

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B

**Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 65:1-2**

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15. 17-19**

*You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.*

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9. R. v.7**

*Lord, let your face shine on us.*

**A reading from the first letter of St John**

**1 John 2:1-5**

*Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.*

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation Luke 24:32**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. **Alleluia!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke  
Luke 24:35-48**

*It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.*

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon Luke 24:35**

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

### Next Sunday Readings

**First Reading** Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22

**Second Reading** 1 John 3:1-2

**Gospel** John 10:11-18



# 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 EASTER YEAR B - 13th/14th April, 2024***

### ***REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA***

The first sentence of the gospel reading sets the context for the themes of today: 'Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.' Who is the Jesus that they recognised? And what does this recognition require? Jesus is the servant of the God of the early ancestors, the long awaited messiah, and the innocent sufferer portrayed in the prophetic tradition. He is the fulfilment of our deepest aspirations. When we gather around the table for the sacramental meal, we encounter the Risen Lord. There the sacred traditions of our religious heritage are opened for us and we are enabled to recognise him in the traditions and in the breaking of the bread. In order to encounter the Risen Lord in the breaking of the bread and in the breaking open of the word, we need docile hearts ready to embrace the deepest meaning of our religious heritage. We need hearts that have been purified in the love of God; hearts that have been totally transformed. The commandment of love requires nothing less.



Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people described in the first reading, must live reformed lives. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the people addressed in the second reading, must be obedient to God's commandment of love. Having recognised the Risen Lord, we, like the disciples portrayed in the gospel, must preach the good news of God's forgiveness to all nations. Easter faith assures *us that all of this is possible.*

<https://liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Apr14/0/RefDiBer>

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

**For the role of women** — We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

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

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

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Anthony Cruz MC  
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 87518112.  
**Phone:** Mirani Perera  
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**Parish Secretary:** belgrave@cam.org.au  
**Parish Office:** Jeanette Wicks 97542759  
**Sacraments :** Monica Rayner  
**Child Safety Contacts:** Chairperson — Evie  
 Sue Luxford  
**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** David Bhoynz  
**Monbulk:** Evie and Irene Reed  
**Belgrave:**  
**Gembrook:**  
**Emerald:**

**ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE**  
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## **REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:**

**Recent deaths:** Kevin Colliss.

**Johannes Adrianus Schuyt (John)**, the husband of Elizabeth and the father of Louise, Johannes, Margaret .

- **Funeral mass for late Johannes Schuyt will be on Tuesday, 16th April at 11am at St. Paul's church Monbulk.**

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

## **Anniversaries:**

Laurence Maxwell Rolls, Yvonne Mitchell, Kathleen Dawson. Peter (Goff ) Martin, Thea Iaquinto, Dawn Taylor, Paul Kolemvs, Joshua Whyte, John Van Berghenegouwen, Maria Gawronski.

**Prayers for the Sick:** We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Flynn Kroeger, Verity Loke, Helen Bye, Anne Radocaj, Simon Kuyper John Barber, Dimuthu, Glen Butler, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, 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, 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 Picketh, 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.**

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

## **God and Beer April**

**Topic:** Divine and Human Fatherhood

**Speaker:** Brendan Triffet

**Date:** Monday 15th April

**Time:** 6.30pm dinner available for purchase, 7.30pm for the talk

**Cost:** Free (donations gratefully accepted)

**Venue:** Notting Hill Hotel ([Steakhouse Room](#)), 260-262 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill, VIC

**Register:** [Godandbeer.com.au](http://Godandbeer.com.au)

## **ADVANCE NOTICE**

Sunday May 12 is Mother's Day and we are once again calling all makers; bakers; sewers and growers to help us have another 'craft table' day on that Sunday.

If you are in anyway able to help us stock this event with home made items for selling on that day we would be most grateful.

The need to somehow raise funds for the various needs/projects around the parish centres is never ending and this is one small way in which we can be involved.

Many thanks in advance,

**Marianne Kuyper**

A message from Josie.

Dear Fellow parishioners. Leo and I first came to Belgrave from our honeymoon on 21/6/1955, at a time when Belgrave was part of the Ferntree Gully Parish. Fr. Handley, who built our schools and churches wanted to make St. Thomas Mores church a focal point in Belgrave..... well little did he know. I think he would be happy to see it now.

I have always loved our Parish logo. It clearly symbolizes **"The Catholic Church in the Dandenong Ranges"**, a parish united by faith and community. However, the project is unfinished. Our memorial garden, just behind the silo, is much improved, but with a low maintenance garden and some T.L.C. it could be wonderfully beautified as a way of respecting the names of our deceased loved ones.

It is with a grateful heart that I say "thank you ". Thank you for trusting me and thank you for your donations whether big or small. It was my dream, but it is your project. Josie.

PS: There will be an official blessing of the newly painted column (colloquially nicknamed the Silo) directly after the 9.00 am Mass on Sunday May 5. Everyone is cordially invited to be part of this blessing and we will put on a morning tea for all those who can stay on after Mass.

**(Marianne for Josie)**

## **NEED TO DISPOSE OF A VEHICLE?**

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process. Getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even finding a garage until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!). If you need to dispose of a vehicle from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, could you consider gifting it to the "Lifeboat Foundation", a registered charity with tax deductible status, which for ten years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors across Australia of church-related sexual abuse. Many of these suffer Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and have had limited or no employment., A donated vehicle could vastly improve their quality of life and / or generate much-needed funds to assist personal, medical and accommodation needs.

If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to "Lifeboat", contact Fr. Kevin Dillon ([frkdillon@outlook.com.au](mailto:frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or 0421 777 360) or Adam Kaali (0411 486 605 or [adam-kaali@hotmail.com](mailto:adam-kaali@hotmail.com)).

## 14 April (Third Sunday of Easter)

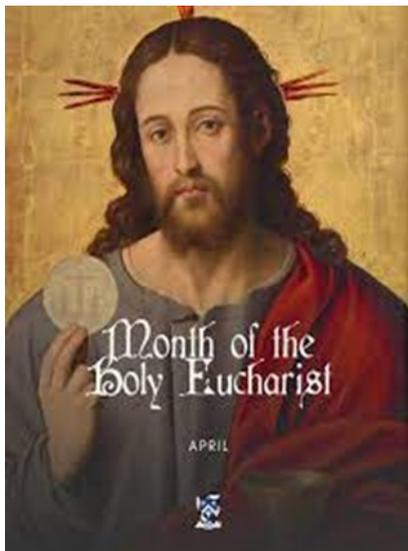
Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday – the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

**Catholic Vocations** Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002 Australia PO Box 146, East Melbourne VIC 8002 Australia Telephone: (03) 9926 5733 Email: vocations@cam.org.au

[www.vocations.melbournecatholic.org](http://www.vocations.melbournecatholic.org)



## The Importance of the Eucharist



How does one dare to speak of the Eucharist? It is hard to grasp the immensity of this rich, profound and generous gift of God to his children. Let me simply start with a statement from the General Instruction given to the church following Vatican II: “The celebration of the Mass ... is the center of all Christian life for the Church” (General Instruction, No. 1).

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus is remarkably hospitable; he loves to feed his flock. At the Marriage of Cana, the Lord turned six stone jars of water into surprisingly good wine. On other occasions, Our Lord miraculously multiplies the loaves and fishes in order to feed thousands of hungry followers. After the Resurrection, Our Lord grills fresh fish and invites several of the Apostles: “Come have breakfast.” All of these moments point in a most powerful way to the meal of all meals, the Last Supper and the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is the greatest of all of Jesus’ gifts. In this sacred meal, Jesus pledges to pour out his life for us and to feed us with his very self: “Take it; this is my body ... This is my blood of the covenant.” Jesus is our food for the journey, our nourishment for the narrow path to eternal life.

As Emmanuel, God-with-us, Jesus takes on our human flesh in order to walk our dusty streets, look us in the eye, heal us with his touch, preach with words we could understand, and die on the cross for us. Our Lord chooses to draw near; he offers a ministry of presence. Additionally, Jesus deeply desires to remain present to his flock until the end of time. He masterfully crafts a way to remain truly present (Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity) to his beloved disciples through the magnificent gift of the Eucharist.

As the Lamb of God, Jesus sacrifices his life for the flock and takes away the sins of the world. He lovingly and obediently surrenders his life to God the Father by his death on the cross to redeem the world from sin. Consequently, the Mass is also a sacrifice. When we celebrate the eucharistic mystery, we are made present to Jesus in his paschal mystery, which includes the moment when Jesus commended his spirit to the Father. The sacrifice is not multiplied; rather, the one eternal sacrifice is made present in a real, yet sacramental way. Additionally, we are invited to unite all of the sacrifices of our lives — our trials, our pain and our burdens — to his one sacrifice, which is offered to the Father for the salvation of the world. “This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many.”

As Splendor of the Father, Jesus is a most grateful Son. He knows that all good gifts, even the most difficult and hard-to-understand ones, come from his loving hand. Jesus regularly paused during his day and activities to recognize the goodness of his Father and to thank him. At the Last Supper, Jesus offers deep, heartfelt thanks to God, fully aware that he was on his way to painfully lay down his life. The Eucharist, at its heart, is an act of thanksgiving, a sacrifice of praise, rendered to God the Eternal Father for every gift he has bestowed upon us, most especially for the saving and healing work of his only-begotten Son.

For these and many other reasons, the Eucharist is immensely important to Christians. Vatican II’s General Instruction goes on to say, “For the Mass is the climactic expression of both the action whereby God in Christ sanctifies the world, and of the worship that mankind offers to the Father as it adores him through Christ, the Son of God ... All other sacred actions and all the works of Christian life are connected with the Mass, flow from it and are ordered to it” (General Instruction, No. 1).

Are you committed to growing in your love for the Eucharist?

*Fr. Peterson is director of mission and development for the Youth Apostles.*

<https://www.catholicherald.com/article/columns/the-importance-of-the-eucharist/>