

Sunday Readings

Year A

First Reading - 1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Second Reading - Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of, but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel - Jn 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church

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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

4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

March 26, 2017

Opening our eyes

"Hear this, foolish people, you have eyes but do not see," said the Prophet Jeremiah (5:21). Or as more popularly expressed: "There are none so blind as those that cannot see!" In neither case is it a question of physical blindness, but the blindness that lacks insight, and perhaps the courage, to see reality for what it truly is.

This is the spiritual blindness of those who do not see the presence of God in creation, nor the hand of God at work in human history and in their own lives. This is a blindness which we all share whenever we give into despair or cynicism, thinking that God has deserted our world.

In today's gospel, Jesus provokes a new way of seeing through the healing of the blind man. First, Jesus makes it clear, against accepted belief of the day, that physical disability has nothing whatsoever to do with guilt. Secondly, as the story unfolds, it becomes clear that Jesus' ministry is not limited to physical healing. Rather, he seeks to cure people's more devastating spiritual blindness. For this reason, he confronts the narrow-minded Pharisees.

A major part of the story tells of the blind man's healing through various stages beginning with his physical cure and then his growth to full spiritual vision. He simply describes his healer as "a man called Jesus." Next, he recognises Jesus as "a man from God" and a "prophet." Finally, he gains fullness of insight and worships Jesus as "Lord." This gradual awakening to the true identity of Jesus is the path of Christian faith. It is the path of Christian discipleship.

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. Thi Lam
Priest in Residence



Deacon Bruce
Parish Deacon

At the heart of Christian faith is the belief that Jesus reveals the fullness of God. The question we need to ask is why God has chosen us to be Christian when there are millions of others, often better people than us, who do not receive this revelation? There is something of an answer to this in the first reading from the Book of Samuel. When it is time to choose a king for the people, Samuel suggests one or other of Jesse's older sons. The Lord replies that "God does not see as man sees" and chooses David, Jesse's youngest, a poor shepherd boy nobody thinks has much talent, to be king.

Our challenge is to learn to see as God sees or, in Christian understanding, to see through the eyes of Jesus. For most of us, this is a life-long process of gradual awakening. May we, like the blind man in the Gospel story, learn that Jesus is truly 'Lord' and 'God' who invites us to be his disciples through celebration of the Eucharist and sacraments, by serving Christ in the poor and in loving our neighbour. May our eyes be opened to experience the divine presence in our lives and throughout all God's creation.

Gerard Hall SM
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R O S T E R S

for 2ND APRIL

	Saturday 6.30pm	Sunday 8.00am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday 11.00am	Sunday 6.00pm
Bulletin: NEXT WEEK Olivia Iskandar					
Flowers: Margaret Koh					
Counter: 1. L Thorrett	2 A Rao	3 P Foley			
Greeters	L Teo S Teo	G Jones I Kearney	K Tan M Tan	A Wijaya P Zulkifli	M Timson T Mancinone
Acolytes	D Morais	T Basile	D Klass	P Doray	A Phoon
Altar Servers	R Dellaca O Dellaca K De Silva	T Blechynde B Boudville	A Salim J Sammut S Silvester	K Ferraz A Varen J Yeo	Y Machado E Machado G Raharjo
Special Minister	D Nicholson R Oetomo L Rego J See L Sequeira M Sequeira J Stephen J Voon	G Dunsford D Gabriel R King I Kusnadi C Morzenti R Margawani C A Norris R Norris	P Murray E Papineau T Rudianto K S Tan C Tan J Tan S Teo S Wong	A Loo J Loo J Louie A Mascarenh M O'Brien C Poore J Roper S Saverimut	C Batchelor S Chauveau C Endris S Eng D Gan M Gan C Goh A Gunawan
Catechists	(Yr 1 - 3) M Sequeira		(Yr 1 - 3) J Radice		
	(Yr 4 - 6) M Sequeira		(Yr 4 - 6) B Pasquale		
Readers	C Hoare D Hoare	M Golding P Golding	C Marinovic G Mascarenh	C Italiano K Lingoh	B Vague V Vague
Readers Coordinator: Michele Doray			9301 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
April 2017

Section A
Glenn Trim

Section B
Mike Kelly

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Deaths: Please pray for Gloria Heal, Mrs Wauhope, who passed away recently.

Anniversaries:

Please pray for Dennis Hall, Emma Carvalho, Ben Hollioake, Giuseppe Portelli, Katie O'Donnell, whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Youth

Calling All Altar Servers and Special Ministers

The time has come where we are asking all youth special ministers to please help out on Good Friday.

If you are able to help please send us an email or contact youth leaders (youth@batemancatholic.org) so that they can organise everything for the day. Also for the altar servers we are looking to have some of the stronger teens serve at stations of the cross at 10.30am on Good Friday. Please once again contact us for any further information.

GODSQUAD Teens Group on Friday 7th March

The next GODSQUAD will be on Friday 7th April from 7pm - 8:45pm in the church hall. As we are starting our alteration program please remember to bring \$20 for the books. If you're in years 7-12 come down and be sure to bring along any friends that might be interested too.

Young Adults Program

The next young adults meeting will be on the 26th of March in the church hall from **12:30 PM to 2:30 PM**. We'll be continuing our **Theology of the Body** program. If you would like to purchase a book please bring \$13. Lunch will also be provided for a small donation of \$5. This is a great way to meet young people like yourselves in the community. So be sure to spread the word to others who might be interested. For more information on this please contact our youth leaders via email youth@batemancatholic.org



DIOCESAN NOTICES

CYM MASS AND HOLY HOUR EVERY WEDNESDAY

Come and join us in prayer on Wednesday night with Mass at 5:30 PM, Holy Hour (Adoration 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM) and dinner after (\$5 donation) with other young Catholics. At the **Catholic Pastoral Centre on 40A Mary Street, Highgate (entrance from Harold Street)**

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

Parish News

EASTER LEAFLETS – READY FOR DISTRIBUTION

Our Easter leaflets are ready for distribution by parishioners to their neighbours and surrounding areas. They are bundled in packs of 30 leaflets. Please take them and mark out on the map provided, the area that you are covering. Invite your friends and neighbours to come for our RECONCILIATION service and all our Easter services as well.

“A Lenten Journey” continues on Wednesday 29 March at 9am

In this final session of the video series “A Lenten Journey”, theologian Fr Michael Himes examines the readings of the Fifth Sunday of Lent. When Jesus is told to “come and see” the tomb of his friend, Lazarus, we are reminded of the “come and see” that Jesus extended to his first followers. Fr Himes offers the insight that life for Lazarus, and for us, holds endless possibilities. Death will not have the last word; the living God will.

When/Where: Wed 29 March 9am – 10am

Place: Meeting room 2 (next to Parish office)

Next week, Wed 5 April: The Lenten video series concludes with a program entitled The Way of the Cross - Stations on Our Journey of Faith.

Enquiries: Carolin 0432 855 605 / Su 0413 560 033

Lenten Reflections—Wednesday 29th March

The Lenten Reflection Program was held over 5 weeks and continues this Wednesday. **Date:** Wednesdays 29th March 2017

Time: 7.00-8.15pm

Place: Bateman Parish Hall

Coffee and tea will be provided after each session. Come and help us build a vibrant and faith-filled community.

St Thomas More Parish Religious Education After School Program

Bateman Parish runs an after school program for both primary and high school students on Wednesdays from 4pm-5pm (school terms).

Enrolments are now being accepted for **high school students** who may not have celebrated all of their age relevant Sacraments. High School classes commence on 3rd of May. Enrolments will close 17th May.

Please contact Jenny Figliomeni on 9310 1747 (Tuesdays/Wednesdays 9am-5pm) or 0435695399 at other times, to enquire or enrol.

Second Rite of Reconciliation at neighbouring parishes

Canning Vale	Tuesday 28 th March,	7.00pm
Willetton	Wednesday 29 th March,	7.00pm
Bateman	Thursday 30th March,	7.30pm
Applecross	Tuesday 4 th April,	7.00pm
Langford	Tuesday 4 th April,	7.30pm
Attadale	Wednesday 5 th April,	7.30pm
Manning	Friday 7 th April,	7.00pm

Parish News (continued)

Dear Parishioners,

At the last Parish AGM, a proposal was put forward to change Mass times, which mostly affect the current Masses during the week. Having further discussed this matter with the Pastoral Parish Council, I would like to hold a process of consultation by asking for your comments and/or suggestions on the proposal to change Mass times. For your information, the table below has a list of current and proposed Mass times:

Day of the week	Current Mass times	Proposed Mass times
Monday	7.00am	9.00am
Tuesday	5.30pm	6.00pm
Wednesday	8.00am	9.00am
Thursday	7.00am	9.00am
Friday	5.30pm	6.00pm
Saturday morning	8.30am	9.00am
Saturday evening (Vigil)	6.30pm	6.00pm

The reasons for the change of Mass times are:

- The new Mass times are more consistent and will be easier for parishioners to remember. There will no longer be a need to change Mass times for public holidays on an ad hoc basis.
- The times for morning Masses will encourage more parents to attend after they drop-off their children at school. It is also to encourage children from the school to attend daily Mass on a weekly basis.
- It will be easier for retirees and senior parishioners to follow their routine and attend Mass at a later time in the morning.
- It will be advantageous for the senior parishioners to attend the Saturday Vigil Mass from 6.00pm in winter and not have to worry about going out to the car park in the dark.
- Parishioners who work will find 6.00pm a more convenient time on Tuesday and Friday evenings to attend Mass.

Please write your comments on a slip of paper available in the Church Foyer and place it in the wooden box labeled "Your comments/suggestions on Mass times". The closing date for comments will be **Tuesday 28th March 2017**. Your participation in this consultation process is important and will assist members of the Parish Council to be better informed in their deliberation and decision. Thank you! Fr. Phong Nguyen

Diocesan Notices

CATHOLIC FAITH RENEWAL

Invites you to bring your family and friends to enjoy this evening of:

- Song of Praise (7.30pm)
- Thanksgiving Mass (8.00pm)
- Followed by a talk by Fr Richard Smith on "Stories that give life"
- Fellowship and Light Supper



Friday 7 April 2017

7.30pm St John & Paul's Church,
PINETREE GULLY ROAD, WILLETTON

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

Please note retreat form, registrations for this retreat can be made on Friday's P&W

PRAYING OUR EXPERIENCES – growing awareness of God in my everyday

This focused prayer and contemplation time is assisted with talks on a theme, followed by personal time in the chapel or garden. Optional sharing of one's faith with others on the journey, adds to the richness of this experience.

Theme: Mid-Lent/life and washing feet. As we journey deeper into Lent, we reflect on our own journey thus far, and in particular the interior disposition and act of washing feet.

When: Friday 31st March 2017 **RSVP Essential by Tuesday 28th**

Time: 10.30am -12.00noon and repeated 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Contact: (08) 9334 0999 Email: prayingourexperiences@gmail.com

Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre, 16 York Street, South Perth

SOUTHERN CROSS SOCCER TOURNAMENT

A one-day soccer tournament for Catholic youth and young adults is back for its 4th year. Saturday 1st April, John XXIII College, Mt Claremont, ages 15-35, teams 6-8, \$10/player. Many prizes up for grabs. www.southerncross.soccer for registration and info.



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