

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Ezekiel 2:2-5

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you up to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

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

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

Gospel - Mark 6:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday (9.30am to 2.30pm)



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

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

July 7, 2024

Overcoming the pain of rejection

The three main characters in today's readings suffer rejection and humiliation. Their pain is summarised in today's Psalm: "Indeed, all too full is our soul with the scorn of the rich, with the proud man's disdain."

Sometimes, following God means being a witness to people who do not respect us or our faith. As the prophet Ezekiel hears in the first reading, the task of the faithful disciple is to keep witnessing to our faith, "whether they listen or not".

In the second reading, St Paul explains how he perseveres when he is confronted with rejection and humiliation. Paul's second letter to the Church in Corinth was motivated by a vicious attack on his ministry and reputation. Some within the community, who styled themselves as 'superapostles', disparaged Paul and his teaching. Instead, they boasted about the incredible visions and secret knowledge they had received, which proved their superiority over Paul.

Instead of trying to compete with his rivals' boasting, Paul brags about his own weaknesses and failures. Paul does not go into detail about what he means by the "thorn in his flesh." Theories have included health difficulties, reoccurring temptations, or difficult people around him.

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:

- Saturday 2nd November – All Souls' Day
- Monday 9th December – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Monday 30th December – Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

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

First Holy Communion: 22nd June 2024

Confirmation: 7th/8th September 2024

Reconciliation: 26th October 2024

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Or do you know someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic?

If so, we would love to hear from you. The parish runs a program for people who may be interested in becoming a Catholic.

Please contact the parish office on 9310 1747 for more details.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2024 - 2025

Boxes of Planned Giving envelopes are now available in the Church Foyer for collection. They are in alphabetical order. Please pick them up after Mass. Instead of using envelopes many parishioners now enjoy direct bank transfers or credit card transfers to make their monthly contributions. If you prefer to use one of these methods of payment, please take a form available in the church foyer or contact the parish office who will arrange a bank authority form for you to complete. We would like to thank you for your generous support to the Parish Planned Giving.

Thank you, Fr. Phong

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

2024 Year of Prayer: To reinforce Pope Francis' call for prayer to be intensified in 2024 in prepare for the 2025 Jubilee year, the archdiocesan Centre for Liturgy has posted 38 catechesis on prayer by Pope Francis. Summaries of these teachings will be published weekly in the bulletin. Details of the catechesis can be found in this link:

<https://liturgy.perthcatholic.org.au/year-of-prayer-2024/>

2024 YEAR OF PRAYER: POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE

"Prayer is the breath of faith". Let us think about the story of Bartimaeus, he would have done anything possible to meet Jesus. Bartimaeus is a persevering man. He uses the only weapon he possesses: his voice...Even more loudly he cries: "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

All the power of his faith which comes from a continuous thirst for God attracted the mercy and power of God. Faith is the hope of being saved. In our pilgrimage of faith may we like Bartimaeus and persevere in prayer especially in our darkest moments. Trustingly place yourselves under the maternal protection of Mary and rest assured that she will not fail to comfort you in your time of trial. May the Lord Bless you and May Our Lady protect you.

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025

There will be weekly summarised statements from Pope Francis to help parishioners prepare for the experience of Jubilee. https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/20240509_spes-non-confundit_bolla-giubileo2025.html

*From Pope Francis **SPES NON CONFUNDIT** - A journey of hope*

6. The Holy Year of 2025 is itself in continuity with preceding celebrations of grace. In the last Ordinary Jubilee, we crossed the threshold of two millennia from the birth of Jesus Christ. Then, on 13 March 2015, I proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee for the sake of making known and encouraging an **encounter with the "merciful face of God"**, [3] the core message of the Gospel for every man and woman of every time and place. Now the time has come for a new Jubilee, when once more the Holy Door will be flung open to invite everyone to an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ. The Holy Year will also guide our steps towards yet another fundamental celebration for all Christians: **2033** will mark the two thousandth anniversary of the redemption won by the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. We are about to make a pilgrimage marked by great events, in which the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope (cf. *1 Thess 1:3*).

Sustained by this great tradition, and certain that the Jubilee Year will be for the entire Church a lively experience of grace and hope, I hereby decree that the Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican will be **opened on 24 December 2024**, thus inaugurating the Ordinary Jubilee. On the following Sunday, 29 December 2024, I will open the Holy Door of my cathedral, Saint John Lateran, which on 9 November this year will celebrate the 1700th anniversary of its dedication. Then, on 1 January 2025, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, the Holy Door of the Papal

PARISH NEWS

Basilica of Saint Mary Major will be opened. Finally, Sunday, 5 January 2025, will mark the opening of the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls. These last three Holy Doors will be closed on Sunday, 28 December 2025. I further decree that on **Sunday, 29 December 2024, in every cathedral and co-cathedral, diocesan bishops are to celebrate Holy Mass as the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year**, using the ritual indications that will be provided for that occasion. For celebrations in co-cathedrals, the bishop's place can be taken by a suitably designated delegate. A pilgrimage that sets out from a church chosen for the *collectio* and then proceeds to the cathedral can serve to symbolize the journey of hope that, illumined by the word of God, unites all the faithful. In the course of this pilgrimage, passages from the present Document can be read, along with the announcement of the Jubilee Indulgence to be gained in accordance with the prescriptions found in the ritual indications mentioned above. The Holy Year will conclude in the particular Churches on Sunday, 28 December 2025; in the course of the year, every effort should be made to enable the People of God to participate fully in its proclamation of hope in God's grace and in the signs that attest to its efficacy.

The Ordinary Jubilee will conclude with the closing of the Holy Door in the Papal Basilica of Saint Peter in the Vatican on **6 January 2026**, the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. During the Holy Year, may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God's love addressed to all! And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world!

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP - SAT 6TH JUL & SUN 7TH JUL

We invite all parishioners to join us for coffee immediately after 6pm mass every First Saturday of the month and every First Sunday of the month immediately after 10am mass. Both groups gather in the courtyard. If the weather is inclement, coffee will be in the meeting room.

The early morning coffee group meets **every Sunday after 8am** mass in the hall. Come along, enjoy fellowship with other parishioners and build our community.

CHAPLETS OF THE DIVINE MERCY - WED 10TH JULY 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 10th July 2024 commencing at 7.30pm. Enquiries to George Lopez on 041 991 0039.



DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE? HOW PRAYERS HAVE HELPED YOU.

Your story may give hope, inspire, and encourage those who need prayers. When you share, your name can remain confidential. For enquiries call Jeremiah 0422 237 268 or email jckloo18@gmail.com.

PROJECT COMPASSION RECEIPTS - AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION

The Project Compassion Receipts are now available for collection in the church foyer.

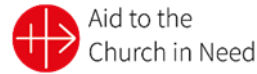
PARISH NEWS

RECONCILIATION ENROLMENTS IS NOW CLOSED (FOR RECONCILIATION 26TH OCTOBER 2024)

If any children still wishes to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year at St Thomas More Parish, please contact the RE Coordinator on 9310 1747 (Tues/Wed) or email catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au.

DIOCESAN NEWS

TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP THE FAITH ALIVE - AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)



Aid to the Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

Did you know that across the world tens of millions of Christian families are in exile following persecution because of their faith?

Aid to the Church in Need is a spiritual and pastoral charity which seeks to keep the flame of faith alive in those places where it is at risk of extinction.

This weekend we welcome to our parish an ACN speaker who will share with us about the work of Aid to the Church in Need and how we can help our suffering and persecuted brothers and sisters.



SAVE GOD'S FARM. There is a spiritual haven in the South West called God's Farm. It is a centre for retreats, prayer rest and rejuvenation of the spirit. God's farm is under threat of being sold and a campaign has been launched to save it. If you wish to participate in this cause and help save God's Farm please use the link below to get more information and to make a financial pledge.

<https://roadtothetriumph.com/save-gods-farm-pledge-appeal/>

BOOK SALE - SATURDAY 4TH & SUNDAY 5TH AUGUST 2024

The Pater Noster Catholic Church is having a Book Sale on Saturday 4th August from 9.00am to 4.00pm and Sunday 5th August from 9.00am to 3.00pm.



PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH TO SAINTS AND SHRINES IN EASTERN EUROPE

(CROATIA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, SLOVENIA AND AUSTRIA)

TUESDAY 1ST TO WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2024

The pilgrimage includes visiting the UNESCO Plitvice Lakes National Park, Medjugorie, 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 Pilgrimage is coordinated by Anawim Journeys, with Fr. Phong as a spiritual advisor.

FOR ENQUIRIES ON ITINERARY:

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