



# St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 32

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th September 2021

## *GOSPEL REFLECTION* by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world.

There is an eschatological dimension to being open to the word of God, because we are opened to hear something from the future. The prophets always speak about this future in the present tense. They see it happening already. Isaiah proclaims, 'Here is your God!' and the world is transformed. Jesus says 'Be open.' The good news always opens us to future possibilities, to personal and communal transformation, to a new creation. With the word of God, the future invades our present.

Although the eschatological future is already present to us, it is only unfolding, it has not yet opened completely. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way. Although the eschatological future is already present, we have not yet put aside all of the biases of the past, we have not yet been fully transformed. But God has spoken, God has come to save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps faith forever.

### Living the Gospel – Open to compassion

When Isaiah described the signs by which the Messiah would be recognised, he identified those people who were isolated from society by their physical afflictions. He portrayed a Messiah who released them from those afflictions and allowed them to re-enter society. That is what Jesus did time and time again. In the healing of the deaf and dumb man, Jesus called on all those around him to also be opened – that their hearts may be opened to compassion. Jesus calls to us through today's gospel to also be open to compassion and open to the needs of those around us.

### Congratulations on your First Holy Communion

May you always feel as close to Jesus  
as you do today,  
May you always count on Him  
to gently guide your way,  
May you always trust in God  
to answer every prayer,  
May you always feel  
Him blessing you  
with His loving care.

*St Thomas' Parish warmly welcome children celebrating their First Holy Communion in our parish over the next two weekends.*

*The Sacrament of First Holy Communion is the sharing in the body and blood of the Lord at Mass (Eucharist) for the first time. When we receive Communion, we believe that we receive the person of Jesus into our very beings. We become one with him, and with each other, in a joyful and meaningful way.*

*We thank parents and families, for preparing the children in prayerful and practical ways and for being a living example through your words and actions.*

*The celebration of this sacrament is a special occasion for the whole parish community. Eating and drinking with the community at Mass signifies that we now belong fully to that community. It is a joy to see our community embrace, and celebrate with, these children.*

### Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**1st reading:** *Isaiah 35: 4-7* Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

**2nd Reading:** *James 2:1-5* Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

**Gospel:** *Mark 7:31-37* He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

## Parish News & Notices

### *Please note:*

There will be **no 9am Mass on Friday 10th September.**

Apologies for any inconvenience.

If you wish to attend Mass that day, nearby parishes are offering Mass:

- + Regina Caeli @ 9am
- + Our Lady of Graces @ 6.30am & 9am
- + St James Coorparoo @ 8am

Go to [brisbanecatholic.org.au/parishes-mass-times/find-mass-or-service/](http://brisbanecatholic.org.au/parishes-mass-times/find-mass-or-service/) for more.

### **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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

**T: 3398 1154**

**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

### **MASS TIMES:**

#### **Sunday Eucharist**

Saturday 5.30pm  
Sunday 8.30am  
Sunday 5.30pm

#### **Weekday Eucharist**

Monday 7.00am  
Tuesday 7.00am  
Thursday 9.00am  
Friday 9.00am  
Public Holiday 9.00am

### **Reconciliation**

Contact the Parish Office

### **Adoration and Benediction**

1st Friday After 9am Mass

### **Anointing of the Sick during Mass**

Thursday 9th Sept 2021 @ 10.30am

### **PARISH TEAM:**

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

### **Children's Ministry Coordinator**

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

### **Parish Secretary**

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

God,

Bless all the fathers,  
and those who have taken on the role of a father,  
as they care for their families.

We ask that you guide them to be good role models  
and loving to their children.

Strengthen them by your love to be a father like you,  
and give them grace, wisdom, tenderness and patience.

Amen

Happy Father's Day!



## National Child Protection Week

This week (5th-11th September) is National Child Protection Week, ending with Safeguarding Sunday on 12th September. The theme for 2021 is: **Every child, in every community, needs a fair go** - all about the importance of the 'bigger picture' in addressing child abuse and neglect and the importance of making sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy.

Child Protection Week 2021 will be an opportunity to translate knowledge into action. This year we have pledged our support publicly as a parish through the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) website: At St Thomas' Parish, **We commit to being a safe, inclusive community for all children by welcoming them into our church and by building strong connections with our parish school.**

During Child Protection Week we will celebrate our Care & Concern Spring Healing Mass and Morning Tea. Grade 6 representatives from St Thomas' school will join us for the Mass and will receive a small gift from the parish to show our commitment. Each child in the school will also receive a template to make a lantern to show that St Thomas' shines a light on child safety. The lanterns will also be made in our Children's Liturgy group next Sunday 12th September.

Children and families are such an integral part of our parish community. We are proud to show our support.

For more information go to: <https://www.napcan.org.au/>



## We remember in our prayers



**The sick:** Joan Scott, Humberto Villalta, Nes Mustafa, Jolanda Villalta, Dan Bishop, Shirley Murphy, Olive Kiely, Sue Douglas, Tom Grant, Lauren Balcombe, Lola Radford, Sonia Mendez, Fr Ron Mollison, Marjorie Cusack, Sue Lamb, Jacob Mu, Megan Bowden, Camel Horn, Fr Ian Wren, Lynn Toon, Shirley Owen

**The Recently Deceased:** Joe Sherlock, Joan Earl

### **Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Catherine McGrath, Bessie King, Eva Shannon, Rosina Agius, Jean Deshon Smith, Margaret Fahy, Norman Waller, Samuel Sedgwick, Michele Greenway, Clarice Swan, Lara Jane Neih, Phelomena McDonald, Helen Bemrose, Jed Minogue, Fay Gee, Lara Mylne, Michael Williams, Maude Rupesinghe, Lurlene Kent, Annie Buckley, John Ashwell, Mervyn Hinds, Thomas Phelan, Gerald Simento, Nicholas Dolan, Thomas Phelan, Richard & Monica Cassidy, Julie Buesel and Owen McCane



# Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

to be celebrated by  
Archbishop Mark Coleridge

at the  
Cathedral of St Stephen  
249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane City

Saturday 25th September, 11.30am

the Mass will also be available via live-stream  
with invitation extended to family & friends

tickets:  
[goldenweddinganniversarymass.eventbrite.com.au](https://goldenweddinganniversarymass.eventbrite.com.au)



Celebrate the diversity of the Catholic Church as we unite in a colourful display of the celebration of the Eucharist at the annual Multicultural Mass.

The Mass will be held on **Sunday 26th September** in observance of World Day of Migrant & Refugees (26 Sept). This year's theme is "Towards an ever wider 'we'". It will be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge and concelebrated by priests ministering to cultural communities throughout the Archdiocese. Cultural dancing/performances and coffee in the cathedral grounds will follow. We welcome and encourage members of cultural communities to wear their traditional cultural attire if appropriate.

Details:

**Time:** 2:30pm – 3:30pm Mass; 3:30pm – 4:30pm dancing and coffee

**Date:** Sunday 26th September 2021

**Location:** St Stephen's Cathedral (Elizabeth St, Brisbane City)

**Register:** <https://annualmulticulturalmass.eventbrite.com.au>

## DATE CLAIMER: Brisbane East Deanery (BED)

St Thomas' are hosting the next BED Meeting on Thursday 16th September at 7pm. Refreshments will be served.

This is a great opportunity to find out more about what is happening in our Deanery and to farewell former Dean, Fr John Garrahy who has retired.

All parishioners welcome. RSVP to the Parish Office.

## THE GRACE OF BAPTISM RETREAT



Discover how precious you are in Christ, receive the Healing Touch of God, experience the Power of the Holy Spirit....

**Presented by:** The Mission Team of CCR Brisbane

A group of lay people whose mission is to "foster a personal conversion and relationship with Jesus Christ through the release of the Holy Spirit."

**Hosted by:** The Darra-Jindalee Agape Prayer Group

**Date:** Saturday, 16 October 2021  
**Time:** 9.30am - 4.30pm  
**Venue:** Church of the Twelve Apostles  
111 Yallambee Rd, Jindalee Qld 4074

Bring your own lunch. Morning tea will be provided.

A love offering will be taken up to cover costs

For registration or further information:  
**CONTACT CHRIS** on

Ph: 0414 481 506 or Email: [gemnkris@gmail.com](mailto:gemnkris@gmail.com)



**'Treasuring Our Late Years' (Reflection series via ZOOM), 6 x Wednesdays, 22 Sept to 27 Oct 2021, 12.45pm-3pm. (AEST)**

Facilitated by Nicole Rotaru rsm, this series offers the opportunity to explore new possibilities that ageing offers daily. It will include input, conversation and the opportunity to depth and integrate reflections and learnings through personal reflection and creative expressions.

Topics covered: ageing; spirituality; relationships; meaning; gratitude; death.

Cost \$180 for the series, or \$30 per session.

Bookings and payment via Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation website at [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne)

For more information, contact:

[secretary@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:secretary@heartoflife.melbourne) or (03) 9890 1101.



**URGENT:** Please join us in saying NO to the Qld assisted suicide Bill.

# MARCH FOR LIFE BRISBANE

SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 2021

**Speakers' Corner  
Parliament House, George St, Brisbane**

**2:30pm to check-in & collect signs**

**3pm rally, with a March afterwards**



## URGENT - PARLIAMENT VOTES IN SEPTEMBER

THE QLD ASSISTED SUICIDE & EUTHANASIA BILL WOULD:

**1**

Force healthcare providers (eg Catholic Health Australia, Anglicare, BaptistCare, UnitingCare, Churches of Christ Care, etc) with institutional conscientious objections to euthanasia to allow an outside doctor on to the premises to euthanise a patient or assist in their suicide.

**2**

Force doctors with a conscientious objection to euthanasia and assisted suicide to refer for it anyway.

**3**

Result in more deaths in Queensland every year including wrongful deaths from coercion, elder abuse, suicide contagion and having little or no access to palliative care services.

### TAKE ACTION! YOUR MP NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU.

#### Meet with your state MP.

Meeting with your state MP is by far the most effective thing you can do. Your state MPs contact details can be found here. **Scan here**



If you aren't sure what electorate you are in please **scan here**



#### Email your MP.

To send an email to your MP asking them to reject the Bill please **scan here**.



As always the march will be a family-friendly event, and Queensland Police will have a presence to help ensure our safety at all times.

*Please wear a white top if you can.*

**For more information please go to  
[www.cherishlife.org.au](http://www.cherishlife.org.au) or call (07) 3871 2445**



*Cherish Life Queensland is honoured to be the sponsor of the March for Life Brisbane.*

2021 TERRACE PAST MOTHERS' *Mass and Gathering*

**Sunday 12 September 9am - 12pm**

Chapel of the Holy Family  
St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

**COST | \$25 (includes morning tea)**  
**RSVP | Thursday 9 September | via Events on College website**

**CONTACT | Nicole Hoffman | [nhof8777@bigpond.net.au](mailto:nhof8777@bigpond.net.au)**

We are meant to accompany each other,  
as Jesus accompanies us.  
We carry each other.  
We urge each other.  
We encourage each other.

~ Kerry Weber ~