



ST THOMAS MORE'S PARISH

Contact us:
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A welcoming people of faith,
living 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 us to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS:
ISAIAH 11: 1-10
ROMANS 15: 4-9
MATTHEW 3: 1-12

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT: 3/4 December 2022

Advent Reflection: Compiled by The Emmaus Prayer Group

The Emmaus Prayer Group has been meeting faithfully for over 40 years and we were delighted to receive an invitation from the Liturgy Team to share a few thoughts for the 2nd Week of Advent.

Like other groups that have been gathering for a long time, we have many stories to tell and delight in sharing our faith journey. The word "preparation" comes to mind as we reflect on today's readings. John the Baptist appeared preaching in the wilderness,

"Repent, the Kingdom of God is at hand".

When hearing the word "repent" what comes to most people's mind; is "being sorry". Repent comes from the word meaning to change our mind. Repentance is not an emotion; it is an action. We must be willing to retrace our steps back to God through humble contrition. Advent invites us to spend time in quiet reflection asking the Holy Spirit to make us aware of areas in our life that need to change: what do I put before God in my life? There is something profound about the grace and healing received in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Praise be to God for His goodness and mercy!

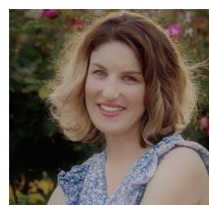
The four weeks of Advent bring with them the opportunity to call home spiritually and physically all who have strayed. This year do not rush through advent, focusing on shopping, parties and secular activities that remove Christ from Christmas, rather, put Him at the centre of our celebrations.

As we light each week's Advent candle, let us be mindful of our light shining brightly as we welcome home all our loved ones, and those we encounter as we go about our daily life.

"Come Holy Spirit, light your flame in my sleepy soul this Advent. Amen."

A blessed, holy, and safe Christmas from the Emmaus Prayer Group

Parish Co-ordinator.....Jacinta McGovern
Priest Director:.....Michael O'Brien
Pastoral Council:.....Andrew Ward
Finance Committee:.....Peter Wilson
Secretary:.....Jessica Tierney
School Principal:.....Michael Cash
APRE:.....Kristin Byrne
School Board:.....Nicole Ward



Parish Safeguarding Contact:

Sarah Holcombe
0408 193 636
Safeguarding children & vulnerable adults is a responsibility for all of us.

Parish Diary for This Week

Mon:	9am:	Mass STM
Tues:	9.30am	Faith Ed
	5.30pm	Mass STM
Wed:	9am	Liturgy
	10am	Open Door
	5:30pm	Reconciliation STM
Fri:	9:30am	Anointing Mass STM
Mon	5.30pm	Mass
Tue	9am	Mass
Wed	7am	Mass
	9am	Reconciliation
Th-Sat	7am	Mass

Next weekend – 10/11 December 2022

Third Sunday of Advent
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 8.30am

Readings: Is 35:1-6,10
James 5:7-10
Mt 11:2-11

Giving 12/13 November

Envelopes	\$798
Loose	\$154
Pay Point	\$130
D Debits	\$661
New Carpet Appeal	(\$29000) \$8515

**3/4 December 2022
HAPPENINGS IN OUR PARISH/DIOCESE**

The Bishop's Advent Appeal for the Ukraine:

The collections will support the work of **Mudra Sprava** (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine. The organisation has three focus areas:
Evacuation of people from frontline territories.
Food packages for people in need.
Shelters for internally displaced persons.

Option 1: Bank deposit

A parish can transfer funds using a normal bank deposit to:

Account Name: Trustees of UCC in Au
BSB: 704-235 | Account Number: 00007183

If a receipt is required, please email the following details to office@catholicukes.org.au: Name of person seeking a receipt; Name of Church entity (e.g. parish name and suburb); Date the deposit was made; Amount of deposit; and Contact details – postal address or email account.

During Advent please be mindful of the challenges being faced by the Ukrainian people as winter sets in.

CHRISTMAS MANGER COLLECTION: If you wish to give to a special cause, this Christmas season we will be supporting The Ukraine appeal and also Protea Place a local women's shelter.

Annual Ministry Commitment forms:

Forms are still available in the church. Please complete and return to the office. If you wish to maintain your current ministry commitment, a message via phone or email to the Parish Office would greatly assist in the preparation of rosters.

Advent Prayer "Little Blue Books" are now available for you to take home. They are on the table in the foyer, a donation is appreciated but not necessary.

Columban's Calendars & Christmas Cards

Are now available in the foyer.

CALENDAR \$10
CARDS (pack of 8) \$4

Carpet Fundraiser:

The Parish Finance Committee are seeking your support to help raise funds towards upgrading the carpet in the church, including the altar. Each carpet tile will cost about \$25 each (and we need over 1000!), so all donations, no matter how large or small, will be gratefully accepted. Please complete your details on the carpet fundraising flyer and return to the parish office. **Thank you to all who have donated!**

St. Vincent de Paul Society Christmas appeal:

Each year St Vincent de Paul provide Christmas Hampers for those in our community who are doing it tough. We are always very thankful for the support and generosity of the St Thomas More's community. If you are able, could you please take a tag from the tree in the Church foyer, purchase a gift for the person on the tag, and return the present to the tree (with the tag) by 13 December? Thanks very much.

By helping the SVDP Christmas appeal you will be helping in two ways. Firstly, at a local level, our members and volunteers are able to offer assistance directly to families. Secondly, at a broader level, you will be contributing to the large and varied network of support services for people who require specialised care. Envelopes are available in the foyer.

Recognising our Volunteers:

Every one is welcome to stay after mass to share in celebrating another year of volunteers in this parish. So grab a drink and something to eat and spend time with this wonderful community that makes St Thomas More's our parish.

Farewell to Michael Cash:

Saturday 10 December at 6pm Mass, we as a church community will farewell Michael Cash, as he completes 12 years as Principal at St Thomas More's School. We will commemorate his time with the school and will share in some nibbles and drinks after mass. All are welcome to attend and wish Michael Cash the very best.

Communal Rite of Reconciliation:

A Communal rite of Reconciliation will be celebrated at STM on the **Wednesday, 7th December at 5.30 pm**
There will also be one at St Patrick's Cathedral, on the same day at 9.00am.

Anointing Mass:

An Anointing Mass will be celebrated at St Thomas More's on **Friday 9 December at 9.30 am**. All are welcome to attend.
Please note there will be no 9am mass that day.

CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTERS will be in the foyer, if you are here, please consider signing up to serve a ministry.

CHOIR: The Choir will be singing at the 6pm and 8pm Masses on Christmas Eve and we are also looking for a few people to sing on Christmas morning. If you can attend any or all Masses, please join us. Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays the 6th, 13th and 20th of December at 7pm -8.30pm If you would like further information, please contact Maree Keating by email, maree@positivefutures.com.au or by mobile 0435173882

MARION VALLEY: A trip to Marion Valley is being organised for Thursday 8th December to mark the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Bus departs 7.30am from Neil Street outside St Patrick's Cathedral. Cost \$40. For bookings please contact Theresa 0434 528 904.

Notice:

We apologise that the bulletin could not be emailed to everyone, due to some technical difficulties. If you would like to receive the bulletin via email please send an email to the parish office: parishoffice@stthomasmores.org.au

PLEASE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Those who are ill: June Hannaford, Paul Williams, Thomas Lawton, George McGowan, Alexander Kennedy, Terry Tyers, Ned Sparksman, Damian Wyvill, Scott Murphy, Michelle Halpin, Christine Prescott, Toni Fitzgibbon, Camille Taylor, Janice Lockhart, Val Sharpe, Mary Buttin, Rev Fr Brian Sparksman, James Babineau, Mort Edmiston, Arleen Hansen, Peter Webster, Monica Gleeson, Georgie Rose Allen, Brian Swords, Terry McNamara, Pauline Anderson, Gwen Jonkers, Ashley Toombs, Tim Erbacher, Donncha Boles (son of Christine Prescott), Maria Krulik, Joan Leonard, Benjamin Shelley, Andrew McGregor, Helen Gaaney, Irene Earsman, Sister Dorothy Bayliss RSC, Janet Showman, Frank Kenneally, Tanya Ketlaars, Greg Twidale, Bill Phillips and Carmel O'Connor.

Recently deceased: Garth Perkins, Rita Vardenega (nee Valente)

Weekends of 3/4 December & 10/11 December

6.00PM MASS ROSTER		
CO-ORDINATORS	A Emery	Kev McGrath
WELCOMERS	B O'Keeffe McGovern kids	Sue McNelley
ORGANIST/SINGER	Derek Phillips, David Turner	Margaret Dickenson, Jenny Farrell
READERS	A Grimshaw, M Tranter, A Emery	S McNelley, F Mitchell, J Olive
COMMUNION MINISTERS	K & A Bouulus, B O'Keeffe	M Lobo, K McGrath' Greg Harvey
8.30AM MASS ROSTER		
CO-ORDINATORS	M & M Bourke	M & M Bourke
WELCOMERS	M Dodd	B Stevens, R/J Akins, M Gill
ORGANIST/SINGER	M Keating, S Holcomb, T McKeon	Egerton Family, J Kilmister, T Delaney
READERS	G Hutchinson, S Wilson, J Foley, D Gardiner	S Sarquis, T Carter, M Dodd, S Pfeiffer, L Cargnello
COMMUNION MINISTERS	W Dingle, T Carter	M Bourke, M Stevens, S Kruger, D Gardiner
MONEY COUNTERS	R & N Mauch D & A Gatfield	R & N Mauch D & A Gatfield

