

# Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

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

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

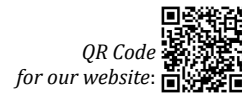
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**Parish Priest:** Rev Anthony J Doran ([Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au](mailto:Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au))

**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



**Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A**

**7th May, 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

**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's First Reading teaches us that the early Church were always challenged to find new ways of being the disciples of Jesus. New ways of living as followers of the Way.

The challenge which was presented to these first Christians is also our challenge. We, too, are challenged to find new ways of living the Gospel. But this is always the challenge for those of us who want to be disciples of the Risen Lord. Never to retreat or be satisfied with the same old ways of doing things. For to say **this is the way we always do things** is to be closed to the power of the Spirit. To deny that the Spirit has the power to change our lives and our Church and our world.

Rather, we are called to be always open to the power of the Spirit who is the force behind all of the Church's action and reflection. The Spirit who drives us constantly to be innovative in our service of the Gospel. The Spirit who prompts us and moves us to respond always anew to the power of the Resurrection of Jesus in our own lives. And this is particularly true as we continue to walk together and work together with our brothers and sisters at Strathmore. We will **look** and **be** different. We are challenged to find new ways of living the Gospel. New ways of being Parishes together. New ways of being Church.

When we can overcome our fears and doubts, when we can indeed open ourselves to the power of the Spirit, we open ourselves and become immersed in nothing less than the love of God. And in the power of this love, we will always find new ways of living the Gospel in our day.

With every peace,

Fr Tony.

**Please note: There will be no Mass on Thursday morning and the Parish Office will closed all day on Thursday as well.**

**MINISTERS ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY** 14th May 2022 — Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	<b>B Healey</b>	<b>M Giardina</b>	<b>R Gonsalves</b>	<b>A Savino</b>
10.30 am	<b>J Martin</b>		<b>B Smolaneers</b>	<b>J Morello</b>
5.30 pm	<b>A Matthews</b>		<b>P Duggan</b>	<b>B Matthews</b>

**CHURCH LINEN**

May—L Bani RSC

**CHURCH VACCUMING**

**TEAM 3** - Saturday 13th May at 8.30am

*Please remember in your prayers...*

**Recently Deceased**

**Anniversaries**

Francesca Simone

**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.

**Welcome Fr Joseph!**

We warmly welcome Fr Joseph Nguyen to our Parish as Assistant Priest. Fr Joseph was ordained in 2021, and comes to us from Altona Meadows/Laverton Parish.

**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**

**Young Couples and Family (YCF) Network** • Light lunch/coffee at Symon’s centre/Queen’s park/local cafe (pending weather) followed by focussed faith discussion. **Who:** New couples and families with children interested in growing faith together in their homes. **Next meeting: Sunday 28th May 11.30am-12.30pm** (after 10.30am mass) in front of St Monica’s Church. Enquires/RSVP: Jerome and Kylie by email on [youngcouple.network@gmail.com](mailto:youngcouple.network@gmail.com)

**Date Claimer: Our Parish: Past-Present-Future**

Over coming months, our Parish will hold a series of fora to reflect on our past, celebrate our present and discern our future directions. In the Symons Centre, beginning at 7.30pm

Past: 7th June  
Present: 5th July  
Future: 4th October

**Moonee Valley Alpha for Young Adults** meets on on Sunday nights in the Symons Centre. So what is Alpha? Alpha is a series of small group conversations and videos, run over several weeks, that explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly environment. It's a place to connect with people over dinner, where you can say anything you like, or nothing at all. In a nutshell you can expect: delicious dinner + thought provoking videos + good conversation. Please register at <https://bit.ly/42BF1YM>



**Sacramental Preparation for Children Attending Non-Catholic Schools—First Holy Communion**

Classes to prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion will commence on **21st May**. Please contact the Parish Office or one of the priests for an information pack & enrolment form.

**A Vocations View** • Over the last two weeks, we have been praying for vocations. Sometimes it is hard to focus our prayers for vocations, so you might try this suggestion from the Vocations Office:

- Sunday For an increase in vocations to the priesthood
- Monday For men preparing for ordination to the priesthood
- Tuesday For seminarians to grow in self-awareness as they continue to discern Jesus Christ’s call.
- Wednesday For seminarians to model the life and virtues of St Joseph
- Thursday For the Eucharist to be the ‘source and summit’ of seminarians
- Friday For applicants for the seminary and for prospective seminarians
- Saturday For Mary, Mother of Priests, to guide and protect our seminarians



# Palms Australia

## Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. • Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. • Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567. WEB:



[www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au)

**Voice to Parliament** • Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) have released their statement, *Relentlessly Pursuing Reconciliation*, in support of a constitutionally enshrined Voice to Parliament as articulated by the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*. This year's national referendum on the constitution gives an opportunity for Australians to support the Statement from the Heart and to embrace the cries of our First Nations Peoples for a just future, a means of recognition and a way forward for healing and learning together. Read the full statement here <https://css.org.au/publications/relentlessly-pursuing-reconciliation/> or click on the QR Code above.



# Heart of Life

Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

## 'Pondering Grief' (in-person event), Saturday 20 May 2023, 10 am - 3.30 pm (AEST)

This day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Facilitated by Linda Espie a counsellor of loss, grief and bereavement for over 35 years. Cost: \$80 including 'Pondering Grief' book (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel 9890 1101.

## Stewardship Corner

*"The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."*

1Peter 2:7

Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called "charisms" and they are used to build God's kingdom of earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember - no gift is too small or insignificant in God's salvation plan.



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

What do we do to deepen *communion*?

What do we do encourage *participation*?

What do we do to promote *mission*?

**Readings at Mass**  
Fifth Sunday of Easter — 7th May, 2023

**First Reading: Acts 6:1-7**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19**

**R.** Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,  
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**

For the word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. **R.**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

**Gospel Acclamation: John 14:6**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel: John 14:1-12**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God still, and trust in me.  
There are many rooms in my Father's house;  
if there were not, I should have told you.  
I am now going to prepare a place for you,  
and after I have gone and prepared you a place,  
I shall return to take you with me;  
so that where I am you may be too.  
You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
If you know me, you know my Father too.  
From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,  
so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?"  
Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the  
Father is in me?  
The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:  
it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.  
You must believe me when I say  
that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;  
believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other  
reason.  
'I tell you most solemnly,  
whoever believes in me  
will perform the same works as I do myself,  
he will perform even greater works,  
because I am going to the Father.'

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

Adults: [Sunday Readings - Sunday Readings Year A](#)  
[\(weebly.com\)](#)

Children: [May 7 - Sunday 5 Easter](#)  
[\(yearaprayingwithchildren.org\)](#)