

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

Second Reading - 1 John 4:7-10

A reading from the first letter of St John

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

Gospel - John 15:9-17

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

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

6th Sunday Easter, Year B

May 5, 2024

The offer of God's friendship

Parents often offer these words of encouragement and support to their children when they have to move to a new place or to a new school, "It will be alright; you will make new friends."

It can be difficult not only for children but for anyone to leave old friendships behind and to seek new friends. It reinforces the importance that we place on strong relationships, and the common bonds that develop through important milestones and junctures of our lives.

Many people enjoy friendships that start in primary school that last through university, careers, relationships, children and grandchildren. Lifelong friendships can be some of the most cherished and important things in our lives. Priceless treasures.

In today's gospel, Jesus offers us God's friendship. "I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you." With these words, Jesus reveals God's desire to have a different type of relationship with us. A relationship that is based on a deep, true and personal friendship.

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

This relationship is about God being with us in the very ordinariness of our lives. In the marketplace, at the coffee shop, the park, the beach and, more importantly, in our homes. It is because in these locations that we normally catch up with our friends to share our thoughts and desires, God wants to have that kind of relationship with us too in these places.

God wants to establish a relationship that moves beyond worship and one that enters into deep, heartfelt and very real conversations. To move beyond sterile prayer halls and into the sometimes messiness and grey areas of our very human condition. Importantly, we should understand that in God wanting to be friends with us, there is a deep acceptance and understanding of our flawed person. A safe place where we can bare all with no fear of condemnation. A place where God is listening and accepting.

St Alphonsus, the founder of the Redemptorists wrote extensively on this wonderful idea of God as a friend and these writings have been compiled into a book titled, Praying to God as a Friend. Despite the gospels revealing this more than 2000 years ago and St Alphonsus writing about this over 300 years ago, the notion of God as a friend is still a relatively novel idea today. But it's there, right in front of us in today's gospel.

God's friendship is waiting. It is truly priceless treasure that is freely offered and freely given. It is up to us to respond positively.

Mark Chia CSsR
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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 Angela Bertoncini, Filomena Iovine, Melanie Jane Oldenhof, Shauna Condren, Robert Ross, Robert Bydder, Herbert Chan, Mile Quirino Novak, Graham David Frude, Marianne McGavan, Wilfred Watters, Oonagh Teresa Monkhouse and Rose Thomas whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 12TH MAY

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
 Flowers: Shan Fialho
 Counters: 1. S Lau 2. A Vinci 3. P Golding

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	V Tan	C Goh	S Kan
Altar Servers	C Vahala O Vahala J Reutens	B Karczub N Karczub	G Chua A Demberger E Gatchalian
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	A Khoo G Lopez M Magnussen L Morzenti C Nonis V Ng A De Souza	M de Rozario D Dennis G Dunsford W Goh R Margawani C Price P Price	M Davis P Demberger M Doray A Faleiro S Fialho P Fraser A Lu
Catechists	CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth		
Readers	L Rego L Rego	C Morzenti E Orr	K Lingoh F May
Readers Coordinator: Lillian Sequeira - 9331 5221			

Piety Stall OPEN OPEN OPEN

Safeguarding Officers:

- Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)
- Derek Choo (Derek.Choo.safeguarding@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 24th June – 9.00am – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
- Saturday 29th June – 9.00am – St Peter and St. Paul

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

PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH TO SAINTS AND SHRINES IN EASTERN EUROPE

TUESDAY 1ST TO WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2024

PRESENTATION ON SATURDAY 1ST 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 19th 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.

Should you wish to contribute towards Fr. Anthony's farewell gift, please place your contribution in the collection box located on the table at the back of the Church.

PARISH MISSION 8TH – 11TH MAY 2024

The Parish Mission begins this coming week. Let us thank God for His blessing on Saint Thomas More Parish for enabling this time of grace. Let us continue to pray for our parish and for each other- that the Holy Spirit will touch hearts and minds. Let us take this opportunity to enjoy being together - both spiritually and socially. Please remember to include the intention of more vocations as we journey through the Mission program.

We are also 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.

PLEASE REGISTER AT THE FOYER TO ATTEND THE EVENTS AND FOR CATERING PURPOSE. (Mass, Adoration, Talks, Spiritual Activity & Retreat, Afternoon Tea, Lunch/Dinner)

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

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

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

COFFEE CONVERSATION AND COMPANIONSHIP - SAT 4TH MAY & SUN 5TH MAY

Please join us on the **First Saturday of the month coffee on 4th 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 5th May** after 10 am Mass. Tea and coffee is on every Sunday at 9am in the parish hall.

SACRAMENT OF THE EUCHARIST

The Sacrament of the Eucharist will be celebrated in Bateman Parish on 22nd June 2024. All candidates now have their photos displayed in the church.

The Commitment Masses will be held this weekend at 6pm on Saturday 4th May and the 10am mass on Sunday 5th May. The 6pm mass on Saturday will be combined with the Parish and Corpus Christi College Community Mass. It will be conducted and sung by the Corpus Christi College Choir.

All families are warmly invited to attend this mass to support our children.

Let us, as a parish community, support these children, their families and their teachers by praying for them as they prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

MONTH OF MAY - OUR LADY'S HOME ROSARY

All those wishing to have the Rosary in their homes during the month of May, are invited to write their names down on the list provided in the church foyer. A statue of Our Lady and some books are available if required.

For more information, please contact Heidy at the Parish office on 9310 1747.

HONOURING OUR LADY DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

Parishioners are invited to consider praying more rosaries during the month of May. Please join fellow parishioners praying the rosary 30 minutes before each weekday mass.

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



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.

SAFEGUARDING LEVEL 1 INDUCTION - SUNDAY 19TH MAY AT 10AM

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

Date & time : Sunday, 19th May 2024 at 10-11 am

Venue : St Pius X, 23 Paterson Street, Como

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

DIOCESAN NEWS

ST CHARLES' SEMINARY VOCATION OPEN DAY - SUNDAY 5TH 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 5th 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

MAY PILGRIMAGE AT THE SCHOENSTAT SHRINE SUNDAY 5TH 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. "Mary, Teach us to pray." (Year of prayer 2024)

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND - SAT/SUN 4TH & 5TH MAY

THIS WEEKEND's 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 into today's or next week's 2nd collection**, or going online at 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 to explore the possibilities.

LIFTED UP FOR MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY 12TH MAY FROM 3PM
A violin & piano recital on **Sunday 12th 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. For further details contact Francis at director.cm@perthcatholic.org.au

MODERN SLAVERY WORKSHOP - WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE 2024

Deacon Greg Lowe, Director of the Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office will be conducting a workshop on Modern Slavery at **7pm Wednesday 26 June** in the parish meeting hall. There are around 50 million people around the world today impacted by modern slavery, and Deacon Greg will be presenting the current realities and proposed strategies to address the issues. Our Church often reminds us of our strong obligations to defend the needy and those who are unable to defend themselves. Please make the time to come for the workshop and find out how we can actively contribute, including in the way in which we shop as individuals as well as within the organisations we work for.