

St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 29

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

19 July 2020

Ordinary times! Ordinary Times! There is certainly nothing **ordinary** about these times! The most commonly words we are hearing describing present times are... unprecedented, restless, difficult! However **we** are the lucky ones, as it is our faith that reminds us each day that these ARE ordinary times; where we celebrate the whole life of Christ and learn the meaning of living as his disciples. The symbolism of the colour green used during ordinary time represents **HOPE**; like the hope we feel when we see the first buds of spring. And YES! Ordinary times have difficult moments encouraging us to build our resilience.

So let us together recalibrate our lenses of these times as we open our church doors this weekend for three masses and share these upcoming **EXCITING** times. I am so excited to be able to sit in the pew I normally sit in... to look over and share a "peace be with you" with my usual parishioners...to participate in the Eucharist (even if slightly changed). I am excited to hear the words of the mass and scripture which connect me to my faith and my story...to bang out a tune or two of my favourite hymns and hope I don't sound like my mother did (which can always bring a gentle tear to my eye).

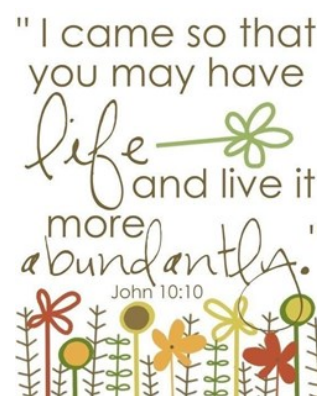
I am excited to feel my heart feel full and warm and set me up for a busy week. I am excited to see the smiles on old and new friends faces and watch for the moment when they realise just how much they missed actually being here in the church! Mostly I am excited to watch the beautiful faces of our parish children, filled with wonderment and pride as they begin preparation for Confirmation and realise we are here for them. The innocence and joy on their faces as Fr Chris gathers them around him at the end of mass is truly a beautiful Christ-filled moment where the hope for a beautiful future generation is experienced.

It would remiss of me not to mention the work of many amazing parishioners who have come together and led us through the past few months and prepared us for the next! I say **thank you** for all who have given and for your authentically warm discipleship. I make special mention of Andrew Challinor who after 25 years of service to the cleaning ministry hangs up his mop to pass the broom on to others to share the joy. Thank you Andrew.

I truly believe that my parents presented me with a gift when they baptised me into the St Thomas community. As I stand on the shoulders of those who went before me and all of those special people who are still a part of this wonderful Parish now and as a mother of 4: Parents there is no greater gift that you can give to your children than a foundation community and a sense of belonging by being active members of a community which provides you with strength and many wonderful stories. I openly invite all parishioners to become active in our parish if only in a small way. Bring your gifts and you will receive much more in return.

Please, in our upcoming masses, follow all of the guidelines which have been set out by the Archdiocese of Brisbane to ensure that we are keeping each other safe and connected. We must be mindful of the reasons why change is occurring and embrace what will be very exciting times **TOGETHER!**

I hope your week is filled with much joy, laughter and excitement and I look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks.

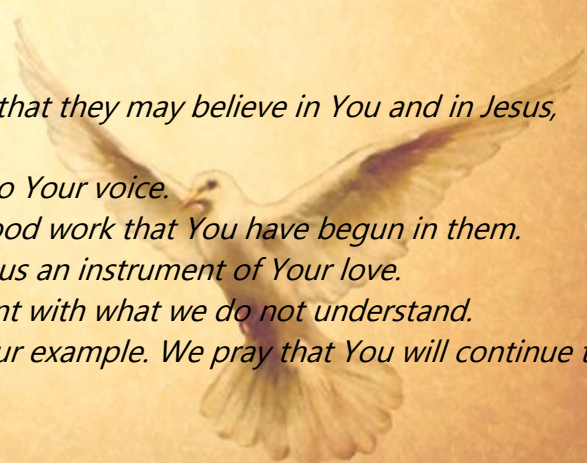


God Bless

Caroline Sarra (Chair, Parish Pastoral Council)

PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:

Lord,
You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus, whom You sent.
Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice.
Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the good work that You have begun in them.
As we prepare these children for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love.
Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand.
Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example. We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



Parish News & Notices

Living the Gospel – Something to Think About

Sometimes we are quick to judge people. We might think it is easy to recognise a 'good' person or a 'bad' person. It is important to remember that every person is capable of both bad and good deeds. We don't always know the full story behind someone's actions. For example, we might condemn a child who takes other children's lunches. Yet, how would we think differently if we knew that child came to school hungry each day without any lunch? Jesus tells us to accept everyone, because only God truly knows a person's heart.

Thank you so much to those parishioners who helped deliver newsletters over the last couple of months during these crazy times.

Your assistance helped to get the weekly parish newsletter to those without other means of staying connected. We really appreciate you stepping up and putting your fellow parishioners first.

As we get back to some sort of normal - remember we are all in this together and we need to continue to support each other!!



Thank You

Despite numbers being increased, you will still need to register for Mass for the foreseeable future to ensure we are following COVID-19 protocols.

To register, go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/st-thomas-parish-30461026974>

Welcome

We pride ourselves on being a warm and inclusive community with many committed and valued members. One of the biggest benefits of being part of such a community is the opportunity to give back. Volunteering is a great way to connect with the community and find a sense of belonging through helping others, sharing your talent and donating your time. **There are many ways, big and small, to be involved in our parish.**

For information on our groups or ministries, go to: www.camphillcatholicparish.org.au/volunteers.html, or contact the parish office.

If you are ready to sign up, please register at <http://archbne.org/welcome> and we will be in touch.

Thank you for your consideration.

'The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve'

Matthew 20: 20-28

CONTACT DETAILS:

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E: stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

W: camphillcatholicparish.org.au

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

Office hours

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

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest - Fr Christopher Obi
obic@bne.catholic.net.au

Children's Ministry Coordinator

Sr Analissa Balderama at
cmc.stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary

Ms Lisa Moroney
stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au



COLLECTIONS

We really appreciate your continued support of our parish during difficult times. While we are not able to pass the collection plate around, you can leave a cash donation in the basket as you leave church.

Otherwise you are also most welcome to make your donations electronically. Go to www.camphillcatholicparish.org.au for more information on our Parish Giving App, as well as the ability to give via credit card or direct debit.

Please contact the parish office with any questions.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19 *In the place of sin, you give repentance.*

2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27 *The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.*

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30 *Let them grow together until the harvest.*



We remember in our prayers

The sick: Betty Bendel, Jim Paterson, Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Joan Burlew, Betty Smith, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Olive Kiely, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Fr Ted Houlihan, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Cletus Obi, Mark, Trish Buckle, Marjorie Cusack, Tim Owen

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