

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: <https://www.facebook.com/stmparishtwmba/>

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B, 13 - 14 October, 2018

Readings: Wisdom 7:7-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30

Not too many of us commit murder or adultery. Not too many take hostages or give false testimony in a court of law. Most are ready to honour and care for their parents in their old age. In other words, most of us are basically decent and honest and could make the same claim as does the wealthy man who runs up to Jesus, namely that we have kept the commandments from our youth. The man's question is actually a strange one. He wants to know what he must *do* in order to inherit eternal life. He seems unaware that inheritance depends, not on what one does, but on who one is. Jesus responds to his greeting, "Good Teacher", with a reminder that God is the source of all goodness, and then lets him know that keeping the commandments is not enough. Interestingly, Jesus adds a commandment that is not actually numbered among the "ten" but is to be found in an Essene document from Qumran: "You shall not defraud". This prepares the way for what follows.

First-century Mediterranean societies were "limited goods" societies. If a person acquired wealth, it was invariably understood to be at the expense of others. The wealthy were therefore looked upon with suspicion. Although Jesus looks at the man lovingly, he may nonetheless be hinting that this person's wealth has been acquired fraudulently. Jesus offers a challenge that the man is unable to meet: to sell what he has, give the proceeds to the poor, have "treasure in heaven", and "follow" him. The man retains his possessions and acquires a burden, the burden of sorrow. To share one's goods with those in need is too hard for some, Jesus admits, but not for those who are open to the power of God at work in their lives.

The concluding verses are puzzling. In declaring that those who have left everything and followed him are to have an abundance of this world's goods as well as eternal life, is Jesus modifying his earlier position? Is he reverting to a tradition that saw wealth as God's reward for righteous living? Is he suggesting that those who share their goods find they have more than enough? It is hard to know. The twist in the tale is that they will do it hard: "not without persecution". It is likely that Mark is describing his own experience within a persecuted community of believers some forty years after the death of Jesus. The happy ones were doubtless those who took the risk of sharing their goods with those in need. Our lucky country has still to learn that lesson. Welcoming the stranger and sharing our wealth with the dispossessed may demand of us a simpler way of life. Who knows what blessings it will bring if we dare to take up the challenge?

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

Parish Leader:.....Michael Bermingham
Priest Director:..... Michael O'Brien
Pastoral Council:..... Terry Carter
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: 15 - 21 October 2018

Monday: 9.00am.....Mass
7.00pm.....St V de P
Tuesday to Saturday 7.00am..... Mass at St Pat's
Tuesday: 9.30am.....Faith Education
5.30pm.....Mass
Wednesday 9.00amLiturgy of the Word
10.00am.....Open Door
Thursday 8.30am.....Mass at St Vincent's
10.30am.....Emmaus Prayer
7.00pm.....Social Justice
Friday 9.00am.....Mass
9.00am.....Parish Playgroup

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Mass: 6.00pm Saturday
8.30am Sunday
Readings: Isaiah 53:10-11
Hebrews 4:14-16
Mark 10:35-45



October/November 2018

20/21 October – World Mission Sunday
 27/28 October – Family Sunday
 30 October – Parish Pastoral Council Agenda Meeting
 12 November – Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH



Melbourne Cup Tickets:

Melbourne Cup Tickets are now available for pickup in the Church Foyer. As we were a bit later this year getting the tickets out, we will need to post what is not collected next week so your collection would be appreciated. Please return to Parish Office when sold (or unsold). Books can be also be left in the slot outside the office door.

Family Sunday – 27/28 October 2018:

On the last weekend in October, we will celebrate Family Sunday, an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate all families in our Parish and to highlight the contribution of the Family Groups to the life of our Parish community. Any couples celebrating a 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or 70th anniversary (80th and 90th anniversaries will receive extra special acknowledgement) are asked to give their names to the Parish Office (Phone 4635 9555) so that we can particularly acknowledge you at both Masses that weekend.

Wine and Cheese Evening:

The next Wine and Cheese Evening will be held on Saturday 27 October after 6.00pm mass to coincide with Family Sunday. Offers of platters (large or small) for the evening are most welcome.

Emmaus 40 Year Anniversary Mass:

On Monday 29 October, Bishop William Morris will celebrate 40 years of the Emmaus Prayer Group at a Mass at 10.00am. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Church Foyer. All are welcome to attend. Contact Kay Hohn or Jan Sullivan for further information. There will be no 9.00am Mass that day.

Emmaus Prayer Group:

The Emmaus Prayer Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Parish Office meeting room. If you are interested in joining this group there are information sheets available in the Church Foyer.

Spiritual Enrichment Day at St Thomas More's – 15 November:

Sr. Elaine will offer this year's Spiritual Enrichment Day on the theme "Invited into a Journey of Deepening Consciousness" at St Thomas More's on Thursday, 15 November 2018. You are invited to arrive at 9.00 am for a 9.30 am start. The session will finish no later than 2.30 pm. ALL ARE WELCOME. There is no cost involved but you are asked to bring lunch to share. For any queries contact Sr. Elaine via: Email: emorzone@twb.catholic.org.au Phone: (07) 4632 4277 Mobile: 0458 020 906

Parish/School Mass – Saturday 10 November at 6.00pm:

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 last for the year will be at 6.00 pm on Saturday 10 November. We look forward to warmly welcoming families from the school that night.

Ministry Forms for 2019:

Parishioner Information and Ministry Sign-Up Forms are being prepared for 2019. To assist with the preparation of rosters for the coming year we ask you return your completed forms by the weekend of 10 and 11 November to allow time for rosters to be finalised and 2019 rosters to be in place from the weekend of 1 and 2 December, the First Sunday of Advent. Forms will be available from next weekend in the Church foyer.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Memorial Service – World Day of Pregnancy and Infant Loss – 15 October at 7.30pm – Our Lady of Lourdes

All families affected by pregnancy or infant loss, regardless of the passage of time, are warmly welcomed to a memorial service led by the Toowoomba Hospital Pastoral Care Service and hosted by the Our Lady of Lourdes Ecumenism Group

Mission Sunday:

Our parish will be holding the annual Catholic Mission World Mission Appeal on 20/21 October. This year we are invited to consider how we can answer Pope Francis' call to be a part of mission and how we can support mission globally. Envelopes will be available in the Church Foyer.

Horizons Cover Photo Competition:

Calling all budding photographers! We are looking for an image to use for the cover of November Issue of Horizons to close out the Year of Youth. Photos should capture what the Year of Youth theme, "Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy", has meant for you. The competition is open to primary and secondary students in the Toowoomba Diocese.

Variety Garage Sale:

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver are holding a Variety Garage Sale at 71 Margaret St Toowoomba on Saturday 27 October 6.30am - 12.00noon. All Funds go to Charity. Contact No. 4632 1818.

Anglican Roman Catholic Reconciliation Service:

One of the elements of the Anglican Roman Catholic Covenant signed in 2009 is that there will be an annual Ecumenical Service of Reconciliation which will focus on the restoration and growth of relationships between the Roman Catholic and Anglican Communion, to be held close to Anglican Roman Catholic Reconciliation Day (4 November). All are warmly welcomed to this celebration on Monday 5 November 2018 at 6 pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Toowoomba.

SPRED Information Sessions:

Date: 17/10/18 (evening) & 19/10/18 (morning)
 Time: 6:30pm-7:15pm (17th) & 10:00am-10:45am (19th)
 Location: SPRED Centre, 34 Hume St, Toowoomba

Are you...

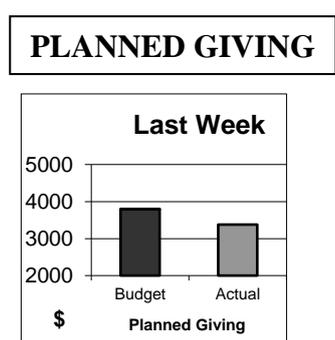
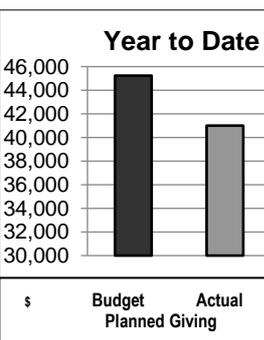
- Looking to add meaning to your life, by making a real difference in the life of someone else
- Interested in making new friends and developing new skills
- Searching for a way to deepen your own faith

...then, SPRED may be for you!

Please contact the SPRED Coordinator Loretta Coman for more information or to confirm your attendance Ph.4632 8427 or email: spred@twb.catholic.org.au

PLEASE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Those who are ill: 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, Rita Sullivan, Jos Ayers, Maria Hunter-Robinson, Val Sharpe, Paul Turner, Ros Morton, Megan Ford, Ted Wormwell, Mary Buttin, Fr Brian Sparksman, James Babineau



Some members of our Parish Community from both the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Liturgy Committee attended the recent Diocesan Inservice which focussed on the Plenary Council 2020. Reflection on the day was led by Lana Turvey-Collins, the National Facilitator for the Plenary Council process. Those who attended came away with a new enthusiasm and a commitment to keep the Plenary Council very much on our Parish Agenda, particularly during this period of Listening and Dialogue, with the first stage open until Ash Wednesday next year, 6 March 2019.



The last Plenary Council in Australia happened in 1937, so this is definitely a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have our voices heard in shaping the future of our Church in Australia. You can go the website and submit your feedback on line: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au> You can also have a chat with a member of our Parish Pastoral Council who can note your feedback. We will provide information in the next couple of weeks about further opportunities in the Parish for group reflection.

We are being asked to consider and respond to the following question:

What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

Speak boldly,
and listen
with open and
humble
hearts.

In a message to those attending the Inservice, Bishop Robert McGuckin said:
"I encourage everyone to speak up and to also listen with an open mind and humble heart to what others have to say. In this Plenary Listening and Dialogue process it is important to make the unique voice of the Toowoomba Diocese heard, not just today at this event, but throughout the whole process. Take your enthusiasm back to your communities and inspire others to be involved in the dialogue. May we hear what the Spirit is saying for our Local Church and beyond."

At the launch of the Plenary Listening and Dialogue Process, Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, Archbishop of Perth said:

"No matter where you might find yourself in relation to the Church – deeply involved, only partially engaged, uncertain or disillusioned, on the margins, or a friendly or critical outsider looking in – we need to hear from you for we are sure that God speaks to us all: and the Church needs to listen to everyone."

What else can I do to prepare for the Plenary Council?

PRAY

The Holy Spirit is leading us and the stillness of prayer opens our hearts to hear God's voice.

SUBSCRIBE

To the Plenary Council e-newsletter, like the Plenary Council Facebook page and follow the Plenary Council Twitter account

SHARE

The webpage and social media links with your friends, family and colleagues.

INVITE

Your friends and family to have a conversation about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. Ask everyone – "What do you think God is asking of us at this time?" And have them send in their responses online.

Together, we are
listening to God
by listening to
one another.

In *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) Pope Francis wrote about the Church:

"It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach." EG28

Gathering: Glory and Praise to Our God

D Schutte

**Glory and praise to our God,
Who alone gives light to our days.
Many are the blessings he bears
To those who trust in God's ways.**

We the daughters and sons of God
Who built the valleys and plains,
Praise the wonders our God has done
In ev'ry heart that sings.

Ev'ry moment of every day
Our God is waiting to save,
Always ready to seek the lost,
To answer those who pray.

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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: Fill Us with Your Love

C Smith



**Response: Fill us with your love, O Lord,
And we will sing for joy.**

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger forever?
Show pity to your servants.

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Give us joy to balance our afflictions
for the years when we knew misfortune.

Show forth your work to your servants;
let your glory shine on their children.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands.

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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, fill us with your love.

Acclamation:

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

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Communion: The Harvest of Justice

D. Haas

**May we find richness in the harvest of justice
Which Christ Jesus has ripened for us.
Bread for the journey, bread for the hungry,
All for the glory and praise of God.**

Gather with patience for those who have nothing.
Leave them your riches and you will receive.
Make room for the poor ones, make way for the stranger;
For I am the Lord, the Lord your God.

For to have mercy on those forgotten,
This is my true law, this is my command:
Clothe the naked, be home for the orphan,
Be hope for the widow and welcome the lost.

For to have little is to be in abundance,
To give what remains, to give all we have,
Is to walk with the poor ones and become the stranger,
One with the Lord, the Lord our God.

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Thanksgiving:

Video Reflection: Plenary Council

Recessional: Galilee Song

F Andersen

Deep within my heart I feel
voices whispering to me,
Words that I can't understand,
meanings I must clearly hear,
Calling me to follow close,
lest I leave myself behind,
Calling me to walk into
evening shadows one more time!

**So I leave my boats behind,
Leave them on familiar shores,
Set my heart upon the deep,
Follow you again my Lord!**

As I gaze into the night,
down the future of my years,
I'm not sure I want to walk
past horizons that I know.
But I feel my spirit called
like a stirring deep within,
Restless, 'til I live again
beyond the fears that close me in!

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