

Entrance Antiphon Rm 5: 5; cf. 8:11

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us, alleluia.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 2:1-11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30

Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in

all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jn 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven: for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Acts 2:4,11

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.



Next week's readings

First Reading: Ex 34:4-6. 8-9

Responsorial Psalm: Dn 3:52-56 R.v.52

Second Reading: 2 Cor 13:11-13

Gospel: Jn 3:16-18



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

PENTECOST SUNDAY YEAR A - 27th / 28th May, 2023



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Pentecost celebrates the fullness of the Spirit and the great gathering of nations. It brings the Easter season to its conclusion. The Risen Lord has been exalted to his rightful place next to God and he has sent his Spirit to fill the earth with God's power. The world is charged with divine energy; it needs but a spark to ignite it with life and with excitement. This vitality explodes into the extraordinary. Tongues are loosed and speech overflows its linguistic constraints; charismatic gifts flood the valleys of human habitation; barred doors are burst open and frightened hearts are calmed. The Spirit of the Lord fills the whole world.

Once again we gather together for one reason, only to discover that God has gathered us for another. Through the Spirit of God, we are reconciled to each other and then together we spend ourselves for the common good. Through the Spirit of God the world is renewed, the community is revitalised, and we come to know the mysterious yet all pervasive peace of Christ.

The Spirit has been poured forth and works wonders wherever human hearts are open to its promptings. The earth is renewed each time rivalries are resolved, distinctions are recognised as merely expressions of diversity, peace is restored, comfort and solace are offered, and forgiveness is granted. We are immersed in the vigour of the Spirit of God. All we have to do is open ourselves to it and the reign of God will be born in our midst.

[Pentecost Sunday Year A \(liturgyhelp.com\)](http://liturgyhelp.com)

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for 2023 — Month of May

For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

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

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Chairperson — Dennis
 Monbulk: Sue Luxford
Belgrave: David Bhoynz
Gembrook: Rita McPherson
Emerald: Dennis G. 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
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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK
 Principal: Michael Watt
 Phone: 9756 7201
 Email: principal@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Jacobus Johannes Warmerdam, the father of Martha Billington.

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

Anniversaries:

Fr. Eric John Hodgens PE ,Peter and Paul Stokie, Sr. Mary Baptist, Nancy Cromar, Abraham Schellenbach, Bernie McDonnell, Norienne Peterson.

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: John Barber, Kaz Holt, Dimuthu, Glen Butler, Aliyah Lawless, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, 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, 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.**

Church Cleaning

Before a roster is compiled for regular cleaning of the Church we invite any parishioners who are willing to help, to a working bee to give the church a big 'Autumn Clean' at any time you are free between 9.30 – 12 midday on this Saturday 27th or Saturday the 3rd of June.

We will need some heavy lifters to move some of the pews around so if you can help please give us a call on 0431483963 (Maureen) or Pat (0418585834)

**Please bring your vacuum if you have a portable one.



Church Volunteers

A very big **thank you** to our church volunteers who render your valuable service to our parish church communities in various capacities.

Please enter your details in the volunteer list placed in the church foyer. If you have not submitted a copy of your working with children check, please hand over to your mass manager or parish office.

Thank You.

Catholic Mission seeks a Diocesan Parish Appeals Coordinator. This could be you!

Part-time 3 days per week, fixed term (18 months) position based in Melbourne VIC.

Work within community engagement in a creative and innovative role.

Become a member of an experienced Diocesan team.

Recruiting and supervising a team of Parish Ambassadors across Melbourne;

In concert with the Parish Ambassadors, recruiting a team of speakers to promote Church appeals.

Overseeing a formation Program to support a growing team of Parish Mission Ambassadors.

For further information, contact the Diocesan Director of Catholic Mission, Kevin Meese at

Melbourne.director@catholicmission.org.au



Propagation of the Faith Appeal

With Timor-Leste's fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices, and limited access to medical care, many health conditions only worsen, and sadly can result in death.

Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with the Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address this reality.

We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.

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Everything you need to know about Pentecost



This weekend, the Church celebrates Pentecost, one of the most important feast days of the year that concludes the Easter season and celebrates the beginning of the Church.

Here's what you need to know about the feast day:

The timing and origins of Pentecost

Pentecost always occurs 50 days after the death and resurrection of Jesus, and ten days after his ascension into heaven. Because Easter is a moveable feast without a fixed date, and Pentecost depends on the timing of Easter, Pentecost can fall anywhere between May 10 and June 13.

The timing of these feasts is also where Catholics get the concept of the Novena - nine days of prayer - because in Acts 1, Mary and the Apostles prayed together "continuously" for nine days after the Ascension leading up to Pentecost. Traditionally, the Church prays the Novena to the Holy Spirit in the days before Pentecost.

The name of the day itself is derived from the Greek word "pentecoste," meaning 50th.

There is a parallel Jewish holiday, Shavu'ot, which falls 50 days after Passover. Shavu'ot is sometimes called the festival of weeks, referring to the seven weeks since Passover.

Originally a harvest feast, Shavu'ot now commemorates the sealing of the Old Covenant on Mount Sinai, when the Lord revealed the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai. Every year, the Jewish people renew their acceptance of the gift of the Torah on this feast.

What happens at Pentecost?

In the Christian tradition, Pentecost is the celebration of the person of the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Jesus, who were gathered together in the Upper Room.

A "strong, driving" wind filled the room where they were gathered, and tongues of fire came to rest on their heads, allowing them to speak in different languages so that they could understand each other. It was such a strange phenomenon that some people thought the Christians were just drunk - but Peter pointed out that it was only the morning, and said the phenomenon was caused by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit also gave the apostles the other gifts and fruits necessary to fulfill the great commission - to go out and preach the Gospel to all nations. It fulfills the New Testament promise from Christ (Luke 24:46-49) that the Apostles would be "clothed with power" before they would be sent out to spread the Gospel.

Where's that in the bible?

The main event of Pentecost (the strong driving wind and tongues of fire) takes place in Acts 2:13, though the events immediately following (Peter's homily, the baptism of thousands) continue through verse 41.

Happy Birthday, Church

It was right after Pentecost that Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, preached his first homily to Jews and other non-believers, in which he opened the scriptures of the Old Testament, showing how the prophet Joel prophesied events and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

He also told the people that the Jesus they crucified is the Lord and was raised from the dead, which "cut them to the heart." When they

asked what they should do, Peter exhorted them to repent of their sins and to be baptised. According to the account in Acts, about 3,000 people were baptised following Peter's sermon.

For this reason, Pentecost is considered the birthday of the Church

Peter, the first Pope, preaches for the first time and converts thousands of new believers. The apostles and believers, for the first time, were united by a common language, and a common zeal and purpose to go and preach the Gospel.

Pentecost vestments and customs around the world

Typically, priests will wear red vestments on Pentecost, symbolic of the burning fire of God's love and the tongues of fire that descended on the apostles.

However, in some parts of the world, Pentecost is also referred to as "WhitSunday", or White Sunday, referring to the white vestments that are typically worn in Britain and Ireland. The white is symbolic of the dove of the Holy Spirit, and typical of the vestments that catechumens desiring baptism wear on that day.

An Italian Pentecost tradition is to scatter rose leaves from the ceiling of the churches to recall the miracle of the fiery tongues, and so in some places in Italy, Pentecost is sometimes called Pascha Rosatum (Easter roses).

In France, it is tradition to blow trumpets during Mass to recall the sound of the driving wind of the Holy Spirit.

In Asia, it is typical to have an extra service, called genuflexion, during which long poems and prayers are recited. In Russia, Mass goers often carry flowers or green branches during Pentecost services.

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/36152/everything-you-need-to-know-about-pentecost>

Dear parishioners,

You may have heard, I am fundraising to have the tower (Silo) beside the memorial wall painted. This is a parish project not a charity, no receipt. All I am asking for 200 people from the St. Thomas Mores and Mt. Dandenong ranges church communities to donate \$50 each before the end of May. Please forward your donations to below bank account or pay by cash directly to the respective mass managers or to the volunteers below.

Belgrave Josie Walsh and Loretta Gamley

Emerald Marilyn Huber

Gembrook Christine Borg

Monbulk Mim Van Hister

Special thanks for those had already donated.

Make your donations reference to "Silo Art"

Bendigo Bank

St. Thomas More Parish Belgrave

Acct no. 153298989

BSB no 633000

Thank you.

Josie Walsh

