

# Sunday Readings

Year B

## First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

## Second Reading - 1 John 3:18-24

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

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

## Gospel - John 15:1-8

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

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

# 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*

5th Sunday Easter, Year B

April 28, 2024

## *The true vine that feeds us*

In these weeks after Easter and before the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost, our gospel readings come from Jesus' farewell discourses in the Gospel of John. These are the teachings which Jesus shared with his disciples in that precious time just before his arrest and crucifixion.

His teachings offered solace to his disciples who were soon to endure his passion and death. We now read and ponder them in the light of his resurrection and Ascension. They also offer comfort to us in our time and place, as we face life's challenges and sorrows.

Last week, the gospel recounted Jesus telling the disciples that he is the Good Shepherd, who knows his sheep by name, who cares for them and protects them, and whose love and care are so great that he lays down his life for his sheep. This image of the Good Shepherd and his sheep describes a relationship of steadfast love and care.

This week, Jesus describes his relationship to his followers differently, this time in terms of a vine and its branches. This image highlights the intimacy, interconnection,

## 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:** Heidi Lu

mutuality and reciprocity of the relationship of Jesus to us, of Jesus to the Father, and of Jesus and the Father to us, individually and as a community.

Jesus explains that he is the true vine, the Father is the vine grower, and we are the branches. The image reminds us that we, just like the vine and its branches, rely on each other in order to bear fruit.

But, most important of all, Jesus urges us: "Abide in me as I abide in you." To abide means to remain, to stay, to dwell, to make a home in, to endure, and to hold fast. This notion of 'abiding' is of utmost importance in John's Gospel. (Even in today's short reading this word, abide, occurs 8 times.)

Jesus is very clear: this abiding is essential and core to our relationship with him. It is this abiding in him and he in us that will result in great fruitfulness. The fruits will be life-giving fruits, internal as well as external, for us personally and for the community. They will be peace, freedom, justice, joy, and the flourishing of creation.

What then is the call and the challenge for us? It is to nurture our relationship with Jesus. This is the discipleship to which he calls us: it is abiding in him, keeping company with him, living in daily conversation with him. We are called to a life-long process of entering ever more deeply into this relationship with him, learning to abide in his love, and learning to love one another as God has loved us. It is learning to live like that every day!

And, in the process, we will gradually come to better see the world, ourselves, other people, and whatever situations we face with our hearts and minds attuned to his.

Anne Hunt  
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**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Deaths:** Please pray for Pieu Sai Michael Foo, Juliana Kueh, Anna Papalia, Rosalind Jessie Chua and Desmond (Des) Charles Hinton who passed away recently.

**Anniversaries:**

Please pray for Ante Blaskovich, Filomena Iovine, Brian Colin Poore, George Carr and Melanie Jane Oldenhof, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

# R O S T E R S

## FOR 5TH MAY

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo  
 Flowers: Angel Babu  
 Counters: 1. S Fernandes 2. P Golding 3. L Thornett

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	S Cowman	R Norris P Cox (thurifer)	M Braganza
Altar Servers	S Buntoro G Dass T Jomy	J Cherian I Lu	A Kan G Winaulin
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	E Fernandez D Gareffa G Garreffa C Hoare A Loo L McMinn P McMinn	J Randazzo R Margawani A Anthony M Ch'ng M Ch'ng C Cox B D'Cruz	S Cataldo-Nikolic M Sugijono V Sutijono A Aquino P Braganza B Bucat A Crossley

Catechists  
 CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
 Michelle Lowth

Readers G Munro V Ng A Martin B Martin K Gamba S John

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.Cchoo.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 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

**SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2024: ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH, BATEMAN**  
First Holy Communion: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 - **Enrolments for this class have now closed.**  
Confirmation: 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> September 2024 - **Enrolments for this class have now closed.**  
Reconciliation: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 - **Enrolments close for this class on 31<sup>st</sup> May.**

### PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH TO SAINTS AND SHRINES IN EASTERN EUROPE

TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> TO WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

**PRESENTATION ON SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2024 AT 10AM**

There will be a pilgrimage presentation 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 1 June at 10am** in the Parish Hall. Don't miss this opportunity to find out more about the pilgrimage of faith and secure a booking!

#### 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

### 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

### FR. ANTHONY'S NEW APPOINTMENT AND FAREWELL

We would like to announce that Fr. Anthony Vu has been appointed as Parish Priest of St Pius X, Manning Parish. Please keep Fr. Anthony in your prayers as he prepares to take up his new appointment.

Our Parish is organising a Farewell Mass for Fr. Anthony on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 at 10.00am** with refreshments to follow in the Parish Hall.

Please bring a **DISH of SAVOURY FINGER FOOD** to share. We appreciate if you could write your name, contact details, and what you would like to bring on the sheet available in the church foyer.

### PARISH MISSION 8<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

Only 1 and 1/2 weeks to go. ('Missio' Latin meaning - a sending). Just as Christ was sent by the Father for His earthly mission; so are we sent by Christ to mission to the world.. The aim of the parish mission is to fortify us through our learning by attending the talks; to allow grace to flow from prayer and adoration (scheduled on 3 days) and strengthen the bonds of friendship; by participating in a walk, sharing morning and afternoon tea, and enjoying meals together. With our bodies, minds and spirits renewed through the Parish Mission we will have a greater wisdom and resolve to witness Christ to the world.

We are privileged to be invited to share in **the Eucharist and teaching with Father Rob Galea on Friday 10 May at 2pm** in our parish church. The teaching Mass is part of formation for staff who have invited our parish to join them. What a blessing that this opportunity coincides with our parish mission. Let us *break bread* together.

**Reminder: have you purchased your tickets to hear Fr. Rob Galea?**

Tickets can be purchased here: <https://events.humanitix.com/father-rob-galea>

Facebook event:

<https://facebook.com/events/s/charity-concert-with-father-ro/1149896982718108/>

Please use your flock notes bulletin for easy access to these links.

### The Parish Mission Prayer

**Jesus, You taught us to know God as "Our Father".**

**We ask You Father to shower Your blessings and grace upon our parish community at Saint Thomas More.**

**Help us, through our parish mission, to grow together in unity and strength, to pray together in love, to learn together in humility and to share in fellowship during the days of the parish mission. We pray through the intercession of Mary our Mother, who knows our needs.**

**May we deepen our faith, hope and love for You Father as we dedicate this mission to an increase in vocations. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Please keep a copy of this prayer to bring to weekday masses.



## PARISH NEWS

### FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2024 AT 6.30PM-9PM

See God face to face in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist present in the monstrance.

### COFFEE CONVERSATION AND COMPANIONSHIP - SAT 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY & SUN 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Please join us on the **First Saturday of the month coffee on 4<sup>th</sup> May** after the 6pm evening Mass (We will be in the meeting room if it is too cold).

**First Sunday of the month coffee** is this coming **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May** after 10 am Mass. Tea and coffee is on every Sunday at 9am in the parish hall.

### SVDP FOOD SALE - SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

Our food sale will be on **Sun 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. Please come and support us. Any donations of food or enquiries, please contact Winnie 0421601095.

### CHAPLETS OF THE DIVINE MERCY - WED 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 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 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024** commencing at 7.30 pm. Enquiries to George Lopez on 041 991 0039.



### CORPUS CHRISTI COMMUNITY SERVICE

Twenty Corpus Christi Students will be in our parish on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** as part of their requirement to provide service. Several duties have been assigned to the students such as cleaning, sharing morning tea with parishioners, cooking and prayer.

Please help them to feel at home and enjoy this experience.

### FRONT GARDEN MAINTENANCE

There is an opportunity for garden enthusiasts to express their love for the Lord. Help is needed to maintain the front garden beds of our church and presbytery. Please contact Max Mayes 0407 990 506.

### SAFEGUARDING NOTICE

Have you thought about becoming a Safeguarding Officer? We are urgently looking for volunteers to work with the Parish Safeguarding Team. If you are interested please contact the parish office 93101747 or email [bate-man@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:bate-man@perthcatholic.org.au).

### SAFEGUARDING LEVEL 1 INDUCTION - SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY AT 10AM

Safeguarding Level 1 Induction for church workers paid/unpaid within your parish. Below are the details:

Date: Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Time: 10-11 am

Venue: St Pius X

23 Paterson Street, Como

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

## DIOCESAN NEWS

**ALBUM LAUNCH CONCERT** – Fr Mark Baumgarten is launching a new album of original songs with a concert on the evening of **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of May**. He will be joined by several accomplished musicians, including many who helped record the album. The concert will be held in the parish hall of **St Francis Xavier, Armadale (279 Forrest Road, Hilbert)**. The concert will begin at **7.30pm**, with doors opening at 7pm.

Tickets are \$10 standard, \$40 for a family pass, and children under 12 are free. Get tickets at <https://trybooking.com/CQTAN> or by calling 9399 2143, and see more at <https://pianopriest.com>.

### ST CHARLES' SEMINARY VOCATION OPEN DAY - SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

#### ***"Time to Consider the Priesthood"***

A Priesthood Vocation Open Day for men from the age of 17 years and above at St Charles Seminary in Guildford, on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024**, from 9am to 1.30pm, including brunch. This Open Day will answer questions about the Seminary and discernment into Priesthood. For further information or to register attendance please call (08) 9279-1310 or email: [stcharlesseminary@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:stcharlesseminary@perthcatholic.org.au)

### MAY PILGRIMAGE AT THE SCHOENSTAT SHRINE SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024, 2.30 – 4.30 PM

Rosary Procession, Reflections PMA - Coordinators' Recommissioning Benediction, Refreshments. You are welcome to bring flowers; children are invited to dress in white for the procession. 9 Talus Dr Mt Richon - [www.schoenstattwa.org.au](http://www.schoenstattwa.org.au). "Mary, Teach us to pray." (Year of prayer 2024)

### CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND - SAT/SUN 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY



**catholic  
mission**

Catholic Mission Appeal invites you to assist our missionaries in Mongolia provide safe haven & support for vulnerable people escaping domestic violence & homelessness. Your gift will also assist many other similar Catholic Mission programmes throughout the developing world. Please give generously by using the **appeal envelope provided next weekend into the 2<sup>nd</sup> collection**, or going online at [www.catholicmission.org.au/mongolia](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/mongolia). Should you be keen to support the work of Catholic Mission through a bequest, or as a volunteer, or in other ways, please email Francis Leong at [director.cm@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:director.cm@perthcatholic.org.au) to explore the possibilities.

### LIFTED UP FOR MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY FROM 3PM

A violin & piano recital on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May** from 3pm in the Braham Auditorium at Trinity College, East Perth. After the Mother's Day lunch or before the Mother's Day dinner, your mum and grandmum are sure to be lifted up by an hour of beautiful music from two highly regarded classical musicians in Daniel Carney on violin & Tommy Seah on piano. Tickets are available online for a donation to Catholic Mission in support of other mums and their children escaping domestic violence and homelessness at the House of Mercy refuge in Mongolia. To book online visit <https://www.trybooking.com/CQFOU>. Online bookings are essential because seating is limited.