

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - 1 Kings 19:4-8

A reading from the first book of Kings

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

Second Reading - Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ. Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

Gospel - John 6:41-51

A reading from the gospel according to John.

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

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 2.30pm)



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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

August 11, 2024

Opening ourselves up to God

Get yourself a life coach says an online ad and you can 'turn the ordinary into the extraordinary.' At some point in our lives, it may serve a purpose but contrast it with a local parish which decided to have a weekly meal for anyone who wished to come along.

On the first occasion they had nine guests and eleven helpers, and they responded to this potential embarrassment by everyone eating together. "It was coming together and a blessing I felt," said one of the organisers.

We can see here how the ordinary stuff of our lives, eating together, can be the context for something quite unexpected to happen. The life coach ad invites us to take control of our lives and make it happen, whereas in the parish setting, something else happened.

It relates to what we hear in the first reading. The prophet Elijah is in a dark place, alone and hungry, wanting to die. In the midst of his desolation, he is fed by an angel, and comes to understand God is present in what he's living through. In doing so he discovers a renewed purpose. The food he's given enables him to make the long journey to Mt Horeb (Sinai), the holy mountain, where God speaks to him. Desola-

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

tion, the gift of food, the long journey – in the ordinarieness of our lives, quite unexpectedly, we may come to discover the presence of God.

Again, in Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, he speaks of our daily commitment to loving one another as Jesus loves us; learning to befriend each other whatever our differences; avoiding the petty behaviours which bring us undone. Our learning to love in this way is enabled by the Holy Spirit, who reveals the unending love of the Father and Son. We’re slowly learning to open ourselves to a God who loves us, come what may.

In the gospel, when Jesus says, “I am the bread from heaven,” the authorities are shocked. They insist he’s not from heaven, he’s a local boy, we know his father. In other words, he’s too ordinary. Then, amid their complaints, Jesus speaks of his divine origins and reminds us, this is Gods’ initiative, to which we’re invited to respond.

We’re asked to let go of our securities and our prejudices and open ourselves to a bigger God, a loving God. A little like the moment at the parish meal when they decided to eat together. This is the God who draws us into Christ and into unending life, through our eating together with him. Jesus gives us his life and invites us to do the same – to give of our lives.

Before the parish meal, with everyone’s agreement, they prayed, and concluded their prayer with these words: ‘Thank you Lord for the blessings you have given us in our lives, especially one another. Amen.’ Often, we may yearn for a special experience of God, only to miss the presence of God here, in our lives.

Damian Coleridge

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Baptisms: We welcome Jaxon Thomas Box, Kobe Michael Wayne, Tom Paul Cahill, Fletcher Stephen William Vincent, Harvey Herb Vincent into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Please pray for Mary Yap Siew Chang, Maria Stefanelli, Angela McLaren, Evelyn Brand, Margaret Shearer and Mary Oliver who passed away recently.

Death Anniversaries:

Please pray for Jerome Pereira, Jennifer Lobo, Phanxico Hoang Thanh Hai, Giuse Hoang Van Hien, Jim Murdoch, Peter Tempra, Christine Papineau, Wilson Rajasingam, H Selvanayagam Christopher, Rachel Gillett, Tessie D’Abreo, William Bernard Kyle (Bernie), Mary Teresa Joanilho, Thomas Linsley Scully, and Rosa Rechichi whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 18TH AUGUST

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
Flowers: Little Babu Angel
Counters: 1. D Kumala 2. D Puspita 3. T Santoso

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	S Dass	C Goh	S Muthucumaru
Altar Servers	S Buntoro G Dass T Jomy	B Karczub N Karczub	A Kan G Winaulin
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	L Rego L Sequeira M Sequeira O D’Mello E Fernandez C Hoare A Khoo	C Price P Price R Margawani J Randazzo M Saji J Sciorilli C Cox	J Louie A Lu F May J Mohan S Cataldo-Nikolic C Poore G Prasetyo

Catechists CHILDREN’S LITURGY
Michelle Lowth

Readers	A Loo K A King	A Martin B Martin	S John K Gamba
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Readers Coordinator: Michele Doray - 9310 4051

Piety Stall OPEN OPEN OPEN

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)
- ♦ Serena 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 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 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.



THANK YOU FROM ACN

We want to offer our thanks to the parish for welcoming us recently. It was wonderful to be present with the community at the weekend of Masses, meet people,

and of course speak about the work and mission of Aid to the Church in Need. To offer a summary, we had 8 people sign up to receive our newsletter and \$3,094.50 raised through product sales and donations. Thank you! We would encourage anyone who might have been struck by our work in support of the suffering Church to visit www.aidtochurch.org. We also have an online store at www.thatcatholicshop.com. Thanks and God bless you. Aid to the Church in Need AU/NZ.

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 preparation 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

The Holy See POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE Library of the Apostolic Palace Wednesday, 10 June 2020 [Multimedia] Catechesis on prayer –

6. The prayer of Jacob

At a certain point in his life, Jacob – always clever and self-assured – finds himself at a crossroads. Returning home, he must face his older brother Esau, whose blessing he had extracted from their father Isaac. One night, alone and fearing for his life, Jacob encounters the Lord in the guise of a mysterious stranger with whom he wrestles all night. The Church's spiritual 3 tradition sees this "fight with God" as a metaphor for prayer. Prayer is not always easy; often it demands of us a struggle with God and a recognition of our weakness and frailty before him and his will. Yet it is precisely in that struggle and in our woundedness that we experience the healing power of grace and grow in faith. Let us pray for the gift always to be open to this encounter with God, to the conversion of our hearts, and to the many blessings the Lord wishes to pour upon us.

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 - Signs of hope

11. Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable.

Inclusive attention should also be given to all those in particularly difficult situations, who experience their own weaknesses and limitations, especially those affected by illnesses or disabilities that severely restrict their personal independence and freedom. Care given to them is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole.

RCIA RITE OF ACCEPTANCE SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST AT 10AM MASS

Please pray for the Catechumens journey of faith.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – THURSDAY 15TH AUGUST 2024

This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass Times are:

09.00am – Parish Mass

11.15am – Whole School Mass – Corpus Christi College Gym

07.00pm – Parish Mass

PARISH NEWS

ADULT FAITH FORMATION SEMINAR TERM 3

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

ON: Wednesdays, 14th August – 4th September 2024

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".

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AGM - SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST 2024

Parish Pastoral Council AGM will be on Sunday 25th August following 10am mass. Light refreshments follow. All families and their children are encouraged to attend. There will be a supply of toys available during the meeting for the children to use.

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: 7TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Our Confirmation candidates 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.

SEMINAR: AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN MASCULINITY & UNDERSTANDING NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING THROUGH SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

From Pope Francis Spes Non Confundit Signs of Hope (9) Papal Bull:

Hope entails having enthusiasm for life and a readiness to share it. Openness to life and responsible parenthood is the design that the creator has implanted in the hearts of bodies of men and women.

The parish council will be conducting a 2-part seminar on

Saturday 14th September 10am – 12noon: Authentic Christian Masculinity & Understanding Natural Family Planning Through Science and Philosophy.

Kenneth Phua provides a scriptural based understanding of the nature of manhood and the role of men in society. Mandie Bowen, as chair of the education committee of the Billings Ovulation Method will explain how Natural Family Planning brings harmony and certainty to the married couple. Light refreshments will follow.

PARISH NEWS

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.

WARNING OF MOBILE PHONE SCAM ALLEGEDLY FROM FR. PHONG AND FR ANIBAL

I would like to bring to your attention a current scam that is circulating within various parish communities. The scam involves a message being sent with the parish priests' name and official photos to parishioners asking them to either send money or gift cards. Please ignore scam text messages using both my name and Fr Anibal's name and identity. If you are in doubt please contact the Parish Office immediately on 9310 1747. Thank you! Fr. Phong

WARNING OF SUSPICIOUS EMAILS ALLEGEDLY FROM FR. PHONG AND FR ANIBAL

Recently many parishioners have notified me and called the Bateman Parish Office that they have been receiving suspicious emails purportedly from me or Fr Anibal asking for a favour. We don't have a gmail account. Please ignore scam emails using both my name and Fr Anibal's name and identity. If you are in doubt please contact the Parish Office immediately on 93101747. Thank you! Fr. Phong

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

48HR ROSARY BOUQUET FOR OUR LADY'S BIRTHDAY

6PM THURSDAY 5TH SEPT TO 6PM SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2024 6PM

Presentation of the scroll of names will be made at the St Joachims Catholic Church, Shepperton ROAD, Victoria Park, The Rosary will be said at 10.30am, followed by Mass at 11am on 7th September 2024. The Mass will be celebrated by the Most Rev Justin Bianchini, Bishop Emeritus of Geraldton.

All information can be found at www.legionofmarywa.org or by emailing comitiumofperth@gmail.com.

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/>