

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Proverbs 9:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table. She has despatched her maidservants and proclaimed from the city's heights: 'Who is ignorant? Let him step this way.'

To the fool she says, 'Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared! Leave your folly and you will live, walk in the ways of perception.'

Second Reading - Ephesians 5:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Be very careful about the sort of lives you lead, like intelligent and not like senseless people. This may be a wicked age, but your lives should redeem it. And do not be thoughtless but recognise what is the will of the Lord. Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are giving thanks to God who is our Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel - John 6:51-58

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowd:

'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.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied: 'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.'

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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Phone (08) 93101747

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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

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

August 18, 2024

Walking faithfully with Jesus

In the book of Exodus, God appeared to Moses asking him to free the Israelites who were enslaved by the Egyptians. Unsure of his ability to achieve this outcome, Moses asks God what he is to say to the Israelites.

God says to Moses, "I am who I am," and that he should answer their question by saying "I am has sent me to you."

When Jesus tells his followers, "I am the bread of life," his words confused his audience as they understood them literally. They also wondered if Jesus was making a claim about his identity. His followers understood the statement as an assertion that Jesus was identifying himself as God.

There are six more incidents in John's gospel where Jesus uses the words "I am," and each time an action accompanies his words. In this first saying, Jesus' claim follows the feeding of five thousand in the wilderness.

"I am the light of the world" is the second of the "I am" statements and comes after the healing of a man born blind. Jesus not only says he is the light, but he proves it, and in doing so echoes the words of Genesis where God said, "Let there be light and

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

there was light.”
 “I am the door,” and “I am the good shepherd” are both statements about the sheepfold, and the shepherd as the one who loves and cares for the flock even to the point of death. The title of good shepherd is unmistakably one of God's titles as we learn in the beloved twenty-third psalm.

Jesus states, “I am the resurrection and the life,” after raising Lazarus from the dead. Again, his words are not empty rhetoric but substantiated by action. This gospel, written at a time when the followers of Jesus were being cast out of the synagogues, offers a definitive response to those who rejected them by asserting, “I am the way, and the truth and the life.”

The final statement, “I am the true vine, and you are the branches,” emphasises the sustaining power of Christ without whom we will not bear fruit in the Christian life.

There are two more “I am” statements in John's gospel, but they are not metaphors like the above seven instances but are instead declarations applied by Jesus to himself. “I tell you the truth,” Jesus says, “before Abraham was born, I am.” The final instance occurs in the Garden of Gethsemane when the mob comes to arrest Jesus and, when he asks them whom they seek, they say, “Jesus of Nazareth,” and Jesus replies, “I am he.”

All of these statements of Jesus make it abundantly clear that Jesus is God. Each day we are invited to accept the presence of Jesus in our lives and to walk faithfully in his way.

Michael A Kelly CSsR
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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 Miro Stipinovic, Marcelino Reyes Sr, Agnes Annamalay, Anthony Sale, Wally Vincenti, Anne Grace Saverimutto, Thomas Goodall, Lionel Saverimutto and Domenico Giallorenzo whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 25TH AUGUST			
Bulletin:	Ratinda Oetomo		
Flowers:	Elda Ruoss		
Counters:	1. B D'Sa	2. J Pereira	3. D Puspita
	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	J Nonis	C Goh	A Louie
Altar Servers	C Vahala O Vahala J Reutens	J Cherian I Lu	G Chua A Demberger E Gatchalian
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	L Morzenti A Ruban A Loo M Magnussen L McMinn P McMinn V Ng	M Ch'ng M Ch'ng B D'Cruz D Dennis G Dunsford W Goh I Kusnadi	A Ring E Ross T Rudianto L Saverimutto M Sugijono V Sutijono V Tan
Catechists	CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth		
Readers	V Ng G Munro	C Morzenti E Orr	K Lingoh M Fely
Readers Coordinator: Kirsteen Lingoh - 0422 684 340			
Piety Stall	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Safeguarding Officers:			
1. Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)			
2. Derek Choo (Derek.Cho.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:

- 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

POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE Library of the Apostolic Palace Wednesday, 17 June 2020[Multimedia] Catechesis on prayer - 7. **The prayer of Moses.**

Moses appeared to be 'a failure'. After killing an Egyptian, Moses became a fugitive and had to tend sheep. In the silence of shepherding, Moses heard the voice of God asking him to care for the people of Israel. Moses resists God with his fears and his objections at not being worthy. Besides, he had a stammer! But Moses, too, was so friendly with God that he could speak to Him face to face (ex33:11). Moses too was so friendly with his people that he felt mercy for their sins. He is faithful to his flesh and blood and faithful to God's voice.—Moses prays as an intercessor. Today, Jesus is the bridge interceding for the world - the worst sinners, wicked people, corrupt leaders. Everyone belongs to God. This too is the great characteristic of pastors. They are the bridges between the people they belong to and God whom they belong to by vocation. Like Moses, Christ and pastors, true believers do not condemn or reject people for their shortcomings. We too are called to be intercessors.

The world lives and flourishes to the blessing of the righteous – this prayer for mercy that the holy, the righteous, the intercessor, the priest, the bishop, the Pope, the layperson, any baptized person unceasingly raises up for humanity, in every place and time in history.

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*

12. Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, the young. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm. It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike and people are in need. Yet it is sad to see young people who are without hope, who face an uncertain and unpromising future, who lack employment or job security, or realistic prospects after finishing school. Without the hope that their dreams can come true, they will inevitably grow discouraged and listless. Escaping into drugs, risk-taking and the pursuit of momentary pleasure does greater harm to them in particular, since it closes them to life's beauty and richness, and can lead to depression and even self-destructive actions. For this reason, the Jubilee should inspire the Church to make greater efforts to reach out to them. (wider community) With renewed passion, let us demonstrate care and concern for adolescents, students and young couples, the rising generation. Let us draw close to the young, for they are the joy and hope of the Church and of the world!

PARISH NEWS

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AGM - SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST 2024

Parish Pastoral Council AGM will be on Sunday 25th August following 10am mass. Light refreshments follow. If you want to know more about the finances of your planned giving contributions – come along to the AGM. All families and their children are encouraged to attend.

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?

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".

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 14 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

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.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING - SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 2PM

The Saint Thomas More Parish is inviting young members of the parish community to become altar servers. This is a wonderful way for children to participate fully in Sunday Mass. We would like to extend this invitation specifically to children from the parish who have recently celebrated their First Holy Communion. The Altar Serving Training Session this year will be held at **2pm on Saturday 14th September 2024.**

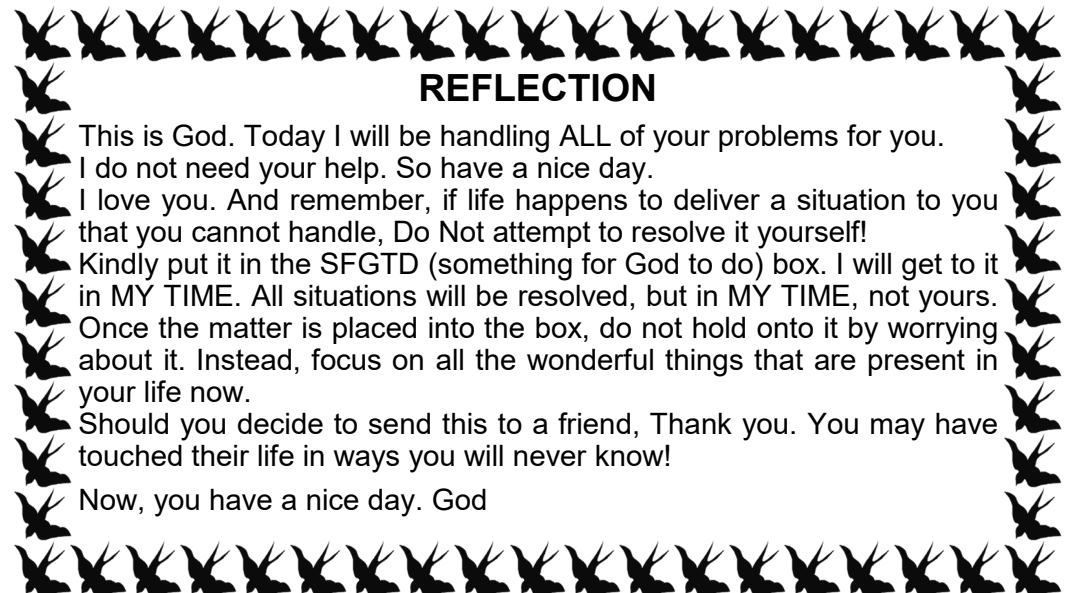
Please take a letter that can be found in the foyer at the back of the church, if your child will be attending, and place the completed form in the box on the table.

SAFEGUARDING NOTICES

A reminder that all **parish workers and volunteers** are required to do the **Safeguarding Induction Training.**

The online Induction Training takes only 45 minutes to watch and complete. Alternatively, you can attend the Induction Training at **Palmyra Parish on Saturday 19th October 2024 at 10am.**

Your compliance is necessary and will be greatly appreciated.



REFLECTION

This is God. Today I will be handling ALL of your problems for you.
I do not need your help. So have a nice day.
I love you. And remember, if life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, Do Not attempt to resolve it yourself!
Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. I will get to it in MY TIME. All situations will be resolved, but in MY TIME, not yours.
Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold onto it by worrying about it. Instead, focus on all the wonderful things that are present in your life now.
Should you decide to send this to a friend, Thank you. You may have touched their life in ways you will never know!
Now, you have a nice day. God