

# Sunday Readings

Year B

## First Reading - Jeremiah 23:1-6

### A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

## Second Reading - Ephesians 2:13-18

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

## Gospel - Mark 6:30-34

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

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

# 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*

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

July 21, 2024

## ***The call to be good shepherds***

Two common images presented to us in the Scriptures are those of shepherds and banquets. First and foremost, God shepherds his people Israel by caring for them like sheep, keeping them from danger, and preparing a banquet for them.

Many key biblical figures were originally shepherds such as the prophets Moses and Amos, patriarchs Abraham and Jacob, and it was the young shepherd, David, whom God called to be king of his people Israel. Moreover, it was this same King David who wrote today's wonderful psalm acclaiming "The Lord is my shepherd".

Unfortunately, the rulers of Israel ceased to act like shepherds turning to idolatry and resulting in all kinds of hostility among the different tribes. Eventually, this led to the annihilation of Israel by the Assyrians and the captivity of the people of Judah by the Babylonians. The prophet Micah laments that he saw "Israel scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd" (I Kings 22:17). Today, we hear God speaking through the prophet Jeremiah pronouncing "doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered" (Jer. 23:1).

Two further promises are made: God will punish the misdeeds of the unfaithful lead-

## 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. Anibal Leite Da Cunha  
**Parish Secretary:** Heidy Lu

ers who do not act like shepherds; and God will bring back the scattered flock under the guidance of new shepherds who will feed and care for them (Jer. 23:3-4). God also goes a step further announcing He will shepherd Israel by “gathering the lambs in his arms and carrying them close to his heart” (Isaiah 40:11).

It is Jesus who most perfectly enacts this prophecy of the shepherd leader through his ministry of teaching and healing, his call to discipleship and communion, sharing bread with the hungry, dining with sinners and being the “Good Shepherd (who) lays down his life for his sheep” (Jn. 10:11). So, Jesus the Good Shepherd is also “the Lamb of God” giving his very life that we may live.

Much of Jesus’ ministry is expressed through parables and events that emphasise table-fellowship: God’s reign is likened to a great banquet where all are invited; Jesus feeds the five-thousand through the miracle of loaves and fish, and the Prodigal Son is greeted on his return with a mighty feast. We also know that Jesus provides his disciples at the Last Supper with a ritual of remembrance and thanksgiving that we re-enact when we celebrate the Eucharist.

Pope Francis consistently speaks of Christ the Good Shepherd as the model of Christian service and leadership. In particular, he calls on priests and pastors to be “shepherds living with the smell of the sheep”. We need to heed St Paul who warned Christians to overcome division and hostility, repent of sinfulness, and receive the Good News of grace and peace.

All Christians are called to be shepherds of God’s mercy.

Gerard Hall SM  
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**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Recently Deceased:** Please pray for Evelyn Brand, Francis Chen, Margaret Shearer, Mary Oliver, Elizabeth Chong Fung Yun, Colin Brabazon who passed away recently.

**Death Anniversaries:**

Please pray for Kevin Sheehan, Ignatius Sugyanto Oetomo, Raymond Skelton, Eunice Coelho, Nola Antoinette Powell, Helena Agnes McAnuff, Phyllis McDonnell, Muriel Taverner, Albert Hilary Parr, Patricia Rosalea Gaynor, Evelyn Harbron, Slamet Adijanto, Catherine Fernandes, Daniel Alonzo, Jane Ellen Murray and Alec McGonigle whose anniversaries occur around this time.

# R O S T E R S

## FOR 28TH JULY

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo  
 Flowers: Shan Fialho  
 Counters: 1. S Lau 2. R Sciascia 3. L Thornett

|   | Saturday<br>6.00pm  | Sunday<br>8.00am   | Sunday<br>10.00am               |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Acolytes                                      | P Doss  | C Goh  | T Roper                         |
| Altar Servers                                 | K Lee<br>J Lee<br>E Antony  | J Cherian<br>I Lu  | A Kan<br>G Winaulin             |
| Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion     | A Anthony<br>P Ardianto<br>A Ruban<br>O D’Mello<br>J Doss<br>E Fernandez<br>C Hoare | G Dunsford<br>W Goh<br>I Kusnadi<br>T Santoso<br>R Margawani<br>C Price<br>P Price | CORPUS CHRISTI<br>COLLEGE STAFF |
| Catechists                                    |   |  | NO<br>CHILDREN’S<br>LITURGY     |
| Readers                                       | M Craggs<br>A De Sousa  | G Dunsford<br>J Kearney  | Corpus Christi<br>College       |
| 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.Choosafeguarding@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:**

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

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

First Holy Communion: 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024

Confirmation: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Reconciliation: 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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](mailto:jckloo18@gmail.com).

**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.

**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](mailto:bateman@perthcatholic.org.au)
2. Bateman Planned Giving: [pgiving.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:pgiving.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au)
3. Bateman Pastoral Care: [morecare.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:morecare.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au)
4. Bateman Catechist: [catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au)
5. Bateman Safeguarding Officer: [sgo.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:sgo.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au)
6. Bateman Youth: [youth.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto: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**

Library of the Apostolic Palace Wednesday, 20 May 2020[Multimedia] Catechesis on prayer.

**The mystery of Creation**

Goodness and beauty of creation are emphasised in Genesis. Gen 1:31 Beauty and mystery of Creation create in the human heart the first impulse that evokes prayer (CCC 2566). The simple fact that we exist, opens mankind's heart to prayer. And, in this boundless expanse, what is man? By nature, we are almost nothing, but by calling, we are the children of the great King. We are made little less than God. (Psalm 8:4-8). Life's events, with all their bitterness, sometimes risk choking the gift of prayer. Contemplation of the universe rekindles a spark of thanksgiving. Life, despite all its toils and trials, despite its difficult days, is full of a grace.—You pray and hope grows. Men and women who pray know that hope is stronger than discouragement; love is more powerful than death. Prayer illuminates the soul, heart and face. Even in the darkest times, even in times of greatest suffering; we are all bearers of joy. Life is the gift that God gave us: Let us praise God, happy to simply exist. Let us look at the universe at beauty and at our crosses and say: 'You exist, you made us like this, for you'. It is necessary to feel that unrest of the heart that leads to thanking and praising God. May the Lord make us understand this ever more deeply and lead us to say "thank 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](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/bulls/documents/20240509_spes-non-confundit_bolla-giubileo2025.html)

*From Pope Francis SPES NON CONFUNDIT - Signs of hope*

8. The first sign of hope should be the desire for peace in our world, which once more finds itself immersed in the tragedy of war. Heedless of the horrors of the past, humanity is confronting yet another ordeal, as many peoples are prey to brutality and violence. What does the future hold for those peoples, who have already endured so much? How is it possible that their desperate plea for help is not motivating world leaders to resolve the numerous regional conflicts in view of their possible consequences at the global level? Is it too much to dream that arms can fall silent and cease to rain down destruction and death? May the Jubilee remind us that those who are peacemakers will be called "children of God" (Mt 5:9). The need for peace challenges us all, and demands that concrete steps be taken. May diplomacy be tireless in its commitment to seek, with courage and creativity, every opportunity to undertake negotiations aimed at a lasting peace.

## PARISH NEWS

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AGM - SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024

Parish Pastoral Council AGM will be on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August following 10am mass. Light refreshments follow. The Parish Priest report and Chairman's report will be issued via flocknotes in the week prior to the AGM.

*(Hard copies will be available in the foyer for parishioners not using flocknotes).* Can any questions related to the reports please be left in the suggestion box attached to the foyer column?

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024

Next weekend (**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> & Sun 28<sup>th</sup> July**) is Commitment weekend for all children making the Sacrament of Confirmation. This has also been combined as a community Mass and has been organised, by the students of Corpus Christi College. Please do attend this Mass with your families and loved ones and let's continue to make our community more vibrant and strong.

Our Confirmation candidates will have their photos displayed in the church. As a Parish community, let us remember to keep these candidates, their families and their teachers in your prayers as our candidates prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION SEMINAR TERM 3

#### Created in the Image of God: An Introduction to Christian Anthropology

**ON:** Wednesdays, 14 August – 4 September

**FROM:** 7:30pm – 8:30pm (4 sessions)

**WITH:** Ms Natalie Thomas

**AT:** Bateman Parish - 100 Dean Road, Bateman

**SUGGESTED DONATION:** \$20

This set of talks will offer a Catholic perspective on what it means to be human. Utilising Scripture and St Pope John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*, it will delve into what it means to be made in the image and likeness of the Holy Trinity, how this forms the basis of our identity and human dignity, and how Jesus' death on the Cross gives the highest and deepest revelation of what it means to be human. Participants will learn the meaning of being redeemed and healed in Christ, the importance of being made male and female, the vocation of every human person, and will be challenged to apply such principles as being "in the world, not of the world".

### 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 NEWS

### PARISHIONER – SAFE PARKING NOTICE

**To whomsoever has parked in the dedicated pick up and drop off driveway of our church**

There are families in our parish who need to use the drop off and pick up driveway zone for elderly family members needing easy access to our church. Also very importantly all parishioners entering and leaving church need to have a clear and safe path to get to their cars in the car park. Accordingly we kindly request parishioners to please complete the drop off and pick as safely as possible and then park your cars in a parking bay and not in the drop off and pick up driveway.

Sincere thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### BOOK SALE - SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> & SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024

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

**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/>

### PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH TO SAINTS AND SHRINES IN EASTERN EUROPE (CROATIA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, SLOVENIA AND AUSTRIA) TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> TO WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

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 Pilgrimage is coordinated by Anawim Journeys, with Fr. Phong as a spiritual advisor.

### FOR ENQUIRIES ON ITINERARY:

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