



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH, HADFIELD



Love one another
as I have loved you
John 13:34

FR ADAIKKALA RAJ LOURDUSAMY HGN

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*St Thomas More's is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity
of all children and vulnerable adults*

Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A - 12th & 13th September 2020

Feast on 14 September

**EXALTATION OF THE
HOLY CROSS**



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates two historical events: the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine, in 320 under the temple of Venus in Jerusalem, and the dedication in 335 of the basilica and shrine built on Calvary

by Constantine, which mark the site of the Crucifixion.

The basilica, named the Martyrium, and the shrine, named the Calvarium, were destroyed by the Persians in 614. The Church of the Holy sepulchre which now stands on the site was built by the crusaders in 1149.

The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. It's easy to understand that the Cross is special because Christ used it as the instrument of our salvation. For Christians, it is a celebration and commemoration of God's greatest work: his salvific death on the Cross and His Resurrection, through which death was defeated and the doors to Heaven opened.

Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: Christ said: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). Only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life.

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS 15 SEPTEMBER



Devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady has its roots in Sacred Scripture and in Christian piety, which always associates the Blessed Mother with her suffering Son. The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, focuses on our Blessed Mother's intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolors or seven sorrows of Mary.

As Mary stood at the foot of the Cross on which Jesus hung, the sword of sorrow, which the priest Simeon had foretold, pierced her soul. For this reason, Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven swords piercing it. Below are the seven sorrows of Mary:

1. The prophecy of Simeon (*Luke 2:25-35*)
2. The flight into Egypt (*Matthew 2:13-15*)
3. Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (*Luke 2:41-50*)
4. Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (*Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17*)
5. Crucifixion and Death of Jesus (*John 19:25-30*)
6. The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (*Psalms 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37*)
7. The burial of Jesus (*Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47*)

Focusing on the compassion of our Blessed Mother, our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, reminded the faithful: *...Mary Most Holy goes on being the loving consoler of those touched by the many physical and moral sorrows which afflict and torment humanity. She knows our sorrows and our pains, because she too suffered, from Bethlehem to Calvary. 'And thy soul too a sword shall pierce.' Mary is our Spiritual Mother, and the mother always understands her children and consoles them in their troubles... (1980)*

OUR CHURCH REMAINS CLOSED until further notice see advice on: www.cam.org.au or

Visit our website at pol.org.au/hadfield for regular updates

PARISH OFFICE—due to continued Stage 4 Restrictions, the Parish Office remains unattended.

During this period of increased restrictions and for urgent matters only please contact 0402 249 117, otherwise you may either phone or email the Parish Office. Please leave a message on the Parish Office answering machine on 9357 1422 or email us on admin@stmhadfield.org.au. We will attend to your call/email asap.

Thank you to everyone for continuing to support your Parish through thanksgiving and your donations.

REFLECTION...

Unless we forgive, we shall not be forgiven.

The theme for this week's readings is forgiveness, urging us to forgive others just as God forgives us.

In his homily at the Holy Mass at the Casa Santa Marta on September 2015, Pope Francis said....

..This is the right path: Forgive one another! As the Lord has forgiven you, so should you do! Forgive one another! And some good advice for forgiving each other: forbear one another at home, in your neighbourhood, at work.... Bear with each other, without resorting to whispering: "He did that...". It's important to forbear, because he too bears with me". In short, it takes Christian patience.

This, then, is the Christian way: it is not arrogance, it is not condemnation, it is not speaking ill of others. The Christian way is compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience. Ultimately, it is the way of Jesus, the way by which Jesus made peace and reconciliation, until the end. Indeed, at the end, in the final yearnings of life, he managed to hear something that the thief said: 'Yes, yes, yes, come with me, dear one, come to Paradise'.

Let us ask the Lord to give each of us the grace to forbear others, to forgive, to be merciful, as the Lord is merciful with us; and to have this Christian way of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience.



*Congratulations &
Happy 70th Birthday
Claudia Zanatta*

Claudia is as special as her birthday! She has been actively involved in the Parish for over 40 years... was the Parish Secretary for 30 years, is still the Baptism Co-ordinator (for over 35 years) and even though she retired as Secretary 5 years ago, is still a very active, dedicated and hardworking member of the Parish, who always has a smile on her face and a kind word for everyone. Claudia loves the Parish, and we all love her for the wonderful lady that she is !!

May the Lord Jesus shine His light on you and shower you with blessings and grace to take you throughout the coming years. **Fr Raj and all STM parishioners**



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have

been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people, especially children and other people who are at risk. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly. Find out more at: www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday and www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding

Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. We uphold that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

FEASTS DURING THE WEEK

Mon 14 Sept	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Tues 15 Sept	Our Lady of Sorrows
Wed 16 Sept	Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
Thur 17 Sept	St Robert Bellamine
Sat 19 Sept	St Januarius

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER.....



THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Pamela di Giorgio, Josie Abela, Carl & Michael Ceddia, Goretty Soares, Joe Asdagi, Tecla Alessi, Frank & Maria Pisano

RECENT DEATHS: Molly Colletta

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES: Andy & Paul Scicluna, Vincent Mifsud

