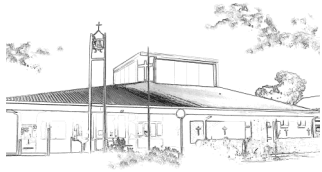


The Parish of Richmond



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 Lent – Year A 21/22 February 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Psalm 90:15-16

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 50:3-6. 12-14. 17

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless of glory!

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty day and nights.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Psalm 90:4

The Lord will conceal you with his pinions, and under his wings you will trust.

Lenten Prayer

God of all love, We remember that on the night before he died Your son, Jesus, prayed that his friends 'may all be one.' Yet we see so much division in the world. War, conflict, violence and hatred must all distress you.

Millions of people suffer when they don't have peace and respect. They lack the necessities of life: food, water, health, education and security.

We pray that we may all **Unite Against Poverty** this Lent. May our support for **Project Compassion** be a sign to ourselves and others, of our hope for a better world.

This Lent, we pray that our dedication to prayer, fasting and almsgiving will help restore your vision of justice and peace.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Resource from www.caritas.org.au

LENT: A SEASON OF GRACE, CONVERSION, AND HUMILITY

Lent is a period of 40 days of praying, fasting and alms-giving that precedes Easter. It is a season that begins with Ash-Wednesday when we receive ashes which according to Pope Leo reminds us of: "the weight of a world that is ablaze, and of entire cities destroyed by war". The Roman Pontiff's Ash Wednesday homily which reflected on: "repentance, community, and death," made us to understand that lent is "a powerful time for people to gather together, as a community of witnesses that recognises their sins".

The above shows that Lent is a season of grace, conversion, and humility, when we dare to be free from both personal sins that we commit against God and neighbour, and communal-structural sins that afflict our communities and set us against each other. In this regard, Lent, calls us to repentance and change. This is why many people fast from certain things during lent as a sign of sacrifice and to test their self-discipline in imitation of Jesus Christ who prayed and fasted for forty-days while Satan tempted Him. Accordingly, in the Pope's Lenten message, he asked us to: "abstain from harsh words and rash judgement" as authentic ways of renewing our lives again.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us journey with Jesus into the wilderness of our lives so that we can learn how to stay strong and faithful when tempted by sin and sensual pleasures, and how to make good choices, trust in God, turn away from sins, and grow stronger in our faith and spiritual life with God. During this lent, may we learn to always say no to things that separate us from the love and friendship with God, so that we shall be reconciled with God whose grace and forgiveness encourages us to resist sin and temptations that turn us away from God and others.

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

PARISH TEAM

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PRINCIPAL - ST MONICA'S SCHOOL

Melissa Beggs
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The Parish of Richmond

Luke 24 Young Adult Retreat

The parish young adults are having a retreat at the Benedict XVI Centre on the weekend 13th - 15th March. Accommodation and meals are provided. We would love for you to join us. The cost of the retreat is \$125, to the parish office, by Wednesday 25th February.

If you would like further information, please see the QR code, or contact the parish office.



Lenten Groups will continue Monday 23rd February at 7pm and Tuesday 24th February 9.30 for a 10am start, both in the Emmaus Room at St Monica's.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to those who volunteered for the working bee last weekend at St. Monica's. It was great to see the energy and enthusiasm with which the task was embraced. Sunday morning the place was ship shape and shining, hedges clipped, pathways guerneyed. The windows were gleaming and it was hard to tell if there really was glass in the frames. Great job, well done! Thank you, May God bless you all.

Project Compassion Boxes are available at the Church doors today. This Lent there is a single Project Compassion envelope - rather than the 6 weekly envelopes used in previous years.

Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday in Lent at St. Monica's following 9am Mass and at St Gregory's following Saturday Mass.

Volunteer Parish SRE Coordinator Needed

We are seeking a dedicated volunteer to serve as our Parish SRE Coordinator. **If you are passionate about your faith and wish to support our parish's ministry in local schools**, we invite you to consider this rewarding opportunity. Support is provided to assist you as you learn to:

- # Ensure all SRE Catechists have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC)
- # Manage and submit required paperwork
- # Distribute CCD newsletters and updates to the SRE team
- # Facilitate meetings and maintain clear communication with the SRE team
- # Order student activity books and teacher manuals annually
- # Maintain and submit the Parish SRE Register twice a year

To learn more or to express your interest, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE. Your involvement will make a meaningful difference in our community!

PARISH DIARY DATES

- *Tuesday 17 March St Patrick.*



RCIA - At the Vigil Mass on Saturday 21st February our Catechumens, Ayden, Benjamin, Phillipa, Rachel and Veena will be sent by the Parish Community to be accepted by Bishop Vincent at the Cathedral Sunday 22nd February, in the Rite of Election.

Luke 24 youth group. We are looking for some children volunteers aged between 8-16 years to help take part in our Good Friday stations of the cross liturgy. This is an opportunity for our youth to reach a better understanding of the true meaning that Easter brings with some friends. Rehearsals will be held on the 15th, 22nd and 29th March after the 9.30am Sunday morning mass in the church. Please contact the office or our Luke 24 youth group leaders for further details.

Sacraments News.

Enrolment for Confirmation is now open. Please use this QR code in the bulletin or on the Posters in the Church. Or else go to the Parish website: parishofrichmond.org.au Sacramental Program and use the link. Please note enrolments close on the 6th March. Parent INFORMATION session Wednesday 11th March 7pm at St Monica's.



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

COUNCIL MEETINGS

PPC - 11/03/2025
PFC - 25/02/2025

Time at 7pm.
Meeting Minutes
available on notice
boards in church
foyers & parish
website

Your Help is Needed:

To keep the grounds at St Monica's looking their best, we are asking volunteers to assist with some gardening duties!



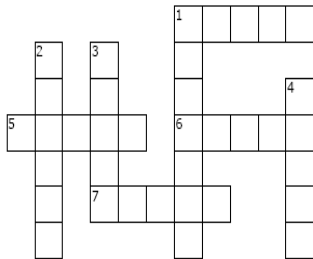
We need **two groups of four people** to assist **once every two months**, for approximately two to three hours at the most. (Three groups would reduce this to once every three months!)

Tasks include whipper snipping, mowing, collecting & disposing of clippings and blowing all the paths and car park. All tools are provided. **If you can help, we would be most grateful – thank you for your generosity!** Please contact Mary McGuinness or the parish office.

The Temptation of Jesus

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. Matthew 4:1 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Matthew 4:1-11 (NIV)



ACROSS

- The entire Earth and all the places and things on it
- A heavenly being, often shown as a human figure with a halo and wings
- A small rock
- The evil ruler of Hell, and enemy of God

DOWN

- To show a strong feeling of love and respect for God
- To feel a need or desire for food
- A food made of flour and water, shaped into loaves, and baked
- To try to get someone to do wrong

hungry	bread	worship	devil
stone	tempt	angel	world

Luke 24 Youth Group (8-17yrs)

Date: Monday 9th March 2026

Venue: Emmaus Room

Time: 5.30 - 7pm

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 10000204
 Account name Richmond St Monica's Church

The First Collection - Supporting the Diocesan priests

Reference First Collection (Your name)

The Second collection - Supporting the parish needs

Reference Second Collection (Your name)

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased:

Dennis Gamble, Norman Davies, Tony Scopelliti, Kenny Colman, Katsuyuki Myazaki, Chris Sultana, Sandra Bell

... and those we remember this week:

Saviour Vassallo, Emanuella "Lilly" Vella

We Prayerfully Remember the Sick

Leo Stivala, Bruce Buchanan, Venera Chetcuti, Robert Pereira, Ruth Larven, Sandra Vaughan, Delina Galea, Lorraine Phillips, Joan Crutcher, Margaret Skelley, Maria Zeks, Mark Potter, Pat Stanton, Rose Galea, Peter Johnson, Melissa Adamitz



We welcome the newly baptized...

Aria Simpson
Elara Marchant

...to our Christian family



Happy birthday

to all those celebrating this week:

Luke 24 Young Adults Group (18-35yrs)

Date: Thursday 26th February 2026

Venue: Emmaus Room

Time: 6.30pm



REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

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 1st & 3rd Mondays 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
28 Feb/01 March 2026
2nd Sunday of Lent
Year A

St Monica's

Readers

6.00pm - J. Xiberras D. Watkins
 7.30am - A. Dunbar A. Tabone
 9.30am - C. Hey E. Choudhary
 5.30pm - T. Galino R. Sultana

Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

6.00pm - J. Xiberras J. Muscat
 7.30am - L. Attard
 9.30am - H. Convey A. Aquilina

Minister of the Altar

6.00pm - P. Beirne
 7.30am - C. Fleetwood
 9.30am - M. Crew
 5.30pm - D. Murphy

Junior Ministers

6.00pm - A. Roy
 7.30am - C, E & E. Cauchi
 9.30am - L. Farrugia A. Farrugia T. Levi
 5.30pm - L. Sultana

Data Projector

6.00pm - M. Breaden
 7.30am - J. Cauchi
 9.30am - A. Matthews
 5.30pm - C. Sultana

Cleaners - K. Murphy M. Camilleri
Counters

22 Feb - F. Crew T. Misdom M. Want
 01 Mar - M. Ryan D. Bowles C. Chapman

WEEKDAY ROSTER

Monday 23 February 2026

Reader - A. Copland
EMoHC - M. McMahon

Wednesday 25 February 2026

Reader - A. Moloney
EMoHC - M. McMahon

Friday 27 February 2026

Reader - M. Breaden
EMoHC - A. Aquilina

St Gregory's

Saturday 28 February 2026

Reader - C. Smiroldo
EMoHC -

Sunday 1 March 2026

Readers

8.00am - M. Ryan I. Galea T. Misdom
Minister at the Altar - D. Ryan

Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

8.00am - M. Ryan
Data Projector - S. Buchan
Altar Preparation - M. Ryan
Cleaners - C. Livingstone

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 maggie.zorlu@richmond.rh.com.au
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Now HIRING
FOR HIRE: The Emmaus Room: A small double-room with kitchen & IT facilities is available for hire, through the *Parish of Richmond*, by parishioners & friends. The area is suitable for small social gatherings, workshops & other functions. Availability by arrangement with the Parish Office.