

Sunday Readings

Year A

First Reading - Is 49:14-15

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Zion was saying, 'The Lord has abandoned me, the Lord has forgotten me.'
Does a woman forget her baby at the breast, or fail to cherish the son of her womb? Yet even if she forget, I will never forget you.

Second Reading - 1 Cor 4:1-5

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

People must think of us as Christ's servants, stewards entrusted with the mysteries of God. What is expected of stewards is that each one should be found worthy of his trust. Not that it makes the slightest difference to me whether you, or indeed any human tribunal, find me worthy or not. I will not even pass judgement on myself. True, my conscience does not reproach me at all, but that does not prove that I am acquitted: the Lord alone is my judge. There must be no passing of premature judgement. Leave that until the Lord comes: he will light up all that is hidden in the dark and reveal the secret intentions of men's hearts. Then will be the time for each one to have whatever praise he deserves, from God.

Gospel - Mt 6:24-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'No one can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money. 'That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry, do not say, 'What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?' It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

100 Dean Rd Bateman WA 6150
Phone (08) 93101747 : Fax (08) 9310 8575
Website: www.bateman catholic.org
E-Mail: secretary@bateman catholic.org
Office Hours : Tuesday—Friday (9.00am to 2.00pm)



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

8th Sunday, Year A

February 26, 2017

What cost, happiness?

A few years ago I read about a survey: 'Who are the happiest people on earth? The top five responses were very interesting. An artist or craftsperson whistling or singing while working. A little child playing or building sandcastles on the beach. A mother bathing her baby. A doctor or surgeon who brings healing or saves a life. A grandparent pushing a grandchild in a pram or on a swing.

Absent from the list of responses were the rich, the famous, royalty, sport and TV stars, politicians and civic leaders. The wisdom of the responses is clear. The essential quality of happiness is not found in wealth, prestige, power, status or possessions, so often worshipped as 'idols' in today's world.

This reminds me of Kevin, a 29 year old business executive who is well on the way to his first million and I get the feeling he won't stop there! I can't deny that Kevin has worked very hard to get where he is. However, it has come at a heavy cost, both personally and professionally.

He has alienated most of his family and friends. He rarely visits his parents. He's been involved in a string of failed and poisonous relationships, all superficial and convenient. He is driven by an insatiable desire for more wealth and possessions and he doesn't care who or what he tramples on to get it. He is seduced by the lure of fame and craves recognition and attention to feed his ravenous ego. For Kevin, everything is me, me, me! He can't see beyond himself. There is no consideration or room for anyone else. There is no world apart from the world of Kevin.

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. Garret Vergara
Assistant Priest



Fr. Thi Lan
Priest in Residence



Deacon Bruce
Parish Deacon

Today's gospel offers a blunt challenge. "You cannot at the same time be the slave of God and money." Jesus is not criticising ownership of things. Rather, it is a question of our attitude towards them, having our lives controlled by them and being unable to share them with those in real need.

We're invited to reflect on what are our most basic values in life. Is it just what we want to have or is it what we most want to be? Is it about making a living or making a life? Is it a matter of getting what we have not got or sharing with others what we have, however little it may seem to be? Are there other values, other more precious qualities like happiness, peace, freedom, contentment, wonderful friends, a supportive family? Sadly, Kevin is so preoccupied with things and wanting more, he can't see that there is more to life. He is looking in the wrong places.

Jesus puts before us a choice between God's vision of life and a life that enslaves us and prevents us from experiencing true and lasting happiness. What's your choice?

David J Hore CSsR
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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Maria Francisca Sri Harini who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Blossom Fernandes, John and Ellen Gurry, Mary Chong Kim Lian, Monica Parr, S Eustace Williams, Richard Oon Chuan Hoe, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

R O S T E R S

for 5TH MARCH

NEXT WEEK					
Bulletin:	Clare Talbot				
Flowers:	Diana Puspta				
Counter:	1. M Craggs	2. M Woolford	3. P Moore		
	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Greeters	L Humphreys A Mourad	G Moriarty P Owens	A Faleiro J Hendricks	G Mascarenh S Mascarenh	A Christophe B D' Mello
Acolytes	D Morais	D Bianchini	C Dowsett	T Roper	S Carrello
Altar Servers	M Murray B Mo J Ng	L Cherry O Mapfumo	E McCarthy O McCarthy G Tandy	N Andrews D Atmadjaja T Carbone	S Jones R Joseph D Kempson
Special Minister	C Craggs M Craggs M Davis C Dellaca A De Souza J Doss S Fudrexer K Gamba G Garreffa	J Sciorilli M Woolford C Cox B D'Crux G Dunsford D Gabriel R King I Kusnadi	B Bucat C Derries A Faleiro H Klass M McFarlane L McMinn P McMinn G Mo	L Yeo R Yeo R D'Annunzi O D' Mello A Loo J Loo J Louie A Mascarenh	D Talbot M Talbot C J S Tan M J Tan C Tan J Tan C Wijaya Y Yustira
Catechists	(Yr 1 - 4) L Humphreys		(Yr 1 - 4) I Kusnadi		
	(Yr 5 - 6) L Humphreys		(Yr 5 - 6) C Plottke		
Readers	C Craggs M Craggs	V Carter	M Chong C Correa	D Booth A Crossley	M Bautista K Escobar
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
March 2017

Section A
Francis Chai

Section B
Robyn Guyton

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 Gamer 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 on Friday

The next GODSQUAD will be on Friday 10th of March at 7pm in the church hall. We have many exciting things planned for the teens this year. So if you're currently still in high school (years 7-12) come down this Friday and be sure to bring any friends along that might be interested as well.

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 WEDNESDAY

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

LENTEN SEASON

As the Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday we are called by the Church to pray, fast, and do works of mercy. **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** are days of **fast** and **abstinence**. Lent is a penitential season of **prayer, self-denial and helping others**. In this way, the Church prepares for Easter and joyfully welcomes those adults who have completed the RCIA programme and consequently be baptised during the Easter Saturday Vigil Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY—1st MARCH 2017

There will be four Masses on Wednesday 1st March as it is **ASH WEDNESDAY**. Masses will be at 8.00am, 9.00am (School Mass), 4pm (R.E. Mass) and 7.30pm. Parishioners are invited to attend any of these masses as we start our Lenten season.

ADORATION—Wednesday 1st March

There will be **NO Adoration** next Wednesday as it is Ash Wednesday.

Seniors Mass and Morning Tea

Our first Seniors gathering for 2017 will be Mass and Morning Tea on Wednesday, 22nd March at 10.30am. Please bring a plate of goodies to contribute to the morning tea.



Lenten Reflections—Tuesday 28th February

The Lenten Reflection Program will be held over 5 weeks:
Dates: Tues 28 Feb; Weds 8 Mar, 15 Mar, 22 Mar and 29 Mar 2017
Time: 7.00pm – 8.15 pm Place: Bateman Parish Hall

Coffee & Tea will be provided after each session. The 28 Feb session, being Shrove Tuesday, pancakes will be provided. Come and help us build a vibrant and faith-filled community.

CHILDREN'S MASS— Sunday 12th March

Our first Children's Mass for the year will be celebrated on the Second Sunday of Lent and we would like to encourage all children and their families to attend.

Date: Sunday, 12 March 2017 **Time:** 9:30am

Mass Rehearsal: Saturday, 11 March – 12:45 – 2:00pm

Choir Rehearsal: Saturday, 11 March – 2:00 – 3:00pm

Children who would like to be involved in the Mass and in the choir need to register their names in the Church foyer.

Chaplets of the Divine Mercy—Wednesday 8th March

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 March 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).

Parish News (continued)

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

Pray for Corpus Christi College

Parents and grandparents, you can make a significant difference in the daily lives of Corpus Christi College's students, teachers, staff and other members of the community. Come together, pray and offer your intentions for this community. Happens at 8.45am on Fridays during school terms. For more information contact Kenneth Phua on 0413 643 233.

Diocesan Notices

Catholic Faith Renewal Evening - Friday, 3 March 2017

Catholic Faith Renewal invites you to bring your family and friends to enjoy this evening of Songs of Praise (7.30pm) Mass (8.00pm) Talk by Rev. Fr. Daniel Boyd on "Suffering-A Personal Journey" Fellowship and Light Supper. Friday 3 March 2017 @ 7.30pm St John & Paul's Church, Pinetree Gully Road, Willetton. Enquiries Ann Loo 0412 166 164.

FAMILY MATTERS — Saturday, 18 March 2017

You are invited to attend a **public session**, designated **family matters**, held in occasion of the 9th anniversary of the departure of Chiara Lubich, foundress of Focolare Movement: an open program for all ages, from 3.30 to 5.30 pm, in the Cathedral Hall- St Mary's Cathedral, Victoria Square, Perth. The program will explore Chiara's original and pertinent contribution to family life through her charism of unity. A simultaneous creative children's program will be available. The **Anniversary Vigil Mass in the Cathedral, at 6 pm**, will be celebrated by Bishop Don Sproston. Come and join in, also with your family and friends! If you are interested, for more info please contact the Focolare Movement at Nollamara by ph: 9349 4052 or email: ffperth@iprimus.com.au; www.focolare.org/en

SHRINE TIME— Holy Hour for Young Adults 18-35 years is on Sunday, February the 26th at 7.30pm, 9 Talus Drive Mt Richon. Please do join in for prayer; praise and worship followed by a social.

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! **R SVP:** Before 7th March to: Laurie Mayne: 9271 5649.

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

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. **R SVP:** (Important for catering), contact Sr. Dianne. Phone: (08) 9527 3240 or Dianne.colbome@sosj.org.au

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Are you looking for a weekend where you can spend time with your spouse, free from the usual distractions and focus on just the two of you. We invite you to join us on our next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend **31 March – 2 April** OR **11 – 13 August** 2017. For information or booking contact: **0424 220 625 – George & Monica** Email: WAbookings@wwme.org.au www.wwme.org.au

LENTEN SESSION

Norma Woodcock will be giving a talk on Wednesday 15th March 2017, 7.30–8.30 pm at St Benedict's Church, Cnr Canning Highway and Ardross St Applecross WA. Topic is: 'THE LOVE THAT IS BEYOND ALL LOVING' This, the Love of God, as we grow in our understanding of it, gives us the firm foundation we need in this society in which we live. **Cost:** Collection. Everyone welcome. Norma's CD's— Specials will be available at the Talk. Enq: 94871772, norma@normawoodcock.com www.normawoodcock.com

CATHOLIC FAITH RENEWAL

We are pleased to inform you that Fr Gino will be presenting a two day live-in weekend retreat on Friday, 12 May (6.30pm) - Sunday, 14 May (5.00pm). Venue will be Advent Park—345 Kalamunda Rd, Maida Vale, WA, 6057. Details and registration will be available at a later date. *Please keep these dates free for you to attend this retreat*

IONA PRESENTATION COLLEGE— Iona are delighted to offer Academic & Music Scholarships to girls entering Year 7 & 10 in 2018. Enrol online at www.iona.wa.edu.au/scholarships Applications close Sat 4th March 2017