

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 73:20,19,22,23

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

A reading from the first book of the Kings

1 Kings 19:9.11-13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

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

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Romans 9:1-5**

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Psalm 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia! I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word. **Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Matthew 14:22-33**

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf John 6:51

The bread that I will give, says the Lord, is my flesh for the life of the world.



Next week's readings

- First Reading:** Isaiah 56:1.6-7
- Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4
- Second Reading:** Romans 11:13-15. 29-32
- Gospel:** Matthew 15:21-28



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

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 | |

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 12th/13th August, 2023

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Although divine power is manifested in dramatic ways, it is also present in what is unassuming. Traces of God can be seen in the delicacy of a violet, in a cool summer breeze, in the blush of innocence, in the fiery eyes of justice. Every one of us lives in the midst of God, breathes the breath of God's life, and is constantly touched by the exquisite artistry of God's creativity. Life itself is a mountain experience of God.

As wonderful as life may be, it can also be very frightening at times. There are misunderstandings and rancour, jealousy and vindictiveness, greed and a hunger for power. Our personal lives can come unravelled and we can feel that we are genuinely 'at sea'. Every human being is tossed about by the exigencies of life. It is at times like these that we need faith in Jesus. Even though we do not recognise him, he is there in the midst of our chaos. Having the power of God, he is the definitive champion of all chaos, and so he is able to allay our fears and calm the sea.

A true experience of God, whether it be within the ordinariness of life or one of life's tribulations, is both transformative and effusive. It is a reality that cannot be contained; it must be proclaimed. Disciples must be ready to do what they can in order that the good news of God's revelation be made known to others.



<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023Aug13/0/RefDiBer>

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2023 — Month of August

August - For World Youth Day - We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

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

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 :
Child Safety Contacts: Jeanette Wicks 97542759
 Monica Rayner
 Chairperson — Dennis
 Sue Luxford

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Monbulk:
 David Bhoynz

Belgrave: Rita McPherson

Gembrook: Dennis G. and Irene Reed

Emerald:

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

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE
 Principal: Declan McDermott
 Phone: 9754-4444
 Email: principal@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

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:

Joy Goodie, John Maganana, Henri Donker, Irene Bryne Mullan, Lorraine Furness, Dale Furnace, Michael Mulcahy, Howard Banks, Thomas Blunden, Jack Maher, Gerrit Donker, Alan Newman, Bartelo 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: 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, Margaret Gilhooly, 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 Willough-

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



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

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at hadmin@cam.org.au

The Gospel & reflection

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.dow.org.au/welcome-to-faith-circles-2023-year-a/&ved=2ahUKewjloajFLL-AAxWJSWwGHTzJCNYQFnoE-CA4QAQ&usg=AOvVaw3GKXmAvPBXo4rqN8l6aeoor>

Mindfulness & Meditation – Saturday, 28 August 2023, 10 am – 3.30 pm (in-person)

When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. Facilitated by Paola Cheng who is a Spiritual Director, mental health social worker and meditation teacher, this is a day of prayer in the practice of Mindfulness and Meditation. We invite you to bring an open mind and heart to journey with others and within oneself. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/mindfulness-meditation/> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost: \$60 (BYO Lunch)

In the spirit of reconciliation, Heart of Life acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia, and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.



Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern, Victoria 3144, Australia

Tel: (03) 9890 1101 Email: info@heartoflife.melbourne Web: www.heartoflife.melbourne



Catholic Care Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the Catholic Care Victoria Sunday Appeal.

CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your compassionate generosity will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing unemployment and homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing grief and trauma.

Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your compassion and generosity will help the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community.

You can donate using the appeal envelope available or donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.

CatholicCare Victoria ABN 51 857 084 361 East Melbourne Office: PO Box 196, East Melbourne VIC 8002 **T:** (03) 9287 5517

E: fundraising@catholiccarevic.org.au

W: www.catholiccarevic.org.au



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 15th August



The feast day mass on 15th August at 9.00am and 6pm mass at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave.

The feast of the Assumption is always a Holy Day of Obligation for both Roman and Eastern-rite Catholics, on which they are obliged to participate the mass or Divine Liturgy.

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
You have conquered the power of death
And opened for humanity
The hope of eternal life in body and soul.
You granted your Mother
A share in heavenly glory,
And did not allow decay to touch her body.
As we rejoice in the Assumption of Mary,
Grant us new confidence in the victory of life over death,
And renewed reverence for the human body.
As we honor Mary, Assumed into Heaven,
May we proclaim the hope of Your Gospel:
That you want every human life seated on your throne.
May that hope strengthen us to protect every life here on earth.
You live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

<https://www.priestsforlife.org/novenas/novena.aspx?id=36>

Spanish teen says she regained her sight at World Youth Day Mass

LISBON, Portugal (OSV News) -- World Youth Day is known as an event that can and does change lives, but when a teenager said she has regained her sight during the Portuguese youth fair, it electrified both Portugal and Spain on Aug. 6.



Two and a half years ago, Jimena, a 14-year-old girl from Madrid, lost 95% of her sight due to a problem related to her myopia. Being a teenager, she was still using her cell phone, but only for audio messages. Over the course of her disease, she had begun to learn Braille to read with her hands.

Last week, she traveled to World Youth Day in Lisbon with her Opus Dei youth club, El Vado, from the popular Madrid neighborhood of Vallecas. Because of her visual impairment, she was registered as a handicapped pilgrim. On Aug. 5—the first Saturday of the month and the day when Pope Francis prayed the rosary with sick young people in Fatima—Jimena got up like every day, with blurred vision.

After praying to Our Lady of the Snows, whose feast day it was, and after having completed the novena to Our Lady with her classmates, Jimena went to Mass. When she returned to her seat after receiving Communion, she realized she had recovered her sight.

“When I opened my eyes I saw perfectly!” she said in a WhatsApp audio message that she sent to her family and friends, that has since gone viral.

“After Communion I sat on the bench, I started crying a lot because it was the last day of the novena and I wanted to ... I asked God very much (for this), and when I opened my eyes, I saw perfectly,” she said.

The healing was so instantaneous that at the end of that same Mass, Jimena got up and read the last prayer of the novena clearly and aloud, to the astonishment and joy of her friends present at the church.

The audio continues with her being surprised at seeing her “older” classmates (she had not seen them for more than two years), and then asking for a mirror to see herself, after which she admitted: “I am a little changed, too.”



<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2023/08/08/miracle-fatima-sight-wyd-245809>