

ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Moonee Ponds

Presbytery: 22 Robinson St., Moonee Ponds 3039

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Website: 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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

29th 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**

Our parish church is closed during this current lockdown. You are invited to participate in our online Mass, available from 10.00am Sunday on our website.
www.stmonicasparrish.com.au

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

Victorian Bishops Statement for Justice and Compassion Towards Afghan Community

Members of the Catholic community in Victoria, The Catholic Dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sandhurst and Sale 25/08/21

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We hold the people of Afghanistan in our prayers, and express a commitment to compassionate outreach for them throughout the world and here in Victoria.

In Victoria, we have the largest number of Afghan-born people in Australia and have two 'world famous' places deeply enriched by Afghan culture: Dandenong and Shepparton. Afghans hold an important place in the hearts of Victorians, especially at this difficult time.

We recognise the pain of family separation, and are deeply concerned for those who are living in safety in Australia while their homeland experiences such rapid and devastating changes. We know there is deep concern from the Afghan community in Victoria for their family members and friends who remain in Afghanistan. We join with them in this concern.

While we recognise the limitations of the role that Australia can play in the context of this international crisis, and the complexity of the situation, we affirm that a just and compassionate response should guide our Government's decision making.

Our country's involvement in the conflict should urge a just and compassionate response to the current situation now, and our policies should be person-focused, and adapt to the fundamentally changed situation.

Families being able to be together safely should be a priority at this time. (continued over)

This week we pray for all those who are caring for coronavirus patients, all those who are isolating to protect families and the wider community, and especially for all those who are working to control the outbreaks.

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,
Edward Augustyn
May he rest in peace.*

ANNIVERSARIES

*In Faith, Hope and Love, let us pray for repose of the souls of
Bill & William Kerr; Anna Ng; Carl Schuler
whose anniversary occurs at this time*

We hold particularly in our prayers the 5,100 Afghan refugees in the Australian community who are separated from family and loved ones because of the danger related to their own personal situations that required them to leave their homes and families, and by the continuing Australian Government policy that precludes them from applying for humanitarian visas for their immediate family members to join them in safety in Australia.

We ask that compassion and justice be the guide of Australian Government decisions going forward, as together Catholic organisations, hospitals, parishes, schools and communities across Victoria continue to support those in the Afghan community through this difficult time.

We commit to pray for and welcome all new arrivals from Afghanistan during the coming months, as we remember how the Holy Family received welcome in Egypt when they sought safety.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

Most Rev Terence Curtin
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF MELBOURNE

Most Rev Martin Ashe
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF MELBOURNE

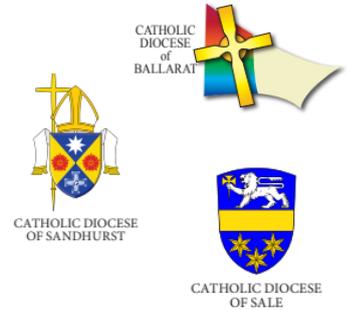
Most Rev Anthony Ireland
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF MELBOURNE



Most Rev Paul Bird
CSsR BISHOP OF BALLARAT

Most Rev Shane Mackinlay
BISHOP OF SANDHURST

Most Rev Gregory Bennett
BISHOP OF SALE



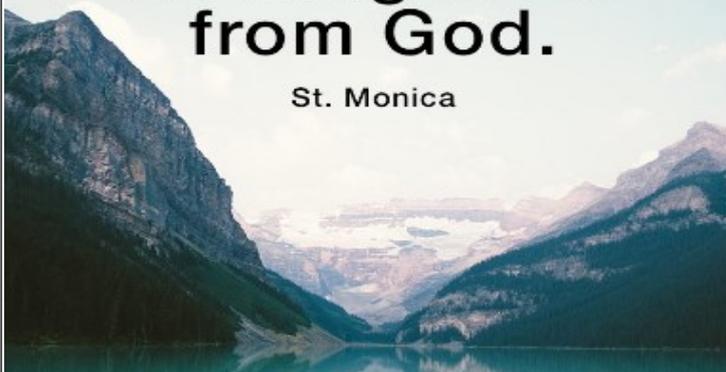
Dear St. Monica,
Troubled wife and mother,
many sorrows pierced your heart
during your lifetime.
Yet, you never despaired or lost
faith.
With confidence, persistence and
profound faith,
you prayed daily for the conversion
of your beloved husband,
Patricius, and your beloved son,
Augustine, your prayers were
answered.
Grant me that same fortitude,
patience, and trust in the Lord.
Intercede for me, dear St. Monica
that God may favorably hear my
pleas
and grant me the grace to accept
His Will in all things,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.

Amen



Nothing is far
from God.

St. Monica



Fancy a Chat?
Stop for morning tea for half an hour
Wednesday

1 Sept at 10:30 AM

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

Meeting ID: 835 1173 6649



Enjoy Catholic Radio Reflections

Visit [Catholic Radio Podcasts](#)

Where you can listen anytime

POETRY CORNER

Send us a short poem to shine a light over your fellow parishioners. It's a creative outlet for you whilst providing inspiration, comfort and hope; just like St Monica.



Please send to stmonicaspastoralteam@gmail.com.

Poems will be published in the Poetry Corner of our weekly newsletter, Facebook and The Monica (once we get this going again). Happy writing everyone.

Here is one from Fr. Tony

Time

Now is the time

Now is the time to sit

Now is the time to sit and be one

Now is the time to sit and be one with creation

Now is the time to sit and be one with creation and one with oneself

Now is the time to sit and give thanks for the time!

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.



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

With Abygaile
Friday 27th August

5-6pm
on Zoom

[https://zoom.us/
j/98973683304](https://zoom.us/j/98973683304)

Meeting ID: 989 7368 3304

Drop in for a chat
anytime within
this hour



Humanitarian crises unfolding in Afghanistan and Lebanon

As the situations in **Afghanistan** and **Lebanon** deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises.

In **Afghanistan**, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection.

In **Lebanon**, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world.

Visit caritas.org.au/lebanon or www.caritas.org.au/afghanistan or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

Safeguarding Committee

What does it mean to be a child safe parish?

There are a range of practices that are required to be met. These include the following:

- Review and develop policies that address the care, wellbeing, and protection of children
- Ensure that all volunteers endorse the code of conduct annually or as required
- Anyone involved in the Parish has the right to raise a concern including children and young people and they should know how to do that and who to contact
- All persons involved in situations where there has been an allegation that warrants investigation must respect the rights and dignity of all
- Appropriate confidentiality will be maintained, with information being provided to those who have a right or a need to be informed, either legally or consistent with the requirements of the Archdiocese.

August

* **29th** Social Justice Sunday & St. Monica's Feast Day (27 August)

September

* **5th** Father's Day

* **8th** The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin



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>
hadmin@cam.org.au

CRY OF THE EARTH CRY OF THE POOR

This Sunday 29th August is Social Justice Sunday. Read the Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2021-2022 [here](#).

"The signs of the times are clear –we know that we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour."

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 23rd Sunday in Ordinary time for our Parishioners to make some time during the week to read and reflect on.

FIRST READING (Is 35:4-7)
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;
for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **(R.)**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bound down,
the Lord who loves the just,
the Lord, who protects the stranger. **(R.)**

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **(R.)**

SECOND READING (Jas 2:1-5)
A reading from the letter of St James

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?
Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Mk 7:31-37)
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

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



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](#)

