

**FIRST READING** (Lv 19:1-2, 17-18)  
A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: ‘Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: “Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy”. “You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”’

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13.)

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**

As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

**SECOND READING** (1 Cor 3:16-23)  
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple. Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
**Whoever keeps the word of Christ,  
grows perfect in the love of God.**  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** (Mt 5:38-48)  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away. ‘You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**



**PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER**

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.  
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.  
O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia  
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.  
Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to  
recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.  
Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak  
boldly of your truth.  
Give us ears to listen humbly to each other  
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.  
Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may  
live the joy of the Gospel.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
bread for the journey from age to age.  
Amen.  
Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.  
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us.*



**ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Moonee Ponds

Presbytery: 22 Robinson St, Moonee Ponds 3039 | Telephone: (03) 9370 5035  
Email: [mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au) | Website: [www.stmonicasparish.com.au](http://www.stmonicasparish.com.au)

Parish Priest: **Rev. Fr. Tony Feeney**  
Assistant Priests: **Rev. Fr. Andrew Choi**  
Parish Office: **Sonya Bading, Domenica Caridi** (Monday to Friday 9 am ~ 3 pm)  
Pastoral Assistant: **Abygaile Cukavac**  
School Principal: **Mr. Peter Moore** — School Phone No: 9375 1132



**Green 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time– Year A 22nd & 23rd February**

**ORDINARY MASS TIMES**

**Saturday:** 8 am (followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament) & 6 pm (Vigil for Sunday)  
**Sunday:** 8 am, 9.15am (Italian), 10.30 am, 5.30 pm  
**Monday:** 7 am (Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion)  
**Tuesday to Friday:** 7 am & 9.15am  
**Public holidays:** 8 am  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10 am ~ 11 am & 5.30pm ~ 5.50pm

*1st Collection:* For the upkeep of the Parish Church and all the works of the Church. / *2nd Collection:* For the running of the Presbytery and support of the priests.

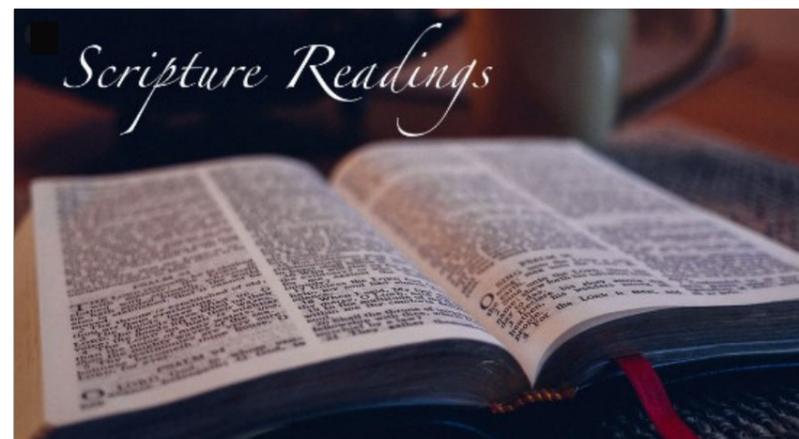
We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, as the traditional caretakers of the land which is the St. Monica's Catholic Parish. We acknowledge the Elders, past & present. May we, too, be good stewards of this land.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.  
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.  
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

I will recount all your wonders,  
I will rejoice in you and be glad,  
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.



*Scripture Readings*

**Come and join our Scripture Group.**  
**Beginning 7pm Tuesday 25th February (in the Symons Centre) and Wednesday 26th after 9.15am Mass.**  
**Our focus in the next six weeks is the Lenten Gospel.**  
**All interested people welcome.**

*“If you do not know the Scriptures, you can not know Jesus.” Origen*

**MINISTRIES & READINGS 29th February & 1st March**

| MASS           | READERS                              | EUCHARIST   | OGGI                              |  |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|
|                |                                      |   |                                   | Paola Carra                                      |
| <b>6.00pm</b>  | Lynn Besterwitch                     | Janet Dobson; Lynda Ellis                             | <b>PROSSIMA SETTIMANA</b>         | Fam. Barbera                                     |
| <b>8.00am</b>  | Maria Doherty<br>Anthony Vendramini  | Bernard Healey;<br>Tim Mitchell                       | <b>CHURCH LINEN</b><br>(February) | Connie Munafo`                                   |
| <b>9.15am</b>  | D. Caridi<br>M. Giardina             | F. Priscoglio; T. Pagliarello;<br>M. Galioto          |                                   |  |
| <b>10.30am</b> | Emma La Mari<br>Joe Ragnanese        | Anna Colombo; Brian Mathews;<br>John Morello          | <b>CHURCH VACUUMING</b>           | Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb<br>Team 1<br>9:45 am |
| <b>5.30pm</b>  | Michael Fewster<br>Maurice Passuello | Emily McMahon; Rebecca McMahon;<br>Elizabeth Poliness |                                   |  |

**Next week's Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Rom 5:12-19 Gospel: Mt 4:1-11

### WE PRAY FOR

The elderly and the sick

Dantina Frederico; Stella Mammone; Gino Salva;

### RECENTLY DECEASED

In Faith, Hope and Love,  
let us pray for repose of the souls of

Judith Mc Whinney; Fr. Rod Pitts; Giuseppina Manitta

May they rest in peace.

### ANNIVERSARIES

We remember in prayer

Milena Vivoda

### FUNERAL THIS WEEK

Funeral Mass for Giuseppina Manitta

Tuesday 25th February 11 am

### BAPTISM NEXT WEEKEND 1st March

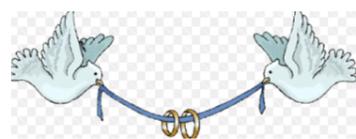


Elijah Daniel Baker  
Eric Christopher Ganz  
Jacob Puglia  
Louis Oliver Shi Yun Tiang  
Charlie William Shien Tiang  
Poppy Mae Stephens  
Archie Scott Stephens

### WEDDINGS NEXT WEEKEND

We pray for them as they begin their married life together.

Darwin Rivadillo & Melita Azarcon



Child Protection  
is Everyone's  
Responsibility

### LENTEN SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

During Lent Parishioners are encouraged to attend  
Lenten Reflections (25th February –  
24th March)



7PM Tuesday  
(In the Symons Centre)

Wednesdays after 9.15am Mass

Visit our website: [www.stmonicasparish.com.au](http://www.stmonicasparish.com.au)

Like us on Facebook: [St Monica's Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/StMonicasCatholicChurch)

### FEBRUARY 26TH 2020



ASH  
WEDNESDAY

(A day of Fasting and Abstinence)

Please bring last years Palms into the  
Church or Presbytery for burning to make  
ashes for Ash Wednesday.

MASS TIMES: 7.00AM, 9.15AM 7.00PM

All Welcome

### Project Compassion Sunday Begins next Week



Please take home a Project  
Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and  
support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Go  
Further Together". Your generosity will assist some of the  
world's most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out  
of poverty. When we Go Further Together in love and  
compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by  
phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting [www.caritas.org.au/  
projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion).

HELP  
WANTED

Your parish  
needs you!

### NEW READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED

We welcome and encourage new  
Readers and Eucharistic  
Ministers to all weekend  
masses.

Please speak to Fr. Tony, Fr. Andrew, Abygaile or the  
Parish Office if you are interested in joining one of these  
ministries.

We especially seek readers for 8am & 5.30pm Sunday  
and readers and Eucharistic Ministers for 8am Sunday  
Can you help?

Current Lector Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for  
Roster 15 April 2020 to 12 October 2020 Please contact  
the Parish Office to advise of 'known absences' or  
changes for the next roster.

The Parish Library (located in the Piety Store)



Children Books are available as well  
as Adult Literature.  
Please come in and have a browse or  
borrow a book or two.  
All you need to do is to fill in a simple  
form when borrowing.

In considering the Church as 'the home of the word'  
attention must be given to the sacred liturgy, for the  
liturgy is the privileged setting in which God speaks to us  
in the midst of our lives; he speaks today to his people, who  
hear and respond. *Verbum Domini* (2010) 52

### PARISH NOTICES

- ◆ 23rd– February 5.30pm Grade 6 Family Mass
- ◆ 26th February Ash Wednesday Mass at 7.00am.9.15am & 7pm
- ◆ 4th March 11am Golden Oldies in the Symons Centre
- ◆ 5th March Hope Cafe– 6-7.30pm in the Symons Centre
- ◆ 9th March Labour Day Public Holiday

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS DURING LENT



3.00 pm in Italian 7.00pm in English

### REGULAR PARISH EVENTS

- ◆ Children's Liturgy in the Symons Centre  
5.30pm– 1<sup>st</sup> March  
(Under school aged children must be accompanied  
an adult.)
- ◆ Parish Playgroup– runs during school terms on  
Wednesdays in the Hall from 9-10.30 am
- ◆ Altar Servers Training  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, at 4.30 pm in the church.  
NEXT TRAINING: 21<sup>st</sup> March, 4.30 pm  
For any inquiries: [Abygaile.Cukavac@cam.org.au](mailto:Abygaile.Cukavac@cam.org.au)
- ◆ Gamblers Anonymous Gathering  
At 8 pm, every Wednesday in the Parish Hall.  
All welcome.
- ◆ Every Thursday– 7.30-9.15pm 1st Charismatic Prayer  
Group Meeting in the Symons Centre  
For enquiries contact Gerald on 9337 0475
- ◆ 20th March next Parish Social Dance 7.30pm  
in the Symons Centre. Enquiries contact: Renus  
on 0430 392 152

### THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB

Friday 28 February, 7pm | Caroline Chisholm Library,  
Level 3, 358 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Anyone interested in reading and discussing Catholic  
literature is welcome to join our monthly meetings.  
This month we are discussing Strangers and Sojourners  
by Michael D. O'Brien.  
Further details: Paul Nixon on 0405 486 531 or  
[www.melbournecatholicbookclub.yolasite.com](http://www.melbournecatholicbookclub.yolasite.com)  
e-mail: [dbrclysterfield@gmail.com](mailto:dbrclysterfield@gmail.com)



Any new families to the Parish please  
take a Welcome Pack after mass at  
the back of the Church

### NOTIZIE ITALIANE

Se qualcuno fosse interessato a pubblicare eventuali notizie  
sul bollettino, e' pregato di inviargli una copia in italiano al  
seguente indirizzo email: [mooneeponds@cam.org.au](mailto:mooneeponds@cam.org.au)  
Affinche' la notizia sia pubblicata sul bollettino della settimana  
corrente, e' necessario che la stessa pervenga prima delle ore  
12:00pm di Mercoledì.

Per qualsiasi informazione sul gruppo Italiano di preghiera che  
si riunisce ogni Martedì dalle 10:00am alle 12:00pm presso il  
Symons Centre (la sala accanto alla Chiesa), si prega di  
contattare:

- Maria Giardina al numero 93702047 oppure
- Connie Munafò al numero 93751980

### IL RITO DELLA VIA CRUCIS

Nella Chiesa cattolica l'esercizio della Via Crucis è connesso  
con l'indulgenza plenaria, secondo le condizioni stabilite dalla  
Chiesa.

Per ottenere l'indulgenza, i fedeli devono pregare stando in  
ciascuna stazione e meditando sul mistero della Passione.  
La stessa indulgenza può essere applicata a chi non può  
materialmente visitare le stazioni purché mediti per 30  
minuti sulla Passione di Cristo.

Ogni Venerdì durante la Quaresima  
alle ore 3:00pm in Italiano e alle ore 7:00pm in Inglese



Avete inteso che tu detto:  
"Occhio per occhio e dente per dente";

ma io vi dico di non opporvi al malvagio;  
anzi se uno ti percuote la guancia destra,  
tu porgigli anche l'altra;

e a chi ti vuol chiamare in giudizio  
per toglierti la tunica,  
tu lascia anche il mantello.

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who  
persecute you..." (Matthew 5:44)

Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But,  
remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we  
are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it  
turns our attention away from "me" and moves it towards God  
and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for "our  
enemy." When we pray for others, even "our enemies," maybe  
it softens their hearts as well.

### Trying for a baby? Having trouble conceiving?

There is a real alternative to IVF – Billings LIFE

Ring for a friendly chat on 1800 335 860 or 03 9802

2022 Website: [www.billings.life](http://www.billings.life)

If you have been trying to have a baby without success, our  
tutors can provide essential information, which will give you  
the best chance to achieve your pregnancy naturally.

