

ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Moonee Ponds

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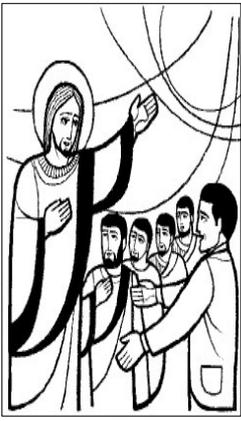
Parish Priest: **Rev. Fr. Tony Feeney - 040 838 5823**

Assistant Priest: **Rev. Fr. Andrew Choi**

Parish Office: **Sonya Bading**

Pastoral Assistant: **Abygaile Cukavac**

School Principal: **Mr. Peter Moore** — School Phone No: (03) 9375 1132



(White)

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

10th May 2020

Greetings from Fr. Tony and Fr. Andrew!

Some of you may have read Charles Dicken's book "**Tale of Two Cities**" and recall the memorable opening lines: "*It was the best of times, it was the worse of time...*" These words came back to me whilst reading today's Gospel and hearing the words Jesus spoke to his disciples just before his death and resurrection (a *new life*, the apostles, at that moment, could not foresee or dream of): "*Do not let your hearts be troubled,*" Jesus says, "*trust in God and trust in me.*"

'*Trust in God and trust in me.*' These reassuring words the Lord speaks to us as we continue to live the 'coronavirus shut-down' that has crippled many individuals, families and communities not only economically but in so many other ways as well. In the midst of the struggle we are all experiencing; the Lord calls us to a deeper faith and trust in God, in him (our Good Shepherd) and in one another.

As we continue to wash our hands and observe the 'safe social distancing', let us not lose touch with one another; let us not close in on ourselves, focusing on only what I want and what I need.

Jesus tells us that he is the Way, the Truth and the Life — may we draw strength from him and the truth of the love he has for each one of us, at the same time, may we hear the challenge that comes to us in the First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, not to overlook those who might be experiencing the 'coronavirus shut-down' harder than we are.

Our Parish St. Vincent de Paul is working hard to support those (families and individuals) who are experiencing hardship at this time, if any of us can help in any way (a cash donation or a donation of non-perishable foods), please drop your donation in at the Parish Office as we will pass it on.

Let us pray again that verse from the Responsorial Psalm today: *Lord, let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in you.*

Special congratulations this weekend to Marie and John Letters who celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

God bless,

Fr. Tony and Fr. Andrew

* 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 5th Sunday of Easter.

[For Adults:](#) **[For Families with Young Children:](#)**

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

*All-loving God,
we give you thanks for mothers young and old.
We pray for all mothers of every kind. Those who have loved us and helped shape us with motherly care and compassion.
We remember mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us, but whose love is in our memory forever. Amen.*



WE PRAY FOR

The elderly and the sick

**Marius Fenando; Dantina Frederico; Barbara Burby;
Stella Mammone; Gino Salva**

ANNIVERSARIES

*In Faith, Hope and Love,
let us pray for repose of the souls of
Sylvia Schuler; Charlotte Attard*

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.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING (Acts 6:1-7)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R.)**

For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

SECOND READING (1 Peter 2:4-9)

A reading from the first letter of St. Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring

men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL (John 14:1-12)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you.

I am now going to prepare a place for you,

and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.'

'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,

so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the true vine and you are the branches,
says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him,

bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.