

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 87:3

Let my prayer come into your presence.

Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

A reading from the first book of the Kings

1 Kings 17:10-16

The widow made a little scone from her flour meal and brought it to Elijah.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives', she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel: "Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."' The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2

Praise the Lord, my soul!

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Hebrews 9:24-28

Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance

once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs. **Alleluia.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark Mark 12:38-44

This poor widow has put more in than all who contributed.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.' He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called to his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf Psalm 22:1-2

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

Next Sunday Readings

First Reading [Daniel 12:1-3](#)

Responsorial Psalm [Ps 15:5. 8-11. R.v.1](#)

Second Reading [Hebrews 10:11-14, 18](#)

Gospel [Mark 13:24-32](#)



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-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 9th / 10th November 2024

REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

After denouncing the flamboyant religiosity of the scribes, Jesus watched people putting money into the treasury. He saw rich people putting in 'a great deal', probably because such donations were clearly meant to be noticed. But, as Jesus tells his disciples, a 'poor widow' gave more. As Pope Francis points out, 'she does not pray to make herself seen, she does not show off her faith.' Trusting God and acting humbly, Jesus notices her.

Yet there is another aspect to this incident, which plays out against Jesus' description of ostentatious scribes as 'men who swallow the property of widows.' The contrast between pious scribes and the poor widow could not be greater. Jesus is not only praising humility; he is reacting to injustice. As the Pope points out, Jesus 'denounces the exploitation of this woman.' After depositing those tiny coins, she 'must return home without even the little she had to live on.' The Pope challenges us to take this Gospel fully to heart. We are all called to be humble, but also to work for justice. 'This is a warning for all time and for everyone, Church and society,' he says. We must 'never take advantage of one's role to crush others, never make money off the backs of the weakest!' God will remember every penny ever given, but also those unjustly taken.



<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Nov10/0/RefNickB>

November: For Parents Who Have Lost a Child — "Let us pray that all parents mourning the death of a child find support in the community and receive heart's peace from the consoling Spirit."

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

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Anthony Cruz MC
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Monica Rayner

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Chairperson Evie
Monbulk: Sue Luxford
Belgrave: David Paton
Gembrook:

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE
Principal: Declan McDermott
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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK
Principal: Nick Frederiksen
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Mater Christi College - Belgrave
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St Joseph's College - Ferntree Gully
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Mount Lilydale Mercy College - Lilydale
Principal: Philip Morison
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REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Mim Van Haaster, the wife of Peter Van Haaster and the mother of Kim, Lisa, Laurence, Fiona, Daniel and Brendan.

- **The funeral mass for late Mim Van Haaster on Friday, the 15th November in St. Paul's church Monbulk at 11.30am.**

Refreshments following the service will be served in the St. Paul's school hall.

Many people across the world who have died due to Covid-19, wars, civil restlessness and natural calamities. May their souls rest in peace.

Anniversaries:

Sebastiano Granieri, Jim Goodie, James Perry, Paul Gatley, Therese Hope, Robert, Coro-al Ring, Frances Lee, John Ruigrok, Marianne Janssen, Trudy Francis.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Glenyss Ellen Kempster, Elisabeth Drake, Faye & Colin Brown, Patricia Grant, Kate Joy star, John Kuyper, Flynn Kroeger, Verity Loke, Helen Bye, Anne Radocaj, Simon Kuyper, John Barber, Dimuthu, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, Cameron DiCasio, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Rebecca Jane Atkinson, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, 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.**

Belgrave church reading roster 10th November

Mo Cromar and David Atkinson

Next week — 17th November

Mia Jansen and Michael Couche



Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of: Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at:

[Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)



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

Prayer for the Parish

(To be prayed at the end of the mass before the recessional Hymn)

Loving God,

We ask you to pour out your spirit upon our parish

And grant us a new vision of your kingdom,

a new faithfulness to your Word,

a new consecration to your service,

that we may become a growing community of disciples,

that seeks to bring your word to the world,

through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have Mercy on us.

St. Joseph, Pray for us.

St. Paul, Pray for us.

St. Claire, Pray for us.

St. Thomas more, Pray for us.



Pastoral Care Appeal 2024

This weekend is CatholicCare Victoria's annual Pastoral Care Appeal (previously known as Chaplaincy Appeal). Donations from our parish community will support the most vulnerable people in our community. Your support and generosity will ensure that Catholic Prison Chaplains can continue to be the messengers of God's mercy, love and compassion. Parishioners are encouraged to offer prayers and financial support to help provide continued spiritual and emotional comfort to individuals and families in Victoria. The presence of Catholic Chaplains is a crucial witness to our faith, a crucial dimension of our service of love, and a vital testimony to the value of life in all its stages. **You can donate using the envelopes available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515.**

Donate Today

www.catholiccarevic.org.au
T: (03) 9967 2515



CALLING ALL MAKERS; BAKERS; SEWERS AND GROWERS !!!!!!!

(And a spoiler alert for all other parishioners to keep the date free :>)

We are hoping to hold another of our Christmas craft table event after the 9.00 am Mass at Belgrave on **Sunday November 24th**, with the aim of once again raising funds towards any project anywhere within the parish as Fr. Cruz and his financial advisers allocate.

We are once again asking for all our super generous makers etc. to get their mind and hands into gear to make donations of items which we will then aim to sell on the day. If there are sufficient donations to go around, we are also willing to visit the other Mass centers with items for sale as we have now done a couple of times.

We again hope to also have items worthy of raffling, I'm happy to be the contact person if anyone wants to contact me to answer questions, Thanks in advance everyone,

Marianne. 0408306129



A Tribute and Good Bye to Mim Van Haaster

Mim had lived in Monbulk for her whole life, so her involvement with the church has been extensive.

She cleaned the church every week and motivated and guided her sons and daughters to do the same while they were children.

She did the readings, sang in the choir, assisted all the priests as a mass manager, both mid-week and weekend masses (more than 40 years)

She coordinated baptisms, marriages, and funeral masses at the advice of the parish priests.

She got very much involved in all the fund-raising events, her efforts in the liturgical celebration during holy week is worth mentioning and praiseworthy.

Her name would go in the coffee roster, and she was involved in all the working bee and never to forget about her involvement in selling church raffle tickets.

She committed herself 100 percent to the St Paul's church and faith community and lived whole of her life with dedication.

She welcomed new parishioners and visitors with her ever enriching and energising smiling face.

May all her good works which she carried out in her life for the love of Jesus her Lord and Saviour and the community she was part of, go with her and May God reward her with eternal bliss.

May her soul rest in peace. Amen.



concepts such as reason, will or freedom. The very meaning of the term is imprecise and hard to situate within our human experience. Perhaps this is due to the difficulty of treating it as a "clear and distinct idea", or because it entails the question of self-understanding, where the deepest part of us is also that which is least known. Even encountering others does not necessarily prove to be a way of encountering ourselves, inasmuch as our thought patterns are dominated by an unhealthy individualism. Many readily controllable domain of intelligence and will. The failure to people

feel safer constructing their systems of thought in the more make room for the heart, as distinct from our human powers and viewed in isolation from one another, has resulted in a stunting of the idea of a personal centre, in which love, in the end, is the one reality that can unify all the others.

11. If we devalue the heart, we also devalue what it means to speak from the heart, to act with the heart, to cultivate and heal the heart. If we fail to appreciate the specificity of the heart, we miss the messages that the mind alone cannot communicate; we miss out on the richness of our encounters with others; we miss out on poetry. We also lose track of history and our own past, since our real personal history is built with the heart. At the end of our lives, that alone will matter.

12. It must be said, then, that we have a heart, a heart that coexists with other hearts that help to make it a "Thou". Since we cannot develop this theme at length, we will take a character from one of Dostoevsky's novels, Nikolai Stavrogin. [8] Romano Guardini argues that Stavrogin is the very embodiment of evil, because his chief trait is his heartlessness: "Stavrogin has no heart, hence his mind is cold and empty and his body sunken in bestial sloth and sensuality. He has no heart, hence he can draw close to no one and no one can ever truly draw close to him. For only the heart creates intimacy, true closeness between two persons. Only the heart is able to welcome and offer hospitality. Intimacy is the proper activity and the domain of the heart. Stavrogin is always infinitely distant, even from himself, because a man can enter into himself only with the heart, not with the mind. It is not in a man's power to enter into his own interiority with the mind. Hence, if the heart is not alive, man remains a stranger to himself". [9]

13. All our actions need to be put under the "political rule" of the heart. In this way, our aggressiveness and obsessive desires will find rest in the greater good that the heart proposes and in the power of the heart to resist evil. The mind and the will are put at the service of the greater good by sensing and savouring truths, rather than seeking to master them as the sciences tend to do. The will desires the greater good that the heart recognizes, while the imagination and emotions are themselves guided by the beating of the heart.

14. It could be said, then, that I am my heart, for my heart is what sets me apart, shapes my spiritual identity and puts me in communion with other people. The algorithms operating in the digital world show that our thoughts and will are much more "uniform" than we had previously thought. They are easily predictable and thus capable of being manipulated. That is not the case with the heart.

15. The word "heart" proves its value for philosophy and theology in their efforts to reach an integral synthesis. Nor can its meaning be exhausted by biology, psychology, anthropology or any other science. It is one of those primordial words that "describe realities belonging to man precisely in so far as he is one whole (as a corporeo-spiritual person)". [10] It follows that biologists are not being more "realistic" when they discuss the heart, since they see only one aspect of it; the whole is not less real, but even more real. Nor can abstract language ever acquire the same concrete and integrative meaning. The word "heart" evokes the inmost core of our person, and thus it enables us to understand ourselves in our integrity and not merely under one isolated aspect.

16. This unique power of the heart also helps us to understand why, when we grasp a reality with our heart, we know it better and more fully. This inevitably leads us to the love of which the heart is capable, for "the inmost core of reality is love". [11] For Heidegger, as interpreted by one contemporary thinker, philosophy does not begin with a simple concept or certainty, but with a shock: "Thought must be provoked before it begins to work with concepts or while it works with them. Without deep emotion, thought cannot begin. The first mental image would thus be goose bumps. What first stirs one to think and question is deep emotion. Philosophy always takes place in a basic mood (Stimmung)". [12] That is where the heart comes in, since it "houses the states of mind and functions as a 'keeper of the state of mind'. The 'heart' listens in a non-metaphoric way to 'the silent voice' of being, allowing itself to be tempered and determined by it". [13]

To be continued next week....

[Dilexit nos \(24 October 2024\) | Francis](#)

ENCYCLICAL LETTER **DILEXIT NOS** OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON THE HUMAN AND DIVINE LOVE OF THE HEART OF JESUS CHRIST



RETURNING TO THE HEART

9. In this "liquid" world of ours, we need to start speaking once more about the heart and thinking about this place where every person, of every class and condition, creates a synthesis, where they encounter the radical source of their strengths, convictions, passions and decisions. Yet, we find ourselves immersed in societies of serial consumers who live from day to day, dominated by the hectic pace and bombarded by technology, lacking in the patience needed to engage in the processes that an interior life by its very nature requires. In contemporary society, people "risk losing their centre, the centre of their very selves". [6] "Indeed, the men and women of our time often find themselves confused and torn apart, almost bereft of an inner principle that can create unity and harmony in their lives and actions. Models of behaviour that, sadly, are now widespread exaggerate our rational-technological dimension or, on the contrary, that of our instincts". [7] No room is left for the heart.

10. The issues raised by today's liquid society are much discussed, but this depreciation of the deep core of our humanity – the heart – has a much longer history. We find it already present in Hellenic and pre-Christian rationalism, in post-Christian idealism and in materialism in its various guises. The heart has been ignored in anthropology, and the great philosophical tradition finds it a foreign notion, preferring other