

# Sunday Readings

Year B

## First Reading - Isaiah 50:5-9

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

## Second Reading - James 2:14-18

### A reading from the letter of St James

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

## Gospel - Mark 8:27-35

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

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'a

# 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*

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

September 15, 2024

## ***Taking up our own cross***

With the reading from the Gospel of Mark (Chapter 8), we come to a turning point in Jesus' public ministry, before the journey back to Jerusalem where he will be crucified.

Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do people say that I am?"<sup>28</sup> And then, "But who do you say that I am?"

Having witnessed his authoritative teaching, his powerful acts of healing and his wonderful miracles, Peter replies on behalf of them all: "You are the Messiah."

And how they and all of Israel longed for the coming of the Messiah. But what the disciples are slow to understand is that this is not the Messiah that they had longed for and expected. It was unimaginable for them that Jesus, as Messiah and God's Beloved Son, was to suffer and die.

Instead of commending Peter for his response, not even confirming it, Jesus instead proceeds to speak to them of his impending passion and death.

The disciples' slowness to understand, their blindness, their struggle, and their resistance to this understanding that Jesus' mission would lead to his arrest, suffering

## 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

and death is starkly depicted in Mark's gospel. We see it here in Chapter 8, again in Chapter 9 and again in Chapter 10. They just don't get it!

So, as Jesus, accompanied by his disciples, journeys to Jerusalem where he will be arrested tortured and crucified, the disciples slowly progress on a journey of coming to understand Jesus' identity and mission as the Messiah.

In our lives we too, each and every one of us, struggle in various ways to understand Jesus, our Saviour, and his role in our lives and in the world. We too often have misguided expectations of God. And we too, each one of us, are called to respond to Jesus' question: Who do you say that I am? What do I mean to you in your life?

Jesus, having explained to his disciples the suffering and death that he will soon endure, goes on to say to them that they too will also face suffering. He tells them: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

So too for us. Discipleship will inevitably require self-denial and taking up one's own cross. There's no denying it! And each one's cross is uniquely their own.

When we make the Sign of the Cross, "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," we identify and mark ourselves as follower of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. Our cross-making in the Sign of the Cross symbolises the reality of suffering not just in Jesus' life but in our lives as his followers, not just his cross but the cross that is ours to carry in our lives. It reminds us too of the resurrection and life of the world to come.

We are not alone in our journey. Jesus is with us every step of the way.

Anne Hunt  
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### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Recently Deceased:** Please pray for Salvatore Greco, Fr Augustine Thomas Pandara-Parambil, Rusman Effendi, Louise Chee, Tan Kia Hong, Michele O'Brien, Terry McCabe, Peter Van Dijk, Liesa Tjan Erlies Nio and Mary Yap Siew Chang who passed away recently.

### Death Anniversaries:

Please pray for Hin Nam Yong, April Mary Theresa, Benjamin Ip Teresa Da Silva, Rosa Teresa Das Neves, Ross Alphonsus Crawston, Antonius Kusnadi Koo, Gunardi Go, Kathleen Whitely, Robert Hooi, Barry Chidlow, Barney Pereira, Nelson D'Souza, Linda Ann Crosato, Leonard James Keating, Mireille Parker, Rita Dorothy Orr, Gerrard Emslie, Tom Cunningham, Maria Conceicao Rebola (Connie) whose anniversaries occur around this time.

# R O S T E R S

## FOR 22ND SEPTEMBER

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo  
 Flowers: Joan Louie  
 Counters: 1. R Sciascia 2. M Sequeira 3. A Vinci

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
Acolytes	J Loo	C Goh	S Kan
Altar Servers	S Buntoro G Dass T Jomy	J Cherian I Lu	A Evans S Evans A Hadiyanto
Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	D Gareffa G Garreffa L Morzenti A Ruban R Oetomo K Poole L Morzenti	M Ch'ng M Ch'ng C Cox B D'Cruz M de Rozario D Dennis G Dunsford	G Prasetyo A Ring E Ross T Rudianto L Saverimutto M Sugijono V Sutijono
Catechists	CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth		
Readers	A De Sousa A De Sousa	M Golding P Golding	M Costello A Crossley
Readers Coordinator: Kirsteen Lingoh - 0422 684 340			

**Piety Stall**                      **OPEN**                      **OPEN**                      **OPEN**

### Safeguarding Officers:

- Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)
- Derek Choo (Derek.Cchoo.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:**

- 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.

### **PARISH AGM - THANK YOU**

Thank you to those of our parishioners and young families with children who attended the Parish AGM and to those who gave reports. Special thank you to:

- Carol Ann Norris for the report on the leadership and work of Parish Pastoral Council
- Nick Choo for reporting on the finance committee
- Eamon Broderick (Columbarium)
- Damian Ramos (importance of Parish – Corpus Christi College relationship).
- Vivian Chua. A warm welcome to Vivian – new member of the Parish pastoral Council and mother of 5 young children.

Our parish is very blessed to be in good financial position, because of the wonderful support and generous contribution from Bateman parishioners. Your kindness and service to each other strengthens and builds community. Thank you to our St Thomas More, Bateman Catholic Parish Community. God bless.

### **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 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 Paul VI Audience Hall Wednesday, 14 October 2020 [Multimedia] Catechesis: **10. The prayer of the Psalms.**

2. In the Psalter, prayer appears as essential to a good and truly human life, guiding our steps according to God's will and teaching us to avoid the snares of evil. Genuine prayer enables us, even at times of great distress, to see reality with God's eyes and to look upon our brothers and sisters with compassion and respect. In the Psalms, personal and communal prayer merge, and praise of God is joined to concern for others, especially the poor and those in need. Even the Psalms that seem most personal and private were prayed in the liturgy of the Temple and in the synagogues, and then in the assemblies of the earliest Christian community. They remind us that prayer must embrace every aspect of our lives in this world. Sometimes, prayer begins in our churches but then leads us to serve others in the streets of our cities. At other times prayer originates in the midst of our daily work, and then finds its completion in the Church's liturgy. May we learn to pray the Psalms more consciously, letting their voice become our own, as we seek to grow in love for God, trust in the fulfilment of his saving plan, and charity towards all our brothers and sisters.

### **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 - Appeals for hope***

16. Echoing the age-old message of the prophets, the Jubilee reminds us that **the goods of the earth** are not destined for a privileged few, but for everyone. The rich must be generous and not avert their eyes from the faces of their brothers and sisters in need. Here I think especially of those who lack water and food: hunger is a scandal, an open wound on the body of our humanity, and it summons all of us to a serious examination of conscience. I renew my appeal that "with the money spent on weapons and other military expenditures, let us establish a global fund that can finally put an end to hunger and favour development in the most impoverished countries, so that their citizens will not resort to violent or illusory situations, or have to leave their countries in order to seek a more dignified life". [8]

Another heartfelt appeal that I would make in light of the coming Jubilee is directed to the more affluent nations. I ask that they acknowledge the gravity of so many of their past decisions and determine to *forgive the debts* of countries that will never be able to repay them. More than a question of generosity, this is a matter of justice. It is made all the more serious today by a new form of injustice which we increasingly recognize, namely, that "a true 'ecological debt' exists, particularly between the global North and South, connected to commercial imbalances with effects on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time". [9] As sacred Scripture teaches, the earth is the Lord's and all of us dwell in it as "aliens and tenants" (Lev 25:23). If we really wish to prepare a path to peace in our world, let us commit ourselves to remedying the remote causes of injustice, settling unjust and unpayable debts, and feeding the hungry.

## PARISH NEWS

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024: THANK YOU



Last Saturday, 66 children from Corpus Christi College and St Thomas More Parish have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. As Parish Priest, I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the organisation of this significant celebration. Whilst so many people are involved and their efforts are so much appreciated, I would especially like to thank the following groups and individuals:

- Fr Anibal Leite Da Cunha, Co-Celebrant
- Saida Cataldo-Nikolic and Jean Paul Papineau, our Catechists
- Corpus Christi College Principal Jeff Allen, Deputy Principal Damian Ramos-Nunez and Head of Junior School Katya Anderson
- Corpus Christi College Teachers Simon Overton, Helen Dalley, Sophie Monteleone and Danielle Damjanovic
- Corpus Christi College for the beautiful flower arrangement
- Bateman 6PM Music Ministry
- Cyril Goh, Paul Doss, Danny Ng and Vivian Ng
- Photographer Gerard de Souza
- Alvin and Dina Sukmono from Muffin Break for the delicious muffins
- Parish Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers and Acolytes

Thank you all for your contributions in making this a wonderful celebration for our Parish community. Your dedication and efforts are deeply appreciated. God bless, Fr Phong

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024: PARISH GIFT

For all students received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Saturday, we would like to invite all of you back to any of the Masses this weekend on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September to receive a gift from the Parish.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

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 Reconciliation.

### OUR LADY'S CANDLE-LIGHT PROCESSION - SAT 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

The Legion of Mary invites you to join our Parish Bi-Annual Candlelight Procession in honor of Our Lady on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024**, immediately following the 6:00 pm Mass. Everyone is welcome to take part in this beautiful tradition.

We are also seeking donations of white or cream roses to decorate Our Lady's float. If you can contribute, please bring your flowers to the church by 10am on Saturday morning (19<sup>th</sup> October 2024).

We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you.

## PARISH NEWS

### R U OK Day 2024 - SATURDAY/SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup>/15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024

The Parish Safeguarding Officers, the Mental Health First Aid group and the Parish Council will be celebrating R U OK Day over **the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> September 2024**.

In preparation we invite parishioners to practice the following three initiatives:

1. Be Grateful and content with what you have; our God loves a cheerful heart.
2. Take good care of yourself, your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
3. Reach out to someone in need, there is more joy in giving than in receiving.

At every weekend mass on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September, we will distribute Ask R U OK? Anyday bookmarks and invite parishioners to write the name of another parishioner and present that bookmark to them to show them that you care. Tea/coffee will also be served after each mass that weekend so that we can share some fellowship with our fellow parishioners.

Thank you and let's strive to make a small difference in someone else's life.

*"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing". - Mother Teresa*

### SVDP FOOD SALE - SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024

Our food sale will be on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024. Please come & support us. Any donations of food/enquiries, please contact Winnie 0421 601 095.

### WORLD DAY OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS - SUN 29<sup>TH</sup> SEP AT 10AM

We will be commemorating this event at the **10.00am Mass on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024** in a special way. We are encouraging parishioners to attend Mass, dressed in national costumes or national colours. If you would like to assist by reading a prayer during the Prayer of Faithful in your own language, please contact Michele Doray on 0416 291 429.

### 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 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 10am**. Your compliance is necessary and will be greatly appreciated.

### SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS - SAT 26<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2024

Our Parish Annual Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass and Supper will take place on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at the 6.00pm Mass** followed by a celebratory supper in the parish hall. Couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries such as 1, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 etc years are invited to register their names at the parish office with Heidi on 9310 1747 or email her at bateman@perthcatholic.org.au by **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024**.

For enquiries, please contact **Michele Doray on 0416 291 429**.