

Peter is thrilled to now have clean water on tap at his boarding school. Long walks to unsafe water sources were tiring for Peter, who is living with a disability. With more free time and fewer illnesses caused by dirty water, Peter can fulfil his hope of focusing on his studies, providing him with a brighter future. Please donate to Project Compassion 2019 and help young people with disabilities gain access to clean water in the Solomon Islands, providing hope for a brighter future.

- The HYPA-R Committee will be selling tickets after the St Monica’s Masses for the Easter Raffle. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5. Raffle will be drawn at the Easter Celebration on Friday 5 April 2019.
- EASTER CELEBRATION...Friday 5 April 2019, will be 1st Friday Adoration, starts at 6:30pm. This is led by the youth then followed by an Easter Celebration in the Old Church. There will be fun games, food/drink, a special appearance by the Easter Bunny, major raffle will be drawn and more... All welcome.



Announcements

Monday 25 March 9am Mass will be offered for the repose of the soul of Michael John McMahon for his First Anniversary.

Readers for Palm Sunday Gospel we are in need of 2 Readers at each Mass to assist in the reading of the Passion. If you are available please add your name on the sheet in the church foyer.

Jesuit Refugee Service is requesting for donation towards their Foodbank. Food items and toiletries are welcome. For more details please see poster in the church foyer.

Reaching out to the Homeless: If you have any spare new face washers, hand towels, socks or jumpers to be distributed to the homeless, please leave in the Church foyer. We will pass them on to those in need. Thank you.

PARISH DIARY DATES

- Monday 1 April **Circle of Friends** will meet in the Parish Meeting Room following morning Mass. All welcome.
- Weekend 6/7 April **Confirmation Enrolment Ceremonies.**
- Monday 15 April **Second Rite of Reconciliation** 7pm at St Monica’s.
- Tuesday 30 April **Parent Meeting (Confirmation)** 7pm at St Monica’s.

Mark this date in your diary: 19 May, 2019 celebrating 160 years since the opening of the first St. Monica’s.

Fete Sponsorship leaflets are available in the church foyer.

Pope’s Message for Lent 2019...

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Each year, through Mother Church, God “gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ” (Preface of Lent I). We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfilment of the salvation we have already received as a result of Christ’s paschal mystery - “for in hope we were saved” (Rom 8:254). This mystery of salvation, already at work in us during our earthly lives, is a dynamic process that also embraces history and all of creation. As Saint Paul says, “the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God” (Rom 8:19). In this perspective, I would like to offer a few reflections to accompany our journey of conversion this coming Lent. To be continued.

In preparation for our 160th anniversary next year we are taking a regular look back in time... The Church of St Monica was blessed on May 4 1859 and was opened by Archpriest Therry. For many years it was also used as a school during the week, until the Good Samaritan sisters came and the convent was built in 1878. In that year Dean O’Connell (a member of the order of St Benedict), who was assistant to Fr Cassidy at Windsor, took up residence at Richmond. He built the presbytery in 1899. The school was built by Fr W J Stevens and was blessed by Archbishop Kelly on May 2, 1921. It was erected in memory of Fr O’Brien who had built so much in the parish during his 20 years as pastor. The presbytery was renovated and extended in 1958. On behalf of the 160th Anniversary Committee.

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased

Sr Janet Heath OSC
Marie Maguire
John Harris
Mary Cremona
Bobby McGregor
Kim O’Grady
Oscar Galino
Wayne Eather

... and those we remember at this time.

Ron & Josie (Mary) Horan,
Lindsay, Eileen, Garry & Kevin Clarke,
Adrain Williams, Lorraine Hogbin,
Graham Symonds, Tony Carr,
Michael John McMahon, Bob Anderson
Reno Camilleri, May Ann & Joseph
Bugeja, Michael Camilleri, Vicki,
Rose Camilleri, Joseph Farrugia,
Joseph Baldacchino, Paul Galea &
Family, Nati Jordana, Caro Graham

The Parable of the Fig Tree

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 13:6-9 (NIV).

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| DOWN | FIND | VINEYARD | MAN | TOLD |
| PLANTED | USE | SOIL | ALONE | FIG |
| FERTILIZE | DIG | PARABLE | TREE | CUT |

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Happy Birthday

To all those celebrating this week

We Prayerfully Remember the Sick

Jeff Steven, Josephine Cutajar,
Tye Angland, Frank Grima,
William Grima, Frank Cauchi,
Stephen Avery,
Pauline Azzopardi,
Dale Wasley, Carmen Sultana,
Melissa Colless,
Janice Anderson

PREPARATION FOR EASTER: To enhance our Easter Liturgies, most of which will be celebrated at St Monica’s Church, we will be having a singing practice for four Tuesdays from 7pm -8pm on March 19 & 26, April 2 & 9. Singers from the three Mass Centres are encouraged to attend these practices. Please note, we are not establishing a choir, rather, we are promoting congregational singing. Those at the singing practices will be leading the congregation, not performing for the congregation. Come one, come all, and why not bring a friend?!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
9 April 2019 at 7pm.

Meeting Minutes available on notice boards in church foyers.

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| PARISH MASS TIMES St Monica’s Saturday: 6.30pm Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am, 5.30pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00am St Gregory’s Saturday: 9.00am Sunday: 8.00am St John of God Tuesday : 4.00pm Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil Mass | SACRAMENTS Reconciliation St Monica’s: Saturday 5.30pm - 6pm. St Gregory’s: Saturday after 9.00am Mass. Anointing of the Sick Friday 29 March 2019, 9.00am at St Monica’s. Or by arrangement with the priests. | Baptism By appointment only. St Monica’s: 2 nd & 4 th Sundays at 11.00am. St Gregory’s: 1 st Sunday at 11:00am Booking & Preparation are essential. Marriage Strictly by appointment. A minimum of 6 months notice is required. All enquiries please email admin@parishofrichmond.org.au |
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| REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES Rosary St Monica’s: 8.40am before weekday Mass. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament St Monica’s: Wednesday after 9.00am Mass to pray for vocations. | Choir Practice St Monica’s: 45 minutes before each Mass <i>NEW MEMBERS WELCOME</i> | Children’s Liturgy St Monica’s: Saturday 6.30pm Sunday 9.30am | Circle of Friends Parish Meeting Room: 1st Monday of the month 9.30am | Youth Group Social Meet every 3rd Saturday of the month after 6.30pm HYPA Mass. HYPA-R Holy Hour Meet every 1st Friday of the month 6:30pm-7:30pm praying for youth followed by pizzas. |
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