

**Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 16:6,8**

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

**Isaiah 45:1.4-6**

***I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.***

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing. **The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7**

***Give the Lord glory and honour.***

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-5**

***We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.***

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy

Spirit and as utter conviction.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation Philipians 2:15. 16**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.  
**Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Matthew 22:15-21**

***Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.***

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon Mark 10:45**

The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

**Next week's readings**

First Reading:	Exodus 22:20-26
Responsorial Psalm:	Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
Gospel:	Matthew 22:34-40



# St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave

The Catholic Church in the Dandenong Ranges

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160

Phone: 97542141

Office Hours: 9.30am–2pm Tuesday to Friday

Internet: [pol.org.au/belgrave](http://pol.org.au/belgrave)

*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](http://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 Church Emerald Cnr. Emerald- Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Church Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Church Belgrave 17 Terry Avenue, Belgrave	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.00am	11.00am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am	

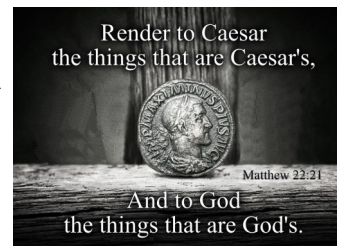
### **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 21st/22nd October, 2023**

#### **REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA**

The frequency with which we consider the question of insider-outsider is an indication of how important universalism and the breaking down of boundaries is within our religious tradition. All peoples, all lands are called on to praise God. Furthermore, God cares about and cares for all people (see Is 19:25), and God works through all people to accomplish good in the world: Gandhi, a Hindu of Indian origin; Martin Luther King, Jr, a Baptist minister; Susan B. Anthony, a suffragist; Nelson Mandela, a Black South African, etc. Human beings have always realised that, in comparison with the grandeur and expansiveness of the universe within which they live, they are weak and vulnerable creatures. This has led them to believe in and offer homage to a divine being, or beings. Praise of God has always been an expression of awe and gratitude as well as humility.

If neither gender, nor race, nor age, nor class nor culture qualifies one for being an insider, what does? Today's readings suggest that it is service of others. In breaking down the walls of prejudice, the social activists of our own age liberate not only the oppressed groups to which they belong, but also those who oppress them. The lives of these dynamic people show us that service of others draws them into our circles and encircles us in theirs. With open arms God invites all into an embrace of divine love. As God has embraced us, so we are called to embrace all others.

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023Oct22/0/RefDiBer>



#### ***The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2023 — Month of October***

**For the Synod** — We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2023>

### ***WE ARE A CHILD SAFETY PARISH AND WE BELIEVE IN CHILD SAFETY.***

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Anthony Cruz MC  
*Anthony.cruz@cam.org.au*  
 87518112.  
**Phone:**  
**Parish Secretary:** Mirani Perera  
 97542141  
**Parish Office:** *belgrave@cam.org.au*  
**Sacraments :** Jeanette Wicks 97542759  
**Child Safety Contacts:** Monica Rayner  
 Chairperson — Dennis  
 Sue Luxford  
**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**  
**Monbulk:** David Bhoynz  
**Belgrave:** Evie and Irene Reed  
**Gembrook:**  
**Emerald:**

**ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE**  
 Principal: Declan McDermott  
 Phone: 9754-4444  
 Email: [principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au)

**ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK**  
 Principal: Michael Watt  
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[www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au](http://www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au)

## **REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:**

### **Recent deaths:**

Many people across the world who have died due to natural calamities and ongoing War in Ukraine. May their souls rest in peace.

### **Anniversaries:**

Lucia Pepi, Patricia Grace Corcoran, Katrina Campions, Ray Talintyre, Lilian Onley, Ruby Johnson, Fr. Anthony Guelen, Thiruthuva Nathan

**Prayers for the Sick:** We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Gwenda Lyons, Helen Bye, Peter Lawrence, Stephen Billington, Anne Radocaj, Simon Kuyper John Barber, Dimuthu, Glen Butler, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Champion, Cameron DiCasio, Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Maureen Lyons, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Joshua McQuade, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

- **Sick List: If you are aware that any names on the sick list need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 97542141.**

### **Reading roster - 22nd October**

Elizabeth Drake and Sharon

### **Church cleaning roster—22nd October**

Kathleen Burns

Patrick Coyne & Maureen Coyne

Please see below an update to current vacant roles listed on our Melbourne Catholic website.

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: [Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at [hadmin@cam.org.au](mailto:hadmin@cam.org.au)



## **Catholic Theological College**

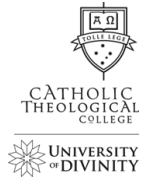
Online Information Session for 2024

Monday 30 October at 7.30pm (AEDT)

Register via our website: [ctc.edu.au/information-session](http://ctc.edu.au/information-session)

For more information contact:

Dr Maureen Saclot [ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/](http://ctc.edu.au/contact/contact-the-registrar/)



## **St Joseph's, Emerald, Mass Time, 2024**

We are currently considering changing the weekly Mass time at St Joseph's, Emerald from 6:00pm to 5:00 pm Saturday. The reasoning behind the proposed change is that the earlier time may be more convenient for families with young children. This may especially be the case in winter.

Since the St Joseph's Mass is the only Vigil Mass in the parish, such a change will affect more than the local Emerald parishioners, so we are seeking input from across the parish.

Please express your thoughts, especially if your Mass attendance will be adversely affected by the change. You can do so throughout October, by

- \* speaking to Father Cruz
- \* ringing/leaving a message at the Parish Office on 97542141
- emailing the Parish Office at [belgrave@cam.org.au](mailto:belgrave@cam.org.au)

The final decision on the change will be made after October.

## **SAVE THE DATE! Night of the Witnesses – 22 November 2023, 7pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.**

*Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to an evening of prayer, testimony, song, adoration and reflection to honour the witness of twelve recent Christian martyrs and to stand in solidarity with Christians all over the world who are suffering persecution for their faith in Jesus Christ. Archbishop Peter Comensoli will preside and His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph Absi of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church will be one of the international guest speakers who will share personal testimony of persecution for the faith. We hope you will join us. For more information please visit: [www.aidtochurch.org/](http://www.aidtochurch.org/)



## **Important Feast**

28th October

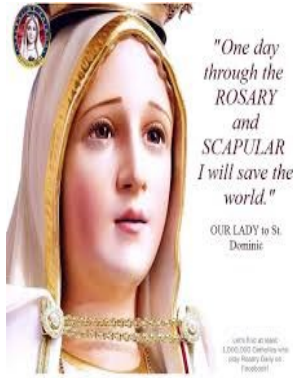
STS Simon & Jude,  
Apostles

Thanksgiving envelopes are available at our four churches this weekend.

**October - The Month of the Holy Rosary**

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. **The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the Rosary.**

**Reciting the Holy Rosary in October at Emerald catholic church every Saturday at 5.30pm before mass. All welcome! Come and join us to ask for Our Lady's intervention.**



**World Mission Sunday**

**22nd October**

The envelopes are available at our churches.

**Website:**

**[www.catholicmission.org.au/for-parishes](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/for-parishes)**



**An Urgent Prayer for Peace**

God of compassion,  
We turn to you with heavy hearts  
As we consider the needs of your family.  
Israelis and Palestinians, we are all your people,  
Each of us loved by You  
And called to live in peace and justice.  
We lament the dreadful loss of life,  
Destruction of property and loss of human dignity.  
We are pained by so much suffering.  
We beg you to bring healing to this ancient place.  
Help your people find a way forward.  
Enable everyone to look each other in the eye,  
And embrace each other as sisters and brothers,  
As they find your image in every face.  
We ask that courage and grace  
Will help create a wiser and more gentle future,  
Where everyone has a home.  
God of wisdom, come to our aid.  
Amen.

By Michael McGirr / Caritas Australia

St Joseph's College  
AGITE QUAE DIDICISTIS

*A memorial mass*

**Mass for Deceased Loved Ones**

On behalf of the Salesian and St Joseph's College Communities, we invite you and your family to the Annual Memorial Mass for Deceased Past Pupils, Staff and Loved Ones.

The Mass will be celebrated on  
Thursday 26 October, 7:00pm  
in the St Joseph's College Chapel

A light supper will follow at the end of the service.

RSVP: [bdean@stjosephs.com.au](mailto:bdean@stjosephs.com.au) or 9758 2000

**Proclaim 2023**

Over three days (16-18 November) join together with parishes from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne to be inspired, engaged and equipped to go out and proclaim the joy of the Gospel into our local communities. Hear inspiring local and international speakers, encounter Jesus through prayer, music and fellowship and participate in workshops to equip ourselves for mission! Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1131232> use the discount code: parishmember to access the special registration price for parishioners. Enquiries: (03) 9926 5761 or [proclaim@cam.org.au](mailto:proclaim@cam.org.au)

**Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal**

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs.

*'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.'*  
Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia

With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict.

**Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.**

You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone 1800 024 413

