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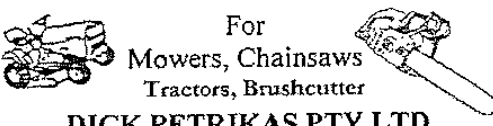


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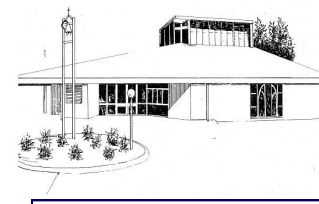


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The Parish of Richmond



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 Road
 NORTH RICHMOND NSW
ST MONICA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
 PO Box 274, RICHMOND
 Ph: 4570 3700

PARISH OFFICE
 1A Bourke Street RICHMOND NSW
 Mon 10.30am - 2.30pm.
 Tues, Wed & Fri 9.30am - 4pm
 www.parihofrichmond.org.au
 Ph: 4578 1410 Fax: 4588 6094



Fourth Sunday of Advent — Year C 23 December 2018

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
 Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING: MICAH 5:1-4
Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

RESPONSORIAL PS: PSALM 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19
Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we will be saved.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 10:5-10
I am coming to do your will.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:39-44
Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
 Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Prsider: As we begin our celebration for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, let us prepare to light the fourth and last candle on our Advent Wreath. As Advent draws to a close, we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God

Let us join together in the words of the acclamations as we pray (pause)

Prsider: Lord Jesus, your coming was proclaimed by the prophet Micah as coming from the House of David and whose will is to rule over all Israel.

All: Come, Lord Jesus

Prsider: Lord Jesus, you come among us now in Your Word and Sacrament to give us the strength to live according to the Good News you revealed.

All: Come Lord Jesus

Prsider: Lord Jesus, you are the one who will come in glory as the fulfilment of all God's promises.

All: Come Lord Jesus

Reflection...

There is always excitement at this time of year. It is as if everything is filled with promise. Animosities are set aside; estrangement dissolves into reconciliation; the whole world seems gentler; and we are filled with the spirit of generosity. In the days just before Christmas, the possibility of newness is almost palpable. The spirit of the season has caught hold of us even before the actual day has arrived. Today we stand on the threshold of fulfilment. The future that God has prepared for us is open before us, even though we have not yet stepped out into it.

The incarnation takes place in human history, thus affirming the fundamental goodness of human life and concerns, and sanctifying them even further. The child comes from simple people, from a place that is relatively insignificant, thus underscoring God's preference for what is ordinary. The body that was offered for our salvation, the body that consecrated us through having been offered up, was the body that grew in the womb of Mary. The extraordinary salvific deed of God was accomplished through his coming into the world as one of us. The obedience that Christ played out through his body fulfilled for us the promises made by God.

From Liturgyhelp.com.au by Dianne Bergant CSS

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER
30 December 2018
 The Holy Family of Jesus,
 Mary & Joseph
 Year C
 ** † **
St Monica's

Readers
 6.30pm— A. Moloney C. Galea
 7.30am— T. Galino J. Robinson
 9.30am— K. Petersen M. Mizzi
 5.30pm—

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
 6.30pm— J. McCarter J. Muscat
 7.30am— A. Burnett H. Robinson
 9.30am— L. Ryan L. Vella
 5.30pm— D. D'Mello

Acolytes / Senior Server
 6.30pm— W. Bennett
 7.30am— F. Kelleher
 9.30am— D. Ryan
 5.30pm— P. Delahay

Junior Ministers
 6.30pm— C. Galea
 7.30am—
 9.30am— M. Hoffman A. Portelli
 5.30pm—

Data Projector
 6.30pm— M. Breaden
 7.30am— M. McMahan
 9.30am— M. Saliba
 5.30pm—

Children's Liturgy
 6.30pm -
 9.30am -
Altar Preparation
 R. Larven

Cleaners
 C. Norton
Counters
 23 Dec— B. Riley B. Riley M. Stone
 30 Dec— F. Crew T. Misdom M. Want

WEEKDAY ROSTER
Monday 24 December 2018
 Reader— F. Crew
 EMoHC— M. Pirovic
Wednesday 26 December 2018
 Reader— A. Moloney
 EMoHC— F. Crew
Friday 28 December 2018
 Reader— D. Bowles
 EMoHC— M. McMahan

** † **
St Gregory's
Saturday 29 December 2018
 Reader— Jackie
 EMoHC— Marcia
Sunday 30 December 2018
Readers
 8.00am— M. Ryan A. Drew S. O'Rourke
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
 8.00am— A. Drew
Altar Preparation
Cleaners J. Bondfield

** † **
St John of God Chapel
 Tuesday 4.00pm
 Saturday 6.00pm

PARISH CLERGY
 Fr Clifford D'souza
 frclifford@parishofrichmond.org.au

Fr John Paul Escarlan
 frjohnpaul@parishofrichmond.org.au

PARISH CLERGY
 Fr Christopher del Rosario

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK CO-ORDINATOR
 Mary McGuiness

PARISH ADMINISTRATION
 Teshana Laferla & Kara Hargrave
 admin@parishofrichmond.org.au

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR
 Mary Pirovic
 sacraments@parishofrichmond.org.au

PRINCIPAL—ST MONICA'S SCHOOL
 Cameron Lievore
 StMonRic@parra.catholic.edu.au

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES...



St Monica's: Monday December 24
6pm Vigil (Children's Mass) & 11pm
Tuesday December 25 7.30am and 9.30am

St Gregory's: Monday December 24 8.00pm Vigil Mass
Tuesday December 25 8.00am

St John of God: Monday December 24 7.00pm Vigil Mass



Christmas Office break:

Over the next month our office staff will be trying to fit in some holiday time, so if you drop in or phone the Parish Office and we don't answer, please leave a message or send an email - we won't be far away. The Parish Office will be closed from Mon 24 Dec - Wed 2 Jan 2019.

**Come Join the Celebrations
At St Paul's Feast**

Saturday 19 January 2019

Feast Details Saturday 19 January 2019, St Monica's Church, Richmond.
Mass @ 5.30 pm followed by Procession. Lady Queen of Peace Band will be performing & festivities. BBQ, Refreshments, Chocolate Wheel, Raffle & rides for the kids.
Fireworks display approx 9.00 pm.

Fun For The Whole Family...

Merry Christmas!

*At this time of great joy & festivities
we wish all visitors & parishioners a happy, holy & safe Christmas.
May God's richest blessings be with you & your loved ones.*

Fr Clifford, Fr John Paul, Fr Chris and The Parish Team

A Christmas Message

(Following Paul's message to the Corinthians:

'If I should give away to the poor all that I possess, but have not love, it will profit me nothing.')

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cakes, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at mealtime, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my family, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the tree with shimmering angels, attend a myriad of parties and sing in the choir but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired.

Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way, but is thankful they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust, but giving the gift of love will endure.

Merry Christmas to you and yours!

Grant Eternal Rest to the recently deceased

Agnes Baratto
Dianne Smyth
Kimbo Maxe
Brian Hegarty
Liberty Coutis
John Borg
Charlie Micallef
John Eldridge

... and those we remember at this time.

Michael John McMahon, Bill McMahon, Kocanda Family, Dokupil Family, Balasko Family, Mary Hughes, Mary Hughes, Cis & Ken Luscombe, Kathleen Breden, Joseph Baldacchino, Ruby & Ron Waldron, George & Noel Gildea, Lyal Binns, Joe & Carmen Dimech, John & Tona Camilleri, Charlie Vella, Felix Sammut, Charlie & Grace Vella, Jeanette Bailey

Bishop Vincent Long Christmas Message:

As God abandoned his own security in order to be with us, so must we have the courage to leave our comfort zones and discover the presence, the beauty and the love of God in unfamiliar or even disordered places. As Jesus was born in a manger and surrounded by lowly people so must we also discover him again in unlikely situations and people. Wishing you and your loved ones the blessing of the Word made flesh this Christmas.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all those celebrating this week



WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER THE SICK

Jeff Steven, Josephine Cutajar, Tye Angland, Frank Grima, William Grima, Frank Cauchi, Stephen Avery, Pauline Azzopardi, Dale Wasley, Carmen Sultana, Violet Dwyer, Melissa Colless, Janice Anderson

The Gift of Love

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!" Luke 1:45 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 1:39-45



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

ELIZABETH	FULFILL	FILLED	GREETING	BELIEVE
BLESSED	CHILD	PROMISE	LEAPED	JUDEA
ZECHARIAH	JOY	BABY	HOME	MARY

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Please Note:

- No Mass on Tuesdays at St John of God from 25 December to 29 January 2019. Mass resumes on Tuesday 5 February.
- No weekend Masses during the month of January at St John of God. Masses resume on Saturday 26 January 2019.

Thank you to all who assisted with the Christmas Liturgies - preparing, cleaning and participating in many and varied ways. We particularly thank the children who always bring joy to tired and weary people reminding us about the true meaning of Christmas.

Room for rent near the bus stop & train station at Richmond. Please ring Jin 0416 549 598.

PARISH MASS TIMES

St Monica's
Saturday: 6.30pm
Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am, 5.30pm
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.00am

St Gregory's
Saturday: 9.00am
Sunday: 8.00am

St John of God
Tuesday: 4.00pm
Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil Mass

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation
St Monica's:
Saturday 5.30pm - 6pm.
St Gregory's:
Saturday after 9.00am Mass.

Anointing of the Sick
Friday 29 March 2019, 9.00am
at St Monica's.
Or by arrangement with the priests.

Baptism

By appointment only.
St Monica's: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 11.00am.
St Gregory's: 1st Sunday at 11:00am
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 MEETING
12 February 2019 at 7pm.

Meeting Minutes available on notice boards in church foyers.

REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

Rosary
St Monica's: 8.40am
before weekday Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
St Monica's: Wednesday
after 9.00am Mass to
pray for vocations.

Choir Practice
St Monica's:
Tuesday 7pm
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Children's Liturgy
St Monica's:
1st & 4th
Sunday 9.30am

Circle of Friends
Parish Meeting Room:
1st Monday of the month
9.30am

Youth Group Social
Meet every 3rd Saturday of the month after 6.30pm HYP A Mass.

HYP A-R Holy Hour
Meet every 1st Friday of the month 6:30pm-7:30pm praying for youth followed by pizzas.