

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Is 2:1-5

The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans Rom 13:11-14

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 24:37-44

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Ps 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



Next week's readings

First Reading: Is 11:1-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7

Second Reading: Rom 15:4-9

Gospel: Mt 3:1-12



St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave

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 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	

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A - 27th November, 2022

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

We may be accustomed to think of Advent as the time when we prepare for the coming of God, but the readings also train our attention on our own journey to God. We see this most clearly in this first Sunday with readings that tell us the identity of the pilgrims, the destination toward which they travel, and the way of life that is required of them on their journey. As the Vatican Council has proclaimed: We are a pilgrim people.



Both the reading from Isaiah and the psalm response speak of the pilgrimage to the mountain of the Lord, the place where God can be found. Although the psalm speaks about Jerusalem and refers to the temple there, the broader theological significance of the mountain, the city and the temple is one and the same. They represent the presence of God in our midst, and this presence is the goal of our striving. There are clear directions about how we are to live while we are on this pilgrimage to God. In Isaiah we learn that we must put away our instruments of violence and hatred, our swords and our spears. Lest we pick them up again, we are told to convert them into life-producing implements, into ploughs and pruning hooks. Paul exhorts us to put away our deeds of darkness and self-indulgence and to clothe ourselves instead in the deeds of Jesus Christ. Matthew points out the need for alertness, attentiveness, a disposition that is open to a change of heart.

[First Sunday of Advent Year A \(liturgyhelp.com\)](http://liturgyhelp.com)

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson — Dennis

Monbulk:

Peter van Haaster

Belgrave:

Gembrook:

Rita McPherson , Louise Jans and
Samantha Willis

Emerald:

John Conway & Dennis

Mt. Dandenong:

Matha Billington and Stephen Billington

**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: Heinz Huber, the husband of Marilyn Huber. (Mass manager at St. Joseph's Church, Emerald.)

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

Anniversaries:

Nelly Van Raay, Edith Bramwell, Gerry Ruigrok, John van Graas.

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.

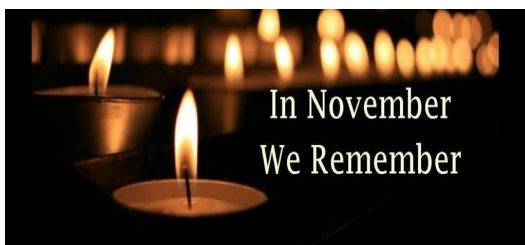
Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, Diane Kamoen, Cameron DiCasio, Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, 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, Robert Drake, Joan Munday, 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.**

Novena for all souls

In November we remember and pray for all the faithful departed and the holy souls in Purgatory. You may also begin our traditional 'All Souls' Novena, say any consecutive nine days. The flyers are available at St. Thomas More Church foyer.

Honor your loved ones by entering their names on the Church Memorial book.



Letter from the Bishops of Victoria State Election 2022

The Bishops of Victoria have written to the Catholic community in Victoria to provide an election guide designed to help Catholics consider and navigate key issues of significance, particularly those related to the common good. You are invited to read the guide and to prayerfully discern how your vote can contribute to the common good. The guide can be found at:

www.melbournecatholic.org/stateelection2022.

Prayer for the State Election

*Heavenly Father,
You are the source of goodness, justice and truth.
We thank you for the many freedoms we enjoy in
Australia,
including free and fair elections.*

*We entrust to you the State of Victoria and all who
live within it.*

*We pray for the gift of wisdom ahead of the upcoming
election.*

*Guide us in our deliberations, so we may seek to
elect representatives
who will work tirelessly to pursue the common good
in all things.*

*We pray for all those standing for election and their
families.
May all those elected work diligently to build a more
just society.*

*May our local community of Victoria be a place where
peace and justice flourish, religious freedom is re-
spected,
and all people, especially the most vulnerable
are valued, respected and cared for.*

*And may we each renew our commitment to do the
same ourselves –
Following the example of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in
all things.
Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.*

Amen.

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mr. Declan McDermott as the Principal of St. Thomas More Primary School, Belgrave.

We are all very excited to have you as part of our parish team and look forward to years of fruitful co-operation and contribution to the success of our school. We wish you the best of success in your post.

Congratulations!

Fr. Anthony Cruz

First Sunday of Advent - 27th November (Holy day obligations)

Baptism

Let us welcome **Rupert James Walker and Patrick Rafferty Walker** into our faith community as they are going to be baptised this weekend at St. Paul's Church Monbulk. May they be richly blessed throughout their lives, constantly being aware of the unconditional love and Mercy of God.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023.

Email: somml@bigpond.com

(preferred for contact) Tel: 9326 1895



HELP REQUIRED:

Over the next two weeks there are some major repairs being done to the 'counting room' at the parish. A window will be removed, a new wall formed, and reinstating all other woodwork. This provides a good opportunity to paint the room before the new carpet is laid after which all the furniture can be moved back.

We are looking for a couple of people to help with the painting of the room and then some help to reinstate the room back into a working office.

If you can help please ring Patrick Coyne on 0418585834. Let's share the load!!

"Candlelight Vigil for Ukraine and world peace:

Father Cruz will recommence the Candlelight Vigil including Mass, private prayer and the Rosary, offered for the end of the war in Ukraine and for peace in the world. This intention is also one of the requests of Mary the Mother of God, when she appeared in Fatima to three peasant children, several times in 1917.

Let's Storm Heaven for the End of the Ukraine War:

There are only 5 weeks left (this Vigil will end just before Christmas) to come and join in prayer for the end of the Ukraine War. These suffering people need so much of our prayers for what they are enduring, and that Russia will withdraw without further damage to the infrastructure of Ukraine, as winter approaches. 8pm - 8.15pm. **Wednesday evening till Christmas.**

- 7 pm Mass
- 7.30 Private prayer
- 7.45 Rosary
- 8.00 Benediction
- 8.15 Finish.



Everyone is welcome to attend.

Summer School of Evangelisation 2023

Date: 15- 22 January, 2023

For more information visit:

[Summer School of Evangelisation Melbourne
\(ssemelbourne.org.au\)](http://ssemelbourne.org.au)

THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU

I just want say a very big **THANK YOU** to everyone who in anyway was involved in last Sunday's craft/ cake/etc stall. Whether was by making/baking/selling or buying.

The result exceeded my greatest expectation (hope). What was left over by way of eateries here in Belgrave was taken to Monbulk, and in total we raised \$1032.

That is just a phenomenal result and proves once again that the spirit of goodness and generosity within our communities is second to none.

Well done everyone and - yes, we may run such an event again - but not till at least halfway into next year.

Marianne Kuyper

