

First Sunday of Lent Year C

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 90:15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Dt 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the

Romans Rom 10:8-13

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to

Luke

Lk 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 90:4

The Lord will conceal you with his pinions, and under his wings you will trust.

Next week's readings:

First Reading:

Gen 15:5-12. 17-18

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

Second Reading:

Phil 3:20 - 4:1

Gospel

Lk 9:28-36



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

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 Saturday Confession 9.45 am	11.00am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am	

Homily for the First Sunday of Lent Year C - 6th March, 2022

On Ash Wednesday we began our journey with Christ. As a journey that will last for about six and half weeks, the Lenten season presents to us the opportunity of re-living the Paschal mystery of Christ. It exposes us to other dimensions of life, and thus, equips us for the glory of Easter.

This first Sunday of Lent, starts on a hopeful and joyful note. The readings bring in view concepts like faith, salvation and victory over sin. These remind us of the need to praise God for the great wonders he worked for our fathers in faith. Through our participation this Lent God is ready to extend the same wonders to us.

The first reading begins with a very brief account from Moses about how God delivered His chosen people Israel from bondage in the land of Egypt. Therefore, this reminds us of our own salvific journey. This Lenten season, we are on a journey to our salvation, and the hope of this salvation must sustain us throughout this season and beyond.

The second reading presents another dimension to this journey towards salvation. It presents faith as a necessary tool which must be manifested through our confessions. Without faith, it will be practically impossible to reach our destination. Faith in this case is the energy that motivates us as we march on. If along this journey this season, we become weary, turning to Jesus is the best option available to us. If we call upon Him in faith, we shall find the strength to continue. We cannot prevail in this journey by our own strength alone.

This season therefore, we are to be mindful of the fact that temptations abound, just as our Lord was tempted today by the devil in our gospel. It is important to note that the tempter is always looking for a point of contact or weakness. This was why, once he realized that Christ was very hungry he felt it was an opportunity to use Him. However, the good news is that the devil was wrong, because Christ did not give him the chance to use Him. Hence, the devil cannot succeed with us too if we do not open avenues for him in our lives.

We must not give the devil any chance this season and in our entire life time. Therefore, let us close all the avenues in the course of this journey by wearing the sign: "Road Closed or No Vacancy Here!" The avenues that must be closely guarded this season as the temptation of Christ teaches us include: The avenues of hunger and thirst for sin, the avenue of cheap popularity, vain glory, pride, and selfishness. These are obstacles to our spiritual growth, victory, and of course, to our salvation.

As Paul writes: "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but they are mighty through God for pulling down Strongholds (2 Cor. 10:4). Our weapons this season must include a very strong faith in God, prayer, uprightness, good works, and the word of God. This is because: "We do not fight" (this season only), against flesh and blood. But, against...powers of this dark age...the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm" (Eph 6, 10-12). Above all, we must allow the Holy Spirit to be in charge by being docile to Him.

Finally, trusting in the arm of our own flesh will not help us this season. This is because, it might fail us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, this season, God is absolutely ready to do for us what He did for our fathers in faith in ancient times. So, together with the psalmist today, let us unceasingly implore the Lord saying: "Be with me, O Lord in my distress."

Source: <https://frcanicenjoku.homily-for-1st-sunday-of-lent-year-c/>

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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
Principal: Caroline Quinton
Phone: 9754-4444
Email: cquinton@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au
www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au
ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK
Principal: Michael Watt
Phone: 9756 7201
Email: principal@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: Lorna Giulieri, Hoe Hoang, Mary Hilder, Joe Hilder, Bill Williams, Chris Madden, Fr. Joseph Micalleg, Fr. Thomas Sheeran, Angela Casey, Mary McInley, Sr. Joyce White.

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: 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.

Needed

The parish is seeking volunteers at each Mass Centre to act as **First Aid Officers**, who would assist persons in the need of basic first aid. Applicants will be given basic first aid training at no cost to them. Please consider.

The parish council is seeking volunteers at each Mass Centre to act as a commander who would, in the event of an incident, assess the situation and take initial control at their respective centre. Reporting to the parish council and to Fr Cruz.

We need to support Father as he administers our large parish. It is our parish, it is our responsibility to assist in the well-being of all.

All applications to Fr Cruz

**Dennis - Parish Pastoral Council
Chairperson**

Mission Spirituality Forum

The fruits of "Mission: One Heart, Many Voices"

You are warmly invited to join Luke Tobin, Catholic Mission's Mission Formation Educator for an informal online gathering of people interested in Mission Spirituality.

Reflect on the highlights of our recent conference, Mission: One Heart, Many Voices

Participate in interactive workshops which will focus on:

- How we all contribute to God's Mission
- Importance of dialogue and deep listening
- Embracing the dignity of difference

We will hold more sessions throughout the year, so if this date doesn't suit please indicate your interest in further invitations. We are aiming at small groups to allow time for people to interact with the content and engage in conversation with each other.

When: Thursday April 28 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm

Where: To register please go to: <https://forms.gle/NSMhcW5qRzDcf7Xy7>

For more information contact:

Mr Kevin Meese: mel-bourne.director@catholicmission.org.au

"I was created to

PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE

God of peace and justice,
who change the hardened heart
and break the power of violence,
we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril;
let them know not death but life,
not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all;
we are brothers and sisters.

Give us the strength
to live that truth in love,
choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

 Australian Catholic
Bishops Conference

Special Thanks to our Volunteers

Pastoral workers

Belgrave: Helen Garrick, Elizabeth Drake
David Atkinson.
Emerald Irene Reed, Eve Phillips
Monbulk Sue Luxford

First aid officers

Belgrave Helen Garrick, Christine Hadden and David Atkinson

We need first aid officers for other three mass centres and commander for all our mass centres.

Fr. Anthony Cruz



INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **Saturday 2 April 2022, 10:00 -11.45 am** at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne.

For more information:

A new Vocations website is under development, however the links below (copy, then paste) are working.

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 (9412 3357 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

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.melbournecatholic.org/vocations



Station of the Cross and Reconciliation

Thomas More Church Belgrave

Station of the cross on every Friday at 7pm



Baptism

Let us welcome **Tom Desmond Crough and Jasper Norman Kees Orr** into our faith community as they are going to be baptized this weekend at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave and St. Paul's Church Monbulk. May they be richly blessed throughout their lives, constantly being aware of the unconditional love and Mercy of God.



Project Compassion 2022

First Sunday of Lent 5 & 6 March

Anatercia 12, was struggling to cope with adult responsibilities after her father died. Then she participated in Caritas Australia- supported training and gained access to psychosocial supports.

Now, Anatercia can easily access clean drinking water, community members are able to grow healthy crops all year round, and there is enough nutritious food to eat. Anatercia feels better supported by her community, has more time to study and do her homework, and hopes to fulfil her dream of becoming a nurse.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

