

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Is 45:8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 7:10-14

The virgin will conceive.

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men

without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child

and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans Rom 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Is 7:14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.



Next week's readings

First Reading: Is 52:7-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 97:1-6. R. v.3

Second Reading: Heb 1:1-6

Gospel: Jn 1:1-18



St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave

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 Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.00am	11.00am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am	

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A - 17th/18th December, 2022

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Despite all of the excitement associated with eschatological fulfilment, despite all of the assurance we have that it will be an experience of peace and abundant life, the mystery for which we long requires the risk of faith. Despite all of the times that we have celebrated the Nativity, we still do not have full comprehension and understanding. Still we are invited to enter deeply into the event that is before us. Will we step into a life of deeper faith and commitment, or will we merely participate in the external celebration of the feast? Only we can decide, and only we will really know the decision that we make.



The circumstances of our lives influence the way we live out our faith. As Christians, we are called to devote ourselves to the service of Christ. Our primary commitment must be to Christ and to the way of being human that he has shown us. We must be committed to what enriches life and not to what diminishes it. We must be committed to the good of people and not to the hoarding of things. We may not be official heralds of the gospel, but we proclaim our faith in the way we live our lives, in the kindness with which we treat others, in honesty of our business transactions. We proclaim the gospel when we stand for justice, when we forgive those who have offended us, when we show compassion to those who suffer. As we step into the eschatological age, we are called to recommit ourselves to genuine Christian living.

[Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A \(liturgyhelp.com\)](http://liturgyhelp.com)

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson — Dennis

Monbulk:

Peter van Haaster

Belgrave:

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: Declan McDermott

Phone: 9754-4444

Email: principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au

www.smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au

ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK

Principal: Michael Watt

Phone: 9756 7201

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REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Father Joseph Patrick Hynan PE.

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

Anniversaries: John Sale, Joyce Lester, John Horton – Crundall, Brett Schmidt, Steve Tupper, Sylvia Schmuki Mueller, Evelyn Kiker.

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: Aliyah Lawless, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, Diane Kamoen, Cameron DiCasio, Jack Weir, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, 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, 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.

- **Sick List: If you are aware that any names on the sick list need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 97542141.**

Need your prayers for Aliyah Lawless

Dear friends of ours who were members of the Gembrook parish are currently going through a terrible ordeal as their 4 year old daughter is in the Royal Children's hospital with third degree burns to 25% of her body. Please keep her in our prayers.

Lisa Hayes

DEAR LORD,

I PRAYER FOR CHILDREN THAT ARE SICK.
FATHER, PLEASE HEAL THEM IN JESUS NAME.
GIVE THEM COMFORT TODAY AND MAKE THEIR
BODIES WELL. GIVE THEIR PARENTS PEACE
AND PATIENCE AND REMIND THEM THAT YOU
HAVE THEIR KIDS IN YOUR HANDS.

IN JESUS NAME AMEN!

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Christmas Mass Times



Christmas Eve Mass

(Saturday 24th December)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

5.30pm Carols

6.00pm Children Mass (**Salesian Priest**)

11.00pm Carols

11.30pm Midnight Mass (**Fr. Cruz**)

St. Joseph's Church Emerald

6.30pm (**Fr. Cruz**)

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

7.30pm Carols

8.00pm Mass (**Fr. Cruz**)

Christmas Day Mass

(Sunday 25th December)

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook

9.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

9.00am (**Salesian Priest**)

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

11.00am (**Fr. Cruz**)

Belgrave parish office notice

Fr. Cruz will not be available from 3rd January to 20th January as he will be participating for Annual retreat and Mid-term General Chapter conference in India. All the weekend masses in our churches will be taken care of by Salesian priests.

No weekday masses until 22nd January.

Parish Office is closed on 28th December to 6th January 2023.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS

MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023.

Email: somml@bigpond.com

(preferred for contact) Tel: 9326 1895



Summer School of Evangelisation 2023

Date: 15- 22 January, 2023

More information visit

[Summer School of Evangelisation Melbourne](http://ssemelbourne.org.au)
(ssemelbourne.org.au)

"Candlelight Vigil for Ukraine and world peace:

(Every Wednesday)

Father Cruz will recommence the Candlelight Vigil including Mass, private prayer and the Rosary, offered for the end of the war in Ukraine and for peace in the world. This intention is also one of the requests of Mary the Mother of God, when she appeared in Fatima to three peasant children, several times in 1917.

Time will be strictly 7 pm – 8.15, but come for whatever time you can.

7 pm	Mass
7.30	Private prayer
7.45	Rosary
8.00	Benediction
8.15	Finish.



Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thank you so much

The family of Heinz Huber is deeply grateful for the many gestures and words of support, which have reached us from members of our parish. The presence of so many parishioners at our farewell service was greatly comforting. Those who prepared the church and hall are warmly appreciated and we especially thank Father Cruz for his gentle advice and friendship in our time of sorrow.

Marilyn Huber



NEED TO DISPOSE OF A VEHICLE?

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process - getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even garaging it until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!).

If you need to dispose of a vehicle either from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, please consider gifting it to the "Lifeboat Geelong Foundation", a registered charity with tax deductible status which for nine years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors of church-related sexual abuse.

Many of these suffer post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and have limited or no employment. A donated vehicle could vastly improve their quality of life.

If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to "Lifeboat", please contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360, or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or Adam Kaali (0411 486 605, or adam-kaali@hotmail.com).

Confession

St. Thomas More Church

Friday - Saturday 9.45am - 10.45am

(9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd and 24th December)

St. Joseph's Church - Saturday 4.30pm —5.30pm

(10th and 17th December)

St. Paul's Church Sunday - 12.30pm—1.30pm

(11th and 18th December)

Sacred Heart Church Gembrook — 10.30—11.30

(18th December)

