

## Second Sunday of Lent Year B

**Entrance Antiphon:** Of you my heart has spoken,  
Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide  
not your face from me.

### A reading from the book of Genesis

**Gen 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18**

#### *The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith*

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9**

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted.'  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful. (R.)

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans  
Rom 8:31-34**

#### *God did not spare his own Son.*

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**See Mt 17:5**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

**Mk 9:2-10**

#### *This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Communion Antiphon:** This is my beloved Son,  
with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

**Next week's readings:**

**First Reading: Ex 20:1-17**

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

**Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:22-25**

**Gospel: Jn 2:13-25**



# Parish of Belgrave

## The Catholic Church

**P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160**  
**Phone:** 97542141  
**Office Hours:** 10am–2pm Tuesday to Friday  
**Internet:** [pol.org.au/belgrave](http://pol.org.au/belgrave)  
**Email:** [belgrave@cam.org.au](mailto:belgrave@cam.org.au)

*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 Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	6.00pm Vigil Mass	9.00am	9.00am	10.30am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am	

### Homily for the Second Sunday of Lent Year B — 28th February 2021

In this second Sunday of Lent God is inviting us to the mountain. Biblically, mountains are places of , preparation, meditation, change, encounter with God and consequently spiritual advancement. In Ex. 31:18, after the tablets of the law were given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. In 1Kg. 19:9-18, on Mount Horeb Elijah encountered God. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus went to the mountain to pray and was fortified to face the devil's temptation. The three readings of today talk about three mountains that are very important to every child of God: Mount of Moriah as we see in the first reading, the mount of Calvary alluded by St. Paul in the second reading and the mount of Tabor where the transfiguration of Jesus took place according to the gospel reading.

The three mountains accordingly represent different stages of our journey as Christians. Mount Moriah is a place of test. God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice his only son and he was proven to be a man of faith. There is big difference between temptation and test. Last Sunday the devil tempted Jesus, this Sunday God tests Abraham. The devil tempts us to destroy but God tests us to build us. Only those who are tested are trusted and rewarded by God. The test goes with pain and uncomfortable circumstances of which Calvary reminds us. St. Paul refers to the suffering of Jesus on the Calvary mountain in the second reading when he says "He (God) did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all..." So if you are going through the Calvary stage of Christian life remember that it does not end there. There is another mountain, Tabor.

Mount Tabor is a mount of glory. Jesus manifests the glory of his resurrection. It represents the goal of our life which is the glory of heaven. Through his transfiguration Jesus shows us the glimpse of what is lying in wait for us. So when you stand on the plains of Moriah, do not be discouraged by the scourges of Calvary and look beyond to see the glory of Tabor.

So it was on this Tabor that Jesus took Peter, James and John (his closest apostles) to pray. While he was praying, he was transfigured. The word transfiguration in Greek is "metamorphosi," meaning, "to change into another form". He change to the form of glory prefiguring the resurrected body. His face was dazzling and his garment whiter than anything we can think of. Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared. These men were the two pillars of the Old Testament. Moses on the one hand was the great lawgiver. Elijah on the other hand was the great prophet. Christ, making them three, is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets. Thus, the history of Israel was complete on the mountain. Moses and Elijah were probably discussing Christ's passion with him which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem and Jesus was to lead the "new Israel" in the "new exodus" out the slavery of sin. This event took place after the prediction of the Passion and death at Caesarea Philippi.

After the prediction by Jesus that he was to suffer in the hands of the rulers, the disciples were dismayed and disenchanted for it was inconceivable that the Messiah would suffer. There was an air of doubt among the disciples concerning if Jesus was truly the Messiah, and if he was truly on the right course. Jesus' transfiguration in the presence of the three apostles was to make them understand that the suffering of the Messiah is not the end of the road for him but a good means to a glorious end.

<https://www.catholicforlife.com/homily-2nd-sunday->

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:**  
**Phone:**  
**Parish Secretary:**  
**Parish Office:**  
**Sacraments :**  
**Child Safety Contacts:**  
**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**  
**Monbulk:**  
**Belgrave:**  
**Gembrook:**  
**Emerald:**  
**Mt. Dandenong:**

**Fr. Anthony Cruz** [anthony.cruz@cam.org.au](mailto:anthony.cruz@cam.org.au)  
**87518112.**  
**Email:** [belgrave@cam.org](mailto:belgrave@cam.org).  
**97542141**  
**belgrave@cam.org.au**  
**Maria Mc9754 5200 & Jeanette Wicks 97542759**  
**Chairperson — Andrew Jans 0419590155**  
**Rin Van Raay**  
**Marie Madden**  
**Pam Giulieri**  
**John Conway & Lisa McLean**  
**Stephen Billington & Virginia Schneiders**

#### **ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE**

Principal: Caroline Quinton  
 Phone: 9754-4444  
 Email: [cquinton@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cquinton@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au)

#### **ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK**

Principal: Michael Watt  
 Phone: 9756 7201  
 Email: [principal@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au](http://www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au)

### Places of Worship and Religious Gatherings

- Record Keeping is still required for all attendees beyond a 15-minute visit – and must include: First Name, Last name, Contact Number, Date and Time at which the person attended the place of worship. Records must be kept for 28 days;
- Please wear a face covering at all times as we may not be able to maintain 1.5m social distance. (Children under 12 years of age are exempt from wearing masks.)
- Those who can't wear masks for lawful reason must maintain 1.5m social distance.
- We can have the following numbers of the participants in each mass centre.

**Belgrave - 90 people**

**Emerald - 40 people**

**Monbulk - 60 people**

**Gembrook - 40 people**

**Please sign in before you enter the Church with your *name and your contact number.***

#### First Friday Devotions at St Thomas More, Belgrave

Mass at 9am. After the Mass, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary Prayed with the Blessed Sacrament Exposed. There are twelve promises given to St Margaret Alacoque about the First Friday. We need to do 9 consecutive first Fridays. There are flyers in the foyer

#### First Saturday Devotions at St Thomas More, Belgrave

Mass at 9am. After the Mass, Rosary is prayed with the Blessed Sacrament Exposed. During the holy hour of Adoration, Priest is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our Lady of Fatima asked for 5 consecutive Saturdays. To learn more about this request from Our Lady we need to learn more about Fatima flyers in the foyer.

**Fr. Anthony Cruz**

### Lenten Program at St. Thomas More Belgrave

**Station of the Cross on Every Friday at 7.00pm**



**The Sacrament of Reconciliation - Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am — 10.15am**

**Holy Hour — Tuesday to Saturday - 9.30am to 10.15am**



#### #27 UPDATE: GENERAL LITURGICAL GUIDELINES

COVID-19 Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Information Updated: Ash Wednesday - 17 February 2021, Midday. 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 directives announced by Government as part of its Roadmap for the reopening of the State of Victoria, the following is operational from 11.59pm Wednesday 17 February 2021.

Following a 5-day 'circuit - breaker' period of lockdown, Victoria is now returning to the "COVIDSafe Summer" phase, with some small areas of note. (see below).

#### Places of Worship and Religious Gatherings

All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services may open for permitted religious ceremonies.

☑ Religious gatherings can be held indoors or outdoors. Venues must apply the 1 person per two square metre rule to ensure people have enough room to maintain 1.5 metres distance between them. There are no group limits other than the density quotients;

☑ The two square metre rule can be used only if electronic record keeping is used, otherwise, the four square metre rule must apply. The square metre rule doesn't include babies under 12 months of age;

☑ Record Keeping is required for all attendees beyond a 15-minute visit and must include: First Name + Contact Number + date and time at which the person attended the place of worship. Records must be kept for 28 days;

☑ People must carry a fitted face covering at all times. Fitted face coverings must be worn indoors by all participants unless they have a lawful exemption or are children under 12 years of age. It is advised that fitted face coverings be worn outdoors if a distance of 1.5m cannot be maintained. Those with a lawful exemption for not wearing a face covering (over 12 years of age) must maintain the 1.5m distancing at all times and should be recorded as being exempt and attending without a face covering;

☑ Hygiene precautions must continue to be maintained throughout;

☑ Doors must remain closed to prevent public access if there is no-one available to ensure that particular number limits are maintained; ☑ A place of worship can have indoor or outdoor religious gatherings at the same time. Ceremonial participants other than faith leaders are included in the two square metre rule only if electronic record keeping is used. Otherwise, the four square metre rule applies; ☑ Places of worship can continue to be open for essential public support services. Essential public support services include food banks, help for people experiencing homelessness or other essential activities. A distance of at least 1.5 metres must be kept between people.

**REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:**

**Recent deaths:** Paul Selvanathan. Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

**Anniversaries:** Barrie Hood, Rosemary Hogan, Maria Costellano, Bill Holland, Elsie Rochford.

Dear parishioners

May I request you all your prayers for my first cousin (brother), Paul Selvanathan (38), who passed away yesterday in the state of Tamil Nadu, India owing to a motor bike accident. May the good Lord in His mercy and compassion grant him eternal rest. May our loving Lord console the grieving family members as well. Fr. Anthony Cruz

**Prayers for the Sick:** We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Lil Warner, Fiona, Margaret Gilhooly, 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, 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.

**Prayer to St Joseph**

St Joseph,

You were receptive to God working in your life. Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.

You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need.

You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love.

You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.

You spent your life in service: may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days.

You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us to grow in faith and pray to the Father, *Thy will be done.* Amen.



**BAPTISM:** To arrange a Baptism in the Parish, please phone the parish office during the office hours on 97542141.



**NEW! Junior Learning Hub**  
Designed with the 'Walker Learning Approach' - a Play and Project-based Pedagogy.

**SCHOOL TOURS 2021**

Tuesday 2 March - 9.15am  
Thursday 18 March - 9.15am  
Wednesday 21 April - 9.15am

We also welcome tours by appointment

**TASTER DAYS 2021**

Preschoolers with Parents Invited  
PUPPET PLAY - Thursday 29 April  
TECHNO KIDS - Tuesday 11 May  
MINI MASTER CHEF - Monday 17 May  
GARDEN GNOMES - Friday 28 May  
Sessions are 9.30am to 10.30am  
- Register via our website -

**St Thomas More School**  
Reynolds Lane Belgrave - 9754 4444 - www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au

**Music & Movement for Preschoolers with Jael**

- returns in 2021 during School Terms -

Supporting our local community, St Thomas More School Belgrave, will continue to offer music and movement sessions for our local Preschoolers.

**Half hour sessions 9.30am Friday mornings in our School Hall ONLY \$1.00**

Come and enjoy a cuppa while your budding dancers experience the music, movement and colour of traditional dance from around the world.

Jael is an experienced dance instructor with Early Years accreditation/WWCC & Child Safety requirements.

For many years, she has worked as a Learning Support Officer at St Thomas More with a focus on wellbeing and wellness programs.

Due to COVID 19 restrictions please BYO Tea and Coffee

Families are encouraged to keep up to date with COVID-19 restrictions that may impact this program



**St Thomas More School**  
Reynolds Lane Belgrave - 9754 4444 - www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au