

Sunday Readings

Year C

First Reading - Is 62:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.

You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding. Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

Second Reading - 1 Cor 12:4-11

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

Gospel - Jn 2:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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

2nd Sunday, Year C

January 17, 2016

The first sign

Today we set out on Ordinary Time in a new liturgical year, Year C, the third in the church's three-year cycle. On most Sundays we will take gospel readings from the Gospel of Luke, but occasionally, including today, we hear from John.

Weddings are really important family celebrations, for the wedding marks the joining together of two families, and the beginning of a new chapter and new life for the couple and their families. It is no accident that Jesus' first 'sign', and with it the beginning of his public ministry, is at a wedding. The wedding feast serves as a metaphor to describe the Kingdom of God that Jesus inaugurates. In that wedding feast, made in heaven, Jesus is the groom and the church his bride, richly endowed with the many gifts bestowed on her by the spirit for the building up of the whole community.

It is Mary, his mother, who notices that the wine supply has been exhausted. She would have been keenly aware of the embarrassment this would cause the hosts. Ever thoughtful of others, she is concerned for the hosts, the couple and the guests, and quietly places her trust in Jesus. In all of this, she shows herself to be a model disciple and her words are meant just as much for all of us: "Do whatever he tells you."

Weekly Mass Times:

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

Jesus responds rather brusquely at first, stating that “my hour has not yet come”. But then, very discreetly and unobtrusively, he speaks softly to the servants and asks them to fill the water casks with water. Lo and behold, when the steward then tasted it, the water had turned into wine, and superior wine at that! Despite his initial reluctance, Jesus acts with grace and compassion, attending without fuss or bother to what had to be done. Here, as throughout his ministry that is about to unfold, Jesus responds with extravagant generosity to the needs of the hosts and their wedding guests.

Just as Jesus responds with extravagant generosity to the needs of the wedding party, so too we can be confident that Jesus responds to our needs. But similarly we are called to respond generously and compassionately to the needs of those around us. Notice that John calls this the first of Jesus’ “signs”, not miracles. His point is that these wonderful happenings are pointers for us to recognise and place our faith in Jesus’ true identity.

Together with the visit of the wise men to pay homage to the baby Jesus and the words of the Father proclaiming “This is my Beloved Son”, and the sight of Spirit descending like a dove at his baptism, the ‘sign’ at Cana serves, for those with eyes to see, as a third epiphany or manifestation of Jesus’ divinity. We too are called to believe and to place our trust in him.

(Dr) Anne Hunt
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Baptisms:

We welcome Ava Lightfoot and Agatha Isabella Figueroa Nunez into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths:

Please pray for David Bowie who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Sandra Sgherza, Ronnie Wong, Errol Bernard D'Monte, Jerson Moniz, Julie Walton, Clinton Franks whose anniversaries occur around this time.

ROSTERS

for 24th JANUARY

NEXT WEEK					
Bulletin:	Juliana Doss				
Flowers:	CHRISTMAS				
Counter:	1. M Craggs	2. P Moore	3. A Munro		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Acolytes	D Ng	P Cox	C Dowsett	M Tloczek	S Carrello
Altar Servers, Special Ministers and Readers – Please come up as required – NO ROSTERS for January 2016.					

AUSTRALIA DAY MASS—TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY 2016

Mass on Tuesday 26th January 2016 will be at **9.00am** (Public Holiday) to celebrate Australia Day. There will be NO EVENING MASS at 5.30pm.

BATEMAN PARISH RELIGIOUS PROGRAM 2016

Enrolment Day for those children not attending Catholic schools into the Religious Education program is Wednesday 3rd February 2016 between 4—5pm in the Church hall. The program runs classes for pre schoolers through unto Year 12 students. Enrolments will also be accepted at the Parish office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (not public holidays).

Sacramental dates for 2016 are: Sacrament of the Eucharist - 25th & 26th June 2016, Reconciliation - 18th & 19th October, Confirmation—20th & 21st August 2016. For all enquiries, please phone Jenny Figliomeni on 9310 1747 (Tues/Wed 8.30am—5.30pm) or on 0435 695 399.

YOUNG ADULTS

Our first event next year will be a sausage sizzle fundraiser for World Youth to celebrate Australia Day on Sunday 24th January! It will be great to see as many young adults there to enjoy each other's company and get to hear what lies ahead for young people for 2016 at St. Thomas More!

AN INFORMATION EVENING FOR MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN AND FRANCE ON 20TH JANUARY 2016

An information evening for the upcoming Marian pilgrimage to Europe is scheduled on **Wednesday 20th January 2016 at 7.00pm in the parish hall.** The tour director will provide an overview of the pilgrimage journey from 29 Aug to 12 Sept 2016. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about the trip including places of interests such as Lisbon, Fatima, Nazare and Batalha, Santiago de Compostela, Santander, Garabandal, Barcelona, Monsterrat and Lourdes, and an extension of your trip to Rome and other cities.

MORE CARE

Do you need help or know someone who does?

- † Geraldine 9332 8795 (Visiting)
- † Monica 9364 9358 (Meals)
- † Caroline 9313 5452 (Transport)
- † Silvia 9417 7131 (Transport)
- † Juliana 9310 1747 (General-office hrs)

Rose Garden
January 2016

Section A
Sharon Vong

Section B
Craig McIver