

Parish of St Monica Moonee Ponds

Church: 820 Mount Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds 3039

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

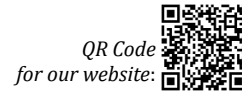
Phone: (03) 9370 5035 | **Email:** mooneeponds@cam.org.au | **Website:** stmonicasparish.com.au

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)

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The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

1st September, 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,

Both this Sunday's **First Reading** from the Book of Deuteronomy, and the **Gospel Reading** from Mark's Gospel talk about the Law which was observed by the Jewish people. In the Gospels, Jesus is often presented as challenging the Jewish Law, and those people amongst the Jews – the Scribes and Pharisees, about whom we hear so much in the Gospels – who were the custodians of the Jewish Law. Now, this can give us an incorrect understanding of the place of the Jewish Law, not only in the lives of the people of Israel, but I think this attitude can also give us an incorrect understanding of the role of Law in our lives as people of faith. It is important that we have a full and clear understanding of the Jewish Law, for the Jewish people are indeed our ancestors in faith. If we listen closely to the reading from the Book of Deuteronomy we learn that these minor laws are only ever a means to an end: **Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs which I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you.**

Observe the Law **in order that** you may have life. Observe the Law **in order that** you may enter and take possession of the Land that the Lord gives you. These minor laws have little value in themselves. Many of them reflect the end point of a somewhat disparate group of people – the Israelites – trying to live together and become a community, trying to become the People of God. They are a **means to an end**. Observing these minor laws will put the Israelites into the right frame of mind, will put them into the right spirit to faithfully observe the greatest law. And for the Jewish people to observe the greatest Law – by following the Ten Commandments – was to walk in the way of the Lord. For the Jewish people, to observe the Law was to be close to the Lord. As Moses says to his people at the end of today's First Reading: **Keep these laws, observe these laws and they will demonstrate to the people your wisdom and understanding...And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him?**

In this Sunday's Gospel, the Scribes and the Pharisees question Jesus because his disciples had not washed their hands in the manner prescribed by the Law. In response to this question, Jesus criticises the Pharisees and Scribes: **This people honours me only with lip service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.** The Pharisees had got things out of perspective. They were presenting the minor laws about hygiene – washing hands and cups and dishes – as being as important as the Ten Commandments, which, elsewhere in the Gospels, Jesus sums us as Love of God and Love of Neighbour.

But the reason why Mark wrote these words of Jesus down in his Gospel was not to score points against the Pharisees. The reason Mark records these words of Jesus is to ensure that no one in his community made the same mistake. Mark wants to make sure that no one in his community confused minor laws – the means to the end – with the Supreme Law: **Love of God and Love of Neighbour**. The Scribes and Pharisees had confused something external – the observance of law – with something inner – a heart overflowing with Love of God and Love of Neighbour.

We, too, can make this same mistake. We, too, can observe the law for its own sake, and confuse this with the Supreme Law: Love of God and Love of Neighbour. We, too, can confuse external appearances with the inner intention of a person's heart. Again, the words of Jesus which Mark records for his community are directed at us today: **Nothing which goes into a person from outside can make them unclean; it is the things which come out of a person that make them unclean.**

As St James reminds us in today's Second Reading: **All that is good, everything that is perfect which is given us from above comes down from the Father of all light.**

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 8th September 2024 — The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

| Mass Time | Reader | | Extraordinary Minister | |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 8.30 am | L Bani RSC | A M Catalfamo | S Maurici | K Sherwood |
| 10.30 am | S O'Dwyer | F Baker RSM | L Connors | |
| 5.30 pm | B Smolenaars | | M Passuello | L Smolenaars |

CHURCH LINEN

September — V Pizzichetta

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 1 - Thurs 5th September at 9:45 am

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries

Glenn Doran Thomas Fewster
Gordon Windsor Antonio Molinaro

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 is celebrating September baby birthdays at the monthly morning cup of tea! Please pop by to the Symons Centre after the 10.30am Mass this **Sunday 1st September** to have some cake and sing **Happy Birthday** with us. New couples, families and their kids in the Parish very welcome. Contact Kylie and Jerome for more information at: youngcouple.network@gmail.com

Social Get-Together (Formerly Known as Golden Oldies) The next Parish Social Get-Together will take place on **Thursday 12th September** at **11.00am** in the **Symons Centre**. We will commence with Mass at 11.00am. Mass will be followed by a light lunch—please bring food to share with others; tea and coffee will be provided. **Due to Mass is being celebrated at 11.00am, there will be no Mass celebrated at 9.15am on that day.**



**Next Project Circle:
Tuesday 10th September**

Project Circle is a group, a time and a place where you can work on your ongoing project or start something new!

Time: 7.00pm to 9.30pm - stay for as little or long as you like

Place: St Vincent de Paul Parish Centre behind St Vincent de Paul Church, **Strathmore**. Enter from The Crossway

Cost: Gold coins to cover tea/coffee/use of room

Who: Anyone wanting to get creative and share experience

More Info: Contact Rosa 0412 445 239 or Belinda tompkins.bel@gmail.com

Bring along any easily portable project; it might be sewing, knitting, crochet, painting, embroidery, sketching, designing a photo book, organising, darning or that project you started and haven't finished.



Catholic Theological College

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



Upcoming CTC Events
Information Session for Educators
Information Session for Prospective Students
Engaging Your Faith Online Sessions

For more information:
<https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/>
<https://ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/>

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

Be doers of the word and not hearers only...

James 1:22

It's easy to understand the definition of stewardship – living a grateful and generous life. The hard part is doing it! How do your words and actions reflect God's word? Do you share your time in prayer with God daily? Do you use your talent to help those in need without expecting anything in return? Are you generous with your financial resources? If not, what are you waiting for?

| 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 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B — 1st September, 2024

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you - keep the commands of the Lord.

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 14:2-5

℟ The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?

He who walks without fault;

he who acts with justice

and speaks the truth from his heart. ℟

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. ℟

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. ℟

Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

A reading from the letter of St James

Be doers of the word.

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,

the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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SUNDAY LITURGY @ HOME (*click below*)

Adults: [Sunday Readings - Sunday Readings Year B](#)

([weebly.com](#))

Children: [Sept 1 - Sunday 22 Ordinary -](#)

[PRAYING WITH CHILDREN YEAR B 2023-2024](#)

([yearbprayingwithchildren.org](#))