St Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish Camp Hill

No.24 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 05 Jul 2026

CONTACT DETAILS:

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F: https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicParishCampHill/

Office hours:
Mon, Tue, 8:30 am - 1:30pm
Fri 10:30 am - 1:30pm

Sunday Eucharist
Saturday : **5.30pm**
Sunday : **8.30am & 5.30pm**

Weekday Eucharist
Monday, Tuesday, 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
Maria Palacio
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
W: stthomascamphill.qld.edu.au

Before I said my first Mass an old priest gave me two great pieces of advice.

'You know when the congregation is filled with optimists. After a long series of announcements at the end of Mass and then you say, "and finally..." people take out their car keys!' The second was, 'Never underestimate the burdens people bring with them into the church. Often we have little idea of the difficulties and pain our parishioners will be carrying.' I have no idea what you have brought with you to Mass today. I can only imagine the anxiety and burden some of you are carrying. Whatever it is, Jesus invites you to let go of it, if only for a while, and be at peace. Now all this 'come and rest a while' talk can be very pious and not sound all that in touch with reality.

Today's Gospel, however, came from the community of the Apostle Matthew and was written in Jerusalem about 45 years after Jesus' death. We know that this community experienced intense suffering and heavy burdens. They had been expelled from the Synagogue and were being martyred for their faith in Jesus Christ. No wonder they held so strongly to the words, 'Come to me all you who are weary and heavy burdened and I will give you rest.' And they found consolation in Jesus' example, 'take my yoke upon you and learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart.' Since the first century, however, Christianity has been guilty of trying to spiritually wallpaper over some tough realities rather than preaching that God is our companion in facing up to whatever our reality is and dealing with it.

Our faith is not about praying away our problems or fears and wishing it were otherwise. Our faith means we have experienced the love of God in Jesus Christ so that we never carry our burdens alone. God is our companion and guide and this parish Community, as with every Christian community, is called to be the sort of place where we carry each other's burdens and rest with each other awhile. What we celebrate here each Sunday is that God will have the last word, a just, joyous, loving and peaceful word, in this world and when we enter our final rest. Jesus didn't come to us as a divine magician, waving a wand over our problems to wipe away all our tears. Rather, he accompanies us so he can show us that the gift of peace and a release from our life's burdens is often found in having the perspective for exercising the gift of right judgment. Making the best possible choices leads to the alleviation of our pain and difficulties.

This type of spiritual sanity reminds me of the story of the nun who was teaching the communion class, and drew an analogy about how food is essential to life. She asked the class, 'What's small and furry and eats nuts?' To which there was bemused silence. So Sister tried again. 'What's small and furry and eats nuts?' There was now stony silence. Sister then picked out Billy and asked him for the answer. After several awkward moments, Billy tentatively replied,

'Sister, I know the answer is supposed to be Jesus, because the answer to all your questions is always Jesus but, I have to tell you, it sounds like a bloody squirrel to me.' Sometimes the answer is not simply 'Jesus'. As we all know, for some of our difficulties, there is no spiritual quick fix. There is no cheap grace. The answer is not simply Jesus. In confronting issues, however, it is necessary for spiritual and mental health to take time out, to be as gentle with ourselves as possible, to know that the burden of life is shared so that we can make the decisions that will ease the situation. I don't underestimate the burdens some of you have walked into this church with today. Whatever burden you may have brought with you, may you know a moment's rest, the companionship of fellow travellers and the gift of Christ's peace.

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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: Richard Drum, *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, Hannah Parton, Lenore Dobbie, and Bernard Casey, Joanne.*

Recently deceased: *Jason Henrichs , Eileen McKay's, Joseph James Coffey*

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, Rosemary Dugdale, Fr Tom Hegarty, James Montgomery, Mary James, Daniel (Don) Buckley, Florence McKenna, Noel Tessman, Brian McKee, Mark Moloney, Ivy*

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

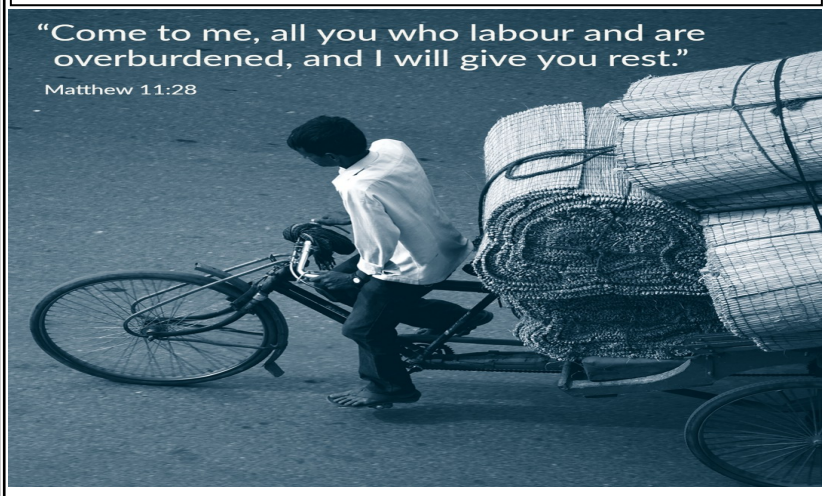
Please consider giving to our Planned Giving Program.
Your continued support for our Parish is much appreciated.
Collections & Planned Giving: BSB:064-786 / Acc: 100012966
Baptisms/Sacrament Programs/ Donations/ All other deposits:

- 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@stopline.com.au



The Week Ahead	
Sun– 05 Jul	**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A** Mass @ 8.30am & Mass @ 5:30pm
Mon - 06 Jul	Mass @ 9:00 AM
Tue - 07 Jul	Mass @ 9:00 AM
Wed - 08 Jul	Mass @ 9.00am
Thu - 09 Jul	Mass @ 9.00am Eucharistic Adoration 6-9pm
Fri - 10 Jul	Mass @ 9am
Sat - 11 Jul	Devotion of the Holy Rosary@ 7.30am – Church Vigil Mass @ 5.30pm
Sun– 12 Jul	**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A** Mass @ 8.30am & Mass @ 5:30pm

Liturgy Roster

THIS WEEK	Mass Organisers	Welcome/ Prayers of the Faithful	1st Reader	2nd Reader	Communion Minister
Sat 04 Jul – 5.30pm	Mary Harris	Brian Kilmartin & Caitie Duncan	Brian Kilmartin	Caitie Duncan	Mary Harris
Sun 05 Jul– 8.30am	Moyra Walls	Kathleen Armstrong	Carmen McCrone	Bryanna Witehira	Lyn Kasatchenko
Sun 05 Jul – 5.30pm	Angelique Cahill (Rejmer)	Brian Harding & Georgia Bergen	Brian Harding	Georgia Bergen	Chris Harding
NEXT WEEK					
Sat 11 Jul – 5.30pm	Michael Williamson	Irene Poh & Amanda Yeates	Irene Poh	Amanda Yeates	**Required**
Sun 12 Jul– 8.30am	Amanda Sheridan	Mary Rejmer & Mary-Louise Shearer	Mary Rejmer	Trish Surawski	Amanda Sheridan
Sun 12 Jul – 5.30pm	Caroline Sarra	Oostenbroek Family & Caroline Sarra	Oostenbroek Family	Caroline Sarra	Caroline Sarra

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026–2027

Confirmation

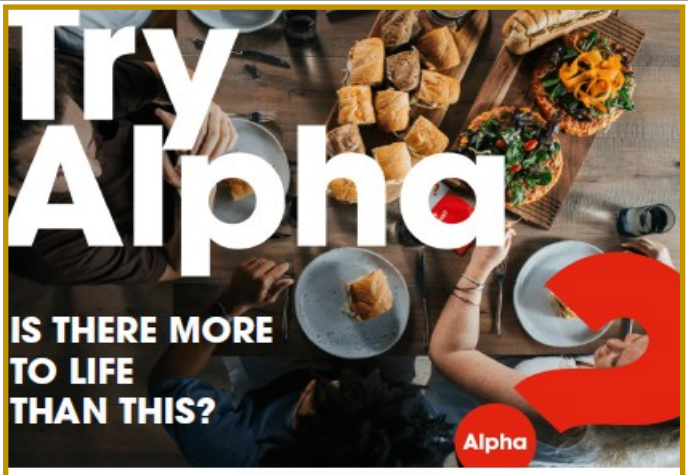
Enrolments are now open for Grade 3 children and for any older children who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

To enrol, please email the Parish Office with a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate by **Friday, 10 July.**

KEY DATES

15 JULY:	Parent Information Session (6.30–7.30 pm, Parish Hall)
25/26 JULY:	Enrolment at either Saturday 5.30 pm or Sunday 8.30 am Mass
1 & 22 AUGUST:	Preparation Sessions (3.00 pm arrival; 3.15–5.15 pm)
31 AUGUST:	Practice Session
2 SEPTEMBER:	Celebration of Confirmation (5.30 pm)

For further information, please contact the **Parish Office.**



Commencing

Thursday, 16th July 2026

6:30pm to 8:30pm

21 Beauvardia Street, Cannon Hill – Parish Hall

The Alpha Course is an opportunity for anyone, from any background, to freely explore life's big questions in a relaxed, open environment.

The course runs over 10 weeks and includes a series of interactive sessions that look at the basics of the Christian faith. Each session includes a light meal, a short talk, and time for open, honest discussions.

JOIN US!

FREE

Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/alpha-chp or use the QR Code

For more information call 0418 466 583

or email at cannonhill.alpha@gmail.com

St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Thank you so much to the parishioners who have donated to our Winter Appeal. We are seeing calls for assistance coming from quite a few people in our local area who have never before called on St Vincent de Paul. As you know making ends meet on a vey meagre income is very challenging as prices for everything have gone up. God Bless you all.

Many thanks
St Thomas Camp Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference members.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-11

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Second Reading: Romans 8:18-23

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

A sower went out to sow.

Readings

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lord says this:
'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14 R. v.1

I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Second Reading: Romans 8:9.11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

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 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'