

**Entrance Antiphon Cf 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.

**A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

**Sirach 27:30 – 28:7**

***Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.***

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**

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

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

***Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.***

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 John 13:34**

**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  
Matthew 18:21-35**

***I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.***

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 f 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 week's readings**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 55:6-9

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

**Second Reading:** Philippians 1:20-24. 27

**Gospel:** Matthew 20:1-16



# 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](http://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	10.30am ( Wednesday)

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 16th/ 17th September, 2023**

**REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA**

A distinctive feature of the teachings of Jesus is his exhortation to forgive. Very explicit about this, Jesus left us his own example by forgiving his executioners while he hung dying on the cross. Until recently we thought that forgiveness begins with the offender repenting of the offence and then asking for pardon. Today many maintain that reconciliation must begin with the one offended offering forgiveness. This willingness to forgive transforms a victim into a survivor. Such magnanimity might then touch the heart of the offender, who may thus be transformed from being an offender to becoming a friend.

If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we should be generous in forgiving others. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some, it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Still, as disciples, we are expected to give the forgiveness that we have been given. Such forgiveness does not provide an easy way out for offenders, for ultimately justice will prevail. If we remain untransformed by God's forgiveness of us, we will be liable to judgment. Our unwillingness to forgive can eat away at us, and we can carry hurts from childhood far into adult years. Forgiving others, as difficult as that may be, is in the long run much easier than bearing the weight of resentment, vindictiveness and unresolved frustration. When we forgive we truly begin to be healed.

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2023Sep17/0/RefDiBer>

***The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2023 — Month of September***

***For people living on the margins*** — We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/popes-monthly-intentions-2023>

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Anthony Cruz MC  
 Anthony.cruz@cam.org.au  
 87518112.  
**Parish Secretary:** Mirani Perera  
 97542141  
**Parish Office:** belgrave@cam.org.au  
**Sacraments :** Jeanette Wicks 97542759  
**Child Safety Contacts:** Monica Rayner  
 Chairperson — Dennis  
 Sue Luxford

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:**  
**Monbulk:** David Bhoynz

**Belgrave:** David Bhoynz

**Gembrook:**

**Emerald:** Evie  
 and Irene Reed

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

**ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE**  
 Principal: Declan McDermott  
 Phone: 9754-4444  
 Email: [principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au)  
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**ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK**  
 Principal: Michael Watt  
 Phone: 9756 7201  
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## **REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:**

**Recent deaths:** Jo Jans, the mother of Andrew Jans and Mother - in - law of Louise Jans.

Many people across the world who have died due to natural calamities and ongoing War in Ukraine. May their souls rest in peace.

## **Anniversaries:**

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: Helen Bye, Peter Lawrence, Stephen Billington, Anne Radocaj, Simon Kuyper John Barber, Dimuthu, Glen Butler, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, Cameron DiCasio, Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Maureen Lyons, Ingyin 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.**

Dear Parents,

At last we are getting back to giving your children the opportunity for Children's Liturgy during 9am mass. Please meet me after mass ( 17th September ) at St. Thomas More Church Belgrave. We can discuss what you want and expect for your kids. If you can't be there, please contact me on **0403 857 215 or hgarrick@ymail.com**

**Helen Garrick** — *Children's Liturgy Coordinator / Liturgy Teacher*



**Please make your Thanksgiving contributions to your church via church account or scanning the QR code.**

St Thomas Mores Parish Church or  
Account

BSB: 083 347

Account: 67214 6192



## **St Mary's Mount Evelyn Parish Festa**

Our Festa is on Sunday, 24 September. We begin with the 10:30am Mass and immediately following will be the procession with the Annunziata statue followed by food and festivities. All are welcome to join us!

## **The Seven Promises of the Seven Sorrows Devotion**

The entire month of September is dedicated by the Church to the honor of Our Lady of Sorrows.

The devotion to Our Lady's sorrows remembers the Blessed Virgin Mary's spiritual martyrdom in with her perfect union with the Passion of Christ as she stood at the foot of the cross.



### **Seven Promises**

- 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 will be their eternal consolation and joy."

### **Seven Sorrows**

- 1) The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34-35)
- 2) The Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-21)
- 3) The Loss of Jesus for Three Days (Luke 2:41-50)
- 4) The Carrying of the Cross (John 19:17)
- 5) The Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:18-30)
- 6) Jesus Taken Down from the Cross (John 19:39-40)
- 7) Jesus Laid in the Tomb (John 19:39-42)

## St Joseph's, Emerald, Mass Time, 2024

We are currently considering changing the weekly Mass time at St Joseph's, Emerald from 6:00pm to 5:00 pm Saturday. The reasoning behind the proposed change is that the earlier time may be more convenient for families with young children. This may especially be the case in winter.

Since the St Joseph's Mass is the only Vigil Mass in the parish, such a change will affect more than the local Emerald parishioners, so we are seeking input from across the parish.

Please express your thoughts, especially if your Mass attendance will be adversely affected by the change. You can do so throughout October, by

\* speaking to Father Cruz

\* ringing/leaving a message at the Parish Office on 97542141

- emailing the Parish Office at [belgrave@cam.org.au](mailto:belgrave@cam.org.au)

The final decision on the change will be made after October.



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE  
OF MELBOURNE

Please see below an update to current vacant roles listed on our Melbourne Catholic website.

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

- **Discipleship Specialist** - Marriage and Family Accompaniment - Melbourne
- **Administration Manager** - The Redemptorist Community - Kew
- **Parish Secretary** - Our Lady of Southern Cross Parish - Clifton Hill
- **Product Support CDFpay** - East Melbourne
- **Expression of Interest (EOI)** – Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria (ACMV) Coordinator
- Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
- **Administration Assistant** — Richmond  
**Catholic Parish of St Ignatius & St James**

Further details of the above positions can be found on the Archdiocese website at: [Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)

Should you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources at [hradmin@cam.org.au](mailto:hradmin@cam.org.au)

## First Holy Eucharist

Let us thank God for the students who have received the First Holy Eucharist last weekend at St. Thomas more church Belgrave



**Oscar Sieger**

St. Paul's Church Monbulk

**Salvatore Marotta and Jack Pettenuzzo**

May they receive needed spiritual and moral support from their parents and our community.

## Caritas Australia's Emergency Appeals – Morocco / Libya

Caritas Australia needs your support to respond to the devastating earthquake in Morocco and floods in Libya. Thousands of people have died and others have been injured. Communities need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals.

Donate at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)



## 2024 Study Tour

*Journey with Paul: Türkiye – Greece*  
20 September – 6 October 2024

Tour Leader: Dr Rosemary Canavan

### Online Information Sessions:

Saturday 16, 23 September, or 7 October 2023 at 2pm

Participants have the opportunity to undertake a study unit with CTC

in conjunction with the tour for

credit towards an award

RSVP & further information: [rosemary.canavan@ctc.edu.au](mailto:rosemary.canavan@ctc.edu.au)

