

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)

Seminarian: Mr Andrew Tran

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

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

QR Code
for our website:



Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B

28th 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,

We know that the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead was, at times, confusing for the Apostles. It was a singularly strange occurrence and had strange effects on people. I suspect then that the Apostles would have been more than a bit confused and suspicious about the man Saul of Tarsus. For previously, the Apostles knew Saul as one who had persecuted them. He had literally signed the death warrant of many members of the early Church. And now, as we read in today's First Reading, he comes along wanting to join the disciples. No wonder they were afraid of him. No wonder they could not believe he was really a disciple. Perhaps they thought he was some sort of spy. Trying to infiltrate the early Church community, in order to destroy it from within. I am sure they would have thought, ***We would be mad to let Saul join us.***

Already, Saul was a source of tension and division in the community: the Hellenists wanted to kill him. But Barnabas – whose name means ***Son of Encouragement*** – introduces Saul to the Apostles, and explains the story of his conversion. But was it madness to let Saul join the early Church? To the world, probably ***YES!*** But to those who believe in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead the answer is ***NO!***

The Resurrection of Jesus is ***the*** power to destroy death forever. It is this same power which turns Saul's life around. And not just around, but inside out and upside down as well. Saul encounters the risen Christ on the road to Damascus and his life is changed forever. He goes from being the chief persecutor of the infant Church to one of its most zealous preachers. One of the most ardent preachers of the power of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

This is the power of that resurrection from the dead. We see something of that power in today's Gospel. Jesus proclaims himself to be the true vine. It's a rich image, isn't it?

As most of you know, I am a gardener...and while I don't have vines, I have a climbing rose. Metres away from the main trunk, branches teem with life and growth and blooms. And this is, pretty much, what Jesus says to us.

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. In Jesus, the true vine, there is room for everyone. Whether we are close to the main trunk, or feel that we are a long way away. Apart from Jesus, the true vine, we are lost.

Cut off from me you can do nothing. But whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.

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 5th May 2024 — The Sixth Sunday of Easter Sunday, Year B

Mass Time	Reader		Extraordinary Minister	
8.30 am	F Baker RSM	L Mathews	R Farfalla	R Gonsalves
10.30 am	J Martin	K Martin	A Briggs	J Trethowan
5.30 pm	J Henderson		T Vu	R Legudi

CHURCH LINEN

May— Sr Loretta Bani RSC

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 1 - Thursday 2nd May at 9.45am

Please remember in your prayers...

Recently Deceased

Peg Trevaskis

Anniversaries

Rosemary Kelada John Raleigh

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.



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.

CDF

5.35% p.a. 12-month term investment

5.05% p.a. 6-month term investment

By opening an account with CDF Community Fund, you are saving for a reward greater than money alone. Help build classrooms for students, places of worship for communities, hospital wings for the sick, aged care homes for the elderly and social service facilities for the most vulnerable.

It's a way to save while doing good.

Call 1800 134 135 or visit catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer to open an account and for disclosure details, or scan the QR code.



PARISH FIRST
BUILDING BETTER PARISHES

2024 Parish Renewal (Stewardship) Program • Parish Census We are currently conducting our Parish Census - enabling us to update our parish records, adding new members of our community and noting changes with addresses, emails and phone numbers. If you have not yet done so, we invite you to complete your information at Mass this weekend. Census cards/privacy envelopes and pencils will be placed in the pews prior to each Mass, and you are requested to return your envelope in one of the collection baskets. Your assistance with this important process is very much appreciated.



CoAsIt Aged Care are currently looking for male Italian speaking volunteers in our area to visit lonely, isolated gentlemen who would appreciate a friendly chat once a week for an hour or so. Currently CoAsIt has around 200+ wonderful volunteers who generously donate their time to visit elderly people in the community each week to help reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness. If you have an hour a week to spare and would like to make a difference to an elderly persons' life and a rewarding experience for yourself, please contact Linda Francione (Regional Co-Ordinator) by phone or email for more information on 0432 422 332 Lfrancione@coasit.com.au



CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



Catholic Theological College
Sign up for one of 9 online sessions.

Engaging Your Faith
May 2024

Theology, Scripture, Meditation, Spirituality, Science & Faith.

Choose what interests you from \$25 per session. For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

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

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

1 John 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you “walk the talk?” Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it's not too late to start!

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 Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B — 28th April 2024

First Reading: Acts 9:26-31

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 21:26-28, 30-32

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **R.**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R.**

And my soul shall live for him, children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' **R.**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first letter of St John

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,
but something real and active;
only by this can we be certain
that we are the children of the truth
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,
whatever accusations it may raise against us,
because God is greater than our conscience and he knows
everything.

My dear people,
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,
we need not be afraid in God's presence,
and whatever we ask him,
we shall receive,
because we keep his commandments
and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these:
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and that we love one another
as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments
lives in God and God lives in him.
We know that he lives in us
by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes
to make it bear even more.
You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away
- he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,
and they are burnt.
If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.
It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much
fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.'

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 HarperCollins Religious 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 28 - Sunday 5 Easter - PRAYING WITH CHILDREN YEAR B 2023-2024 \(yearbprayingwithchildren.org\)](#)