

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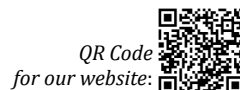
Parish Priest: Rev Anthony J Doran (Anthony.Doran@cam.org.au)

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

Seminarian: Mr Andrew Tran

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

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



Second Sunday of Easter, Year B

7th April, 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,

Christ is risen, Alleluia!

Our joy at Easter, our joy in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead is so great that we celebrate Easter for fifty days. The joy which we have that Christ is truly risen from the dead is so great, so momentous, that this joy cannot be contained in one day. It can't even be contained in one week. Instead, this joy is so great that it flows out of our celebration of Easter Sunday, into this week. In the Church's reckoning, this last week – the octave of Easter – every day has been celebrated like Easter Sunday. But not even this week of Sundays is enough to contain our Easter joy. Because this Easter joy will continue to flow out into the next fifty days until the Solemnity of Pentecost.

That is why this Sunday is never called the First Sunday **AFTER** Easter, because Easter is certainly not over. Rather, it is called **The Second Sunday OF Easter**. And by the end of this Easter Season, we will have celebrated seven Sundays of Easter, including the great and solemn feasts of Ascension and Pentecost. But why is the resurrection of Jesus so great that we have to celebrate it for fifty days?

We understand little about what actually happened at the Resurrection. But we do know that it was so powerful an event that the Apostles, who had believed that Jesus was **dead**, soon went around proclaiming that Jesus was **now risen**. That the one who **was** dead **is now** alive.

Now, this is pretty unbelievable stuff. In today's Gospel reading, Thomas did not believe it. Thomas was not there when Jesus first appeared to the disciples. And when the disciples tell Thomas that great news – **We have seen the Lord** – Thomas does not believe them. And you can't blame him. People just do not rise from the dead. Thomas wants to see some proof. Seeing is believing, after all, isn't it? **Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.**

Thomas does not think that Jesus could have risen from the dead. According to Thomas, whoever the Apostles have seen, it cannot be Jesus. But then, when Jesus appears again to them, he shows Thomas his hands and side. And so Jesus proves to Thomas that the one who is risen is the same one who has died. The very same one.

And this is why we celebrate Easter for fifty days. This is why at the Easter Vigil we sang **This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave**. Jesus, who **was** dead, **is now** alive. God's steadfast and faithful love is so strong that death has no more power over Jesus. Death is destroyed for ever. And death has no more power over us.

This is why, dear friends, we sing Alleluia. Jesus Christ, our King, is risen. Sound the trumpet of salvation.

With every peace,

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 14th April 2024 — The Third Sunday of Easter Sunday, Year B

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	L Bani RSC	M Giardina	B Healey	M Ballato
10.30 am	S O'Dwyer	F Baker RSM	A De Fazio	S Maurici
5.30 pm	A Cukavac		T D'Cruze	T Vu

CHURCH LINEN

April—M Ballato

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 2 - Friday 12th April at 2.00pm

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

Carmelo Catalfamo Mary Nolen Mary Taucer

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.

There will be no Mass in either Parish on Thursday 11th April March as the priests attend a Clergy Workshop with Archbishop Peter



PARISH FIRST
BUILDING BETTER PARISHES

2024 Parish Renewal (Stewardship) Program

Beginning in April, our parishes will undertake a renewal of our Stewardship Program. Beginning in April, we will update our Parish Census to ensure that our database is up to date. Then, in May, we will have opportunities to renew our

engagement in parish life through our participation in parish groups and ministries and also our financial support of our parishes. The program will be conducted by staff from Parish First and led by our Parish Finance Councils.



Easter Offerings • Easter Offering envelopes are available in the church. Easter Offerings make an important contribution to the stipend of the priests of the Parish and in meeting normal household expenses. They also contribute to the support of sick and retired priests, and to support priests in needy parishes.



to all those who contributed to our Triduum liturgies in any way: readers, ministers of communion, sacristans, musicians, singers, collectors, church cleaners. Your generous gift of time and talent made such a difference to our liturgies.



Please return your Project Compassion boxes as soon as possible.

Next Roster for Liturgical Ministers • We are in the process of drafting the next roster. Can you please email us your availability and preferences from Trinity Sunday (26th May) up until the Solemnity of Christ the King (24th November). The cut-off date for emailing us your availability for the next roster will be **Monday 22nd April**. If there are any roster changes after this date, you will need to organise a replacement reader or minister yourselves. We greatly appreciate your ongoing help and support with this ministry!

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?

New Life in God's Spirit presented by St Monica's Prayer Group, is your opportunity to deepen your Baptismal Graces and increase the Gifts of The Holy Spirit conferred on you at your Confirmation. This eight-week seminar begins Thursday 4 April, 7-9pm, Symons Centre, Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.

Contact: Gerald 0415275446, Frank 0415144916, Adrian 0403512936



Stewardship Corner

The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own...

Acts 4:32

All that we are and all that we have is a gift from God! Think of your family, your friends, your life, your talents and your money - these are all gifts from God! We aren't really owners of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has blessed us with. We are called to be grateful and generous with all of our gifts for the benefit of others.

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 Second Sunday of Easter, Year B — 07 April 2024

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **R.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone,
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ
has been begotten by God;
and whoever loves the Father that begot him
loves the child whom he begets.
We can be sure that we love God's children
if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;
this is what loving God is -
keeping his commandments;
and his commandments are not difficult,
because anyone who has been begotten by God
has already overcome the world;
this is the victory over the world -
our faith.
Who can overcome the world?
Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,
not with water only,
but with water and blood;
with the Spirit as another witness -
since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation: John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me, still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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: [April 7 - Sunday 2 Easter - PRAYING WITH CHILDREN YEAR B 2023-2024 \(yearbprayingwithchildren.org\)](#)