

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."' "

Second Reading - Ephesians 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel - John 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

100 Dean Rd Bateman WA 6150

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

4th Sunday Lent, Year B

March 10, 2024

Never give up because God doesn't

The 4th Sunday of Lent is traditionally known as Laetare Sunday, so called because of the first word "Rejoice" in the Entrance Antiphon of the liturgy. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Midway on our long Lenten journey to Easter, our energy and enthusiasm may well be flagging. Today's readings remind us of the source of our joy as Christians and prompt us to renew our resolve and to persevere for the rest of the journey. In the gospel, we hear the reason for our rejoicing: "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son" (John 3:16).

In the Old Testament, from Genesis on, the constant thread in all the books is the steadfast love that God has for God's people. No matter how many times the people and their leaders faltered in their faith and hope in God, from Exodus to the Prophets, like Isaiah and Jeremiah, to the Kings, such as David and Solomon, and in the time of the Exile in Babylon after Jerusalem was besieged and captured and the people were exiled from Israel, God stood by and cared for the people and, each time they wavered and fell, God called them back and reminded them to try again and be faithful.

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 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



As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

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

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 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.

UNDERSTANDING THE OLD TESTAMENT: AN ANCIENT TEXT FOR MODERN TIMES

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.

PARISH NEWS

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>

SAFEGUARDING INDUCTION FOR ALL CHURCH WORKERS

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has broadened the scope of safeguarding of children to include adults at risk.

This induction provides an overview of the:

- Catholic Safeguarding Standards, Policies and Procedures.
- Understanding Abuse, Grooming and Prevention.
- Reporting of concerns.
- Role of the Safeguarding Officer.
- Collective Responsibility and Care.

ALL church workers (volunteers or paid) are to attend a 1-hour safeguarding induction. A church worker is **anyone** in the Archdiocese in **any role** – paid or voluntary.

Please register for the upcoming session if you haven't attended the induction in the last 3 years.

The upcoming session is as follow:

Date: Wednesday, 10 April 2024

Time: 7-8 pm

Venue: Pater Noster

460 Marmion Street, Myaree

Registration: <https://safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/training/#induction>

Or phone **9221 7762** to book in.

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.”


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.


2024 EASTER FLYERS!!! 2024 Easter Flyers have been redesigned and are being prepared for printing and distribution by the end of next week. There will be 5,000 flyers in bundles of 50. Are your walking shoes ready? Please consider taking several bundles to facilitate quick distribution. This is a wonderful opportunity to evangelise the community. Thank you to the small group who have been involved in updating the flyers!

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, Mariazell, 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@iinet.net.au

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

