

ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



QR Code
for our website:



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

Assistant Priest: Rev Andrew Choi (Andrew.Choi@cam.org.au)

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

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

4 December 2022

ORDINARY MASS TIMES

Sunday: **8.30 am** (*Italian & English*); **10.30 am**; **5.30 pm**

Tuesday - Friday: **9.15 am**

Saturday: **8 am**

Reconciliation: Saturday 8.30 am

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Moonee Ponds Parish Office:

Tue - Thu, 9 am - 3.30 pm

Strathmore Parish Office:

Fri, 9 am - 3.30 pm

Dear friends,

Our celebration of the season of Advent always has a two-fold character. Yes, we are preparing to celebrate the great feast of the Birth of Christ at Christmas. But the coming of Christ at Christmas will be the focus of the **last** week of Advent. Last week, on the First Sunday of Advent, we were largely concerned with the coming of Christ at the end of all time. These middle two weeks focus on John the Baptist.

And so, we actually find ourselves, if you like, caught up in one great Advent. One great time of waiting **between** the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem and the Second Coming of Christ at the end of all time.

As our guide for these **in-between** times, the Church places before us the figure of John the Baptist. John, the great Forerunner of the Messiah, truly belongs to these **in-between** times. He stands as the last of the great prophets of the coming of the Lord.

The people who saw and heard the preaching of John the Baptist in the wilderness of Judaea would have seen in him something of the figure of the great prophet Elijah. But as much as he is a figure from the pages of the Old Testament, John the Baptist is very much a figure from the pages of the New Testament, too. John always points to the dawning of the era of the New Covenant. John always points to the one who follows him; the one whose sandals he is not fit even to carry. John the Baptist always has one foot in the Old Testament and one foot in the New.

As we follow the Lord during these **in-between** times, we are called to be known not by any name that we bear, but by the fruit we produce. The sweet, rich and juicy fruit of repentance, which grows not in the wilderness of sin, but in the fresh lush garden of fidelity and love.

With every peace,

Rev Anthony J Doran PP

MINISTERS ROSTER FOR THE NEXT SUNDAY

!! Please note that it is for 11 December.

MASS	READER	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER
8.30 am	Sr. Loretta (<i>Eng.</i>) L. Mathews (<i>Ita.</i>)	T. Mitchell B. Odachowski
10.30 am	J. Trethowan M. Baker	A. Briggs C. Shiu
5.30 pm	R. Young (<i>please do all readings</i>)	R. Legudi J. Beckley

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 1

Friday, 9 December 2022, 9.45 am

CHURCH LINEN

in December

J. Trethowan

***We are grateful for your volunteering works
for our parish community.***

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.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMETABLE

From 6 December (Tue), Parishes of St. Monica and St. Vincent de Paul Weekday Mass timetable will be back to usual time: **Tuesday to Friday, 9.15 am Mass at St. Monica's (Moonee Ponds)**
10 am Mass at St. Vincent de Paul (Strathmore)



Global Gifts change lives

Far too many families around the world are experiencing hardship through poverty. This Christmas, share a gift that can change a life. **Your Global Gift will help bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable people. Help families and communities thrive this Christmas.** [Click here for Global Gifts](#)

RECENTLY DECEASED

*Eternal rest grant onto them, O Lord.
May the perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.*

ANNIVERSARY

In Faith, Love and Hope, we pray for all whose anniversaries occurs at this time, especially:

Alec & Perc Nicol **Harold Archbold**
George Szirom **Connie Schembri**
Christopher Caserta

ANNIVERSARY & MASS OFFERINGS

Please note that if you ask one of our priests to offer Mass for your loved ones who have died, the priest will say Mass for them, but **we are only able to include in the Bulletin those whose actual anniversaries are actually occurring at the time.** If you wish to have an anniversary mentioned in the Bulletin, please phone or email the Parish Office **by 1 pm on Thursday.**

If you wish to have a Mass offered for a specific intention, special Mass offering envelopes are available in the church and from the Parish Office.

PRAY FOR: OUR ELDERS AND THE SICK

Marius Fernando	Dantina Frederico
Stella Mammone	Gino Salvo
Rosa Di Pietro	Lucia Bordin
Leo Gillman	Stephanie Jouhari
Jillian Eolzella	Loretta Bastian
Caterina Timpano	Charlie Tiang
Lena Savoia	Anne Ryan
Margaret Whelan	Geraldine Macken
John Morello Snr	Anna Vogl
Andrew Pike	Anna Henneken
Paul Duffy	Giuseppina Mammone
Antoinette Parrella	Giovanni Galioto

PLEASE OFFER
HOLY MASS



DATE _____
NAME OF PERSON'S _____
INTENTION _____
FROM _____
(ALL HEALTH, ANNIVERSARY, DECEASED ONLY)
FOR PUBLICATION YES NO

St. Monica's is a Child Safe Parish. We hold the care, safety and well-being of children, young people and vulnerable adults as a central and fundamental responsibility of our community.



FEASTS IN DECEMBER

- ◆ 7 Dec - St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor
- ◆ 8 Dec - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

TRUE NORTH

Young Adults Gathering

Our monthly gathering commences with a light supper and social, then a short presentation and faith discussion. Please encourage young people in your family to join us.

- **Every 2nd Sunday 6.30 pm, at Symons Centre**
- **Next Gathering: Sunday 11 December**
End of Year Gathering
- **Enquiries: Michael, Adam or Fr. Andrew by email**



on truenorth56stable@gmail.com or
scan the QR Code for Facebook page.

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE

is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023. Email: somml@bigpond.com

WELCOME HOME! PASTORAL LETTER FROM

ARCHBISHOP PETER A COMENSOLI

Please click the button below to read a Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Comensoli regarding the lifting of the general dispensation from our Sunday and Holy Day obligations as of the first **Sunday in Advent - 27 November 2022. Click the link below for the Letter:**

[Welcome Home: a pastoral letter from Archbishop... | Melbourne Catholic](#)

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

All are invited to attend and join in songs of praise and worship and a talk on the Life in the Spirit. Experience the gifts of the Holy Spirit, such as prayers for healing and group sharing.

Thursdays at 7.30 pm at Symons Centre

For more information: acommade@bigpond.net.au

2023 Columban Art Calendar & Christmas Cards

are available in the piety store NOW.

**2023 Columban
Art Calendar
\$10 each**

**NEW Christmas card design
\$3 for a packet of 5.
\$5 for a packet of 8.**

CATCH UP WITH A CUPPA

An opportunity to catch up and chat with fellow parishioners over a cup of tea or coffee after the 10.30 mass this Sunday 4th December, at the Symons Centre. Come along and say hello.

GIVING TREE

Advent is the liturgical season that precedes and prepares for Christmas. It is a season of hope and of longing, of joyful expectation and of peaceful preparation. During our Advent preparation, we remember those for whom Christmas can be a time of sadness and a struggle. And so to bring some joy and love at Christmas to our brothers and sisters in need you are requested to take a tag from the Giving Tree, which is located in the Narthex, and purchase **the item marked on the tag**. Your contribution can then be left at the base of the tree. The Moonee Ponds Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society will then make up food hampers from your generous contributions and distribute them to those most in need.

At Christmas, we recall the great gift that God has given to us in sending His Son Jesus Christ bringing love and peace to all. Our imitation of this even in a small way helps us appreciate this ongoing gift from God in the lives of us all.

SUPPORT MY PARISH

CDFpay for Parishes enables you to make quick and easy online Thanksgiving payments – you can set-up a recurring payment or you can choose a one-off offering.

CLICK HERE 

We thank you for supporting our parish.

This weekend's Readings at Mass
2nd Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING | Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion feed together, with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **R.**

SECOND READING | Romans 15:4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the

examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: *For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing to your name.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL | Luke 23:35-43

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: *A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.*

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.