

# ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Moonee Ponds

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

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

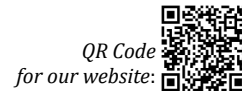
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**Parish Priest:** Rev Anthony J Doran ([Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au](mailto:Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au))

**Assistant Priest:** Rev Brian Muling ([Brian.Muling@cam.org.au](mailto:Brian.Muling@cam.org.au))

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

**Admin Assistant:** Mrs Fran Adamopoulos



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

29 January 2023

### MASS TIMES

Sunday: **8.30 am** (*Italian & English*); **10.30 am**; **5.30 pm**

Tuesday - Friday: **9.15 am**

Saturday: **8 am**

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 8.30 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,

This Sunday, we read one of the more famous passages in all of Sacred Scripture: for, in the Gospel Reading we have just heard, Jesus speaks the words of the Beatitudes. When Jesus spoke these words to the crowds who were listening to him, he was giving them a charter for a new way of living. He was telling them that happiness or blessedness in this world does not equal greatness in the Kingdom of God. Power and wealth and “being first” do not really matter. Rather, true happiness lies in qualities such as gentleness, mercy, purity, and making peace.

Sounds strange doesn't it? But, remember, it is a charter for the new way of living. A way of living that is radical and yet simple.

To live a life characterised by the Beatitudes goes against much of the so-called wisdom of our world. We are called and challenged to be a people who are known by the qualities of gentleness, mercy, and making peace. Pure in heart; hungry and thirsty for what is right. To let go of all that might give us power and prestige in this world, and to live the life of radical simplicity which is outlined for us in the Beatitudes. To live this life is to know our place of humility before the greatness of God.

With every peace,

Fr Tony.

### **Congratulations...**

To our parishioner **Ron Stobaus** on being awarded the **Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)** in the 2023 Australia Day Honours. Ron is being recognised for his service to athletics—for well over 50 years, Ron has been involved in athletics at a local, state and national level. Well done, Ron!

**Triumph - Lenten Program 2023** · Copies of *Triumph*, the Diocese of Wollongong Lenten Program is now available from the Piety Stall for **\$5.00** each. They contain a reflection for each day of Lent; and for Sundays, a prayer outline and reflection on the Sunday Gospel. They are ideal for both individual and group reflection - why not gather together a group of friends each week to pray and reflect on the Sunday Gospel readings for Lent? For each Sunday, there's also a reflection on a piece of art depicting the theme of that Sunday's Gospel Reading.



## Readings at Mass The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13**

Seek the Lord  
all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.  
Seek integrity,  
seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.  
In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.

They will do no wrong,  
will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:7-10**

**R.** Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31**

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to

show those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 5:12**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.  
Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.  
Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.  
Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.  
Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.  
Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.  
Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

**SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME** *(click below)*

[For Adults](#) / [For Children](#)

**MINISTERS ROSTER FOR THE SUNDAY** 5th February 2022 —Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	<b>A Savino</b>	<b>V Pizzichetta</b>	<b>S Letcher</b>	<b>T Mitchell</b>
10.30 am	<b>A Briggs</b>	<b>M Baker</b>	<b>T de Fazio</b>	<b>J Morello</b>
5.30 pm	<b>J Henderson</b>		<b>P Duggan</b>	<b>B Matthews</b>

**CHURCH LINEN**

February - **Connie Munafo**

**CHURCH VACCUMING**

**TEAM 2** - Thursday 2nd February at 9.45 am

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**ANNIVERSARY**

*In Faith, Hope and Love, we pray for all whose  
anniversaries occurs at this time, especially:*  
**Nicola Venuta**                      **Antonio Bruno**  
**Alan Forster**

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.