



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE NEWSLETTER

## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10TH SEPTEMBER, 2017

YEAR A

### MASS/LITURGY CALENDAR

#### MONDAY 11th SEPT.

9.10am Mass  
7.00pm Rosary

#### TUESDAY 12th SEPT.

10.00am Mass (incl.  
Classes 1/2MB & 1/2OT)

#### WEDNESDAY 13th SEPT.

9.10am Mass  
10.30am Mass at  
St. Thomas' Retirement  
Village

#### THURSDAY 14th SEPT.

No Service

#### FRIDAY 15th SEPT.

10.00am Mass (incl.  
Classes 3/4VS & 3/4KN)

#### SATURDAY 16th SEPT.

10.00am Reconciliation  
6.00pm Vigil Mass

#### SUNDAY 17th SEPT.

8.30am Mass  
10.30am Mass  
5.00pm Mass



## Dear Parishioners,

### HARDEN NOT YOUR HEART

'O that today you would listen to his voice.  
Harden not your hearts.'

From a spiritual point of view, hardness of heart  
is one of the worst things that can happen to anyone.

To adopt a hard-hearted attitude is to maim oneself.  
A hard heart can't feel, can't respond, can't love.

A hard heart can't experience joy.  
A hard heart is a closed heart.  
A hard heart is a barren heart.

A soft heart, on the other hand, is a blessing.  
A soft heart can receive and can respond.  
It can be saddened but it can also be deliriously happy.

Softened by the rain of God's grace, and warmed by the sun of  
his love, the human heart can be turned from a desert  
into a garden.

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After several years in the planning, the MSC XXVth General Chapter is taking place in Rome over the next three weeks. A gathering of about 80 MSC's from all over the world (50 countries on all continents) have come together to review our life and mission, set priorities for the coming years and elect a new Congregational leadership team. We will keep them in our prayers. You can find out more on the MSC webpage at [www.misacor.org.au](http://www.misacor.org.au)

*Fr. Terry msc*

*Thought of the Day.....  
There is more to life than increasing its speed.*



## LITURGY - 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Ps 118:137,124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgment is right;  
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-9

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will  
hold you responsible for his death.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 94:1-2,6-9 Rv8

**O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not  
your hearts.**

### SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-10

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 2 Cor 5:19

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;  
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted  
to us.

**Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have  
won that person back.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Ps 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my  
soul is yearning for you, my God;  
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

### A Vocation View:

*How much would the  
world be changed if  
everyone were  
completely forgiving?  
Probably totally!  
Jesus' stories of  
forgiveness are so  
loved because they  
are so needed. Re-tell  
them! Re-live them!*

### Please remember the following in your prayers...

#### Sick:

Marie Dillon, Maree Fox,  
Frank Nolan, Antonio So Jr.,  
Ashley Woods, Stella Hill,  
Wendy Lumby, Robert Fox,  
Malgosia Dziuk, Mick  
Matthews, Daisy Xu, Geoff  
Beams, Stan Brown, Rosa  
Maria Santos, Patricia Duffy,  
Mietta Ulaan, Elaine O'Hea,  
Frank O'Hea, Chris Leach,  
Dao Le, Patricia Carey,  
Denise Wraight,  
Peter Babulo, Moira Healy,  
Tony Hill, Koula Tsepelidis,  
Norma Parker & Martin  
Broad.

#### Recently Dec'd:

#### Anniversaries:

Ursula Clifford, Cecilia  
Contreras, Charlie Marotta

#### Funeral Notice:

## PIETY STALL

**OPENING TIMES:  
BEFORE & AFTER MASS**

Baptism Candles and gifts

Melbourne Catholic Magazine  
@ \$4.00ea

Annals Magazines @ \$2ea

NZ Kauri Wooden Crosses  
\$10.95 each

Br. James New CD's available  
\$25.00ea

Friends of Same East Timor  
Ground Coffee @ \$7.50ea

### VOLUNTEERS TO TEACH CATECHETICS CLASSES.

We are seeking persons  
interested in helping out in  
2018. The hours are from  
4pm -5pm on Tuesday  
afternoons during School  
Terms. Enquiries to Caren  
at the Parish Office on  
9878 0818.

# YOUTH NEWS

### SIX2EIGHT YOUTH CLUB –

The next meeting will be  
on **Friday 22nd September**  
in the School Hall.

*Gold Coin Donation*

**Enquiries: Caren Garlick on 9878 0818**



### STARFISH PROJECT – Will be on

**Saturday 14th October and starts at 10am.**

*All newcomers most welcome.*

**Enquiries: Maria on 0403 354 584**

### CATECHETICS CLASSES:

Any families interested in enrolling their child  
in the **Catechetical Sacramental Program –**

**Enrolment 2018** we are taking bookings now.  
Enquire at the Parish Office on Ph: 9878 0818.

**THANK YOU.....**The Youth Group wish to  
thank St. Thomas' parish for their generous donations on  
behalf of the **40Hour Famine for Refugees & Asylum  
Seekers**. A total of \$1,759 was collected.



### BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The next meeting of the Bible Study Group  
will be on **Thursday 14th September** in the  
Presbytery meeting room. Further details  
from Quentin (9877 5906) or any member of  
the BSG.



We warmly welcome  
**Olivia Barnett, Nicholas Micic &  
Giada Martin**  
who will be Baptised into our Parish  
Family this weekend.  
*May the grace of God be with you and  
your family always.*

### A Prayer for Priests

God, grant them the joys of their vocation, health of mind, body and spirit; a strong faith and a light heart to do the Lord's work in this world; and the love and support of their friends, family and parishioners. Holy Spirit, guide them and give them grace. Amen

### ST THOMAS' PARISH ACCOUNTANT- VACANCY

We are looking for an Accountant to take over from Fiona as **Parish Finance Accountant**.

All enquiries to the Parish Office 9878-0818. Fiona Thompson has been our Parish Accountant for seven years and has now stepped down as work and family commitments have increased. We wish her well and congratulate her on a job well done!

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, how often is our generosity at the minimum level required? We do just enough or give just enough. Remember, the Lord calls us to be generous with all the gifts He has given us, to grow them and return them with increase.*

## St. Thomas' Social Scene What's On.....

### CARDS NIGHT:

Will be on **5th Oct.** at 7.30pm. In the Parish Hall. All Welcome.

Contact: **Pat & Don on Ph: 9878 4790**



### 1ST FRIDAY PARISH MASS & LUNCHEON

Will be held on **Friday 7th October** — Mass at 12noon with Lunch to follow. All Welcome

Enquiries: **Dympna 9877 3346, Wendy 9803 0451 or Evelyn 9877 5548**

### BUS TRIP TO MT. GAMBIER

**25TH SEPTEMBER FOR 4 DAYS**

Thank you to all for paying on time, it is much appreciated. Any info. please ring Peter & Yvonne on 9877 3360.

**See you on the Bus!!**



### SCRABBLE NIGHT:

Will be on **5th Oct.** at 7.30pm. In the Parish Hall. All Welcome.

Contact: **Maureen on Ph: 9884 4376**



### SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

The recent crackdown by the Government's evil decision to remove housing and funding services to the 400 refugees already in Australia for medical treatment and to force them back to Nauru and Manus Island has sprung our group back into action. If you would like to contribute to our bank account (NAB - BSB: 083-251& ACCT#732008374) we will pass these funds onto the Asylum Centre Resource Centre (ASRC) and the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) who are involved in material aid and urgent accommodation for these people.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2017-2018

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on **24 September**. This year, the Australian Bishop's social Justice Statement is titled: "Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy". The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02)8306 3499.

### PARISH COUNCIL FORUM COMMITTEE ON CHILD ABUSE WITHIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

Your questions and comments are important to us. Remember to place them in the question box in the Narthex near the library. Thank you for your support and interest.  
**Forum Committee**

### A BIG THANK YOU.....

To Fr. Terry, Fr. Frank, Sr. Margaret, Care Group and St. Thomas' Parishioners for thinking of us and prayers for the loss of Joe (my brother and uncle).

Much appreciated.

**Josie Defina and family**



### GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS.....

Br James' CDs are available at Piety Stall. 'Hidden Within The World' \$25, *Heartvoice* (double CD) \$25 & *Gospel of Love* (double CD) \$25.

**ST THOMAS THE  
APOSTLE PARISH  
57 CENTRAL ROAD  
(PO BOX 395),  
BLACKBURN**

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
Fr. Terry Bowman, msc

**ASSISTANT PRIEST &  
FORMATOR:**  
Fr. Frank Dineen, msc

**PARISH PHONE:**  
9878 0818/9877 7693

**PARISH FAX:**  
9877 9519

**PARISH EMAIL:**  
Blackburn@cam.org.au

**PARISH WEBSITE:**  
[www.stthomastheapostle.org.au](http://www.stthomastheapostle.org.au)

**PARISH  
SECRETARIES:**  
Susan Collins, Luise  
Hendricks & Luisa May

**PASTORAL  
ASSOCIATES:**  
Sr. Marg Burchell IBVM  
& Caren Garlick

**PARISH PASTORAL  
COUNCIL :**  
Anand Rego

**SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:**  
Angela Lacey

**SCHOOL PHONE/FAX:**  
P: 9878 8268  
F: 9878 1233

**SCHOOL EMAIL:**  
Office@stblackburn.catholic.edu.au

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:**  
[www.stblackburn.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stblackburn.catholic.edu.au)

**Catechetics/Altar Servers:**  
*Caren Garlick 9878 0818*  
**Six2Eight:** *Caren Garlick*  
*9878 0818*  
**Starfish:** *Maria Bardsley*  
*0403 354 584*



**ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND OF THE 16TH & 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2017 YEAR A**

Mass	Commentators	Lectors	Special Ministers	Altar Servers	Welcoming Committee
6.00pm	Philip Brooks	Chris Raisin	John Philp Margaret Easton Tony Keane	Joshua Gall Bethany Gall	Alan & Dympna Lodge
8.30am	Yvonne Crowe	Peter Crowe	Maureen Munro Dorothy Murray		Ken Castanelli
10.30am	Alan Mead	Geraldine Holland	Louis Souchon Anne Marmion Margaret O'Loughlin	Livinia Thompson Chanel Thompson Audrey Brodrick	Yvonne Reidy
5.00pm	<b>YOUTH MASS</b>	<b>YOUTH MASS</b>	Susan Collins Josie Defina Peta Fulton	Declan Bardsley Noah Fernandes	

**Children's Liturgy: Leader: Martina**  
**Vestment Colour: Green**

**Piety Stall: Team 2**  
**Money Counters: Team 6**

**ST.VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:**

Call Centre for assistance – 1800 305 330  
**Free Call** Weekdays 10am-3pm.

Vinnies Centre Ringwood Ph. 9870 9124,  
Unit 1B/76-82 Maroondah Hwy Ringwood.  
For Furniture & Whitegoods pickup—  
Eastern Emergency Relief will pickup for St Vincent  
de Paul week days 9am-1pm . Ph. 9874 8433.



**FIRST AID EQUIPMENT**

**Attention Parishioners: We now have  
a new DEFIB which is located in the  
Sacristy. A First Aid Kit is also in the  
Kitchen Broom Cupboard.** First Aid items  
(blankets etc.) which are provided by the Church  
are stored in a large plastic tub in the Crying  
Room (right sliding cupboard.)

**CATECHETICS CLASSES: Note change in Time.**  
Held on Tuesdays 4.00pm-5.00pm (during the  
Sacramental Programs starting in 2017)

**FIRST FRIDAY PARISH MASS & LUNCHEON:**  
First Friday of the month starts at 12noon.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**  
Sundays at 10.30am Mass. **During School Terms  
only.**

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AFTERNOON/  
EVENINGS:**

**Tuesdays at 7.30pm** in the Quiet Room of the  
Church. Contact Phil Collins on 0410 668 140 or email at  
chrmed3130@gmail.com **New comers most welcome.**  
**Monday afternoons at 4pm** at the Retirement  
Village Centre. Contact Geni Hunt on 9802 2078 or  
email: geni.hunt9@gmail.com



**ST. THOMAS' PLAYGROUP:**

Every Wednesday morning during the School term, from  
9.00am-11.00am. Please bring along a piece of fruit. If you  
have any queries, please call our coordinator Julie O'Donnell  
on 0434 408 122 (During School Terms)

**PRAYER FOR PEACE....**

God of hope and peace, be the spirit of  
wisdom, reconciliation and justice in the  
words and actions of the leaders of all nations.  
Protect those communities affected or  
threatened by violence in troubled areas.  
May the memories of those who have died  
urge all people towards an international  
community of security and peace.  
Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.

**ST BENEDICT'S PARISH, BURWOOD  
MEN'S RETREAT**

Theme: Good Shepard and I  
Held on Friday 13th October to Sunday  
afternoon 15th October 2017 at St Paul's  
Missionary College Retreat Centre, Wantirna  
South.  
For further details contact: Michael Ballek on  
miclik@hotmail.com or 0433 196 549

**CROYDON PARISH PLAYERS  
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR  
DREAMCOAT**

Opening Night is Friday 6th October at  
8.00pm with a Gala Supper for all patrons.  
Book tickets online:  
**[www.CroydonParishPlayers.com](http://www.CroydonParishPlayers.com)**  
For further details:  
**[showinfo@croydonparishplayers.com](mailto:showinfo@croydonparishplayers.com)**

*Time for a cuppa and a chat  
after Mass.....*

