

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

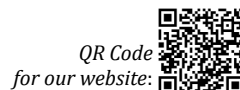
Phone: (03) 9370 5035 | **Email:** mooneeponds@cam.org.au | **Website:** stmonicasparish.com.au

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 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

4th August, 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,

In last week's Gospel, we heard how Jesus fed over five thousand people with the five barley loaves and two fish. At the end of that Gospel reading, we are told that the people wanted to come and take Jesus by force, and make him king. The people had misread the **sign** of this miraculous feeding.

The author of the Fourth Gospel talks of the miracles of Jesus as **signs**.

Often, the **signs** are misread and misinterpreted.

In today's Gospel, the people had been looking for Jesus after his escape of last week. But they still don't get it, do they? **Rabbi, when did you get here?** They seem to have forgotten that only five minutes ago they wanted to make him their king. Then Jesus explains to them how they had got it wrong. **I tell you most solemnly**, Jesus says to them, **You are only impressed because of the bread that fills your bellies!** Jesus then challenges those who are listening to him to work for the food which **endures to eternal life**.

Well, the crowd is really hooked now. They'll certainly do this work but they want yet another **sign**. **What sign will you give us to show us that we should believe in you? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert** they said. They still do not get it.

Jesus has to explain things further to them. The bread from heaven that their ancestors ate was not the **sign**. The **sign** was their liberation from bondage to slavery in Egypt. The manna was simply God's loving care for his people. The miraculous feeding of the five thousand is not the sign either. The **sign**, of course, is **Jesus himself**. **Jesus**, sent by the Father, is **the** true bread from heaven. **Jesus**, sent by the Father, is **the** bread of life. When we come to him, we will never be hungry. When we believe in him, we will never be thirsty.

These words which Jesus addressed to the crowd are spoken to us, as well. Like the crowds, often, I think we get the signs wrong. We come to God when things are tough, but then when **our** bellies – physical or spiritual – are full, we tend to drift away. Believing that we can do things on our own. Some people in the modern world argue that faith is the coward's way out. Placing our confidence in a God we cannot see. They are wrong. To be a person of faith, to believe in the Son of Man, is not an act of cowardice, but an act of great courage and humility.

To be a person of faith is to place our lives in the context of God. To say, **No, I cannot do everything on my own**. To say, **You, Jesus, are my bread of life. Jesus, you satisfy my hunger. Jesus, you quench my thirst**.

Fr Tony.

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	B Healey	M Galieto	R Farfalla	R Gonsalves
10.30 am	J Trethowan	F Baker RSM	J Morello	S Maurici
5.30 pm	T Wilson		E McMahon	R McMahon

CHURCH LINEN

August — Asela

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 2 - Friday 9th August at 2.00m

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Steve Clarke Mrs Wilson Scott Lennon

Anniversaries

Bill and Millie O'Connor
 Louis Vella Mary Vella Gesmond Vella
 Cena Said Kevin Ryan Carl Remedios

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.

Names for the Bulletin • If you would like your loved one who has died recently or whose anniversary is occurring to be remembered at Mass and in the Bulletin, please make sure you have their names into the Parish Office by Wednesday at 3.00pm.

First Sunday of the Month—Cuppa • This Sunday, being the First Sunday of the month, there will be cuppa after both 8.30am & 10.30am Mass. All are welcome to come and spend some time with your fellow parishioners.

The Young Couples and Families Network are joining the monthly morning cup of tea for a casual catch up! Please pop by to the Symon’s Centre after the 10.30am mass this Sunday 4th August to meet other couples, families and their kids in the Parish. Contact Kylie and Jerome for more information at: youngcouple.network@gmail.com

National Vocations Awareness Week: 4 - 11 August 2024 • Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured.

In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.



Heart of Life—Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation — ‘Imagination, Story & Jesus on Screen - A Day @ the Movies with Peter Malone msc’, (In Person) - Saturday, 17 August, 10.00 am - 3.30 pm (AEST).

This reflection event is an opportunity to spend some time with our imaginations, with our love for stories, with some images of how Jesus has been portrayed in screen images, and with those whom we see as Christ-like. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$60. BYO Lunch. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.



The program "Glorious Lives" featuring the life of St. Mary MacKillop — 8th August at 7:00 PM on Shalom World TV. Shalom Media Australia, representing Shalom World, a Catholic family entertainment television will be premiering the program, "Glorious Lives" which features the inspiring life stories of Catholic saints. The life story of Australia's beloved saint, St. Mary MacKillop, is scheduled

for August 8th at 7:00 PM on Shalom World TV, aligning with the saint's feast day. The film not only showcases St. Mary MacKillop's remarkable achievements and contributions but also features interviews with historians, educators, and individuals inspired by her legacy. Teaser link-<https://youtu.be/nYOJiyj5YtU?si=WiEuW33pKmbdCgM>



CoAsIt Aged Care are currently looking for male Italian speaking volunteers in our area to visit lonely, isolated gentlemen who would appreciate a friendly chat once a week for an hour or so. Currently CoAsIt has around 200+ wonderful volunteers who generously donate their time to visit elderly people in the community each week to help reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness. If you have an hour a week to spare and would like to make a difference to an elderly persons’ life and a rewarding experience for yourself, please contact Linda Francione (Regional Co-Ordinator) by phone or email for more information on 0432 422 332

Lfrancione@coasit.com.au

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 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?



Stewardship Corner

Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not.

Exodus 16:4

When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, the surplus became wormy and rotten. In the same way today, self-reliance, pride and ego leads to hoarding and excessive surplus of goods and money. Living a stewardship lifestyle helps us discern our “wants” from our “needs”. Living a grateful and generous lifestyle reminds us that God will provide all that we need and that we have plenty to share.

CDF

5.35% p.a. 12-month term investment

5.05% p.a. 6-month term investment

By opening an account with CDF Community Fund, you are saving for a reward greater than money alone. Help build classrooms for students, places of worship for 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.

Call 1800 154 135 or visit catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/ to open an account and for disclosure details, or scan the QR code.

Special Collections 2024	
Lent	Project Compassion
29 th March	Good Friday – Holy Places
5 th May	CatholicCare
2 nd June	SVdP Winter Appeal
16 th June	Propagation of the Faith
30 th June	Annual Collection for the Holy Father
18 th August	The Archbishop’s Campaign
20 th October	World Mission Sunday
10 th November	Pastoral Care Appeal—Prison Ministry

Readings at Mass

The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B — 4th August 2024

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our heart's content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them in this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your heart's content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.'" And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 77:3-4, 23-25, 54

R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

The things we have heard and understood,
the things our fathers have told us,
we will tell to the next generation:
the glories of the Lord and his might. **R.**

He commanded the clouds above
and opened the gates of heaven.
He rained down manna for their food,
and gave them bread from heaven. **R.**

Mere men ate the bread of angels.
He sent them abundance of food.
He brought them to his holy land,
to the mountain which his right hand had won. **R.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 6:24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly,
you are not looking for me
because you have seen the signs
but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.
Do not work for food that cannot last,
but work for food that endures to eternal life,
the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,
for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you solemnly,
it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven,
it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven,
the true bread;
for the bread of God
is that which comes down from heaven
and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life.
He who comes to me will never be hungry;
he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Acknowledgements · Scripture Texts: The Scripture texts are from *The Jerusalem Bible* © 1966 by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Inc. Psalm texts from *Psalms: A New Translation*, published by HarperCollinsReligious by permission of A.P. Watt Ltd on behalf of The Grail, England. Psalm Responses from *The Lectionary for Mass* © 1981, William Collins Sons and Cassell Limited. **·Clip-Art:** Artwork by Martin Erpsamer OSB, *Religious Clip Art for the Liturgical Year*, © 1997, Matthew James Publishing Ltd & Liturgy Training Publications, Archdiocese of Chicago.

SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME *(click below)*

Adults: [Sunday Readings - Sunday Readings Year B](#)
[\(weebly.com\)](#) Children: [August 4 - Sunday 18 ORD -](#)
[PRAYING WITH CHILDREN YEAR B 2023-2024](#)
[\(yearbprayingwithchildren.org\)](#)