

Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Is 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 15:1-2. 22-29

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: 'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

Rv 22:12-14. 16-17. 20

I, John, heard a voice speaking to me: 'Very soon now, I shall be with you again, bringing the reward to be given to every man according to what he deserves. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Happy are those who will have washed their robes clean, so that they will have the right to feed on the tree of life and can come through the gates into the city.'

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to make these revelations to you for the sake of the churches. I am of David's line, the root of David and the bright star of the morning. The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' Let everyone who listens answer, 'Come.' Then let all who are thirsty come; all who want it may have the water of life, and have it free. The one who guarantees these revelations repeats his promise: I shall indeed be with you soon. Amen; come, Lord Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jn 17:20-26**

May they be joined as one.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, I pray not only for these, but for those also who through their words will believe in me. May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me. I have given them the glory you gave to me, that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, may they be so completely one that the world will realise that it was you who sent me and that I have loved them as much as you love me. Father, I want those you have given me

to be with me where I am, so that they may always see the glory you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Father, Righteous One, the world has not known you, but I have known you, and these have known that you have sent me. I have made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and so that I may be in them.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon : Jn 14:15-16

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

Next week's readings

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R. v.6

Second Reading: Heb 9:24-28. 10:19-23

Gospel Lk 24:46-53



St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160
Phone: 97542141
Office Hours: 10am–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 | |

Homily for the Sixth Sunday of Easter Year C - 22nd May, 2022

A story is told about a Roman soldier during the first centuries of Christianity. He was sent on a long military campaign, leaving behind his wife with child. While he was gone, his wife gave birth. Soon thereafter, she converted to Christianity, was baptized, and had her child baptized as well.

Meanwhile, the soldier also met some Christians and heard their explanations about the gift of faith and the grace of baptism. When he returned home, his wife was overjoyed to see him, but nervous about what his reaction would be to her baptism.

She decided to break the news gradually. First she showed him their child, casually mentioning that he had been baptized as a Christian. The husband looked shocked and became quiet. He looked again at the child, thoughtfully. Then he knelt down beside the crib. He bowed his head, closed his eyes, and started to pray silently. His wife was surprised. Kneeling next to him, she asked what he was doing. He looked at her and said, "I am praying to the one, true God. If our son has been baptized, he has himself become a holy place! Christ the Lord, his Father the Creator of all, and the living Holy Spirit have made their home in his heart, so we can pray to God there."

This may sound naïve and childish to some, but that is the truth. In Baptism, we have received the divine life, indelibly imprinted in our souls. We have in us the presence of the Triune God – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus declared: "We will come to him and make our dwelling with him." God resides in us. St. Paul is quite right in saying that we are the temples of the Holy Spirit.

Since eternity, this has been the desire of God – to be close to us, to be in us. That is precisely the reason for the Mystery of Incarnation. The Eternal Son of God took on the human nature to be one of us and to dwell in us. Unfortunately, we do not have this in mind. Instead of looking inside us and discover the presence of God, the source of true and lasting peace and happiness, we look for something else outside. This is the main reason why we cannot attain lasting peace, pure contentment and true happiness in our life. We are chasing something else outside – money, material things, power, prestige, human love and adulation – and we end up more frustrated and discouraged than ever. What is needed only is to obey God in love, and God will dwell in us. Then we will have peace, happiness and salvation.

Let us not look around, Instead, let us look inside us and discover the presence of God, the true source of happiness and peace. God is in us. He resides in our innermost being. Let us listen to Him, obey Him, and allow Him to work in us so that the world will finally be transformed into the Kingdom of God, a kingdom of peace, justice and love.

Source: <https://www.catholicforlife.com/year-c-homily-for-the-6th-sunday-of-easter-3/>

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson — Dennis

Monbulk:

Tony Whyte and Sue Luxford

Belgrave:

Evert Jansen and Mia Jansen

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

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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK

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REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Margaret Geri and Wilhelmina Kennet, the sisters of Henk Eyssens. Malcom Ballard. 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: Des O'Dwyer, Fr. Raymond Deal, Carmine Parente, Joseph Gawronski, Doris Peart, Bill Hitchcocok, Amber Kempster, August Langenegger, Betty Smart, Anthony Kosena, Annie Banks, Noreen Ring, Evan Glen.

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.

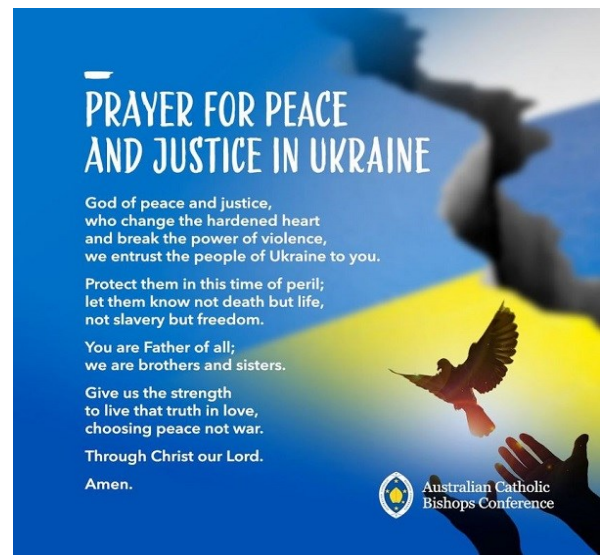
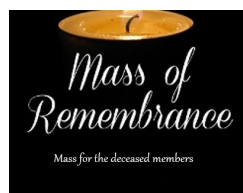
Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster. Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen 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, 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.

MASS TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

Sunday 22 May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne

In recognition of the significant impact of COVID in our families and communities, Archbishop Comensoli will celebrate a memorial Mass for all those who have died during the COVID pandemic and could not be mourned properly due to pandemic restrictions. Parishes and individuals are invited to submit the name (s) of those you would like remembered during the Mass by visiting the Holy Souls Chapel (inside St Patrick's Cathedral) during May or online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZKP7QF>.

The names will be placed in a book on the Sanctuary, to be prayed for during all Masses over the weekend of 21-22 May.



Positions Vacant

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

Catholic Development Fund – East Melbourne

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Executive Manager, Client Experience

Parish Positions

Parish Secretary, St Mark's Catholic Parish, Fawkner

Parish Secretary, St Luke's Parish, Lalor

Parish Secretary, Preston East

Parish Finance Officer, Nazareth Parish, Grovedale

Parish Secretary, Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Joseph's Parish, Middle Park & Port Melbourne

Parish Secretary, Our Lady of the Nativity Parish, Essendon West

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

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

The Sacrament of Confirmation on
28th May



St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave at 12pm

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk at 2pm

Celebrant: Rev. Fr. E.V. Tony Kerin

The parent and child workshop starts on Tuesday 26th April to 17th May at Parish office meeting room at 6.30pm. To enrol, please contact the parish office during office hours.

Tel : 97542141

email : belgrave@cam.org.au

Catholic Theological College

Online unit via Zoom

Teaching Meditation and Prayer

Four Saturdays:

18, 25 June; 8, 15 October

To enrol or for further information:

Undergraduate: dean@ctc.edu.au

Postgraduate: postgrad@ctc.edu.au



Catholic Theological College

Free online conference via Zoom

**"How do we know Christ now?"
Celebrating 50 years of CTC**

Friday 17 June 9.30am – 12.30pm

For further information visit our website: ctc.edu.au

Contact Dr Christopher Morris: christopher.morris@ctc.edu.au

**A message from Aid to the Church in Need
Australia:**



ACN has launched its "Helping form the Priests of Tomorrow" global campaign. For 75 years, the benefactors of *Aid to the Church in Need* have generously supported the formation of seminarians. In fact, some of these men now serve as priests in Australia today! At the current time, ACN is supporting some 15,000 seminarians on the path to the priesthood.

Please read and reflect on their stories and discern to help us, spiritually and financially, to form the priests of tomorrow.

These young men never cease to pray for the benefactors who assisted them on their journey. Thank you in advance for whatever you can do.

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/seminariansglobal

**Our Lady's 15 Promises to Those Who Pray Her
Rosary**

1. Whosoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the Rosary shall receive signal graces.
2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.
3. The Rosary shall be a powerful armor against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin and defeat heresies.
4. It will cause good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire for Eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means!
5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary shall not perish.
6. Whosoever shall recite the Rosary devoutly, applying himself to the consideration of its Sacred Mysteries, shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise him in His justice, he shall not perish by an unprovided death; if he be just he shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of Eternal Life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the Rosary shall not die without the Sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the Light of God and the plenitude of His Graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the Merits of the Saints in Paradise.
9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.
10. The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of Glory in Heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by recitation of the Rosary.
12. All those who propagate the Holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire Celestial Court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the Rosary are my Sons, and brothers of my Only Son Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion to my Rosary is a great sign of predestination.

Source: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/>