

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-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

22nd 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

This Sunday is **World Mission Sunday**. The Gospel for the 29th Sunday of the year comes from the section of Matthew's Gospel where he is teaching the disciples about the journey to the cross.

Prior to today's passage about paying taxes to Caesar, there are three important parables where Jesus explains who will enter the Kingdom of heaven.

In the parable of the two sons, it was the one who went into the vineyard who was commended for doing what was right rather than the other who just said the right words. In the parable of the wicked tenants Jesus tells the scribes and chief priests that the kingdom of God will be taken from them and given to people who will produce fruit. In the parable of the wedding feast those invited were not worthy and those on the margins are admitted.

This sets the scene for the Pharisees to look for an opportunity to trap Jesus. Will he side with the Romans and upset the people, or will he side with the people and incur the wrath of the Roman occupiers?

By turning the question around, Jesus teaches an important lesson – that the things of this world are not as important as our relationship with God. It is customary on the second last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday, to give attention to the work of mission. Today's Gospel is very appropriate in reminding us that worldly concerns have their place but are not paramount.

By virtue of baptism, all the disciples are called to be missionary – yes! They give to the world what belongs to the world, but by their preaching and witness they acknowledge the importance of giving priority to a higher calling, to building the kingdom of God.

Jesus came so that we might have life to the full and that fullness of life encompasses values and choices that put others first. Not long after today's Gospel passage, the Pharisees try another tack to trap Jesus by asking him which is the greatest commandment. He replies by ignoring the minutiae of the Mosaic regulations and reminds them of the passage from the Book of Deuteronomy – to love God above all things and to love one's neighbour as oneself. These are the greatest commandments.

The missionary church is involved in whatever affects humanity's deepest longings. Through prayerful and material support we can partner with church personnel whose vocation takes them to some of the neediest and most challenging places on earth – places of civil disturbance, dire poverty and persecution.

We support the fledgling local churches as they mature and move to greater self-sufficiency.

As well, even in the most affluent communities, mission responds to the longing of so many people for something deeper than instant gratification and the accumulation of possessions. In his message for this year's World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis says:

The urgency of the Church's missionary activity naturally calls for an ever-closer missionary cooperation on the part of all her members and at every level. This is an essential goal of the synodal journey that the Church has undertaken, guided by the key words: **communion, participation, mission**. This journey is certainly not a turning of the Church in upon herself, nor is it a referendum about what we ought to believe and practice, nor a matter of human preferences. Rather, it is a process of setting out on the way and, like the disciples of Emmaus, listening to the risen Lord.

The disciples had hearts burning with zeal and they resolutely went out into the world to proclaim the kingdom.

There may be opportunities within your family, workplace and neighbourhood to show others what your faith means and how it is expressed by rendering to God what belongs to God.

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 29th October 2023 — Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	K Sherwood	A M Catalfamo	B Healy	R Farfalla
10.30 am	S O'Dwyer	A Briggs	C Shiu	L Connors
5.30 pm	C Taylor		E McMahon	R McMahon

CHURCH LINEN

October —Rosa Farfalla

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 3- Thursday 26th October at 9.45am

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

Toni Vivoda Marianna Nassetta
Mervyn Gonsalves

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**

Day of Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land

Pope Francis, together with the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Pierbattista Cardinal Pizzabella, has called for Catholics across the world to join together in prayer, abstinence, and prayer for peace and reconciliation in the Holy Land at this time. Next **Friday 27th October**, our **9.15am Mass** will be a special Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice. You are encouraged to spend further time in **prayer** (e.g. the Rosary), **fasting** (from food) **abstaining** (from meat). By joining in prayer—whether at home or at work, alone or gathered together—we can lift up our hearts to God and bring our thirst for peace, justice and reconciliation.

'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.

This Sunday, 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 this 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 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 in-person 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

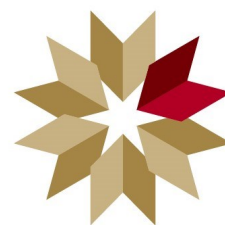
What processes, structures and institutions in a missionary synodal Church?

Co-responsibility in mission

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



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

You are invited to CTC's **Online Information Session** on **Monday 30th October** at **7.30pm** (AEDT). Please see the attached flyer for more information. **Registration is essential.** [Click here](#) to register. • In this session meet Course Advisors and learn about study options at CTC, including the wide range of courses and units that can be undertaken **online** and/or **face-to-face**. Units can be undertaken in a course, as a single unit (with assessment), or for audit (no assessment/credit). • Enrolments for 2024 open Wednesday 1 November 2023. Contact us for an application package.

Stewardship Corner

Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's.

Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.



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-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A — 22nd October 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting
of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95:1, 3-5, 7-10

R. Give the Lord glory and honour.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R.**

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R.**

Worship the Lord in his temple,
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king,'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in

Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he replied, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's,' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

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 22 - Sunday 29 ORD](#)
([yearaprayingwithchildren.org](#))