

# Sunday Readings

Year C

## First Reading - Deuteronomy 26:4-10

### A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

## Second Reading - Romans 10:8-13

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

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

## Gospel - Luke 4:1-13

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

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

# Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

100 Dean Rd Bateman WA 6150

Phone (08) 93101747

Website: [bateman.perthcatholic.org.au](http://bateman.perthcatholic.org.au)

E-Mail: [bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto: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*

First Sunday of Lent, Year C

March 9, 2025

## **Resisting temptation**

As we begin the season of Lent, we hear Luke's version of the three temptations of Jesus at the beginning of his public ministry. His responses will determine the direction of his mission.

The first temptation is about food. "Turn this stone into bread." After being without food for forty days it would have been simple for Jesus to satisfy his hunger by turning stone into bread by using his divine power. Jesus does not succumb to self-gratification but quotes the Book of Deuteronomy reminding the devil that we do not live "on bread alone."

Today, the temptation to self-indulgence is not simply about food, but it may be about a lifestyle where our personal concerns are prioritised above the needs of others.

The second temptation is about power over others when the devil invites Jesus to exercise authority over nations. This is a seductive temptation for power and control is an aphrodisiac, and Pope Francis constantly warns us against the abuse of power when we use our roles in church and society to aggrandise ourselves rather than pro-

## 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

**Rosary:** Tuesday - Friday  
30 minutes before mass

**Scripture Rosary:** Tuesday 8.45am

**Rosary and Chaplets (shrine):**  
Every Wednesday 2.30pm

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Phong Nguyen  
**Priest in Residence:** Rev. Fr. Anibal Leite Da Cunha  
**Parish Secretary:** Heidy Lu

mote the concerns of those less fortunate. Jesus calls us to promote not ourselves but commitment to the needy as evidenced in the ministry of Jesus.

The third temptation is for Jesus to do something amazing by throwing himself off the top of the temple and asking the angels to catch him. Jesus resists the temptation to do something spectacular and reproves the devil by quoting scripture to confirm God's love for those who are faithful. Success is not everything as Mother Theresa famously put it: "God has not called us to be successful but to be faithful."

This does not mean that our lives will be free from temptation, but scripture teaches us that Jesus overcame the devil and won the battle for us and for our world. In the wilderness and on the cross Jesus resisted the devil's temptations. He did not listen to Peter, who tried to convince him to stay away from Jerusalem and certain death. He did not call on an army of angels when arrested in the garden of Gethsemane. Even crucified on the cross, Jesus refused to save himself.

We do not have to fear the devil because Jesus has defeated him. Which means that no matter what is happening in our lives, no matter the temptations, trials and tests we might be going through, we can turn to Jesus, and he will be there for us, to lead and guide us along the way.

We will not be challenged as Jesus was, but we will be tempted to live for ourselves, to exercise power and control, and to focus on success rather than faithfulness. Jesus teaches us that through prayer, scripture, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and service of others we will be able to resist temptation and be missionary disciples proclaiming the good news by word and deed.

Michael A Kelly CSsR  
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**PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**Recently Deceased:**

Please pray for Maria Isabel Leite Da Cunha, Francis John Grosse, Melissa Higgins, Lindinha Leite Da Cunha and Douglas McKirdy who passed away recently.

**Death Anniversaries:**

Please pray for Jeanette Krystyna Bozanich, Noella Elizabeth Graeme, Cyril Howard Daniel, Stephen Richard Hill, Yvonne Catherine Hofmeester, Charles Menezes, Daphne Mary Coleman and Sheila O'Ryan whose anniversaries occur around this time.

**R O S T E R S**

**FOR 16TH MARCH**

Bulletin: Ratinda Oetomo  
 Flowers: Diana Puspita  
 Counters: 1. D Kumala                      2. H Setiawan                      3. A Vinci

	<b>Saturday 6.00pm</b>	<b>Sunday 8.00am</b>	<b>Sunday 10.00am</b>
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Acolytes	P Doss	C Goh	T Roper
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Altar Servers	S Buntoro T Jomy J Mar	B Karczub N Karczub I Lu	R Anwar G Chua
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Extra Ordinary Minister Of Holy Communion	L Rego E Fernandez L Sequeira J See J Doss K Poole M Sequeira	W Goh R Margawani I Kusnadi T Santoso J Sciorilli J Randazzo B D'Cruz	T Rudianto V Sutijono V Chua A Ring A Faleiro A Lu A Aquino A Crossley
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Catechists	CHILDREN'S LITURGY Michelle Lowth		
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Proclaimers	AJ Roque V Ng	C Price P Price	C Plottke J To
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Proclaimers Coordinator: Kirsteen Lingoh - 0422 684 340

<b>Piety Stall</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
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**Safeguarding Officers:**  
 1. Gerard Joseph (Gerard.safeguarding@gmail.com)  
 2. Mary Anthony (lima.eleeza@gmail.com)  
 3. Michelle Lowth (michelle.safeguarding@gmail.com)

**MORE CARE - DO YOU NEED HELP OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?**

- ♦ Stephen 0408 167 400 (Coordinator)
- ♦ Monica 0419 945 005 (Meals)
- ♦ Christine 0412 887 950 (Transport)
- ♦ Serina 0420 991 868 (Visiting)
- ♦ Angela 0418 953 992 (Bereavement Support)
- ♦ Parish Office 9310 1747 (General Enquiries)

## PARISH NEWS

**Please note:** In 2025, 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:

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 9.00am: Solemnity of St Patrick
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 9am: Monday of Holy Week
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025 at 9am: Monday within the Octave of Easter
- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 9am: Saturday within the Octave of Easter
- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2025 at 9am: All Saints
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 9am: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 9am: Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

**PARISH MASSES: With attendance of students from Corpus Christi College**  
**Thursday 9am Masses:** 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

### 2025 SACRAMENTAL DATES

First Holy Communion: **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2025**

Confirmation: **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

First Reconciliation: **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

### 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.

### FUNERAL DETAILS FOR MARIA ISABEL LEITE DA CUNHA

*(The mother of Fr Anibal Leite Da Cunha)*

- **Vigil Rosary - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.00pm**  
at Bowra & O'Dea Hilton, 312 South Street, Hilton
- **Requiem Mass - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10.00am - 11.00am**  
at St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 100 Dean Road, Bateman
- **Cremation Service - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 11.30am - 12.30pm**  
at Fremantle Cemetery, Carrington Street, Palmyra
- **The Wake - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 1.00pm - 3.00pm**  
at St. Thomas More Parish Hall, 100 Dean Road, Bateman

### ST THOMAS MORE PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Our 2025 PREP classes run from Pre-Primary to Year 6 including sacramental classes (First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation) every Wednesday from 4-5pm during Term 1 to Term 3, excluding school holidays. For more information, please contact the RE Coordinator via email [catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:catechist.bateman@perthcatholic.org.au) or call 9310 1747 (available Tue/Wed).

### GET MOVING WITH ZUMBA AT ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH!

Come dance, stay active, and support the parish with our fun Zumba classes! Everyone is welcome! **Mondays at 6pm & Wednesdays at 11am** at Parish Hall. \$5 donation (supports parish maintenance). All are welcome!

**No classes on Wednesday 12 March and Monday 24 March.** The first session has started on **Monday, 3 March 2025.** For more details, contact **Shan at 0432 909 981.**

## PARISH NEWS

### LENTEN SEASON

As the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, we are called by the Church to pray, fast, and do works of mercy. **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** are days of **fast and abstinence**. Lent is a penitential season of **prayer, self-denial and helping others**. In this way, the Church prepares for Easter and joyfully welcomes those adults who have completed the RCIA programme and consequently be baptised during the Easter Saturday Vigil Mass.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Fridays during Lent after the 5.30pm Mass.

- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Led by Scriptural Rosary Group
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 – Led by Men Alive Group
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Led by Proclaimers Group
- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Led by Year 5 Corpus Christi College
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Led by 6PM Music Ministry

### FRIDAY ADORATION DURING LENTEN SEASON

- Friday Adoration during Lenten Season will be held from Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March until Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 6.30pm - 9pm (Straight after Stations of the Cross).
- **24 HOURS ADORATION FOR THE LORD: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm— Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 6pm.** Eucharistic 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> March is a time of grace for humanity with 24 hours of world prayer united with the Vatican. When we face the sun we get a tan but when we stand before Jesus we become saints (Blessed Carlo Acutis). An attendance sheet is available in the foyer for parishioners to nominate times for adoration. A Holy Hours is a good time to pray for vocations.

### BATEMAN PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2025 AT 7.00PM

Our Lenten Reconciliation Service for the Parish will be held on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm**. There will be many priests to assist, so please come along and prepare well for Easter.

The following parishes advised their Lenten Reconciliation services:

- Applecross Parish** - Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm (1<sup>st</sup> Rite)
- Como Parish** - Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm
- Riverton Parish** - Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm
- Willetton Parish** - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm
- Lynwood/Langford Parish** - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm

We have a wonderful opportunity to gather spiritually as a community for this significant event during Lent. There are many reasons for attending this Second Rite of Reconciliation Service:

- We give powerful witness to each other of the need for forgiveness and commitment to repentance. Together we pray for God's mercy. We support and help each other through community prayers at this rite.
- It is a humbling experience to give public witness to being a sinner needing forgiveness and seeking God's mercy. Humility is good for the soul.
- We help to alleviate the burden for our priests at this busy time of year by participating in community reconciliation.



# PARISH NEWS

## STUDY OF VATICAN II DOCUMENT SACROSANCTUM CONCILIUM (Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy) - THURSDAYS 13<sup>TH</sup>, 20<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH AT 1PM - 3PM IN THE PARISH MEETING ROOM

The sacred liturgy is central to our participation in the worship of God who desires that His children receive and respond to the abundant graces flowing from the source and summit of life, the Holy Mass. A deeper understanding of sacred liturgy will help draw you into the heart of every mass when God is glorified and you are sanctified.

Facilitator: Kenneth Phua.

Pope Francis encourages the study of documents of the Second Vatican Council during the Jubilee Year. (Pope Francis Decree on Granting of indulgence111).

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2024/05/13/240513f.html>

## ROSARY WALK TO PINEY LAKES - SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2025

**Meet at the Shrine at 8am.** A serene and spirit filled Rosary walk with The Divine Mercy Chaplet has been planned as part of our 2025 Lenten Calendar to Piney Lakes Reserve at 8am Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. As we prepare to encounter Christ in a special way during the Easter Triduum let us not forget that our Mother Mary brings us to her son as our Saviour and Lord. This walk is also part of our celebration of this special Jubilee Year of Hope and an excellent opportunity to nourish us spiritually and physically. The one-hour session that will start from our Lady's grotto in the church is designed for all ages and abilities with plenty of opportunity to rest in the park while we share and deepen our faith with prayer, scripture reflections and fellowship. Let us participate and give honour to our heavenly Mother as Pilgrims of Hope in a year of renewal, reconciliation and hope.

## CHAPLETS OF THE DIVINE MERCY - WED 12<sup>TH</sup> MAR AT 7.30PM

A beautiful, prayerful, sung devotion held in our church on the second Wednesday of each month. The next devotion will be held on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Enquiries to George Lopez on 0419 910 039.



### JUBILEE PRAYER FROM POPE FRANCIS

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.



# PARISH NEWS

## 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)

**2024 YEAR OF PRAYER:** To reinforce Pope Francis' call for prayer to be intensified 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, 9 June 2021 Catechesis on prayer: **37. Perseverance in love**

We now consider the importance of perseverance in prayer. Reflecting on Saint Paul's encouragement to pray unceasingly (cf. 1 Thess 5:17), the Church's spiritual writers have questioned how it is possible to remain in a constant state of prayer. The Russian ascetic tradition developed the prayer of the heart, based on repeating the words, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner", until they become like the air we breathe. The Greek monk Evagrius compared prayer to a flame burning perpetually in our hearts even as we carry out our daily tasks. Prayer thus becomes the backdrop against which every action of our lives finds its deepest meaning. If God can find time for each of us, surely we can find time for him! The monastic tradition teaches the spiritual fruitfulness of balancing prayer and work. By maintaining that balance in our own lives, we too can grow in our union with God and keep the fire of divine love daily burning in our hearts.

**FUNDRAISING** has both social and practical functions. It builds community, helps to expedite parish projects and provides the financial means to help others in the community. The first fundraising project will be **the sale of white Jubilee t-shirts** over the month of March. These t-shirts can be worn Holy Thursday Easter, Christmas, All Saints Day, at parish events and when you wish to enjoy promoting the Jubilee message. Each t-shirt provides \$5 profit. Order your t shirt now!! There will be a table in the courtyard with someone to help.

## THE JUBILEE YEAR BOOKLET IS AVAILABLE!

The Archdiocese of Perth has prepared a beautiful booklet explaining various details about the Jubilee Year, the churches of pilgrimage, the Indulgences that can be gained and simple actions that can bring hope to the world. These are available at the back of the church for a gold coin donation.

## BATEMAN LENTEN CALENDAR - INVITATION TO JOURNEY TOGETHER

If you have not received a copy of the Lenten Calendar, please feel free to take one. You can also find it on our social media pages.

**QUOTE - HOPE:** We pray for the church that she may be a sign of God's light and goodness in our world, and a beacon of hope for the most vulnerable. And so, Lord, where do I put my hope? My only hope is in You Lord. *Psalm 39:7*