

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A

Entrance Antiphon: Look to you covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

A reading from the first book of the kings 19:9. 11-13.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord, Himself, went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong, it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not on the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gently breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 84:9-14.
**R. Lord, show us your mercy and love,
And grant us your salvation.**

I will hear what the Lord, God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear Him
and His glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced,
faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before Him
and peace shall follow His steps.

**R. Lord, show us your mercy and love,
And grant us your salvation.**

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 9:1-5.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and

the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ, who is above all, God forever blessed! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
I hope in the Lord, I trust in His word. **Alleluia!**

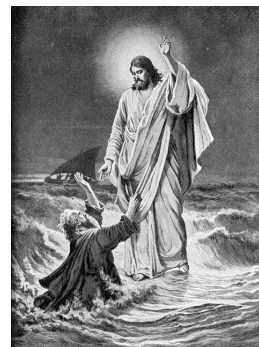
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:22-33.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while He would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away He went up into the hills by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night He went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw Him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' He cried.

Jesus put out His hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' He said, 'why did you doubt?' and as they got into the boat, the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before Him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who give you your fill of finest wheat.



Next week's readings: 1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16, 16:1-2; Ps. 131:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Corinthians 15:54-57; Luke 11:27-28.



Parish of Belgrave

The Catholic Church
in the Dandenong Ranges

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160

Phone: 0400436793 Office Hours 9am-4pm (not Tues).

Internet: pol.org.au/belgrave Email: belgrave@cam.org.au

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 Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Belgrave Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	<u>No Masses</u>	<u>No Masses</u>	<u>No Masses</u>	<u>No Masses</u>
	WEEKDAY				

Mass changes: **MASSSES CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE ON-LINE DUE TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS—we will keep you up-to-date.**

Reconciliation: Marriages & Baptisms by appointment. **To speak with Fr. Cruz, phone 03 8751 8112 and leave a message if not answered.**

9TH AUGUST, 2020 — NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — YEAR A.

Dear parishioners,

At this very outset I wish you all 'Happy Feast of the Transfiguration.' May our Good Lord be on our side during these difficult times when we are not able to live our life without fear. We are advised by the State government to remain at home in order to be safe. Six weeks (stage 4 lockdown) is going to be tough for all of us as we will not be able to move around freely. Despite strict lockdown, there were 725 new cases of Covid-19 yesterday which was very disappointing. And the news about the explosion in Lebanon, too, was very sad. Let us pray for all those who lost their lives in the explosion and pray for all those who are hospitalised with severe injuries. The world needs our prayers at the moment. Let us also keep in our prayers those who have lost their dear ones in the explosion, so that they may be consoled by God Almighty.

The Transfiguration of Jesus, amidst all these problems and sufferings, encourages us to remain focused on our final destination, i.e. sharing God's own glory in heaven. The feast of the Transfiguration reminds us of the glory that we will be sharing at end of our life here on earth. St Paul in his letter to Romans 8:18 says, **"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that he will reveal to us later."** It was when the disciples of Jesus were wavering in their faith that Jesus took with him Peter, James and John and transfigured Himself before them. He showed them a glimpse of heavenly glory.

So let us not lose our hope and trust in the Lord. All our sufferings will not be in vain. In fact, our present sufferings are not an end in themselves, rather they are pathways and a means to our salvation. So let us face them with trust in Lord.

Kindly comply with lockdown restriction to remain at home and be safe. If possible, try to participate in the Mass on Zoom by clicking the Zoom link sent to you.

Assuring you of my prayers for all of you, I remain,

Fr Anthony Cruz

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Fr. Anthony Cruz anthony.cruz@cam.org.au
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Parish Office hours 9 am –4 pm Mon/Wed/Thurs/Friday.

PARISH SECRETARY : 9754 2141 belgrave@cam.org.au
Sacraments : belgrave@cam.org.au

Child Safety Contacts: Maria 9754 5200 & Jeanette 97542759

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Chairperson — Andrew Jans 0419590155

Monbulk: Rin Van Raay
Belgrave: Daryn Corish & Marie Madden
Gembrook: Pam Giulieri & Matthew Thomas
Emerald: John Conway & Lisa McLean
Mt. Dandenong: Virginia Schneiders & Stephen Billington.

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE

Principal: Caroline Quinton
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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK

Principal: Michael Watt
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www.spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Valmai Spring (mother of Jeanette Wicks, Belgrave, and Grandmother to her and Richard's children) - *Eternal rest grant unto Val, Our Lord, may perpetual light shine upon her and may her dear soul rest in peace;* we pray the same prayer for the many thousands of people across the world who have died from the corona virus and for those killed in Beirut this week.

Anniversaries: Nick Spykers, Mary Comer, Bartoli Pepi, Connie Pepi, Joan McCart.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Joy Goodie, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, Stephen, Lois Lenaghan, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, Alida Cabret, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Geoff Henwood, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Robert Drake, Helen Hermann, Lyn Blackman, Joan Munday, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Peter Champion, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

THIS WEEKEND IS THE CATHOLIC CARE SUNDAY

APPEAL; Donations from our parish community will help CatholicCare to support the most vulnerable people in our community.



Please donate to the CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help break barriers to social inclusion and strengthen families and communities to live life to the full. You can donate at [www.ccam.org.au/Sunday Appeal](http://www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal) or call (03) 9287 5513.

It goes, without saying, that families in our state will struggle financially and emotionally in the long months to come. If you can support CatholicCare, and other agencies such as St. Vincent de Paul, during this period you will be helping those families.

LITURGY BRISBANE: Some families might have noticed that when the Parish newsletter is emailed, we often send 'Family Prayer' from Liturgy Brisbane. They have sent this valuable resource through free-of-charge during this year of crisis, but we have now purchased an annual subscription from them to enable us to continue this great service into the post-Covid future :).

AS OF NOW ALL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS STAND SUSPENDED except funerals with restricted numbers. **Please call 03 87518112 if any of you want to talk to me.** You are most welcome to call me on that number, too, if you want me to offer Mass for any of your personal intentions.

Fr. Cruz

ZOOM-ENABLED ROSARY: Our thanks go to Evie Czarneki for organising a weekly Rosary on Zoom—**every Sunday at 9.30 a.m.** The link for this week:

Topic: Belgrave Parish Rosary

Time: Aug 9, 2020 09:15 AM Australia/Melbourne

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72620184388?pwd=empSQTIOMHIHVVRwRTFDThhVZW5oQT09>

Meeting ID: 726 2018 4388

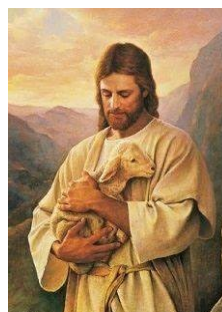
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THANKS TO MARIE MADDEN, BELGRAVE, Fr. Cruz will be celebrating **Mass via Zoom on every day except Sunday**, when the above Rosary will be recited on Zoom, and televised and online Masses are available.

Zoom details for Masses in the coming week and thereafter will be emailed to you.

A PRAYER FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS DURING THIS TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 from the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, Ireland.

*Loving God,
we place into your care
all our doctors, nurses and healthcare workers.
Give them courage of heart
and strength of mind and body.
Keep them safe from harm.
May they know our deep gratitude
for all they are doing
to heal and help those affected by
the coronavirus.*



*God of all consolation
may they know your protection
and peace.
Bless them in these challenging
days
and bless their families.
Amen.*

I cast my cares on the Lord

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF

MELBOURNE has fantastic online resources to help you through this time of suffering:

www.cam.org.au/coronavirus.

STAGE 4 RESTRICTIONS – METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE:

'Metropolitan Melbourne' is made up of 31 local government areas. Stage 4 restrictions have been put in place for these areas, which includes this Parish in its entirety.

• **All Victorians over the age of 12 must wear a face covering whenever they leave their home, unless a medical exemption applies. As of 11.59pm Sunday 2 August, 2020 and for a period of 6 weeks unless otherwise directed.**

• All places of worship including churches, adoration chapels and other church buildings used for public prayer and religious services. are to be closed. **Fr. Cruz cannot receive visitors for confession, unfortunately.**

• **WEDDINGS:** No weddings are permitted unless an application is made to the DHHS for an exemption on compassionate grounds. If compassionate reasons permit a marriage ceremony to proceed, then only 5 people are allowed, comprising of the couple, the two witnesses and the celebrant.

• **FUNERALS:** will be limited to 10 mourners, plus the minimum number required to conduct the funeral.

• **BAPTISMS:** are to be postponed, unless here is a grave pastoral need. (Can. 857; 860).

• **LIVESTREAMING:** a limit of 5 in total may be present, including the celebrant.

• **VISITATIONS:** home visitations are not permitted unless for grave reasons. Only Clergy (Priests and Deacons) may visit. All hygiene precautions must be adhered including the wearing of face coverings. Holy Communion is not to be given to anyone in their homes or care facilities, including the sick and homebound, except as Viaticum for the dying, which may be administered only by Priests and Deacons, and complying with all hygiene precautions and the protocols of the relevant hospitals or aged-care facilities (washing hands, etc.) as appropriate.

• **CURFEW:** A Curfew is in place from 8pm until 5am each day. You may leave home for the purposes of essential work only.

• **If you can work from home, you must do so.** All requirements around hygiene and distancing must be met, along with the collection of contact details. **Accordingly, the Parish Office is closed. Phone: 0400436793 or 0387518112.**



Holy God, source of all goodness, you show us in Mary MacKillop, a woman of faith who lived by the power of the cross. Teach us to embrace what she pioneered: new ways of living the gospel that respect and defend the human dignity of all in our land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Feast Day of St. Mary MacKillop
Thursday 8th August*

WITH THE LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS,

I thought that **you** might wish to pass on some encouragement by:

- Letting others know that if they are on the internet, yet not receiving messages from the Parish, that they only need to let us know on 0400436793 and we'll keep them in the loop.
- Letting those without the internet know that every week the notices are posted on the door of each Mass Centre to keep those parishioners informed. **This will continue for your area in stage 4.**
- By putting a card or letter in the mail to those you know are isolated, or making a weekly phone call to those that you do know. It reassures them that you are okay and it keeps our community members in contact. If you don't know someone's address, send your card or letter to c/- St. Thomas More Parish Office, Post Office Box 100, Belgrave 3160, and we'll pass it on to that person.
- Adding a positive message to your fellow-parishioners via this newsletter. Just send a message by Thursday morning each week. This also applies if you have some good news to share, e.g. the birth of a grandchild, etc.

Could I please especially encourage you in this last suggestion? It seems we are loaded down with bad news currently and we are all feeling it. It was so nice to put some good news in the newsletter recently, believe me. Thanks.

