

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

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)



QR Code
for our website:



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

11 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,

Traditionally, this Sunday of Advent is known as **Gaudete Sunday**. This name comes from the first Latin word of the Entrance Antiphon – **Gaudete**. This word means **Rejoice**. In this penitential season of Advent – our time of preparation for Christmas – this Sunday is, if you like, a lightening of our mood as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Our priests are vested in rose – lighter, more joyful than our normal Advent purples.

And on this Sunday of Advent, we have good reason to rejoice. For our readings today tell us of the Advent of the Kingdom of God. In our First Reading, the prophet Isaiah is talking about what our world will be like when the Messiah comes. The **wilderness and the dry lands exult. The wastelands rejoice and bloom...let it rejoice and sing for joy.** Creation itself rejoices when our Saviour comes.

So let us, too, rejoice, with Creation by our respect and care for it. This time of year is notorious for the amount of waste it produces. Let us make every effort to reduce waste we produce. Let us be kinder to our common home as Pope Francis challenges us to be.

Gaudete Sunday: Rejoice always!

With every peace,

Rev Anthony J Doran PP

MINISTERS ROSTER FOR THE NEXT SUNDAY

!! Please note that it is for 18 December.

MASS	READER	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER
8.30 am	B. Healey (<i>Eng.</i>) V. Pizzichetta (<i>Ita.</i>)	A. Savino M. Galioto
10.30 am	L. Connors D. Connors	D. Storace T. Vu
5.30 pm	J. Beckley (<i>please do all readings</i>)	E. McMahon R. McMahon

CHURCH VACCUMING

TEAM 2

Friday, 16 December 2022, 2pm

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.

RECONCILIATION IN ADVENT

As the Season of Advent is a time of preparation for our celebration of the coming of Christ, we are encouraged to have Reconciliation with God, especially in Advent. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available following the extra timetable below:

St. Monica's, Moonee Ponds

- Saturdays 10 and 17 December at 8.30 am;
- Tuesday 20 December at 9.45 am;
- Wednesday 21 December at 9.45 am;
- Thursday 22 December at 9.45 am and 7.30 pm;
- Friday 23 December at 9.45 am.

St. Vincent de Paul, Strathmore

- Tuesday 20 December at 9.30 am;
- Wednesday 21 December at 9.30 am and 7.30 pm;
- Thursday 22 December at 9.30 am;
- Friday 23 December at 9.30 am.

Please note that there is NO RECONCILIATION on Saturday 24 December.

OFFICE CLOSED

Parish Office will be closed **from Friday, 23 Dec 2022 until Monday, 9 January 2023**. If you have any matter to contact the Office, please do so before we close the Office.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Let perpetual light shine upon those who have died recently, especially:

Concetta Grasso

(Funeral: Thursday 22 Dec at 11 am / St. Monica's)

May they rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY

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

Joseph Choi

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.

MASS TIMETABLE FOR CHRISTMASS 2022

We are pleased to announce our Christmas Mass Timetable for this year. There are quite a few Masses, including a Midnight Mass in Moonee Ponds. Please see the timetable below:

Saturday, 24th of December

- 6 pm Mass at Moonee Ponds and Strathmore
- 9 pm Mass at Moonee Ponds and Strathmore

Sunday, 25th of December

- Midnight Mass at Moonee Ponds
- 8.30 am Mass at Moonee Ponds
- 9.30 am Mass at Strathmore
- 10.30am Mass at Moonee Ponds

Please note that there is NO MASS on Saturday 24 Dec at 8 am and NO MASS on Sunday 25 Dec at 5.30 pm.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the church and celebrating this joyful Solemn Feast Day of the Nativity of the Lord with you together.

PRAY FOR: OUR ELDERS AND THE SICK

Marius Fernando

Stella Mammone

Rosa Di Pietro

Leo Gillman

Jillian Eolzella

Caterina Timpano

Lena Savoia

Margaret Whelan

John Morello Snr

Andrew Pike

Paul Duffy

Antoinette Parrella

Dantina Frederico

Gino Salvo

Lucia Bordin

Stephanie Jouhari

Loretta Bastian

Charlie Tiang

Anne Ryan

Geraldine Macken

Anna Vogl

Anna Henneken

Giuseppina Mammone

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

- ◆ 13 Dec - St. Lucy, *Virgin & Martyr*
- ◆ 14 Dec - St. John of the Cross, *Priest & Doctor*

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.

2023 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR & CHRISTMAS CARDS

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

LIONS CHRISTMAS CAKES

Available in the Piety Store.

Large Cakes \$19
Small Cakes \$15

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.

TEMPORARY MASS TIMETABLE AFTER CHRISTMAS

The temporary Mass timetable affects only Weekday Masses **from 27 December 2022 (Tue) to 13 December (Fri)**. Saturday and Sunday Masses (*including Vigil Mass*) will be celebrated at the usual time. Please see below:

	Tue	Wed	Thr	Fri	Sat	Sun
<i>St. Monica's</i>	9.15 am	NO MASS	9.15 am	NO MASS	8.00 am	8.30 am, 10.30 am, 5.30 pm
<i>St. Vincent de Paul</i>	NO MASS	10.00 am	NO MASS	10.00 am	6.00 pm (<i>Vigil Mass</i>)	9.30 am

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.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WORLD MISSION DAY APPEAL 2022



Thank You! Your support of this year's Appeal for World Mission Sunday enables Church workers in 1047 mission dioceses to offer Good News to their local communities. **Thank you for contributing to the amount of \$1,331.80 which was raised by St Monica's community for Catholic Mission.**

Our partnership with local churches in over 160 countries is dependent upon the prayerful and financial support of many. Through your contribution, communities in Ethiopia look forward with hope, with easier access to health, educational and spiritual resources. **THANK YOU.**

Please take a bulletin home and read though.
Have a blessed week in Christ.

Readings at Mass
3rd Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.*

FIRST READING | Isaiah 35:1-6,10

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;
they shall see the glory of the Lord,
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,
steady all trembling knees
and say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,
everlasting joy on their faces;
joy and gladness will go with them
and sorrow and lament be ended.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. *Lord, come and save us.*

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R.**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down,
the Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R.**

It is the Lord who loves the just
but thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING | James 5:7-10

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL | Matthew 11:2-11

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says:

'Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way before you.

'I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.*