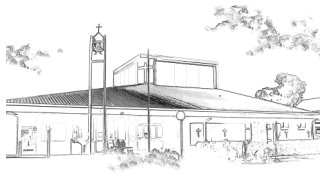


The Parish of Richmond



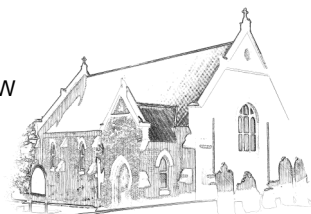
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Cnr Windsor & Bourke Sts
RICHMOND, NSW

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



The Ascension of the Lord – Year A 17 May 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Acts 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 46:2-3. 6-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Matthew 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Matthew 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

RICHMOND PARISH ASSEMBLY PRAYER

Almighty and ever living God, you always guide Your people on their pilgrim way. Accompany us as we prepare to plan for our future direction by embarking upon the path of discipleship towards greater communion, participation and mission.



Help us to-walk together as one family who are attentive to the cry of the earth and the voice of the poor. Give us new hearts to respond faithfully to the signs of the time. May we never lose sight of the history and tradition of our parish community, but may we become more effective instruments of Your Gospel, by building upon the generosity and vision of past generations.

Form us into a community of mutually empowered and credible witnesses who are ready to prayerfully listen, learn, and discern together. May we all embrace our baptismal call and enliven Your Church here in the Parish of Richmond.

We ask this, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

(Adapted from the Diocesan Pastoral Assembly Prayer)

ASCENSION OF CHRIST: A NEW KIND OF PRESENCE

The Ascension of Christ reminds us of the return of Jesus' risen and glorified body into heaven in the face of his disciples who stood perplexed and overwhelmed, as they attempted to say their good-bye to Him, while imagining how their lives and mission would be in the absence of Jesus. This is an experience that most of us who have lost a dependable loved one can relate with. How in our confusion and sadness we wished that a miracle could happen as we still enjoyed the last glimpse of the person for him/her to wake up from sleeping in death.

The Apostles of Jesus while gazing at the sky, were also wishing that Jesus would not leave them to exist in corporeal form with God the father beyond the conventional physical world, so that they would not feel his absence greatly. Thinking like this, shows that the disciples failed to understand that Christ's ascension was ushering in "a new kind of presence" and new life for believers. Thus, believers are commissioned to go into the whole world and preach the good news of repentance and forgiveness of sins in the name of Jesus to all nations (Luke 24: 46-47).

My dear brothers and sisters, the Ascension of Christ together with the promise of the Holy Spirit, empowers us to actively assume Jesus' mission of saving humanity by "touching hearts, teaching minds, and transforming lives". It challenges us to be like Jesus, and to do what Jesus did by perpetuating his memory and continuing His legacy. Are we prepared to hold onto one another as we live in hope for the glorious coming of our lord? Are we also willing to do as Jesus did, or to be the visible presence of Jesus in the society through giving ourselves over to the Spirit of God who heals and gives life to those in need of our help and presence? Happy Ascension of the Lord!

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

PARISH TEAM

PARISH PRIEST

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ASSISTANT PRIEST

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PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK CO-ORDINATOR

Angela Copland
angelacopland54@gmail.com

PRINCIPAL - ST MONICA'S SCHOOL

Melissa Beggs
StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au



The Parish of Richmond

Your Voice Can Help Shape the Way Our Parish Listens, Leads and Connects, With Practical Responses, To Real Needs of the Community.

All parishioners are invited to the FIVE LISTENING CONSULTATIONS which will be held in the lead up to the **PARISH ASSEMBLY: 25TH JULY 2026.**

Register your participation for at least one or two **Listening Consultation(s).** **Sign lists in the foyer or use the QR code.**

Tuesday 7pm - 8.30pm.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. <i>Leadership & Communication</i> | Completed |
| 2. <i>Social Justice & Pastoral Care</i> | Completed |
| 3. <i>Ministry</i> | Completed |
| 4. <u><i>Youth</i></u> | May 19 |
| 5. <i>Faith Formation</i> | (Wed) June 3 |



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishops' Good Works Appeal will be held this weekend 16/17 May. Envelopes are available today. Thank you for your continued support.

Ongoing Adult Faith Formation-RCIA will meet Monday 18th May, (7pm - 8pm) in the Emmaus Room, with an extended program to deepen & expand the knowledge of what it means to live the life of a Catholic for the newly confirmed. This is also an opportunity for any parishioners who wish to deepen their appreciation of 'living the faith' to join in. All welcome.

Ministers at the Altar & Readers.

Please Note: Pentecost Sunday 24th May. The Readings for all Masses will be from the Mass of the Day. The Sequence will be included at all Masses except the Vigil 6pm Saturday.

Preparing for the new Financial Year. Envelopes for the financial support of the Parish are now being prepared, should you wish to have envelopes please contact the Parish Office. If you have changed your address or any other details, please contact the parish office. Thank you to all for your generous support.

PARISH DIARY DATES



- *Monday 25 May Our Lady, Help of Christians.*

'National Volunteer Week' Your Year to volunteer.'

2026 is the United Nations International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development highlighting the vital role of volunteers in advancing sustainability.

We thank all our volunteers who give themselves to serve our Parish and the wider community. May God bless you for your generosity.



Prayer for Christian Unity

During this week we are asked to pray for Christian Unity. The theme this year is "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Ephesians 4:4)



Sacraments News.

RECONCILIATION: Enrolment is now open until the 30th June.

This is for children baptised in the Catholic Church and attending Yr 3 or older at school. Please use the QR code here, or on the Posters in the church. Alternatively use the Parish Website Link. See posters for details.

2026 Sacrament of Reconciliation
Enrolment Form



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 - 10/06/2026

PFC - 17/06/2026

Time at 7pm.

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

MEMORIAL GARDEN PLAQUES:

If interested in having a loved one remembered in the Parish Memorial Garden please print on an envelope, **the name of the person/s**, also **the name & phone number of the person placing the order**.

To cover the cost of the plaque, its installation & the upkeep of the garden, a **donation of \$50** to be placed in the envelope which can then be posted in the **white letter box, at the Parish door**.



The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:44-53



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

RISE	REPENT	PROPHETS	TAKEN
SUFFER	PSALMS	OPENED	FORGIVE
HEAVEN	SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED	MOSES
WORSHIPED	BLESSING	UNDERSTAND	MINDS

STEWARDSHIP: PARISH DONATIONS

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

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 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:

Mary Butler, Richard Freitas, Peter Woods, Paul Borg, Maryann Callaghan, Vincent Dalley, Dennis Gamble, Norman Davies, Sarah Smith, Pamela Everingham

... and those we remember this week:

Emanuella "Lily" Vella, Raymond Ugwu (Snr), Dick Petrikas, Liza Van Der Klooster

We Prayerfully Remember the Sick

Irene Barry, Laurie Cauchi, Leigh Geogon, Leo Stivala, Bruce Buchanan, Venera Chetcuti, Ruth Larven, Sandra Vaughan, Delina Galea, Lorraine Phillips, Joan Crutcher, Margaret Skelley, Maria Zeks, Mark Potter, Rose Galea, Peter Johnson, Melissa Adamitz, Fran Yates



We welcome the newly baptized...

William Spiteri
 ...to our Christian family



Happy birthday to all those celebrating this week:

Luke 24 Youth Group (8-12yrs) (13-17yrs)

Date: Monday 8th June
 Venue: Old Church
 Time: 5.30 - 7pm

Luke 24 Young Adults Group (18-34yrs)

Date: Friday 29th May
 Venue: Emmaus Room
 Time: 6.30pm



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

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

23/24 May 2026

Pentecost Sunday

Year A

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS WHO SUPPORT US

St Monica's

Readers

6.00pm - J. Xiberras D. Watkins
7.30am - T. Fogarty A. Tabone
9.30am - L. Sheffield M. Mizzi
5.30pm - R. Sultana T. Ross

Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

6.00pm - J. Xiberras J. Muscat
7.30am - C. Thompson A. Burnett
9.30am - L. Ryan J. Cauchi
5.30pm - D. D'Mello R. Vecchio

Minister at the Altar

6.00pm - R. Ujmiak
7.30am - A. Moloney
9.30am - C. Pritchard
5.30pm - P. Delahay

Junior Ministers

6.00pm - A. Roy
7.30am -
9.30am - C & E. Cauchi S. Borg
5.30pm - L. Sultana C. Chantiri

Data Projector

6.00pm - M. Breden
7.30am - M. McMahon
9.30am - E. Choudhary
5.30pm - M. Teuma

Children's Liturgy

9.30am - E. Fitzsimons T. Szyska
Cleaners - K. Murphy M. Camilleri

Counters

17 May - N. Godsell L. Bowen M. McMahon
24 May - C. Barber F. Pausanos
C. Thompson

WEEKDAY ROSTER

Monday 18 May 2026

Reader - M. Breden
EMoHC - M. McMahon

Wednesday 20 May 2026

Reader - A. Moloney
EMoHC - M. McMahon

Friday 22 May 2026

Reader - D. Bowles
EMoHC - A. Aquilina

St Gregory's

Saturday 23 May 2026

Reader - C. Smiroldo

EMoHC -

Sunday 24 May 2026

Readers

8.00am - L. Currall M. Mooney A. Drew

Minister at the Altar - A. Vincent

Extraordinary Ministers at Holy Communion

8.00am - C. Smiroldo

Data Projector - S. Stennett

Altar Preparation - M. Ryan

Cleaners - J. Dorahy

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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.