

## Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

### Entrance Antiphon Daniel 3:31,29,30,43,42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

### A reading from the book of Numbers

Numbers 11:25-29

*Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?*

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look', he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

**The word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8. 10. 12-14. R. v.9

*The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.*

### A reading from the letter of St James

James 5:1-6

*Your wealth is rotting.*

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and

luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Gospel Acclamation John 17:17

**Alleluia, alleluia** Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. **Alleluia.**

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

*Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.*

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

### Communion Antiphon Psalm 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

### Next Sunday Readings

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| First Reading      | Genesis 2:18-24 |
| Responsorial Psalm | Ps 127. R. v.5  |
| Second Reading     | Hebrews 2:9-11  |
| Gospel             | Mark 10:2-16    |



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

### Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 28th/29th September, 2024

#### REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

As so often in the Gospel, Jesus takes the way we are tempted to think and flips it on its head: 'Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

Pope Francis suggests that Jesus invites us 'not to hinder those who do good, because they contribute to the fulfilment of God's plan.' This includes the Church, the Pope points out, noting that 'we need to be vigilant about closure in the Church' and falling prey to the devil's temptation 'to divide and exclude people.' The Pope reminds us that unless we are 'humble and open communities' there is a risk that the Church or groups within it can easily 'give the impression of being the "top of the class" and keep others at a distance.' He warns against cliques that form around certain priests, closed-circle pastoral groups, and so on, which 'runs the risk of turning Christian communities into places of separation and not of communion.' 'The Holy Spirit does not want closure,' the Pope affirms. 'He wants openness, welcoming communities where there is a place for everyone.' After all, Jesus exhorted us to rein in our own attitudes rather than worrying about the attributes of others. As the Pope notes, 'the risk is to be inflexible towards others and indulgent towards ourselves.' Therefore, he suggests that 'instead of judging everything and everyone, let us be attentive to ourselves!'



<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2024Sep29/0/RefNickB>

#### 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  
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**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  
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**ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK**  
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**Mater Christi College - Belgrave**  
Principal: Ms Maria Haggett  
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**St Joseph's College - Ferntree Gully**  
Principal: Ms Cathy Livingston  
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**Mount Lilydale Mercy College - Lilydale**  
Principal: Philip Morison  
Phone: (03) 9735 4022 E mail: [pmorison@mlmc.vic.edu.au](mailto: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:** Justin Eadie, Bishop Emeritus Hilton Deakin, Maureen Ann Tuisue, Justin Eadie, Geoff Henwood, Hugh Ilyine, Ted Madden, Terry O'Brien, Le Thity, Patricia Harrison.

**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 Campion, 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, Ingvin 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 29th September**

Mary—Anne Ferraro & Mo Cromar

### **Next week — 6th October**

Erica Kurek & Marianne Kuyper



For details relating to Baptisms, Marriages & Anointing of the Sick, please contact the parish office.

### ***To Contribute Financially to St. Thomas More Parish***

#### **St Thomas Mores Parish Church Account**

BSB: 083 347, Account: 67214 6192

#### **Presbytery Account**

BSB 083 347, Account : 669831148



### **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.*



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:

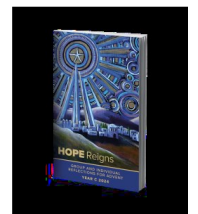
[Job vacancies | Melbourne Catholic](#)



### **Advent 2024 - Hope Reigns**

A 25-day reflection resource for Advent for 2024.

This year's Advent resource, "Hope Reigns" invites us to explore more deeply what it means to have eyes to see and ears to hear Emmanuel, God with us. It will clarify our vision, so that we can welcome anew the wonder of the Christ child who brings heaven to earth and opens the door to the extraordinary gift of life everlasting.



"Hope Reigns" is an inspiring Advent resource that will also help us to welcome a new Jubilee year, beginning on 24 December, where Pope Francis has invited us to become "Pilgrims of Hope". This Advent resource has been developed for both individual prayer and small groups. Advent small groups are an opportunity to gather with together to share life, faith and to pray with one another. The beautiful uplifting and inspiring artwork used on the front cover, and provided throughout the book, is titled "Bethlehem Star 1" and comes to us from the artist Virginia Wieringa.

Please place your order by contacting the parish office on 97542141 or e mail us on [belgrave@cam.org.au](mailto:belgrave@cam.org.au) on or before 4th October.

Cost of the book \$7

Or visit the below link. <https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/adventplus/>



## Upcoming Feasts & Solemnizes

|                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 30th September | St. Jerome                     |
| 1st October    | St. Therese of the Child Jesus |
| 2nd October    | The Holy Gradian Angels        |
| 4th October    | St. Francis of Assisi          |
| 7th October    | Our Lady of the Rosary         |

## The Guardian Angels

Feast day: Oct 02

"For he hath given his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." - Psalm 90:11

The truth that each and every human soul has a Guardian Angel who protects us from both spiritual and physical evil has been shown throughout the Old Testament, and is made very clear in the New.

It is written that the Lord Jesus was strengthened by an angel in the Garden of Gethsemane, and that an angel delivered St. Peter from prison in the Acts of the Apostles. But Jesus makes the existence and function of guardian angels explicit when he says, "See that you despise not one of these little ones: for I say to you, that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 18:10).

In saying this Jesus points out that all people, even little children, have a guardian angel, and that the angels are always in Heaven, always looking at the face of God throughout their mission on earth, which is to guide and protect us throughout our pilgrimage to the house of our Father. As St. Paul says, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to minister for them, who shall receive the inheritance of salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14). However, they guide us to Heaven only if we desire it. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote that angels cannot act directly upon our will or intellect, although they can do so on our senses and imaginations – thus encouraging us to make the right decisions. In Heaven our guardian angels, though no longer needing to guide us to salvation, will continually enlighten us.

Prayer to the guardian angels is encouraged, and the habit of remembering their presence and support leads to friendship with them. The prayer to the guardian angels has been present in the Church since at least the beginning of the 12th century:

Angel of God,  
my Guardian dear,  
to whom His love  
commits me here,  
ever this day  
be at my side,  
to light and guard,  
to rule and guide.  
Amen.



"Let us affectionately love His angels as counselors and defenders appointed by the Father and placed over us. They are faithful; they are prudent; they are powerful; Let us only follow them, let us remain close to them, and in the protection of the God of heaven let us abide." St. Bernard of Clairvaux

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/saint/the-guardian-angels-612>

**The rosary is a victory of God whenever and wherever it is prayed**

**By Michael Howard**

THE Holy Rosary has been drawing people to Jesus' side for more than 800 years.

Its significance to the life of the Church is difficult to overstate.

October 7, marks the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

The beads had ancestors in other forms like psalters but the rosary, as we know it today, arrived in the hands of the faithful in the 13th Century thanks to the Dominican Order.

The Order of Preachers formalised the long-standing Christian tradition of using prayer beads alongside the Hail Mary.

This basis flourished into the Mysteries of the Rosary, which cover the life and death of Jesus.

The joyful, luminous, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries tell the story of Jesus from the Annunciation through to the Crowning of Mary in Heaven.

The rosary epitomises the rightful exaltation of Mary.

Perhaps then, it should be no surprise that it holds such a special place amongst Catholics.

This feast day itself, Our Lady of the Rosary, shows how people have relied on Mary across history.

The day commemorates the Battle of Lepanto, in which the decisive Christian victory is attributed to the Blessed Mother.

Catholics across Europe collectively prayed the rosary so that Christian forces could repel the oncoming Ottoman hoards.

Out-manned and out-gunned, the combined forces of the Holy League (Spain, Papal States, Italian States and Malta), all but destroyed the Ottoman navy, and ensured the safety of the Western Rite.

The feast was traditionally known as Our Lady of Victory, a rather apt title considering the Battle of Lepanto was one of the most influential naval battles in history.

Yet, commemorating this feast as Our Lady of the Rosary, is no less victorious than Our Lady of Victory.

For the rosary is a victory.

The victory at Lepanto, in which Christendom collectively rallied alongside the Mother of God, hints to the power of the rosary.

Or in 20th century Italy, in which St Padre Pio described those humble beads as 'his weapon' against Satan.

Or perhaps even in our own lives, the rosary may play just as important a role as it did for Pope St Pius V or St Padre Pio.

The rosary is a victory of God whenever and wherever it is prayed.

The prayer takes us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ, all the while accompanied by she who knew Him best, his Holy Mother.

This feast day, let us be reminded of the rosary's unique power in drawing us closer to God.

<https://catholicleader.com.au/life/faith/the-rosary-is-a-victory-of-god-whenever-and-wherever-it-is-prayed/>

