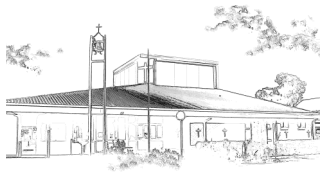


The Parish of Richmond



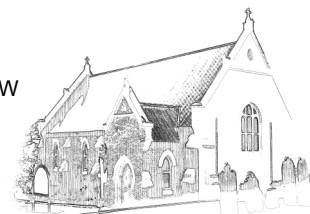
St Monica's Church
Cnr Windsor & Bourke Sts
RICHMOND, NSW

St Gregory's Church
5 Old Bells Line of Rd
KURRAJONG NSW

St John of God Chapel
177 Grose Vale Rd
NORTH RICHMOND, NSW

St Monica's Primary School
32 Francis St RICHMOND NSW
Ph: 4570 3700

Parish Office
1A Bourke St RICHMOND NSW
Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri
9:30am-4pm
Ph: 4578 1410
www.parishofrichmond.org.au



Second Sunday of Advent – Year B 10 December 2023

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 40:1-5, 9-11

Prepare the way for the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 84:9-14

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-14

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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

Parish Prayer

Ever loving God, we the community of the Catholic Parish of Richmond, praise you and dedicate our lives to you. Through the example of St Monica, St Gregory, and St John of God we aspire to be people of faith and prayer, who extend peace, hope and light to the wider community.

When we listen to your Word, let it nourish us, giving us strength and perseverance in our daily lives. May the Holy Spirit enkindle in us a spirit of compassion and hospitality and a profound respect for each other.

Help us to care for the sick, the elderly and those in need. Bless our young people that they may be inspired to know, love and serve You. May we strive to grow in holiness and dedicate our lives to Your service.

We make this prayer through the Intercession of our Mother Mary and Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Christmas Mass Times ...

St Monica's: Sunday December 24
6pm Vigil (Children's Mass) Midnight Mass - Carols from 11.30pm

Monday December 25 7.30am & 9.30am

No evening Mass on Christmas Day - Monday 25th December

St Gregory's: Sunday December 24 6.00pm Vigil Mass

Monday December 25 8.00am

**2nd Rite of
Reconciliation
St Monica's,
Richmond
Thursday,
14 December
at 7pm**

PARISH TEAM

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Gayan Thamel
frgayan@parishofrichmond.org.au

ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Thomas Bui
frthomas@parishofrichmond.org.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Teshana Laferla
Kara Hargrave
admin@parishofrichmond.org.au

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR

Maria Boyd
sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au

PARISH CO-ORDINATOR OF MINISTRIES

Mary McGuinness
mary.mcguinness@parishofrichmond.org.au

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK CO-ORDINATOR

Caroline Pritchard
caroline.pritchard@parishofrichmond.org.au

PRINCIPAL - ST MONICA'S SCHOOL

Melissa Beggs
StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au



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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MINISTERS AND VOLUNTEERS

All rostered ministers & volunteers are asked to regularly check your email in-box today and over the next couple of weeks. **The rosters for 2024 are being completed and emailed. Christmas Rosters & the 2024 Liturgical Rosters are on display in the Church foyers. Please check.**

Any concerns re the rosters, please contact Mary McGuinness immediately.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Preparing For Christmas

The **SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION** will be celebrated **THIS THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER** at 7pm.

Advent Groups continue **THIS WEEK** Tuesday December 12 in the Emmaus Room, meet 9.30 for 10am start Thursday December 14 in the Emmaus Room 9.30 start.

Thank you to all who work behind the scenes We thank all who are unseen and work behind the scene to ensure our Liturgies run well and keep our environment clean and welcoming, Sacristans, Cleaners, Gardeners, Church décor, Maintenance, Flowers, those who prepare our liturgies and power point presentations. A special Thank You to the ladies who have recently organized the work room and the vestry area at St. Monica's. May God bless you all.

Christmas is coming: This year we will be presenting the Christmas Nativity play during the Christmas Eve Mass at Richmond and Kurrajong. Young people, if you would like to participate, we invite you to sign up today, sheets are in the Church foyer. Rehearsal dates for Richmond - 17 Dec after the 9.30am Mass in the old church in Richmond & rehearsal dates for Kurrajong - 10 & 17 Dec following the 8am Mass in Kurrajong.

Save the date: Come celebrate with us, St Paul's Festa 20th January 2024.

St Monica's Spring fair update Thank you to all who supported our Spring Fair, a total profit of \$21,000 has been shared between the School and the Parish. It has been decided that the Fair will be held every two years, with the Book Stall, White Elephant and Plant Stall being an annual event.

PARISH DIARY DATES



- **Wednesday 13 December Saint Lucy.**
- **Thursday 14 December Saint John of the Cross.**

Funeral Mass for the late Alma Irwin will be held at St Monica's on Monday 11th December at 11am.

Funeral Mass for the late Elizabeth (Betty) McKay will be held at St Monica's on Tuesday 12th December at 10.30am.

To acknowledge the commitment and valued contribution of our **Junior Servers** & as a means of saying "thank you", each one is invited to St Monica's **5pm-7pm**, on **Wednesday Dec 20**, for two hours of food & fun activities. This is a prelude to doing more fun things with the team in 2024.

Mobile phones: Please ensure that you turn off your phone or set it to silent mode before entering the church. Let us focus and support each other in creating a mindset suitable for prayer.



Please Turn off Your Mobile Phones

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

This year we are inviting you to donate a **CHILD'S** gift as a part of our Christmas Appeal. If you are able to assist, please take a card from the Christmas Tree which will be in the foyer and return the gift by the 15th December. Thank you for your continued support of our SVDP Conference.



Be Part of Our Synod Journey: Diocesan Synod Report Now Available The Diocesan Synod Report is now available for download. The newly released Diocesan Synod Report offers a summary of our first Diocesan Synod assembly, held from 13-15 October 2023, its preparatory stages, in-depth details of the proceedings, and insights from delegates. Download your copy from the Parramatta Synod website now: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

PARISH MASS TIMES

St Monica's
Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 7.30am,
9.30am, 5.30pm
Mon, Wed & Fri: 9.00am

St Gregory's
Saturday: 9am
Sunday: 8am
St John of God
No Masses at this stage

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation
St Monica's:
Saturday 5.30pm - 5.50pm.
St Gregory's:
Saturday after 9.00am Mass.

Anointing of the Sick Mass
Second Friday of the month, 9am
at St Monica's or by arrangement
with the priests

Baptism

By appointment only.
St Monica's: 2nd & 3rd Sundays
at 11am.
St Gregory's: 1st Sunday at 11am
Booking & Preparation are essential.

Marriage

Strictly by appointment. A minimum
of 6 months notice is required. All
enquiries please email:
admin@parishofrichmond.org.au

**PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING 14 Feb
2024 at 7pm.**

**Meeting Minutes
available on notice
boards in church
foyers & parish
website.**

CHRISTMAS CAKE DRIVE

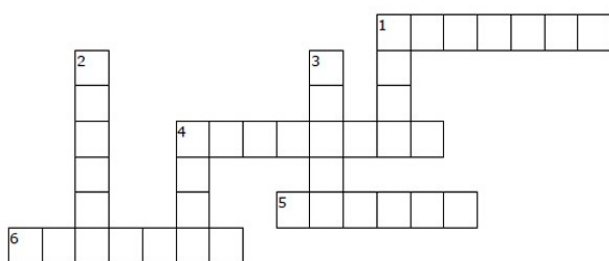
Thank You For Your Generous Donations to our Christmas Cake Drive. The cakes will be cut up and placed in individual bags ready for distribution at the John Moroney Correctional Centre, **NEXT SUNDAY** following 9.30am Mass. If can help even for half an hour it would be greatly appreciated. Please bring a knife and cutting board. Thank you once again.



Preparing the Way

"A voice calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Mark 1:3

Puzzle is based on Mark 1:1-8



ACROSS

1. To make ready ahead of time
4. Not having any curves or bends
5. A dry, barren region with only a few plants
6. To admit your sins to God

DOWN

1. A trail made for traveling on foot
2. The river where John baptized people
3. What people use for speaking
4. Actions that break God's law

VOICE	PREPARE	SINS	STRAIGHT
JORDAN	DESERT	PATH	CONFESS

STEWARDSHIP: Week ending 03/12/2023

1st Collection: \$1862
2nd Collection: \$2838.50

Please note that you can make donations via the tap and go found in St Monica's church foyer. Credit Card Giving: Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to set up monthly giving via credit card. Online Donations are accepted through our parish website at parishofrichmond.org.au. The red "Donate Now" button at the top opens a new window, in the drop down box make your selection then complete all details. Debit or credit card may be used and there are no fees incurred.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased:

Alma Irwin, Betty Mckay, Diene Boatswain, Patrick Newman, John Allen, Gwenneth Doyle, John Cox, Antonia Refalo, Tom Hall, Eric Lillia, Gwen Doyle, Barry Love, Michael Sossine, Pamela Turner,

... and those we remember at this time:

Anthony & Maryanne Xiberras, Joseph & Concetta Xiberras, Louis & Giovanna Portelli, Frangisk & Grezzja Xerri, Manweli & Carmela Azzopardi, Frank Cauchi, Theresa Mifsud, Peter Mifsud, Doris Cauchi, Peter Blumenthal, Barbara Capp, John Borg, Lonza Deguara, Joseph Camilleri, Joe Vella, Bev Riley, Marie Clifford, Bernard Lloyd, Margaret & Roseanne Attard, Carmen Cassar, George

We Prayerfully Remember the Sick

Maria Polito, Endora Au, Hal Moloney, Zlato, Maree Spencer, Sharon Gregory, Charlie Camilleri, Greg Horan, Delina Galea, Yvette Brander, Pat Stanton, Rose Galea, Pam Everingham, Rhonda Jones, Helen Kenny, Rick Vella, Adam Taha, Roy Cutrone, Sr Anne Tregillgas, Vera Brglevski, Barry Wall, Peter Johnson, Trishy Rankin, Lorraine Smith, Stan Ujmiak, Leo Barbagallo, Diana Hurley



We welcome the newly baptized...

Aniela Proskien, Koby and Tyler
...to our Christian



Happy birthday

to all those celebrating this week: Olivia Barbagallo

R.C.I.A. RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS –

Monday December 11, 7pm in the Emmaus Room.

Topic this week - Sin and Forgiveness and the moral life.

Come and join us. No obligation - this is an opportunity for you to learn more and refresh your faith
ALL Welcome.

REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITES

Rosary

St Monica's: 8.40am before weekday Mass.

St Gregory's: 8.40am before Saturday Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St Monica's: Wednesday after 9.00am Mass to pray for vocations.

Parish Morning Tea

After 9.30am Mass every fourth Sunday of the month at St Monica's & every second Sunday of the month at St Gregory's after 8am Mass

Body of Christ Prayer Group

First Wednesday 7-8.30pm pray for vocations. All welcome.
1 Hughes Ave, Hobartville.

Table Tennis fortnightly on Monday's 5-7pm in the Old Church.

First Friday Benediction & Mass

Every 1st Friday of the month 6.30pm—7.30pm All Welcome

Suspended until further notice Youth Group Social

Meet every 1st Friday of the month after 6.30pm HYPMA Mass



NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER
16/17 December 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent
Year B

St Monica's

Readers

6.00pm - C. Allison L. O'Brien
 7.30am - S. Duff M. McMahon
 9.30am - K. Petersen M. Manea
 5.30pm - C. Salkeld A. Salkeld

Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

6.00pm - R. Larven J. Portelli
 7.30am - A. Burnett A. Dunbar
 9.30am - F. Yates Z. Culican
 5.30pm - S. Nash A. Duarte

Minister of the Altar

6.00pm - R. Ujmiak
 7.30am - C. Fleetwood
 9.30am - A. Brailey
 5.30pm - P. Delahay

Junior Ministers

6.00pm -
 7.30am -
 9.30am -
 5.30pm -

Data Projector

6.00pm - M. Breaden
 7.30am - C. Thompson
 9.30am - L. Culican
 5.30pm - Choir members

Children's Liturgy

6.00pm - B. Xuereb
 9.30am - C. Kennedy

Cleaners - C & A. Salkeld A. Edwards
 P. Vella

Counters

10 Dec - F. Crew T. Misdom M. Want
 17 Dec - M. Ryan D. Bowles M. Hoffmann

WEEKDAY ROSTER

Monday 11 December 2023

Reader - F. Crew

EMoHC - R. Larven

Wednesday 13 December 2023

Reader - A. Aquilina

EMoHC - M. McMahon

Friday 15 December 2023

Reader - J. Sheffield

St Gregory's

Saturday 16 December 2023

Reader - F. Crew

EMoHC - M. Ryan

Sunday 17 December 2023

Readers

8.00am - P. Humphrey C. Smiroldo
 N. Fienberg

Minister at the Altar - D. Ryan

Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

8.00am - A. Drew

Data Projector - H. Gillies

Altar Preparation -

Cleaners - J. Bondfield

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Please contact the Parish Office on 4578 1410.

Pope Francis @Pontifex December 5:
 We have entered #Advent full of hope. We fervently implore the Prince of Peace to bring comfort to our wounded hearts and to nations suffering from wars and crises of every kind, so that all may live a dignified and peaceful life.