

Sunday Readings

Year A

First Reading - Is 8:23 – 9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations. The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

Second Reading - 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

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

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel - Mt 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned. From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him. Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him. He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

100 Dean Rd Bateman WA 6150
Phone (08) 93101747 : Fax (08) 9310 8575
Website: www.batemancatholic.org
E-Mail: secretary@batemancatholic.org
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 A

January 22, 2017

Out of the darkness

The man driving the taxi said he grew up in Kolkata. Since Pope Francis had recently canonised Mother Teresa, I asked him what he thought about her.

He glanced in the mirror, smiling. "Oh yes, Maa, I met her three times," he said energetically. "We always give to her house when we go home."

"Are you Catholic?" I asked.

"No, Hindu," he replied.

"But you call her Maa, Mother?" I said, searchingly.

"We all do," he declared. "She is Maa to us all."

The readings for Mass today help us to reflect on how we form community. When St Paul speaks about "belonging," he confronts us with questions about how religious identity can both bind and separate people. When he refers to opposing leaders, we can easily make connections with rivalries in our own world.

As if hearing folks say they belong to Apollos or Cephas or Paul, we hear about people following a particular priest and escaping another, or about how this pope outdoes that pope, or how belonging to Christ trumps other forms of religious loyalty. It can happen to us all: our faith in Christ can service our self-righteousness and rivalry with others.

Since their earliest days, Christian communities have experienced disagreement. For a range of reasons, many Christians appropriate the meaning of their faith differ-

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. Garner Vergara
Assistant Priest



Fr. Cyprian Shikokoti
Priest in Residence



Deacon Bruce
Parish Deacon

ently. But if there are differences and disagreements among the members, how can we affirm the oneness of the Church? How can we say, "I believe in one Church?"

The key to any satisfactory answer to this question begins with recognising the inseparability of the Mystery of the Church and the Mystery of the Eucharist. By our faith in the person of Christ Jesus, we can affirm the unity of the Church because in him we are truly "members one of another." Inviting us to know Jesus, the gospel points us to a way of thinking about our belonging to Christ that stands apart from all forms of enmity and competition.

When the gospel says that Jesus fulfils the scriptural anticipation of light rising on those who dwell in darkness, the gospel announces how Jesus reconfigures the lines of religious belonging. God breaks down the rivalries that separate people. The choice to call Simon and Andrew represents a choice to call us, too – a choice for us to participate in the building of human relations by the power of God's mercy.

Mother Teresa once said, "If I ever become a saint, I will surely be one of 'darkness.' I will continually be absent from Heaven to light the light of those in darkness on earth." If we are to experience God's mercy, we must join Maa and the others in the darkness. We must know our own poverty. In the darkness, the light of Christ illuminates the oneness of his body.

Christiaan Jacobs-Vandegeer
@ Redemptorists 2016

Copyright of the Majellan Publications

Baptisms:

We welcome Zachary Michael Tonnochy-Whittle into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Fr Peter Growney, Emilia D'Angelo, Chung Yun Wai, who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Adelino Fonseca, Patricia Maynard, Andrew Chin, Sidney Segaram, Tommaso Boccardo, Gilda Ureta, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

for 29TH JANUARY

NEXT WEEK					
Bulletin:	Juliana Doss				
Flowers :	Margaret Koh				
Counter:	1. L Thornett	2. A Rao	3. C Rao		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	W Cox M Craggs	J De Silva J De Silva	A Faleiro A Lauw	E Connolly A Ford	A Christophe B D' Mello
Acolytes	V Tan	P Cox	L Papineau	P Doray	M Tloczek
Altar Servers	L Apango C Budiman K Chapman	T Blechynde B Boudville	N Arumugam D Bourne L Cariccio	N Andrews D Atmadjaja T Carbone	C Batchlor D Cowman O Cowman
Special Minister	C Craggs M craggs M Davis C Dellaca A De Souza J Doss S Fuderer K Gamba G Garreffa	C Cox B D' Cruz G Dunsford D Gabriel R King I Kusnadi C Morzenti R Margawani	B Bucat C Derries A Faleiro H Klass M McFarlene L McMin P McMin G Mo	R D'Annunzi O D'Mello A Loo J Loo J Louie A Mascarenh M O' Brien C Poore	C Batchelor S Chauveau C Endris S Eng D Gan M Gan C Goh A Gunawan
Catechists	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		
Readers	L Sequeira M Sequeira	A Santacate E Temmen	P Weston D Booth	G Librita K Lingoh	K Escobar Aura
Readers Coordinator:	Michele Doray		9310 4051		
Piety stall	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Safeguarding Officer: Fatima Basilio (fatima.safeguarding@gmail.com)					

MORE CARE

Do you need help or know someone who does?

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

Rose Garden
February 2017

Section A
Sharon Vong

Section B
Craig Mclver

Youth

PRAYER!

O God, the Creator and Giver of
All good things, bless our Parish
and St. Thomas More
and the community that
Worships here.

Inspire us to work together
To spread your love
As we start the New year.

Strengthen our faith and grant us
The spirit of service so that,
With your grace and the help of
Mary our Blessed Mother,
We may glorify You provide for the
Needs of our wider community
And make ourselves holy.

We ask you this through
Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Parish News

AUSTRALIA DAY MASS — THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY

Mass on Thursday 26th January 2017 will be at **9.00am** as it is a Public Holiday (and not at 7.00am).



SUNDAY COFFEE—8.00AM MASS

Due to our increasing numbers and the consequent noise generated, we are now gathering in the parish hall. If you are new to the parish or simply wish to meet fellow parishioners, please feel free to join us.

You will be made to feel very welcome.

COME FOR A CUPPA & A SHOW—Wed 8th February

Come for a cuppa, stay for a show and leave an hour later refreshed in body, mind and spirit. This is the invitation to all Thomas More parishioners, their friends and families, and the Yidarra and Corpus Christi school community – come down to the parish hall on **Wed, 8 Feb at 9am** to enjoy a cuppa and watch a video on the Parables of Jesus in a friendly, relaxed environment.

You will see seven short dramas portraying the parables of Jesus through the lens of biblical times. The Bible will come alive, helping you to understand the customs and culture behind the parables, and feel the impact of Jesus' message. Following the video presentation, there will be time for reflection and sharing for those who wish to do so. The session will conclude at 10am.

The second video session in this café-style spiritual enrichment program is entitled 'Lent and Easter' and will be held on Wed, Feb 22 from 9am -10am at the parish hall. More details nearer the date.

Details: The Parables of Jesus - **Wed, 8 Feb** in the Bateman parish hall 9-10am.
Enquiries: Carolin 0432 855 605 / Su 0413 560 033

FR CYPRIAN'S FAREWELL MASS & CELEBRATION—SUN 12TH FEB.

We will be having Fr Cyprian's Farewell Mass on **Sunday 12th February** at the 6.00pm Youth Mass followed by supper after the Mass in the courtyard. Please bring a plate of **SAVOURY FINGER FOOD** to share for the supper. Soft drinks and a cake will be provided by the Parish.

CHINESE NEW YEAR 2017—FREE CHURCH COMMUNITY EVENT—5th February

All are invited to come together at our church to pray and celebrate the start of the Chinese New Year 2017—The year of the Rooster! The celebratory Mass is on Sunday **5th February 2017** at 11.00am followed immediately by an exciting dance performed by the legendary and auspicious Chinese lions in our church courtyard. Please bring a plate of savoury or sweet finger foods to share.



Parish News (continued)

Sacramental dates for 2017: St Thomas More, Bateman

Reconciliation: 14th/21st October 2017

First Holy Communion: 24th /25th June 2017

Confirmation: 19th/20th August 2017

ENROLMENT DAY: WEDNESDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2017 4.00—5.00PM (CHURCH HALL)

All children (from pre-school age on) from within the Parish boundaries who attend Government schools are warmly welcomed to attend the Religious Education after school program. Special arrangements can be made for High School children and Catholic School children who may not have celebrated their age relevant Sacrament.

Please note that Confirmation is a 2 year program.

For further info, please contact Jenny Figliomeni on 93101747 (Tues/Wed) or 0435695399

ROSTERS CO-ORDINATORS—ROSTERS FOR 2017

All Roster Co-ordinators, please take note that all new rosters for Readers, Altar Servers, Special Ministers and Children's Liturgy need to be sent to the Parish Office as soon as possible as we return to the full bulletin this weekend and the rosters are needed for the bulletin. Thank you.

NEW APPOINTMENT—FR THI LAM

Following the verbal announcement, we would like to inform you that the new Priest in Residence at our Parish is **Fr. Thi Lam**, who has been appointed by the Archbishop as **Chaplain to St. John of God's Hospital, Murdoch**. He will be coming to our parish and commence his ministry on **15th February**. Please keep Fr. Thi and other priests in your prayers as they prepare to take up their new appointments. God bless, Fr. Phong.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Are you new to the parish? If you are, please register in the book on the small table in the church foyer and introduce yourself to one of the priests after Mass.

Welcome

Diocesan Notices

27 JANUARY REFLECTION, SHARING AND PRAYER EVENING

You are invited to "Come and See", come and enjoy an evening of reflection, sharing and prayer followed by a light meal.

Theme: A time of Considering Contemplationa way of life.

When: Friday 27th January, 4.00pm to 8.00pm.

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

RSVP: Alma Cabassi RSJ, Cabassi.alma@gmail.com, 0419 044 136.

A ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart.

PALMS ENCOUNTER

A Palms Encounter is an intimate, immersive, inter cultural experience providing insights that challenge perceptions and deepen understanding. Palms long-term volunteers guide the Encounter with our Catholic Communities in East Timor.

Register now for our 2 – 14 April Encounter and receive \$400 off a 2nd ticket.

Call Roger on 02 9560 5333 or go to www.palms.org.au/Encounters for more.

Real encounter, real people, real exchange, real life

Share meals, share games, share life stories.



A Palms Encounter with our Catholic Communities in East Timor is an experience to share this Easter and beyond.

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL—OPENING YEAR MASS

Friday 27th January starting at 7.30pm at the St. Bernadette's Parish, Glendalough (Jugan Street). Evening includes Mass, Prayer and Praise, Prayer Team Ministry, and concludes with a light supper in the hall. Come along and help us celebrate our calling in this 50th year of Charismatic Renewal, and bring a friend who is searching for Jesus. Queries to Dan on 9398 4973 or daniel.hewitt5@bigpond.com.