

Sunday Readings

Year C

First Reading - Neh 8:2-6, 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

Second Reading - 1 Cor 12:12-30

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

Gospel - Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

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

3rd Sunday, Year C

January 24, 2016

Life with meaning

The question is nearly impossible to avoid, especially when you first meet someone. Eventually, they ask you, "So what do you do? How do you make a living?" The two questions really go together because our culture tends to privilege the economic value of our activities. Having an occupation implies having a regular wage. Imagine how strange it would sound if someone asked your occupation, and you said, "I play with my children. I take long walks with my spouse and work in the garden on Saturdays. I look after my neighbours and give thanks for them in my life. I pray ... Oh yes, and I manage a bank."

The question expects the last answer to come first. It assumes that we define ourselves by our economic power to produce and consume. But if the question shifted just enough, if it asked about how we find meaning and fulfilment in life, then our answer wouldn't sound so strange at all. In fact, it would sound about right. Most of us find more meaning and fulfilment in personal relationships than in our wage-earning labours. The strangest thing perhaps is that we don't ask about meaning and fulfilment more often than we do.

Of course, we can bring together our fulfilling and wage-earning activities, but then we tend to think differently about what we do for a living. Rather than completing a task for a wage, we think primarily of what we contribute to the well-being of others and our communities. But how do we make that shift? How do we go from doing what we do because we need to put food on the table, or because we want to buy

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

lots of things, to doing what we do because we want to lead a meaningful life?

When Jesus reads from the scroll, he announces what he does: bringing glad tidings to the poor, proclaiming liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, letting the oppressed go free and proclaiming a year acceptable to the Lord. He ties this work to the fulfilment of scripture and Israel's hope for God's reconciling action in the world. The meaning of what Jesus does is determined by what his Father wills for the whole human family. He does what his Father wills and invites us to join him.

Accepting Jesus' invitation places all of our activities in the same context as his, tying what we do to the source of all meaning. Our personal quest for a fulfilling life finds in the source of all fulfilment a new and radical commissioning to live for others. Baptism brings about this change of meaning in us, allowing us to reply differently to the question about our occupation, about what we do: "we bring glad tidings to the poor."

Christiaan Jacobs-Vandegeer

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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths:

Please pray for Antonio Ruggiero, Patricia Caroline Maynard, Cornelis (Chris) Vromans, Anthony Tuat Nguyen (uncle of Fr Phong) who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Swee Lin Chia, James Tan Joo Chiat, Tommaso Boccando, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

ROSTERS

for 31st JANUARY

	NEXT WEEK				
Bulletin:	Juliana Doss				
Flowers :	Christmas				
Counter:	1. P Pickersgill	2. P Golding	3. J Teo		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	B Ensell K Chapman	B Bydder B Bydder	S Hedley A Lauw	D Basuki R Lasmana	E Connolly B D'Mello
Acolytes	V Tan	D Bianchini	L Papineau	D Klass	P Moore
Altar Servers	L Apango Z Cohen C Budiman	L Cherry O Mapfumo	N Arumugam D Bourne L Cariccio	B Doray K Ferraz T Carbone	J Basilio S Broderick Carlos
Special Minister	D Liew J Liew L Morzenti A Mourad V Ng R Oetomo L Rego C Reutens A Ruban	B Auret M Banasik B Bydder B Bydder C Cox A Gabriel D Gabriel L Gabriel	J Downey A Fong L Fong L Ford D Garreffa Y Johan H Klass A Lai M McFarlene	A Mascarenh N Mourad M O' Brien C Poore K Prasatio J Roper S Saverimut L Spadanuda	Youth Special Ministers
Catechists	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		
Readers	C Craggs M Craggs	C Banasik N Banasik	A Adeola D Booth	R D'Anunzio A de Ridder	V Dias N Dias
Piety stall	Isabelle	Anne Marie	Patrick	Rosemary	Ayenis

Readers' Coordinator:

Michele Doray 9310 4051

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
February 2016

Section A
Glenn Trim

Section B
Bill Crossley

Youth



Young adults:

Our first event next year will be a sausage sizzle fundraiser for world youth to celebrate Australia Day on Sunday the **24th of 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 adults for 2016 at St Thomas More!

Stronger Teens:

Sadly Stronger won't be on until next year ☹️ but remember to place it in your diaries that it will be back on again on Friday 12th of February 2016! 😊 Until then we hope you enjoy your holidays and can't wait to see you all back again!

EMBRACE THE GRACE REUNION!

Having withdrawal symptoms from Embrace the Grace? Not to worry - the ETG summer reunion is round the corner! Join us for a beach bash with new and old friends, yummy food and beach games. Feel free to invite your friends too! Saturday, January 23, 2016 at 4 PM - 7 PM near city beach. Please bring a plate of food to share and on the day look for the CYM Banner!



Parish News

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.



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Join us in celebrating the Chinese New Year on the 21st February 2016 at the 11.00am Mass followed by Lion Dance and lunch in the courtyard.

Please bring a plate to share. Tea and coffee will be provided.

ST THOMAS MORE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES 2016

Religious Education Classes for students not attending (or who didn't attend) a Catholic primary school will begin on Wednesday the 10th February 2016 at 4.00pm.

Enrolment day for these classes will be on Wednesday 3rd February from 4.00pm to 5.00pm in the church hall. You may also enrol at the church office on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. Classes are available for pre-primary, primary and secondary students.

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2016

EUCCHARIST: 25TH & 26TH June 2016

CONFIRMATION: 20TH & 21ST August 2016

RECONCILIATION: 18TH October 2016

Students must attend at least one full year of instruction prior to the Sacrament year and complete the full year of instruction in the year they receive the Sacrament.

Fees: \$35 for one child, \$45 for family. There is also a small additional fee for a child in a Sacramental year.

If you would like to know more about these classes please contact Jenny Figliomeni at the Church office either on 9310 1747 (Tuesdays and Wednesdays) or 0435695399.

PREPARATION FOR LENT—Starting Wednesday 17th February at 7.00pm

Why was Jesus required to undergo such dreadful suffering on the cross? What is the important link between suffering and love? Why are we called to redemptive suffering and what is in it for us? To prepare for Lent, we invite you to join us for five sessions on **Jesus' Passion: The story of Redemptive Suffering.** Each week in the Parish hall, we will watch part of the movie *The Passion of the Christ*, followed by reflection and sharing. Please make available the five consecutive Wednesdays starting 17 February from 7—8pm. If you have any queries, please contact stthomasmore.faith@gamil.com.



Parish News (continued)

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you have recently moved into this area and have not registered with the parish, please register in the foyer and make yourself known to the priest after Mass. We warmly welcome you to our Parish.



WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016

This year millions of young people will gather with Pope Francis in Krakow, Poland for World Youth Day in July 2016. You are invited to join us on this unforgettable pilgrimage experience travelling with our Perth Bishops and other young people through Poland. The pilgrimage is open for 18—35 year olds. Details of the cost and itinerary are available on www.cym.com.au

Register now as places are limited, don't miss out on this amazing event in 2016. For more info email adin@cym.com.au or call 9422 7912.



Diocesan Notices

LENTEN PRAYER DAY

Time: 10.00am—1.00pm (9.30am morning cuppa. 1.00pm lunch included)

Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth. (Cost by Donation)

RSVP: essential (for catering purposes) by Friday 29th January 2016 to Laura.McCarthy@sosj.org.au, or on (08) 9334 0999.

BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN

Save the date for the 2016 "Breakfast in the Garden". Come and join in the fun, meet old friends and make new ones on Saturday 12 March at 8.00am. To be held at the Garden Venue, Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth (St. Joseph's Convent) Cost:\$15. All proceeds go to the Mary MacKillop Foundation. BYO charis, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sun screen and smiles. Further info. and to RSVP by 9 March: Laurie Mayne 9271 5649, ljmayne@optusnet.com.au; or John McCormack 9383 2615, johnmccormack@westnet.com.au

Diocesan Notices

WEEKEND RETREAT

A daytime people's retreat will be held on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st January 2016 from 10.00am to 4.00pm with Fr. Doug Harris at 59 Newton Street, Spearwood. Topic will be on praying and living in depth the Lord's Prayer. Contact Jenny on 9494 2604 or 0458 153 184 or email jtroy@iinet.net.au

LOOKING FOR FAITH ENRICHMENT?

The Centre for Faith Enrichment has a great variety of short courses available at several locations throughout Perth and online (no need to travel). No prior studies are required, courses are presented in a relaxed and friendly environment, and there are no exams or assignments. For further information, visit www.cfe.org.au or call 9241 5221 for a brochure.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM OUR SHRINE "HOLY DOOR" IN THE YEAR OF MERCY! SHRINE TIME

Holy Hour for Young Adults 18—35 years is on again on Sunday, January the 24th at 7.30pm, 9 Talus Drive, Mt. Richon. Please feel very welcomed to join in for prayer; Praise and worship followed by a social.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR (8 WEEK COURSE EACH THURSDAY EVENING)

A series of talks and discussions on how to draw closer to God, how to recognise and be open to the workings of the Holy Spirit, and how to deepen our prayer and faith life. Join us at the Barry Whitely Hall (St Jerome's parish, Spearwood) commencing on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 7.30pm. Come and meet others in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. For more information: email lissreg@bigpond.com or call Frank 0435 383 384

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL—OPENING YEAR MASS

Held Friday, 29th January starting 7.00pm with praise, at St Bernadette's Parish, 49 Jugan Street, Glendalough. Evening includes Mass, Prayer & Praise, Prayer Team Ministry, and concludes with a light supper. The main celebrant will be Archbishop (emeritus) Barry Hickey. Come along, and bring a friend who is searching for Jesus. A collection will be taken up to support the Renewal work. Enquiries to Dan - 9398 4973.

"COME AND SEE"

Theme: Love leaves a mark. Come and enjoy an evening of reflection, sharing and prayer, followed by a light meal

Where: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth.

Time: 4.00pm—8.00pm

RSVP: For catering purposes, please RSVP to Sr. Alma Cabassi: 0419 044 136 or cabassi.alma@gmail.com

Ministry of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart.