

**Saint Thomas More
Catholic Church**

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 Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday (9.00am to 2.00pm)



A house of welcome to all and a place of service to all

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

July 19, 2015

Not Alone

An ex-POW who had been imprisoned by the Japanese after the fall of Singapore in 1942 once unexpectedly told me how psalm 22, 'The Lord is my Shepherd', sustained him during those terrible three-and-a-half years. He feared he would not survive.

Tens of thousands of Allied soldiers died in the prison camps, on the Burma railway or the coal mines in Japan. The tales of cruelty and starvation are almost beyond belief. For this man, and undoubtedly for so many others, how striking were these words: 'If I should walk in the valley of darkness, no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.'

This old soldier recounted how at that first Christmas in Changi it seemed the whole camp, thousands of men, gathered together before a makeshift chapel and sang Christmas carols. He doubted there was a dry eye in the camp, as they thought of their loved ones and families, and wondered if they would ever see them again.

Many did not survive. For everyone, death from beatings, disease, hunger or sheer exhaustion would be a common occurrence. They truly walked through the 'valley of death'. But in clinging to this psalm, these men were praying that through all the mud and grime and violence, God would be their shepherd, their guard, their

First Reading - Jer 23:1-6

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

Second Reading - Eph 2:13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

Gospel - Mk 6:30-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

Weekly Mass Timings:

Monday: 7.00 am	Tuesday: 5.30 pm	Wednesday: 8.00 am
Thursday: 7.00 am	Friday: 5.30 pm	Saturday: 8.30 am
Saturday: Vigil 6.30 pm (Novena 6.00 pm)		
Sunday: 8.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am & 6.00 pm		

Reconciliation: Saturday: 11.00am - 12.00 noon **and** 5.00pm - 6.00pm



Fr. Phong Nguyen
Parish Priest



Fr. Jeronimo
Assistant Priest



Fr. Cyprian Shikokoti
Priest in Residence



Deacon Bruce
Parish Deacon

rescuer. The metaphor of 'shepherd' was not for them a vacuous piety but an anguished cry from the depths of their souls. The psalm is a prayer of hope, that 'goodness and kindness will follow' us all the days of our lives.

The meaning of it all, why so many died, why some survived, will always remain a mystery to us, a mystery hidden in God, but will be revealed to us in 'the Lord's own house' where we hope to dwell.

It is not just old soldiers who have experienced such trauma and turmoil in their lives. Though rarely in such extreme circumstances, most of us at some stage will likely experience heartbreak through death, divorce, illness, poverty, unemployment, depression or severe personal setbacks.

When we too have to walk through our valley of darkness, the image of God as our shepherd, walking closely with us and leading us can become intensely personal, and anything but a quaint rustic metaphor.

This image of God as a shepherd was certainly one of extraordinary power for the Jewish people who lived under oppressive Roman occupation. No wonder in Mark's gospel today that the people flock out into the wilderness to listen to Jesus and be healed by him. They needed a shepherd and Jesus steps into that role for them, spreading healing and no doubt explaining to them how God was present in their lives.

Bruce Duncan CSsR
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Baptisms:

We welcome Gabriella Rose Pano into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths:

Please pray for Rose Lobo, Owen Canard, who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Gladys Cowan-Armstrong, Nola Antoinette Powell, Phyllis McDonnell, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

for 26th JULY

NEXT WEEK					
Bulletin:	Yunita Darmawan				
Flowers :	Shauna Taylor				
Counter:	1. J Ingrassi	2. G Oldenhof	3. N Kristianto		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	J Doss P Doss	G Jones I Kearney	A Lauw G Dunsford	A Sciascia R Sciascia	J Murphy E Ring
Acolytes	P Doss	P Cox	J Nonis	P Doray	P Moore
Altar Servers	K Zaccheus C Budiman L Connors	T Blechynde M Roach	S Shandley- L Shandley- S Silvester	N Andrews J Pinto Yan Ni Sng	R Machado Y Machado E Machado
Special Minister	A De Souza J Doss E Fernandez M Fong K Gamba C Lasrado G Lopez V Marshall O Morais	R King Ira Kusnadi C Morzenti C A Norris R Norris P Pickersgi C Price P Price M Woolford	J Moeljadi J Moeljadi M Murray P Murray C Nonis F Novana A Nugraha E Papineau	R Yeo M Cole W Cox R D'Annunzi O D' Mello H Dumbell S Dyer M French Y Johan	Youth Special Ministers
Catechists	(Yrs 1-4) B D'Sa (Yrs 5-6) J Roper		(Yrs 1-4) J Coleman (Yrs 5-6) R Rodrigues		
Readers	M Doray B D' Sa	V Carter C Correa	M Chong G das Neves	M Doray G Santhou	C Banasik N Banasik
Piety stall	Isabelle	Anne-Marie	Pat	Rosemary	Ayenis

Readers' Coordinator:

Lilian Sequeira 9331 5552

MORE CARE

Do you need help or know someone who does?

- † Geraldine 9332 8795 (Visiting/General)
- † Monica 9364 9358 (Meals)
- † Caroline 9313 5452 (Transport)
- † Juliana 9310 1747 (General-office hrs)

Rose Garden
July 2015

Section A
Sharon Vong

Section B
Robyn Guyton

More For Youth

YOUNG ADULTS SOCCER SESH

Winter is here! Keen to get some exercise to keep the weight off? Or just want to have a kick around with some mates (ALL are welcome) We're looking at starting a casual game on a 5 a side artificial grass soccer pitch. For more info, or better yet, to confirm your interest email Josh at joshualow@inet.net.au Get in quick! Spots are limited!



YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT—FIRE WEEKEND

Young Adults aged 18—35 are invited to attend the Fire Weekend Retreat. Guest speakers include Paul Kelly and Clare Pike (Sr. /Bernadette). The retreat is from 24-26 July at Eagles Nest in Gidgegannup. Cost is \$90 including all food and accommodation. Come meet some new people and learn more about your faith. Help with transport can be arranged if needed. Please visit <http://bit.ly/fire715> or contact Justine McGinnity 0432 715 263 for more information.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CYM HOLY HOUR

Holy Hour hosted by Catholic Youth Ministry Perth is held every Wednesday at the Office, 40A Mary Street, Highgate. Mass will be at 5.30pm, followed by adoration from 6.30-7.30pm, with fellowship and dinner after for a \$5 donation. Hope to see you there!

CYM BALL

Young adults from across Perth are invited to the Catholic Youth Ministry Hearts of Gold Charity Ball on Saturday, 8th August. Come along for an unforgettable night - meet other young adults and enjoy delicious food, beverages and entertainment while supporting a worthy cause. We're looking to make some tables for our parish at the ball. Contact us at youth@batemancatholic.org if you're keen!



Cost: \$110 per ticket – includes buffet meal + beverages (beer, wine and soft drinks)
Dress: Formal Attire

CHIVALRY BALL 2015 (16—25 years old)

Missing out on the CYM Ball? Fear not! The Chivalry Ball is being held the week after for young adults between the ages of 16 and 25! The Chivalry Ball has traditionally been held on the Feast of the Assumption in honour of Our Lady. This year's is to be held at St. Kieran's Parish Hall 7.30pm—Midnight (\$35/- per ticket—Only 100 available)
Light Supper and Drinks Provided

Black Tie Event
Gentlemen in Tux/Suits—Ladies White Ball Gowns
Strictly 16—25 years old.
Alcohol Free event

Parish News

CATHOLIC MISSION—18th/19th JULY (WEEK-END OF THE APPEAL)

Your generous support for this week-end's **Catholic Mission Appeal** will ensure that the sheep will not be without their shepherd. As Pope Francis' official universal overseas missionary aid agency, your donations to Catholic Mission will ensure that the tireless work and presence of Catholic missionaries in impoverished parishes throughout the developing world is sustained and strengthened. This year the Catholic Mission envelope offers you a choice for your missionary offerings: Give to support our community development programs (because you need a tax deductibility receipt), or give to support our pastoral, faith-based programs (because you don't require a tax deductible receipt). Or both: nourish the body as well as the soul.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS – SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST 2015

The Wedding Anniversary Mass for 2015 will take place on Saturday 1st August at the 6.30pm Mass. All couples celebrating Significant Anniversaries - 25, 30, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, etc are asked to contact Juliana at the parish office on 9310 1747 to register for this special celebration.

Closing date to register is 21st July 2015.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION—WEEKEND OF 8TH / 9TH AUGUST 2015

PLEASE take time to have a look at our Parish's Confirmation banners. All of our Parish children who have been preparing for Confirmation have their photo on the banners. The banners are to remind us, as a Parish Community, to support the children through our prayers. You are invited to pray for one or more of the candidates and to remember our Confirmation candidates when you say your family prayers.

ANNUAL ROSE PRUNING—1ST AUGUST 2015

Please come and lend a hand to prune and weed our Rose Gardens in preparation for a colourful display in spring. Bring your pruners, saws and loppers if you have them. This is also a good opportunity to learn rose pruning techniques from some of our experts in the rose pruning team. This will take place on Saturday 1st August 2015 at 8.00am to 10.00am. Inquiries to Craig Mclver 0431 279 368.



PLANT SALE— 5th October 2015

On October 5 this year, a Plant Sale will be held at Bateman Church to raise funds for CHAT (the Christian Health Aid Team). Those who wish to help the plant sale may like to begin now and grow plants in pots for the sale. People who have empty plant pots which they don't need can leave them inside the main entrance of the Church, under the table on the left hand side.

WHAT IS R.C.I.A? - 30th July 2015

It's the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults? It is a process for preparing and welcoming new members into the Catholic Church. Is this you or do you know someone who would benefit? Well our Parish is starting our new program on 30th July 2015 at 6.30pm in the meeting room with an information evening so if you want to know more about being a Catholic, please feel free to come along.



KNOWING GOD BETTER— 29th July 2015

The next session in “Knowing God Better” is especially for mums and grandmothers from Yidarra School as well as parishioners. We welcome you back from holidays so come and join in these very practical and Spirit-filled sessions over a cuppa. The next session is titled “Knowing God’s Word”. The Word of God has the power to transform us in very tangible ways. It can bring hope and strength and inner peace when we are facing challenges in life.

The next session is on Wednesday July 29th from 9.15-10.30am. If you like to bring your children with some toys they can play at the end of the hall. For further information contact Sr. Ann on 0418 130 200 or Carolin on 0432 855 605.

“WHY BE CATHOLIC?” PARISH FAITH CONFERENCE 22-24 OCT 2015

St. Thomas More’s first-ever faith conference ‘WHY BE CATHOLIC’ features Catholic theologian and evangelist, Tim Staples of Catholic Answers. The program includes a series of inspiring topics with time for prayer and Christian fellowship. Let yourself be drawn closer to God as you begin to reflect on the reasons for your belief in the universal church that Jesus Christ gave us. This one-time Protestant reveals the immense beauty and unshakable truths which drew him to become Catholic. The treasure we have will be unfolded as we celebrate the joy of being a Catholic Christian. **IMPORTANT:** St. Thomas More’s parishioners have the privilege of booking their places first, from 25 July until 09 August, before registrations are open to other parishes. Venue/Date: St. Thomas More, 22-24 October 2015. Registration fee of \$30 per person covers all eight talks. For information contact the Bateman Adult Faith formation team at stthomasmore.faith@gmail.com.

FRIENDS OF L’ARCHE PERTH INC (FOL) - CROWD FUNDING

We are people with and without intellectual disabilities, sharing life in communities belonging to an International Federation. Mutual relationships and trust in God are at the heart of our journey together.

FOL Perth is currently reliant on volunteers and private donations. We need a base to call our own and would be so pleased to have funding to secure our own premises for our Perth Office.

Please donate at <https://chuffed.org/project/friends-of-larche-perth> to make FOL Perth a viable long-term option for our members. Crowd funding ends on 11/08/2015. Thank you for your generosity.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK 2015

Sunday 9th August—Vocations Enquiry Afternoon—4.00pm Start.
St. Charles Seminary, Meadow Street, Guildford. Contact: 9279 1310

Sunday 16th August— Holy Hour for Vocations—3.00pm
St. Mary’s Cathedral. Celebrant: Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SBD
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. ALL WELCOME!

4 WEEKS—MARANATHA COURSE IN JULY/AUGUST

Do You Know the History of Our Church?

Maranatha presenter Dr Robert Andrews will be discussing MEDIEVAL Church History at the Infant Jesus Parish, Morley on Thursday evenings of 30 July, 6, 13, and 20 August from 7—9p, at a cost of \$25.

To know ourselves—we must know our history. From the fall of the Roman Empire in the West and the rise of the Byzantine Empire in the East, the history of Medieval Christianity is a story of rich diversity set within the rise of western civilisation, byzantine and Islam.

Please register your intention to attend on the board in the foyer or contact the Parish Office on 9276 8500 or email to ijparish@carmelite.com

NOTE: Participants will need to negotiate a flight of stairs to get to the conference room.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN HUMANS — FUND RAISING CONCERT

ACRATH is organising a Fund Raising Concert followed by afternoon tea, on Sunday 30th August 2015 at 2.00pm. Venue: Loreto Nedlands Performing Arts Centre, 69 Webster Street, Nedlands. Cost: Adults \$25, Concession \$20.

Closing date: 23rd August. Enquiries: Naomi.McClements@goodshep.org.au
Book Online: <http://www.trybooking.com/IDNU>

CATHOLIC FAITH RENEWAL

Catholic Faith Renewal Evening Friday 7 August 2015 at St. John and Paul’s Parish, Pinetree Gully Rd, Willetton 7.30 pm. Mass followed by Questions & Answers with Fr (Dr) Sean Fernandez and light refreshments. Fr. Sean is the parish priest of St. Joseph Pignatelli and lecturer at Notre Dame University. Fr. Sean will answer all questions on theology, church teachings, faith and scriptures. Enquiries Ivan Harmer 0428 898 833.

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS—Modern Missions

“The Knights of the Southern Cross invite active Catholic men who seek further opportunities to bring about positive change in the Catholic Community through Christ Centred Service, to attend our guest speaker in August.”

When: Wednesday 19th August 2015

Time: 5.45pm—8.00pm

Where: Terrace Lounge, 185 St Georges Terrace

Cost: \$15 includes canapés and entry. Discounted drinks available.

THOUGHT!

Happiness will never come to those who
Don’t appreciate what they already have....

“It is a long Journey between Human Being
And Being Human!!!”