

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong
salvation!

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Dt 6:2-6

**Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart.**

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your
God all the days of your life and if you keep all his
laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will
have a long life, you and your son and your grand-
son. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will
make you prosper and give you great increase, as the
Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving
you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You
shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with
all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I
urge on you today be written on your heart.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 17 :2-4. 47. 51. R.v.2

(R.) I love you Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**

Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be to the God that saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown love for his anointed. **(R.)**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Heb 7:23-28

**This one, because he remains for ever, has an
eternal priesthood.**

There used to be a great number of priests under the
former covenant, because death put an end to each
one of them; but this one, Christ, because he re-
mains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It fol-
lows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain,

innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influ-
ence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens;
since he is living for ever to intercede for all who
come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high
priest would have to be holy one who would not
need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high
priests do for their own sins and then for those of
the people, because he has done this once and for
all by offering himself. The Law appoints high
priests who are men subject to weakness; but the
promise on oath, which came after the Law, ap-
pointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my
words, and my Father will love them and we will
come to them. **Alleluia.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Mk 12:28-34

**This is the first commandment, and the second
is similar to it.**

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a
question to him, 'Which is the first of all the com-
mandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Lis-
ten, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and
you must love the Lord your God with all your
heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and
with all your strength. The second is this: You
must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no
commandment greater than these.' The scribe said
to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is
true: that he is one and there is no other. To love
him with all your heart, with all your understand-
ing and strength, and to love your neighbour as
yourself, this is far more important than any holo-
caust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had
spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of
God.' And after that no one dared to question him
any more.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon : Jn 6:58

Just as the living Father sent me and I have life be-
cause of the Father, so whoever feeds on me shall
have life because of me, says the Lord.

Next week's readings:

First Reading: 1 Kgs 17:10-16

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2

Second Reading: Heb 9:24-28

Gospel Mk 12:41-44



Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160
Phone: 97542141
Office Hours: 10am – 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 (on zoom)	8.am and 9.am	11.00am
	WEEKDAY			9.00am + mass on Zoom	

Homily for the Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 31st October, 2021

As we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, our Lectionary skips a chapter that helps set the context for today's reading. If we were to read the sections skipped (chapter 11 and part of chapter 12), we would hear about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, his cleansing of the Temple, and the questioning of Jesus' authority by the chief priests, scribes, and elders. The context, therefore, for this Gospel is Jesus' growing exposure before the Jewish authorities. Jesus is being questioned and tested by the Jewish authorities, yet the scribe who addresses Jesus in today's Gospel seems to be an admirer; he is not testing Jesus. The question posed in today's Gospel requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional commandments, numbering into the hundreds. For a devout Jew, adherence to the Mosaic Law is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of these commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus was not the only Jewish religious teacher to connect these two commandments, love of God and love of neighbor. Both of these commandments were central elements of the religious tradition that Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed, these commandments continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbor. Many believe, however, that this connection was heard in a new and fresh way when spoken by Jesus.



The scribe who questions Jesus in today's Gospel engages in a positive dialogue with Jesus. He agrees with Jesus' teaching that the commandments to love God and love neighbor stand above the commandment to offer worship and sacrifice in the Temple. With this dialogue, Jesus appears to close the debate with the Jewish authorities. Mark reports that no one dared to question Jesus further.

Source: <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/31st-sunday-in-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:
Monbulk: Chairperson — Dennis
 Tony Whyte and Sue Luxford
 Therese Melia Geary , Evert Jansen
 Mia Jansen
Belgrave: Rita McPherson , Louise Jans and
 Samantha Willis
Gembrook:
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: Caroline Quinton
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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: Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

Anniversaries: : Henny Phillips, William Dyer, Cyril (Bernard) Holmes, Mark Stokes, Stan Simek, Mabel Irving

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: Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Fiona, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster. Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, 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.

Divine Worship

Monday –Saturday: 9am Holy Mass, followed by Holy Rosary (**30 caps who's vaccination status is unknown + on zoom as well**).

Saturday : 6pm Holy Mass (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 8am and 9am masses

5.30 pm Holy Rosary

Join the parish community on zoom in praying together as one family of God for the end the pandemic Covid-19.

Zoom Link below

Topic: Father Cruz' Holy Mass and Holy Rosary on Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGQT09)

[pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGQT09](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=S0YwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGQT09)

Meeting ID: 750 464 5976..

Passcode: 7mJTww

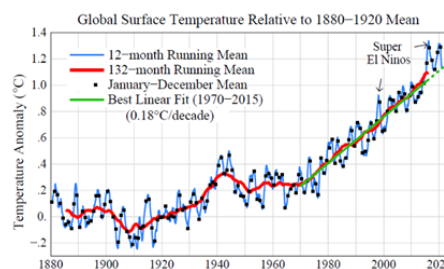


PRAY FOR COP26

Dear fellow parishioners,

This Sunday, 31 Oct 2021, leaders and representatives of 197 countries will gather in Glasgow, UK, to commit to deliver actions that will, hopefully, dampen the catastrophic impact of climate change that scientists have been warning of. These leaders constitute the **Conference of the Parties (COP)** to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ('UNFCCC'), which is the peak decision-making body for the world's climate change commitments. This will be the 26th time that they have gathered to attempt to address the crisis that is being brought about by the climate change. **COP26** and will take place over two weeks, from Sunday 31 October to 12 November, 2021.

Last Monday, the *World Meteorological Organization* released a report showing the level of heat-trapping greenhouse gases in the atmosphere once again reached a new record, above the 2011-2020



trend. This happened despite the slowdown of economic activities due to COVID-19. Another study from the Columbia University shows that the temperature of the earth continues

trending upward and the correlation of the impact of extreme weather, such as El Ninos, are apparent and even more severe is expected as the temperature continues to rise (see graph). There is abundant scientific evidence indicating that the world needs to act. This has resulted in a world-wide call for a net zero emission of heat-trapping greenhouse gases by 2030.

In 2015, Pope Francis released an encyclical letter, *Laudato si'*, with the subtitle "*on care for our common home*". In it, the Pope critiques consumerism and irresponsible development, laments environmental degradation and global warming, and calls all people of the world to take "swift and unified global action."

Our local churches are being supported by *TearFund Australia* and *Common Grace* for members come together as part of **Christians Together for Climate**. We have been working to raise our concerns with members of federal parliament – members of government, Opposition and Independent – in our electorate of Casey.

Our focus is on the need for tangible actions and the case for actions is to be underpinned by compassion and humanitarian interests. We should not forget our neighbours in the Pacific and those who face existential threats from the warming of the earth due to climate change.

From a Christian's perspective, the climate crisis that we are facing is a call for us all to come and work together in search of a resurrection for the good of all of us.

The COP26 will be underway as you read this. I ask you to pray for the delegates to have open minds and compassionate hearts as they discuss to determine the direction of key aspects of addressing global warming.

Gods bless and thank you,

Tri Pham

Church working bee Saturday the 6th November.



Church Working Bee

To prepare our church and grounds for the reopening for Masses and to assist Father Cruz who has been so good to us, everyone is invited to a working bee on Saturday the 6th of November from 10.30 am till 3.30 pm at St Thomas More's in Belgrave. Lunch will be provided.

Whilst Father does have someone doing the lawns, we all know occasionally a good spring clean is necessary. This is what we hope to achieve. We will have a variety of jobs for people to choose from:

Tree trimming and removal, weeding, bush trimming, path weeding, sweeping, vacuuming, dusting, window cleaning and painting of the church door and window sills. Someone may like to help with morning tea and lunch. We will have a trailer also to do a tip run.

If you would like to help in a particular area or just help, please ring or text Patrick Coyne on 0418585834 or Maureen Coyne on 0431483963.

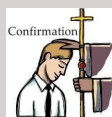
Maureen Coyne

The Sacrament of Confirmation has been rescheduled on 13th November 2021.

Celebrant: Bishop Leslie Tomlinson

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave at 12pm

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk at 2pm



Lets keep in our prayers all the students receiving the sacrament of Confirmation as they are preparing themselves for the same.

Mass Times and mass booking

Mass bookings via '**try booking**' those who are unable to book by try booking, please contact respective person:

- **Vaccination status: unknown**
- **Places of worship must use electronic record keeping through the Victoria Services QR App.**

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook— Sunday 9am

(25 People DQ4)

Mass bookings:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVEXP>

Try booking or contact Christine Borg on 0409 142 364.

St Joseph's Church, Emerald - Saturday 6pm

(30 People DQ4)

Mass Bookings :

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVEXH>

Try booking or Contact Parish Office on 97542141 **before Saturday 12noon.**

St Paul's Church, Monbulk - Sunday 11.00am

(30 People DQ4)

Mass Bookings :

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVEXJ>

Try booking or Contact Mim Van Haaster on 0409 005 176.

St Thomas More, Belgrave 8am & 9am mass

8am mass (30 people DQ4)

Mass bookings :

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVEXF>

9am mass (30 people DQ4)

<https://www.trybooking.com/BVEXR>

Bookings: Try booking or contact Parish office on 97542141 **before Saturday 12 noon.**



All saints day