

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Entrance Antiphon **Jeremiah 29:11,12,14**

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

Give her a share in what she has worked for.

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1**

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians **1 Thessalonians 5:1-6**

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation **John 15:4. 5**

Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew **Matthew 25:14-15. 19-21**

Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon **Mark 11:23-24**

Amen, I say to you: Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you will receive, and it shall be given to you, says the Lord.



Next week's readings

First Reading:	Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17
Responsorial Psalm:	Ps 22:1-3, 5-6, R. see v.1
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28
Gospel:	Matthew 25:31-46



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	

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 18th/19th November, 2023

REFLECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

In the parable that Jesus tells in today's Gospel, the master praises the efforts of the first two servants, who used the talents they were given and improved upon them. The master criticises the action of the third servant, who hid the talent, did nothing, and was paralyzed with fear.

When have you been like the first and second servants, using your talents in a way that benefits yourself and others? When have you been like the third servant, not using your talents and not bringing benefit to yourself or others? The last few lines of this Gospel passage might seem to contradict Jesus' usual message about the last being first. This passage appears to be saying that the first will be even further ahead, and the last will be left behind. Is this contradiction troubling to you? Why or why not? How do you see it?

When Jesus speaks of the first becoming last and the last becoming first, he is usually speaking of humility and boastfulness. Those who pump themselves up are usually just full of hot air. Why would Jesus say that the humble ones are really the great ones?

When Jesus speaks of the rich ones getting more, and the poor ones losing what they have, he is speaking in terms of laziness and activity. Those who act in a lazy way usually become more lazy, and they lose any initiative they once had. What kind of activity is Jesus encouraging us to do?

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023Nov19/0/SMRE>

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

For the Pope - *We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

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

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

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

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REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Patsy Rawlins.

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

Anniversaries:

Dennis Williams, Joan Mary Joan, Anthony Dale, Eng-Seong Tan, Jim Goodie, Trudy Francis, Carmelo Dell'Universita, Stephen Manion, Nelly Van Raay.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Verity Loke, Helen Bye, 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, 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 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 - 19th November

Mo Cromar and Marianne Kuyper

Church Cleaning Roster

Loretta Gamely

Confession for Advent season

Belgrave

Friday and Saturday after mass (9.45am – 10.30am)

Gembrook

17th November - After mass (10am—11am)

Monbulk

10th/17th November - 10.30am—11am

Emerald

16th November—5pm—5.50pm



SAVE THE DATE! Night of the Witnesses – 22 November 2023, 7pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Aid to the Church in Need invites you to an evening of prayer, testimony, song, adoration and reflection to honour the witness of twelve recent Christian martyrs and to stand in solidarity with Christians all over the world who are suffering persecution for their faith in Jesus Christ. Archbishop Peter Comensoli will preside and His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph Absi of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church will be one of the international guest speakers who will share personal testimony of persecution for the faith. We hope you will join us. For more information please visit: www.aidtochurch.org/notw

 Aid to the
Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND



Baptism

Let us welcome **Sebastian Busacca** into our faith community.

May he be richly blessed throughout his life constantly being aware of the unconditional love and Mercy of God.



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 hadmin@cam.org.au





In November we remember and pray for all the faithful departed and the holy souls in Purgatory. You may also begin our traditional “All Soul’s novena, say any consecutive nine days. The flyers are available at St. Thomas More Church Foyer.

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

Important dates

- 21st November - The presentation of the blessed Virgin Mary
- 26th December - Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

ADVANCE NOTICE PLEASE NOTE THE DATE!! ADVANCE NOTICE

We are once again in the process of planning a “craft -cake - plants - goods” stall after the 9.00 am Mass at Belgrave on Sunday November 26.

Last year’s event was successful beyond our wildest imagination thanks to the mighty effort and generosity of many parishioners - makers and buyers alike.

The need to raise funds for any number of projects is ongoing. So we are putting out an ‘early bird’ request for all crafters/cake bakers/ growers/ etc in our parish to begin to think about what you might be able to create to add to this event to make it even better than last year’s. All donations will be most welcome.

Marianne Kuyper

Angel Tree

Dear Parishioners,

It is that time of year again - the Christmas season is upon us. It should be a time when everyone is happy, but this is not always the case. So many people are struggling to live day to day, and Christmas can become a very stressful time.

We, at St Paul’s Primary School, support Monbulk Care Network by having an Angel Tree, in the hope it can give a spark of joy back to families in our community who need it.

Please feel free to take an angel from our Christmas tree in the foyer at St Paul’s Primary School and return it attached to a wrapped gift, by Wednesday, 6 December 2023.

Thank you for your support in helping those who are less fortunate in our community.

Merry Christmas from the Mini Monbulkers

(St Paul’s Social Justice Group)



Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated annually on November 21st, commemorates the presentation of the Blessed Virgin as a child by her parents in the Temple in Jerusalem. Before Mary's birth, her parents received a heavenly message that they would bear a child. In thanksgiving for the God's gift of Mary's birth, they brought her to the Temple to consecrate their only daughter to The Lord. The celebration of the Feast is first documented in the 11th century within the Byzantine Catholic Church. It was introduced into the Roman Catholic Church in the 15th century by Pope Gregory XI, then removed from the calendar by Pope Pius V in the mid 16th century. Pope Sixtus V later reestablished the feast in 1585, and it is still celebrated today, commemorating the faith of her parents, Joachim and Anne, and the purity of Mary.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/feast-of-the-presentation-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-60>



- 3rd December - First Week of Advent
- 10th December - Second Week of Advent
- 17th December - Third Week of Advent
- 24th December - Fourth Week of Advent
- 25th December - Birth of Jesus