

Sunday Readings

Year B

First Reading - Isaiah 53:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering. If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done. His soul's anguish over he shall see the light and be content. By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself.

Second Reading - Hebrews 4:14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

Gospel - Mark 10:35-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

October 20, 2024

To be a servant for others

To be human is to experience desire and ambition. To know a person's deep desires is to see into that person's soul. Desire for good, such as world peace or the end of global warming, is a positive urge of the human spirit. Other desires that focus on personal happiness and success can also be positive. However, they may also become caught up with the 'dark side' of the human spirit leading to jealousy, blind ambition and ruthless disregard for others.

Throughout the drama of human life, desire and suffering are closely linked. This is evident, for example, in the works of Shakespeare: one thinks of the innocent, youthful desires of Romeo and Juliet, the dark and treacherous desires of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, or the obsessive desires of King Richard III. In different ways, these desires all lead to tragic suffering.

The connection between suffering and desire is also a key insight of the Buddha who taught that all suffering is caused by human desire and that happiness or enlightenment consists in the elimination of all desires. How does this compare with the approach of our own Christian Scriptures?

The long history of Israel is one of suffering at the hands of external enemies 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

through internal divisions. Jesus' life-story is also one in which his efforts to bring about God's kingdom of justice and peace are thwarted by negative forces. Even Jesus' own disciples seem blind to his real mission and message.

Why are Jesus' disciples so dim-witted? In a word, they are so caught up with their petty desires and ambition for power and glory, they are unable to see Jesus for who he really is or to hear what he truly asks. They want to overcome suffering (as we all do); but they think the way to do this is in the worldly way of grabbing power, status and authority.

Jesus' response is to challenge their preconceptions: "Anyone who is to be great among you must be your servant; anyone who wants to be first among you must be your slave." Suffering is integral to our human lives. In this sense, compared to the Buddha, Jesus is more radical by insisting his followers embrace suffering as he does: "Can you drink the cup that I must drink?"

Jesus is not glorifying suffering for its own sake but shows us how to place suffering in its proper context. The message is foreshadowed by Isaiah who links positive acceptance of suffering with liberation from sin and practising justice. Acting for God's kingdom means putting one's life on the line—and even, as in Jesus' case, giving one's "life as a ransom for many".

There is another form of suffering Jesus shares with us because, like us, he experiences human weakness – though, the writer is careful to add, "he is without sin" (Hebrews). Sin is the ultimate cause of human suffering often expressed in our wayward human desires.

Jesus shows us the way to purify such desires through a life of servanthood.

Gerard Hall SM
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**PLEASE PRAY FOR
 Recently Deceased:**

Please pray for Maria Collica, Rosalba Capurso, Tuti Sutedja, Patrick John McManus, Liria Caranna, Elsie Haines and Edna Christina Amaral who passed away recently.

Death Anniversaries:

Please pray for Peter James Murphy, Leslie Smith, Herman Streppel, John Paul D'Souza, Vincenzo Carnevale, Vicki Lorraine Rutherford, Angelo Romano, Marie Pickersgill, Sara Hennessy, Phyllis Morrison and William Light whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

FOR 27TH OCTOBER

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo
 Flowers: Catherine Tan
 Counters: 1. P Golding 2. P Murray 3. M Woolford

	Saturday 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 10.00am
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Acolytes	V Roque	C Goh	A Louie
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Altar Servers	F Lie J Lie	B Karczub N Karczub I Lu	A Demberger E Gatchalian A Hadiyanto
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Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass	R Margawani C Price P Price M Saji J Sciorilli M Ch'ng M Ch'ng	A Ring M Sugijono V Sutijono V Tan E Tandy R Triuntari N Winata
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Catechists	CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth		
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Readers	AJ Roque R D'Mello	M Golding P Golding	C Plottke L Papineau
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Readers Coordinator: Lilian Sequeira - 9331 5221

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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 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.

DIOCESAN NEWS

RELIC OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS - 19TH - 24TH OCT 2024

A Eucharistic Exhibition designed by Carlo Acutis and accompanied by a first class relic will be at Saint Mary's Cathedral 19th - 24th October. Visit the exhibition and be inspired! Schedule of events:

- **Saturday, 19th Oct 6.00-7.00pm:** Vigil Mass.
- **Monday, 21st Oct 6.30-7.30pm:** Holy Hour and Talk by Fr Conor Steadman, with Confessions available.
- **Tuesday, 22nd Oct 6.30-7.30pm:** Holy Hour and Talk by Fr Kenneth Acosta, with Confessions available.
- **Thursday, 24th Oct 12.10-1.00pm:** Mass and farewell of relic.

Note: *The relic and exhibition will be available for silent veneration and viewing in the Cathedral whenever there is no mass or holy hour during each of these days, with Cathedral opening times extended until 8.30pm from Saturday 19th Oct to Wednesday 23rd Oct.*

MOTHERS PRAYERS THANKSGIVING MASS 2024 - FRI 25TH OCT AT 10AM

Mothers Prayers Australia invites all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers and all women with a mother's heart to a Thanksgiving Mass on Friday 25th Oct at 10 am at St Benedict's Church, Applecross. Do arrive early to place the names of your children and grandchildren into the basket which will be brought to the altar during Offertory, signifying our surrender of these precious children into Jesus' loving care. Mass will be followed by morning tea, when you will be able to hear about the many blessings and answered prayers received through Mothers Prayers. For more information, please email Su Goh, WA Mothers Prayers Coordinator at perth@mothersprayers.org

RIGHT TO LIFE: ANNUAL DINNER - SATURDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2024

at 6pm for 6.30pm start, RAAFA Club Memorial Estate Bull Creek, \$85/person.

Buy tickets at <https://www.righttolifewa.co/calendar/events/?event=9734>

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, 25 November 2020 Catechesis on prayer - **16. The prayer of the nascent Church**

We now reflect on how constant prayer was the driving force of the missionary activity of the first Christians. Saint Luke tells us that they "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Today too the Church's life is centred on prayer, which unites us to Christ, and inspires our witness to the Gospel and our charitable service to those in need. In 3 prayer, we experience the life of the risen Jesus who, in the power of the Spirit, continues to be present to our world, especially in the Church's teaching and sacraments, and our efforts to advance his kingdom of reconciliation, justice and peace. The Catechism teaches that the Holy Spirit "keeps the memory of Christ alive in his Church" (n. 2625), and grants courage and conviction to all those missionaries, who, in our day too, face arduous journeys, dangers and persecution for the sake of the Gospel. Like the early Christians, may we learn, through the cultivation of personal and communal prayer, to be ever more closely united to the Triune God of love, and to bring that same love to the world around 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 - Anchored in hope

21. What, then, will become of us after death? With Jesus, beyond this threshold we will find eternal life, consisting in full communion with God as we forever contemplate and share in his infinite love. All that we now experience in hope, we shall then see in reality. We are reminded of the words of Saint Augustine: "When I am one with you in all my being, there will be no more pain and toil; my life shall be true life, a life wholly filled by you". [16] What will characterize this fullness of communion? Being happy. Happiness is our human vocation, a goal to which all aspire.

But what is happiness? What is the happiness that we await and desire? Not some fleeting pleasure, a momentary satisfaction that, once experienced, keeps us longing for more, in a desperate quest that leaves our hearts unsated and increasingly empty. We aspire to a happiness that is definitively found in the one thing that can bring us fulfilment, which is love. Thus, we will be able to say even now: I am loved, therefore I exist; and I will live forever in the love that does not disappoint, the love from which nothing can ever separate me. Let us listen once more to the words of the Apostle: "I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom 8:38-39).

PARISH NEWS

OUR LADY'S CANDLE-LIGHT PROCESSION - SAT 19TH OCTOBER 2024

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

HONOURING OUR LADY DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Parishioners are invited to pray more Rosaries and prayers to Our Lady during October.

- **Before Weekday Masses** - The Rosary is a powerful prayer and begins 30 minutes before every weekday Mass.
- **Scriptural Rosary Group** - Please join us every Tuesday at 8.50am in the church.
- **Our Lady's Shrine** - The Rosary and Chaplets are recited every Wednesday at 2.30pm. Parishioners and parents please join us even if only for one Hail Mary.

MONTH OF OCTOBER - OUR LADY'S HOME ROSARY

All those wishing to have the Rosary in their homes during the month of October, are invited to write their names down on the list provided in the church foyer.

A statue of Our Lady and some books are available if required.

For more information, please contact Heidi at the Parish office on 9310 1747.

THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR VISIT - SAT 19TH & SUN 20TH OCT

The Little Sisters of the Poor will be visiting our parish on Saturday 19th October and Sunday 20th October 2024. They will speak about their mission of caring for the elderly poor. Those who wish to support their work will have the opportunity to do so after all Masses. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

PARISH VOLUNTEERS' NIGHT - FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2024 AT 6.15PM

Please come along to enjoy each other's company, share a meal together, enjoy wine, food and fellowship. Volunteers are invited to bring their spouse. For catering purposes, please sign up on the sheet provided, indicating your name and if your spouse will be attending. Some of the ministry leaders are currently away and the invitation to attend the Volunteers Recognition Evening may not reach all volunteers. ***The invitation is also on the notice board.***

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 26TH OCTOBER 2024

The candidates now 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 Reconciliation.

RELIGIOUS PROGRAM CATECHIST: INTRODUCTION

For those who's interested to find out what's involved being a Catechist in Parish RE program, you're invited to **"Come and See: Introduction to the Catechetical Ministry" at 9:30am-12:30pm on 30th October** at Catholic Education Centre in West Leederville. Please contact the Parish RE coordinator, email: cate-chist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au for more details.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS - SAT 26TH OCT 2024

Our Parish Annual Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass and Supper will take place on **Saturday 26th October 2024 at the 6.00pm Mass** followed by a celebratory supper in the parish hall.

ALL SAINTS MASS - FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER AT 5.30PM (Followed by Adoration)

The Mass for the Solemnity of All Saints will be on Friday 1st November 2024 at 5.30pm. (Incense will be used)

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2024 AT 6 - 9PM.

Why not spend some time with the Lord in silence and give Him the opportunity to speak to you?

ALL SOUL'S DAY - SATURDAY 2ND NOVEMBER AT 9.00AM

There will be Masses for All Souls' Day at 9.00am on Saturday 2nd November 2024.

NOVEMBER BOOK AND ENVELOPES

During the month of November, all Masses will be offered for the Deceased. Please write the names of the deceased that you want to pray for in the book of "Remembrance" available in the foyer. Also, the November envelopes are available on the table in the church foyer, should you wish to offer masses for all your loved ones who have died. These envelopes can be dropped into the collection baskets at any weekend mass and will be placed in a box at the foot of the altar for the whole month of November.

ALL SOULS DAY - Our parish is celebrating the lives of our dearly departed.

If you have lost a loved one during the past 12 months, we would like to invite you to display a photo in church so that we can remember them & pray with you.

Please provide us with a framed photo of your loved one & labelled with name, date of birth & departure in front, and your name & contact behind. It would be appreciated that the size of the photo be no larger than A5 (size of parish bulletin). Please leave the photo at the designated box at the church foyer or with Angela.

There will be a mass at **9am** on **Saturday 2nd November 2024**. This will be followed with brunch for the grieving families. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Angela at: 0418 953 992.

COFFEE GET-TOGETHER - FIRST SAT & SUN 2ND & 3RD NOVEMBER 2024

1. **First Saturday Evening Coffee - Saturday 2nd November 2024**
(Immediately after 6pm mass)
2. **First Sunday Morning Coffee - Sunday 3rd November 2024**
(Immediately after 10am mass)
3. **Every Sunday morning after 8.00am Mass**, coffee and tea will be in the Parish Hall.



REPAINTING OF CEILING (SOFFIT) ABOVE THE CHURCH WALKWAY IN THE COURTYARD

We will be repainting the ceiling (soffit) above our church walkway in the courtyard over the next few weeks. Please be mindful of the work area and any potential disruptions. We appreciate your patience and support during this time! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the church office.