

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

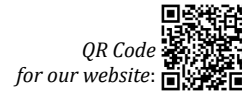
Phone: (03) 9370 5035 | **Email:** mooneeponds@cam.org.au | **Website:** stmonicasparish.com.au

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 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

24th September, 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

Tuesday

to

Friday

9.00 am - 3.30 pm

Dear friends,

To understand what Jesus wants to teach us in the parable which we will hear in this Sunday's Gospel, we must consider what the Lord says to us in the First Reading: ***my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways.***

In the parable of the vineyard, Jesus does not intend to give the principles for regulating relations between employers and workers. Because what Jesus says to us in today's Gospel probably would not pass the standards of any union or FairWork Australia. Rather, Jesus wants to teach us something of God – represented by the owner of the vineyard – and the way in which he acts towards us. And the teaching is this: God is inviting all people to share in his goodness, some in one way, and others in different ways. No one is excluded from God's vineyard; no one is excluded from the Kingdom.

You see, God is actually no respecter of persons. Doesn't matter whether you are sane and sorted, or like most of us, leaning more towards the insane and the unsorted. For God, it does not matter if you come at daybreak, at the third hour, the sixth hour, the ninth hour, or even the eleventh hour. The one who loves God and does justice to his brother and sister, that is the one who is acceptable to God. For God wants all people to be saved, to have an abundance of life, to have eternal life.

A second thing we can take from this parable is that, before God, we can claim no rights, because everything we have is God's gift. Behind the life which we live, behind the universe and all that is in it, is God, the giver of all good gifts. In God we live and move and have our being. Conscious that we receive from God our existence and our life, we are duty-bound to give thanks always and everywhere. As Catholics, we do this in a particular way through the Mass, which is the supreme expression of our praise and our thanks to God the Father who in Jesus has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

The words of Jesus in the parable go on to warn us not to look with envy at the good fortune of others. God gives us his gifts not according to our merits, but according to ***His*** generosity. There is only one God who works all in all. If we cannot rejoice with those who rejoice, then we are also worthy of the reproof of Jesus in the Gospel: ***Why be envious because I am generous?***

The call of the master to the workers, ***You go into my vineyard*** is also a call of the Lord Jesus to work in his Church. This call is as relevant today as it was two thousand years ago. The call is not directed only to the priests and religious, but to all the baptised faithful. Each and every one of us is called personally by the Lord to share in his work. And this call is reiterated in almost every piece of Church teaching since the Second Vatican Council. This teaching expresses clearly and urgently the role and the mission of the laity in the Church and in society.

We ask the Lord this Sunday, when we are at Mass, for the desire to put into practice the invitation which is expressed when the priest dismisses us at the end of Mass which is picked up in one of the dismissals at Mass: ***Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.***

With every peace,

Fr Tony.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY 1st October 2023 — Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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

CHURCH LINEN

October — Rosa Farfalla

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 3 - Thursday 28th September at 9.45am

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

David Dobson Jack Dobson
Max Penno

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.

Changes to Masses this Week

Wednesday 10.00am @ Strathmore
Thursday 9.15am @ Moonee Ponds
Friday 10.00am @ Strathmore
Saturday 8.00am @ Moonee Ponds

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*

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. The fora will take place in the Symons Centre:

Future: 4th October

Daytime Session: 11.00am
Evening Session: 7.30pm

St Monica's Prayer Group • Want to grow in your faith and spirituality? Make some new friends and enjoy fellowship? Share in the Word of God? Praise and Worship in song? Enjoy some delicious cake? Come, join us every Thursday from 7.30-9pm in Symons Centre.

Votive Candles • A reminder that votive candles are 20cents each—currently, the Parish is losing a lot of money because some people who are lighting candles are not paying for them. The system relies on honesty—let us all make an effort to be honest!

Devotional Statues • It is a custom of our church to seek the intercession of Our Lady and the saints in our prayers. Recently, we have found money being left at the statues of Our Lady and the saints in the church. Please do not leave money at or under the statues—it could easily be stolen. If you wish to make an offering in thanksgiving or to have mass said for your intentions, please speak to one of the priests.

'True North' Young Adults Group meets every second Sunday of the month 6:30pm - 8:30pm (after 5:30pm Mass at St Monica's). The night includes food, fellowship, and faith discussion. Location: The Symons Centre, St Monica's Catholic Church, 820 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds. Ages 18-35 welcome. More queries: please email truenorth90stable@gmail.com. True North is for young adults from all our local region, supported by the local parishes, and hosted by St Monica's Parish.



A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend is for YOU... "Live Your Best Married Life in Love" Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can easily

cause you to lose touch with your spouse. This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. Every married couple deserves a Marriage Encounter weekend!! The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome. **Please check our website for more details**
Date: 3-5 November 2023 in Melbourne **BOOK NOW**
Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or
Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

The **Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver** will hold their **Annual Mission Fair** on Saturday 14 October 9.00 am – 2.30 pm at 154 Cotham Road, Kew. This year the proceeds will be for the renovation and extension of a school in Zambia run by Franciscan Sisters of the Presentation for marginalised children. Enquiries Phone: 9817 3715.

Child Safety Update • There is an old African proverb which states it takes a village to raise a child. In much the same way, it takes a whole parish to be care for and be responsible for the safety of our children and vulnerable adults.

Working with Children Checks—A reminder that **all parish volunteers** need to have a valid WWCC with the Parish listed as one of the places where you undertake child related work. That means all

- Readers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
- Ministers of Communion to the Sick
- Musicians & Choir Members
- Church Cleaners

need to have a WWCC—if you are unsure, please contact the Parish Office or speak to one of the priests. Registered teachers are exempt from requiring a WWCC but are required to notify WWCC if they engage in child-related work other than their teaching—Click here to notify WWCC [Teacher notification](#)

Child Safeguarding Training—All volunteers need to undertake safeguarding training. You may undertake this training online [Online Safeguarding Training](#) The parish will also be running some inperson sessions in the near future—please keep an eye on this Bulletin for details.

Code of Conduct Declaration—Thanks to all those who have completed their Code of Conduct Declaration. Again, this is a requirement of all volunteers. We will be following up with those yet to complete their declaration.



A communion that radiates

How can we be more fully a sign and instrument of union with God and of the unity of all humanity?

Participation, governance and authority

What processes, structures and institutions in a missionary synodal Church?

Co-responsibility in mission

How can we better share gifts and tasks in the service of the Gospel?



Catholic Theological College 2024 Study Tour: Journey with Paul: Türkiye – Greece: 20 September – 6 October 2024 Tour Leader: Dr Rosemary Canavan. Online Information Sessions: Saturday 16, 23 September, or 7 October 2023 at 2pm Participants have the opportunity to undertake a study unit with CTC in conjunction with the tour for credit towards an award. RSVP & further information: rosemary.canavan@ctc.edu.au

Engaging Your Faith—October & November

CTC are delighted to announce the return in October 2023 of their popular online lecture series, **Engaging Your Faith**. Fourteen stand-alone sessions on a range of themes will be presented by members of our lecturing staff. For full details, please [click here](#) • These sessions would be an ideal opportunity for lay leaders and other interested people in your parish to explore the possibilities offered at CTC for personal, theological, and spiritual development. • Topics include Explorations in the Bible; Basic Listening Skills for Pastoral Ministry; Catholic Social Teaching; The Plenary Council, the Catholic Church, and being a Catholic; *Lectio Divina*; Science and faith issues

Stewardship Corner

Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last

Matthew 20:16

You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.

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 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A — 24th September 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord
who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways - it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results - I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: cf Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel
of the Lord.

**Praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ.**



SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME *(click below)*

Adults: [Sunday Readings - Sunday Readings Year A](#)
(weebly.com) Children: [September 24 - Sunday 25 ORD](#)
(yearaprayingwithchildren.org)