

# St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Camp Hill



No. 30

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

30th July 2023

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

31 Perth Street, Camp Hill 4152  
PO BOX 685 Coorparoo QLD 4151

T: 3398 1154

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

W: [camphillcatholicparish.org.au](http://camphillcatholicparish.org.au)

F: <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 & 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)

### **Local Safeguarding Rep**

David Colch

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

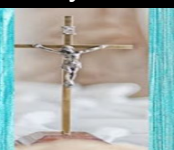
E: [pcamphill@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pcamphill@bne.catholic.edu.au)

W: [stthomascamphill.qld.edu.au](mailto:stthomascamphill.qld.edu.au)

Principal - Liam Beatty

APRE - Paula McConnon

## LORD, I LOVE YOUR COMMANDS



### ***In search of treasure....***

There is a story from the Desert Fathers about a young monk who asked one of the old monks why it was that so many people came out to the desert to seek God and yet most of them gave up after a short time and returned to their lives in the city. The old monk told him, "Last evening my dog saw a rabbit running for cover among the bushes of the desert and he began to chase the rabbit, barking loudly. Soon other dogs joined in the chase, barking and running. They ran a great distance and alerted many other dogs. Soon the wilderness was echoing the sounds of their pursuit but the chase went on into the night. So after a while, many of the dogs grew tired and dropped out. A few chased the rabbit until the night was nearly spent. By morning, only my dog continued the hunt. "Do you understand what I have told you?" the old man said. "No," replied the young monk. "It is simple," said the old monk, "my dog saw the rabbit."

In this weekend's Gospel Jesus tells a parable about a man who, one day in the market place, saw the pearl of great price. The merchant understood at once the value of the commodity before him and he sacrificed everything to obtain it. What the parables really teach us is that, when one discovers Jesus and His vision of life, everything else becomes secondary. For much of the time, we are searching for false treasures, mainly money, status and pleasure. Meanwhile the present passes us by, the treasure is still not discovered, and the valuable pearl is never found.

Jesus wants us to know that the Kingdom of God is worth sacrificing all we have. He offers us God's Kingdom, a unique pearl of the greatest price. That is what St. Paul meant when he said: "I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ" (Phil 3:8), and again - "For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil 2:21). To have a personal experience of Christ and personal relationship with Him – in other words, to have made Christ's view of life our own – is the most precious thing in the world.

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, Sr Belen & Trish Buckle.

### Recently Deceased: Raymond Allan.

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Dorothy Thomsen, Joseph Walsh, John Condon, Doris Carey, Elsie Smollen, Edward Welsh, Coronato Said, Sam Said, Beverley Croning, May Andrews, Jack Ballinger, Marie Welsh, Cecily Murray, Imelda Kitchen, Margaret McArdle, Maree Wynn, Brian McNamara, Ronald Dendle, Josephine Beh, Karen Daley, Eric Johnston, Joseph Shannon, Anton Swajczak, Helena Swajczak, Fr Tom Hegarty, James Montgomery, Rosemary Dugdale, Mary James, Daniel (Don) Buckley, Florence McKenna, Noel Tessman, Brian McKee, Mark Moloney, Ivy Fanning, Thelma Mitchell, Neville Stewart, Mary Smith, Moira Cremin & Noel Ives.

Our parish has a Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) who is dedicated to promoting safeguarding messages and practices, and available to assist with any questions, concerns, disclosures, incidents or complaints. **Our LSR is David Colch at [lsr.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au).** If you wish to remain anonymous, please contact **STOPLINE** on 1300 304 550, [aob@stopline.com.au](mailto:aob@stopline.com.au) or [www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com](http://www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com)

### 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.**

### PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH :-

- ✓ Visit our website - [www.camphillcatholicparish.org.au](http://www.camphillcatholicparish.org.au)
- ✓ LIKE our Parish Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill](https://facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill).
- ✓ Read our newsletter.

### Baptisms

We welcome... **Archer King** son of Alexander & Brigitte King and **Mariya Cordwell** daughter of Sarah Cordwell being baptised in our Church this weekend. **May Jesus, who loves all children, bless your precious child with love and peace on this special day and always.**



### Sacrament of Confirmation 2023

**Parents Information Session (Parents only):**

Wednesday - 9 August 2023 at 6.30pm – Parish Hall

**Enrolment/Commitment Weekend: 12/13 August** - Saturday at 5.30pm mass and Sunday at 8.30am mass

**Preparation Sessions: 4 weekends commencing on**  
19 Aug until 10 Sept 2023

**Saturday at 4.15pm – 5.15pm & Sunday at 9.30am -10.30am**

**Actual Celebration: Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 5.30pm**

**Do you love to sing?**  
**Or do you play an instrument, keyboard, organ, guitar etc.**

**St Thomas' Music Ministry needs you!**

No prior experience necessary, all training and support provided. All ages welcome!

Contact Melissa Chong 0467220461

### ST THOMAS PLAY-GROUP

Come along and join our St Thomas mums & bubs every Monday (during School Term) in the Parish Hall from 9.30am to 11.00am. For any enquiries, please email Amanda Bidston at [amanda.bidston@outlook.com](mailto:amanda.bidston@outlook.com).



### The Week Ahead

Sun - 30th July	Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm
Mon - 31st July	Mass @ 7am <b>Memorial of St Ignatius of Loyola</b>
Tue - 1st August	Mass @ 7am Memorial of <b>St Alphonsus Liguori</b>
Wed - 2nd August	Mass @ 9am
Thur - 3rd August	Mass @ 9am <b>Memorial of St Dominic</b>
Fri - 4th August	Mass @ 9am <b>Memorial of St John Vianney</b>
Sat - 5th August	Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun - 6th August	Mass @ 8.30am & 5.30pm

### NEW TO THE PARISH

If you are new to the Parish or have recently moved into this area, we warmly welcome you and your family. We invite you to join our Parish. Please contact the Parish Office on 33981154 or email : [stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Parish Newsletter**—If you would like to receive a copy of the Newsletter via email, please contact the Parish office at 33981154.



### CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
8.30AM MASS EVERY SUNDAY  
During School Term only.



### SUNDAY MORNING TEA FELLOWSHIP

after the 8.30am Mass. All welcome to come along for a chat and a cuppa.

### Quote of the week

**Everything is possible.**  
**You just have to make it priority.**



**IMPORTANT: SCAM TEXT MESSAGE**



**IMPORTANT: SCAM TEXT MESSAGE** - Dear Parishioners, please be aware of a text message scam appearing to be from the Parish or Fr Dantus requesting for Gift cards or Cash. Under no circumstances, would any Priest make such a request. This is a phishing scam which is targeting church-goers at a number of Parishes in the Archdiocese, including our Parish. Unfortunately, we are unable to stop these messages at the source. This is a reminder to please ignore and delete such SMS text / WhatsApp messages and/or emails, if you receive them. Thank you.

# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC PARISH

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 TO 2027



Strategic Launch Booklets are still available at Church Doors this weekend. Please take a copy home.

## CROSS

A young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer. "Lord, I can't go on," he said, "I have too heavy of a cross to bear." The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then, open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief and said, "Thank you, Lord," and he did as he was told. Upon entering the other door, he saw many crosses, some so large the tops were not visible. Then, he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall. "I'd like that one. Lord," he whispered.

And the Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in." When life's problems seem overwhelming, it helps to look around and see what other people are coping with. We may consider ourselves far more fortunate than we imagined.

**CHILDREN'S DISCUSSION STARTERS**  
A beginning point for discussion of this week's Gospel with children:

In today's Gospel what precious things did the people find?  
What did they do when they found them?  
Why do you think they sold everything to buy their treasure?  
Jesus says God's kingdom is like a treasure that makes you happy.  
What makes you happy about being part of God's kingdom?  
How can we share this happiness with others?

## PARISH FEAST DAY & LAUNCH OF STRATEGIC PLAN



***Becoming Catholic! A Journey of Faith***  
**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

**Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic faith?** Welcome! The Catholic Church's mission is to offer people of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to deepen their understanding and relationship with Jesus Christ. Becoming Catholic involves a journey of faith accompanied by the support of a parish community. This process is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). During the RCIA process, you meet with others to share, reflect, pray and learn more about the Catholic faith. Ceremonies or 'rites' at each stage signify the steps along the way. If you or someone you know would like to know more about becoming Catholic or learning more about their Catholic faith as an adult, please contact: 3398 1154 Email: [stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au).



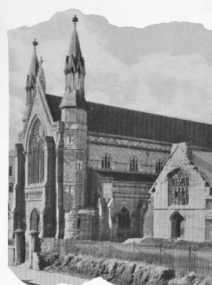
## Celebrating 150 years of Weddings at The Cathedral of St Stephen

**In this 150th year of the Cathedral of St Stephen,  
couples who have been married at  
St Stephen's are invited to commemorate  
their years of marriage.**

**On Saturday, 30th September 2023,  
the Archbishop will celebrate Mass at 11:30am,  
followed by refreshments on the Cathedral grounds.**

**There will be a particular focus on Golden Wedding Anniversaries, however anyone married at the Cathedral or Chapel, is invited to attend.**

If you have photos or stories to share,  
please contact David Todd.  
email: [toddtd@bnc.catholic.net.au](mailto:toddtd@bnc.catholic.net.au)  
telephone: 3324 3030  
by 1st September 2023



To register to attend the Mass and for catering purposes  
please RSVP by Friday 22nd September 2023  
cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au  
3324 3030

## Readings

### 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

#### **First Reading: (1 Kings 3:5.7-12)**

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

#### **Responsorial Psalm: Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130.**

Lord, I love your commands.

#### **Second Reading: (Romans 8:28-30)**

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

#### **Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.  
Alleluia!

#### **Gospel: (Matthew 13:44-52)**

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

### **For the Children...**

#### **17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

##### **Priceless Treasure**

Today Jesus tells us a story to explain that the kingdom of heaven is like a priceless treasure that we would swap our most precious possessions for.

##### **LET US PRAY**

Lord, help me to store up my riches in heaven, not on earth. To know what is important and not waste my time on worthless things. To always speak the truth and do what you ask because of the love I have for you.  
(Psalm 119:36-37, 43-44)



#### **Readings for Next Sunday**

##### **The Transfiguration of The Lord**

**First Reading:** Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14  
His raiment was as white as snow.

**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 1:16-19  
We heard this voice from out of heaven.

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9  
His face was shining like the sun.