

Sunday Readings

Year A

First Reading - Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

Second Reading - 1 Cor 1:26-31

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

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

Gospel - Mt 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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

4th Sunday, Year A

January 29, 2017

A smiling gift

Saint Teresa of Calcutta once said, "Peace begins with a smile." Living the Beatitudes is about having a smile in any circumstances of our lives. The Beatitudes is St Matthew's masterpiece, gathering together central teachings of Jesus about a life dependent on God. Jesus instructs us on the nature of true happiness and true happiness comes from God alone.

"Blessed (happy) are you." These words of spiritual inspiration, addressed to those who have put total trust in the Lord. The Greek word makarios should be translated "blessed" instead of "happy". The opposite of "blessed" is not "unhappy" but "cursed".

Luke's Beatitudes emphasises the literal, economic poor. Matthew is more interested in "poor in spirit." He even uses "hunger and thirst for justice." Clearly, the Beatitudes are not against the rich, nor does it mean you are blessed because you are poor or mean a beggar will automatically go to heaven. Being poor, being oppressed or being disadvantaged is not blessed; it is an evil or a curse. What is blessed in the Beatitudes is the hope and trust of vulnerable people in a God of faithful love who shares their suffering.

The 'meek' and the "poor in spirit" are those who resist the temptation to rely upon human self-sufficiency and pride. They are the ones who come to find their security in the Lord and look for refuge under God's wings. In other words, they know they

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

are not in control of their own lives and are spiritually dependent on God. They are those whose only identity and security was in God.

This can be true to you. You are blessed when you are in need of God. We are all poor in some ways materially and spiritually. God's blessings are only given to those who are conscious of their own neediness, and yet Jesus wants to put them in touch with their blessedness, with their persistent hope in God. Therefore, it is a curse if we don't see that we are in need of God, if we are not searching for God and if we are not dependent on God.

The Beatitudes are nothing about good behaviour, they are not statements about general human virtues, but are an absolute demand that brings us before the face of the living God who gives blessings on those who need God.

The God of the Beatitudes is the God who gives hope and encouragement to those who have little or no hope; to those who are on the fringes of society and to those who are considered lower class in any social groups. Anyone who comes to God in the realisation of being "poor" before God, no matter who they are, will certainly receive God's blessing. God is there to give you a smile!

Anthony Tran CSsR
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Baptisms:

We welcome Maya Lee Gazzone, Valentina Suryana, Christopher De Ceglie into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Anniversaries:

Please pray for James Tan Joo Chiat, Irena Domagalska, Antoinetta Gizzi, John McDonnell, Olive Marley, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

for 5TH FEBRUARY

NEXT WEEK					
Bulletin:	Yunita Darmawan				
Flowers :	Diana Puspita				
Counter:	1. P Foley	2. M Sefton	3. A Munro		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	S Abraham J Esthappan	J Fitzpatri F Foster	J Hendricks J Hicks	S Ip R A D'Silva	J Grochal I Iman
Acolytes	D Ng	D Bianchini	D Klass	M Tloczek	S Carrello
Altar Servers	R Dellaca O Dellaca K De Silva	A Flexman M Roach	P Cockrell A Chong V Chong	Jerone R James R James	S Broderick Z Cohen M D' Cruz
Special Minister	C Lasrado D Liew L Morzenti A Mourad V Ng D Nicholson R Oetomo L Rego J See	C A Norris R Norris C Price P Price J Sciorilli M Woolford C Cox B D' Cruz	J Moeljadi J Moeljadi C Nonis M Murray P Murray E Papineau T Rudianto K S Tan	J Roper S Saverimut C Tan G Tedjakunt R Triuntari L Yeo R Yeo R D'Annunzi O D' Mello	K Hodgson P Kite A Lu V Masara B Norris A Phoon A Ring S Sutijono
Catechists	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS		
Readers	J Wass R Craggs	C Tan G Warman	M Chong M das Neves	A Loo R Liu	C Talbot B Leguier
Readers Coordinator:	Kim Gamba 9258 6263				
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

Seeking new Bateman Youth Volunteers

We are currently looking for young people who would like to volunteer to help at our teens group or young adults events. If you are interested, or if you know of anyone who is interested in being part of this very rewarding and enjoyable experience, please write a short paragraph to explain your interest in helping out. Send your expression of interest & contact details to Fr Garner via email garner.vergara@perthcatholic.org.au as soon as possible. A valid working with children check card is required for all volunteers over 18 y.o.

Embrace The Grace Raffle

“Thank you all so much for your contributions that enabled me to attend Embrace The Grace 2016. It was an experience that has truly changed my life, and one that I will never forget with memories that I will treasure forever. It was something that has given me the confidence to embrace my faith, and has helped me to learn more about it. Again, thank you all so much and your contributions mean so much to me.” – Ellie

#GODSQUAD Teens group FRIDAY 10TH OF FEBRUARY

Our first #GodSquad for the year will be on the 10th of February at 7pm in the Parish Hall! We look forward to seeing you all and new people too! For lots of fun, fellowship and faith.

The leaders are looking forward to seeing you all again!

Diocesan Notices

Catholic Youth Ministry Perth Mass and Holy Hour 1st of February (Image attached) Come and join us in prayer on Wednesday nights with Mass at 5:30pm, Holy Hour (adoration 6:30-7:30pm) and dinner (\$5 donation) with other young Catholics. These Wednesday Holy Hours will recommence on the 1st of February 2017. At the **Catholic Pastoral Centre on 40A Mary Street, Highgate. (Entrance from Harold Street)**

Ignite Live

Is back for 2017. More details to come or go to the website <https://igniteyouth.com/live-perth/>

Words from Pope Francis on the Gospel reading today

“Jesus challenges us, young friends, to take seriously his approach to life and to decide which path is right for us and leads to true joy. This is the great challenge of faith. Jesus was not afraid to ask his disciples if they truly wanted to follow him or if they preferred to take another path (cf. Jn 6:67). Simon Peter had the courage to reply: “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” (Jn 6:68). If you too are able to say “yes” to Jesus, your lives will become both meaningful and fruitful.” – 29th World Youth Day 21 January 2014

Parish News

Chaplets of the Divine Mercy—Wed 8th February

This powerful, prayerful, sung devotion is held in our Church on the second Wednesday of each month. The next devotion will be held on Wednesday 8th February 2017 commencing at 7.30 pm. It will be accompanied by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and followed by Benediction and Anointing. If you have not attended previously, why don't you come along and participate in this uplifting experience? Enquiries to George Lopez on 9310 9493(h) 6242 0702(w).



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

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.

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.

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

BISCUIT CONTAINERS FOR PICK-UP!

We still have some Biscuit Containers that have not been picked up since before Christmas. Those who very generously donated biscuits for the prisoners for Christmas and have not picked up your containers from the Parish office, PLEASE PICK THEM UP as soon as possible. We are trying to tidy the Resource Area up.

**HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR CHINESE,
VIETNAMESE, TAIWANESE PARISHIONERS. HAVE A
GOOD AND PROSPEROUS ROOSTER YEAR.**



Diocesan Notices

Perth Catholic Youth Ministry

'Year of Youth' Project Worker (Full time position – 2 year contract)

The Perth Catholic Youth Ministry office is seeking a vibrant project worker to join the Youth Ministry team. This role will be a temporary position for 2 years and will be working to provide support and training for adults to engage in the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference 'Year of Youth', across parishes, schools, communities and movements in the Archdiocese of Perth. A copy of the full job advertisement & job description is available on www.cym.com.au To submit your CV with a cover letter and 3 referees including a parish priest, please email: Anita Parker, Director of Catholic Youth Ministry Phone: (08) 9422 7912 or Email: anita.parker@perthcatholic.org.au

Applications close Monday 6 February 2017.

MASTERCLASS - YOUTH LEADERS TRAINING WEEKEND 17-19 FEBRUARY

Are you a youth leader or an upcoming youth leader in your Parish? Catholic Youth Ministry Perth is conducting a 3-day training weekend at a beach side venue in Busselton, to equip those serving in Youth Ministry in their Parish or groups. There are beginners and advanced workshops, prayer sessions, fun activities and networking opportunities. Cost \$50, incl. food and accom. To register or for more information visit cym.com.au or contact CYM Perth via email admin@cym.com.au or 94227912 HURRY! Places are limited.

The Mary MacKillop Foundation invite you to "BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN"

Come and join the fun, meet old friends and make new ones....

When: 8am Saturday 11th March **Where:** Garden Venue—at the Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth (St Joseph's Convent)

Bring: \$15 for brekkie, byo chairs, tables, blankets, umbrellas, sun screen, smiles! **RSVP:** Before 7th march to: Laurie Mayne: 9271 5649, ljmayne@optusnet.com.au

CATHOLIC FAITH RENEWAL

Please be aware due to renovations in Sts John & Paul Church, Willetton, Praise and Worship will not take place on Friday 3rd February. Sorry for the inconvenience but hope to see you in March. God Bless.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Centre for Faith Enrichment has a variety of short courses and one-off events on offer at several locations throughout Perth and online (very user friendly and no need to travel!). No prior learning is required, the environment is always relaxed and friendly and there are no exams or assignments.. For more information, visit www.cfe.org.au or simply call 9241 5221 for a Term 1 brochure.