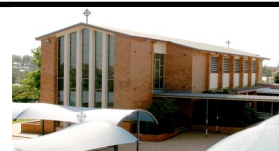


St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 33

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

16 August 2020

What should one do if, in the long run, an awareness comes from a serious gap between that which is, and that which should be? The story of the Canaanite woman in the Gospel this weekend serves as a response. She was unlike Peter and the other disciples, who saw Jesus walking on the sea, and thought him a ghost. Their journey of faith started with doubt. Fair enough, considering the fear that gripped them because they were tossed by the sea. For the Canaanite lady, it all began with sheer frustration over what was happening in her family, and unsuccessful attempts to save her daughter. She went in search of answers elsewhere - in Jesus Christ. It seems at first Jesus was 'putting her off' - or so the disciples thought when he hastened to plead on her behalf. The surprise was that Jesus, the master opportunist, was at it again: another rare opportunity to teach us that salvation is for all.

The same eloquent message underlines the First reading from the prophet Isaiah, where the call from God is no longer the reserve of a certain group of people but is for everyone. The Canaanite woman, by conscience, was not going to stay within the boundary of her territory - or what her initial belief system afforded her - while her daughter underwent pain and anguish caused by the devil. So she said, "please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps falling from the master's table." Her trust and uncompromising faith won and led Jesus into acting.

The COVID restrictions came, ultimately for our safety and good. Parishes immediately thought of ways to remain visible, which our Parish successfully did. Many thanks to our amazing ministers and their resilience in thinking outside the box. On several occasions, it would seem that the news and the reality of what was happening around the world might get the better of us. Rightly so, for what touches others affect us all. However, it turned out to be a blessing in disguise. As a Parish, we knew that, in reality, change is the one constant thing on earth; only faith can move us forward. We came to understand the lifestyle in living out our faith; which is not limited to trusting in God but also is a motivation for coping in the face of things around us - earthly and human endeavours come to grief. With the resumption of all three-weekend masses and weekday masses, we are acting within the changing terrain, which requires we be more sensitive and watchful of others. Our faith presupposes a willingness to surrender to God's complete terms and conditions because as St. Paul says, "*God's gift and call are irrevocable*".

God Bless, Fr Christopher

Living the Gospel...A Family Prayer:

My God,

I believe in you, I trust in you, I love you above all things,

With all my heart and mind and strength.

Amen

Family Discussion Points

Talk together about what you found surprising about what Jesus does and says in today's story. Has someone ever ignored you as Jesus did to the woman when she called him the first time? Talk about how you felt. Why didn't the woman give up? Why did she continue calling Jesus to help her daughter? Talk about how Jesus is always ready to answer the prayers of anyone who has strong faith in God.



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 *I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain. .*

2nd Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 *The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.*

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28 *Woman, you have great faith.*

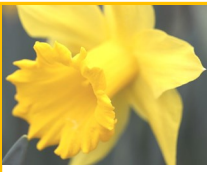


PARISH GIVING APP

Don't forget to check out our new Parish Giving app for one off donations, or to set up a regular contribution. Go to www.camphillcatholicparish.org.au/planned-giving.html for more information.

We thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Parish News & Notices



Care & Concern Date Claimer

St Thomas' Care & Concern will be hosting a Spring Healing Mass on Thursday 10th September. Invitations will be out in late August. If you would like to be included on our invitation list for this and future events, or know a family member, neighbour or friend who might like to join us;

Please contact the Parish Office:

stthomas@bne.catholic.net.au or phone 3398 1154.



Next Saturday 22nd August marks Earth Overshoot day, the day our demands for ecological resources exceeds what the earth can renew in a year. This is driven by our attitudes and disconnect towards the Earth, our common home that God created and entrusted to our care. We can raise this issue in the public consciousness and create a call for transformation of our attitudes and actions by coming together in symbolic action and prayer.

What can I do to help on Earth Overshoot Day?

- Light a candle or do some other symbolic action shortly before midday on Friday 21 August as an alert to Earth Overshoot Day.
- Pray for people to see the ecological crises in our midst and for "ecological conversion."

For more information visit www.overshootday.org

Feast of the Assumption

This Saturday 15th August we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary which signals the end of Mary's earthly life as she is assumed - body and soul - into heaven. **Fr Christopher will celebrate Mass in our Church at 9am.**

For those unable to attend, Mass will be live streamed from the Cathedral at 8am. Click here to watch:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/>

PRAYER TO MARY

Holy Mary,

On this day, we honour your life as the chosen Mother of Jesus.

We remember your dedication to God and the joy and heartache you had in your life as you followed God's plan for you.

We pray for the love you had for God, the hope you had in Jesus, and the joy you found in your heart.

Pray for us as we grow in love, hope and joy.

AMEN



What separates PRIVILEGE
from ENTITLEMENT
is GRATITUDE.

~ Brene Brown ~

CONTACT DETAILS:

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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



COVID TIP:

While you wash your hands, say an *Our Father*.

If you say it slowly it will take about 20 seconds, which is the time experts recommend for hand washing. Why not give it a try and turn washing your hands into a spiritual experience!

Continuing our return to the Church:

Just a reminder we are now back to our usual weekday Mass schedule:



- Monday @ 6.30am
- Tuesday @ 6.30am
- Thursday @ 9am
- Friday @ 9am

It is not necessary to register online.

Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions.



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, Joe Sherlock

Recently deceased: Tim Owen

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Joan Dennis, Arpad (Jack) Glockner, Mary Ellis, Hilda Burke, Elizabeth Ives, Corliss Newman, Terence Sullivan, Dorothy Traynor, Maureen Morrissey, Eulalie Patterson, John Seppanen, Graham Underwood, John Proudfoot, Eileen Dendle, Athol Wild, Lee Hunt, Amy Campbell, Ted Hanns, Bill O'Brien, Helen Bemrose, Fay Gee, Lurlene Kent, Annie Buckley, John Ashwell, Dermott Casey, Margaret Moffat, Peter Riley, Alice Pacey, Lynette Buesel, Diana Calvisi, Lance Fry, Shirley Tessmann, Daphne Waller & Aidan Hunt