

Sunday Readings

Year A

First Reading - Sir 15:15-20 ; A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Second Reading - 1 Cor 2:6-10 ; A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel - Mt 5:17-37 ; A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven. 'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away, for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away, for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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

6th Sunday, Year A

February 12, 2017

The stone in the road

Two mind-numbing events occurred toward the end of last year. Firstly, the Dream-world accident where four people were killed on a 'family friendly' ride and the death of a young bus-driver who was doused with accelerant and set alight. These types of incidents often prompt a search of our deepest thoughts. What was behind these awful events; the senseless violence against a man going about his business and the fateful deaths of four innocents on a fun outing?

In contrast to this is the proclamation and related teaching of today's readings: our right response to God's infinite majesty and love, and sincere love of our neighbour; qualities that Jesus shows are two sides of the one coin.

We can misconstrue Christ's meaning if our response is superficial; nor does it help that people are prone to twist rules for selfish material gain. Jesus, however, is demanding a deep conversion of heart and that we turn back to God with genuine humanity.

His teaching on marriage, for example, is about being true to God's covenant, stretching back to the origins of human life that proclaims mercy and justice. It is because of this deep 'heart' motive, sourced in transcendent love, that the Lord shifts to centre-stage the hidden thoughts of all of us. We are called to search within and remove anything that distracts or separates us from God.

In exaggerated language, a Jewish style of the time, Jesus shows God's Kingdom as a radical reversal of worldly ways that overturns ruthless power structures. Jesus' pas-

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

sion is our salvation; the promised reward is not material prosperity, longevity, or social status but union with divine love and the coming of God's reign of peace and justice for all creation.

Admittedly, we are all implicated in inhumane behaviour when we neglect to challenge wrong doing on our doorstep, or fix flaws in our environment that threaten the well-being and safety of others. Are there oppressive social orders that we turn a blind eye to which result in acts of violence against others? Do we absolve ourselves of guilt and even target the perpetrator for punishment?

Surely, it is this last human failing that Jesus storms against. The backdrop is ever his call to "repent and believe the good news of the Kingdom" (Mk 1:15); his witness to God's reign in his teachings, healings, passion, and glorified resurrection and ascension that represent the goal of humanity and give hope.

It is our responsibility to clean up our act! The humble maiden of the old fable, who removes the harmful stone in the road and discovers a treasure, is the person we want to be: kind, caring and thinking of others. As Lent approaches, may we keep in mind the first stage of our liturgical journey, and that is the process of repentance.

Bet Green

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Baptisms:

We welcome Grace Audrey Godwin, into our Parish Community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Vivian Halliley, Wirohadikusumo, who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Tommaso Boccardo, Allen Bannister-Jones, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

for 19TH FEBRUARY

NEXT WEEK

Bulletin: Brenella Pasquale

Flowers: Shauna Taylor

Counter: 1. P Murray 2. GPain 3. Ciannello

	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	J Doss P Doss	M Golding P Golding	S Hedley E Mo	E McGuire T Kurnianin	J Murphy E Ring
Acolytes	D Ng	P McManus	J Nonis	T Roper	S Carrello
Altar Servers	C Heslop Q Hua S Hua	T Blechynde B Boudville	O Fuderer C Fuderer A Gan	J Pinto Yan Ni Sng L Sanchez	C Correa Y Deandra M Franyne
Special Minister	J Doss S Fuderer K Gamba G Garreffa C Lasrado D Liew L Morzenti A Mourad V Ng	C Price P Price J Sciorilli M Woolford C Cox B D' Cruz G Dunsford D Gabriel	M McFarlene L McMinn P McMinn G Mo J Moeljadi J Moeljadi C Nonis M Murray	C Tan G Tedjakunt R Triuntari L Yeo R Yeo R D' Annunzi O D' Mello A Loo J Loo	C Batchelor S Chauveau C Endris S Eng D Gan M Gan A Gunawan C Goh
Catechists	(Yr 1 - 4) L Sequeira (Yr 5 - 6) S Tan		(Yr 1 - 4) B Pasquale (Yr 5 - 6) A Jones		
Readers	A De Souza M Doray	V Carter C Correa	C Maronovic L Papineau	R Rasmana S Ratnasing	N Dias V Dias
Readers Coordinator: Vivian Ng 9337 7446					
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
Bill Crossley

Section B
Mike Kelly

Youth

SEEKING NEWBATEMAN 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 years old.

GODSQUAD TEENS GROUP FRIDAY 24th FEBRUARY

The next GODSQUAD of the year will be on Friday the 24th of February at 7pm in the hall. We have just recently had our planning meeting for the year and have many exciting things planned for the teens this year. So if you're currently still in high school come down this Friday and be sure to bring any friends along that might be interested as well.

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 accommodation. 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.

YOUNG ADULTS PROGRAM

For those of you who are 18+ and have finished high school we'll be starting our young adults program in early May. It is a great way to meet other young people like yourselves in the community. So keep an eye out for this announcement later on in the year and be sure to spread the word to others who might be interested.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

CYM MASS AND HOLY HOUR EVERYDAY WE DNE SDAY

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. At the Catholic Pastoral Centre on 40A Mary Street, Highgate. (Entrance from Harold Street).

IGNITE LIVE

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

For further enquiries about the St. Thomas More Youth Ministry, please don't hesitate to contact our youth leaders Bronagh and Brien via email at youth@batemancatholic.org

Parish News

Pastoral Letter to the Catholic community of the Archdiocese of Perth

Archbishop Costelloe has written a Pastoral Letter to the Catholic community of Perth in relation to the upcoming hearings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Copies of the letter are available in the Church Foyer and can be found on-line at www.perthcatholic.org.au

ST THOMAS MORE SCRIPTURAL ROSARY GROUP

Recommended Tuesday 7th February, 2017.

Meets Tuesdays during school term at 8.50am-9.20am in the church (or shrine). Easy to follow books are used, so no experience is necessary. All welcome (including children of any age).

Hope to see you there or for more information please contact:
Patricia Taylor: 0422 770 730 or Clare Cox: 9310 7989.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHURCH FLOWER

Volunteers needed to refresh flowers in church. No skills are required. Your schedule will depend on your preference. Please call Diana at 9266 4253 to register.

Seniors Mass and Morning Tea

Our first Seniors gathering for 2017 will be Mass and Morning Tea on Wednesday, 22nd March at 10.30am. To show our appreciation for the welcome extended to us last year an invitation has been sent to St Mary's Guilford Seniors, to join us on this occasion. Please bring a plate of goodies to contribute to the morning tea and if necessary use the heating facilities in the hall kitchen.



SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2017: ST THOMAS MORE, BATEMAN

Reconciliation: 14th/21st October 2017

First Holy Communion: 24th /25th June 2017 [Enrolments for this class close 28th February 2017](#)

Confirmation: 19th/20th August 2017

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.

Enquiries: Jenny Figliomeni on 93101747 (Tues/Wed) or 0435695399

Parish News (continued)

YIDARRA COMMUNITY QUIZ NIGHT

The Yidarra Community Quiz Night is coming soon and we invite you to enjoy a fun night of good company, tricky trivia and fabulous prizes.

When: Friday 31 March, 2017 Time: 7pm for a 7:15pm start

Where: Melville Bowling Club

What to bring: yourselves, your friends and family members, spare change for games, and your own food. A selection of snacks will be available for purchase.

Drinks will be available to purchase from the bar. Strictly no BYO. Complimentary tea and coffee will be available. Cost: \$20 per ticket with tables of 8 or 10.

Tickets will be on sale from 10:45am on 8th February 2017 –

www.trybooking.com.au search Yidarra Community Quiz Night. Tables of 8 and 10 are available on trybooking; you can buy single tickets or whole tables.

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.



Diocesan Notices

BEGINNING OF PRAYER GROUP

We would like to invite you to join Our Lady Of Sorrows Prayer Group. We have been meeting together for nearly 30 years and have developed a wonderful support group for the development of our Faith Life and personally for all the ups and downs we have in raising our families and staying involved in Community and Parish Life. We meet on Thursdays (excluding holidays) at 1pm in the Albert Lynch Room at St. Benedict's Church, Applecross and break at 2.30 for fellowship and a cup of tea. This allows parents with children still at school to leave in time to collect their children at 3pm. We would like to pass on what we have learnt (our wisdom) to some younger people so invite you to join us and I am sure you would get a warm welcome! For further details contact either Judy Phillips 93649249 or Elspeth O'Connor 93645800.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

A series of Faith talks, prayer, praise and discussions at St Emillie's Parish Hall (St Emillie's Catholic Church, 151 Amherst Road, CANNING VALE) commencing on Thursday 9th February at 7.30pm. Come and meet others in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. For further information please email lissreg@bigpond.com or call Christian 0413 894 535.

Diocesan Notices (continued)

BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN

The Mary MacKillop Foundation invite you to 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.

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.

GROWING VINE MINISTRY

Willetton Catholic Parish offers a ministry specially tailored for the seniors in the community. It offers companionship and outings. Seniors meet every Friday during school term from 10am to 2pm, where morning tea and lunch are served by volunteers and in between attend midday mass. Transport is provided to and from home, if required. Cost \$10 per week.

Enquiries to Irene Er-Smith, 9457 8891 or 0466 807 019

LAUDATE SI' WEEKEND RETREAT

At Kilmolee at Safety Bay, a ministry of the Josephite Sisters. 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay. 4pm 17th March – 2pm 19th March 2017. For enquiries, flyer and registration, please contact: Sr Shelley Barlow RNDM 9271 3873/ sbarlowrnm@gmail.com or Brother Terry Casey CFC 0422 966 453

PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES - growing awareness of God in my everyday

Theme: The Lenten Journey—an invitation to look deeper in to being a Christian. Lent is an opportunity to review one's commitment to living and giving witness to Gospel values. You are invited to be part of this prayer experience.

When: Friday 24th February 2017. RSVP: Essential by Tuesday 21st. Time: 10.30 am—12.00 noon. Repeated 6.30 pm—8.00 pm. Contact: Secretary on (08) 9334 0999. Email: laura.maccarthy@sosj.org.au. Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth.

AUTUMN PRAYER DAY at SAFETY BAY

Come join us and experience a gentle, prayerful day at tranquil Safety Bay. Theme: "Finding Healing and Hope in the Miracles of Jesus." When: Wednesday March 15th 2017. Time 10.00am—1.00pm (9.30 am morning tea, and light lunch provided). Where: Kilmolee at Safety Bay, 182 Arcadia Drive, Safety Bay. Cost: by Donation. RSVP: (Important for catering), contact Sr. Dianne. Phone: (08) 9527 3240 or Dianne.colborne@sosj.org.au