

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

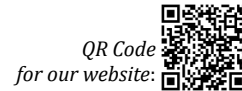
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Parish Priest: Rev Anthony J Doran (Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au)

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

Parish Office Manager: Mrs Sonia Cavallaro (mooneeponds@cam.org.au)

Admin Assistant: Mrs Fran Adamopoulos (mooneeponds@cam.org.au)



The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

28th January, 2024

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,

Following the example of the Old Testament, Christian tradition gives a very important place to Moses. Moses remains the prophet *par excellence*. The man chosen from among all the people to transmit the Word of God and the Law of God to the People of God. He carries an authority received from God. Any prophet whom God will raise up after Moses will have a similar mission and must be listened to in the same way.

The Christian reading and understanding of the Book of Deuteronomy is clear. *Jesus* is the new prophet. Raised up by God, Jesus is the new Moses, with authority from God. This is what we see in today's *Gospel Reading*. Following the call of the four fishermen last week, today we read on in Mark's Gospel. Jesus and his followers reach as far as Capernaum, and Jesus goes to the synagogue and begins to preach. *And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.*

I think it is perhaps difficult for us to imagine what the coming of Jesus to the scene was like for the people of First Century Palestine. Itinerant, healing preachers abounded. Jesus was certainly not the only prophet who went about the countryside teaching and healing.

What makes Jesus different though, is that *unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority*. The authority of a *new Moses*. An authority which comes from on high. Here, certainly, was something that was new. The challenge for those who listened to Jesus for the first time was how they would respond.

A similar challenge is presented to us. How do we respond to the Lord's call? How will you respond to the call of Jesus this year? We will need to change and adapt to new circumstances. We need to be different. As much as these opportunities are exciting, the journey ahead might be a bit daunting, too. Change and growth and development means being open to change. And change can be frightening. Often it is uncertain and unsettling.

But in the midst of all of the uncertainty and change, we are called to hear with fresh ears the challenge of the Gospel. To respond to these new situations and challenges with charity and honesty towards our brothers and sisters, but most importantly, with faith and trust in the Risen Lord. Because with faith and trust in the Risen Lord, whose witnesses we are called to be, we cannot fail. God's promise to remain true to us never fails. Our God is the God of steadfast and faithful love, who loves us as his very own. As the Psalmist reminds us: *he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand.*

With every peace & blessing,

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 4th February 2024 — The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	L Bani RSC	AM Catalfamo	S Maurici	K Sherwood
10.30 am	J Martin	K Martin	J Morello	A Briggs
5.30 pm	J Dobson		B Smolenaars	L Smolenaars

CHURCH LINEN

February—Rosa Farfalla

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 1 - Thursday 1st February at 9.45am

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Rev Béron (Joohyun) Noh

Anniversaries

Marie McGrath

Alan Forster

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 Office Closure

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday 26th January—Australia Day

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**.

Church Cleaners—Volunteers Needed • Have you ever wondered who cleans our church? Each week—usually on Thursday morning after Mass, but we also have one Friday afternoon group—we have volunteers vacuum our church to keep it clean and tidy and ready for the weekend. We would gladly welcome more volunteers to our roster. If you are able to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office.

Order of Malta—Lourdes Day Mass: Saturday 10th February 2024 • For some years now, the Order of Malta has organised an annual Lourdes Day Mass to provide an opportunity to pray for the sick and infirm particularly for those who would not otherwise have the possibility of visiting Lourdes. • The Mass will take place again on **Saturday, 10th February at 10.30am at St Patrick's Cathedral**, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli as the principal celebrant. For further information, please contact: Sauro Antonelli AM on 0411 250 288.

Date Claimer: Ashes to Easter: A Sequence of Songs and Stories weaving songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looking ahead to Holy Week and Easter by **Peter Kearney**, composer of well-known hymns such as *Fill My House* and *The Beatitudes* • **Thursday 29th February 2024 @ 7.00pm at St Vincent's Church, Strathmore.** Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy.

St. Monica's Charismatic Prayer Meeting (Thursdays at 7.30pm in Symons Centre, recommencing Thursday 1st February 2024) extends a warm welcome to you to praise and worship God Our Father, through Jesus in the Holy Spirit. Your musical talents are especially welcome. Contact Gerald 93370475.

Catholic Social Services National Conference, Melbourne, 21-23 February 2024 • All those who work, volunteer or have an interest in Catholic community services (and social justice more broadly) are invited to attend the Catholic Social Services National Conference 2024: *Commons, Commonality, Common Good*. • Come along to be inspired in our shared work together – hear from innovative leaders, participate in thought-provoking conversations, and connect with others who share a desire to create true communities out of a common effort for the common good. • More information on tickets, the conference theme, speakers and the program is available at: <https://css.org.au/css-national-conference-2024/>



GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

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



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 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?



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5.55% p.a.

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By opening an account with CDF Community Fund, you are saving for a greater reward than money alone. Help build classrooms for students, churches for growing communities, hospital wings for the sick, aged care homes for the elderly and social service facilities for the most vulnerable.

It's a way to save while doing good.

Visit catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer to open an account and for disclosure details, or scan the QR code.



Stewardship Corner

Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties.

1 Corinthians 7:32

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things? God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this - use the word "pray" instead of the word "worry" in the future. Then spend your time praying instead of worrying.

Special Collections 2024	
TBA	Pastoral Care Appeal
Lent	Project Compassion
29th March	Good Friday - Holy Places
TBA	Propagation of the Faith
TBA	SVdP Winter Appeal
23rd June	Annual Collection for the Holy Father
TBA	CatholicCare
TBA	Priests' Retirement Foundation
20th October	World Mission Sunday
TBA	Catholic Deaf
TBA	Melbourne Overseas Mission

Readings at Mass

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B — 28th January 2024

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

I will put my words into the prophet's mouth, and he will tell them all I command.

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

R. If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

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

The unmarried woman dedicates herself to the things of the Lord, that she might be holy.

I would like to see you free from all worry. An

unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 4:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

This is a new kind of teaching that speaks with authority.

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME *(click below)*

Adults: [Sunday Readings - Sunday Readings Year B \(weebly.com\)](#) Children: [January 28 - Sunday 4 ORD - PRAYING WITH CHILDREN YEAR B 2023-2024 \(yearbprayingwithchildren.org\)](#)