

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Cf Psalm 42:1-2

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Hebrews 5:7-9

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

John 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

John 12:20-33

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: ‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’ A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’ By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

John 12: 24

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Next week's readings

First reading	Isaiah 50:4-7
Responsorial psalm	Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2
Second reading	Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel	Mark 14:1 – 15:47



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	

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B - 16th/17th March, 2024

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The moment of eschatological fulfilment gathers together the sense of the past ('the days when Christ was in the flesh'), the future ('the days are coming'), and the present ('the hour has come'). We live in the time when the past and the future are made present; we live in the 'already-but-not-yet' time of anticipation/fulfilment. This is a moment of great ambiguity, of fear and trepidation but of electric excitement. It is a moment of decision. We hover at the edge of dawn, weighing whether or not to step forward into the new day or to return to the darkness of night.

This 'hour' brings a new covenant, a deep interior relationship with God that is not based on law but which overflows from a commitment of the heart. It brings an abundant harvest that springs from a simple grain of wheat. It brings a promise from God's own Son that those who serve him will be honoured by God, and those who obey him will enjoy eternal life. Although the 'hour' brings all of these blessings, it only does so with a price. The new covenant could only be written on new hearts; the abundant harvest sprang from the dying grain of wheat; eternal salvation was won at the price of Christ's blood. As challenging as the message of these readings may be, the last note is one of hope. It can overcome the demons that control us, because it is the power of the almighty God.

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Mar17/0/RefDiBer>

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2024 — Month of March

For the new martyrs - We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

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

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

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 : Jeanette Wicks 97542759
Child Safety Contacts: Monica Rayner
 Chairperson — Evie
 Sue Luxford
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Monbulk: David Bhoynz
 Belgrave: David Bhoynz
 Gembrook:
 Emerald: Evie and Irene Reed

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: Nick Frederiksen

Phone: 9756 7201
 Email: nfrederiksen@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au
www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths:

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

Anniversaries: Tony O' Meara, Yvonne Mitchell, Kathleen Dawson. Peter (Goff) Martin, Thea Iaquinto, Dawn Taylor, Paul Kolemvas, Joshua Whyte, John Van Bergenhenegouwen, Maria Gawronski.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Vinesh Prasad, 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, Ingvyn 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 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.**

Reading Roster - 17th March

David Atkinson & Mo Cromar

Please note, the Divine Mercy Sunday Celebrations will not be held in Belgrave parish this year.

BAYSWATER - Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 25 Orange Grove.

For Novena details, see Parish Bulletin. St. Faustina's 1st Class relic will be available for veneration during the novena.

1pm Confessions. 3pm Procession, Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by Holy Mass.

Celebrant: Archbishop Peter Comensoli

Concelebrant: Fr. Sabu PP

Contact: Anne - 9720 2934 or Parish Office - 9729 2622



Melway:
64 F5

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

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: [Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

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

A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend is for YOU...

"Live Your Best Married Life in Love"

Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse.

This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living.

Every married couple deserves a Marriage Encounter weekend!!

The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details

Date: 12-14 April, 2024 in Melbourne

BOOK NOW

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au



Fifth Sunday of Lent - 16th/17th March

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Reconciliation and Station of the cross in Lent

St. Joseph's church Emerald

Station of the cross Saturday at 5pm—5.30pm

Reconciliation 5.30pm– 6pm (23rd March)

Sacred heart Church Gembrook

Reconciliation 7.50am - 8.50 am (17th March)

St. Thomas More church Belgrave

Reconciliation 19th March 7.30am – 8.45am

Saturday 9.45am—10.15am

Station of the cross every Friday at 7pm at St. Thomas more church Belgrave.

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

Mercy Melbourne

(A day of prayer and reconciliation)

St Thomas More Church, Belgrave on 19th March

- 6.00 pm Holy Mass (Mass of Solemnity of St Joseph, the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.)
- 6.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and silent adoration.
- 7.30 pm Praying the Holy Rosary followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 8.45 pm Benediction
- 9.00 pm Closing of the holy hour with a Hymn to Our Lady.

N.B

A priest will be available for confession in the confessional 7.30 to 8.40 pm.



Sacrament of Confirmation, Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist - St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave

Sacrament of Confirmation for students attending Non-Catholic Schools.

2024 Sacramental Program for students, not attending Catholic Schools:

Confirmation – 18 May 12 noon at St Thomas More's Belgrave

Reconciliation – 14 September St Thomas More's Belgrave

Eucharist – 15 September 11 AM at St Paul's in Monbulk

Preparation classes for Confirmation begins on Tuesday 16 April (for 5 weeks) at 4.30 pm in St Joseph's church in Emerald.

Preparation classes or Reconciliation begins on Wednesday 21 August (for 4 weeks) at 4.30 at St Joseph's church in Emerald.

Preparation classes for Eucharist begins on Tuesday 13 of August (for 5 weeks) at 4.30 at St Joseph's church in Emerald.

Parents may choose to enrol their children in both Eucharist and Reconciliation if they wish to.

To enrol, please contact the parish office during office hours on or before 28th March.

Telephone: 97542141

Email: belgrave@cam.org.au



God and Beer March

- Topic:** From Divine Comedy to Divine Mercy
- Speaker:** John Canavan
- Date:** Monday 18th March
- 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



Thursday of the Lord's Supper—28th March 7.30pm at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave — Washing of the Feet and Eucharist.

8.30 pm Solemn Reservation. Adoration.

Good Friday - 29th March:

10.00am. The Stations of the cross at Sumava Czech Centre, 46, Locks Way, Belgrave South. (Please DO NOT bring any food) but bring an umbrella if rain is forecast.

3.00pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord with Adoration of the Holy Cross and Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church, Monbulk.

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night —Saturday 30th March: 6.30pm at St. Thomas More Church, Reynolds Lane, Belgrave.

Blessing of the Fire. followed by the vigil Mass.

Sunday of the Resurrection — Easter Sunday 31st March:

6.30am -St. Joseph's Church, Emerald.

Blessing of the Fire, Holy Eucharist.

Please note also.... that breakfast will be served after the **Easter Dawn Mass at St. Joseph's church. All welcome**

9.00am - Easter day mass at Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook.

9.00am—Easter day mass St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave.

11.00am—Easter day mass at St. Paul's Church, Monbulk.