

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.*

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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)

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, 30 June – 1 July, 2018

Readings: Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24; 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15; Mark 5:21-43

As noted in relation to Mark 3:21-35, Mark's gospel often has a story within a story. Some scholars refer to this technique as the making of a Markan sandwich, others as a framing device. In Mark 5:21-43, the frame consists of the two-part story of the desperately ill twelve-year-old daughter of Jairus, a synagogue official. Jairus falls at the feet of Jesus in an attitude of reverence and pleads with him to come and lay hands on her. Jesus is clearly known as a healer, one who can "save" life. The passage closes with the young woman's seeming death and restoration to life. In between, we have the story of an older woman, also seriously ill, possibly with a gynaecological problem: she has been haemorrhaging for twelve years.

The stories are linked in many ways, first by the repetition of the number twelve - a symbolic number in a Jewish context. Both the young Jewish woman and the older Jewish woman are in need of the saving power of God mediated through Jesus the healer. Later in the Markan story (7:24-30), a Gentile mother will also beg for healing for her daughter who will receive that same saving power of God. Jairus' daughter does not speak for herself. Like all young women of that culture, ill or not, she is dependent on the voice of her father. The older woman comes tentatively "from behind". She speaks, but only to herself, as she touches Jesus' cloak and experiences healing in her body. The healing power of God suffuses even the fabric of a protective outer garment. The woman is finally shamed into telling all. Like Jairus, she falls at the feet of Jesus. Jairus refers to his child on the brink of adulthood as "my daughter". Jesus addresses the older woman as "my daughter".

Both women, the younger and the older, are daughters of Israel. Both are restored to health, one on account of her parents' faith (the faith of an unnamed mother and a named father), the other because of her own faith. Jesus the healer has embraced and responded to the pain of a woman alone on the one hand and of a family (mother, father, and daughter) on the other.

Towards the end of the gospel (14:3-9), this Jesus who has brought healing to little children, to older women and younger women, to older men and younger men, to Jews and to Gentiles, will himself become the recipient of the healing ministry of an insightful woman who draws on Earth elements and pours out healing ointment. Jesus will recognise this action as a beautiful thing that she has done "in him" For now, the stories recount "the beautiful thing" that Jesus does in the lives of suffering humanity, irrespective of age or gender or status or ethnicity.

(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 Contacts:
Maree Keating – 0435 173 882
Sarah Holcombe – 0408 193 636

Parish Diary: 2 – 8 July 2018

Monday: 8.00am.....Men's Group
9.00am.....Mass
7.00pm.....PPC Meeting
7.00pm.....St V de P
Tuesday: 5.30pm.....Mass
Wednesday 9.00am.....Liturgy of the Word
10.00am.....Open Door
1.00pm.....Music Planning
Thursday 10.30am.....Emmaus Prayer
11.00am.....TRC Presentation
Friday 9.00am..... Mass

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Mass: 6.00pm Saturday
8.30am Sunday

Readings: Ezekiel 2:2-5
2 Corinthians 12:7-10
Mark 6:1-6



July 2018

1 July – Farewell for Sisters of St Joseph
2 July – Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
8 July – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday
30 July – Parish Pastoral Council Agenda Meeting

HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH

Catholic Mission Church Appeal:

Envelopes are still available in the Church Foyer for the Catholic Mission Appeal. As mentioned at Masses last weekend, this year we are invited to participate in Jesus' life-giving mission, supporting teachers, students and quality schooling as a pathway to building peace and a future for thousands of children in Myanmar today. Donations will assist the Church to continue teacher training and the education of children. Please give generously. You can also phone on Freecall: 1800 257 296 or visit the website: www.catholicmission.org.au/Myanmar

Farewell to the Sisters of St Joseph:

This Sunday, 1 July 2018, the Sisters of St Joseph, both present and former residents of the Convent, are joining us for the 8.30 am Mass. Bishop Robert McGuckin is celebrating Mass. We are formally saying our thanks and farewell as we acknowledge the 57 years of service of the Sisters to this community and are joining together for Morning Tea. All are welcome.

TRC Presentation on Waste Management:

On Thursday, July 5 at 11 am Dianne Pasfield, Snr Water and Waste Educator, Toowoomba Regional Council has agreed to come to St Thomas More's to talk to us about Waste Management which includes what can go in our bins and what happens to the waste after that, with a particular focus on recycling. This time won't suit everyone, so, if this goes well, we might look to invite Dianne back for an evening meeting at some future date.

Leadership In Our Parish:

Our Parish Pastoral Council plays a vital role in ensuring the on-going vibrancy of our community as we live the mission of Jesus. This year three members are needed to join the six others who are continuing.

A person on the Pastoral Council is nominated by a member of the Parish and needs to be a baptised Catholic who attends St Thomas More's and who is willing to be recognised within our community and to be approachable. To be able to accept nomination, it is important that participation does not take from family life. Family support is vital.

The commitment is to at least one meeting per month (with the exception of January) over a period of two years (with an option to extend for a third year). Some ministries require more time and on occasion sub-committees are formed. More information about the Parish Council is available on the Parish website at the following page: http://stthomasmores.org.au/?page_id=45

Please speak with Pastoral Council Members – past and present – or the Parish Leader for more information.

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.

Baptisms: On Sunday 1 July, we welcome into our Church Community **Connor Leslie Reilly** son of Alan and Emma Reilly and **Brady William Daniel Thompson** son of Brighton Becker and Talilta Cooke.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday:

We will celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday on the weekend of 7 and 8 July. 8 July also marks the beginning of NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Day of Celebration) which runs from 8 to 15 July. A calendar of local events for NAIDOC is posted on the Parish Noticeboard in the Church Foyer.

Penance Program:

This program starts at the beginning of August in Term 3. We still welcome applications to join the program as well as people interested in being part of the sacramental team. Please contact Michael, the Parish Leader on 0407 804 461 or parishleader@stthomasmores.org.au for further information.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Plenary Council 2020:

The first stage of listening and dialogue as part of the 2020 Plenary Council is underway. All of us are invited to reflect on the question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia?" *We held our first listening and dialogue sessions on Thursday 28 June. More sessions will follow.* More information and a survey to fill out can be found at the website: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au There is a link to this page on our Parish website.

Diocesan Pastoral Plan 2018-2023

Copies of our Diocesan Pastoral Plan June 2018– June 2023 are available near the noticeboard in the Church foyer. The plan can also be accessed on the Diocesan website: www.twb.catholic.org.au.

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.

Cent Sale:

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are holding their WINTER Cent Sale on WEDNESDAY JULY 4. It will be held at All Seasons Function Hall, cnr North and Tor Sts Toowoomba. Doors will open at 8.30am a 9.30am start. For an entry fee of \$5 each will receive a Free Sheet of Tickets, Lucky Door Entry and a Buffet Morning Tea. Great prizes are on offer with impressive fruit and meat trays among the multi-draw prizes. Many cheap winter goods are available from the trading table - also homemade produce is on offer. All Proceeds go to Charity. For further information contact the Sisters on 46321818.

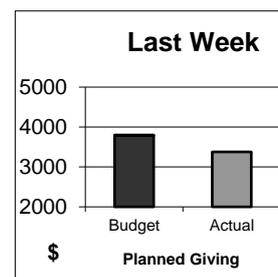
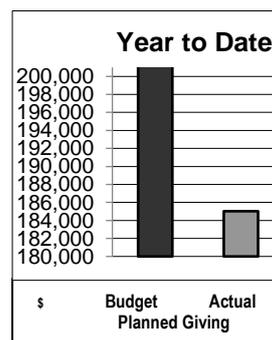
PLEASE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

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, Christene Andrews, Brendan Moore, Rita Sullivan, Jos Ayers, Maria Hunter-Robinson, Val Sharpe, Paul Turner, Ros Morton.

Anniversary: Monica Bermingham

Recently Deceased: Lynn Gainey

PLANNED GIVING



REMEMBERING SOME OF THE WONDERFUL HISTORY OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Humble beginnings

With nothing more than an old farmhouse, a band of faithful parishioners consisting of about 100 families, and an ambition to build a successful parish, Fr Hall's first goal was to establish a school. In order to achieve this, teachers were needed, and at that time Catholic education was the province of the many religious orders which had been established for that purpose. Fr Hall made several approaches to the Sisters of St Joseph, inviting them to take on the operation of a school in the parish. Fr Hall told Andrew Fox that "the Sisters wouldn't take it on at first. They knocked back the offer three times." The Sisters were already starting to feel the effects of contractions in vocations to the Religious life and expanding into a new school would place considerable strain on dwindling resources. It is a testament to the determination of Fr Hall and the generosity and pioneering spirit of the Sisters of St Joseph that an agreement was finally reached, and the Sisters accepted Bishop Brennan's invitation to establish a school. Building activity for a convent and a school had already commenced.

The Sisters of St Joseph Arrive

Sisters Finbarr and Anna Maria (*Sr Leonie*) arrived in the fledgling parish in January 1961. Madge Rosenthal and her daughter Helen were there to welcome them and provide them with a cooked meal on their arrival from Brisbane. The convent building was still under construction, so with the consent of the O'Connors (*members of the parish and owners of the Geddes Street home*), Fr Hall vacated his abode at Geddes Street to allow the Sisters to be temporarily accommodated there. Now himself without a place to stay, he took up residence in the one room of the convent that had been completed, while the building work continued around him. It is unlikely that Workplace Health and Safety regulations would permit such an arrangement these days. This situation was only short-lived, and Fr Hall then stayed with his friend Fr McMorro at Harristown until the school and convent were built. Each day he provided transport for the Sisters from Geddes Street to the school.

Classes commenced on 23rd January 1961. As the new school rooms were still under construction, the old farmhouse was now pressed into additional service as a school building, accommodating 67 pupils on school days, and being transformed back into a Mass centre for parishioners on Sunday. Early parishioner, Laurie Sullivan, told Andrew Fox (the author of *St Thomas More's Silver Jubilee 1960 – 1985*, published in 1985): "We had to carry in old pews from the verandah, shift all the school desks and do the reverse before Monday".

Andrea McFaul (nee Rosenthal) shares some of her memories:

My mother always told me that I was one of the first students enrolled at St Thomas More's school. As I am unsure if any enrolment lists exist I will have to take her word for it, but I do know that 50 years ago, I was one of a small group of children who started their school life in an old church building with a curtain covering the altar and nothing but church pews to sit on and do our school work.

The Sisters of St Joseph, Sr Finbarr and Sr Anna Maria (*Sr Leonie*), were following in their founder's footsteps as they worked under difficult conditions to educate the children of a group of dedicated people who had worked hard to ensure that this small parish would succeed.

While I was only 4½ when I started in the first prep class, I can clearly remember what it was like. As the youngest child of six I had never been cared for by anyone except my parents or older brothers and sisters and here was my mother prepared to leave me in a room full of total strangers. Not to mention the fact that the people in charge were dressed in dark long brown dresses with strange blue squiggles on the front, wore long brown veils with white trim, had very small faces and obviously no feet as they glided rather than walked around the room.

From the old school we moved into the newly built school rooms which then became both class rooms and church. Once again the altar was at the far end and a curtain was pulled across during school hours. The desks were moved out and seats were moved in for Mass. Other nuns who came in those early years were Sr Angela, St Immaculata, Sr Jose, Sr Albert and Sr Joan.

First Buildings are completed

The opening of the new school building on 9th July 1961 was a cause of great rejoicing and celebration. Sr Finbarr penned these reflections on the occasion of the parish silver jubilee in 1985:

The Mass offered by Bishop Brennan for the opening of school at St Thomas More's is an occasion that is still fresh in my memory. Fr Hall told Sr Anna Maria (*Sr Leonie*) and me one morning of the first week that His Lordship would celebrate the opening Mass in a day or two. We set to work and had some church drill giving Grades 1, 2 & 3 their places in the old church seats. We were to guide the Preps in an orderly fashion to their seats just before the Bishop arrived.

The Bishop arrived early. Without any direction, the Preps made off and scampered up the aisle like rabbits. It was like an obstacle race while His Lordship managed to pick up his steps to the altar rails. Thank God the Mass went on without much ado.

(The above material is taken from *St Thomas More's Parish, Fifty years of community, A love story*, compiled in 2010 by Majella Albion for the Golden Jubilee of the Parish)

Gathering: Sing A New Song

D Schutte

**Sing a new song unto the Lord;
Let your song be sung from mountains high.
Sing a new song unto the Lord,
Singing alleluia.**

Rise, O children, from your sleep;
Your Saviour now has come.
God has turned your sorrow to joy
And filled your soul with song.

Glad my soul for I have seen the glory of the Lord.
The trumpet sounds,
The dead shall be raised:
I know my Saviour lives.

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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: I will praise you Lord

C Smith



Refrain: I will praise you Lord, for you have rescued me.

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
Restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
Give thanks to God's holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help.
You have changed my mourning into dancing,
O Lord my God, I will thank you forever.

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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:

God of life hear our prayer.

Acclamation:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim
your Death O Lord, until you come again.

Communion: Blest Are They

D Haas

Blest are they, the poor in spirit, theirs is the kingdom of God
Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled.

**Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.

Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God!

Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs.

Blest are you who suffer hate all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see.
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Thanksgiving (Saturday): You Are Mine

D Haas

I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice,
Be still and know I am here.

I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light,
Come and rest in me. (Refrain)

**Do not be afraid, I am with you,
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home:
I love you and you are mine.**

I am strength for all the despairing,
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,
And all will know my name. (Refrain)
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Thanksgiving (Sunday): Dona Nobis Pacem

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Recessional: Now Thank We All Our God

J Crüger/M Rinkart

Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices.
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom God's world rejoices;
Who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this gracious God through all our life be near us!
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
Preserve us in God's grace and guide us in distress,
And free us from all sin, 'til heaven we possess.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son and Spirit blest, who reigns in highest heaven
Eternal triune God, whom earth and heaven adore.
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

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