

St Thomas More's Parish

*St Thomas More's Catholic Parish, a welcoming people of faith,
lives out God's Mission, embracing love, justice and peace.*

*We acknowledge the Giabal and Jarowair people, the Traditional Owners
who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.
We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship
of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country
and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.*

71 A Ramsay Street Toowoomba Qld 4350 Ph: 4635 9555 Fax: 4635 5742

Parish Leader: a/h phone: 0407 804 461. Email: parishleader@stthomasmores.org.au

Parish Email: parishoffice@stthomasmores.org.au

Parish Council Email: parishcouncil@stthomasmores.org.au

Parish Website: www.stthomasmores.org.au

Parish Facebook Page: [@stmparishtwmba](https://www.facebook.com/stmparishtwmba)

The Most Holy Trinity, Year B, 26 - 27 May, 2018

Readings: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40; Romans 8:14-17; Matthew 28:16-20

Trinity Sunday celebrates the core Christian conviction that God is a communion of relational love. For the people of Israel, no other god could compare with their God whom they knew as both creator and liberator and whom they experienced as intimately involved in every aspect of their history and of their day-to-day lives. In a world of many gods, the assertion found in today's first reading from Deuteronomy that there is "no other god" was an enormous claim to make. God's sustaining and liberating presence brought with it serious responsibilities: keeping God's commandments grounded the people of Israel and their descendants in the life of their God.

The earliest Christians inherited the Jewish belief in one God. At the same time, Christians expressed their faith in distinctively Trinitarian language. Over the first six centuries of the Christian era, the belief that God is a communion of love was to develop into the doctrine of the Trinity, a teaching that is at the heart of Christian faith. The word Trinity is not used in the Christian Scriptures. In fact, it was not until the Council of Constantinople in 381CE that the doctrine of the Trinity was set out in the creed, and not until the Second Council of Constantinople in 551CE that the word "Trinity" was actually used of the Triune God.

Today's gospel reading brings Matthew's gospel to a close. Jesus commands his disciples to make disciples of all peoples and to baptize in the name of the Trinity. At the beginning of this gospel, Jesus is named Emmanuel, "God with us". With Jesus' final assurance, "know that I am with you always", we find ourselves gathered into the very life of God. *Perichoresis*, a Greek term suggestive of a cyclical movement or of figures interweaving, is one of the earliest and probably one of the most striking images used to explain the Trinity. The life that is in God is understood, in this image, as a totally harmonious movement of equals. The wonder is that we are gathered into this movement. As St. Paul reminds us, God is not a distant God, but rather a God whose Spirit draws us, as "joint heirs with Christ", into God's own life of love and relationship. Trinity Sunday is the day we set aside to celebrate the nearness of God who invites us into the dynamic cycle of life and love, a cycle that reaches out beyond the human community and embraces the entire cosmos. As we make the sign of the cross, we might become more and more attentive to the wonder of the divine life that dwells in us and in whom we are privileged to dwell.

(Reflection by Sister of Mercy, Sr Veronica Lawson RSM, Theologian and Biblical Scholar)

Parish Leader:..... Michael Bermingham
Priest Director:..... Michael O'Brien
Pastoral Council:..... Julie Hlntz
Finance Committee:..... Tim Davis
Secretary:..... Donna Pugh
Secretary:..... Jenny Bartkus
School Principal:..... Michael Cash
APRE:..... Lee ann Weekes
School Board..... Matt Andreas
Parish Safeguards Representatives:
Maree Keating – 0435 173 882
Sarah Holcombe – 0408 193 636

Parish Diary: 27/05 – 3/06/2018

Monday: 9.00am.....Mass
6.00pm.....PPC Agenda
7.00pm.....St V de P
7.00pm.....Finance Committee
Tuesday: 9.30am.....Faith Education
5.30pm.....Mass
7.00pm.....Confirmation
Wednesday 9.00am.....Liturgy of the Word
10.00am.....Open Door
7.00pm.....Meditation
Friday 9.00am.....Mass
9.00am.....Parish Playgroup
11.00am.....Meditation

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ - Year B

Mass: 6.00pm Saturday
8.30am Sunday

Readings: Exodus 24:3-8
Hebrews 9:11-15
Mark 14:12-16, 22-26



May/June 2018

28 May – Finance Meeting
28 May – Parish Pastoral Council Agenda Meeting
29 May – Sacrament of Confirmation
1 June – Pot Luck Dinner and Parish Dance
4 June – Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
8 June – Anointing Mass at 9.30 am

HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH

Confirmation and First Communion:

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be held at St Thomas More's on Tuesday 29 May 2018 at 7.00pm. First Communion will be celebrated at both Masses on the weekend of 23 and 24 June 2018. Any queries, please contact Michael on 0407 804 461 or by email: parishleader@stthomasmores.org.au

Pot Luck Dinner and Parish Dance – Friday 1 June 2018:

On Friday 1 June we are holding a Pot Luck Dinner and Parish Dance under the guidance of accomplished dance instructor and music director, Peter Vernon. The evening will commence at 7 pm with dinner (if you can, please bring a dish to share) and will cater for all ages. A variety of dances will be offered as well as some dance demonstrations. There will be drinks for sale and some raffles on the night. Please advise the Parish Office or indicate on the clipboard in the Church foyer if you intend to come or if you would like to reserve a table for a group. Any queries can be directed to Peter McDonald on mobile: 0408 345 022 or email: pmcduck@netspace.net.au

Anointing Mass:

Will be held at St Thomas More's on Friday 8 June at 9.30am. **Please note the change of time.** All welcome. Please think about anyone you may be able to assist with transport so that as many as possible may experience the blessings of this healing mass. Afterwards please stay to meet up over a cup of tea provided by the Parish Care and Concern Group.

Family Mass – Sunday 10 June, 8.30am:

As part of building and maintaining a strong relationship between Parish and School, we have arranged with the school to have one weekend Mass each Term this year where we invite and welcome families from the school community to join us, with children given the opportunity to participate in the different parts of the Mass. Our Mass for this Term and the second for the year will be at 8.30 am on Sunday 10 June. We look forward to warmly welcoming families from the school that day, including those currently participating in the Sacramental Program.

Sacramental Gifts:

Gifts for children receiving the Sacraments are often hard to find. South Street Newsagency now has a new range of beautiful gifts available. It is a range of gifts for Baptism, Confirmation and Communion and other religious gifts for all occasions. It includes statues, crosses and candles.

Caring for Each Other:

As a community of faith, we are called to be aware of those around us in the community. If you notice that a regular Mass attender has not been here for a while, if you know of someone who may be going through a tough time, if you know of someone who is on their own and could benefit from a visit, if you have heard that someone from the community is in hospital, if you notice someone who seems new to the community, please advise the Parish Leader, talk to a member of the Parish Council or contact the Parish Office. We have groups in the Parish such as Care and Concern and our local St Vincent de Paul Conference who may be able to assist.

New to the Parish:

If you are new to the parish, please put your details in the book provided in the foyer and you will be provided with information regarding the groups and activities you may wish to be part of. If you want to be part of our Thanksgiving Program, please contact the Parish Office 46359555.

Transport Available

Anyone who has no transport to attend weekend Mass can be assisted. Telephone the Parish Office (4635 955) to make your needs known and a Care and Concern member will follow up to arrange suitable transport.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

You are reminded that the Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open every Wednesday and Thursday between the hours of 10 am and 3 pm for adoration, personal prayer and reflection.

Open Door Ladies Social Group:

If you are interested in joining our weekly morning teas, we would like to invite you to join us in St Thomas More's Parish Office each Wednesday morning for coffee, delicious morning tea and a chat, commencing at 10.00am. For further information please contact the Parish Office or just turn up on Wednesday morning.

Updating your will? Have you ever considered a Bequest to St Thomas More's Parish?

The work of St Thomas More's Parish relies on the personal and financial generosity of many people. Each of us will revisit and update our wills from time to time as life circumstances change. Next time you are reviewing your will and talking with your solicitor, you might consider leaving a bequest to the Parish. A Form of Wording, for Bequests to the Parish, is available from the Parish Office.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal:

The annual St Vincent de Paul winter appeal is now open. Appropriate envelopes are available in the Church foyer.

Plenary Council 2020:

Pope Francis has approved the Australian Bishops' decision to hold a Plenary Council in Australia in 2020 and 2021. It has been more than 80 years since the Catholic Church in Australia held a Plenary Council. A Plenary Council is the highest formal gathering of all local churches in a country. Our Plenary Council 2020 is being held so that we can dialogue about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. The first stage of listening and dialogue starts now and continues through to Ash Wednesday 2019. The website is now live with resources to facilitate conversation and submit responses. There is also a fortnightly newsletter with regular updates on the process and resources. All of us are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?" More information can be found at the website: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au

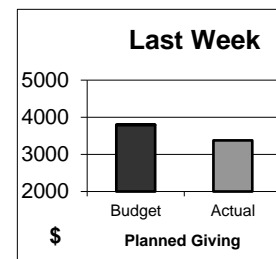
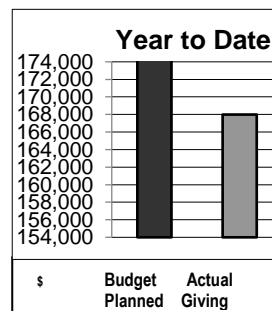
PLEASE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Those who are ill: Brodie Slater, Bryan Flemming, Terry Tyers, Ned Sparksman, Michael Kelly, Mark Butlin, Pauline Dixon, Allan Wills, Damian Wyvill, Sara Mehari, Leo McCormack, Scott Murphy, Michelle Halpin, Christine Prescott, Toni Fitzgibbon, Camille Taylor, Patrick McNamee, Janice Lockhart, Dodie McGrane, Christine Andrews, Brendan Moore, Heather Gaffney, Rita Sullivan, Jos Ayers.

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Heeney.

ANNIVERSARY: Val Meara.

PLANNED GIVING



National Reconciliation Week 2018

27 May - 3 June



This year during National Reconciliation Week, Reconciliation Australia invites all Australians to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, to share that knowledge and help us grow as a nation. “Don’t Keep History A Mystery: Learn. Share. Grow” explores history hidden just beneath the surface, ready and waiting to be uncovered.

The Week of Prayer for Reconciliation and National Reconciliation Week (NRW) are held each year between 27 May and 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the Mabo decision.

May 27 marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum when Australians voted to remove clauses in the Australian Constitution that discriminated against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. June 3 marks the historic 1992 Mabo decision in which the High Court of Australia recognised native title—the recognition that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ rights over their lands did survive British colonisation.

As an initiative of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation (now Reconciliation Australia) and communities of faith across the country, the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation was established in 1993 and continues to receive strong support from faith communities. The week-long event has been celebrated nationally across the general community since 1996 when it evolved into NRW.

The week is an opportunity to connect with the broader community to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort. (Website: www.reconciliation.org.au/national-reconciliation-week/)

Elements of the Mass Explained:

(The following is the fifth in a series of brief explanations of various elements of the Mass courtesy of John Briffa, Diocesan Liturgy Officer, to help us grow in our understanding of the Eucharist.)

Am I Reading a Prayer when I Read the Prayer of the Faithful?

The Prayer of the Faithful is a short series of announced intentions, each followed by a period of silence during which the faithful make their prayer. The intentions are not prayers as such and therefore do not address God. The reader announces the intentions to the people, but the petitions only become the *Prayer of the Faithful* when people respond to the intention by formulating a prayer in their own hearts during the period of silence. The assembly then brings its prayers together with a response, e.g. “*Lord, hear our prayer*”. The petitions should be relevant to the needs and concerns of the people at this particular time, while also extending their compassion to include the whole world. (GIRM69,70)

(Note: GIRM stands for the General Instruction on the Roman Missal)

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

*O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.*

Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.*

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.

Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.



Gathering: How Shall I Call You? R Mann

How shall I call you?
Maker of heaven,
Poet of sunset and painter of sky;
Father almighty, who's running to find us,
Giving his son who must suffer and die.

**Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Spirit:
Let's sing it again and again.**

**Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Spirit,
Forever and ever. Amen.**

How shall I call you? Master and servant,
Lord of the seasons and Lord of the years;
Faithful and constant in loving and mercy,
Giver of laughter and taker of tears.

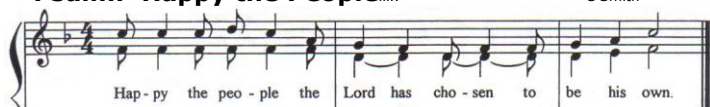
Copyright: Robin Mann: Used with permission under ONE LICENCE #A-62451e

Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Psalm: Happy the People....

C Smith



Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

The word of the Lord is faithful,
And all of his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right,
And fills the earth with his love.

By God's word the heavens were made,
By the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He spoke and they came to be.
God commanded and they sprang to life.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
On those who hope in his love;
To rescue their souls from death
To keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord;
The Lord is our help and our shield;
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
As we place all our hope in you.

Copyright: Willow Connections. Used with permission under ONE LICENCE #A-62451e

Verse before the Gospel: Alleluia

The Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the
right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the Faithful:

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Acclamation:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord and profess your
Resurrection until you come again.

Communion: May We Come to Know the Lord D.R. Gagnon

**In the bread may we be broken.
In the cup may we be outpoured.
May we come to know the healer,
May we come to know the Lord.**

Though many are we, we are one in the Lord.
We are all welcome to his table of new life.

We come to the table to remember the Lord,
Who gave his life that we might live forevermore.

In breaking the bread, in sharing the cup,
May we be filled as we come to know the Lord.

Copyright: OCP: Used with permission under ONE LICENCE #A-62451e

Thanksgiving: The Trinity Song

F Andersen

Father in my life I see
You are God who walks with me!
You hold my life in Your hands!
Close beside You I will stand!
I give all my life to You!
Help me Father to be true!

Jesus in my life I see
You are God who walks with me!
You hold my life in Your hands!
Close beside You I will stand!
I give all my life to You!
Help me Jesus to be true!

Spirit in my life I see
You are God who walks with me!
You hold my life in Your hands!
Close beside You I will stand!
I give all my life to You!
Help me Spirit to be true!

Copyright: Chevalier Press: Used with permission under ONE LICENCE #A-62451e

Recessional: Creator and Poet S Sears

Father and mother, creator and poet,
Speaking your wisdom in forest and glade:
Telling your glory in ocean and river
Pouring your pleasure on all you have made.

Christ of the cosmos, you sang into being,
Galaxies spinning through measureless space,
Coming among us and sharing our weakness,
Singing your songs of redemption and grace.

Spirit, you danced at the dawn of creation,
Rising, rejoicing on jubilant wings.
Yours is the rhythm of cycle and season,
Yours is the heartbeat of all living things.

Copyright: Willow Connections. Used with permission under ONE Licence #A-62451E