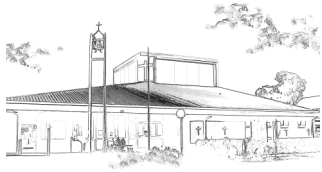


The Parish of Richmond



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 C 7/8 December 2024

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: Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem - God will show you splendour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 125

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Show yourself sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

All people shall see the salvation of God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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

Presider: Prepare a way for the Lord!

All: *Make his paths straight!*

Presider: Let every valley be filled in!

All: *Let every mountain and hill be laid low!*

Presider: Straighten the winding pathways, make the rough roads smooth!

All: *That all people may see the saving power of our God!*



God of Faithfulness

John the Baptist is a major voice of the season of Advent. But his is not the only voice: there are other, quieter strains that echo throughout this season.

Let's consider the voice of Paul from the second reading this Sunday. Unlike John the Baptist, who speaks like a prophet, Paul speaks as a pastor. John challenges his hearers to prepare for the coming of the Lord, while Paul encourages his hearers to trust that God will be faithful.

Paul says to the Philippians, "God, who has begun the good work among you, will bring it to completion." What Paul is saying is that when God begins something, God finishes it. God does not love us and then decide to abandon us.

What are the things about which we worry? What thoughts disturb our peace?

Many of us worry about growing older, about losing our energy, losing our memory, facing the inevitable battles with sickness, and watching our senses deteriorate. We cannot control the future, because we do not know the particular twists and turns by which this process will unfold, we worry. Gradually we can lose enthusiasm for life and the hope of the future.

Paul asks, "Where do you think your life came from? The blessings you have in your life, including your family, your friends, your achievements, and all the opportunities you never thought would be yours, did come from a God who has blessed you time and again. Paul repeats: "God, who has begun the good work within you, will bring it to completion."

John the Baptist proclaims in the wilderness, "The kingdom of God is coming!" Paul whispers in our hearts, "God will always be faithful." If we can hear the voice of John, we must also believe the words of Paul.

Fr Shinto Francis

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ASSISTANT PRIEST

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Angela Copland
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

IMPORTANT HAPPENING TODAY!

Following 9.30am Mass at St Monica's TODAY Sunday 8, 15 & 22 December rehearsals will begin for the presentation of the Nativity at the Vigil Mass, Christmas Eve 6pm. We need many helpers please come and join us. This is always a special event which brings much joy.

Thank you for your contributions to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal. \$2481.20 was received. Envelopes are still available in the Church should you wish to contribute.

At St Monica's a new sound mixer has just been installed. Please bear with us until the sound balance is perfected.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A) will meet tomorrow Monday 9th December, 7pm in the Emmaus Room.

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.

Sharing Christmas Joy

It has been proposed that we reach out to the inmates at John Moroney Correctional Centre, Windsor once again this Holy Season. We are inviting you to bring a bar of light fruit cake (approx. 250g) or a 500g square fruit cake this weekend 7/8 or next weekend the 14th/15th Dec. They will be cut into slices & bagged for distribution on Sunday 15th December, following 9.30am Mass at St Monica's. If you are able to help with cutting & bagging the cakes, please contact the office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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 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.



PARISH DIARY DATES

- Monday 9 December **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Mass will be celebrated at St Monica's, 9am.
- Monday 9 December **Luke 24 Youth Group Meeting.** 5.30pm-7pm in the Emmaus Room.
- Friday 13 December **Saint Lucy.**

Advent Groups continue tomorrow Monday 9th December 7pm and Tuesday 3rd December meet at 9.30 -10am start in the Emmaus Room.

The Christmas roster is almost complete. **Eucharistic Ministers** are needed, **one at the 7.30am Mass @ St Monica's & one at the 8am Mass @ St Gregory's.** If you can assist, please contact Mary McGuinness asap.

Baptism preparation for school age children. If 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.

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 this weekend 7th and 8th December.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Company Is Coming

A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Luke 3:4b (NIV)

Based on Luke 3:1-6



K C P T R V O I C E C V W S A
 H R A R F U F P A Y A S Q P R
 X O F M D O I E G A L I L E E
 S O W J M L R B T N L Y A U P
 O K M P I P T G V Y I X A R E
 V E N H V R U J I Q N O A E N
 P D P M E H U S Z V G S T T T
 S R P S T E R M Q N E A Y S A
 T B E V C R O O J A L N J I N
 R D A P H O U O C I N S E N C
 A J Y P A D G T P S C W A S E
 I G U T T R H H E P J D Q I S
 G C U D R I E R P B R O B N G
 H X B M E Z S Z J O I M H S J
 T P S J Y A K M J S B X Q N C

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SMOOTH	FORGIVENESS	JORDAN	SINS	HEROD
STRAIGHT	CALLING	CAESAR	DESERT	VOICE

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:

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

... and those we remember at this time:

Mathew V.P, Joseph Teuma, Carmen Teuma, George Schembri, Marta Schembri, Marie Clifford, Bernard Lloyd, Beverley Riley, Joseph Camilleri, Keith Schembri, Joseph Baldacchino, Xerri & Azzopardi Family, Saviour Vassallo, Alexander & Pawla Muscat

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...
 Kayce James
 Audrey Leeder

...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 second meeting 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
14/15 December 2024
3rd Sunday of Advent
Year C

St Monica's

Readers

6.00pm - M. McMahon C. Hession
 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 - P. Hession J. Chapman
 7.30am - A. Burnett A. Moloney
 9.30am - M. Portelli Z. Culican
 5.30pm - S. Nash C. Barber

Minister of the Altar

6.00pm - A. Vincent
 7.30am - K. Bauer
 9.30am - A. Brailey
 5.30pm - P. Delahay

Junior Ministers

6.00pm - S. Barglik H. Barglik
 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

9.30am - K. Kemble

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

Counters

08 Dec - N. Godsell L. Bowen M. McMahon
 15 Dec - C. Barber F. Pausano
 C. Thompson

WEEKDAY ROSTER

Monday 9 December 2024

Reader - F. Crew
 EMoHC - C. Nickle

Wednesday 11 December 2024

Reader - A. Aquilina
 EMoHC - M. McMahon

Friday 13 December 2024

Reader - D. Bowles
 EMoHC - M. Ryan

St Gregory's

Saturday 14 December 2024

Reader - M. Ryan
 EMoHC - J. Wall

Sunday 15 December 2024

Readers

8.00am - C. Smiroldo P. Humphrey
 E. Leddy

Minister at the Altar - C. Byatt
Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

8.00am - A. Drew

Data Projector - H. Gillies

Altar Preparation - M. Ryan

Cleaners - J. Bondfield

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 Principal | Director | L.R.E.A

Raine&Horne.

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Pope Francis @Pontifex 6 December:

The #Jubilee2025 will be filled with our hope in God, which does not fade. May it help us renew our trust in the Church, in our interpersonal relationships, in international relations, and in our task of promoting the dignity of every person and respect for creation.