

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time B

Entrance Antiphon

Sirach 36:18

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.

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah **Isaiah 50:5-9**

I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9**

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

A reading from the letter of St James

James 2:14-18

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Galatians 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. **Alleluia.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark **Mark 8:27-35**

You are the Christ ... the Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Cf 1 Corinthians 10:16

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.

Next Sunday Readings

First Reading	Wisdom 2:12, 17-20
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6
Second Reading	James 3:16 – 4:3
Gospel	Mark 9:30-37



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.....

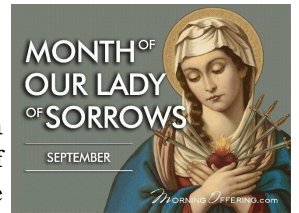
CHURCH CENTRES		St. Joseph's Church Emerald	Sacred Heart Church Gembrook	St. Thomas More Church Belgrave	St. Paul's Church Monbulk
		Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Main Road	17 Terry Avenue, Belgrave	59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.00am	11.00am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am	

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B - 14TH/15TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

There are several messianic traditions, each one characterising the anointed one of the future in a unique way. Do we expect a prophetic figure who will enter our world and reform the structures of society, or a strong leader who will overturn these structures and establish a new order? Are we waiting for a teacher who will transform our minds and hearts, or a judge who will punish us for our infidelities? Are we expecting someone who will renew the face of the earth, or someone who will come in fire and brimstone to destroy it? What kind of a messiah do we expect? For what kind of a change are we preparing ourselves?

Jesus seems to overturn our expectations. We look for one who will save us from the predicaments in which we find ourselves, and he comes to us as one who seems to be a victim of his own predicament. God's thinking seems to be the reverse of ours: Those who save their lives, lose them; those who lose their lives, save them; the seed must die before it can bear fruit; Jesus will be killed, but will then be raised from the dead. Can we claim to understand Jesus? Or are we more like the people in James' community: people who profess faith in Jesus, but who do not live it out; people who speak pleasant words to others, who say the right things, but who do not back up their words with good works? Is our faith really living?



<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Sep15/0/RefDiBer>

The Pope's Monthly Intention for the month of September

For the Cry of the Earth - "Let us pray that each of us hears with the heart the cry of the Earth and victims of natural disasters and climate change, personally committing to care for the world we inhabit."

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

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Anthony Cruz MC
Anthony.cruz@cam.org.au
Phone: 87518112.

Parish Secretary: Mirani Perera
Parish Office: 97542141
Sacraments : belgrave@cam.org.au

Child Safety Contacts: Jeanette Wicks 97542759
 Monica Rayner

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

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE
 Principal: Declan McDermott
 Phone: 9754-4444
 Email: principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au

ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK
 Principal: Nick Frederiksen
 Phone: 9756 7201
 Email: nfrederiksen@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

Mater Christi College - Belgrave
 Principal: Ms Maria Hagggett
 Phone: 9754 6611 Email: mcc@materchristi.edu.au

St Joseph's College - Ferntree Gully
 Principal: Ms Cathy Livingston
 Phone: 9758 2000 Email: info@stjosephs.com.au

Mount Lilydale Mercy College - Lilydale
 Principal: Philip Morison
 Phone: (03) 9735 4022 E mail: pmorison@mlmc.vic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths:

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:

Jo Jans, James Williams, James Kelleher, Rita Bell, Barrie Jackson, Aileen & Jack Malcomson, Dr. Tim McCarthy, Lucy Granieri, Ruby Johnson, Mona Csipek, Raymond Cutting.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: 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 Champion, Cameron DiCasio, Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Rebecca Jane Atkinson, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Ingvyn 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.**

Belgrave church reading roster 15th September

Helen Garrick & Robert Quirk

Next week — 22nd September

David Atkinson & David Paton



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.

To Contribute Financially to St. Thomas More Parish

Church Name: St Thomas Mores Parish Church
Account

BSB: 083 347, Account: 67214 6192

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.



Have you been Encountered?

A Marriage Encounter weekend is for you

Come along to your special weekend:

Where: St Paul's Retreat Centre, Wantirna South

When: October 4 - 6th 2024

(Starts Friday evening at 7pm and finishes Sunday ~4:30pm.

Accommodation and meals are provided)

Social Services Sunday - 15 September 2024

A day to reflect on mercy, justice and charity

Sunday 15 September 2024 marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we give thanks for the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who stand with and serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. We acknowledge with gratitude all of Catholic Social Services Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 7,000+ staff and 15,000+ volunteers and the important work that they do to serve over 300,000 people. At this challenging time of a cost of living and housing affordability crisis, the Gospel message of love, care and welcome is needed more than ever. We can all play a role in building a more just and compassionate society.

15 September 2024 Catholic Social Services Victoria

Social Services Sunday

What does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God
- Micah 6:8



Watch the video

Our Lady of Sorrows - Feast day: Sep 15

- 1st Sorrow The Prophecy of Simeon...
- 2nd Sorrow The Flight Into Egypt...
- 3rd Sorrow The Loss of the Child Jesus in Jerusalem...
- 4th Sorrow Mary Meets Jesus on the Way to Calvary...
- 5th Sorrow Jesus Dies on the Cross...
- 6th Sorrow Mary Holds the Life Less Body of Jesus in Her Arms...
- 7th Sorrow Jesus is Laid in the Tomb...



The Blessed Mary promises the following amazing graces granted by her Divine Son for all those who daily pray Hail Mary's while meditating on each of her seven dolors (sorrows) and tears.

1. I will grant peace to their families.
2. They will be enlightened about the Divine Mysteries.
3. I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work.
4. I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my Divine Son or the sanctification of their souls.
5. I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives.
6. I will visibly help them at the moment of their death—they will see the face of their mother.
7. I have obtained this grace from my divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolors will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness, since all their sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy.

Upcoming Feasts & Solemnizes

- 16th September **Sts Cornelius & Cyprian**
- 20th September **Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions**
- 21st September **St Mathew, Apostle & Evangelist**

St. Matthew, Apostle — Feast day September 21

Saint Matthew, the first-century tax collector turned apostle who chronicled the life and ministry of Christ in his Gospel, is celebrated by the Church today, September 21. Although relatively little is known about the life of St. Matthew, the account he wrote of Christ's ministry – traditionally considered to be the first of the four Gospels - is of inestimable

value to the Church, particularly in its verification of Jesus as the Messiah. Eastern Catholics and the Orthodox churches celebrate St. Matthew on November 16, along with St. Fulvianus, a prince who is recorded in some traditions as converting from paganism after Matthew's martyrdom.

The Gospel accounts of Mark and Luke, like Matthew's own, describe the encounter between Jesus and Matthew under the surprising circumstances of Matthew's tax-collecting duties. Jewish publicans, who collected taxes on behalf of the Roman rulers of first-century Judea, were objects of scorn and even hatred among their own communities, since they worked on behalf of the occupying power and often earned their living by collecting more than the state's due.

Jesus most likely first encountered Matthew near the house of Peter, in Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee. The meeting of the two was dramatic, as Matthew's third-person account in his Gospel captured: "As Jesus passed on," the ninth chapter recounts, "he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, 'Follow me'. And he got up and followed him." Matthew's calling into Jesus' inner circle was a dramatic gesture of the Messiah's universal message and mission, causing some religious authorities of the Jewish community to wonder: "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus' significant response indicated a central purpose of his ministry: "I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." A witness to Christ's resurrection after death, as well as his ascension into heaven and the events of Pentecost, Matthew also recorded Jesus' instruction for the apostles to "go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

Like 11 of the 12 apostles, St. Matthew is traditionally thought to have died as a martyr while preaching the Gospel. The Roman Martyrology describes his death as occurring in a territory near present-day Egypt.

Both the saint himself, and his Gospel narrative, have inspired important works of religious art, ranging from the ornate illuminated pages of the Book of Kells in the ninth century, to the Saint Matthew Passion of J.S. Bach. Three famous paintings of Caravaggio, depicting St. Matthew's calling, inspiration and martyrdom, hang within the Contarelli Chapel in Rome's Church of St. Louis of the French. Reflecting on St. Matthew's calling, from the pursuit of dishonest financial gain to the heights of holiness and divine inspiration, Pope Benedict said in 2006 that "in the figure of Matthew, the Gospels present to us a true and proper paradox: those who seem to be the farthest from holiness can even become a model of the acceptance of God's mercy and offer a glimpse of its marvelous effects in their own lives."

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/st-matthew-apostle-601>

