

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

A reading from the book of Joshua

Joshua 24:1-2. 15-18

We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 33:2-3. 16-23. R. v.9

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians **Ephesians 5:21-32**

This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for

a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation John 6:63. 68

Alleluia, alleluia Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. **Alleluia.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John **John 6:60-69**

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf John 6:54

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, says the Lord, and I will raise him up on the last day.

Next Sunday Readings

First Reading	Deuteronomy 4:1-2. 6-8
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1
Second Reading	James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27
Gospel	Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23



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-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 24th/25th August, 2024



REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

Why did the crowd reject Jesus? They followed him! He fed them! And then they complain and leave. What was that about?

In short, people were scandalised by what Jesus said. They thought differently than Jesus about his mission. They sought earthly triumph over spiritual truth. An important lesson for us, Pope Francis says, is that 'we must not pursue God in dreams and in images of grandeur and power.' Rather, as the Pope explains, God 'must be recognised in the humanity of Jesus and, as a consequence, in that of the brothers and sisters we meet on the path of life.' This is a hard teaching for many to accept, even among those within the Church. God, the Pope reiterates, 'asks us to seek him not outside of life and history, but in relationship with Christ and with our brothers and sisters. 'Seeking him in life,' the Pope adds, 'in history, in our daily life ... is the road to encounter with God: the relationship with Christ and our brothers and sisters.'

Therefore, with Peter, and his successor Pope Francis, 'we ask for the grace to let ourselves be provoked and converted.' To whom shall we turn? To our brothers and sisters in need. We need to be open to being Christ to them, for they may well be Christ for us.

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Aug25/0/RefNickB>

The Pope's Monthly Intention for the month of August

For political leaders — We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

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

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Anthony Cruz MC
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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
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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK
Principal: Nick Frederiksen
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Mater Christi College - Belgrave
Principal: Ms Maria Haggett
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St Joseph's College - Ferntree Gully
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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: Wilhelmina (Will) Hilkes, the sister of Mia Jansen and sister in law of Evert Jansen.

- Funeral mass for late Wilhelmina on 26th August in St. Thomas More church Belgrave at 10.30am. Reciting the Holy Rosary before the mass.

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: Simon Kuyper (sen), Gerrit Donker, Henry Donker, Geraldine Woodhouse, Connie Williams, Dr. Greg Keogh, Edward Clifford Hodapp, Irene Bryne, Elizabeth Mullan, Lorraine Furness, Dale Furnace, Michael Mulcahy, Howard Banks, Thomas (Frank) Blunden, Jack Maher, Alan Newman, Bartelo Pepi, Anne Baruday, Maureen Sale, Josephine Miller, Hannah Bedford-Lee.

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, Glen Butler, 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 25th August

Marianne Kuyper & Mo Cromar

Next week — 1st September

David Paton and Eileen Collins



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.



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: Mark Sutherland, author of *Exterminating Poverty*, the story of his grandfather's fight against Marie Stopes and her eugenics agenda. <https://exterminatingpovertybook.com/>

Plus other great pro-life speakers!

3RD World Day Against Abortion

**9am - Low Mass (TLM)
Talks from 10:00am**

Tea, coffee & light lunch provided
\$10 donation

Faith & fellowship
Books for sale

**SEPTEMBER 7 - ST. PHILIP'S Catholic Church Hall,
60 JUNCTION RD, BLACKBURN NORTH**
<https://www.trybooking.com/CUGWI>



Feast days

- 27th August St. Monica
- 28th August St. Augustine
- 29th August The passion of St. John the Baptist

Parish office notice

The parish office is closed on Thursday, 29th August due to parish priest and the staff will be attending for the Parish Administration Forum..

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE PEOPLE ESSENTIAL TRAINING

As a continuation of our commitment to doing the best to protect our children and vulnerable people, the arch diocese requires volunteers within the parish to complete Essentials Training every three years.

It has been many years since we've been able to offer this as a parish event, but we have been very lucky to secure the services of Brech Burgess from the archdiocese to come and run this training for us.

It is open to all our parish volunteers from all our mass centres and will only take about an hour of your time.

When: August 25th, at 10:30am after 9am mass at Belgrave

Where: over in the St Thomas More school staffroom, after post-mass cuppas

If you have any questions or are unsure if you need to attend, please speak with Father Cruz or Jeanette Wicks for clarification.

We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

The Safeguarding Committee

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK - bringing to your kind attention to all the Leaders of Parish Group and Ministry.

(Mass Managers, Parish council members, Parish Finance Committee members, Social Justice group, Lectors, Money collectors and counters, Sacramental Coordinator, Musicians, Choir members, visitation group, Special communion ministers, Working bee organizing committee members, Vincent de Paul Committee members, Garden maintain volunteers, Child Safety Committee members, Alter decorators, Cleaners, and other Volunteers...) Make sure that all your members have a Valid Working With Children Check. Please contact parish office on 97542141 or email to belgrave@cam.org.au.

Special thanks for the volunteers who have already submitted the copy of a Working With Children Card to the parish office.

Archbishop's Campaign 2024



The 2024 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the Campaign brochure which you will find in your pew and in the foyer today. GSTs of \$2 or more are tax-deductable. Tax-deductable donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Corpus Christ College Building Fund, the Priests Retirement Foundation, John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, University of Divinity Building Fund as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants.

Non-tax-deductable donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation and evangelisation ministries. Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly giving to help us continue to strengthen the Christian faith and address the needs of God's people. Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church. You can also make a giving online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishops-campaign or via the QR codes on the campaign materials. I invite you to give generously to this important campaign.

Please visit the below link for more information.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/2024-archbishops-campaign-supporting-the-future-of-our-faith-community>

Vocations | Invitation - Ordination Breakfast 21 September 2024

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli invites you to the annual Melbourne Ordination Breakfast.

DATE: **Saturday 21 September 2024**

TIME: **7.45am for 8am start**

VENUE: **Park Hyatt, The Library**

This is an opportunity for you to personally invite a young man from your parish to join you at the breakfast and afterwards at the **Ordination Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral**.

We envisage the young man to be 18+ and actively involved in the life of the parish, perhaps through liturgical or youth ministry or other activities.

From 9am all guests will walk across to the Cathedral to witness the priestly Ordination.

Each ticket includes breakfast for you and your guest at a cost of **\$25 each**.

RSVP required by Friday 13 September.

Click here to register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CTMSY>



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](#)

