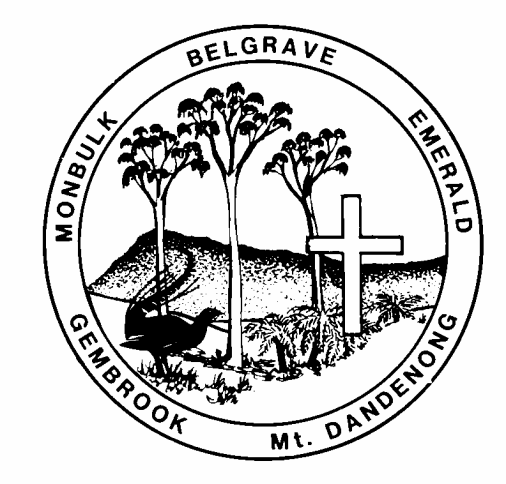
Parish of Belgrave



**The Catholic Church**

**P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160**

**Phone:** 97542141

**Office Hours:** 10am—2pm Tuesday to Friday

**Internet:** pol.org.au/belgrave

**Email:** belgrave@cam.org.au

***Our Parish Vision Statement:***

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

***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***

**Parish Administrator: Fr. Anthony Cruz *anthony.cruz@cam.org.au Phone: 87518112.***

**Parish Secretary: Mirani Perera**

**Parish Office: 97542141**

**Sacraments: belgrave@cam.org.au**

**Child Safety Contacts: Jeanette Wicks 97542759**

**Parish pastoral council: Chairperson — Andrew Jans 0419590155**

**Monbulk: Rin Van Raay**

**Belgrave: Marie Madden**

**Gembrook: Pam Giulieri**

**Emerald: John Conway & Lisa McLean**

**Mt. Dandenong: Stephen Billingto & Virginia Schneiders**

**St. Thomas More’s Primary, Belgrave**

Principal: Caroline Quinton

Phone: 9754-4444

Email: cquinton@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au  
**www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au**

**St. Paul’s Primary school, Monbulk**

Principal: Michael Watt

Phone: 9756 7201

Email: principal@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au **www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au**

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| **Church  Centres** |  | **St. Joseph’s Church Emerald**  Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads | **Sacred Heart Church  Gembrook**  Main Road | **St. Thomas More Church Belgrave**  Reynolds Lane | **St. Paul’s Church  Monbulk**  59 Moores Road |
| **Mass Times** | **Weekend** | **Vigil Mass**  **6.00pm** | **9.00am** | **9.00am** | **11.00am** |
|  | **Weekday** |  |  | **9.00am** |  |

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 11th July, 2021**

Today is the fifteenth Sunday of ordinary time. One important theme that is common to all the readings of this Sunday is:*“God’s Choice.”*simply points to both the missionary nature of the church and of our calling as God’s messengers. The readings remind us that God’s choice of us was not a product of chance, but a deliberate act. Thus, this Sunday, the church provides us a great opportunity to ask ourselves these very pertinent questions: “What is God’s purpose for choosing me as His messenger and, am I fulfilling this purpose?”

In our first reading, God choose Amos – a poor famer, to go and prophesy in the northern kingdom of Israel. God had a purpose for this. He knew very well that there were prophets there. However, they were not his choice because they had compromised their calling. By becoming corrupt and distracted by materialism, they could longer deliver justices to the oppressed and the weak. Instead of speaking for the poor, weak and the oppressed, they spoke for their pockets, bank accounts, and stomachs. Hence, God felt that the only one who was suitable for his work was an innocent poor farmer who was detached from the materialism of the time and the northern kingdom. Of course, in spite of the oppositions and challenges he faced from the*“professional and paid prophets”*the northern kingdom, Amos fulfilled God’s purpose of choosing him without being corrupted by the materialism of his time.

In our second reading, Paul did not just stop by telling us that God chose us in Christ. Instead, he went further to tell us remind us of the reason God chose us: *“To be holy, and spotless, and to live through love in his presence….”*Simply put, this is the primary will and purpose of God for choosing us. However, as one does not live for oneself, the secondary purpose why God choose us is to reach out to others. That is, to develop a missionary spirit. These two goals and purposes put together form the ultimate goal and purpose of God for us.

Today’s gospel highlights this secondary purpose. Christ took time to prepare his disciples in order to help them achieve the primary purpose of God in their own lives. Afterwards, He sent them out to achieve the secondary purpose and will. That is, mission to their community and world. Through this, *mission ad nitra*te foundation for *mission ad extra.*” This is what growth in Christ means. It means striving to achieve the primary purpose of being *holy, impeccable and loving* also, *going out to help others achieve it.* This is what it means to be a missionary and to develop a missionary spirit. For this to be possible, we must not be selfish and love must move us to invite others to share our experience. Hence, we must behave like an ant that finds a piece of food and, invites others to share the food with it.

Finally, in order to make sure that his disciples did not lose focus of this purpose, Christ instructed them on how to go about their mission. Jesus knew the influence of materialism and that any soul taken captive by it will definitely lose focus of his mission. That was why he instructed his disciple against it. So, to succeed in the mission of Christ, we must be careful about materialism, extreme capitalism and, anything that could distract us from fulfilling God’s purpose and will for choosing us. Therefore, abiding by the instructions of Jesus is a sure means of fulfilling God’s purpose. Whereas, neglecting them is the easiest way of losing focus and falling. Sadly, most of us pastors, priests and religious and of course, the people of God have lost focus of our mission by disobeying the instructions of Christ. We have become so distracted that we no longer pay attention to the main purpose of our mission and call as Christians. This is the reason we achieve little. So, we must constantly remind ourselves that God chose us for a purpose and, must strive to achieve it.

**Source: https://frcanicenjoku.com/2015/07/06/homily-for-15th-sunday-of-ordinary-time-year-b/**

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**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B**

**A reading from the prophet Amos Am 7:12-15**

***Go, prophesy to my people.***

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, ‘Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.’ ‘I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets.’ Amos replied to Amaziah, ‘I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”’

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8**

***(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.***

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,

a voice that speaks of peace,

peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him

and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;

Justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth

and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

The Lord will make us prosper

and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him

and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians Eph 1:3-10**

***Before the world was made, God chose us.***

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determined that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

**Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark Mk 6:7-13**

***He called the Twelve, and began to send them out.***

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals, but, he added, ‘Do not take a spare tunic.’ And he said to them, ‘If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.’ So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon**:

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.



**Next week’s readings:**



**First Reading:** Jer 23:1-6 **Responsorial Psalm:** PS22. R. v.2

**Second Reading:** Eph 2:13-18 **Gospel:** Mk 6:30-34

**REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:**

**Recent deaths:** Patricia Frances Atzmuller. Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

**Anniversaries**: John Tyrell, Glade D’Sousa, Bob Irving, John Philbey, Alan Newman, Alex Webb, Jos Mertens, Heather Dickinson, Gerrit Donker, Patricia Keena, Van Tho Le.

**Prayer for the deceased:**

Lord open wide the doors of your Mercy to all those who have passed away in the parish of St. Thomas More, Belgrave. In your compassion grant eternal bliss to all of them.

**Prayers for the Sick:** We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Fiona, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, 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, B. O’Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, 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, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

**Places of Worship and Religious Gatherings**

**1.** Places of worship must use electronic record keeping through the free Victorian Government QR Code Service. Please note, the registration sheets are available at the registration table at the church.

**2. 1 person per 2 sqm applies (no group limits apply).**

**3.** In Metropolitan Melbourne, face coverings must be worn by the congregation when singing indoors at all times. This will create difficulties for singing, and congregants should be encouraged to either refrain from singing, or to do so softly.

**4.** Face coverings must be worn by cantors or choirs indoors. They may be removed during the period of singing but must be replaced and worn otherwise.

We can have the following numbers of the participants in each mass centre.

**Belgrave - 100 people Emerald - 40 people**

**Gembrook - 40 people Monbulk - 50 people**

***Sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Eucharist***

**St. Thomas More Church—Belgrave**

**First Reconciliation** Wednesday 28th July at 3.30— 4.30pm

**Workshop** Monday 26th July in School Library

**First Holy Eucharist** Sunday 22nd August 2pm

**Workshop** Workshop 1 Wednesday 4th August in School Library.

Practice Workshop—Wednesday 4th August in School Library.

Practice Workshop— Wednesday 19th August in STM Church.

**St. Paul’s Church, Monbulk**

**First Reconciliation** Tuesday 20th July at 3.30pm

**Workshop** 14th July at 3.30pm

**First Holy Eucharist** 7th October 6pm

**Workshop** 11th August at 3.30pm

**Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook**

**First Reconciliation** 27th July at Gembrook Church at 4.00pm

**Workshop** Tuesday13th July 3.30pm — 4.30pm in Back room of the Gembrook Church

Tuesday 20th July Lesson 2

Tuesday 27th July Lesson 3

***Baptism***

Let us welcome **Cooper Lawrence Roney and Kit Mannix Roney** into our faith community as they are going to be baptized this weekend at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave. May they be richly blessed throughout their life’s, constantly being aware of the unconditional love and Mercy of God.

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**Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre**

**362 Albert Street, East Melbourne**

The Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre is open for pilgrims, parishioners, and community groups on Monday to Friday from 9 am – 5 pm. Come and have a Cuppa with Mary and:

• View a dedicated Museum to Mary and the SOSJ’s with emphasis on Victoria.

• Walk the Mary MacKillop Heritage trail (Virtual tour if preferred), which includes Mary’s place of birth (Please register).

• Sit in a very spiritual and sacred space, the chapel, where Mary walked, lived and prayed.

• Purchase gifts from a wide range of gifts that includes books, cards, and souvenirs, including products from the Peruvian Women’s Project.

Parish groups are invited to have a special Cuppa with Mary MacKillop on Wed and Fridays from 2 – 3.30 pm (other times by negotiation).

‘Special Offers’ to acknowledge Saint Mary’s

Forthcoming Feast day on 8 August

(Offer applicable during the period Mon 21 June – Tues 31 August)

Go into the draw to win a free nights accommodation with a purchase from the Museum gift shop - Any person that purchases from the Museum gift shop (communion & confirmation gifts, devotional items, Vatican Library collection, rosary beads, holding crosses, candles, cards, statues, crucifixes, paintings, books and Peruvian handmade items) will go into a draw for a free nights accommodation for two at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre. Click here for the gift shop and to order contact Kate on (03) 9926 9300 or email admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au (The draw will take place on Wed 1 September).

Book accommodation at the Heritage and save off normal rates – Fully self-contained one-bedroom apartments sleeps 2 ($120) and two-bedroom apartments sleeps 4 ($170). Off street parking is included and a light breakfast can be added for $8.00 per person. Book and pay for your special event or Grand Final accommodation now at these rates.

We are seeking people interested in volunteering - If you have a love of gardening or maintenance and can do two hours per week, we would love to hear from you.

For Parishes requiring special group bookings, please contact us on 9926 9300

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***Please pray before the Recessional Hymn***

**St Joseph Prayer**

Heavenly Father,

St Joseph set aside his own plans

to embrace your dream for us.

You invited his help in caring

for Jesus your Son, our Saviour,

and the Revealer of your wonderful love.

Enable us to live by your loving plan

and to reflect to the world the light of Christ.

St Joseph, man of dreams

and trusting steward, pray for us.

Lord Jesus,

You grew in wisdom and maturity

as you lived in the family

of Nazareth in daily communion

with St Joseph and Mary your mother.

From St Joseph you learned

the dignity of human work.

Give parents the wisdom

to support their children and to guide them

in the way and work of your Kingdom.

St Joseph, faithful parent

and diligent worker, pray for us.

Creator Spirit,

We see in St Joseph a tenderness

and reverence for all your creation.

We learn from him to approach others justly

and tenderly, and to see our world as endowed

with the glory of God.

Teach us to love one another

and to be of humble service to all of creation,

empowered by your life within us.

St Joseph, wise protector and humble servant, pray for us.

