



# ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Moonee Ponds

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

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**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 **Pastoral Assistant:** Abygaile Cukavac

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

**School Phone No:** 9375 1132



Green

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th September 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.stmonicasparish.com.au](http://www.stmonicasparish.com.au)

**DUE TO CURRENT  
RESTRICTIONS  
CHURCH IS  
CURRENTLY**

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I wish to thank everyone of you who made my 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations so special this past week.

There were so many people involved! SO many people to thank.

I begin by saying 'THANK YOU!' to the children in our St. Monica's Parish Primary School who got my birthday celebrations underway with the many Birthday Cards they created, which they gave to me or had dropped into the Presbytery letterbox. So many wonderful works of art! THANK YOU!

My second THANK YOU goes to Fr. Andrew, Abygaile and members of the Parish Pastoral Council; Tanya, Pauline, Mark, and Justin, who organized my ZOOM birthday celebration, that so many of you were able to ZOOM in and share with me. A third THANK YOU (which ought really to have been my first, as you will see as you read on) was given when I went across to our beautiful St. Monica's Church and prayed a Mass of Thanksgiving to God for the wonderful DNA he gave me in and through the love of my parents, John and Alice. Without them and that love there would have been no 75<sup>th</sup> birthday to celebrate!

A big THANK YOU goes to you, the wonderful parishioners of St. Monica's Parish and Primary School, for the love and support you give to me as your priest and for the many cards and gifts (all that red wine!) that I (and Andrew) have gratefully received.

Another THANK YOU goes to all my family members and the many friends from earlier parishes who joined us via ZOOM on the night. All of you, wherever you may, have contributed to the rich tapestry that is my life.

May the God of all life and love richly reward each and every one of you, as I again say:

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



On Sunday 26 September we commemorate World Migrant and Refugee Sunday, & celebrate the contributions of all new settlers, while never forgetting our First Nations peoples.

**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; 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,  
Ursula McWhinney  
Domenica Cotroneo  
Neta MacDonald*

*May they rest in peace.*

**ANNIVERSARIES**

*In Faith, Hope and Love, let us pray for repose of the souls of  
David Dobson; Jack Dobson; Jim Foster; Tess Gulliver;  
Pauline Portelli; Nancy Cronin; Don Taylor ; Colleen Daffy;  
Emmanuel Farrugia; George Taucer; Rodney Butler; John Murphy;  
Anne Elizabeth Bernardi; Thomas Frederick Rossiter ;  
Marie Therese Rossiter ; Pasquale Stivala  
whose anniversary occurs at this time*

## Fr. Tony's 75th Birthday Celebrations



Due to COVID restrictions Fr. Tony's 75th Birthday Celebrations on the 21st September moved online with electronic Birthday wishes and a Zoom Birthday Party organized by the Parish Pastoral Council.

Many parishioners (with party hats and lights) joined celebrations. There was a birthday cake adorned with Golf Bag and Footscray Football Club colours; a special Birthday present (travelling bag); speeches and many thanks as well as a special Birthday Dinner for Fr. Tony delivered for after celebrations.



### Safeguarding Committee

What should you do if you think there is a potential risk child safety at St Monica's?

If you are in a situation where you think there is a risk then don't stay silent.

Let someone from the office know or speak to the Parish Priest or event organiser.

Even eliminating physical risks to children is important to ensure they feel safe and welcome and their families know that their children are safe.

We all have a role to play in ensuring that children, young people and their families, feel welcome and safe at St Monica's.

### The gift of migrants

This Sunday is Victorians World Migrant and Refugee Sunday. For some dedicated supporters it will be a day of joy; for others of desolation.



The mixed emotions of the weekend and its overshadowing by uncertainty make it a suitable day for remembering migrants and refugees. In the Australian Catholic Church, it prompts gratitude and joy for the gift that people from different nations and their children have been for both church and nation. We remember the Irish immigrants who were the heart of so many communities, whose churches and schools were built with the pennies of the poor. We remember also the European and Middle Eastern immigrants of early days. We recall, too, the people of so many European nations who came from a war-devastated Europe after the Second World War – English, Dutch, Polish, Italian, and others, and the later refugees and migrants from Vietnam, Latin America, Lebanon, the Baltic nations, India and Africa. Both the Australian community and the Church have been so blessed by the contribution they have made. Migration has shaped and reshaped the face of Australia, and has reminded us that we all have trespassed on a land first cared for by Indigenous Australians. [Read more here](#)



### 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 [stmonicaspastoral-team@gmail.com](mailto:stmonicaspastoral-team@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

### Abundance or Lack

Abundance or lack, what do I see?

In myself, in the world, and all around me?

The lens I use to look through

Determines, colours and shapes my view.

by Dolores Carroll





# Lockdown Light

A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown...

## Making the most of lockdown—week four

### Podcasts for Christian living: Parents of the Saints—How Did They Do It?

In this podcast, Jason Evert speaks with Patrick O'Hearn about his new book 'Parents of the Saints: The Hidden Heroes Behind Our Favourite Saints', offering key insights into the families of popular saints. Listen at [www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving4](http://www.bit.ly/ChristianLiving4)

### Getting to know your Bible: Praying with Scripture

*Getting Started:* In this short video, Fr James Martin SJ introduces us Lectio Divina—a way of praying with the Bible that helps us listen to God. Watch at [www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted4](http://www.bit.ly/BibleGettingStarted4)

*Going Deeper:* Pray as You Go is an online prayer tool that provides a guided contemplation of each day's Gospel passage. Set aside 10-15 minutes, find a comfy space and visit [www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper4](http://www.bit.ly/BibleGoingDeeper4)

**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>

## Plenary

### Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021



From October 3-10, the Catholic Church in Australia will gather for the first of two Assemblies of the Plenary Council. Due to COVID and the varying lockdown restrictions across Australia, the first Assembly will now take place online. There are close to 280 members from around the country, with 17 from Melbourne. While a face-to-face Plenary would have been ideal, the Plenary Facilitation Team has prepared for all eventualities which means ensuring that each Plenary Member has the tools they'll need to participate online for the full seven days.

The [agenda](#) for the Plenary Council has emerged from three years and several layers of prayer, listening, dialogue and discernment. The areas of focus and 16 questions, all aim to address the question of how we are being called to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia at this time. While Plenary members will be meeting online, the wider public will be able to join by tuning in to the daily livestream, beginning with the Opening Mass in Perth on Sunday 3 October. Visit the [Plenary website](#) for more details. We also invite all parishes to keep the Plenary Council in their prayers, particularly over the coming weeks.

## September

- \* **26th** Migrant and Refugee Sunday
- \* **27th** St. Vincent de Paul
- \* **29th** Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Archangels



## October

- \* **4th** St. Francis of Assisi

### PARISH ZOOM MOBILE SCRIPTURES REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

with Fr. Tony

Friday at 7pm

[Click here for Link](#)

(Meeting ID: 914 0120 3888 )

Passcode: 93705035



### PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY TOGETHER

with Fr. Andrew

Saturday at 7.30pm

<https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/85454357023>

(Meeting ID: 854 5435 7023)



## FANCY AT CHAT?

*Stop for morning tea for half an hour with Abygaile*

Wednesday at 10.30am

<https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/8351736649>

(Meeting ID: 835 1173 6649)



*You are invited to a*

### VIRTUAL CUPPA (OR WINE)

with Abygaile

Friday 1st October

5-6 pm on Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 989 7368 3304

*Drop in for a chat anytime within this hour*



**Laudato Si** – An invitation to see, love and work together to protect the creation God, our Creator has given us

*One thoughtful suggestion: We need to go back to the way we were in some aspects.*

*I know they'd call it progress from way back when my great-grandparents were living. We had milk, the milk was in a glass jug so we didn't put it in any plastic. Today, the chemicals that's in that plastic are cancer-causing. We need to get away from all this plastic. I know we can't do it overnight. But gradually, we need to get away from this plastic. There's too much.*

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

— Margaret Mead

## Next week's reading The 27th Sunday in Ordinary time

This week we have the readings for next Sunday the 27th Sunday in Ordinary time for our Parishioners to make some time during the week to read and reflect on.

### FIRST READING (Gen 2:18-24) A reading from the book of Genesis

'The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!

This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

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

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) May the Lord bless us  
all the days of our lives.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **(R.)**

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **(R.)**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!  
May you see your children's children.  
On Israel, peace! **(R.)**

### SECOND READING ( Heb 2:9-11)

#### A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

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

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
If we love one another,  
God will live in us in perfect love.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL (Mk 10:2-16)

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

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

**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*

