

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

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

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

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The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

15th October, 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,

The parable told by Jesus in today's Gospel Reading is a parable telling us about a great banquet at the end of time. The feast is a **wedding feast** for the wedding of the son of the king. It would have been an important social occasion, and all the **right** people would have been invited. The king sends his servants out to call the invited guests. But they would not come. More servants are sent, but the guests still do not come. One guest went to his farm, another went to his business, and the rest of the guests kill the servants sent to announce the news that the feast was ready.

Do you hear an echo of last week's Gospel? The king is so upset at the way his servants are treated, that he sends his troops and those wedding guests who ignored the invitation to the wedding feast are killed. And their town is burnt.

So that the wedding feast can go ahead, he sends his servants out again, this time, to gather people from the highways and by-ways, good and bad alike, so that they can be part of the wedding feast. In this parable, we see a foretaste of the banquet at the end of time. Many people are invited to share in the banquet in the Kingdom. And there is room there for everyone. Rich and poor, good and bad alike.

And then we come across one of the most puzzling things about this Gospel Reading. The king sees someone without a wedding garment. The tradition was that if you were a guest at a wedding feast, you needed to wear a special festal garment – in much the same way that we would wear new clothes if we were invited to a wedding today. When questioned about this, the guest-without-a-garment is silent. And the king throws him out of the feast, and into the dark, where, we are told, there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. He is excluded from the feast.

What is Matthew trying to teach us in this difficult saying? In the Kingdom of God, there is room for everyone. As we heard, good and bad alike are invited into this feast. But it is not enough simply to turn up. We cannot rely simply on having seats at the banquet table in the Kingdom. **The Kingdom must change us.** For weeks and weeks now, we have heard the Kingdom proclaimed and preached by Jesus. Every time the Word is preached, every time the Kingdom is proclaimed, it demands a response from us. We're not just passive hearers. We must put on the wedding garments of the Kingdom. We must be clothed in the garments of justice and righteousness – the 'uniform' of the Kingdom.

Like last week, we can ask ourselves again, **How do we hear this Gospel reading?** Are they dry, dusty words for us, or is there rich food in here for us to eat with which we are nourished? We have heard the Kingdom proclaimed. We have been invited to sit at the table of the Lord at the banquet in the Kingdom. Now it is time for us to clothe ourselves for the wedding feast of the Lamb.

With every peace,

Fr Tony.

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.

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY 22nd October 2023 — Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	B Healey	V Pizzichetta	C Munafo	S Maurici
10.30 am	J Trethowan	L Besterwitch	L Connors	A Briggs
5.30 pm	J Fernando		D Fernando	J Dobson

CHURCH LINEN

October — Rosa Farfalla

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 2- Thursday 19th October at 2.00pm

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Maria Carmela Lamari

Anniversaries

Concetta Putrino-Aloe

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**

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.



Catholic Mission: World Mission Month ☑ In the smallest villages around the world ... even there, you will find local missionaries who live to serve their communities. Missionaries who, led by the Holy Spirit, walk with those in most need. Missionaries like Sr Carolina. **Next week, Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address the health and well-being of this community.** We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.

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?



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

My God will fully supply whatever you need...

Philippians 4:19

God really does provide for those who are grateful and generous. This is very difficult for people that don't live a stewardship lifestyle to believe. People are skeptical and say it's just coincidence. If you are skeptical, try living a stewardship lifestyle for just one month - be generous with your gifts of time in prayer, talent in charitable works, and treasure, then see how God provides for your needs.



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-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A — 8th October 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22

R. I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name,
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere; full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: cf Ephesians 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited," he said, "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

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: [October 15 - Sunday 28 ORD](#)
([yearaprayingwithchildren.org](#))