

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time— Year A

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield: and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah. 56:1. 6-7
Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve Him and to love His name and be His servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 66:2-3; 5-6. 8.
R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help.

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
You guide the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us His blessing
'til the ends of the earth revere Him.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way, save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back His gifts or revokes His choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in

their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. **Alleluia!**

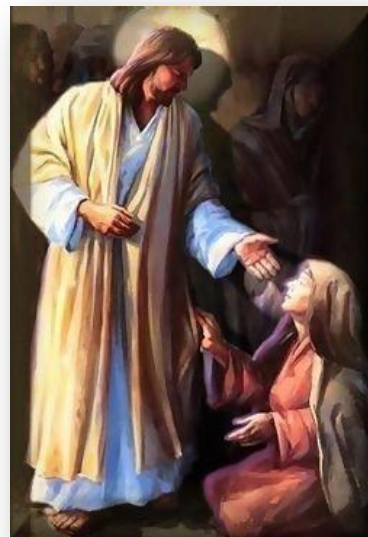
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 15:21-28.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But He answered her not a word. And His disciples went and pleaded with Him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at His feet. 'Lord,' she said, 'help me.'

He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, Sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment, her daughter was well again.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon: With the Lord there is mercy; in Him is plentiful redemption.



Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.



Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church
in the Dandenong Ranges

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160

Phone: 0400436793 Office Hours 9am-4pm (not Tues).

Internet: pol.org.au/belgrave Email: belgrave@cam.org.au

The Parish of St Thomas More and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:
www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention

Our Parish Vision Statement:

We are called to be a welcoming, compassionate community, empowered for our faith journey for active service.....

CHURCH CENTRES		St. Joseph's Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Belgrave Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	<u>No Masses</u>	<u>No Masses</u>	<u>No Masses</u>	<u>No Masses</u>
	WEEKDAY				

Mass changes: **MASSES CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE ON-LINE DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS—we will keep you up-to-date.**

Reconciliation: Marriages & Baptisms by appointment. **To speak with Fr. Cruz, phone 03 8751 8112 and leave a message if not answered.**

16TH AUGUST, 2020 — 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR A.

Dear Parishioners,

Good evening to you all. I hope and pray that all of you are remaining at home and being safe. It is now the 11th day since lockdown stage 4 came in. Let us unceasingly pray that all of us will safely reach the other side of the lockdown timeframe. Surely there will be light at the end of the tunnel. So let us prayerfully keep our hope alive in the Lord Almighty.

The year 2020 has been a really challenging year for Australia beginning with bushfires, followed by the Covid-19 pandemic which has effected not only Australia, but the whole world. It has been a tough year so far. It is same with our parish administration as well. Our parish is in a sort of transitional phase at the moment as Helen Surman, secretary to the Catholic Parish in the Dandenong Ranges retires tomorrow (14th of August, 2020). Today she was here for a short time to handover her responsibility to the incoming secretary Mrs. Gina Pereira. Let us wish Helen 'all the very best' for her life of retirement. We thank her for her committed, dedicated and selfless service which she has rendered to our parish for the last 17 years. May our Good Lord continue to sustain her and her family with His choicest blessings. At the same time, let us wish all the best to Gina, our new secretary. I know it is not that easy to fill the shoes of a person who worked here for so long, but I believe with time, and God's help, she will be able do justice to the task at hand. Let us pray for her and be patient with her as she might take a bit of time to get on track.

We had our pastoral council meeting yesterday in which we decided to have Sunday Mass on Zoom for each Mass centre at different timings. The timing of the Mass and Zoom link will be sent to you tomorrow by email.

Once again I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your prayers for my brother Jebamalai Raja's soul. I too thank, in a special way, all those who expressed your sympathies and heart-felt condolences through cards and phone calls. I assure you all of my prayers.

Fr Anthony Cruz

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Anthony Cruz anthony.cruz@cam.org.au Phone: 87518112.

Parish Secretary: Email: belgrave@cam.org.

Parish Office: **Closed at present.**

Sacraments : belgrave@cam.org.au

Child Safety Contacts: Maria 9754 5200 & Jeanette 97542759

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson — Andrew Jans 0419590155

Monbulk: Rin Van Raay

Belgrave: Daryn Corish & Marie Madden

Gembrook: Pam Giulieri & Matthew Thomas

Emerald: John Conway & Lisa McLean

Mt. Dandenong: Virginia Schneiders & Stephen Billington.

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE

Principal: Caroline Quinton

Phone: 9754-4444

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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK

Principal: Michael Watt

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www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Lynne Hogan (mother of Paula Hogan, St. Paul's School, Monbulk); Fr. Michael Wheeler; the many thousands of people across the world who have died from the corona virus and for those killed in Beirut this recently. - *Eternal rest grant unto them, Our Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them and may their dear souls rest in peace. Amen.*

Anniversaries: Michael Mulcahy, Howard Banks, Thomas (Frank) Blunden, Jack Maher, Gerrit Donker, Alan Newman, Bertelo Pepi, Anne Baruday, Maureen Sale, Josephine Miller, Hannah Bedford-Lee.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Joy Goodie, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, Stephen, Lois Lenaghan, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, Alida Cabret, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Geoff Henwood, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Robert Drake, Helen Hermann, Lyn Blackman, Joan Munday, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Peter Champion, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.



LAST WEEKEND THE CATHOLICARE SUNDAY APPEAL

TOOK PLACE... You can still donate at [www.ccam.org.au/Sunday Appeal](http://www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal) or call (03) 9287 5513.

It goes, without saying, that families in our state will struggle financially and emotionally in the long months to come. If you can support CatholicCare, and other agencies such as St. Vincent de Paul, during this period you will be helping those families.



A CHANGING OF THE GUARD... As from this coming week, **Gina Pereira** will take over the role of Parish Secretary. We congratulate Gina on her appointment and welcome her into our Parish fold.

I would personally like to wish Gina every happiness for the future and I know she will enjoy her time as much as I have. As I said to Fr. Cruz in my notice, the parishioners here are to be treasured; you are all so wonderful, and as a group you are everything a faith community should be.

Helen x

AS OF NOW ALL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS STAND SUSPENDED except funerals with restricted numbers. **Please call 03 87518112 if any of you want to talk to me.** You are most welcome to call me on that number, too, if you want me to offer Mass for any of your personal intentions.

Fr. Cruz

ZOOM-ENABLED ROSARY: Is now held on Saturday morning via Zoom. Refer Father's Zoom link below.

FR. CRUZ WILL BE CELEBRATING MASS VIA ZOOM every day.

Topic: Father Cruz's Zoom Mass

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMIZOSTYOTFRRYXJGQT09)

[pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMIZOSTYOTFRRYXJGQT09](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMIZOSTYOTFRRYXJGQT09)

Meeting ID: 750 464 5976

Passcode: 7mJTww

A PRAYER FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS DURING THIS TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS

COVID-19 from the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, Ireland, and worth repeating in the newsletter again this week as the number of health care workers contracting the virus has risen.

*Loving God,
we place into your care
all our doctors, nurses and healthcare workers.
Give them courage of heart
and strength of mind and body.
Keep them safe from harm.
May they know our deep gratitude
for all they are doing
to heal and help those affected by
the coronavirus.
God of all consolation
may they know your protection
and peace.
Bless them in these challenging
days
and bless their families.
Amen.
I cast my cares on the Lord.....*



A REASON TO CELEBRATE.....

Mick and Ann Rogers, well-known to many of us, celebrated their **fortieth wedding anniversary in the past week.**

Congratulations to you both, Ann and Mick, and may the years ahead of you be full of God's many blessings. Hope you get to celebrate with family and friends when lockdown is over.

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF

MELBOURNE has fantastic online resources to help you through this time of suffering:
www.cam.org.au/coronavirus.

STAGE 4 RESTRICTIONS – METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE:

‘Metropolitan Melbourne’ is made up of 31 local government areas. Stage 4 restrictions have been put in place for these areas, which includes this Parish in its entirety.

•**All Victorians over the age of 12 must wear a face covering whenever they leave their home, unless a medical exemption applies. As of 11.59pm Sunday 2 August, 2020 and for a period of 6 weeks unless otherwise directed.**

•All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services. are to be closed. **Fr. Cruz cannot receive visitors for confession, unfortunately.**

•**WEDDINGS:** No weddings are permitted unless an application is made to the DHHS for an exemption on compassionate grounds. If compassionate reasons permit a marriage ceremony to proceed, then only 5 people are allowed, comprising of the couple, the two witnesses and the celebrant.

•**FUNERALS:** will be limited to 10 mourners, plus the minimum number required to conduct the funeral.

•**BAPTISMS:** are to be postponed, unless here is a grave pastoral need. (Can. 857; 860).

•**LIVESTREAMING:** a limit of 5 in total may be present, including the celebrant.

•**VISITATIONS:** home visitations are not permitted unless for grave reasons. Only Clergy (Priests and Deacons) may visit. All hygiene precautions must be adhered including the wearing of face coverings. Holy Communion is not to be given to anyone in their homes or care facilities, including the sick and homebound, except as Viaticum for the dying, which may be administered only by Priests and Deacons, and complying with all hygiene precautions and the protocols of the relevant hospitals or aged-care facilities (washing hands, etc.) as appropriate.

•**CURFEW:** A Curfew is in place from 8pm until 5am each day. You may leave home for the purposes of essential work only.

• **If you can work from home, you must do so.** All requirements around hygiene and distancing must be met, along with the collection of contact details. **Accordingly, the Parish Office is closed. Phone: 0400436793 or 0387518112.**



Spring is nearly here!!

Thank you to Marilyn Huber for this beautiful photo. It's time to go outside to reflect on the beauty around us—it is everywhere!

THE STORY OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY—FEAST DAY 15TH AUGUST:

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: “We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory.” The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names—Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption—from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her Assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory.

Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection as the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary's share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven.

Franciscan Ministries.

THE PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT: Presbytery income is shared with the Priests' Remuneration Fund (25%) and the Archdiocese for the support of the Archbishop (5%) at the end of each quarter. From the balance of income received, the day-to-day living expenses of the priest are paid, including motor vehicle expenses (car lease, insurance & petrol), the housekeeper's wages, Mass supply and Father's stipend. There is generally a shortfall in funds each quarter, but a quarterly report is prepared and a claim submitted for reimbursement from the PRF. Usually, this amount equates to all, or most of Father's stipend, and occasionally a small additional amount.

