

# The Parish of Richmond



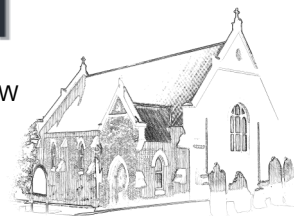
**St Monica's Church**  
Cnr Windsor & Bourke Sts  
RICHMOND, NSW

**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](http://www.parishofrichmond.org.au)



## The Nativity of the Lord – Year B 25 December 2023

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

### FIRST READING: ISAIAH 52:7-10

*All the ends of the earth shall see the saving power of our God.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 97:1-6

**R.** All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

### SECOND READING (JB): HEBREWS 1:1-6

*In our own time, God speaks to us through his Son.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! A holy day has dawned upon us. Come you nations and adore the Lord.

Today a great light has come upon the earth.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL: JOHN 1:1-18

*The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.*

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our 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 Message

*In a world often filled with darkness and struggles, Christmas reminds us of a timeless story. When Jesus came to our world, facing uncertainties just like ours, the simplicity of Mary giving birth in humble surroundings mirrored our own challenges. God chose vulnerability as His way in. Christmas reveals a powerful truth: even in darkness, a spark of hope remains. Like Mary and Joseph, we grapple with uncertainties today, but the heart of Christmas is a light that darkness can't overcome. As we celebrate this Christmas, let's welcome Jesus, the Light of the World, into our lives. Just as darkness fades in the presence of light, hope can dispel despair. May the radiance of Jesus bring blessings and safety to you and your families.*

*Fr Thomas and I wish you a blessed Christmas and peaceful holidays.*

*Fr Gayan*



### PARISH TEAM

#### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Gayan Thamel  
[frgayan@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:frgayan@parishofrichmond.org.au)

#### ASSISTANT PRIEST

Fr Thomas Bui  
[frthomas@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:frthomas@parishofrichmond.org.au)

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Teshana Laferla  
Kara Hargrave  
[admin@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:admin@parishofrichmond.org.au)

#### SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR

Maria Boyd  
[sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au)

#### PARISH CO-ORDINATOR OF MINISTRIES

Mary McGuinness  
[mary.mcguinness@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:mary.mcguinness@parishofrichmond.org.au)

#### PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK CO-ORDINATOR

Angela Copland  
[angelacopland54@gmail.com](mailto:angelacopland54@gmail.com)

#### PRINCIPAL - ST MONICA'S SCHOOL

Melissa Beggs  
[StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au)



Find us on Facebook  
The Parish of Richmond



*Thank you to all who assisted with the Christmas Liturgies - preparing, cleaning and participating in many and varied ways. We particularly thank the children who always bring joy to tired and weary people reminding us about the true meaning of Christmas.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Christmas wishes:** Some may be going to family for Christmas or a short break, we wish you and your family all the Blessings of this Holy Season. We pray for your safety as you travel to your destination. Enjoy and Relax!

**Thank You** - Frs Gayan and Thomas wish to express their heartfelt thanks for the gifts and cards they were given during the Christmas period.

**Parish Office hours:** The Parish Office will be closed from 4pm next Friday 22 December until 9.30am Monday 8 January. Messages can be left on the Parish phone number where an emergency contact number is available if you need a Priest.

**Catholic Outlook** has arrived. Please take your free copy today.

**Distribution of Holy Communion** If you are unable to come forward to receive Holy Communion, please notify the Priest or the Senior Server before Mass. There are allocated reserved seats at the front of the Church, (Tabernacle side) and at the back of the Church for your convenience. Thank you.

**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



## PARISH DIARY DATES

- *Tuesday 26 December Saint Stephen.*
- *Wednesday 27 December Saint John.*
- *Thursday 28 December The Holy Innocents.*
- *Monday 1 January Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Mass will be celebrated at St Monica's, 9am.*

**Come Join the Celebrations at the St Paul's Feast ..  
Saturday, 20 January 2024 at 5.30pm  
at St Monica's, Richmond ..**

### Feast Mass

Saturday 20 January  
St Monica's, Richmond  
at 5.30pm followed by procession

### Other Details

Lady Queen of Peace Band, BBQ,  
Food, Drink & Chocolate Wheel

**Volunteers are needed on the day.  
Please contact Vicki 0410 545 783 if you can assist. Thank you.**



## 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.**