



# ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Moonee Ponds



**Presbytery:** 22 Robinson St., Moonee Ponds 3039

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**Website:** [www.stmonicasparrish.com.au](http://www.stmonicasparrish.com.au)

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Tony Feeney **Assistant Priest:** Rev. Fr. Andrew Choi

**Parish Office:** Sonya Bading **Pastoral Assistant:** Abygaile Cukavac

**Principal:** Mr. Peter Moore **Deputy Principal:** Ms Christine Lo Giusto

**School Phone No:** 9375 1132

**Green**

**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**22nd August 2021**

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.

**HOPING TO  
OPEN UP WHEN  
RESTRICTIONS  
EASE**

Accordingly, our parish church will be closed during this current lockdown.

Online Mass will be available from 10.00am Sunday on our website [www.stmonicasparrish.com.au](http://www.stmonicasparrish.com.au)

**DUE TO CURRENT  
RESTRICTIONS  
CHURCH IS  
CURRENTLY  
CLOSED**

**Pray the Holy Rosary together** – details page 3

All through this Sunday's gospel, we encounter many people who complained about what Jesus said. What made them so upset? The last five Sundays including today; two of which were celebrating great Solemnities, we heard Jesus' teachings about the Bread of Life through the gospel of John. His followers could not accept His teachings by saying that it is intolerable language, and they left.

To live a life of faith is to accept God and practise the teaching of Jesus throughout our lives. Jesus not only showed us his steadfast love but also taught us, by the death on the cross, that love always involves sacrifice. The path that Jesus invites us to walk shows us the greatest of love through sacrificing His life for our salvation.

Friends, although we are in a difficult time and are unable to receive His most Holy Body during the lockdown, the invitation to follow His path is always there to become closer to Him. On this blessed Sunday, let us think about and ask ourselves a couple of questions: "What does the Holy Body of Christ mean to me? Would I choose to follow or leave Him?"

One thing we should keep in mind at all times is that "nothing can separate us from God's love that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 8:39)"

Stay well and keep faith!

Every Blessing,

*Fr. Andrew*



We pray for the people of Afghanistan experiencing much danger and turmoil and the people of Haiti struggling to come to terms with firstly an earthquake, and then followed up by floods. We pray also for our fellow Australians as well as people in other countries continuing to battle the Coronavirus pandemic.

**SUNDAY LITURGY @ Home;**

For Adults:

For Families with Young Children:

**PLEASE PRAY FOR: our elders and the sick**

Marius Fernando; Dantina Frederico; Stella Mammone; Gino Salvo; Rosa Di Pietro; Lucia Bordin; Ursula McWhinney; Justin Diviny; Stephanie Jouhari; Anna & Garry Henneken; Nicholas Gillman; Jillian Eolzella; Loretta Bastian; Sally O'Farrell; Peter Ferrigno; Caterina Timpano; Charlie Tiang; Lena Savoia; Anne Ryan; Margaret Whelan; Geraldine Macken;

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

*We remember in prayer,  
Maria Anticaglia;  
Gabrielle Drake;  
Marie Dunn  
May they rest in peace.*

**ANNIVERSARIES**

*In Faith, Hope and Love, let us pray for repose of the souls of  
Hyacinth & Reginald D'Cruz; Andrew Bastian; Wally, Jerry & Ronnie  
D'Costa; Jeanette D'Cruz; Shirley & Malcolm Baptist;  
Margaret Penno; James Marchant ; Norman Schuler(Senior)  
whose anniversary occurs at this time*

*We pray for the repose of the souls of those having  
funerals at St. Monica's this week  
(under strict covid guidelines)*

✠ Maria Anticaglia



#### **NATURAL FERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK.**

**August 23-29** The Billings Ovulation Method® is based on sound science and has been proven an effective Method to achieve or postpone a pregnancy and to monitor reproductive health. More info can be found on our website: <https://billings.life/en/> OR Contact Billings LIFE via mail: [enquiries@thebillingsovulationmethod.org](mailto:enquiries@thebillingsovulationmethod.org) An information session will be held on Monday 23rd August @ 7.30pm - 8.30pm AEST. To register go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-webinar-tracking-fertility-tracking-health-tickets-163000285241>

## Plenary Council Prayer

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.  
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia  
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to  
recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our stories  
and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other  
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.*

*Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,  
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
bread for the journey from age to age.  
Amen.*

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.  
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us*

[Plenary Council Website](#)



**Monday 9 August 2021, the following apply across  
Metropolitan Melbourne until 11:59pm 2/9/21 .**

- **Face masks must be worn inside and outdoors:** everywhere except your own home.
- **There will be 5 Reasons to leave home:**
  - shopping for necessary goods and services (1 person per household, per day, a support person can accompany within 5km);
  - caregiving or compassionate reasons;
  - authorised work or permitted education, or work interstate (must work from home if can do so);
  - exercise (up to 2 hours, with 1 other person/ household member ; within 5km);
  - receive a vaccination.
- **Private and public gatherings will not be permitted:** Single person bubbles will be allowed.
- **PRAYER and RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES:** No in-person gatherings permitted. Livestreaming and Broadcast is permitted with a total of 5 people present including technicians.
- **FUNERALS:** (indoor and outdoor): No more than 10 people (and those necessary to conduct the funeral). Children under 12 months old not counted towards this cap.
- **WEDDINGS:** (indoor and outdoor): Not permitted unless end of life or for deportation reasons. Involves only 5 persons ( the 2 persons being married, celebrant, 2 witnesses).

### **ACBC Social Justice Sunday 29th August *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor***

The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22: affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations.

Theological foundations are provided to ground and inspire efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. The Statement reflects on creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; the wonder and beauty available to the contemplative eye; and the need for conversion and change of life.

The Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. These Goals are: response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action.

We are encouraged to : listen to the First Nations; reflect on the theological foundations offered in Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor; and plan their next steps towards the Laudato Si' Goals.  
Download the Bishop's Social Justice Statement [here](#).

*St. Monica's is a Child Safe Parish. We hold the care, safety and well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility of our community.*



## Hearing from young Catholics

The Archdiocese is looking at how we can continue to accompany young people in their journey of faith. They would love to hear the discipleship experiences of young Catholics in Melbourne and invite youth and young adults (15–35 years) to complete a survey. This will be used to help inform planning as we seek to ensure youth and young adults are accompanied in their journey with the Lord over the years ahead. The survey can be found [here](#).

## Fancy a Chat?

Stop for morning tea for half an hour

Wednesdays

Aug 25 & 1 Sept at 10:30 AM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83511736649>

Meeting ID: 835 1173 6649



### Major earthquake hits Haiti

Caritas Australia's thoughts and prayers are with the people of the Haiti who have been devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake.

**Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. Homes, churches and schools have been damaged in the quake, and reports indicate that more than 30,000 families have been left homeless.**

The country also continues to grapple with COVID-19, poverty, and ongoing political instability and violence.

**There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground.**

To provide support, you can donate to **Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal.**

Donate today at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au) or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

You are invited to a  
Virtual Cuppa ( or Wine!)

With Abygaile  
Friday 27th August

5-6pm  
on Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/98973683304>

Meeting ID: 989 7368 3304

Drop in for a chat  
anytime within  
this hour



St. Monica's Parish

## August

- \* **24th** St. Bartholomew, Apostle
- \* **27th** St. Monica's
- \* **28th** St. Augustine
- \* **29th** Parish Celebrates St. Monica's Feast Day & Social Justice Sunday



# SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 26th September  
Fr. Tony's  
75th Birthday Celebrations  
More details to follow

### PARISH ZOOM MOBILE SCRIPTURES REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

with Fr. Tony

Friday at 7pm

[Click here for Link](#)

(Meeting ID: 914 0120 3888)



### Pray the Holy Rosary Together

We will gather together to pray the Holy Rosary on Saturdays via Zoom. All welcome.

Saturday Night, at 7.30pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85454357023>

Meeting ID: 854 5435 7023

### Current Job Vacancies

- Parish Secretary, Parish of St Vincent de Paul, Strathmore
- Safeguarding Officer (Western Region), Professional Standards Unit
- Finance Officer, Catholic Development Fund (CDF) - Part Time . Details at

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>  
[hradmin@cam.org.au](mailto:hradmin@cam.org.au)

### National Child Protection Week

5-11 September 2021

Theme: *Every child, in every community, needs a fair go. To treat all of Australia's children fairly, we need to make sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy.* [Find out more here](#)

For Coronavirus Information in your language  
click on

[SBS Multilingual Coronavirus Portal-](#)



### Support My Parish

In these challenging times the Catholic Development Fund (CDF) and the Archdiocese of Melbourne have partnered to build an online parish payment portal, *CDFpay for Parishes*. This site enables you to make quick and easy online thanksgiving payments – you can set-up a recurring payment, if you haven't done so already, or you can choose a one-off offering. The Moonee Ponds site is live and found at

<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=96>

We thank you in advance for supporting our parish.

This week we have the readings for next Sunday  
The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary time for our Parishioners  
to make some time during the week to read and  
reflect on.

**FIRST READING (Dt 4:1-2. 6-8)**

**A reading from the book of Deuteronomy**

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart. (R.)

He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord. (R.)

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever. (R.)

**SECOND READING ( Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27)**

**A reading from the letter of St James**

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth,  
that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL (Mk 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23)**

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

After The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,  
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,  
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

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



What is important for Jesus is what is in our hearts.