

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Jonah 3:1-5. 10

A reading from the prophet Jonah

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least. God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

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

Brothers, our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel - Mark 1:14-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him. Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday (9.30am to 3.00pm)



A house of welcome to all and a place of service to all

3rd Sunday, Year B

January 21, 2024

A call to conversion

The Greek word "metanoia" is often used by theologians as well as psychologists to describe a deep change of heart and mind, which results from having our previous beliefs and values challenged and consequently, turning towards a way of living which embraces a greater openness to growth and to God. It is this invitation which Jesus put to his disciples by the sea of Galilee in today's gospel.

Erik Varden, a Trappist monk whom Pope Francis appointed bishop of Trondheim, Norway, described his own experience of conversion in his book *Entering the Twofold Mystery: On Christian Conversion* (Bloomsbury, 2022) Returning home one night to the priory he was living at, while he was a research student in Paris, he was shocked to find a dishevelled, homeless man sleeping in the doorway.

Annoyed at first, he collected his thoughts and roused the man, who was irate at being wakened. Bishop Varden offered to help the man find accommodation. As they walked through the streets of Paris, the man said his name was Manu (short for Emmanuel) and in the darkness pointed out the vague outlines of homeless people known to him, who were sleeping. He saw to it that the man had warm, safe accom-

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Tuesday: 5:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:00 am

Thursday: 9:00 am

Friday: 5:30 pm

RECONCILIATION

Friday: 4:30 pm – 5:15 pm

Saturday: 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesday: 9:30am - 11:00am

First Friday: 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Divine Mercy Chaplets

Second Wednesday: 7:30pm

Novena

Saturday: 5:30 pm

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Phong Nguyen
Priest in Residence: Rev. Fr. Anthony Vu
Parish Secretary: Heidy Lu

modation for the night. As they parted, the man took his hand, thanked him warmly and expressed the hope that perhaps one day, they would meet again.

Bishop Varden writes that “my heart previously dark, was charged with a joy so profound it was painful.” Although he had previously intended to return to a secure job after his studies, this encounter made him feel a deep call to commit his life to praying for the world “in union with the sacrifice of Christ.” To him, this would be a way to “breathe hope into our too often hopeless world.” This experience set him on the life-changing path to becoming a monk.

For some, responding to a call may set us on a path to the consecrated life or priesthood. For all of us though, it is an invitation to turn away from a world view which is egocentric, narrow, exclusive, or judgmental; to both ourselves and others, towards a broad empowering vision. It is saying yes to a way of being which is intimately grounded in God.

Thomas Merton writes of his moment of insight “In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the centre of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realisation that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs.”

A call to conversion helps us realise that it is the deep reality of beauty, mystery, awe and generosity to which we are ultimately called to commit ourselves. May this sacred commitment to be in intimate communion with God and with all creation, inspire us to live in a way which makes a radical difference to our communities and to the world.

Sophie Clements
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Baptisms:

We welcome Xavier Daniel Goyal Menezes, Max Beavis and Alexander Gipson into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Mr Aldino Leong Da Silva and Luciano De Tann who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Joseph Swift, Swee Lin (Agnes) Chia, Cecil Anton Saverimutto, Mark S Pereira, Tony Bonavita, Elizabeth Nicholson, Joanna Ng Fung King and Kathleen Agnes Hand whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 28TH JANUARY

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
 Flowers: Rosemary Lui Yeo
 Counters: 1. P Golding 2. D Kumala 3. P Murray

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
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Acolytes	P Doss	C Goh	T Roper
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Altar Servers	T Jomy	J Cherian	A Hadiyanto
	J Lee	I Lu	A Kan
	K Lee		A Lowth

Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) and Readers –
 Please come up as required – **NO ROSTERS FOR JANUARY 2024.**

Piety Stall	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
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Safeguarding Officers:

- Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)
- Derek Choo (Derek.Choosafeguarding@gmail.com)
- Marguerite Parker (margparkersgo@gmail.com)
- Monica de Rozario (monica.derozario.safeguarding@gmail.com)

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED FROM FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2023, 3.00PM AND WILL RE-OPEN ON TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY 2024, 9.30AM.

PLEASE NOTE: In 2024, there will be Masses for the following Solemnities, Holy Week, Octave of Easter, and Octave of Christmas that will fall either on Monday or Saturday:

- Monday 18th March 2024 – 9.00am – St Patrick

A WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND 17TH/18TH FEB 2024 IN BAHASA INDONESIAN LANGUAGE

It will be held at Corpus Christi College, Bateman. This is a rare and wonderful opportunity for Indonesian speaking couples to enrich and deepen their relationships. Please pass the word around to Indonesian speaking couples, including couples in a long term committed relationships. Contact Dwi or Sandra: 0416 433 741.

CHINESE/LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION - SUN 18TH FEB AFTER 10AM MASS

Our parish would like to honour those who are associated with the rich Chinese culture and Chinese heritage and mark the beginning of the Year of the Wood Dragon. There will be a special Mass followed by a community lunch - please bring a plate to share. More information later.

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS BALL 2024 – GARDEN OF EDEN - SAT 17TH FEB

This event is for young adults, ages 18-30. More details: events.humanitix.com/cym-ball
 Date: Saturday, 17th February 2024 at 6:30 pm to 11:30 pm Tickets: \$120 per person
 Venue: Pagoda Resort and Spa - 112 Melville Parade, Como WA 6152