

# Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

**Church:** 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

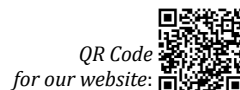
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**Parish Priest:** Rev Anthony J Doran ([Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au](mailto:Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au))

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Joseph Nguyen ([Joseph.Nguyen@cam.org.au](mailto:Joseph.Nguyen@cam.org.au))

**Parish Office Manager:** Mrs Sonia Cavallaro ([mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au))

**Admin Assistant:** Mrs Fran Adamopoulos ([mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au))



**The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

**29th 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,

In this Sunday's First Reading we hear how the people of Israel were expected to treat the stranger: ***You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt.*** The Israelites had ***themselves*** been poor and strangers. Just as God had taken pity on them, so they, too, were they to take pity on outsiders. And so, they were commanded: ***If a stranger lives with you in your land, do not molest him. You must count him as one of your own countrymen and love him as yourself – for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God.***

The Israelites were commanded to ***love the strangers as they loved themselves.*** The reason for this was no further than their own experience. They were to look into their own heart and remember the time when they were the outsiders, remember the time when they were out of their element. Loving the stranger was something that had to be done because that was what God did: ***It is God who sees justice done for the widow and the orphan, who loves the stranger and gives him food and clothing. Love the stranger then, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.***

And then, the stranger ceased feeling like a stranger when they were offered hospitality. It is no surprise then that ***hospitality*** came to be regarded as one of the primary virtues. Especially for a nomadic people like the Israelites, hospitality could be a matter of life and death: travellers depended for their survival on the hospitality of strangers. The stranger, the wayfarer, the outsider – anyone outside their own country or their natural space – was regarded as someone deserving special care.

In the Gospel Jesus speaks of the conquering power of love when he says to his followers, ***You must love your neighbour as yourself.*** As the Israelites were asked to love the stranger as themselves, so Christians are asked to love their neighbours. The ultimate offer of hospitality is the offer of love. Often the real stranger in our midst is not the person we don't know but the person we don't ***want to*** know, the person we refuse to love. That person might be a neighbour or even a member of our own family or the person sitting in the pew next to us. We all have strangers in our own midst, still waiting to be welcomed and loved.

We are often scared to take people in because we are afraid of being taken in ourselves. We don't want to be conned or taken for a ride. Hospitality, like everything else, has a price. Jesus knew that when he opened up his heart to receive people. People make demands on you; they can bleed you. But remaining secure behind our locked doors has its own penalty: people die from being unvisited, people die behind locked doors and locked hearts, from caring only for themselves. We all need the strangers and neighbours in our midst to test the quality of our mercy. When we respond, we have the assurance that we minister to Christ who says to us: ***I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*** Christ still comes to us. Not only in the form of bread and wine, but also in the form of the stranger seeking welcome. That is Gospel.

With every peace,

Fr Tony.



**ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY** 5th November 2023 — Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	<b>A Savino</b>	<b>L Mathews</b>	<b>S Letcher</b>	<b>M Ballato</b>
10.30 am	<b>F Baker RSM</b>	<b>L Besterwitch</b>	<b>L Butler</b>	<b>A De Fazio</b>
5.30 pm	<b>T Wilson</b>		<b>M Christian</b>	<b>M Passuello</b>

**CHURCH LINEN**

November — Maria Ballato

**CHURCH VACCUMING**

**TEAM 4-** Thursday 2nd November at 9.45am

*Please remember in your prayers...*

**Recently Deceased**

Sheila Cotter

**Anniversaries**

Kenneth Perry

Claire O’Byrne

**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](mailto:MooneePonds@cam.org.au) with the subject line **Parish Contact List**.

**Thursday 2nd November—Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls’ Day)**

Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am

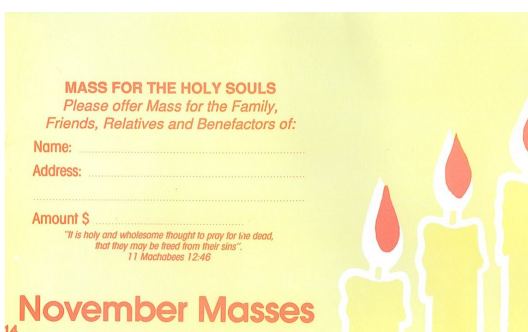
**November—Month of the Holy Souls** • Envelopes for November Mass offerings are available in your regular set of envelopes or in the church. The Bishops of Victoria have legislated that the offering to be made for November masses is \$20.00. When envelopes for November Masses are received, the offerings are added together and then divided by 20 therefore giving the total number of November Masses to be offered in the Parish. In actual practice, most masses offered in the parish during November would be masses for the repose of the souls of the Faithful Departed.

**Catholic Mission: World Mission Month** • It is not too late 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. Envelopes can be returned via the normal Collections.



**Masses this Week**

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





**GAZA CRISIS APPEAL**

Help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people affected by the conflict.



**DONATE NOW**  
[www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza)  
 1800 024 413

**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



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**

***“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.***

**Matthew 22:37**

Do you put other “gods” before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you recognize that everything you have and that everything you are is a gift from God? Putting God first in everything helps keep us from becoming a slave to our possessions and to our pride.



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



## Readings at Mass

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

### First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

*If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51

**R.** I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

### Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

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

*You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you

took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation: John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them  
and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

### Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

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 29 - Sunday 30 ORD](#)  
([yearaprayingwithchildren.org](#))