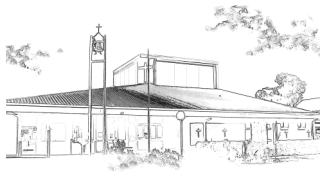


# The Parish of Richmond



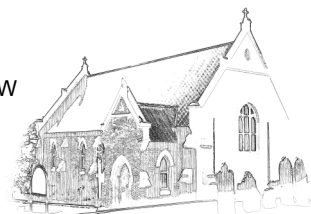
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RICHMOND, NSW

**St Gregory's Church**  
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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



## The Presentation of the Lord – Year C 1/2 February 2025

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the end of the earth: your right hand is filled with saving justice.

### FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

*The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.*

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 23:7-10

**Who is the king of glory? It is the Lord.**

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

*He had to be made like us in all things.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, alleluia! This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people, Israel. Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

*My eyes have seen your saving power.*

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all peoples.

### The Jubilee Prayer

*Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, be reawakened in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.*

*Amen.*

(For your personal use).



## GOD'S PROMISE: FULLFILLED IN THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Hello Everyone,

Some cultures of the world hold that "promises are meant to be broken". But could this be true? Or is it their simple way of explaining or trying to understand why humans make promises but fail to keep them or choose to break them. Jesus in Matthew 5:37 said: "But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'. For whatever is more than these is from the evil one". St. James also said: "...my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'yes' be yes and your 'no' be no" (James 5:12). Both verses invite us to honestly fulfil our promises.

Today, we see in the presentation, how God fulfilled his promise in the meeting of Jesus with Simeon and Anna, and how Joseph and Mary came to fulfil the ancient Jewish law in the temple in Jerusalem, barely forty days after His birth in Bethlehem. Thus, the question becomes: how do we fulfil our baptismal, marital, civil, or religious promises? How do we as parents, godparents, employers, employees, borrowers, or lenders, keep our promises? How far have we gone in fulfilling our New Year resolutions/promises?

Dear friends, may today's feast, help us to encounter the Lord, and to recognise him as our messiah, the deepest longing of our hearts, and the light of God's salvation. Also, may Joseph and Mary's faithful obedience to the law of Moses teach us to be law-abiding citizens and Christians who are ready to keep their promises. And may Simeon and Anna, help us to also learn to be patient, thankful, and persevering in prayer and meditation as they did till they encountered Jesus. HAPPY FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION EVERYONE.

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

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#### PRINCIPAL - ST MONICA'S SCHOOL

Melissa Beggs  
StMonRic@parracatholic.edu.au



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The Parish of Richmond

## LENTEN GROUPS:

I would like to join a Lenten small group.

Monday evening at 7pm in the Emmaus Room

Tuesday morning at 9.30am for 10am start in the Emmaus Room

I would like to purchase a Lent Reflection Book \$10. Limited copies are available!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place in a collection plate or drop off to the parish office. Thank you.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome home Fr Shinto** we trust you enjoyed the short break with your family.

**Welcome back and best wishes** to our students and staff as they commence a new School Year.

**Thank you** for your support of the clothing drive for the inmates of John Moroney Correctional Centre. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

**Feast of the Presentation of the Lord.** The Blessing of the Candles that are used for prayer at home will take place at all Masses TODAY, please place candles at the Altar before Mass.

**RCIA** resumes TOMORROW, Monday 3rd February. We are discussing the Sacraments of Initiation page 107 'At home with God's people', focusing on Baptism and Confirmation'. Please keep those who are enquiring in your prayers.

**It is time** to bring palms back so that they can be burnt and prepared for Ash Wednesday. Please place them in the basket in the foyer of the Church.

**World day of prayer for the sick** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Please remember to pray for all who are sick especially those who have asked our prayers and those whose names appear in our bulletin.

## PARISH DIARY DATES



- *Wednesday 5 February Saint Agatha.*
- *Thursday 6 February Saint Paul Miki and Companions.*
- *Friday 14 February Anointing of the Sick* will take place during 9am Mass at St Monica's.

**Baptism preparation** for school age children. If you have a child that 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 5<sup>th</sup> Feb to 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. Contact Maria at [sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au](mailto:sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au) to register.

### Our SRE (Scripture) program needs you!

We serve 11 local schools but have only 8 teachers and urgently need more. Now is the perfect time to make a difference in young lives. Training & resources are provided, no experience needed, just a heart for Christ. For more info contact Sylvia Dimech at [sre\\_richmond\\_sylvia@hotmail.com](mailto:sre_richmond_sylvia@hotmail.com).

### Wedding Anniversaries & Birthday Blessings:

On the 2nd Sunday of each month a blessing will be given at the end of Mass to those celebrating their wedding anniversary during that month. A blessing for those celebrating birthdays during the month will be given on the 4th Sunday.

## Sacraments News.

The Sacrament of **Confirmation for 2025 will be on Tuesday 27th May & Wednesday 28th May at 7pm.**

Children who made their First Communion in November 2024, in Richmond Parish are eligible for Confirmation this year and will receive an email.

**NEW enrolments will use the QR code** or go to the Parish Website:

Click on Sacraments – Scroll down to SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - and click on Confirmation.

(This may not be available for a week or two)

## 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](mailto:admin@parishofrichmond.org.au)

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

**PPC - 12/02/2025**  
**PFC - 19/02/2025**  
**Time at 7pm.**

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

**Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings  
online gathering: 13 February**

"Peace, Justice & Ecology Sharings" are quarterly online gatherings for everyone interested in social justice, care for creation, or global peace. They are an opportunity to connect, meet like-minded people, and discuss what's currently happening in the Peace, Justice & Ecology space. In February, the PJE Sharing will focus on raising the age of criminal responsibility in NSW and Caritas' Project Compassion. You are invited to join Thursday 13th February 2025, 6:30-8:00pm. To receive a zoom link, please RSVP to [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

**Jesus Rejected in Nazareth**

"Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown." Luke 4:24

The puzzle is based on Luke 4:21-30



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

HILL	SCRIPTURE	ACCEPTED	CROWD	WORDS
PROPHET	TRUTH	TOWN	PHYSICIAN	CLIFF
HOMETOWN	PROVERB	PEOPLE	AMAZED	HEAL

**Luke 24 Youth Group**  
 Monday 10th February  
 in the Emmaus Room  
 from 5.30 - 7pm.

**Luke 24 Young Adults Group  
(18-35yrs)** Friday 21st  
 February 7pm  
 in the Emmaus  
 Room.



**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](http://parishofrichmond.org.au). Your donations are greatly appreciated.

**SUPPORT DONATIONS**

BSB 067950  
 Account No 10000204  
 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:**

Cora Zon, Grace Galea, Sr Elizabeth Funder OSB, John Ferguson, Joyce Parker Yvette Brander, Jim Fenech, Fr Max Blumenthal, Michael P. Murphy, Gary Wikman

**... and those we remember at this time:**

John, Mary & Alan Moloney, Giacinta Bagnara, Tony Vella, Carmen & Joseph Teuma, George & Marta Scembri, Saviour Vassallo, Muscat Family, Vassallo Family

**We Prayerfully Remember the Sick**

Dawn Binns, Sam Galea, Lily Vella, Bill Burnett, Fiona Daley, Anna Papallo, Bob Camilleri, Tom Hamilton, Endora Au, Drago Gracner, Delina Galea, 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:**

**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.

**Monthly Special Blessings.**  
 Marriage Anniversaries - Every 2nd Sundays of the month.  
 Birthdays - Every 4th Sundays of the month.



**NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER**

**8/9 February 2025**

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year C**

**St Monica's**

**Readers**

6.00pm - M. McMahon C. Hession  
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 - P. Hession J. Chapman  
7.30am - A. Burnett A. Dunbar  
9.30am - N. Esposito C. Sultana  
5.30pm - S. Nash S. Higgins

**Minister of the Altar**

6.00pm - A. Vincent  
7.30am - R. Ujmiak  
9.30am - D. Murphy  
5.30pm - T. Ross

**Junior Ministers**

6.00pm -  
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**

**Counters**

2 Feb - F. Crew T. Misdorn M. Want  
9 Feb - M. Ryan D. Bowles C. Chapman

**WEEKDAY ROSTER**

**Monday 3 February 2025**

Reader - M. Breaden

EMoHC - H. Convey

**Wednesday 5 February 2025**

Reader - L. Sheffield

EMoHC - A. Moloney

**Friday 7 February 2025**

Reader - M. Ryan

EMoHC - F. Crew

**St Gregory's**

**Saturday 8 February 2025**

Reader - M. Ryan

EMoHC - J. Wall

**Sunday 9 February 2025**

**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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**Pope Francis @Pontifex 31 January:**  
Christian #Hope is greater than any situation in life, because hope has its foundation in God, not in other people.  
What seems impossible for human beings is possible for God (Mt 19:26).