

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

Presbytery (Correspondence): 22 Robinson Street, Moonee Ponds 3039

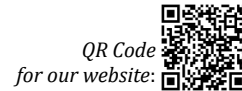
Phone: (03) 9370 5035 | **Email:** mooneeponds@cam.org.au | **Website:** stmonicasparish.com.au

Parish Priest: Rev Anthony J Doran (Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au)

Assistant Priest: Rev Joseph Nguyen (Joseph.Nguyen@cam.org.au)

Parish Office Manager: Mrs Sonia Cavallaro (mooneeponds@cam.org.au)

Admin Assistant: Mrs Fran Adamopoulos (mooneeponds@cam.org.au)



The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

25th June, 2023

Worship Timetable—Moonee Ponds

Sunday: **8.30 am** (*Italian & English*); **10.30 am**; **5.30 pm**
Tuesday - Friday: **9.15 am**
Saturday: **8.00 am**
8.30 am—Reconciliation

Worship Timetable—Strathmore

Saturday Vigil: **6.00 pm**
Sunday: **9.30 am**
Tuesday - Friday: **10.00 am**

Parish Office Hours

Moonee Ponds Parish Office:
Tue - Thu: 9.00 am - 3.30 pm

Strathmore Parish Office:
Fri: 9.00 am - 3.30 pm

Dear friends,

The prophet Jeremiah who we hear from in today's First Reading, was not a particularly happy person, and seems most ill suited to be a prophet. You see, he was timid and hypersensitive. He is constantly torn between his own limitations and the divine intervention in his life which called him to be a prophet. But struggles with God. His experience of God's call in his life is strong: for Jeremiah it was devouring and inextinguishable fire, urging him to proclaim the Word of God. Yet his experience of God was mixed, too. For the God who called him, seemed also to have deceived him: given him a mission which was impossible to complete.

But after this human cry of distress and rejection, Jeremiah's faith prevails and he is able to proclaim: ***the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero...my opponents will stumble.*** Jeremiah's faith prevails is a way stronger and more tenacious than the doubt and fear which threatened to drown him. But this faith of Jeremiah is not something shallow. It is a deep faith and trust in God that expresses itself in the midst of all sorts of dangers. Jeremiah entrusts himself to God and gives to God the burden which he felt too weak to bear. And so Jeremiah can then renew his trust in God's faithfulness: The same faith which Jeremiah expressed in God's faithfulness, Jesus calls his apostles to have.

Today's Gospel Reading is from the great mission sermon of Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus is giving his apostles instructions for their lives as ministers of the Gospel. And the instructions which Jesus gives to his apostles, are also given to us. And his message is an encouragement to his disciples not to lose heart when it seems that what God wants us to do is not clear: ***Do not be afraid...for everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything hidden will be made clear.***

But Jesus' message is also a warning that to be an apostle of Jesus Christ, to be one who is sent to proclaim that the Kingdom of God is among us, ***is*** to experience trials and tribulations. ***Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body...*** To follow Jesus is a risky business. Because to follow Jesus is to open ourselves up to ridicule and rejection. It is to follow him all the way to the Cross. We may not always understand what it is that God is asking us to do. But we are asked to have the same deep faith and trust in God that Jeremiah had. To commit our cause to God. And to trust that God never deceives us. But that God's love for us is strong and always faithful.

And this does require deep, deep faith. Having declared ourselves for Christ, we believe that Christ will remain faithful to his promises. Christ will declare himself for us in the presence of God in heaven. For all of us, there are times of darkness and doubt. Times when, like Jeremiah, we feel that what God is asking us to do seems too hard, almost impossible to carry out. But what we have heard in the dark, we must tell in the daylight; what we have heard in whispers, we must proclaim from the house-tops. Whatever we face, however hard it seems, God never deceives us and God remains true to his promises.

With every peace,

Fr Tony.

MINISTERS ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY 2nd July 2023 — The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	L Bani RSC	A M Catalfamo	S Maurici	K Sherwood
10.30 am	L Besterwitch	S O'Dwyer	L Butler	J Trethowan
5.30 pm	J Fernando		J Dobson	T Vu

CHURCH LINEN

June—A Savino

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 2 - Thursday 29 June at 2.00pm

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

Santa Di Tizio Gino Salvo
Nicola Nola
Beverly & Graham Besterwitch
John Paul & Merry D'Amico

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.

Parish Contact List

If you have not already done so, please make sure you subscribe to the new Parish Contact List — simply send an email to MooneePonds@cam.org.au with the subject line **Parish Contact List**

Sacramental Preparation for Children Attending Non-Catholic Schools—First Reconciliation

Classes to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will commence on **16th July**. Please contact the Parish Office or one of the priests for an information pack & enrolment form.

Date Claimer: Our Parish: Past-Present-Future

Over coming months, our Parish will hold a series of fora to reflect on our past, celebrate our present and discern our future directions. In the Symons Centre, beginning at 7.30pm

Our Parish Past:

Daytime Session Wed 28th June @ 11.00am

Present: 5th July

Future: 4th October

Special Collection this Sunday: The Annual Collection for the Holy Father

Moonee Valley Alpha for Young Adults meets on Sunday nights in the Symons Centre. So what is Alpha? Alpha is a series of small group conversations and videos, run over several weeks, that explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly environment. It's a place to connect with people over dinner, where you can say anything you like, or nothing at all. In a nutshell you can expect: delicious dinner + thought provoking videos + good conversation. Please register at <https://bit.ly/42BF1YM>



New Envelopes Available this Sunday

The next set of envelopes is available for those who use weekly envelopes to support our Parish. If you do not currently support our Parish, now is the time to join with your sisters and brothers in this Parish and make a commitment to financially support our community.

St Vincent De Paul Society – Assist A Student • The Annual Appeal to assist students in third world countries in here again! \$100 assists a student to cover educational costs for one year. This is a wonderful way to give a Christmas gift to somebody you do not know. Your donation can be left in the piety stall or place it in a collection basket in an envelope marked **ASSIST A STUDENT**. If you have any enquiries, please see one of the member of SVdP Moonee Ponds Conference.

Expressions of Interest • Parish Safeguarding Team

We are currently seeking expressions of interest from parishioners who would be prepared and interested in joining our Safeguarding Team. This team would meet regularly to promote and coordinate our efforts in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. If you would be interested, please contact Fr Tony by phone: 9370 5035 or email: Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au



Australian Catholic Bishops Conference— Voice to Parliament

As a vote on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament nears, Australia's bishops have encouraged Catholics to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart—the document from which the Voice proposal emerged.

During their recent plenary meeting in Sydney, the bishops considered how they might assist Catholics in preparing for the referendum to enshrine the Voice to Parliament in the Constitution, with a vote due in the second half of 2023.

The bishops argued that the fact First Nations Peoples have lived in Australia for many thousands of years but their custodianship of the land isn't mentioned in the Constitution: *"It is an omission which needs to be rectified...a Voice to Parliament isn't the only way to achieve that outcome, but it is the way requested by those who gathered at the historic meeting at Uluru...This could be a significant step towards a more just and equitable Australia...we want to encourage all Australians to educate themselves as well as possible concerning the proposal to establish the Voice."*

The bishops call for a meaningful debate on the issue, acknowledging that *'people may, in good faith, have differing concerns and perspectives...we are an open democracy, and this is a moment to use our democratic institutions to produce a high-quality debate shaped by a genuine concern to do justice and bring healing to First Nations Peoples...we ask those drafting the changes to the Constitution to work together in a spirit of cooperation, so that the proposal presented to the Australian people will appeal to a wide range of the population.'*

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference endorsed the Uluru Statement from the Heart in 2021, with the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia taking the same step last year. The bishops have encouraged us to read the document and have discussions about our response to its key messages.

[ACBC Statement regarding an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.pdf - Google Drive](#)

[View The Statement - Uluru Statement from the Heart](#)



What do we do to deepen **communion**?

What do we do encourage **participation**?

What do we do to promote **mission**?



Stewardship Corner

"Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father."

Matthew 10:32

Would others know that you are Catholic by the way you act and speak? Do you share your Catholic faith with others? Do you defend your Catholic faith when the situation arises or do you remain silent? Do you pray in public before meals? Pray for the strength and courage to be a joyful witness of our Catholic faith when the opportunity presents itself. Let us become the radiant light and bold witness that we are called to be!

Special Collections 2023	
12 th February	Pastoral Care Appeal
Lent	Project Compassion
7 th April	Good Friday – Holy Places
4 th June	Propagation of the Faith
11 th June	SVdP Winter Appeal
25 th June	Annual Collection for the Holy Father
13 th August	CatholicCare
3 rd September	Priests' Retirement Foundation
22 nd October	World Mission Sunday
12 th November	Catholic Deaf
10 th December	Melbourne Overseas Mission

Readings at Mass
The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A—25th June 2023

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!"
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him and take our revenge!
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.

It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. **R.**

This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**

The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needs
and does not spurn servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. **R.**

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:26, 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME *(click below)*

Adults: [Sunday Readings - Sunday Readings Year A](#)
[\(weebly.com\)](#)

Children: [June 25 - Sunday 12 ORD](#)
[\(yearaprayingwithchildren.org\)](#)