

# St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Camp Hill



No.5

1st Sunday of Lent, Year A

22 February 2026

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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W: [camphillcatholicparish.org.au](http://camphillcatholicparish.org.au)  
F: <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/>

## **Office hours:**

8:30 am - 3:30pm: Thurs & Fri

## **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)

### **Local Safeguarding Rep**

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

### **Parish Secretary**

Talitha Power  
[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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## **Lent Pastoral Letter 2026 Archbishop Shane Mackinlay**

There have been significant changes for us in the Archdiocese of Brisbane over the last year. Shortly after Easter last year, Pope Leo XIV succeeded Pope Francis, and then in September I took up my new ministry as Archbishop of Brisbane. Last week, Pope Leo issued his first Message for Lent, in which he reflects on three themes: listening, fasting and our shared journey together. I was particularly struck by the first of these themes, as I feel like much of my focus over these early days as Archbishop has been on listening. I need to learn about the people of the Archdiocese, its parishes and communities, its schools, hospitals and aged care, its organisations and agencies. I need to hear about the joys and sorrows that people carry, as well as the hopes and fears that are part of looking to the future.

Pope Leo points out that listening is not just something we do when we enter a new situation. Rather, it is a critical ongoing part of healthy relationships with one another and with God. Lent is a time when we seek to open ourselves to conversion: acknowledging our failures and mistakes, so that we can turn again to God and renew our relationships with those around us. The journey of conversion always begins with listening. As Pope Leo says: 'Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the Word of God to touch our hearts.' That can only happen if we make space, stepping back from the noise around us, and from all that we want to say and convince others about, so that there is space to hear and to listen.

Making space for listening is an act of humility and generosity. It shows a deep commitment to the other. In Pope Leo's words, 'the willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone.' We know what a precious gift that is from our own experiences of another person really listening to us.

Pope Leo proposes that the best model we have for listening is God's relationship with his people. Again and again, God's first response in the scriptures is to assure us: 'I have heard my people's cry.' And Jesus' own ministry is shaped by listening to the needs and hopes of those he encounters. So, as Pope Leo says, 'we must allow God to teach us to listen as he does.'

In our own context, listening has been the starting point for our Synodal journey, both in our contribution to the Synod for a Synodal Church and in our own celebration of the Archdiocese's Synod 24. We have experienced that a dialogue built on listening allows us to discern together where God is calling us. That experience allows us to recognise the importance of Pope Leo's observation that 'conversion refers not only to one's conscience, but to the quality of our relationships and dialogue.'

More broadly in our Australian community, listening with care, compassion and openness is desperately needed as we seek respond to the division, shock and grief that we are carrying after the appalling attack at Bondi last December.

*(Continued page 3)*

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:** Stan Rejmer, Deborah Houghton, Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Megan Bowden, Carmel Horn, Judith Angela, Jan Effiney, Alex Stegman, Kui Liu, Eileen MacDermott, Lorraine O'Leary, Rod Grove, Sr Belen, Trish Buckle, Evelyn Neave, Michael & Anne Murphy, Kay and Paul Bertini, Anne & Peter Kelleher, Leo Plowman, Margaret Jermanus, Lachie James Edwards, Aldo, Michael Colch & Giuseppa Petrilia, Lynne Jordan and Lynn Toon, Ray Duncanson, June Simpson, Catherine Challinor, Mildred Duncan & Paul Duncan, Hannah Parton.



**Recently deceased:** Fung Jang Liu, Fr Peter Casey, Dorn & John Robson Petch.

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Marie Roberts, John (Jack) Cannon, Patrick O'Gorman, John McGovern, Theresa Poole, William Simson, Eileen Crowley, Maureen Sheridan, Kevin Eickenloff, Thelma Bradshaw, Dean Bonke, Barbara Woodroffe, Cecilia Buskey, Mona Costa, Joseph 'Gerard' Cremin, Anne-Maree Denaro, Grace Dalziel, Terry Cooney, Anastasia Forster, Rosemary McDonald, Peggy Cannon, John Roborgh, Fr Pat Dowd & Warwick Marden.

### 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.**

### St Thomas' Safeguarding Representatives:

Name: Michael Williamson Phone: 0439535654

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

This parish is Child Safety Aware and complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Safeguarding policy is situated on the Notice Board outside of the church. **STOPLINE CONTACT:** Phone 1300 304 400 Email [AOB@stoline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stoline.com.au)

### *Quote of the week*

“We fast so we can hunger for God.  
We pray so we can hear God.  
We give alms so we can love like God.”

### The Week Ahead

Sun 22nd Feb	<b>1st Sunday of Lent Year A</b>  Mass @ 8.30am & 5:30pm
Mon - 23rd Feb	Mass @ 7.00am
Tue - 24th Feb	<b>No Mass (until further notice)</b>
Wed - 25th Feb	Mass @ 9.00am
Thu - 26th Feb	Mass @ 9.00am Eucharistic Adoration 6-9pm
Fri - 27th Feb	Mass @ 9am Stations of the Cross 7pm
Sat - 28th Feb	Devotion of the Holy Rosary@ 7.30am – Church Vigil Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun– 1st Mar	<b>2nd Sunday in Lent Year A</b>  Mass @ 8.30am & 5:30pm

### Liturgy Roster

THIS WEEK	Mass Organisers	Welcome/ Prayers of the Faithful	1st Reader	2nd Reader	Communion Minister
Sat 21st Feb – 5.30pm	<b>Required</b>	Mary Harris & Ana Morton	Mary Harris	Gervais Morton	Mary Harris
Sun 22nd Feb– 8.30am	Moyra Walls	James Mann & Tammie & James Davis	James Mann	Tammie & James Davis	Amanda Sheridan
Sun 22nd Feb – 5.30pm	Caroline Sarra	Laura Hawes & Angelique Cahill	Angelique Cahill	Angelique Cahill	Caroline Sarra
NEXT WEEK					
Sat 28th Feb – 5.30pm	<b>Required</b>	Brian Kilmartin & Catie Duncan	Brian Kilmartin	Catie Duncan	Mary Harris
Sun 1st Mar– 8.30am	Moyra Walls	Kathleen Armstrong	Carmen McCrone	Bryanna Withehira	Lyn Kasatchenko
Sun 1st Mar – 5.30pm	Angelique Cahill	Georgia Bergen & Brian Harding	Brian Harding	Georgia Bergen	Chris Harding

**Lent Pastoral Letter (cont).**

As we enter this Season of Lent, most of our parishes will be commencing the final stage of preparation for baptism of those who wish to become Christian and for reception of Christians baptised in other Churches who seek to enter full communion with the Catholic Church. It is a privilege to accompany these elect and candidates on their path to Easter, as they offer us a model of listening to God's Word in a way that has led them on a journey of conversion, discipleship and renewal. Let us pray for them and be inspired by them throughout this Season of Lent, as we all seek to be renewed in listening and responding to one another and to the Word of God.

Yours sincerely,

**MOST REV. SHANE MACKINLAY**  
ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

# First Reconciliation

During Mass this Saturday night and Sunday morning, we will be welcoming candidates who are beginning preparations for their first Reconciliation.



# Baptism

This Sunday

We welcome  
**Vienna Narelle Payne** daughter of Geordie & Miller Payne, and **Hunter Clarke** son of David and Ondi Clarke 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.*




**First Sunday of Lent**  
21-22 February 2026

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza. Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.



**Please donate today.**

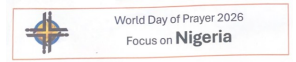
You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes at the entry to the church, or by scanning the QR code.

**Or online at:** [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate) Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

**World Day of Prayer 2026**

World Day of Prayer is an international, women-led, ecumenical movement that shares the hopes, concerns, and prayers of women from around the globe. There will be morning tea following our service.



Service date	Friday 27 February 2026
Location	St Thomas Parish
Address	Camp Hill
Time	10.00am
Contact	Veronica 0438826524

**!! EMAIL SCAM ALERT !!**

We have been made aware that a scam email is circulating, claiming to be from Fr Dantus Thottathil and asking for money or financial assistance. Please be assured that this message is not from Fr Dantus or St Thomas Parish.

If you receive any email, text message, or online request asking for money, gift cards, or urgent financial help please ignore it and delete it immediately. Do not reply, click any links, or provide personal information. St Thomas Parish will never request donations in this manner.

You can also check the email address matches one of those on the front page of the newsletter. Emails from our office will always end with [@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:@bne.catholic.net.au).

If you are unsure about any message you receive, feel free to contact the parish office for clarification.

*Thank you for helping keep our community safe and informed.*

**For the Children...**



Draw a line from the first half of each beatitude to its correct ending.

Blessed are those who grieve...	...they will be treated with mercy.
Blessed are the merciful...	...they will be called God's children.
Blessed are those who make peace...	...they will see God.
Blessed are those with pure hearts...	...they will find comfort.

## Readings

### First Sunday of Lent Year A

#### **First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7**

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

#### **Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17**

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

#### **Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19**

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

#### **Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

#### **Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11**

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

### Second Sunday of Lent Year A

**First Reading:  
Genesis 12:1-4**

Abram leaves home receiving promises from the Lord.

**Second Reading:  
2 Timothy 1:8-10**

Following the Gospel entails some hardship.

**Gospel:  
Matthew 17:1-9**

Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John.