

St Thomas the Apostle Parish Camp Hill



No. 37

Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

13 September 2020

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Forgiveness

I don't like the phrase: 'Forgive and forget'. Remembering can be an important part of healing. Forgiving is about giving up the desire 'to get even', making sure that the 'punishment fits the crime'. It is that sort of forgiveness which we dare to ask of God for ourselves. But here's the catch: it is that sort of forgiveness which we must practise towards others.

When we don't, we are like the principal debtor in Jesus' story. In harshly dealing with a minor debtor, he refused to share his king's quality of forgiveness. If we don't pass on this aspect of God's life to others, then we are warned that we will end up in a hellish situation unable to share in the fullness of Divine life.

It is easy to talk 'Big Picture' forgiveness. It is much harder within the family or circle of acquaintances. It seems impossible to simply will it. But we have to ask for the grace to do it.

We could pause for a moment to pray:

'Our Father who art in Heaven ... forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

Living the Gospel...Just like Peter.

Throughout the gospels, Peter is a fantastic example of the common person. He has insights of faith at times but usually messes it up with his next breath. His question in this week's gospel is one that any one of us might ask. I try to do what's right, but how long do I have to hang in there? There has to be a limit to patience with someone who keeps upsetting me, surely? Jesus shows us that if we operate from a motivation of compassion and a desire to constantly build relationships that are life-giving for both parties, then there is no end to the number of times that we try to re-build that relationship.

UPCOMING APPEALS

HOLY LAND COLLECTION - THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we will take the annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land. **Please place your donation in the marked buckets at the church entrance and exit.**

This collection supports the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land. Last year, Australian Catholics donated \$1.3 million to this cause. This year, we are again facing great challenges due to COVID-19, but your generosity would again be greatly appreciated.

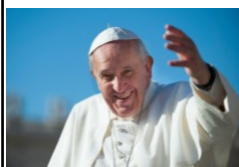
Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land and please also keep them in your prayers.



2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community

19 – 20 September 2020



Be blessed and bless others with your gift

Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. **Next week on 19/20 September** - we will take the Annual Catholic Campaign collection. Your gift will be a blessing to struggling families; seminarians & retired priests; and children in our community in dire need of the love and care of a Catholic community.

Envelopes are available this weekend for you to take home, complete and return next week. You can also donate online at: <https://bit.ly/3lcVwox>

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7 *Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven..*

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9 *Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.*

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 *I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.*

This week in our Community ...



Happy 95th Birthday to Joan Burlew!!

who celebrated on Sunday 6th September.
Joan has been an active member of our parish for many years and an invaluable volunteer with our music and reading ministries.
We wish her every happiness and God's blessing!

Healing Mass...

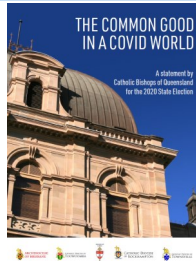
On Thursday Fr Christopher celebrated our Spring Healing Mass. Although unable to host our usual Morning Tea, our amazing Care & Concern group put together a delicious take-home pack with a warm lunch, tea, coffee, hand sanitiser, puzzle book and chocolate. The gift bags were beautifully decorated by some of our St Thomas' school students - special thanks to these talented young artists!. Thanks to Nick & Jenny at HealthSave Pharmacy Norman Park for providing the sanitisers at a discount, and Meals on Wheels Bulimba for the puzzle books. Thanks again to our Liturgy Team for bringing Spring into our church.

It was wonderful to see everyone gathering in the church and the community come together to make this a special celebration.



Catholic Bishops Election Statement

Queensland's Catholic bishops believe the state must discover "a new kind of solidarity" to deal with the impacts of COVID-19 and to find a way beyond the pandemic.



The bishops of Queensland's five Catholic dioceses today launched The Common Good in a COVID World – their combined statement ahead of next month's Queensland election. View a copy of the Statement on our website:

<https://www.camphillcatholicparish.org.au/>

Or call the Parish Office if you'd like a hard copy.

Baptisms

We welcome **Nikola Alexander Popovic**
son of Predrag & Laura
being baptised in our Church this weekend.

May Jesus, who loves all children, bless your precious child with His love and peace on this special day and always.



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Office hours

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

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest - Fr Christopher Obi
obi@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

Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

Archbishop Mark will observe Mass for the special intentions of couples celebrating 50 years of marriage **Saturday 26th September at 11.30am** at St Stephen's Cathedral. For information regarding attendance, please call 3324 3030 or go to: <https://www.cathedralofststephen.org.au/mass-reconciliation-times.html>. Mass will also be live-streamed via the Cathedral website.

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, Marjorie Cusack, Joe Sherlock, Sue Lamb and Teresa Pokoj

Recently deceased: Merv Vetter, Christopher Nwagbaoso.

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



*Two works of mercy
set a person free:
Forgive and you will
be forgiven, and
give and you will
receive.*

St Augustine

