

# Sunday Readings

Year B

## First Reading - Genesis 9:8-15

### A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

## Second Reading - 1 Peter 3:18-22

### A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

## Gospel - Mark 1:12-15

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

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.'

# 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*

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Lent, Year B

February 18, 2024

### **Let this be a different Lent**

Mark wrote his gospel for persecuted Christians living in Rome. These early believers lived in fear of being thrown to the wild beasts in the public square; their cruel and agonising deaths a source of grotesque 'entertainment' for Rome's citizens!

Interestingly, today's gospel situates Jesus with wild beasts in the wilderness, where Mark says that he was tempted by Satan. The word *satan* in Hebrew means an opponent, and in the Old Testament, it typically referred to human opponents. In time, the word also came to be understood as a kind of 'public prosecutor', someone who accused people before God.

Eventually, it came to mean God's adversary; a demonic spirit opposed to God. So, in the New Testament, Satan was seen as the powerful spirit of evil, engaged in a great tussle against God. By Jesus entering the wilderness, he 'took on' Satan on his home ground; an encounter which Jesus clearly won!

But when Jesus leaves the wilderness of temptation, we know it's an experience that he will encounter again and again at various stages throughout his public life and ministry, including those last hours in the garden and on the Cross.

## 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

For example, recall when Jesus tells Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God’s way but man’s.” So, in his preaching, Jesus, who is *the* way to God, urged his followers to see that the time had come for them to embrace God’s way, to allow God to guide and direct their lives and to allow the Good News to illuminate their minds, hearts and actions. But for that to happen, they need to repent and believe.

For us, too, temptations and evil are part of our lives. Selfishness, greed, dishonesty, jealousy, revenge, resentment, control and power constantly surround and seduce us. But the true value, worth and beauty of life, comes with building and fostering a loving and just society, founded on Jesus the Way to God, and his Good News of truth, integrity, love, compassion, freedom and peace.

That’s why we need this purifying period of Lent every year. If, in recent years, we let it pass us by largely unnoticed, let this year be different. Let it be a time to review our lives, reflect upon our thoughts, words and deeds, and concentrate our efforts more fully on the things of God, and to repent and believe.

At the beginning of Lent, the Church always takes us into the wilderness with Jesus, to confront the powers that are contrary to the gospel. The good news is that we face this lifelong task under the guidance, strength and inspiration of the Holy Spirit and with the powerful nourishment of the Eucharist, and together with the support and encouragement of our fellow pilgrims of faith gathered here with us today.

David J Hore CSsR  
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**Baptisms:**

We welcome Violet Eve Connolly, Vance Ellis Murphy, Charli-Rae Aviamé Emmitt and Eli Tevita Emmitt into our Parish Community.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Deaths:** Please pray for Patricia Owens, Andrian Tanuadji, Fr. Wayne Davis and Maverick Lim who passed away recently.

**Anniversaries:**

Please pray for Ronald Chapman, Lawrence Addis, Hazel Daphne Batchelor, Robert (Bob) Zappara, Murray Gillett, Francesca Portelli, Jessie Alexander, Lora Paul Raj, Richard Oon Chuan Hoe, Joseph Doss, Maria Stella Sansone and Ronald Blakely Brown whose anniversaries occur around this time.

# R O S T E R S

## FOR 25TH FEBRUARY

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo  
 Flowers: Elda Ruoss  
 Counters: 1. P Foley                      2. S Lau                      3. G Weldt

|   | Saturday<br>6.00pm  | Sunday<br>8.00am   | Sunday<br>10.00am  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Acolytes                                  | S Cowman  | P Cox  | P Doray  |
| Altar Servers                             | A Dass<br>G Dass<br>A D'Monte   | J Cherian<br>I Lu  | M Ludlow-Lees<br>J Reutens<br>G Winaulin                               |
| Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion | A Ruban<br>A Loo<br>A Khoo<br>L McMinn<br>P McMinn<br>M Magnussen<br>L Morzenti | A Anthony<br>C Craggs<br>C Cox<br>B D'Cruz<br>M De Rozario<br>D Dennis<br>G Dunsford | M Doray<br>S Fialho<br>P Fraser<br>J Louie<br>A Lu<br>F May<br>J Mohan |

Catechists CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
Michelle Lowth

|         |                  |                         |                     |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Readers | KA King<br>A Loo | J Kearney<br>J Kingsley | V Hodgson<br>S John |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|

Readers Coordinator: Vivian Ng - 0403 161 838

**Piety Stall                      OPEN                      OPEN                      OPEN**

**Safeguarding Officers:**  
 1. Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)  
 2. Derek Choo (Derek.Choosafeguarding@gmail.com)  
 3. Marguerite Parker (margparkersgo@gmail.com)  
 4. Monica de Rozario (monica.derozario.safeguarding@gmail.com)

**MORE CARE - DO YOU NEED HELP OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?**

- ♦ Stephen            0408 167 400 (Coordinator) Christine    0412 887 950 (Transport)
- ♦ Monica            0419 945 005 (Meals)
- ♦ Serina             0420 991 868 (Visiting)
- ♦ Angela            0418 953 992 (Bereavement Support)
- ♦ Parish Office    9310 1747 (General Enquiries)

## PARISH NEWS

**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 18<sup>th</sup> March – 9.00am – St Patrick
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – 9.00am – Monday of Holy Week
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April – 9.00am – Octave of Easter
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April – 9.00am – Octave of Easter
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – 9.00am – The Annunciation of the Lord
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June – 9.00am – The Nativity of St John the Baptist.
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June – 9.00am – St Peter and St Paul



### PERMANENT PART TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### **Parish RE/Sacramental Coordinator - Bateman Catholic Parish**

St Thomas More Catholic Church, Bateman Parish, has a vacancy for a Religious Education/ Sacramental Coordinator. This position is 15 hours a week (Tuesdays and Wednesdays), the Coordinator of the Parish Religious Education program provides leadership to assist the parish community in building a solid foundation of faith for children and their families.

In this position, the Coordinator facilitates and manages in bringing Religious Education to children who do not attend Catholic Schools.

The Coordinator works in collaboration with the Parish Priest, Catechists, Parents, the Catholic school and the Catholic Service Team. An understanding of parish life and support of the ethos and values of the Catholic Church is expected of an applicant. Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook will be advantageous. Training will be provided for a suitable candidate. Applicants must also be willing to undergo a formation course.

Applications close **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024**. A Job description is available on request. Please submit your application via email to Fr Phong Nguyen at phong.nguyen@perthcatholic.org.au.

### **PARISH EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Please be advised of our parish email addresses at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Bateman Parish:

1. Bateman Catholic Parish (Secretary): bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
2. Bateman Planned Giving: pgiving.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
3. Bateman Pastoral Care: morecare.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
4. Bateman Catechist: catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
5. Bateman Safeguarding Officer: sgo.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au
6. Bateman Youth: youth.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au

## PARISH NEWS

### **LENTEN SEASON**

As the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, we are called by the Church to pray, fast, and do works of mercy. **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** are days of **fast** and **abstinence**. Lent is a penitential season of **prayer, self-denial and helping others**. In this way, the Church prepares for Easter and joyfully welcomes those adults who have completed the RCIA programme and consequently be baptised during the Easter Saturday Vigil Mass.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Fridays during Lent after the 5.30pm Mass.**

- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 – Led by Marriage Encounter Group
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 – Led by Men Alive Group
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Led by Legion of Mary Group
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Led by Scriptural Rosary Group
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 – Led by Readers Group

### **FRIDAY ADORATION DURING LENTEN SEASON**

Friday Adoration during Lenten Season will be held from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 at 6.30pm - 9pm (Straight after Stations of the Cross). Resources will be left on the back table.

### **BATEMAN PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024 AT 7.00PM**

Our Lenten Reconciliation Service for the Parish will be held on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.00pm**. There will be many priests to assist, so please come along and prepare well for Easter.

The following parishes advised their Lenten Reconciliation services:

**Willetton Parish** – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – 7.00pm

### **CHINESE/LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION - SUN 18<sup>TH</sup> FEB AFTER 10AM MASS**

Chinese New Year mass at 10am and celebrations immediately following the mass is this Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Please come along to share the Eucharistic Celebration together, and after mass to enjoy some cultural dancing, music from the ukulele group and a shared meal.

The courtyard entertainment is as follows :

1. Lion Dance
2. Welcome by CA Norris
3. First Cultural Dance
4. Grace by Fr Phong
5. Shared Meal
6. Ukulele Group
7. Second Cultural Dance

### **UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT: AN ANCIENT TEXT FOR MODERN TIMES**

Day/Date: Wednesdays, 28<sup>th</sup> February – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Time: 7:30pm – 8:30pm (4 sessions) at Bateman Parish Hall

Presenter: Mr Joe Tedesco

The Old Testament makes up a very significant part of the Bible. These books contain some of the most renowned stories of Sacred Scripture. The deeper implications and understandings of these stories are often missed. This program will unpack some Old Testament stories and reveal how they lay down the foundation for the Christian faith. Together, we will discover that they are as important today as they have ever been. Coffee & Tea will be provided during each session. Come and help us build a vibrant and faith-filled community.

## PARISH NEWS

### SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2024: ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH, BATEMAN

Reconciliation: Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 10.00am

First Eucharist: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 at 3.00pm

Confirmation: Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024 at 3.00pm and Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024 at 11.30am

### ST THOMAS MORE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Sacramental classes for our Parish and other surrounding schools commenced on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> February from 4.00pm until 5.00pm.

Enrolments are online for the RE programme. The link is as below. Please click the link to open up the enrolment form. Bank details are at the bottom of the form. If you are experiencing difficulties in enrolling online please send me an email and/ or come in any Wednesday during school hours to meet with me. I am also available on catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au at other times, to enrol.

All children (from pre-school age on) from within the Parish boundaries who attend Government schools are warmly welcomed to attend the Religious Education after school program. Special arrangements can be made for High School children and Catholic School children who may not have celebrated their age relevant Sacrament.

#### **Please note that Confirmation is a 2 year program**

You can access the 2024 enrolment form below:

<https://stthomasmorebateman.formstack.com/forms/enrolment2024>

### ST THOMAS MORE PARISH GATHERING FOR YOUNG CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES

Parents and Grandparents are invited to attend with their children aged 0-5yo for an informal play time in the parish hall. We will meet weekly on Thursday mornings after the 9am Mass, at 9:30am - 11am during school term time (8<sup>th</sup> Feb - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024). Caregivers must stay with the children. Bring along some toys, snacks and anything else the child needs. Some faith based music and activities may also accompany the sessions. We are excited to meet some new families and build community with our young children.

For more information contact the Parish office: 9310 1747 or contact Anita Parker through the Parish Flocknote group:

<https://stthomasmorecatholic.flocknote.com/BatemanParishPla>



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations.

#### **Please donate to Project Compassion.**

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

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### FR WAYNE DAVIS' FUNERAL - WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 AT 1.45PM

The livestream link to Fr Wayne Davis' Funeral at St Mary's Cathedral, Perth on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 at 1.45pm (Perth WA Time) is <https://bowraodea.com.au/tribute-page/?nid=1015d679-cff4-4f0e-95e0-cb1d5e79a48c>, for parishioners that are unable to attend.

### TOUR GUIDE OPEN HOUSE - TUESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 AT 10.30AM

At our beautiful Cathedral, St Mary's, we have a very enthusiastic band of volunteers who conduct tours to schools, public and private organizations as well as the general public. This voluntary Ministry was founded in February 2011 and has grown over the years from two to eight tour guides; however, we are looking to increase our numbers. On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30 am we will be conducting a tour followed by a light morning tea in the Cathedral's Parish Centre. The aim of this "Open Day" is for those individuals who are perhaps retired or are available during the week and would like to find out more of what is involved, to come along to the fact-finding event. You will be able to ask questions, meet the other guides and perhaps decide to join us. Your commitment would only be determined by your availability and may be just one tour every month or so for approximately 1½ hours. Of course, all necessary training and resources are provided.

To register your attendance, or for more information, please call Carol Wright, Tour Guide Coordinator on 0419 948 411 or Email: [clwwright@bigpond.net.au](mailto:clwwright@bigpond.net.au)

### CCR OPENING YEAR MASS - THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

Catholic Charismatic Renewal will hold their Opening Year Mass at Holy Trinity Church, 8 Burnett St, Embleton, on Thursday, Feb 22nd, commencing with Prayer & Praise at 7:30pm, followed by the Mass. Further info from Dan - 0409 849 049 or [daniel.hewitt5@bigpond.com](mailto:daniel.hewitt5@bigpond.com). Come along to celebrate the beginning of this wonderful year with the Lord and to ask His abundant blessings on us all.

### CFR PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING - FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

Catholic Faith Renewal (CFR) invites you and your family to a Praise & Worship Evening at Sts John & Paul Church, Willetton, at 7.30pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Mar 2024. Features Songs of Praise, Mass and Talk by the Very Rev Fr Vincent Glynn, Episcopal Vicar for Education & Faith Formation on "Experiencing the presence of God in our lives: The Lens of Sacramentality". Admission is free. For info, phone Charles 0413 755 799 or Ivan 0428 898 833.

### HAWES HERITAGE TRAIL 4 DAY PILGRIMAGE - 9<sup>TH</sup> - 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024 - \$400 PER PERSON

You're invited to participate in a voyage of discovery, based in Geraldton, of the iconic buildings and sites relating to the heritage of Priest/Architect John Cyril Hawes, in the Midwest of Western Australia.

Luxury Coach travel with Tour Guide and Spiritual Director is supplied daily from Geraldton, along with refreshments and lunch.

Pilgrims are responsible for arranging their own transport to and from Geraldton and accommodation in Geraldton. Anawim Journeys (0402 290 827) are offering a Pilgrimage Package which includes Travel and Accommodation. For further information and to reserve your place on the Pilgrimage, visit [www.monsignorhawes.com](http://www.monsignorhawes.com) or Phone Gerry 0417 912 997.