

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Jn 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 23: 9-10

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: * Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. * Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 50:4-7

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians Phil 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew Mt 27:11-54

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of

the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, any one they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgment, his wife sent him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.' The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort around him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God."'" Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way. From the



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	

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD YEAR A - 1st/ 2nd April, 2023

PALM SUNDAY

Increase the faith of those who place their hope in you, and graciously hear the prayers of those who call on you, O God, that we, who today hold high these branches in our minds and hearts to hail Christ in his triumph, may bear fruit for you by good works accomplished in him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
 R. Amen.




Let us pray for our Pope Francis's health and his speedy recovery from lung infection.

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

For a culture of peace and non-violence- We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



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

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Child Safety Contacts: Chairperson — Dennis
 Peter van Haaster

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Monbulk:

Belgrave:

Gembrook: Rita McPherson , Louise Jans and Samantha Willis

Emerald: Dennis

Mt. Dandenong:

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

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE
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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: Rev. Salvatore (Sam) Dimattina and Rev. John Tollan.

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:

Maria Donker, Len Bennet, Luke Matanovic, Edward Sherry, Abraham Schellenbach, Anne Johnson, Willy Magnus, Jim McCart, Toos Kuyper.

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: Pope Francis, 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.**

Parish Working Bee - St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

To prepare the church and the grounds for the great Feast of Easter everyone is invited to attend a working bee on **SATURDAY 1ST OF APRIL FROM 10 AM – 2 PM**. There are plenty of jobs from light work to heavier jobs.

We need to do some cutting back of shrubs, weeding, sweeping, spraying, painting, cleaning of sacristy, dusting etc. Lunch and morning tea provided as well as a lot of fun as we support others who provide services of looking after the church from behind the scenes.

**Any enquiries, Maureen Coyne
(0431483963)**



Church Working Bee



PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Thursday of the Lord's Supper —6 April 7.30pm at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave — Washing of the Feet and Eucharist.

8.30 pm Solemn Reservation. Adoration.

Good Friday - 7th April:

10.00am. The Stations of the cross at Sumava Czech Centre, Locks Way, Belgrave South. (Please DO NOT bring any food) but bring an umbrella if rain is forecast.

3.00pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord with Adoration of the Holy Cross and Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church, Monbulk.

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night —Saturday 8th

April: 6.30pm at St. Thomas More Church, Reynolds Lane, Belgrave.

Blessing of the Fire. followed by the vigil Mass.

Sunday of the Resurrection — Easter Sunday 9th

April:

6.30am -St. Joseph's Church, Emerald.

Blessing of the Fire, Holy Eucharist.

Please note also.... that breakfast will be served after the **Easter Dawn Mass at St. Joseph's church. All are welcome.**

9.00am - Holy Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook.

9.00am— Holy Mass St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave.

11.00am—Holy Mass at St. Paul's Church, Monbulk.

Divine Mercy Sunday — 16th April at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

Celebrant: Fr. Anthony Cruz

- 7.45 am — 8.45am —Reconciliation. (Two Priests are available)
- Blessing of the Divine Mercy Image at 9.00 am followed by the Holy Mass
- Exposition of the blessed sacrament
- Praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Holy Rosary
- Reposition of the blessed sacrament

(When leaving the church, please venerate the Divine Mercy image).

- **The Divine Mercy novena starts on Good Friday.**



sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them 'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, 'In truth this was a son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon 26:42

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.



Next week's readings

- First Reading:** Acts 10:34. 37-43
- Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24
- Second Reading:** Col 3:1-4
- Gospel:** Jn 20:1-9

Special Thanks.....

The O' Meara family would like to thank St. Thomas More community for their support and messages of sympathy and condolence on the recent passing of Tony.

The Requiem Mass was made moving, powerful and special by the beautiful music, singing of past and present choir members lead by Jenny Simpson and Chris Woodhouse.

The send off Haka performed by the Tua family, friends and past St. Thomas More students was tribute to Tony's friendship. Thank You.

Finally thank you to Loretta, Julian and the Belgrave South small Christian community who organized the cuppa in the hall afterwards.

To all those who brought " **a plate**" many guests have remarked on " **The amazing spread** " provided. Thank you for your generosity.

Patricia O' Meara

The Stations of the Cross in Lent

The Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 7pm at St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave.



"Candlelight Vigil for Ukraine and world peace:

Our Candlelight Vigil will continue this year on the **first Wednesday of the month** (Wednesday 5th April, in Holy Week.) commencing at 7 pm in the St. Thomas More's church chapel.

- 7.00 pm Mass
- 7.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7.45 pm Rosary
- 8.05 pm Benediction
- 8.10 pm Finish.



Please join us for any of the above to pray especially to the end of the War in Ukraine and for peace in the world.

To view the current vacant roles listed on our Melbourne Catholic website visit :



<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Need your support for St. Vincent de Paul Society Belgrave

St. Thomas More's Vincent de Paul committee members need more food and food items to distribute for needy people in our community. The donation box is placed in the St. Thomas More's church foyer.



Sixth Sunday of Lent (Palm Sunday) 1 & 2 April

Every day, more than 200 million children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water.

With your generosity, Caritas Australia has been able to help millions of vulnerable people around the world, through the Project Compassion appeal.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world to lift themselves and their communities out of poverty.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations.*

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413

