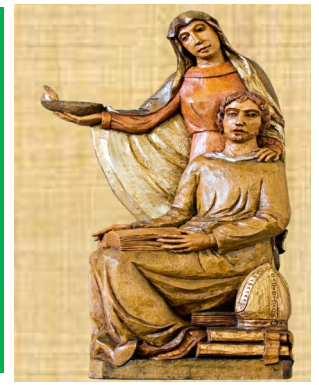




# The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

24th/25th January, 2026.

You're welcome to take this Newsletter with you.



## Parishes of St Monica & St Vincent de Paul Moonee Ponds & Strathmore

**MP Church:** 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039  
**SVdP Church:** Cnr The Crossway & Woodland Street, Strathmore 3041  
**Parish Office & Presbytery** (All Correspondence): 22 Robinson Street, Moonee Ponds 3039  
**Phone:** (03) 9370 5035 **Email:** [mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au) or [strathmore@cam.org.au](mailto:strathmore@cam.org.au)  
**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Nhân Le ([mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au))  
**Assistant Priest:** Rev. Dr Joseph Raj ([mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au))  
**Parish Office Manager:** Mrs. Sonia Cavallaro ([mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au))  
**Parish Finance Officer:** Ms. Karen Nguyen ([mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au))  
**Website:** [stmonicasparish.com.au](http://stmonicasparish.com.au)



### Sunday Worship Timetable

**SVdP:** Reconciliation @ 5:30 pm & followed by  
 Saturday Vigil @ 6:00 pm  
 Sunday @ 9:30 am  
**SM:** Saturday Vigil @ 6:00 pm  
 Sunday @ 8:30 am (Italian & English)  
 Sunday @ 10:30 am  
 Sunday @ 5:30 pm

### Weekday Worship Timetable

**SVdP:** Tuesday (Communion Service) @ 9:15 am  
 Wednesday & Thursday @ 9:15 am  
 Friday @ 10:00 am  
**SM:** Monday @ 9:15 am  
 Tuesday - Friday @ 9:15 am  
 Saturday @ 8:00 am  
 followed by Reconciliation: @ 8:30 am

### St Monica's Primary School

20 Robinson St, Moonee Ponds, Vic. 3039

**Principal:** Peter Moore  
**Secretaries:** Maria Muller  
 Vanessa Di Chiera  
 Sandy Gunasekera  
**Phone:** (03) 93751132  
**Email:** [info@stmonicasmp.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stmonicasmp.catholic.edu.au)  
**Website:** [stmonicasmp.catholic.edu.au](http://stmonicasmp.catholic.edu.au)

### St. Vincent de Paul Primary School

92-114 Woodland St, Strathmore, Vic. 3041

**Principal:** Shane Byrne  
**Secretaries:** Maria Kuret  
 Patricia Hengel  
**Phone:** (03) 93795723  
**Email:** [principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au)  
**Website:** [svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au](http://svstrathmore.catholic.edu.au)

### Please remember in your Prayers

**Recently Deceased:** Owen Snowden

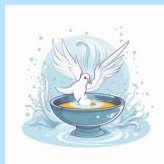
**Anniversaries:** Muriel Remedios, Leo Gillman, Bert & Iris Gillman, Joseph & Winifred Carr,  
Maria Catalano, Andrey Boyko

**The Sick & Seriously Ill:** Please remember in your prayers all those in our Parish who are sick and suffering serious illness, together with their families and loved ones who care for them.

**Names for the Parish Weekly Update:** If you would like your loved one who has died recently or whose anniversary is occurring to be remembered at Mass and in the Parish Weekly Update, please make sure you have their names into the Parish Office by Wednesday at 3.00pm.

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.

## ***Celebration of Baptism this Weekend***



**Ottavia Sofia Hunter Trapani** daughter of  
Elmo & Lauren  
**Myah-Anashe Simbai Makoni** daughter of  
Beloved and Amanda  
**Aeson Casiel Rubio** Son of Aldrin and Chessie

***We Welcome into our Parish Community*** Aaron & Dianna Bortoletti as they prepare to celebrate the baptism of their child, *Alessia Emilia Bortoletti*. We keep them in our prayers and wish them every blessing during this special time.

## ***Australia Day Mass***

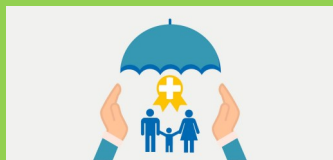
Parishioners are warmly welcome to celebrate Mass at 9:15am on Monday, 26 January at St Monica's Church, Moonee Ponds.

## ***Safeguarding Committees - Members Needed***

Safeguarding is our shared commitment to protecting the dignity and safety of every person in our community. It involves promoting safe practices, raising awareness, and ensuring that our parishes meet the standards and guidelines set by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

St Monica's Parish and St Vincent de Paul Parish are each seeking members to form Safeguarding Committees. These committees play an important role in ensuring our parishes remain safe, welcoming, respectful communities for all, especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

If you are interested in contributing to this important ministry or would like more information, please contact the Parish office.



## ***Morning Tea Assistance***

Families are invited to assist with the monthly morning tea after 9.30am Mass at St Vincent de Paul Parish, Strathmore. If you are able to help please contact Rosa on 0412 445 239. Your support is greatly appreciated!

## **Parish Stewardship Program**

**St Monica's Parish**  
Thanksgiving: \$1,229.45  
Presbytery: \$1,101.00

**St Vincent de Paul Parish**  
Thanksgiving: \$443.15  
Presbytery: \$504.30

## ***First Sunday of the Month Cuppa next weekend @ SVdP & SM***

All are warmly invited to spend some time with fellow Pilgrims of Hope Parishioners over a cup of tea or coffee. After the Vigil Mass next Saturday 31st January, and 9:30am Mass on Sunday 1st February, join us in our SVdP Church foyer. After 8:30am & 10:30am Mass on Sunday 1st February, please join us in the Symons Centre at SM.



## ***Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)***

The RCIA program will be offered at St Monica's Parish, Moonee Ponds, at the beginning of Lent. Anyone interested in joining the program or seeking further information is invited to contact the parish office.

## ***Charismatic Prayer Group***

You are warmly invited to join the Charismatic Prayer Group, commencing on Thursday, 5th February. Gatherings will be held every Thursday evening from 7:30pm to 9:00pm in the Symons Centre, Moonee Ponds Parish. All parishioners and friends are most welcome to participate in this time of prayer and refectation.

## ***Welcome Back School Community***

Our Parish warmly welcomes our school principles, teachers and students of St Vincent de Paul Primary school, Strathmore and St Monica's Primary school, Moonee Ponds, as they return from their summer break next week. We wish you a joyful and successful year ahead, filled with learning, growth and God's blessings.



## ***Embroidery Assistance***

The parish office is seeking anyone with embroidery skills, including access to an embroidery machine, who may be willing to assist. If you are able to help or would like further information, please contact the parish office.

**ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY 31st Jan/1st February 2026, Year A**

Mass Times	Readers		Extraordinary Ministers	
6:00 pm SM	J Fernando		J Fernando	
6:00 pm SVdP	A Mammone		J Mammone	
8:30 am	S Letcher	L Mathews	V Pizzichetta	L Nardo
9:30 am	L Delaney		L O'Brien	
10:30 am	A Cukavac	C Cukavac	J Morello	A Coghlan
5:30 pm	C Taylor		E McMahon	R McMahon

**CHURCH VACUUMING**

**SM: Team 4**  
 Thursday 30th  
 January @ 9:45am  
**SVdP: Group A**  
 Friday 13th  
 February @ 9:00am

**CHURCH LINEN**

**SM January**  
 Lyndon Bronkhurt  
**SVdP 24/25 January**  
 Shanika Peiris

***St Columban's Day Celebration***

On Sunday, 23rd November 2025, parishioners gathered at St Columbans on Woodland Street, Essendon, for Mass followed by a shared lunch. It was a wonderful occasion of faith, fellowship, and community. Please see below for some happy snaps captured during this joyful gathering.



**Liturgical Readings for The Third  
Sunday In Ordinary Time, Year A**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah 8:23-9:3**

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.  
You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils.  
For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

**The word of the Lord, R/Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1, 4,13-14**

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is my light and my help;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
before whom shall I shrink? **R.**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,  
for this I long,  
to live in the house of the Lord,  
all the days of my life,  
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,  
to behold his temple. **R.**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness  
in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! **R.**

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to  
the Corinthians 1:10-13, 17**

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollo', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

**The Word of the Lord, R/Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 4:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Matthew 4:12-23**

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali!  
Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan,  
Galilee of the nations!

The people that lived in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death  
a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'.

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

**The Gospel of the Lord, R/Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

