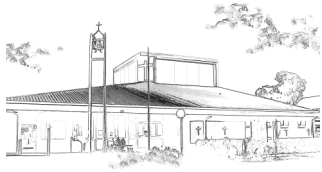


The Parish of Richmond



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



First Sunday of Advent – Year C 30 November/1 December 2024

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be out to shame.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2

When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Your redemption is near at hand.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Presider: May the circle of green leaves which has no beginning and no end, be a sign for us of our place in eternal time and of God's never ending love for us.

All: *Come, Lord Jesus.*

Presider: As we light these candles each week, may our hearts be stirred with hope and expectation at the coming of Jesus.

All: *Come, Lord Jesus.*

Presider: May he find us awake and watchful, praying at all times, our lives marked by deeds of love, justice and mercy.

All: *Come, Lord Jesus.*



PREPARING FOR THE ADVENT OF CHRIST

Some of us may think that preparing for advent is all about the carols, the lights, and the nativity scene decorations. These people think more of their holiday trips, parties to attend, and Christmas gifts to receive. They forget that: advent season first, helps us to prepare for Christmas, when we remember Christ's first coming; and secondly, it invites us to wait patiently for Christ's second coming at the end of time. These twofold characteristics of advent season help us to grow in: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, over a four-weeks of remembering and celebrating the humble arrival of Jesus on earth, and his return to reunite us again with God.

Accordingly, the challenge for us this season is to prepare our soul, heart, and mind spiritually, emotionally, physically, and other wise for the celebration of our Lord's birth, by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern. It calls us to always be vigilant, and to pray that we have the strength to remain faithful, and to escape the trials and tribulations that are imminent. This season gives us opportunity to audit ourselves, by doing some spiritual stock-taking via good examination of conscience and the sacrament of reconciliation. Thus, we can direct our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming and to the anniversary of His birth on Christmas.

In conclusion brethren, how can you be more watchful and vigilant in your daily life this season? During this advent, how can you better prepare your heart for the coming of Jesus for your spiritual growth? Let us seek God's guidance so that we shall prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus by being more faithful, watchful, prayerful, and holy in words, deeds, and actions.

Fr. Raymond C. Ugwu, C.S.Sp.

PARISH TEAM

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Maria Boyd

PARISH CO-ORDINATOR OF MINISTRIES

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angelacopland54@gmail.com

PRINCIPAL - ST MONICA'S SCHOOL
Melissa Beggs
StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au



The Parish of Richmond

Christmas Mass Times ...



St Monica's: Tuesday December 24 6pm Vigil (Children's Mass)
Midnight Mass - Readings and Carols from 11.30pm
Wednesday December 25 7.30am & 9.30am

St Gregory's: Tuesday December 24 8pm Vigil Mass
Wednesday December 25 8am



2nd Rite of Reconciliation
St Monica's,
Richmond
Wednesday,
18 December
7.00pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Christmas Appeal will be this weekend. Thank you for your continued support. Envelopes are available today.

A New Liturgical Year: Today is the First Sunday of Advent marking the beginning of a new Church year. Our readings are from Cycle C.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) will meet tomorrow Monday 2nd December, 7pm in the Emmaus Room.

Please Noye: Anointing of the Sick will take place during the 9am Mass on Friday 6th December.

Piety Stall: Christmas gift ideas. 2024 Calendars \$10.00 each. Christmas cards \$5.00 for a pkt of 8. God's Word, a daily reflection book \$20.00 Also available at St Gregory's.

PARISH DIARY DATES

- Tuesday 3 December **Saint Francis Xavier.**
- Saturday 7 December **Saint Ambrose.**
- Monday 9 December **Luke 24 Youth Group Meeting,** 5.30pm - 7pm in the Emmaus Room.



Advent Groups continue TOMORROW Monday 2nd December 7pm and Tuesday 3rd December meet at 9.30 - 10am start in the Emmaus Room.

BAPTISM preparation for school age children. If for any reason your child or a child you know has not yet been Baptised & seek to be Baptised into the Catholic Church, Four preparation classes will be held at St Monica's Emmaus Room at 4pm on Wednesday afternoons from the 5th February to the 26th February. Contact Maria at sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au to register your interest.

Parish of Richmond Census

It has been many years since our Parish has conducted a census and it's time to update our records. We ask that everyone who is in our parish, to please complete our census form over the next weeks. In doing this, we help ensure that all our records are correct and up to date. The form can be completed by using the QR code below or via this link <https://forms.gle/yC61g4qSt2UPuoT79>
Paper copies are also available in the foyer at both Mass centres. Please complete by 31 December 2024. The census helps us identify who is in our Parish, their potential needs based on age and status in life and the gifts that people are willing to share with the Parish community. We feel more a part of a community when we actively contribute to the life of that community. So please think carefully about all the ways you can be involved when completing the form!
The information you submit will be used for Parish purposes only. It helps us to get to know our parishioners and to keep in contact with you. You will be added to our Parish communication database.



Rosters: In view of **Christmas & January school holidays**, would all ministers **read your rosters**, closely! If you know you will be unavailable, please **make every effort to get a replacement.**

By 7th Dec inform Mary McGuiness if you are not going to be available, of any changes you have made or any challenges you have encountered. Mary's email address is: mary.mcguiness@parishofrichmond.org.au

Also, **at Christmas extra ministers will be required at the various Masses.** Please tell Mary, in advance, of your availability and willingness to 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 & PARISH FINANCE MEETING
joint end of year celebration.
11 Dec at 7pm.
Meeting Minutes available on notice boards in church foyers & parish website.

This Christmas, St Vincent de Paul Society seeks to assist more than 200 struggling families to experience a joyful Christmas through your generosity.

Thus, we are again inviting your support for a **Gift Card** donation - from any store of your choice.

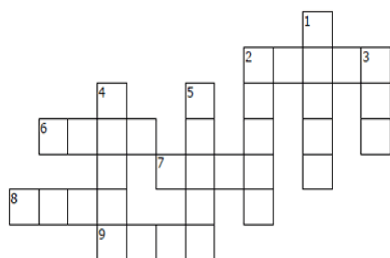
If you can donate, please place your card into the basket at the church door after Mass on the weekend of the 7th and 8th December.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Are You Ready?

"Stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28 (NIV)

Based on Luke 21:25-36



ACROSS

2. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
6. To make a request to God
7. The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
8. To raise from a lower to a higher position
9. The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth

DOWN

1. To observe very carefully
2. To rise to an upright position on your feet
3. The earth's source of heat and light
4. The planet on which we live
5. Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky

PRAY	STARS	EARTH	STAND	MOON
WATCH	CLOUD	LIFT	HEAD	SUN

STEWARDSHIP: PARISH DONATIONS

Donations can be made using the bank details below, or via the Tap-and-go machine and online donations which are accepted through our parish website at parishofrichmond.org.au. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

SUPPORT DONATIONS

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Account No 100000204
Account name Richmond St Monica's Church

For EFT to the First Collection - Supporting the priests Reference First Collection (Your name)

EFT to the Second collection - Supporting the parish Reference Second Collection (Your name)

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased:

Bernadette Pepper nee McMahon, Gary Wikman, John Maguire, Thomas Furse, John McGregor, David Kersivien, Aaron Azzopardi, Angelo Grech, Paul Refalo, John Healy

... and those we remember at this time:

Throughout November we pray together with the whole Church for all who have died. 'It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins' 2 Maccabees 12:46

We Prayerfully Remember the Sick

Fr Max Blumenthal, Sam Galea, Lily Vella, Bill Burnett, Fiona Daley, Anna Papallo, Bob Camilleri, Tom Hamilton, Maria Polito, Endora Au, Drago Gracner, Delina Galea, Yvette Brander, Pat Stanton, Rose Galea, Pam Everingham, Helen Kenny, Peter Johnson



We welcome the newly baptized...

...to our Christian family



Happy birthday

to all those celebrating this week:

Luke 24 Young Adults Group (18-35 yrs): Parish of Richmond is dedicated to nurturing spiritual growth, fostering meaningful connections, and building lasting friendships within our youth community. Join us as we develop the Luke 24 Young Adults Group (18-35 yrs) and come along to our Information Night on Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7pm in the Emmaus Room.



REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITES

Rosary

St Monica's: 8.40am before weekday Mass.

St Gregory's: 8.40am before Saturday Mass.

Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday excluding school holidays during 9.30am Mass at St Monica's

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.

Benediction & Mass

St Monica's: Every 1st Friday of the month 6.30pm - 7.30pm.
St Gregory's: Every 1st Saturday after 9am Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St Monica's: Wed after 9am Mass to pray for vocations.

Luke 24 Youth Group

Monday 9th December in the Emmaus Room from 5.30 - 7pm.



NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER
7/8 December 2024
2nd Sunday of Advent
Year C

St Monica's

Readers
 6.00pm - J. Chapman M. Darmody
 7.30am - T. Maguire A. Edwards
 9.30am - E. Esposito K. Brough
 5.30pm - J. Morley E. Teuma
Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

6.00pm - D. Grima V. Muscat
 7.30am - M. Fenech A. Burnett
 9.30am - N. Esposito C. Sultana
 5.30pm - S. Nash S. Higgins

Minister of the Altar
 6.00pm - A. Moloney
 7.30am - R. Ujmiak
 9.30am - D. Murphy P. Beirne
 5.30pm - P. Delahay T. Ross

Junior Ministers
 6.00pm - L. Sultana
 7.30am -
 9.30am - C. Murphy M. Hoffman
 5.30pm -

Data Projector
 6.00pm - M. Breaden
 7.30am - C. Thompson
 9.30am - M. Saliba
 5.30pm - M. Teuma
Children's Liturgy
 9.30am - C & C. Saliba
Cleaners - M. Jansen T. Reckless
 A. Edwards A. Senn

Counters
 01 Dec - M. Ryan D. Bowles C. Chapman
 08 Dec - N. Godsell L. Bowen M. McMahon

WEEKDAY ROSTER
Monday 2 December 2024
 Reader - M. Breaden
 EMoHC - H. Convey
Wednesday 4 December 2024
 Reader - L. Sheffield
 EMoHC - A. Moloney
Friday 6 December 2024
 Reader - M. Ryan
 EMoHC - F. Crew

St Gregory's

Saturday 7 December 2024
 Reader - J. Wall
 EMoHC - C. Smioldo
Sunday 8 December 2024
Readers
 8.00am - P. Hurst J. Wall A. Bwaia
Minister at the Altar - F. Kelleher
Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion
 8.00am - P. Waterford
Data Projector - A. Drew
Altar Preparation - M. Ryan
Cleaners - D. Grima

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