

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

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

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel - John 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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Phone (08) 93101747

Website: bateman.perthcatholic.org.au

E-Mail: bateman@perthcatholic.org.au

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



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

3rd Sunday Lent, Year B

March 3, 2024

Jesus' divine mission

If there is one incident in Jesus' life that leads us to question his judgment, the story of him taking a whip and angrily driving people out of the temple must rank as a strong contender. We have heard in recent weeks that Jesus can be forthright in challenging people – even calling pharisees 'hypocrites' to their faces!

But our major image is of a patient and forgiving Jesus rather than someone striking out at people with a raging temper.

So, how are we to understand this story? A good place to start is another story of Jesus visiting the Jerusalem temple with his mother and father when he was a twelve-year-old boy. On that occasion, Jesus becomes so caught up by the temple experience he misses the caravan taking his family back to Nazareth. When his parents realise Jesus is missing, they hasten back to find him among the temple priests and elders, engaging with them about the meaning of the Scriptures.

Now, the temple for traditional Israelites was the holiest of all places on earth enabling people to experience the presence of the living God in their lives in an unsurpassed way. This must have been Jesus' boyhood experience evident in his response to his confused parents: "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know I must

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

be in my Father's house?"

So, when Jesus returns to the temple some twenty years later and finds it filled with hawkers, merchants and other traders, he is incensed that greed and money-lust have turned his "Father's house" into a marketplace.

However, rather than directing his anger to the little people who are simply trying to make a living in a hostile world, surely Jesus should have confronted the temple priests who allowed – no doubt benefited financially from – this defilement of God's house.

Jesus has this opportunity to respond to the chief priests when they challenge him for his table-turning, whip-lashing behaviour. In answer to their question – "On what authority do you do this?" – Jesus' strange response confounds everyone: "Destroy this temple and I will raise it up again in three days".

Somehow, this is a moment of insight for Jesus. He begins to realise his mission of communicating God's love and forgiveness will result in the destruction of the other temple – his own body – on a Cross. Yet, God's glory will always shine through beyond suffering, cruelty and death itself.

This is the paradox St Paul writes about in his letter to the Corinthians. He realises how preaching a crucified Christ is folly to Jews and Greeks alike. Yet Paul also knows we must acknowledge our own sinfulness and stupidity if we are to experience God's power and wisdom.

Too often, we are like the temple traders busy with our own pursuits rather than seekers of the living God. We often ignore God's covenant because we are afraid to witness to a crucified-and-risen Christ who heals our weakness and failures with divine love and mercy.

Gerard Hall SM
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Baptisms:

We welcome Liam Samuel Goodhill into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Christine Subashini Chandrasekaran, Patricia Owens, Andrian Tanuadji, Fr. Wayne Davis and Theresia Tajung (Fr Remi's Mother) who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for , Mary Mona King, Ronald Blakely Brown, Aidah Philips, Cedric Simons, Noreen Rao and Jeanette Krystyna Bozanich whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 10TH MARCH

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
Flowers: Diana Puspita
Counters: 1. D Kumala 2. L Thornett 3. A Vinci

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	J Loo	P Cox	T Roper
Altar Servers	F Lie J Lie J Mar	J Cherian I Lu	A Evans S Evans A Demberger
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	G Lopez P Ardianto A De Souza O D'Mello J Doss D Garreffa G Garreffa	M Stephen A Anthony M Ch'ng M Ch'ng C Craggs C Cox M de Rozario	A Faleiro L Saverimutto J Stephen S Wong E Tandy A Aquino P Braganza

Catechists CHILDREN'S LITURGY
Michelle Lowth

Readers	L Rego L Rego	A Martin B Martin	K Lingoh M Fely
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Readers Coordinator: Kim Gamba - 0417 918 252

Piety Stall **OPEN** **OPEN** **OPEN**

Safeguarding Officers:
 1. Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)
 2. Derek Choo (Derek.Cho.safeguarding@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 18th March – 9.00am – St Patrick
- Monday 25th March – 9.00am – Monday of Holy Week
- Monday 1st April – 9.00am – Octave of Easter
- Saturday 6th April – 9.00am – Octave of Easter
- Monday 8th April – 9.00am – The Annunciation of the Lord
- Monday 24th June – 9.00am – The Nativity of St John the Baptist.
- Saturday 29th June – 9.00am – St Peter and St Paul



Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

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 and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

YOUTH NOTICE

HYPE NIGHT BY CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY PERTH

SAT 16TH MARCH 2024 AT 6PM - 9PM AT TREEBY COMMUNITY & SPORTS CENTRE

• FoosBall • Air Hockey • Nerf War • Gaming Station • basketball game • dance floor • sausage sizzle • fairy floss • slushie machine

Ticket \$15 | Food, Snacks and Drinks Provided

For Registrations: events.humanitix.com/hype-night

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

PARISH MORNING TEA - SUNDAY 3RD MARCH 2024

Sunday morning coffee is every Sunday after 8am mass in the hall. Coffee is also on the first Sunday of the month (3rd March 2024) in the courtyard after 10am mass.

Important notice!! The Parish Pastoral Council is trialling Saturday evening coffee in the courtyard after 6pm mass for the next 3 months beginning 2nd March 2024.

Join us for fellowship and meet new parishioners.

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 8th March 2024 – Led by Legion of Mary Group
- Friday 15th March 2024 – Led by Scriptural Rosary Group
- Friday 22nd March 2024 – Led by Readers Group

FRIDAY ADORATION DURING LENTEN SEASON

Friday Adoration during Lenten Season will be held from Friday 16th February until Friday 22nd 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 6TH MARCH 2024 AT 7.00PM

Our Lenten Reconciliation Service for the Parish will be held on **Wednesday 6th 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 13th March 2024 at 7.00pm
Canning Vale Parish – Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 7.00pm

We have a wonderful opportunity to gather spiritually as a community for this significant event during lent. There are many reasons for attending this Second Rite of Reconciliation Service:

- The process of the Second Rite of Reconciliation allows for effective preparation through Scripture readings, Examination of Conscience and a Homily - perhaps giving better preparation than we could do alone. This preparation is followed by individual confessions and individual absolution.
- Catechism of the Catholic Church no 1444 (CCC 1444) reminds us that when the Lord forgave sinners, he reintegrated the forgiven into the community. The Second Rite of Reconciliation in parishes is symbolic of this gesture of restoration of sinner with the church.
- By being together as community, we all benefit from the prayers being said as the rite progresses. Who know what influence this has on the Holy Spirit in guiding hearts and souls towards making a good confession?

PARISH NEWS

UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT: AN ANCIENT TEXT FOR MODERN TIMES FOR WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 2024, IT WILL START AT 8PM DUE TO LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE.

Day/Date: Wednesdays, 28th February – 20th 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.

SVDP FOOD SALE - SUNDAY 10TH MARCH 2024

Our food sale will be on Sunday 10th March 2024 after both morning masses. Thanking you for your past support. Please continue to do so and come visit our stall. Any enquiries, please contact Winnie 0421 601 095.

CHAPLETS OF THE DIVINE MERCY - WED 13TH MARCH 2024 AT 7.30PM

A beautiful, prayerful, sung devotion held in our church on the second Wednesday of each month. The next devotion will be held on Wednesday 13th March 2024 commencing at 7.30 pm. Enquiries to George Lopez on 041 991 0039.

CASH COUNTERS

Volunteers are required to assist to count the weekend cash collection on Sunday from 2.00pm – 3.00pm on a 6 to 8 weekly rotation. Please speak to Fr Phong, or contact Natalia at (k3ris@hotmail.com) if you are available to assist.

HOLY WATER IS AVAILABLE AT PIETY STALL

Holy water is now available in the piety stall. Please bring your own containers. (Small bottles are available for \$2.00)

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

Reconciliation: Saturday 26th October 2024 at 10.00am

First Eucharist: Saturday 22nd June 2024 at 3.00pm

Confirmation: Sat 7th Sept 2024 at 3.00pm and Sun 8th Sept 2024 at 11.30am

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Enrolments for First Holy Communion have now closed. If any one has missed the opportunity to enroll and would like their child to make their First Holy Communion, please contact the RE coordinator as soon as possible.

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 (8th Feb - 28th 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>

DIOCESAN NEWS

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP – Which is part of the World Community of Christian Meditation – meets each Monday night in the Church at 8.00 pm (Note we do not gather if it is a public holiday).

We have recommenced after our Christmas break and would warmly welcome new people, if you are interested. Please come along or phone Leonie Gillett on 0417 937 261 for more information. Our group has been meeting in the Church for 30 years.

“The mission of the WCCM is to communicate and nurture meditation as passed on through the teachings of John Main, in the Christian Tradition, in the spirit of serving the unity of All.”

LENTEN RETREAT DAY - SATURDAY 11TH MARCH 2024 AT 9AM - 2.30PM

Lenten retreat Day *Accompanied by Love* with Dr Pina Ford

Saturday 11th March 2024 at 9.00am - 2.30pm at Redemptorist Retreat House, Camelia Street North Perth. Morning tea is provided. Please bring your own lunch. Cost by donation. RSVP: pina.ford@cewa.edu.au or 0400 037 986.

HAWES HERITAGE TRAIL 4 DAY PILGRIMAGE - 9TH - 12TH 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 or Phone Gerry 0417 912 997.

PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH TO SAINTS AND SHRINES IN EASTERN EUROPE - TUESDAY 1ST TO WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2024

Come and listen to a presentation for a 16-day journey (1st to 16th October 2024) faith to Saints and Shrines in Eastern Europe (Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia and Austria). The pilgrimage includes visiting the UNESCO Plitvice Lakes National Park, Medjugorje, where alleged apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary are continuing, Dubrovnik, Split, Croatia, Marija Bistrica (old Marian shrine of the Black Madonna), Ljubljana, Brezje, Bled Slovenia, Marizell, Maria Taferl, Melk and Vienna, Austria, renowned throughout the world as a City of Music.

The presentation by Anawim Journeys with Fr. Phong as spiritual advisor is on **Saturday 23rd March 2024 at 10am** in St Thomas Bateman parish hall. All are welcome.

For Enquiries on Itinerary:

Sheila Mohgan: +61 433 77 1979 / sheila@anawimjourneys.com

Serina Wong: +61 420 991 868 / wongs@inet.net.au

Veronica Scully: +61 402 290 827 / veronica@anawimjourneys.com