

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Entrance Antiphon:

Ps 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 25:6-10

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name,
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Phil 4:12-14. 19-20

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and

ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

See Eph 1:17-18

AllAlleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Mt 22:1-14

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

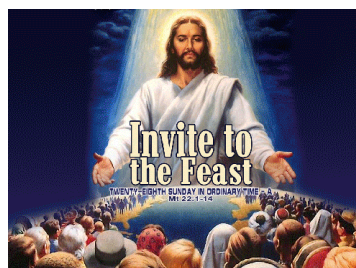
Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the lord.

Communion Antiphon:

Jn 3:2

When the Lord appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.



FOR MANY ARE
CALLED, BUT
FEW ARE
CHOSEN.

- Matthew 22:14



Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160
Phone: 97542141
Office Hours: 10am – 2pm Tuesday to Friday
After hours Phone No: 87518112
Parish Office closed due to lockdown
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

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>Via Zoom</u>	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u>Via Zoom</u>	<u>Via Zoom</u>
	WEEKDAY			<u>Via Zoom</u>	

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Parishioners,

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are just a couple of weeks away from moving out of the stage four lockdown restrictions. It is really stressful and very much depressing for all of us, and specially for the ones who live all alone. But it looks like we are almost there to reach the other side of the Pandemic, though many countries in the world are still struggling to cope up with present crisis. The number of Covid-19 cases today in Victoria are 11 as recorded by the Victorian government. I always prayed that the number of cases should come down to single digit. Of course more than a couple days in this week itself the cases came to single digit. Really it was encouraging for the Victorians. Let us continue to pray for our frontline workers who are selflessly amazingly rendering their service at the moment.

As you know we have prayed the holy rosary daily after the morning mass with the blessed sacrament exposed at the chapel in St Thomas More Church. We began praying the rosary from August 15th and successfully closed it on the seventh of this month on the feast of the holy rosary. I really thank you all for your encouraging virtual presence on zoom praying together for Covid -19 termination. We still continue to pray our rosary after the mass daily as the month of October is dedicated for the holy rosary.

Lots of people receive favors and graces from God by praying the rosary. I can share with you the favor I received last year when I made my pilgrimage to Our Lady's Basilica last year in India when I went for my vocation, walking 252 kilometers in six days time praying the rosary all the day long. It was in the month of August 2019. When I began my pilgrimage with a group of 200 pilgrims nobody ever thought that I would complete it, not only because of my fatty and bulky body appearance, I too had undergone ligament reconstruction surgery for my right knee in the year 2014. But to my surprise I had pain all over my body for those six days (due to walking long distance which I was not used to) except in my operated knee. I am giving witness to you all how the intercession of Mary our Mother helped me to complete my pilgrim journey.

So dear sisters and brothers certainly praying the rosary with devotion and piety helps us in our daily life to be safe and to remain closer to God. May God bless all of us and keep us safe and sound.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Anthony Cruz

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:
Phone:
Parish Secretary:
Parish Office:
Sacraments :
Child Safety Contacts:
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Monbulk:
Belgrave:
Gembrook:

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Maria 9754 5200 & Jeanette 97542759
Chairperson — Andrew Jans 0419590155
Rin Van Raay
Daryn Corish & Marie Madden
Pam Giulieri & Matthew Thomas

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
Phone: 9756 7201
Email: principal@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

Prayers of the Faithful - Twenty eight Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Priest: God of consolation, 'who will wipe away our tears', we offer our prayers to you with humility. We pray...

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That Your church's message may reach those for whom daily affairs have steered their hearts and minds away from you. We pray...

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That the governments of the world will offer free to all nations the vaccine for Covid19 if and or when one is found. We pray...

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That all your children may heed your invitation and reprioritize what is important in life. We pray....

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That those living with heightened anxiety and worsening health issues, due to the pandemic, may reach out and find the support they need. We pray...

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

That those in Lebanon, living through the aftermath of the recent explosion, the current virus and political unrest, may find hope through with the trauma of last summer fires. We pray...

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

For our personal needs: PAUSE—We pray...

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: God, may love be the foundation of our lives. May we help the many suffering in our world, in accordance with our personal means and abilities. Through Christ, Amen.

Message from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Exploring Pope Francis' new encyclical, "Fratelli tutti"

Visit the below link

[youtube.com/watch?v=HLAaYb3mPro](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLAaYb3mPro)

Important Dates

16h October Saint Saint Gerard Majella

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque



Saint Gerard Majella's Story

Born in Muro, about fifty miles south of Naples, in April, 1726; died 16 October, 1755; beatified by Leo XIII, 29 January, 1893, and canonized by Pius X, 11 December, 1904.

His only ambition was to be like Jesus Christ in his sufferings and humiliations. His father, Dominic Majella, died while Gerard was a child. His pious mother, owing to poverty, was obliged to apprentice him to a tailor. His master loved him, but the foreman treated him cruelly. His reverence for the priesthood and his love of suffering led him to take service in the house of a prelate, who was very hard to please. On the latter's death, Gerard returned to his trade, working first as a journeyman and then on his own account. His earnings he divided between his mother and the poor, and in offerings for the souls in purgatory.

After futile attempts first to become a Franciscan and then a hermit, he entered the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer in 1749. Two years later, he made his profession. Saint Alphonsus considered him a miracle of obedience. He not only obeyed the orders of superiors when present, but also when absent he knew and obeyed their desires. Although weak in body, he did the work of three, and his great charity earned for him the title of Father of the Poor. He was a model of every virtue, and so drawn to Our Lord in the tabernacle that he had to do violence to himself to keep away.

An angel in purity, he was accused of a shameful crime; but he bore the calumny with such patience that Saint Alphonsus said: "Brother Gerard is a saint." He was favored with infused knowledge of the highest order, ecstasies, prophecy, discernment of spirits, and penetration of hearts, bilocation, and with what seemed an unlimited power over nature, sickness, and the devils.

When he accompanied the Fathers on missions, or was sent out on business, he converted more souls than many missionaries. He predicted the day and hour of his death.

Reflection

Saint Gerard proved to be an unusual man whom God gifted in many ways. He had the humility to recognize that the gifts came from God and so he became a humble and loved saint. May we relish and use well the gifts that the Lord has given to us.

Saint Gerard Majella is the Patron Saint of:

Childbirth and Pregnant women



FROM FR. DON MILLER, OFM

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Marilyn Duivenvoorden (70). Let us pray for her soul and her grieving husband Barry Duivenvoorden and her children and grand children. Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

Anniversaries:

Prayer for the deceased

Lord open wide the door of your compassion to those who died in this week in different parts of the world, and in your mercy receive them into your kingdom.

Prayers for the Sick:

We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Damien Van der Linden, Andrew Schmidt, Bryan Cummins, Lida Ploeg and Robert Ploeg, 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, StepheLois Lenaghan, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, Alida Cabret, 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, Peter Campion, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

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

Topic: Father Cruz' Holy Mass and Holy Rosary on Zoom

ZOOM ROSARY: Now held on Monday to Saturday immediately after the holy mass.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMIZOSTYOTFRRYXJGQT09)

pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMIZOSTYOTFRRYXJGQT09

Meeting ID: 750 464 5976..

Passcode: 7mJTwW

Days and times of ZOOM live masses

St Thomas More Belgrave

Weekdays Monday – Saturday 9.00am

Sacred Heart, Gembrook & St. Joseph's - Emerald

Sunday 9.00am

St. Thomas More -Belgrave & St. Paul's - Monbulk

Sunday 10.30am followed by the Holy Rosary.

Please join with your community if you can.

Need a house painter? Mike is a member of our local community and an Iranian refugee who is in great need of work at present. He has permission to paint outsides of buildings and internally if buildings are empty. His work is meticulous and he is friendly and generous.



0470 62 92 92

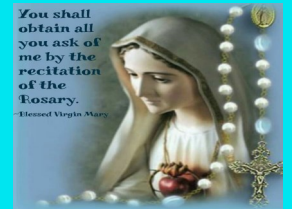
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Fifteen Promises of the Rosary

In the thirteenth century, Saint Dominic and Blessed Alan received the following promises from Our Lady for all those who faithfully pray the Rosary:

1. To all those who shall pray my Rosary devoutly, I promise my special protection and great graces.
2. Those who shall persevere in the recitation of my Rosary will receive some special grace.
3. The Rosary will be a very powerful armor against hell; it will destroy vice, deliver from sin and dispel heresy.
4. The rosary will make virtue and good works flourish, and will obtain for souls the most abundant divine mercies. It will draw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
5. Those who trust themselves to me through the Rosary will not perish.
6. Whoever recites my Rosary devoutly reflecting on the mysteries, shall never be overwhelmed by misfortune. He will not experience the anger of God nor will he perish by an unprovided death. The sinner will be converted; the just will persevere in grace and merit eternal life.
7. Those truly devoted to my Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite my Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces and will share in the merits of the blessed.
9. I will deliver promptly from purgatory souls devoted to my Rosary.
10. True children of my Rosary will enjoy great glory in heaven.
11. What you shall ask through my Rosary you shall obtain.
12. To those who propagate my Rosary I promise aid in all their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Son that all the members of the Rosary Confraternity shall have as their intercessors, in life and in death, the entire celestial court.
14. Those who recite my Rosary faithfully are my beloved children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion to my Rosary is a special sign of predestination.



Source: <https://www.catholicity.com/prayer/promises.html>

St. Joseph's Church,
By email to: belgrave@cam.org.au

Dear St Joseph's,

Participation in the Virtual *Emerald Carols by the Lake* Finale



For the last two years the *Emerald Carols by the Lake* has been held, in the open, at the Bandstand at Emerald Lake Park. While the weather hasn't always blessed us, the events have been successful and have brought together quite large numbers of people (about 1200 last year) to celebrate the many dimensions of Christmas.

This year, and despite relatively small Covid-19 case numbers at the time of writing, we don't expect to be allowed to host a large open-air event.

So, like many other community occasions, for 2020, *Emerald Carols by the Lake* will be a virtual, on-line event. We have thought hard and long and come up with an exciting, interactive program – *Emerald Carols on the Couch*. It will involve lots of local people and will help us celebrate Christmas in a Covid-safe manner.

The last song at *Emerald Carols by the Lake* has always been the happy, uplifting "We wish you a Merry Christmas". This year, we want to do this song as a compilation of video clips of many of the groups that make up the Emerald community singing this song together – in much the same way as the ABC often does "I am, you are, we are ... Australian".

We are not looking for a virtuoso performance, just people, of a particular, distinguishable, Emerald group, singing it together – and building together to a real and uplifting finish to the Carols program. **The purpose of this letter is to ask you to be one of the (about) 20 groups in the community who participate.**

Should you agree to this we will provide you with a set of instructions, the words to the song and a backing tape (so that we all sing in the same key). All that is required technically is an iPhone or similar and a bit of care to set it up well – again we will provide some guidance on that and limited technical support if needs be.

We would be delighted to hear from you one way or another **by 23 October 2020**. Please email a response to this letter to me at the contact details listed below.

Thank you for considering this request,

Russell Soderlund
For *Emerald Carols by the Lake/on the Couch*
M: 0400 117 360
E: russell.soderlund@bigpond.com

Under the auspices of

st.mark's church
emerald

Supported by Cardinia Shire Council





#17 UPDATE: GENERAL GUIDELINES

COVID-19 Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Information Updated: Monday 28 September 5.00pm

The following Guidelines are approved by Most Rev Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne, to assist Clergy and Faithful with questions pertaining to specific areas of liturgy and ministry in the Archdiocese of Melbourne during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In response to the **latest directives announced by Government as part of the proposed Roadmaps for the reopening of the Metropolitan and Regional areas of Victoria**, the following will become operational **for Metropolitan Melbourne only, from 11:59pm on 27 September, 2020.**

METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE STEP TWO Summary

- Curfew:** no longer in place.
- Public Gatherings:** up to 5 people outdoors (from 2 families).
- Religious Gatherings:** Can also take place outdoors with five people plus a faith leader. Must be adjacent to the place of worship with only one group permitted at a time. You can only travel up to 5km from your home to attend a gathering and only for 2 hours.
- Weddings:** Permitted in outdoor public spaces allowed with up to 5 people (the couple and the two witnesses). The faith leader and children under 12 months not included.
- Funerals:** allowed with up to 10 mourners (infants under 12 months of age or people required to conduct the funeral not included in the limit). A separate grouping of mourners may not come in to remove the coffin from the church.
- End of Life and Care:** Faith Leaders may attend a dying resident or provide end of life support to a resident in their home or in a Health or Care facility at the request of the patient. Visits may also be made to support a patient or resident with their emotional or mental wellbeing if it cannot be done remotely. Such care must be undertaken in co-operation with the particular facility and in line with other visiting restrictions and facility guidelines.
- Visitors to the Home:** If living alone or a single parent, one visitor may be nominated to create a 'social bubble.'
- Work:** Continue to work from home.
- REVIEW:** DHHS Victorian Roadmap for Metropolitan Melbourne

STEP TWO – Metropolitan Melbourne

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 27 September 2020 and until otherwise directed:

- All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services are to remain closed except for permitted ceremonies. • **RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS:** permitted with a limit of five people, plus one faith leader. Must be adjacent to the place of worship with only one group permitted at a time. You can only travel up to 5km from your home to attend a gathering and only for 2 hours. Signage, directions and sanitising stations must be clearly available. Contact Records must be kept
- **WEDDINGS:** permitted in outdoor public spaces with a maximum of 5 attendees, including the couple and two witnesses, but not including the celebrant. Children under 12 months are also exempted from the number. Weddings do not need to occur proximate to a place of worship.
- **FUNERALS:** will be limited to 10 mourners (**infants under 12 months of age not included in this number**). A separate grouping of mourners may not come in to remove the coffin from the church. You can travel to a funeral outside of metropolitan Melbourne. Restrictions apply based on the location of the funeral, and limits to numbers also apply.
- **BAPTISMS:** may be celebrated under the outdoor gathering limits. Note specific hygiene around use of oils and water (refer further in these Guidelines). This allows for 5 people including the faith leader outdoors (a child under 12 months not included), meeting all hygiene and distancing precautions and recording names and contact details of all present.
- **LIVESTREAMING:** a limit of 5 in total may be present, including the celebrant.
- **VISITATIONS: Homes:** Under Stage 4 restrictions, faith leaders may visit someone in their home on request to share spiritual ministry (or equivalent religious services) to provide care and support to a person who is at the end of their life. It is critical measures like face coverings and physical distancing are observed, and that the travel to the person's home and the visit are limited to what is reasonably required and necessary (e.g. only required attendees should visit and just for the service).

Hospitals or Care Facilities: Under Stage 4 restrictions, faith leaders may visit someone in a hospital or care facility to share spiritual ministry (or equivalent religious services) to those who are at the end of their life, or if it would support a patient or resident with their emotional or mental wellbeing, in line with other visiting restrictions and if this support cannot be provided remotely. It is important to note that strict limits on visitors apply in these circumstances. It is critical measures like face coverings and physical distancing are observed and these visits are limited to what is reasonably required and necessary (e.g. a visit has been requested by a patient). Such services can also be provided using video or live streaming, depending on religious tradition.

• **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.

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.**