

# ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Moonee Ponds

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

Parish Priest: **Rev. Fr. Tony Feeney** 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

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19th 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,

What can I say as we embark upon another 6 weeks of coronavirus lockdown?

As of this time a couple of weeks ago, I, like so many of you, had been looking forward to our church being opened. We, albeit in smaller numbers, were gathering to celebrate Eucharist together. Now, here we are, closed up again, busy looking out for ourselves and one another.

The parables about the Kingdom of Heaven that Jesus shares with us in this week's Gospel have, I think, much to say to us today in our present predicament. I say this because I believe the Kingdom of heaven has more to do with how we live our daily lives now than it does with the 'hear after'.

In Jesus' first parable, about the wheat and the weeds, Jesus could be urging us (the servants) not to be too quick in judging and writing of people as 'this', 'that' or the 'other' for we can quite easily make mistakes about people and do more damage than good. Can Jesus be calling us to be patient and less judgmental of others as well as of ourselves? -remembering that when we point one finger at someone, there are three of our own pointing back at us!

Jesus' second parable reminds us that 'great things can come in small packages'; do not dismiss or overlook the small things in life - the coronavirus is teaching us this expensive lesson!

Jesus' third and last parable about mixing the yeast with the flour, can speak to us about how important our daily actions are in helping shape the loaf of bread (the parish, the society, etc.) we want to help make/'bake'.

Through our prayer, patience and perseverance during this time of Covid-19 lockdown, may we emerge stronger in our faith and more loving and patient of one another.

*Fr. Tony*

### \* SUNDAY ONLINE MASS \*

will be available via our Parish Webpage

[www.stmonicasparish.com.au](http://www.stmonicasparish.com.au)

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

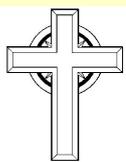
### SUNDAY LITURGY @ Home:

Please click on each link below to find

guided reflection for 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[For Adults:](#)

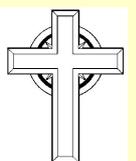
[For Families with Young Children:](#)



### WE PRAY FOR

*The elderly and the sick*

**Marius Fernando; Dantina Frederico; Barbara Burby; Stella Mammona; Gino Slavo;  
Rosa Di Pietro; Lucia Bordin; Ursula McWhinney; Justin Diviny**



### RECENTLY DECEASED

*We remember in prayer,*

**Ita Kelly; David Rees; Marie McKenna;  
Finn McMullen**

*May they rest in peace.*

### ANNIVERSARIES

*In Faith, Hope and Love, let us pray for repose of the souls of  
George Mallia; Anton Vivoda; Alan Dobson*

## 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)



### 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.

*"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." (Matthew 13:24, 37-38)*



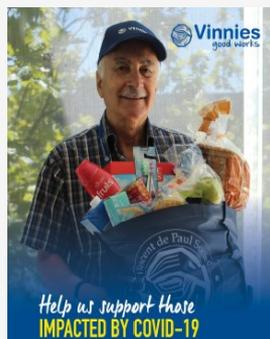
Tares - Darnell

Wheat

As children of God, we are all "good seeds." We are blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in the world. We fulfill God's plan when we spend time in prayer every day, use our skills to help others, and share our financial gifts to help build God's kingdom on earth. Through our example of gratitude and generosity we sow "good seeds" on earth and ultimately help each other get to Heaven!



### 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

Please click on the following link for:

[A word of Encouragement to the Catholic People of Australia from the Bishops of Australia](#)



### PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY FOR THE PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS

**O Mary**, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. **We entrust ourselves to you**, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of all people, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this Moment of trial. **Help us, Mother of Divine Love**, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen

**We seek refuge under your protection**, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our Pleas- we who are put to the test- and **deliver us from every danger**, O glorious And blessed Virgin.

Prayer by Pope Francis

### PRAYER FOR PEACE OF SOUL

Let nothing disturb you,

Let nothing frighten you.

All things are passing:

God alone is changeless.

Patience gains all things,

Who has God wants nothing.

God alone suffices.

—St Teresa of Ávila

### Remote School Learning

As remote school learning will resume for many students from Monday 20th July- many families from St. Monica's Primary School picked up their remote learning packs from the school on Friday. We understand there is a great deal of uncertainty in the community at this time. We carry all our students, teachers and parents in our prayers as we embark on our second session of home schooling this year. We will get through this together!



School Remote Learning Packs ready for pick up Friday 17th July

### CAN YOU HELP?

An overseas engineering student living in our Parish and on a Working Visa is looking for part-time work (house cleaning) If you could please leave your name and number at the parish office on 9370 50350 if you could help.



'Like us', comment or share at

<https://www.facebook.com/stmonicasmp/>



Tell us what you would like to see more of on our Parish Page!



**Scripture.** It must be said that CHRIST himself 'is present in his word, since it is he who speaks when Scripture is read in Church.' Indeed, 'the liturgical celebration becomes the continuing, complete and effective proclamation of God's word. The word of God, constantly proclaimed in the liturgy, is always a living and effective word through the power of the HOLY SPIRIT. It expresses the Father's love that never fails in its effectiveness towards us.' The Church has always realized that in the liturgical action the word of God is accompanied by the interior working of the Holy Spirit who makes it effective in the hearts of the faithful.

*Verbum Domini (2010)52*

This week we have the readings for next Sunday the 26th July for our Parishioners to make some time during the week to read and reflect on.

Suggestions include:

**Make some time to be quiet in a quiet place**

- Become aware of God's presence
- "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening".

**Read the texts**

- Read them in the following order: Gospel, First Reading, Responsorial Psalm, Second Reading.
- Read them aloud.
- Read slowly, stopping from time to time to let the Word make its impact on you.
- Jot down any words, phrases, images that jump out at you, or any emotions or memories that occur to you

**Enter into dialogue with the Word.**

- What is the Good News here?
- What is the doubt, sin, pain in my life that this passage touches?
- To what change or conversion does it call me?
- What difference could this passage make in my life or in our world if I took it seriously?

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

God is in his holy place,  
God who unites those who dwell in his house;  
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

**FIRST READING (1 Kgs 3:5.7-12)**

**A reading from the first book of Kings**

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R.) Lord, I love your commands.**

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,  
is to obey your word.  
The law from your mouth means more to me  
than silver and gold. **(R.)**

Let your love be ready to console me  
by your promise to your servant.  
Let your love come to me and I shall live  
for your law is my delight. **(R.)**

That is why I love your commands  
more than finest gold.  
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:  
I hate false ways. **(R.)**

Your will is wonderful indeed;  
therefore I obey it.  
The unfolding of your word gives light  
and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING ( Rom 8:28-30)**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the  
kingdom.

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL (Mt 13:44-52)**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

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

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and never forget all his benefits.

