

WEEKLY THANKSGIVING - 29th March

Presbytery: \$ 850.75 Thanksgiving: \$ 855.40

1st Collection is for the Presbytery – Priest's (car capital, food expenses etc.) retired priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

2nd Collection is for Thanksgiving for the Parish Churches running expenses.

If you would like to support our Parish by making an online contribution, our bank details are below:

Acct Name:

Acct Name:

St. Thomas More's Parish

St. Thomas More's Parish

Church Account

Presbytery Account

BSB 083347

BSB 083347

Acct No: 672146192

Acct No: 669831148

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

April 2026

Caritas Australia Lebanon Emergency Appeal

Lebanon is facing one of its most severe humanitarian crises in years, as a sudden surge in violence and mass evacuation orders force families to flee with nothing. Within 24 hours, Caritas Lebanon reported 667,831 newly displaced people seeking safety. Despite the volatile environment, Caritas Lebanon teams are operating across seven governorates, delivering food, essential items, healthcare, psychosocial support, water and hygiene assistance, and protection services. Let us stand in solidarity with our partners in Lebanon.

Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion, Caritas Australia 2026, through the **donation boxes/envelopes at church. Or online at:** www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413.

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

EASTER BBQ– ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH EMERALD:

Parishioners attending the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, **4th April at 5:00pm**, are invited to stay on for a BBQ after Mass. Please help us to celebrate Easter with food and friendship.

YOUTH GROUP: YOUNG DISCIPLESHIP

In the spirit of Synod 2026, we are called to walk together as a community. Our parish priests warmly invites the youth of the Belgrave parish to gather, connect in faith through our Youth Group. For more information, please email to belgrave@cam.org.au We'd love to hear from you!

ST. THOMAS MORE PRIMARY SCHOOL, BELGRAVE TOURS

Open dates: **24th April, 11th May, 2nd June and 6th August.**

ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK TOURS

Open dates: **Monday, 18 May 2026 (9am -11am)**

SYNOD 2026:

A Synod is not a parliament

The Church is not a democracy where truth is decided by majority vote. A Synod is not about winning arguments or pushing agendas. Instead, it is a spiritual process of listening deeply—to God, to Scripture, to tradition, and to one another—so that decisions are shaped by faith and mission, not ideology.

Learn more: melbournecatholic.org/synod2026.



Building the Synodal Way Together

As we enter the Easter season, we are invited to continue growing as a Church that listens, learns, and walks together. The Synodal Way calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit.

In the coming weeks, we will focus on deepening our commitment to:

- Listening with an open heart to the experiences, hopes, and concerns of others.
- Engaging in meaningful conversation, grounded in respect, humility, and prayer.
- Strengthening our sense of communion, recognizing Christ at the centre of our shared mission.
- Discerning pathways forward, so that our parish and wider Church can respond more faithfully to the needs of our time.

Reflection question: How can we deepen our understanding of synodality in our parish life?

The first meeting of the Diocesan Synod Commission will be held on Thursday 9 April. We ask for your prayers as we gather to discern and plan for the work of the Synod.

If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email:

Synod2026@cam.org.au

POSITIONS VACANT ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE

Details can be found on the Archdiocese of Melbourne website for various administrative and liturgical positions Job vacancies. Follow this link:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:34. 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: ‘You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.’

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’ **(R.)**

2. The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **(R.)**

3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God’s right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb’ she said ‘and we don’t know where they have put him.’ So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Next week’s readings

First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1
Second Reading	1 Peter 1:3-9
Gospel	John 20:19-31



ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH, BELGRAVE

The Catholic Church in the Dandenong Ranges

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160 Phone: 97542141

Office Hours: 9.30am—2.30 pm Thursday to Friday

Web : www.melbcatholic.org/s/belgrave

Email: belgrave@cam.org.au

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord 4th/5th April, 2026

Our Parish Vision Statement: *We are called to be a welcoming, compassionate community, empowered for our faith journey for active service.....*

Easter Message 2026

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

As we celebrate the joy and hope of Easter, we are reminded that the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is the heart of our faith. Through His victory over sin and death, we are given new life, renewed hope, and the promise of eternal salvation. In this sacred season, may we open our hearts to the grace of the Risen Lord. Let His light shine in our lives, guiding us to be people of compassion, forgiveness, and love. Just as the stone was rolled away from the tomb, may any burdens or doubts in our hearts be lifted so that we may live fully in the freedom and joy of Christ. Let us carry the message of Easter into our homes, our parish, and our community—sharing peace with those in need, offering kindness to all, and witnessing to the power of God's love in our daily lives. I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all who helped in any way during Holy Week and our Easter celebrations. To our liturgical ministers, choir, readers, altar servers, sacristans, decorators, cleaners, flower arrangers, and all the many volunteers who worked quietly behind the scenes — thank you for your generosity, dedication, and loving service to our parish community. Your efforts have helped make these sacred days truly prayerful and beautiful for all. I also wish to express my sincere gratitude for the many prayers, emails, cards, messages, and phone calls I received during the difficult time of my father's passing. Your kindness, support, and prayers have been a great source of comfort and strength to me and my family, and they are deeply appreciated.

May the Risen Christ bless you and your families with peace, joy, and abundant grace this Easter season. Happy Easter!

Fr. Thomas Kuruvila

WE ARE A CHILD SAFETY PARISH AND WE BELIEVE IN CHILD SAFETY.

The Parish of St Thomas More and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONES RESPONSIBILITY.

PARISH PRAYER

Loving God, we ask you to pour out your spirit up on our parish . And grant us a new vision of your kingdom, a new faithfulness to your word, a new consecration to your service, that we may become growing community of disciples, that seeks to bring your word to the world through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, Have mercy on us.

St. Joseph, Pray for us... St. Paul , Pray for us...

St. Clare, Pray for us... St. Thomas More, Pray for us...

12th April - The Feast of the Divine Mercy

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

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Parish Secretary: Mirani Perera
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Child Safety Contacts: Jeanette Wicks 97542759
Monica Rayner

PARISH PASTORAL GROUP:

belgraveparishpastoralgroup@gmail.com

Chairperson David Paton
Belgrave: Bill Farrell, Patrick Coyne
Joe Van Strijp, Sue Luxford
Evie Czarnecki, Louise Jans and
Rhonda Soans

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PRIMARY, BELGRAVE

Principal: Declan McDermott Phone: 9754-4444
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ST. PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, MONBULK

Principal: Nick Frederiksen Phone: 9756 7201
Email: nfrederiksen@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

Mater Christi College - Belgrave

Principal: Ms Maria Haggett Phone: 9754 6611
Email: mcc@materchristi.edu.au

St Joseph's College - Ferntree Gully

Principal: Ms Cathy Livingston Phone: 9758 2000
Email: info@stjosephs.com.au

Mount Lilydale Mercy College - Lilydale

Principal: Philip Morison Phone: (03) 9735 4022
E mail: pmorison@mlmc.vic.edu.au

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Emerald and Ferntree Gully 6:00 pm
Sunday Belgrave 8.30am and Ferntree Gully 10.30am
Gembrook 9.00am and Monbulk 11.00am

Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday, Belgrave 9am	FTG 7.00pm
Wed Belgrave 9am	FTG 9.15am
Thurs Belgrave 9am	FTG 9.15 am
Friday Belgrave 9am	FTG 11.00 am
Saturday Belgrave 9am	FTG: NO Morning MASS

RECONCILIATION: Belgrave Saturday 9:45am
Ferntree Gully Saturdays 5.15 pm

For all other Mass centres, please see the priest before or after
Mass for confession.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are celebrated either during the weekend Masses on the **second Sunday** at any of the Mass centres, or at **12:00 pm on the second Sunday of the month** at St John's, Ferntree Gully. A **six weeks' notice** is required. Please refer to our *Guidelines for Infant Baptism* on the Parish website. Contact the Parish Office on **9754 2141** or via email at marvmakarucha@stjohnthebaptist.net.au.

WEDDINGS: By appointment — **6 months' notice** required. **Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays)**. Contact the Parish Office on **9754 2141**.

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

PRAYING FOR... *All who have died recently:*

Anniversaries:

Kristina Clark, Lynette Burger, Laurie Webber, Betty Cuttriss, Margaret Meerabach, Arie de Wit, Frank Collins, Teresa Fitzmaurice, Jim McCart, Abraham Schellenbach, Toos Kuyper, Rosemary Fidge, Zdena Simek, Nick Thomas, Aida Parente, Veronika Talacka, Joanne Sauer, Lee Walsh, Jim Aitken, Joe & Giuseppina Lamendola. Veronika Talacka.

We also remember and pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Fr. Anthony Cruz, Nada Cargo, Betty Firestone, Verity Loke, Elisabeth Drake, Patricia Gilchrist, John Kuyper, Peter Hicks, Ruth Hicks.



Adoration and Devotions

Rosary is recited half an hour before Holy Mass on weekdays at St. Thomas More, Belgrave and St. John the Baptist, Ferntree Gully. All are welcome to join in the recitation.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena is recited on Wednesdays after Mass at *St. Thomas More, Belgrave*. All are welcome to join.

Divine Mercy Novena is recited on Saturday after Mass at *St. Thomas More, Belgrave* and concluded with Benediction. All are welcome.

Anointing of the Sick is celebrated on First Fridays within the Mass at *St. Thomas More, Belgrave*. All are welcome.

Holy Hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is held on First Fridays at *St. John the Baptist, Ferntree Gully*, at **10:00 a.m.**, followed by Mass at **11:00 a.m.** All are welcome.

ADDRESS OF THE CHURCHES

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave
Corner of Reynolds Lane, Belgrave

St. Joseph's Church, Emerald
Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads, Emerald

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook
95/93 Main Street, Gembrook

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk
59 Moores Road, Monbulk

St John the Baptist Church, Ferntree Gully
19 Forest Road, Ferntree Gully.