

St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Camp Hill



No.7

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A

08 March 2026

CONTACT DETAILS:

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W: 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

Local Safeguarding Rep

Michael Williamson
Lsr.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary

Talitha Power
stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Pastoral Council

Michael Williamson—Chair

Parish Finance Council

Anthony Oostenbroek—Chair

St Thomas' School

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The Thirst That Only Christ Can Satisfy.... On this Third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel brings us to a well in the town of Sychar, where Jesus meets the Samaritan woman. It is a simple scene a tired traveller asking for a drink of water yet it reveals something profound about our lives and our faith. We all understand physical thirst. Living here in Australia, we know how quickly dry land longs for rain. Without water, everything withers. In the same way, our souls thirst. Beneath our daily routines, responsibilities, and concerns, there is a deeper longing a thirst for meaning, love, forgiveness and for God. The Samaritan woman came to draw ordinary water. Instead, she encountered Jesus, who offered her "living water." At first, she misunderstood Him, thinking only of physical water. Slowly, however, she came to realise that He was speaking about something far greater the gift of eternal life, the grace that satisfies the deepest hunger of the human heart.

Like her, we can become preoccupied with the surface of things. We worry about work, finances, health, and plans for the future. These are important, but they are not enough. Without attention to our spiritual life, we can become dry within, even if everything outwardly seems fine. This "living water" first touched us at Baptism. Through the simple yet powerful sign of water, we were welcomed into God's family. We were planted in the garden of the Church, given the grace to grow in faith. Baptism was not just a moment in the past; it was the beginning of a lifelong relationship with Christ. Yet the journey continues. As life unfolds, we grow weary. We face temptations, disappointments, and failures. At times we feel like the Israelites wandering in the desert, complaining of thirst. Lent gently reminds us that we cannot rely on our own strength alone. We need the Lord. We need His Spirit to renew us again and again.

Jesus assures us that this living water is always available. In prayer, in the Eucharist, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, He refreshes and restores us. When we turn back to Him, the desert of our hearts begins to bloom. Deep within every human person is a longing to dwell in the house of the Lord. Even in a world where faith is often questioned and the hope of eternal life dismissed, we hold firmly to Christ's promise. Eternal life is not wishful thinking; it is the gift He offers to those who trust in Him. For the early Christians, this hope gave courage and joy even in suffering. It can do the same for us. The Samaritan woman left her water jar behind and ran to tell others about Jesus. She had found what she did not even know she was searching for. May this Lent help us recognise our own thirst and bring it honestly to the Lord. If we allow Him, He will fill us with His grace, renew our hope, and lead us toward the everlasting life He promises. May we drink deeply of the living water Christ offers, and may our lives bear witness to the joy of knowing Him.

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: 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 Petriola, 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

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Fr Leo Burke, Beatrice Fox, Timothy Marrinan, Antonio Lunaticci, 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, Joan Burlew & Brian Toon.

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

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

Quote of the week

“A small dot can stop a big sentence; but few more dots can give continuity. Amazing but true.... Every ending can be a new beginning....”

The Week Ahead

	3rd Sunday of Lent Year A
Sun - 8th Mar	Mass @ 8.30am & 5:30pm
Mon - 9th Mar	Mass @ 7.00am
Tue - 10th Mar	No Mass until further notice
Wed - 11th Mar	Mass @ 9.00am
Thu - 12th Mar	Mass @ 9.00am Eucharistic Adoration 6-9pm
Fri - 13th Mar	Mass @ 9am Stations of the Cross 7pm
Sat - 14th Mar	Devotion of the Holy Rosary @ 7.30am – Church Vigil Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun - 15th Mar	4th Sunday in Lent Year A Mass @ 8.30am & 5:30pm

Liturgy Roster

THIS WEEK	Mass Organisers	Welcome/ Prayers of the Faithful	1st Reader	2nd Reader	Communion Minister
Sat 7th Mar – 5.30pm	Michael Williamson	Irene Poh & Amanda Yeates	Irene Poh	Amanda Yeates	Mary Harris
Sun 8th Mar – 8.30am	Amanda Sheridan	Mary Rejmer & Mary-Louise Shearer	Mary Rejmer	Mary-Louise Shearer	Amanda Sheridan
Sun 8th Mar – 5.30pm	Caroline Sarra	Oostenbroek Family	Oostenbroek Family	Angelique Cahill	Caroline Sarra
NEXT WEEK					
Sat 14th March – 5.30pm	Tammie Davis	Paul Bergin	Paul Bergin	Required	Tammie Davis
Sun 15th March – 8.30am	Iubu Kelly	Amanda Sheridan & Paul Mead	Amanda Sheridan	Paul Mead	Tess Paolucci
Sun 15th March – 5.30pm	Zuzanna Horniak	Kathryn Flint	Kathryn Flint	Zuzanna Horniak	Zuzanna Horniak

Parish News & Notices



PROJECT Third Sunday of Lent COMPASSION 7-8 March 2026

Monoranjon lives in a village in Bangladesh close to the sea, where floods and storms often damage his crops and his home. With support from Project Compassion, he learnt climate-resilient farming techniques and new ways to diversify his income, helping his family survive and build a safer, more sustainable future.



Please donate today.

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

Request For Meals

St Thomas Friends is a group set up to help and support our Parish and School community families with meals in time of short term emergencies. This group has been going for over 10years and has supported many families over that time. We only had a couple of calls last year but already have had 5 calls this year.

Can You Help??

If you are able to make a couple of meals that we can pass onto those in need, it would be greatly appreciated.
There is a flyer on the stands in the church or call the office for more details.

Baptism

This Sunday



We welcome
Emilia Torbey daughter of Matthew Torbey & Alexandra Kelly, and **Hudson & Mason Shapcott** sons of Matthew & Mikaela Shapcott 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.

St Thomas' Care & Concern

Invite you to

St Patrick's Day Morning Tea

On Thursday 19th March 2026
Healing Mass at 10:30am

Morning Tea to follow in the Hall with raffles.

RSVP: 10th March 2026
Parish Office: 3398 1154

!! EMAIL SCAM ALERT !!

We have been made aware that are **scam emails and text messages** circulating, claiming to be from Fr Dantus Thottathil and asking for money or financial assistance. Please be assured that these messages 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.

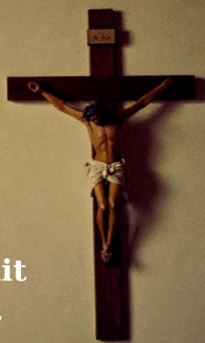
If you are unsure about any message you receive, feel free to contact the parish office for clarification.

Thank you for helping keep our community safe and informed.

Opportunity for Individual Confession - Lent Preparation -

Prepare your heart for Easer by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

- Every Saturday 5:00 pm - 5:20pm
- Thursday 19th and Thursday 26th of March 6:00pm - 7:15pm Fr. John Barlow will be available



Take this opportunity for spiritual renewal as we await the resurrection of Christ.

For the Children...

Jesus meets the WOMAN from SAMARIA

Fill in the missing letters and colour in the picture.

GIVE ME
A D _ I _ K

ANYONE WHO
DRINKS THE WATER
I GIVE WILL
N _ V _ R BE
TH _ R _ T _ AGAIN

YOU WANT ME
TO GIVE YOU
W _ T _ R ?!

SIR,
GIVE ME
S _ M _
OF THAT
WATER.

Third Sunday of Lent Year A

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2. 6-9.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year A

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

Samuel anoints David king.

Second Reading:
Ephesians 5:8-14

Live in the light.

Gospel:
John 9:1-41

On the Sabbath, Jesus cures a man who was blind from birth.