
Please send an email to our coordinator for details:
stmonicasacraments@gmail.com



Voices of St Monica's Choir Needs You
Children & Youth welcome!
Rehearsal: Every Sunday during school term, 10 - 11:25am
Enquiries and Registration: Winnie Cheung, 0405 608 691
or email: winnieklau@yahoo.com.au

Feast of the
Immaculate Conception of Mary
8th December 2026, TUESDAY
9:15am, 7:30pm

A Big Thank You

The **CWL ladies** would like to thank everyone who supported our Christmas stalls.
We are able to donate **$1,000** to the St Vincent de Paul Society.
A warm thank you also to Fr Ephraim for his support.

28th / 29th November ROSTERS			
	5pm Vigil	9am	6pm
Readers	A. Bentley S. Meleca	C. Cheung J. Nguyen	T. Lim M. Caga-Anan
Extraordinary Ministers	M. Samson C. North	M. Law P. Hourigan	TBA
Acolytes	P. Senjak	I. Goldthorpe	J. Hilton
Cleaning	Group 1 – Chinese Chaplaincy (27th November)		
Children's Liturgy	Maria F / Michelle		
Morning Tea	Jacob & Cecilia		
Counting	Group 1		

Youth Corner

Scripture: Matthew 25:31–46

Observation

In this passage, Jesus describes the final judgement, when the Son of Man separates people as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. What stands out is the standard and simplicity by which people are judged. Those who fed the hungry, welcomed strangers, cared for the sick and visited those in prison are welcomed into God's kingdom. Yet they are surprised, asking when they ever did these things for Jesus. His response to them is powerful: whatever they did for the least among them, they did for him.

As with previous weeks' gospels, this passage reminds us that faith is not simply about what we believe or what we say, but how we treat others. Jesus is present in those who are often overlooked, and our love for God is reflected in the compassion we show to the people around us.

Application

Living out the message of the gospel can begin in the everyday environments we spend most of our time in. It might mean sitting with someone who is eating lunch alone, including someone new in a friendship group, checking in on a friend who has been unusually quiet, or standing up for someone being mocked or excluded. Even online, it can mean refusing to join in with hurtful comments, gossip or public criticism when everyone else seems to be doing it.

These actions might seem small, and they may not always be noticed or appreciated, but Jesus reminds us that kindness towards others is never insignificant. We do not need to travel far or wait for a major opportunity to serve God. The people who need our compassion may already be sitting beside us in class, working alongside us, or part of our friendship groups. In choosing to see and care for others, we are choosing to see and serve Christ.

Prayer

Dear Lord,

Help us to recognise your presence in the people around us, especially those who feel lonely, excluded or overlooked. Give us the courage to stand up for others, the kindness to include those who feel left out, and the generosity to help without expecting anything in return.

Teach us to put our faith into action and to recognise you in the people we encounter each day. Amen.