

# St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Camp Hill



No. 11

Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year A

19th March 2023

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

31 Perth Street, Camp Hill 4152  
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StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/)

## **Office hours**

8:30 am - 1:30pm: M/T/Th/F

## **MASS TIMES:**

### **Sunday Eucharist**

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 8.30am

Sunday 5.30pm

### **Weekday Eucharist**

Monday & Tuesday: 7.00am

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday &

Public Holiday: 9.00am

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday 5.00pm-5.20pm

### **Adoration and Benediction**

1st Friday After 9am Mass

## **PARISH TEAM:**

### **Parish Priest**

Fr. Dantus Thottathil

[thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Children's Ministry Coordinator**

Sr. Analissa Balderama

[cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Parish Secretary**

Shanti Suppiah

[stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **Parish Pastoral Council**

Michael Williamson—Chair

### **Parish Finance Council**

Anthony Oostenbroek—Chair

## **St Thomas' School**

10 Stephen Street, CAMP HILL 4152

Ph: 07 3398 6633

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Principal - Liam Beatty

APRE - Paula McConnon



## **Healing of our spiritual blindness....**

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is known as "*Laetare* (Rejoice) Sunday," expressing the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of our Lord. Today's readings remind us that it is God who both gives us proper vision in body as well as in soul and instructs us that we should be constantly on our guard against spiritual blindness. In this weekend's Gospel, the story of the blind man teaches us a valuable lesson about faith. He was blind but he saw much more than anyone else he received something more valuable than any wealth could give him.

The blindness here also could be interpreted as spiritual blindness and not just physical blindness. Spiritual blindness is what caused Saul to persecute the early Church before being finally led by God out of this spiritual blindness and he became known as St. Paul. Spiritual blindness is a detrimental for one's soul as it can prevent us from seeing correctly what is good or bad. It is blindness that affects our conscience regarding what is right and wrong. As we are in the middle of our Lenten journey, the practises of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are leading us to the one sacrament that can remove our spiritual blindness through the sacrament of penance, namely Confession. This is one time in the year that the Church recommends a catholic to go to confession. Of course the more times that one can go, the better.

We take this Gospel story to heart, we are blind and cannot see until Jesus opens our eyes and we start to see the world through His eyes. When we become people of faith and we see life through the Lord's eyes, we are able to see the presence of God acting in the world.

## **Rite of Christian initiation of adults and rite of acceptance**

It is with great pleasure we welcome those Catechumens and Candidates who have commenced a journey of enquiry and faith towards Easter in 2023. This weekend we will celebrate their Rite of Acceptance and Presentation of the Creed and Lord's prayer at the 8.30 am Mass at St. Thomas' Church this Sunday - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The Rite of Acceptance is an ancient Rite that recognizes the Catechumens decision to begin the process of becoming a member of the Catholic Church through Baptism and welcomes the Candidates, those who have been baptized in another faith or baptized Catholic as a child, but never catechized in the Catholic faith, into the process of full communion with the Church. All these Catechumens and Candidates will be preparing for full initiation into the Catholic faith through Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. I invite all Parishioners of our Parish to pray for our Catechumens and Candidates during this journey to Easter as they come to know Jesus more deeply in their lives.

Blessings,  
Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

We at St Thomas' Parish acknowledge the Yuggera people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we gather. We pay our respects to elders - past, present and emerging, who have walked and cared for this land for thousands of years.

## Parish News & Notices

### We remember in our prayers

**The sick:** Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Sue Lamb, Megan Bowden, Carmel Horn, Fr Ian Wren, Lynn Toon, June Colch, Judith Angela, Alex Stegman, Kui Liu, Eileen MacDermott, Lorraine O'Leary, Shirley Mead, Don Cattnach, Barry Ahern, Rod Grove, Bernice Taylor.

**Recently Deceased :** Brian Toon.



**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Beatrice Fox, Timothy Marrinan, Antonio Lunatici, Theresa King, Antonio D'Alessandro, Daryll King, Eileen Heggie, Margaret Perry, Ross Evans, Raymond Mullen, Neil Harkiss, Mary Wheatley, George Coombes, Mark Pantarotto, James Croning, Gwendolyn Taylor, William O'Sullivan, John Graham, Jim Corbett, Vickie Robbins, Morgan Innes, Beverley McKewin, Margaret Hess, Ronald Ashton, Patricia O'Connor, Maureen Harding, William Bradbury, Ron Kelly, Ian Douglas, Herb Collie, Lorraine Morrison, Bob Bongiorno and Joan Burlew.

### PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please consider giving to our Planned Giving Program. Your continued support for our Parish is much appreciated.

**Collections & Planned Giving:-**  
BSB:064-786 Acc: 100012966

**Baptisms/Sacrament Programs/ Donations/**  
**All other deposits:-**

**Name:** Camp Hill Parish  
BSB:064-786 Acc: 100005597

\* We also have Tap n Go facility in the Church premises.  
Thank you for your generosity.

### The Week Ahead

Sun - 19th Mar	4th Sunday of Lent Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm
Mon - 20th Mar	Mass @ 7am
Tues - 21st Mar	Mass @ 7am
Wed - 22nd Mar	Mass @ 9am
Thur - 23rd Mar	Mass @ 9.00am
Fri - 24th Mar	Mass @ 9am Stations of the Cross @ 6.30pm
Sat - 25th Mar	Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun - 26th Mar	5th Sunday of Lent Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm



### Fourth Sunday of Lent - 19th of March



Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, supported by Caritas Australia, supports young women in the community with practical support like housing and helps mentor the next generation of young people.

The Baabayn program has successfully helped many young women to reconnect with their culture through Indigenous art, with a group of the women displaying their art at the Vivid festival in Sydney in 2022. Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation was founded by five Elders from Western Sydney - home to one of the largest urban First Australian populations in Australia. Baabayn (which means 'Ancestral Woman' in Gumbaynggirr language) provides a welcoming environment for First Australian families and individuals to help them heal from the past and nurture their sense of confidence and pride in the future.

The work of Baabayn involves initiatives such as a Homework Club, a Young Mums and Bubs program and a youth group. They also provide advocacy, counselling services and links to government departments. With your support, the work of Baabayn can continue to work with young mothers at Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation and help them keep their culture strong for future generations.

During Lent, we are invited to take up the call to fast, pray and give alms. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the many crises that have struck the world over the past 12 months mean that many communities are in great need of your support.

Supporting Project Compassion is a way for us to proclaim the faith that is in our hearts and help our sisters and brothers in need. Your gift will help uplift the most marginalised and vulnerable members of society. To donate to Project Compassion, visit Caritas Australia's website: [www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/) or call 1800 024 413.



Stations of the Cross  
will be celebrated each  
**Friday during Lent at 6.30pm**  
Directly after Stations of the Cross  
you are invited to join St Thomas'  
'Prayer & Share' Group for prayer  
and reflection at 7pm in the  
Parish office.

### THE CATHOLIC LEADER

The Weekly Round-Up

The March issue is now available in Church for only \$4 or subscribe to the weekly email - [catholicleader.com.au](http://catholicleader.com.au)

Join us for

### EASTER CHOIR

WEEKLY SATURDAY PRACTICES  
STARTING 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH

3.30PM IN THE CHURCH

ALL AGES WELCOME



### Quote of the week

THE BEST  
WAY TO HEAL  
A BROKEN  
HEART IS TO  
GIVE GOD  
ALL THE  
PIECES.





## Holy Week & Easter Mass Times



### Palm Sunday – 1st/2nd April

Saturday at 5.30pm  
Sunday at 8.30am & 5.30pm

### Holy Thursday - 6th April

6.30pm: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper  
Followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.30 pm

### Good Friday - 7th April

10.00am: Stations of the Cross  
3.00pm: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

### Holy Saturday - 8th April

6.30pm: The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

### Easter Sunday - 9th April

8.30am: Mass of the Resurrection

**(No 5.30pm Sunday Mass)**

Archbishop Mark Coleridge  
invites you to the annual



## CHRISM MASS

Thursday 30th March 2023  
@ 7:00pm

Cathedral of St Stephen  
249 Elizabeth Street,  
Brisbane

A celebration for the entire Archdiocese  
All Welcome

car parking available from 6:00pm

**When:** 6pm Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – 4pm  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Where:** Riverlife Centre (47 Jennifer  
St, Seventeen Mile Rocks, QLD)

**Cost:** Early bird is \$170pp | \$150pp for  
groups of 10+ (ends 12 March). You  
can find out more about the Summit  
by heading to [brisbanesummit.com](http://brisbanesummit.com)

After early bird is \$200pp | \$170pp for  
groups of 10+

**Summit<sup>23</sup>**  
MAY 18-20, 2023

### THE CATHOLIC GUY PARISH EVENT IS COMING TO OUR LADY OF GRACES

### CATHOLIC PARISH! FOUR ALL NEW NSPIRING AND LIFE CHANGING SESSIONS THIS LENT 23-28 MARCH 2023

SESSION 1: Thursday 23 March - 9.45am or 7.00pm

SESSION 2: Friday 24 March - 9.45am or 7.00pm

SESSION 3: Monday 27 March - 9.45am or 7.00pm

SESSION 4: Tuesday 28 March - 9.45am or 7.00pm

All sessions will be in our main Church building, will run  
for approximately 1½ hours and we will share a cup of  
tea or coffee together afterwards. Flyers available at the  
entrance to the Church and more information available  
at [BruceDownes.org](http://BruceDownes.org)

### St Patrick's Day

It was wonderful to gather for our Care & Concern Group's annual St Patrick's Day Healing Mass on Thursday 16th March.

It was a beautiful celebration and it was a lovely chance to catch up and each attendee took home a delicious morning tea pack. A special thanks to Our Care & Concern team who did an amazing job planning, cooking and making sure everything went smoothly and to our Yr 6 students from St Thomas Primary school who participated in the Mass and the Morning Tea. Thanks also to those who help set up for Mass and to our musician.

We are, as always, very grateful for each of you.



## Readings

### 4th Sunday of Lent – Year A

#### First Reading: (1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13)

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

#### Responsorial Psalm: (Ps 22)

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

#### Second Reading: (Ephesians 5:8-14)

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

**Gospel Acclamation**    Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### Gospel: (John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38 )

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

## For the Children...

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

*Help us to see!*

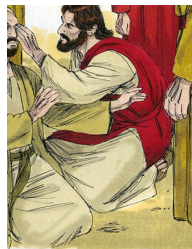
Can you imagine what it would be like to be blind? Close your eyes tightly and think about the things you have already done this morning; getting out of bed, eating breakfast, brushing teeth, getting dressed. Would you have found them harder to do if you were blind and could not see? In today's Gospel we hear how Jesus helps a blind man to see with his eyes and his heart.

#### LET US PRAY

Dear Jesus, I give you my eyes to see others the way you do.

I give you my heart to fill with the light of your love.

Let your goodness shine out of me so others may see that you are the light of the world.



### Readings for Next Sunday

#### 5th Sunday of Lent

#### **First Reading:** Ezekiel 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

#### **Second Reading:** Romans 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

#### **Gospel:** John 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.