

Sunday Readings

Year B

Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"

✠ **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (11:1-10)**

When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately".'

And they went away, and found a colt tied at the door out in the open street; and they untied it. And those who stood there said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' And they told them what Jesus had said; and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments on it; and he sat upon it. And many spread their garments on the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed cried out, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!

First Reading - Isaiah 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Second Reading - Philippians 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel - Mark 14:1 – 15:47

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

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

Palm Sunday, Year B

March 24, 2024

A kingdom of nuisances and nobodies

In 2006, Franciscan theologian Richard Rohr visited Australia and was interviewed on ABC Radio National's "Religion Report". At the time, I was particularly impressed by a point Rohr made in distinguishing between "Christianity" and "Churchianity", where the first constituted a challenge to the prevailing wider societal mores and values, while the second supported the cultural status quo.

Whatever one may think of Rohr's distinction between "Christianity" and "Churchianity", it does open up a fruitful line for discussion of the meaning of Mark's gospel. Written at a time when the Jesus movement was anything but part of the status quo, the gospel is culturally subversive.

The problem that confronted the Markan Christians, as it does us today, is to steer a middle course between the twin tensions of conformity to cultural expectations and the vocation to be counter cultural (where necessary) in working for a better world. Mark's Jesus proclaimed a new world order that would privilege the marginalised and the forgotten; or as Biblical scholars John Dominic Crossan and Tom Wright have variously called, "a kingdom of nuisances and nobodies".

In Mark's gospel, Jesus is a man who haunts the fringes of society, fraternising with

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

the marginalised, touching the untouchables, speaking to those with whom he should not speak and, thereby, breaking the taboos of his Jewish faith and the mores of the Greco-Roman culture.

Positive interactions with Jesus are typically displayed by characters living on society's margins – the “nobodies”; people who were of no consequence: the leper (1:40-45); the paralytic (2:1-12); the deaf (7:31-37); the blind (8:22-26; 10:46-52); the widow (12:41-44); as well as tax collectors and sinners (2:15).

In his preaching, Jesus repeatedly criticises the abusive use of power by society's wealthy and respectable authorities. And it is this critique of abusive power that eventually ends in Jesus' arrest and execution as a rabble rouser and a criminal of the State.

As Richard Rohr points out, Jesus was not an “insider” or a “company man” (Rohr, 2006); which is not to say that Jesus is an “outsider” per se. Mark's Jesus is a reputable teacher and scholar – a man of some consequence – but he refuses to operate within the boundaries set by either the religious elites or civil authorities, the somebodies of “good society”. Indeed, he even refuses to stay dead!

Mark's Jesus is not interested in “Churchianity” — that is, sticking to rules that govern membership in the club or the “ekkllesia” (assembly or church). He is a social reformer who seeks the company of those deemed to be “beyond the pale”; an agent of God who proclaims, not a kingdom of the wealthy and notable – the “somebodies” in society – but that of the poor, the forgotten, the “nuisances and nobodies” – and he calls his disciples to go to the margins and do the same.

The final command in Mark's gospel is the call to “return to Galilee” (16:7), to the dirt-poor farmers and fishers at the rural fringes of Roman Palestine.

Ian J Elmer
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Baptisms:

We welcome George Patrick Davies and Eloise Jean Davies into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Gary Raymond Monck, Karen Chan Li Ming and Christine Subashini Chandrasekaran who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Lillo Parlapiano, Marion McCleary, Giuseppe Portelli, Dorothy Mali, Katie O'Donnell, Robert William Brady whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 31ST MARCH

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
 Flowers: Joan Louie
 Counters: 1. B D'Sa

2. S Lau 3. M Sequeira

	Saturday 7.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
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Acolytes	EASTER	M Humble	S Kan
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Altar Servers	S Buntoro G Dass E Gatchalian	B Karczub N Karczub J Cherian	M Poole J Poole
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Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	EASTER	EASTER	EASTER
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Catechists			NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY
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Readers	EASTER	EASTER	EASTER
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Readers Coordinator: Michele Doray - 9310 4051

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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)

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 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 Project Compassion 2024 comes to an end, we want to thank you for your incredibly generous support throughout Lent.

This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education, access water and find secure employment. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities.

There is still time to donate! Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, 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 or by calling 1800 024 413.

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

PREPARATION FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Dear Parishioners,

On the weekend of 23rd and 24th March, we will commence Mass with a procession from the Shrine at the Sat 6 pm and Sun 10 am Masses so you are kindly requested to please pick up your palms from the baskets, which will be placed outside the church, and proceed to the Shrine as the church doors will be closed, except for the elderly and those who cannot participate in the procession.

In the spirit of Holy Week, you are also invited to dress in the Liturgical colours as follows:

1. Palm Sunday – Red
2. Holy Thursday – White
3. Good Friday – Red
4. Easter Masses – White/Gold

It is indeed a beautiful sight when the congregation is dressed in alignment to the Liturgical celebrations of Holy Week.

SECURITY FOR YOUR CARS

In previous years, many cars got broken into during the Holy Week and Triduum services. Therefore, we ask you to be aware and not to leave valuable items in your car when you come to church, especially during Holy Week and the Triduum services.

We encourage you to leave your car at home and walk to church if possible. For your peace of mind, the Parish Council will also arrange for the local police to patrol around the church complex during the busy services.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

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, 10th 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.

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MISSION - 8TH TO 11TH MAY 2024

The Parish Pastoral Council is preparing a Parish Mission to be held 8th to 11th May inclusive. Please save these dates. It will be a time for prayer and learning; with Adoration from 9am until 3pm and evening speakers. More details to follow. Immerse yourself fully into the Mission experience by praying for a successful Mission. Information will be sent to ministry leaders on Flocknotes. Please contact members of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) if you need help to be connected.

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Sacramental classes for our Parish and other surrounding schools commenced on Wednesday the 7th February 2024. Classes run from 4.00pm until 5.00pm every Wednesday from term 1 to term 4.

Please contact the RE coordinator on 9310 1747 (Tuesdays/Wednesdays 9am-5pm) or email her 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.

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

First Holy Communion: 22nd June 2024 - **Enrolments for this class have now closed.**
Confirmation: 7th /8th September 2024 - **Enrolments close for this class 30th March 2024. The link to enrol can be found on the parish website.**

Reconciliation: 26th October 2024 - **Enrolments close for this class 31st May 2024.**

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN. CONFIRMATION 7TH/8TH SEPTEMBER 2024

All children wishing to make the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Thomas More Parish are now invited to register for the sacrament. Registrations are online. The link is as below and can also be found on the parish website.

registrations close on 30th March 2024. If you are experiencing any difficulty enrolling, please contact the RE/ Sacramental Coordinator on 93101747 Tues/Wed or email her on catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au. You can use the link here to enrol for Confirmation - <https://stthomasmorebateman.formstack.com/forms/enrolment2024>.

DIOCESAN NEWS

LOCAL PRIEST PENS BOOK JUST IN TIME FOR EASTER

Fr Charles Waddell has just published the book *Why the Risen Jesus Matters*. World-renowned author Ron Rolheiser writes, 'This book is a beautifully articulated spirituality of the resurrection that can help us press the reset button in our lives.' To order contact www.stpauls.com.au – or for signed copies contact: charles.waddell@perthcatholic.org.au.

It's the perfect Easter gift for yourself and your loved ones!

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME TO ST THOMAS MORE BATEMAN

2024 HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Date	Day	Time	Ceremonies
25 th March	Monday	09.00am	Mass
26 th March	Tuesday	05.30pm 07.00pm	Mass Mass of Chrism (All Welcome) at St. Mary's Cathedral
27 th March	Wednesday	09.00am	Mass Followed by Adoration
28 th March	HOLY Thursday <i>(Please wear White)*</i>	07.00pm	Special Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>(Incense will be used)</i>
29 th March	GOOD Friday <i>(Please wear Red)*</i>	10.30am 03.00pm	Stations of the Cross The Lord's Passion
30 th March	HOLY Saturday <i>(Please wear White/Gold)*</i>	07.00pm	Easter Vigil Mass and Ceremonies <i>(Incense will be used)</i>
31 st March	Easter Sunday	08.00am 10.00am	Easter Sunday Mass Easter Sunday Mass

PLEASE WEAR THE LITURGICAL COLOURS OF EACH DAY!

HOLY WEEK CONFESSION TIMES

29th March Good Friday After the Stations of the Cross
Approximately from 11.00am

