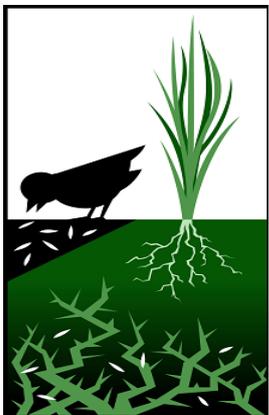


ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Moonee Ponds

Presbytery: 22 Robinson St., Moonee Ponds 3039 | Telephone: (03) 9370 5035
Email: mooneeponds@cam.org.au | Website: www.stmonicasparish.com.au

Parish Priest: **Rev. Fr. Tony Feeny** Assistant Priest: **Rev. Fr. Andrew Choi**
Parish Office: **Sonya Bading** (Monday to Friday 9 am ~ 4 pm)
Pastoral Assistant: **Abygaile Cukavac**
School Principal: **Mr. Peter Moore** — School Phone No: (03) 9375 1132



Green

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

12th July 2020

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, as the traditional caretakers of the land which is the St. Monica's Catholic Parish. We acknowledge the Elders, past & present. May we, too, be good stewards of this land.

Dear friends,

It surely is with a deep sense of disappointment, despondency, even anxiety, that we find ourselves returning to Stage 3 Covid19 restrictions and the accompanying lockdown of our church, our homes and other places wherein people gather – offices, restaurants, etc.

Archbishop Peter Comensoli wrote reminding us that NOW is a time for attentiveness to the care of one another; to allow our concern for one another 'stir a response in love and good works'. (Heb 24:10)

In our Bulletin this weekend you will notice two sets of Scripture readings (1) Scripture readings for this weekend 15 Sunday Ordinary Time and (2) Scripture readings for next weekend 16 Sunday Ordinary Time.

The reason behind the two sets of scripture reading this weekend is to, from this weekend forward, present you with a copy of the forthcoming weekend's Scripture readings so that you might read them during the week ahead in preparation for the forthcoming Sunday Mass; to read, reflect, pray over, even discuss with family members, so that you/we prepare ourselves to LISTEN more attentively to the Word as it is proclaimed by our lector and/or priest.

My hope is this change will encourage more reading of and reflection upon the Word of God in our homes and our daily lives.

It is a big change, I invite all to be open to the Word of God and where it might take us.

Fr. Tony

(At the end of August, I will ask for feedback from you about the change.)

LET US THINK OF WAYS
TO MOTIVATE ONE ANOTHER TO
ACTS OF LOVE AND GOOD WORKS.
HEBREWS 10:24 NLT



* SUNDAY ONLINE MASS *

will be available via our Parish Webpage

www.stmonicasparish.com.au

Every Sunday by 10.30am for parishioners to participate in their homes.

SUNDAY LITURGY @ Home:

Please click on each link below to find

guided reflection for 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[For Adults:](#)

[For Families with Young Children:](#)

ANNIVERSARIES

In Faith, Hope and Love, let us pray for repose of the souls of

**Jim Feehan; Eoin Dillon; Cec Barnes; Jack Leahy; Kevin Chamberlain; Rita Sullivan;
Mary Lamplugh; Danilo Bordin; Lidwin Farrar; Philomena Mannays; Eleanor Alroy; Phyllis D'Cruze;
Noel & Marie Murray; Michael Kenny**

RECENTLY DECEASED

*We remember in prayer,
Victorio De Pietro ;
May they rest in peace.*

WE PRAY FOR

The elderly and the sick

**Marius Fernando; Dantina Frederico; Barbara Burby;
Stella Mammone; Gino Salva; Rosa Di Pietro; Lucia Bordin;
Ursula McWhinney**

New Restrictions from Midnight 8th July 2020

As Announced by the Premier due to the current COVID-19 Crises the Melbourne Metropolitan Area is now under stage 3 Restrictions for six weeks from 11.59pm 8th July. For us at St. Monica's

- Church will be closed but Sunday mass will continue to be recorded and available online by 10.30am Sundays on our Parish Webpage.
- Numbers for Funerals (10 mourners plus people to conduct the service) and Weddings (5—the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant) will be severely limited.
- Our Church is closed for private worship or religious ceremonies (except for video recording, Weddings and Funerals as directed and under strict guidelines)

“The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then the cares of the world and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit.” (Matthew 13:22)

Does the lure of riches and material goods choke God out of your life? Are you so caught up in earthly activities that you have no time for God? Gratitude and generosity are virtues that we should strive to do on a daily basis. Every decision we make either takes us one step closer to God or one step further away. What we receive at Mass every Sunday should be shared with others all the other days of the week as well.



St. Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal.

Leave a donation at the presbytery (money or non-perishable foods) which will then be passed on to our St. Vincent de Paul members for distribution.

Online Masses

St Patrick's Cathedral—Live Streaming at <http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Monday-Friday: 1pm, Saturday: 8am, Sunday: 11am

TV Masses

Channel44 (31): Live telecast from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sunday at 11am

Channel 10: Mass for you at home, Sunday at 6am

RAI: Italian Mass from the Vatican, Sunday at 8.30am



Child Protection
is Everyone's
Responsibility

PARISH SUPPORT

For many of you this may be a time of financial constraint. For those able to continue financially supporting our Parish, you can do so via Direct Debit by filling in the form from our website under 'Donate'. You can also pay by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to St Monica's Church Account BSB: 083347 Account: 672193773 (Please put your name and envelope number in the reference) We appreciate your continued support in this difficult time.

Christianity is like the Corona Virus

Christianity:

- Started with one person and spread around the whole world
- Has varied effects on people. Some seem to be asymptomatic i.e. you can not see any visible effects. But they don't pass it on
- Affects some nations more than others
- Older people have more serious cases of it
- Many young people shrug it off as irrelevant, at their own risk
- Starts at a rapid rate and then the curve flattens, in some countries it is almost wiped out.
- It is often misunderstood
- Authoritarian regimes use severe powers to try and eliminate it, but it still comes back to threaten them.
- People who have caught it are often shunned. In some countries they are killed.
- Is potentially very contagious, but, unlike COVID-19 herd immunity seems to have occurred across almost all nations.



PROJECT COMPASSION THANK YOU!

Dear Parishioners of St. Monica's,
Thank you for your generous support of Project Compassion where \$1,476.75 was raised to support some of the world's most vulnerable communities to support themselves in spite of every challenge. You have helped them thrive in this union of love and compassion. You have helped change lives!

Thank you from Caritas Australia

PROJECT COMPASSION
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

FIRST READING (Is 55:10-11)

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

The word of the Lord. — *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. **(R.)**

And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. **(R.)**

You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**

The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

SECOND READING (Rom 8:18-23)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

The word of the Lord. — *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Mt 13:1-23)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,
see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes,
for fear they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and be converted
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

The Gospel of the Lord. — *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

FIRST READING (Wis 12:13, 16-19)

A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,
to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.
Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power is there.
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,
and you have given your sons the good hope
that after sin you will grant repentance.

‘The word of the Lord. — Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. **(R.)**

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. **(R.)**

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. **(R.)**

SECOND READING (Rom 8:26-27)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord. — Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Mt 13:24-43)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner’s servants went to him and said, “Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?” “Some enemy has done this” he answered. And the servants said, “Do you want us to go and weed it out?” But he said, “No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.”’

He put another parable before them, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.’

He told them another parable, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.’

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables

and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, ‘Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.’ He said in reply, ‘The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!’

The Gospel of the Lord. — Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

