



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH, HADFIELD



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

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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



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A - 17th & 18th October 2020

OCTOBER MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

"To pray the Rosary is to hand over our burdens to the merciful hearts of Christ and His mother." Pope John Paul II

Sometimes we cannot muster creative, spontaneous prayers to God. We feel emotionally and even spiritually depleted. **The Rosary can be a familiar companion when we are at a loss for words.** We find the cadence of each prayer to soothe and comfort us when we are alone, frustrated, lost, and confused. **Even the act of grasping our Rosary beads eases the burdens we carry.** Let us make the Rosary a frequent form of devotion to our Blessed Mother and Jesus.



World Mission Sunday is on the second last Sunday in October each year. It's the one Sunday in the year when the entire global Church comes together to support mission. And every single donation from the worldwide Masses goes to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. *Every Catholic community, in every country, sends a powerful message of faith, hope and love on this special day.*



On Pentecost Sunday, May 31, Pope Francis released his message for this year's World Mission celebration. Based on theme taken from the Book of Isaiah, "Here am I, send me", the Pope's message says that the Covid-19 pandemic is an opportunity for mission and service to others. "Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying 'We are perishing' (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this". We are indeed frightened, disoriented and afraid. Pain and death make us experience our human frailty, but at the same time remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbour presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us from fear and introspection to a renewed realization that **we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others...**"

'World Mission Sunday is the ultimate global celebration of mission,' said Fr Brian Lucas, National Director of Catholic Mission. 'It is a special day where, as Christians, we are called to reflect on how we can be a part of bringing about the Reign of God and continuing Jesus' mission in the world.' The appeal this year focuses on the work of the Church in Cambodia in reaching out to those who have been affected by disability and giving them hope and support to live a fulfilling life. You may donate to this year's appeal by Freecall: **1800 257 296** or going to catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia



Celebrating 10 years of St Mary MacKillop's sainthood... This Sat 17 October

2020 will mark the 10th anniversary of St Mary MacKillop's canonisation at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, declaring her Australia's first canonised saint. Pope Benedict XVI addressed tens of thousands gathered in St Peter's Square. About 9000 Australians travelled to celebrate this occasion.

To mark this special occasion, the Sisters of Saint Joseph will celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross with commemorative prayers, videos, and a global vigil in her honour. **On Friday 16 October 2020 at 8pm**, the Sisters of Saint Joseph will hold **Courage Hour**, a global vigil of deep peace, prayer, and reflection. The Sisters invite all who may wish to participate to join the [Vigil online](http://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary/) (or visit <https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary/>).

The Sisters have also created a **commemorative prayer booklet** to inspire us all to "take fresh courage" as Mary did so often. These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary's values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world. **To order your exclusive free copy please go to: www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777**

OUR CHURCH REMAINS CLOSED FOR WORSHIP OR MASS See updated advice on: www.cam.org.au for full details or visit our website at pol.org.au/hadfield **PARISH OFFICE—remains unattended due to Stage 4 restrictions.** 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 or email us. *Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the Parish.*



Welcome back to all the students and their families...its great to see you back and to see your beautiful smiley faces again! Reminder to parents to **DRIVE SLOWLY** in the carpark area during drop off and pick up times. **THANK YOU**

The common theme of today's readings is the nature of our obligations to God and to our country. The readings show us how, with God's help, we can be ideal citizens of both earth and Heaven.

DUAL CITIZENSHIP AND DUAL OBLIGATIONS

This doctrine is sometimes called the "doctrine of the two powers," or the "two realms," meaning that the life of a Christian involves a twofold allegiance: to the ruling government in civil and secular issues, and to God and the Church as regards spiritual and religious issues. By birth, we become the citizens of the country of our birth, and by Baptism we become the citizens of Heaven. In every age, Christians are faced with balancing the demands of Caesar with the commands of God. Jesus' answer forms the guiding principle in solving the problems that arise from our dual citizenship, belonging to God and to our country. As Christians, we are to obey the government, even when it is pagan and non-Christian. *A loyal Christian is always a loyal citizen. Failure in good citizenship is also failure in Christian duty.* We fulfill our duties to our country by loyally obeying the just laws of the State, by paying all lawful taxes, and by contributing our share, whenever called on, toward the common good.

Both St. Peter (1 Pt 2:13-14), and St. Paul (Rom 13:1-7), stressed the obligation of the early Christians to be an example to all in their loyalty as citizens of the state. Similarly, we fulfill our duties to God by being faithful, loyal, active members of the spiritual Kingdom of God, the Church, which Christ established on earth. **Thus, a real Christian is, at one and the same time, a good citizen of his country and a good citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven, but his priority is his allegiance to God.** As the famous martyr St. Thomas More said of himself: *"I die the King's good servant, but God's first."* (From Cbci Homilies by Fr A. Kadavil)

JOKE OF THE WEEK...Heavenly banquet reserved for women?

"Mummy," asked a little girl, "do men ever go to Heaven?" "Why, yes, of course, my dear," answered the mother. "Why do you ask?" "Because I have never seen angels with moustaches, whiskers or beards." "Well," replied the mother, "some men do go to Heaven, but they get there only by a close shave!"



WHAT KINDS OF PEOPLE become priests, sisters or brothers? Are they uncommonly holy, unusually saint-like? **No.** They are people who make mistakes, people who aren't afraid to be human while in God's service. Are they people who can't face the competition and cruelty of the 'real' world? **No.** They are people who believe that through ministry they can immerse themselves in the world and make positive changes. Are they people who don't relate well with other people? **No.** They are people who love others – people who find real satisfaction chatting with a 93-year-old parishioner, holding the hand of a cancer patient, listening to the troubles of a street-wise teen. They are people with the courage to touch lives, hearts and souls in a high-tech, unchurched world. **Are you that kind of person?**

For a growth in reverence for the gift and mystery of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life and a readiness to give to God what is God's in response to His call, we pray to the Lord.

Christmas Cards, Columban Calendars and gifts now available...



During Covid restrictions, please ring Theresa on 0407 043 123 to place your orders

FEASTS DURING THE WEEK

Mon 19 Oct	Sts John Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues & Companions, St Paul of the Cross
Thurs 22 Oct	St John Paul II
Fri 23 Oct	St John Capistrano
Sat 24 Oct	St Anthony Mary Claret

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER.....



THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Pamela di Giorgio, Josie Abela, Carl & Michael Ceddia, Goretty Soares, Tecla Alessi, Frank & Maria Pisano, Anna Nicolazzo, Bernadette Micallef, Catherine.

RECENT DEATHS: Lina Camilleri, Ana Mejak

ANNIVERSARIES: Gradita Gargano, Stefan Gliotti