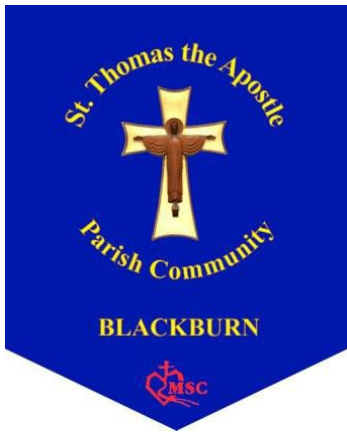




ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE NEWSLETTER

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

30th AUGUST 2026 YEAR A

LITURGY CALENDAR

MONDAY 31st AUG.
No Service

TUESDAY 1st SEPT.
10.00am Mass
10.30 am Rosary

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPT.
10.00am Mass
10.30am Mass at St.
Thomas' Retirement
Village

THURSDAY 3RD SEPT.
10.00 am Mass

FRIDAY 4TH SEPT.
First Friday Mass/Cuppa
10.00am Mass

SATURDAY 5TH SEPT.
10.00am Reconciliation
6.00pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 6TH SEPT.
8.30am Mass
10.30am Mass
5.00pm Mass

Dear Parishioners,

Gospel Reflection

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads into a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

By Greg Sunter-A Liturgy Help Resource

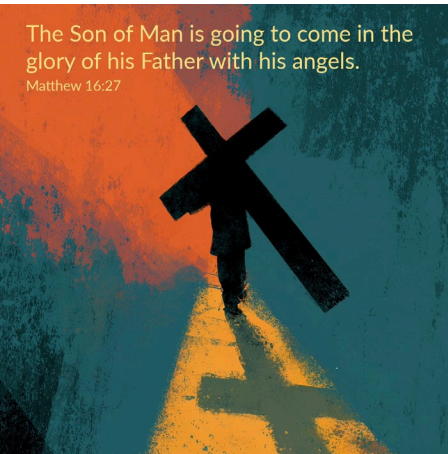
With God's blessings,
Fr Aloysius Lamere msc
Parish Priest

A Prayer for Priests

God, grant them the joys of their vocation, health of mind, body and spirit; a strong faith and a light heart to do the Lord's work in this world; and the love and support of their friends, family and parishioners. Holy Spirit, guide them and give them grace. *Amen*



The Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels.
Matthew 16:27



A Vocation View

*Don't run away
from what you are
called to be.
Christians take the
less-travelled road.
"What does it profit
us if we gain the
whole world but
ruin ourselves in
the process?"*

**Please remember in
your prayers the
following:
Sick:**

Faye Winter, Louise Crowe,
Maria & Peter Deayton,
Teresita Torres, Isabelle,
Maureen, Tracey & Peter L.,
Jacqui Collins, Norma Broek,
Ray Bartling, Charles, Felicia
Holland, Jim Leverett, Joyce
Turner, Gill Dixon, Ann
Leonard, John Philp, Rose
Talbot, Lyle Hovenden, Dominic
Phan, Joan John-ston, Dorothy
Venosta, Tom Tierney, Lan Le,
Binh Le, Teresa Bayne, Natasha
Barrett, Sarah Hamilton, Fr
Brian Gallagher msc, Pat Peake,
Luke Douglas, Monica
Djojoiswanto,
Gregory Woo, Julio Trinidad,
Shirley Leverett, & Emma
Rivet.

**Recently Dec.
Fay Mason**

Anniversaries:

PIETY STALL

***ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HELP OUR ST VINCENT DE
PAUL SOCIETY BLACKBURN**

**BAPTISM CANDLES, STOLES & GIFTS
CHILDREN'S BIBLES & ROSARIES**

EL SALVADOR CROSSES, SAINTS PRAYER

**CARDS, BIRTHDAY & SYMPATHY CARDS
MONASTIQUE COSMETICS**

**FRIENDS OF SAME EAST TIMOR
GROUND COFFEE @ \$9.50ea**

BR. JAMES CD'S AVAILABLE @ \$25 ea

**MSC BOOKS FOR SALE:-
'COMPASSION' (New)
By Fr Brian Gallagher
"Just 2 Minutes., & 10 Minutes More"
Gospel reflections suitable for groups
or individuals.
By Fr Peter Malone msc
\$17.50ea
ENQUIRE AT THE PIETY STALL**

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS AND
CUPPA IS ON FRIDAY
4th SEPTEMBER AT 10AM.**

**Everyone is most welcome to
come join us for a chat and a
cuppa.**

More volunteers needed to help
with the Money Counters. Contact
the Office if interested in joining.
Thank you.

St Thomas' Office has a new
office mobile number **0483 750
564 for urgent matters after
office hours only.** And for use
during office hours if landline is
not answering. **Please delete
the old number ending in
...223.** Thank you.

10:30 HOSPITALITY GROUP:

Thank you to everyone who has offered to provide support to the hospitality roster. The roster will come out in the next few weeks.

If you have offered to go on the roster, could you please send me your email address so I can send the roster to you. anne.marmion@icloud.com Thank you. Anne

**FUNERAL: Maureen (Fay) Mason will be on Tuesday 8th
September at 11.30am in the Church**

Please find as an insert in this week's bulletin the St
Thomas' Garden Project Update from the recent feedback
from School and Parish.

Safeguarding Children: Our Commitment to Children and young people

Any issues contact us via email: BlackburnSafeguarding@cam.org.au

**A gentle reminder to parents/guardians that your children are to be supervised at all times
during Mass and is advisable to accompany them to and from the restrooms.**

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
30th August 2026—Yr A

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-9
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v.2
SECOND READING: Romans 12: 1-2
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Ephesians 1:17, 18
GOSPEL: Matthew 16: 21-27

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
6th September 2026—Yr A

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33: 7-9
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 94: 1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8
SECOND READING: Romans 13: 8-10
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 2 Corinthians 5:19
GOSPEL: Matthew 18: 15-20

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 5 th /6 th SEPT. 2026- Yr A	6.00PM	8.30AM	10.30AM	5.00PM
Commentators/Lectors:	C— Sheena Barber L— Lisa Smith	C- John Uren L-Fidelma D'Souza	C-Mischa Tandjung L- Ella Tandjung	C- Susan Collins L- Anne Netherway
Extraordinary Ministers:	Lorraine Rodgers	Louis Souchon	Anne Marmion	Help if you can
Money Counters Team 2		Piety Stall: Team 4	Flower Roster SEPTEMBER ANGELA PILLAI	Children's Liturgy: Leader: Trish Color: Green

Our parish is piloting a **Women's Group** to foster friendship, faith and spiritual growth among the women of St Thomas. This pilot initiative will provide an opportunity to reflect on Scripture, share life's journey, support one another, and grow together as disciples of Christ. If this is something you might be interested in, we'd love to hear from you. Please register your interest with Angela Pillai at angepillai@gmail.com or via the parish office.

PARISH SYNOD CORNER: WILL APPEAR EACH WEEK LEADING UP TO THE MELBOURNE SYNOD

24. Synodality and Trust

Trust grows when people know their voices matter. Synodality helps rebuild trust within the Church and between the Church and society.

TO ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS - IMPORTANT.....

THE ARCHDIOCESE HAS ROLLED OUT A NEW PLATFORM FOR THE **ONLINE SAFEGUARDING MODULE** CALLED **TRIBALHABITS**. EVERYONE WHO RENEWS THIS MODULE WILL FIRST NEED TO LOG IN AND **REGISTER AS A NEW USER** AS ALL PAST SIGN IN HISTORY WILL NO LONGER EXIST. THE MODULE CONTENT STAYS THE SAME. THANK YOU

TO ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS; A NEW YEAR 2026.....

IMPORTANT TO CHECK THAT YOUR SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS ARE CURRENT AND UP TO DATE.

- ◆ WE ASK THAT YOU CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR WWC CARD EXPIRY DATE AND UPDATE ONLINE IF NECESSARY. ALSO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE LINKED ST THOMAS' PARISH TO YOUR WWC CARD. THE OFFICE CAN SEND YOU INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS.
- ◆ IF YOU CAN CHECK IF THE CODE OF CONDUCT HAS BEEN SIGNED AGAIN WHICH NEEDS TO BE RENEWED EVERY 3 YEARS FOR VOLUNTEERS.
- ◆ ALSO IF YOU ARE NEEDING TO COMPLETE/RENEW THE ONLINE SAFEGUARDING MODULE (WHICH NEEDS RENEWING EVERY 3 YEARS FOR VOLUNTEERS). THE OFFICE CAN SEND YOU A LINK YOU CAN FOLLOW ON YOUR COMPUTER.

PLEASE SEE SUSAN AT THE PARISH OFFICE WHO WILL GLADLY HELP YOU.

A reminder to parents with children who Altar Serve to accompany your child while in the Sacristy changing into their Altar robes before and after Mass. As requested by the Safeguarding Unit of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Thank you.

*St. Thomas the Apostle Parish strives to create an environment
where all children and vulnerable adults including Aboriginal, special needs and persons of cultural diversity are
safe, respected and cared for.*

**ST THOMAS THE
APOSTLE PARISH
57 CENTRAL ROAD
BLACKBURN Vic
3130**

(PO Box 5084, Laburnum Vic 3130)

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Aloysius Lamere msc

SUPERIOR TO VIC. & TAS.

Fr Dominic Gleeson msc

FORMATOR:

Fr Dominic Gleeson msc

RETREAT DIRECTOR:

Fr Chris McPhee msc

PARISH PHONE:

9878 0818/9877 7693
(If Urgent mob. 0483 750 564)

PARISH EMAILS:

blackburn@cam.org.au
BlackburnSafeguarding@cam.org.au

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbcatholic.org/s/blackburn

PARISH SECRETARY:

Susan Collins

PARISH ACCOUNTANT:

Maurice Gartland

PARISH PASTORAL

COUNCIL CHAIR:

Anand Rego

ST THOMAS' SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:

Marcus Gill

SCHOOL PHONE:

P: 9878 8268

SCHOOL EMAIL:

office@stblackburn.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

www.stblackburn.catholic.edu.au



**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
PARISH ACTIVITIES**

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & CUPPA:

Our next First Friday will be on **4th September at 10am for Mass and after a cuppa and a chat. All are most welcome.**

SCRABBLE NIGHT...

Our next scrabble will be on **Thursday 3rd September at 7.30pm in the Church Narthex.** Contact Chrissie 9899 9675 or Maureen 0408 000 794. All are most welcome, come along and check it out.

CARDS-(Solo)...

Our next get together will be on **Thursday 10th September.** We meet in private homes. New players are most welcome to come along. Contact Geraldine Ph: 9877 2087 for our next venue.

**ST THOMAS PARISH/SCHOOL
ARCHIVES**

Archival material always welcome, please include dates and names when possible. Contact Parish Office Ph: 9878 0818

**ST THOMAS' LECTIO DIVINA
TUESDAYS**

We meet every Tuesday morning at 10am via Zoom. For more information contact Bernard.marmion@icloud.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sundays at 10.30am Mass. **During School Terms only.**

ST. THOMAS' PLAYGROUP:

THIS GROUP IS NOT RUNNING AT PRESENT. CONTACT THE SCHOOL on 9878 8268.

ST.VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:

Call Centre for assistance – 1800 305 330
Free Call Weekdays 10am-3pm.
Vinnies Centre Ringwood Ph. 9870 9124,
Unit 1B/76-82 Maroondah Hwy,
Ringwood.
For Furniture & Whitegoods pickup—Call
Eastern Emergency Relief who will
pickup for St Vincent de Paul - week days
9am-1pm . Ph. 9874 8433.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL BLACKBURN
CONFERENCE DONATION OPTION**

On behalf of the Conference **THANK YOU**
for your donations. Alternatively, if you
wish to donate directly, our Bank
Account details are:
BSB: 063 003 | Account No: 1008 1787
Donation Reference: 442.
A/c name: Society of St Vincent de Paul
Pty Ltd. Grace Mizzi- President
Patrick Danaher contact on Mob: 0411
804 635



FIRST AID EQUIPMENT

Attn Parishioners:

The DEFIB is located outside
the Sacristy door.

A First Aid Kit is also in the Kitchen

Broom Cupboard. First Aid items (blankets
etc.) which are provided by the Church are stored in
a large plastic tub in the Crying Room (right sliding
cupboard.)



GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS.....

Br James' CDs are available at
Piety Stall. **'Hidden Within The**
World' \$25, **Heart voice** (double
CD) \$25 **Gospel of Love** (double CD) \$25.

USE THE QR CODE OR VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:

www.melbcatholic.org/s/blackburn



St Thomas the Apostle Parish acknowledge the
Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional
owners of this land. We pay our respects to their
Elders past, present and emerging.

