

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Sir 27:30 – 28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults (R.)

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. (R.)

**(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
Rom 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew**

Mt 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the lord.

Communion Antiphon:

The chalice of blessing that we bless
is a communion in the Blood of Christ;
and the bread that we break
is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.





Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church
in the Dandenong Ranges

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160

Phone: 0400436793 Office Hours **Office is closed to**

Internet: pol.org.au/belgrave Email: belgrave@cam.org.au

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 Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Belgrave Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	<u>On Zoom</u>	<u>On Zoom</u>	<u>On Zoom</u>	<u>On Zoom</u>
	WEEKDAY			On Zoom	

Mass changes: MASSES CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE ON-LINE DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS—we will keep you up-to-date.

Reconciliation: Marriages & Baptisms by appointment. To speak with Fr. Cruz, phone 03 8751 8112 and leave a message if not answered.

13TH SEPTEMBER, 2020 — 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR A.

Dear Parishioners,

I recommend to your good will and charity to pray for me as I will be celebrating my feast day on coming Monday, the 14th of September “the Feast of the Holy Cross.” Cruz in Spanish means “Cross.” Let us take little time to reflect upon “the Cross” on which our Saviour hung for the redemption of the humanity.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated every year on September 14, recalls three historical events:

- 1) The finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine.
- 2) The dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary.
- 3) And the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II.

But in a deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin when he ate from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden.

Why Do We Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Cross?

It's easy to understand that the Cross is special because Christ used it as the instrument of our salvation. But after His Resurrection, why would Christians continue to look to the Cross?

Christ Himself offered us the answer: “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me” (Luke 9:23). The point of taking up our own cross is not simply self-sacrifice; in doing so, we unite ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ on His Cross.

When we participate in the Mass, the Cross is there, too. The "unbloody sacrifice" offered on the altar is the re-presentation of Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross. When we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we do not simply unite ourselves to Christ; we nail ourselves to the Cross, dying with Christ so that we might rise with Him.

“For the Jews require signs, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews indeed a stumbling block, and unto the Gentiles foolishness . . . (1 Corinthians 1:22-23).” Today, more than ever, non-Christians see the Cross as foolishness. What kind of Savior triumphs through death?

For Christians, however, the Cross is the crossroads of history and the Tree of Life. Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: Only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life.

Fr. Anthony Cruz

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Anthony Cruz anthony.cruz@cam.org.au Phone: 87518112.

Parish Secretary: Email: belgrave@cam.org.

Parish Office: **Closed at present.**

Sacraments : belgrave@cam.org.au

Child Safety Contacts: Maria 9754 5200 & Jeanette 97542759

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson — Andrew Jans 0419590155

Monbulk: Rin Van Raay

Belgrave: Daryn Corish & Marie Madden

Gembrook: Pam Giulieri & Matthew Thomas

Emerald: John Conway & Lisa McLean

Mt. Dandenong: Virginia Schneiders & Stephen Billington.

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

www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Many people across the world who have died from the corona virus and calamities. *Eternal rest grant unto them, Our Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them and may their dear souls rest in peace. Amen.*

Anniversaries:

Irene Bryan, John Kennedy, David Scamel, Carmel McDonnell, Ruth Pain, Margaret Kravacek, Peter Damen, Danni Petronelli, Thomas Williams, Fran Deering, Esater Deering, Christel Lang, Bartoli Pepi, Shaun Griffith, Monsig, Francis Lyons, Sharon Hulley.

Prayer for the deceased

Lord open wide the door of your compassion to those who died in this week in different parts of the world, And in your mercy receive them into your kingdom.

Prayers for the Sick:

We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Damien Van der Linden, Andrew Schmidt, Bryan Cummins, Lida Ploeg and Robert Ploeg, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Joy Goodie, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, StepheLois Lenaghan, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, Alida Cabret, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Geoff Henwood, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Robert Drake, Helen Hermann, Lyn Blackman, Joan Munday, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Peter Champion, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

AS OF NOW ALL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS STAND SUSPENDED except funerals with restricted numbers. **Please call 03 87518112 if any of you want to talk to me.** You are most welcome to call me on that number, too, if you want me to offer Mass for any of your personal intentions.

Fr. Cruz

Topic: Father Cruz' Masses and Holy Rosary on Zoom

ZOOM ROSARY: Now held on Monday to Saturday immediately after the holy mass.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMlZOSTYOTFRRYXJGOT09)

[pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMlZOSTYOTFRRYXJGOT09](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMlZOSTYOTFRRYXJGOT09)

Meeting ID: 750 464 5976..

Passcode: 7mJTww

Days and times of ZOOM live masses

St Thomas More Belgrave

Weekdays Mondays – Saturday 9.00a.m.

Sacred Heart, Gembrook & St. Joseph's - Emerald

Sunday 9.00a.m.— 10.00a.m.

St. Thomas More -Belgrave & St. Paul's - Monbulk

Sunday 10.30a.m.—11.30a.m. followed by the holy rosary.

Please join with your community if you can.

DO IT ANYWAY

PEOPLE ARE OFTEN UNREASONABLE, IRRATIONAL, AND SELF-CENTERED. **FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.**

IF YOU ARE KIND, PEOPLE MAY ACCUSE YOU OF SELFISH, ULTERIOR MOTIVES. **BE KIND ANYWAY.**

IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL, YOU WILL WIN SOME UNFAITHFUL FRIENDS AND SOME GENUINE ENEMIES. **SUCCEED ANYWAY.**

IF YOU ARE HONEST AND SINCERE, PEOPLE MAY DECEIVE YOU. **BE HONEST AND SINCERE ANYWAY.**

WHAT YOU SPEND YEARS CREATING, OTHERS COULD DESTROY OVERNIGHT. **CREATE ANYWAY.**

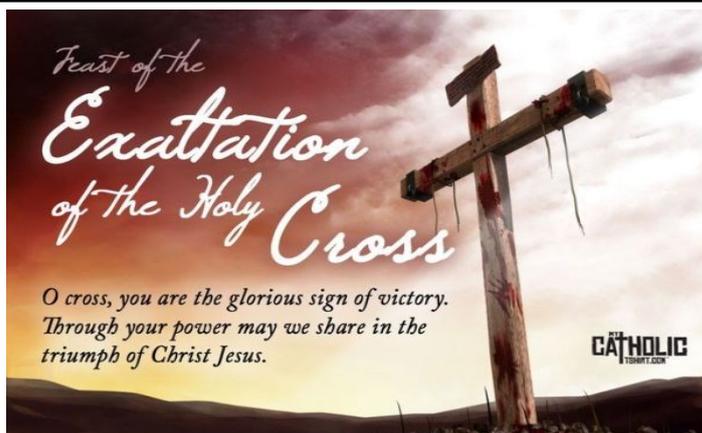
IF YOU FIND SERENITY AND HAPPINESS, SOME MAY BE JEALOUS. **BE HAPPY ANYWAY.**

THE GOOD YOU DO TODAY, WILL OFTEN BE FORGOTTEN. **DO GOOD ANYWAY.**

GIVE THE BEST YOU HAVE, AND IT WILL NEVER BE ENOUGH. **GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY.**

IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, IT IS BETWEEN YOU AND GOD. **IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY.**

— MOTHER TERESA —



Important Dates

- 14th September The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 15th September Our Lady of sorrows

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF

MELBOURNE has fantastic online resources to help you through this time of suffering:

www.cam.org.au/coronavirus.

STAGE 4 RESTRICTIONS – METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE:

‘Metropolitan Melbourne’ is made up of 31 local government areas. Stage 4 restrictions have been put in place for these areas, which includes this Parish in its entirety.

•**All Victorians over the age of 12 must wear a face covering whenever they leave their home, unless a medical exemption applies. As of 11.59pm Sunday 2 August, 2020 and for a period of 6 weeks unless otherwise directed.**

•All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services. are to be closed. **Fr. Cruz cannot receive visitors for confession, unfortunately.**

•**WEDDINGS:** No weddings are permitted unless an application is made to the DHHS for an exemption on compassionate grounds. If compassionate reasons permit a marriage ceremony to proceed, then only 5 people are allowed, comprising of the couple, the two witnesses and the celebrant.

•**FUNERALS:** will be limited to 10 mourners, plus the minimum number required to conduct the funeral.

•**BAPTISMS:** are to be postponed, unless here is a grave pastoral need. (Can. 857; 860).

•**LIVESTREAMING:** a limit of 5 in total may be present, including the celebrant.

•**VISITATIONS:** home visitations are not permitted unless for grave reasons. Only Clergy (Priests and Deacons) may visit. All hygiene precautions must be adhered including the wearing of face coverings. Holy Communion is not to be given to anyone in their homes or care facilities, including the sick and homebound, except as Viaticum for the dying, which may be administered only by Priests and Deacons, and complying with all hygiene precautions and the protocols of the relevant hospitals or aged-care facilities (washing hands, etc.) as appropriate.

•**CURFEW:** A Curfew is in place from 8pm until 5am each day. You may leave home for the purposes of essential work only.

• **If you can work from home, you must do so.**

All requirements around hygiene and distancing must be met, along with the collection of contact details. **Accordingly, the Parish Office is closed. Phone: 0387518112.**

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 13 September 2020

The Journey this week: Jude Hennessy interviews Beth Riolo about September celebrating the Season of Creation. Plus, a reflection on the cost of forgiveness in this week’s gospel by Fr Mike Delaney and Mother Hilda with the story of Archbishop Thuc, humiliation and forgiveness. Plus, all your favourites and great music! Tune to **LIFE 105.1 Sat 4pm or LIFE 103.9 Sun 10am**, go to WWW.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au

and to ensure that you never miss a show it can be sent to you each week as a podcast via email – for free. If you love the show, let your local radio station know that you’d like to hear it broadcast locally each week.

MAX NORDEN

Sound Editor, The Journey Catholic Radio

max.norden@dow.org.au

M 0414 733 823

T 02 4222 2467

Prayers of the Faithful - Twenty fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Priest: We turn in prayer to the God who forgives all our guilt and crowns us with love and compassion.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For all humanity: we ask forgiveness for our mistreatment of “our common home.”

For Christians: that we may give an example to the world of the art of forgiveness.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all those in authority: that they may forgive with humility and understanding those who fail them.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have been badly sinned against and find it difficult to forgive.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For each other in our diverse parish: that we may be able to forgive those who have sinned against us and so be healed of resentment and bitterness.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For children in our parish: that we may all work collaboratively to ensure the happiness and confidence of every child, and foster an environment of safety and protection where children flourish.

Response: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our special intentions...(PAUSE)...Lord, hear us.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray to the Lord...

Priest: All-powerful God, grant that we who stand always in need of your mercy, and who love to receive it, may be ready to show mercy to others. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Child Protection Sunday (13 September)

Each year, the Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday on the second Sunday of September (13 September). These resources have been prepared by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, in collaboration with Catholic Religious Australia, Catholic Professional Standards Ltd, the Professional Standards Unit and the National Office for Liturgy:

St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave and The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. We uphold that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

Find out more at: www.catholic.org.au/childprotectionsunday and www.catholicreligious.org.au/safeguarding



Invitation to Free Zoom Information Session – Graduate Certificate in Teaching Meditation

Catholic Theological College invites you to a **free** Zoom Information Session for the Graduate Certificate in Teaching Meditation. The course is designed to form leaders of prayer and meditation in parishes, schools, and pastoral settings. We warmly invite you to participate in this session – the details for registration are outlined on the attached flyer.

Please join us for a free information session for the **Graduate Certificate in Teaching Meditation**.

This session will outline the requirements and outcomes of the course which provides the skills for teaching meditation and prayer in a variety of parish situations.

DATE & TIME: 13 October: 7.30pm – 8pm **REGISTRATION:** To receive a zoom link email Jenny Delahunt on jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au
Contact the Academic Records Office for enrolment information and appointments.

+61 3 9412 3309 | AssistantDean@ctc.edu.au | 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne | www.ctc.edu.au

Marriage Week 13– 19 September 2020

Marriage Week is ...

..... just around the corner - a time when marriage can be celebrated and honoured. Honour longevity of marriage amongst your members and any wedding anniversaries within the week. Maybe those married longest will be willing to share some tips or part of their journey together.

Also a time to pray for all marriages in your community and beyond - including those in government and those separated from their loved ones eg serving in the Defence Force or FIFO workers.

Date Night

19 September

A fun Date Night where lockdown or curfew requirements can be kept!

We are partnering with our friends at Focus on the Family Australia online Date Night event. This is on Saturday the 19th September between 8 – 9pm AEST and will be hosted by Christian comedian, Ben Price. Brett and Kate Ryan of Focus on the Family Australia will talk on - "Looking back to help strengthen your future." Discussing how to grow your relationship when life throws you a curve ball ...or two!"

The cost is \$10 a couple who on registering will receive an email with content and ideas to make the evening relaxed, fun and special.

Registration through: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/virtual-date-night-2020-tickets-117714763025>



Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation offers the Siloam Program - a spiritual formation program to become a spiritual director. The Program is recognised by the Australian Ecumenical Council for Spiritual Direction as meeting its standards for the formation of spiritual directors in Australia.

Heart of Life is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, and has been offering the Siloam Program to individuals from Australia and around the world for over 40 years. Almost 50 religious Orders from Australia and overseas are represented in our Siloam graduates, together with Lay women and men. The Program guides trainees along the path of contemplative discernment, following the way of the heart.

The Centre is now accepting applications for the 2021 Program. More information about the Program is available on below link.

www.heartoflife.melbourne/siloam/

 **Heart of Life**
Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

296 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, Victoria 3144, Australia
Tel 03 9890 1101 Email info@heartoflife.melbourne
Web www.heartoflife.melbourne

Heart of Life is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart