

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

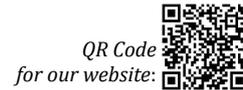
Phone: (03) 9370 5035 | **Email:** mooneeponds@cam.org.au | **Website:** stmonicasparish.com.au

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

Assistant Priest: Rev Brian Muling (Brian.Muling@cam.org.au)

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

Admin Assistant: Mrs Fran Adamopoulos



Third Sunday of Easter, Year A

23rd April, 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,

In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear about the two disciples – Cleopas and his mate – his mate is never named – walking along the road to Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. Theirs is the story of a world turned upside down. Three years with Jesus had ended on a Cross on Friday. All their hopes and dreams had ended in the shameful death of a criminal on a tree. I think it is hard to imagine a more desolate scene. And to add to their woes, now there was another drama – some women had said they had seen angels who had announced that Jesus was alive. But this surely couldn't happen, could it? All that was familiar to them had gone.

As they walk along in the midst of their bewilderment, and perhaps precisely because of their bewilderment and confusion, Jesus walks beside them, yet somehow, in some way, remains hidden from their view. He breaks open the Scriptures for them, and breaks bread with them. And the disciples recognise Jesus in this breaking of the bread. Not surprisingly, their hearts burn at this encounter. And so they hurry back to proclaim this Good News to the Eleven.

I think as we move further and further away from our celebration of Easter – even these mere two weeks – we tend to become a bit like Cleopas and his mate on their way to Emmaus. We tend to get a bit bogged down in our own bewilderment and confusion. We get bogged down by the ordinary and the mundane. We focus only on the crucifixions in our lives. We forget about the resurrections which are part of our story.

But this is why we do celebrate Easter the way we do for fifty days, and indeed on every Sunday when we gather to pray. We need to be reminded that whatever our particular journey to Emmaus is like, however hard or easy our particular path might be, however tricky our road to Emmaus proves to be, the Risen Christ does indeed walk beside us. And yes, he often remains hidden from our eyes, but he is there. He breaks open his Word for us. And Jesus does indeed break the bread of himself for us. This is the God whom we are called to recognise. And at this, our hearts should burn within us.

And surely this is the point of Emmaus (and the point of Easter, too): to recognise the Risen Jesus walking beside us. As a people baptised into new and radiant life through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, like Cleopas and his mate, we are called and challenged not only to recognise him in the breaking of the bread, but to have our hearts – so slow to believe the full message of the prophets – set on fire. Set on fire so that we hurry back and announce the Good News of Salvation – the news of the Resurrection. So that we announce this good news to our brothers and sisters, indeed to all the world, just as Cleopas and his mate did after their meal with the Lord.

With every peace,

Fr Tony.

MINISTERS ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY 30th April 2022 — Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	T Mitchell	A Catalfamo	S Maurici	K Sherwood
10.30 am	J Martin	K Martin	C Shiu	A Cukavac
5.30 pm	M Christian		E McMahon	R McMahon

CHURCH LINEN

April - Maria Ballato

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 1 - Thursday 27th April at 9.45am

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Rev Bob Maguire Edmund Baker

Anniversaries

Antonio Magliolo Vito D'Asta
John Farmer Brendan Macken
Marie Dobson

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.

Clergy Changes

The Archbishop has appointed Fr Brian Muling as Assistant Priest in the Parish of Epping. He has also appointed Fr Joseph Nguyen as Assistant Priest in the Parishes of Strathmore and Moonee Ponds. These changes take effect on 3rd May 2023.

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**

Project Compassion Boxes • Please remember to return your Project Compassion boxes soon.

A Vocations View • Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday – the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

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

Moonee Valley Alpha for Young Adults is launching at St Monica's Church (Symons Centre) on Sunday nights from the 23rd April 2023! 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>



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

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

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





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



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.



What do we do to deepen *communion*?

What do we do encourage *participation*?

What do we do to promote *mission*?

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation May Courses

'Dare to Dream!', via Zoom, 5x Wednesday, 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 May, 5.00-6.30 pm (AEST).

"We have had dreams and there is no one to interpret them..." and Joseph said to them, "do not interpretations belong to God?" (Genesis 40:8). Join our director, Clare Shearman, and guests in our 'dream lab'. Based on the Dreams session previously offered as part of the Siloam Program, this five-week program will explore the significance of our dreams, include the practice of dream circles, provide guidance and practice for working with dreams—our own and others', consider the potential for our dreams to personally and collectively shape the future. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

'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, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

Stewardship Corner

Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?

Luke 24:32

How often do you take the time to discern what Jesus is calling you to do with your life? Are your prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things for you? If so, that's a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out. Take time, in silence, to listen to what Jesus is asking of you today.

Special Collections 2023	
12 th February	Pastoral Care Appeal
Lent	Project Compassion
7 th April	Good Friday - Holy Places
4 th June	Propagation of the Faith
11 th June	SVdP Winter Appeal
25 th June	Annual Collection for the Holy Father
13 th August	CatholicCare
3 rd September	Priests' Retirement Foundation
22 nd October	World Mission Sunday
12 th November	Catholic Deaf
10 th December	Melbourne Overseas Mission

Readings at Mass

Third Sunday of Easter — 23rd April. 2023

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.
So my heart was glad
and my tongue cried out with joy:
my body, too, will rest in the hope
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.
You have made known the way of life to me,
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witness to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.' **R.**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

You will show me the path of life,
and the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since

before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation: cf Luke 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:

make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME *(click below)*

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

Children: [23 April - Sunday 3 Easter](#)
([yearaprayingwithchildren.org](#))