

啊，天主的富裕、智慧和知識，是多麼高深！他的判斷，是多麼不可測量！他的道路，是多麼不可探察！有誰曾知道上主的心意？或

天主教聖莫尼加堂 St. Monica's Catholic Parish Corner Church Street and North Rocks Road, North Parramatta	
牧民處熱線電話	0411 192 278 短訊(SMS)、WhatsApp、微信(wechat)、粵語及國語留言
主任司鐸/華人專職司鐸:	林勝文神父 電話: 9630 1951 電郵: shingmanlam@gmail.com
主日彌撒時間:	粵語: 星期日上午 11 時 30 分 英語: 星期六黃昏 5 時, 星期日上午 9 時、黃昏 6 時
平日彌撒:	星期二至五上午 9 時 15 分〔英語, 附粵語講道〕
明供聖體:	逢星期五上午 9 時 15 分彌撒後至 10 時 45 分〔附修和聖事〕 逢每月第三主日上午 10 時 15 分至 11 時〔附修和聖事〕
修和聖事:	逢星期五上午 10 時至 10 時 45 分, 逢星期六下午 4 時至 4 時 45 分 每月第三主日上午 10 時 15 分至 11 時, 或與林勝文神父預約
病人傅油聖事/外送聖體:	請與林勝文神父聯絡 電話: 9630 1951 電郵: shingmanlam@gmail.com
婚配聖事:	請於婚配日期前至少 12 個月與林勝文神父聯絡
嬰孩聖洗聖事:	需與林勝文神父預約並在聖洗前準備妥當
成人聖洗聖事:	必須先參與慕道班(RCIA), 請與林勝文神父聯絡
牧民處地址:	8 Daking Street, North Parramatta, NSW 2151 堂區網頁: https://stmonicanp.org.au 牧民處網頁: http://www.chinesechaplaincyparra.org
牧民處辦公時間:	星期二至五 上午 8 時半時至下午 2 時半 星期日 上午 9 時至 11 時
堂區聯絡:	電話: 9630 1951 傳真: 9630 8738 電郵: stmonicanp@bigpond.com

聖奧斯定組 信仰探討 2026 講座 逢星期日早上 10 時半至 11 時 15 分, 在堂區會議室舉行。
歡迎所有教友參加, 無須報名。

日期	內容	講者
30/08/2026	當日讀經分享	Sara Lee
6/09/2026	信仰與靈修	Vera & 美術組

日期	內容	講者
13/09/2026	聖詠	Peter Lee
20/09/2026	清除聆聽天主召喚的障礙(4)	Ruby Chan

聖經幼稚園 (林勝文神父主講)

逢每月第二個星期六, 晚上 8 時至 9 時, 網上 ZOOM 舉行。下次舉行日期: 9 月 12 日。
索取有關連結請 WhatsApp 到牧民處熱線。

聖經人物趣談 (林勝文神父主講)

逢每月第二個星期日, 下午 1 時半至 2 時, 在禮堂舉行。下次舉行日期: 9 月 13 日。

請留意, 9 月 1 日至 4 日 (星期二至五) 的平日彌撒將予取消。

2026 父親節特別捐獻

9 月 6 日 (星期日), 將收取為支持退休神職人員的特別捐獻, 呼籲大家慷慨解囊。

Eucharistic Congress 2028 Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the gift of your real presence in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Grant us the grace to receive you reverently, worship you truly and serve you with hearts renewed. By the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen us, so that as you gave yourself to the Father and to us, we too may offer our lives to God and to others. Inspire and help us to serve you in those who are in need, especially the defenceless and homeless, the lonely and lost. Unite us with your sacrifice of the Mass, so that we may truly become what we have received, the Body of Christ. Amen.

本主日答唱詠出自聖詠第 138 篇。

原文標明是達味君王所撰。大約是達味建都耶路撒冷後，以色列眾支派國泰民安時（詳見撒下 7 章），藉聖神啟迪而詠讚天主，並含蓄地描寫默西亞帶來的平安。

第 1 至 2 節（上主，我要全心稱謝你，因你俯聽了我的懇祈。我要在眾神前歌頌你，朝你的聖所伏地致敬；為了你的仁慈至誠，我必要稱謝你的聖名；因為你把你的名號和你的諾言，在萬物與萬民的面前發揚彰顯），「在眾神前歌頌你」頗費解，學者們有三個解讀：眾神即眾天使；或是外邦人的邪神（見詠 95:3; 96:4）；又或是抽象地指出天主超越的神聖（見羅 1:20），眾神前其實就是天主前。「聖所」當然是指會幕內安放約櫃的至聖所（見出 40:33-34; 肋 16:2; 戶 7:89）。

第 3 節（我幾時呼號你，你就俯允我，並將我靈魂上的力量增多。），上主確是俯聽人祈求的天主（亦見於依 40:29）。

第 6 至 8 節（上主尊高無比，仍垂顧弱小，惟對驕傲的人，卻遠遠旁眺。我若處於困難中，你必保全我的性命，你用右手救我，伸手拒抗仇人的憤恨。上主必替我完成這工程；上主，你的仁慈永遠常存，求你不要放棄你的作品。），達味一方面讚揚援助人的天主，另一方面勸勉以民要謙遜和全心倚賴天主，這幾節暗示默西亞拯救弱小卑微的人。



Youth Corner 23/8/2026

Scripture: Matthew 16: 13-20

Observation

When Jesus first asks his disciples about who the public speculated the Messiah could be, they report a variety of names, but 'Jesus' wasn't among those mentioned. In fact, it was widely hypothesised at the time that this Messiah might be a powerful political figure who could threaten the government, and of course, the Romans didn't like the sound of that. That's why Jesus needed his disciples to keep his Messianic identity a secret until his crucifixion – because it could disrupt the course of his Earthly mission.

However, even before witnessing Jesus's death and resurrection, Peter was still able to deduce that only Jesus could be the Messiah, because Jesus was God. He deduced this not by trusting the various public opinions of the time, but by trusting what God revealed to him.

Application

In today's world, there are many conflicting ideas about what Jesus's teachings really meant. Some Christian groups don't believe that Jesus is physically present in the Eucharist, despite the Bible explicitly saying so. Others may believe that Jesus's mother Mary wasn't really sinless, that confession isn't necessary, or that you need to reach a certain age and "give consent" before being baptised. There are even some who believe that Jesus isn't really God, or that he was merely a prophet. Such division in belief is nothing new, as we can see in today's Gospel. So, how do we know what the truth is?

To find out, we can't let ourselves be led astray by all these different man-made beliefs, and instead, need to look for what God revealed to us, just like Peter. And for us today, this revelation can be found in the Catholic Church. You see, when God revealed Jesus's messianic identity to Peter, this was only one step towards a much wider revelation to the entire world on who Jesus really is. Because right then and there, Jesus gave Peter the enormous responsibility of leading his church. Jesus knew that when he completes his Earthly life, *someone* still needs to communicate the true interpretation of God's scriptures to his followers. *Someone* still needs to lead his apostles. For this, Jesus chose the man who God revealed the truth to, and that is how Peter became the first pope. And in an unbroken chain of succession over almost two thousand years, the papacy continues to this day, enabling God's revelation of the one true faith through the Catholic church, not just to us Catholics, but to rest of the world, who are still yet to believe the truth.

Prayer

Dear Jesus. I pray for the Pope – that you may strengthen and guide him as he leads your church in this age of growing division and faithlessness. Grant him wisdom and courage, and that through his work, the world may come to know that you are the Messiah, sent by God to free the world from sin and death. Amen.

YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENT

2027 World Youth Day Fundraising Bake Sale

We will be having a bake sale on 20th September 2026 to fundraise for next year's World Youth Day trip. We will be selling mooncakes (sweet potato and red bean flavour). \$5 for one, \$20 for six. Stay tuned for further announcements.

HSC Blessing

On 27th September 2026 we shall have special blessings for those sitting the HSC this year.



St. Monica's Parish

North Parramatta

ST MONICA'S Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

23rd August 2026

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

FIRST READING

Is 22 : 19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 137

R: Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. **(R.)**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **(R.)**

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Rom 11 : 33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen. *The word of the Lord*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 16 : 13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to St Matthew

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples,

'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ. *The Gospel of the Lord*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

