

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

**Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 24:15-16**

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

**A reading from the book of Exodus**

**Exodus 20:1-3. 7-8. 12-17**

***The Law was given through Moses.***

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68**

***Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.***

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

***We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.***

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For

God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation John 3:16**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John John 2:13-25**

***Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.***

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon John 4:13-14**

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

**Next week's readings**

First reading	2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23
Responsorial psalm	Ps 136. R. v.6
Second reading	Ephesians 2:4-10
Gospel	John 3:14-21



# 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

*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	

## **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B - 2nd/3rd March, 2024**

### **REFLECTION by Nick Brodie**

'Jesus' behaviour recounted in today's Gospel passage', Pope Francis says, 'exhorts us to live our life not in search of our own advantage and interests, but for the glory of God who is love.' The Pope suggests that Jesus' action in the Temple should be seen as being deliberately and provocatively prophetic. Jesus was not throwing a tantrum! Rather, He was making a point: something was awry in the way people understood and used the Temple. Hearts and behaviours needed to change.



For his 2024 Lenten message, Pope Francis chose to focus on the first of today's readings concerning God's self-revelation on Mount Sinai. The Pope notes that there was considerable resistance in the background of this great moment. Below the mountain there was what the Pope called a 'nostalgia for slavery that paralysed Israel in the desert and prevented it from moving forward.' Times change, and so must we all.

Given that Lent is 'a season of conversion, a time of freedom', the Pope encourages us Christians to refocus our attention on the needs of all. This is a season for 'communitarian decisions ... capable of altering the daily lives of individuals and entire neighbourhoods', he said. We should reflect on 'the ways we acquire goods, care for creation, and strive to include those who go unseen or are looked down upon.' We should ask ourselves, what Temple tables and transactions need overturning in our own time. As the Pope so powerfully says: 'Woe to us if our Christian penance were to resemble the kind of penance that so dismayed Jesus.'

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Mar03/0>

### ***The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2024 — Month of March***

For the new martyrs - We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2024>

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

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**Belgrave:** Evie and Irene Reed  
**Gembrook:**  
**Emerald:**

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## REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

**Recent deaths:** Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities. May their souls rest in peace.

**Anniversaries:** Lorna Giulieri, Hoe Hoang, Mary Hilder, Joe Hilder, Bill Williams, Chris Madden, Fr. Joseph Micalleg, Fr. Thomas Sheeran, Angela Casey, Mary McInley, Sr. Joyce White.

**Prayers for the Sick:** We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Vinesh Prasad, Flynn Kroeger, Verity Loke, Helen Bye, Anne Radocaj, Simon Kuyper John Barber, Dimuthu, Glen Butler, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Champion, Cameron DiCasio, Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Rebecca Jane Atkinson, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Maureen Lyons, Ingvyn 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 - 3rd March

Maureen Coyne & Patrick Coyne

### Candlelight Vigil for Ukraine, plea for Peace in the Middle East and world peace

Let's redouble our prayers for a resolution for the Ukraine conflict and plea for Peace in the Middle East.

The candlelight vigil returns next Wednesday (**6th March**), being the first Wednesday of the Month. Let's redouble our prayers for a resolution to this conflict and peace in the world.

**7 pm Mass**

**7.30pm Private prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament**

**7.45pm Rosary.**

**8.05pm Benediction.**

**8.15pm Finish.**



For details relating to Baptisms, Marriages & Anointing of the Sick, please contact the parish office.

### Holy Week Timeline



24th March	Palm Sunday of the passion of the Lord
28th March	Holy Thursday
29th March	Good Friday /Passion of the Lord
31st March	Easter Sunday/Resurrection
7th April	Divine Mercy Sunday

### Third Sunday of Lent



2 & 3 March



Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

#### Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



### Mercy Melbourne

( A day of prayer and reconciliation )

**St Thomas More Church, Belgrave on 19th March**

6.00 pm- Holy Mass ( Mass of Solemnity of St Joseph, the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.)

6.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and silent adoration.

7.30 pm Praying the Holy Rosary followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet

8.45 pm Benediction

9.00 pm Closing of the holy hour with a Hymn to Our Lady.



N.B

A priest will be available for confession in the confessional 7.30 to 8.40 pm.

**Sacrament of Confirmation - St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave**

Sacrament of Confirmation for students attending Non-Catholic Schools.

2024 Sacramental Program for students, not attending Catholic Schools:

**Confirmation** – 18 May 12 noon at St Thomas More's Belgrave

**Reconciliation** – 14 September St Thomas More's Belgrave

**Eucharist** – 15 September 11 AM at St Paul's in Monbulk

**Preparation classes for Confirmation** begins on Tuesday 16 April (for 5 weeks) at 4.30 pm in St Joseph's church in Emerald.

**Preparation classes or Reconciliation** begins on Wednesday 21 August (for 4 weeks) at 4.30 at St Joseph's church in Emerald.

**Preparation classes for Eucharist** begins on Tuesday 13 of August (for 5 weeks) at 4.30 at St Joseph's church in Emerald.

Parents may choose to enrol their children in both Eucharist and Reconciliation if they wish to.

To enrol, please contact the parish office during office hours on or before 21st March.

Telephone: 97542141

Email: [belgrave@cam.org.au](mailto:belgrave@cam.org.au)

**Liturgy committee meeting for Holy Week**

Welcome all musicians and liturgy people there will be a meeting on Wednesday 13 March at 7.30 at Belgrave Presbytery to discuss and co-ordinate preparations for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday services Anyone welcome we need volunteers please for music, readings, washing of feet, special ministers or to help in any way.

Would be grateful if you could help.

**Sue Luxford**



**Thursday of the Lord's Supper—28th March**

**7.30pm** at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave — Washing of the Feet and Eucharist.

**8.30 pm** Solemn Reservation. Adoration.

**Good Friday - 29th March:**

**10.00am.** The Stations of the cross at Sumava Czech Centre, 46, Locks Way, Belgrave South. (Please DO NOT bring any food) but bring an umbrella if rain is forecast.

**3.00pm** Celebration of the Passion of the Lord with Adoration of the Holy Cross and Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church, Monbulk.

**The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night —Saturday 30th March: 6.30pm** at St. Thomas More Church, Reynolds Lane, Belgrave.

Blessing of the Fire. followed by the vigil Mass.

**Sunday of the Resurrection — Easter Sunday 31st March:**

**6.30am** -St. Joseph's Church, Emerald.

Blessing of the Fire, Holy Eucharist.

**Please note also....** that breakfast will be served after the **Easter Dawn Mass at St. Joseph's church. All welcome**

**9.00am** - Easter day mass at Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook.

**9.00am**—Easter day mass St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave.

**11.00am**—Easter day mass at St. Paul's Church, Monbulk.

**Reconciliation and Station of the cross in Lent**

**St. Joseph's church Emerald**

Station of the cross Saturday at 5pm—5.30pm

Reconciliation 5.30pm– 6pm ( 2nd, 9th and 23rd March)

**St. Paul's Church Monbulk**

Reconciliation 10.30am—11.00am ( 3rd, 10th March )



**Sacred heart Church Gembrook**

Reconciliation 7.50am - 8.50 am (17th March)

**St. Thomas More church Belgrave**

Reconciliation 19th March 7.30am – 8.45am

**(Mercy Melbourne)**

Saturday 9.45am—10.15am

( 2nd, 9th, 16th March )

**Station of the cross every Friday at 7pm at St. Thomas more church Belgrave.**