

# St. Thomas

**PARISH BULLETIN**

**BLESSING ON OUR SPECIAL MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:**

May our Dear Lord guard you and bless you as you bring His Eucharist and our love to our brothers and sisters who are unable to be with us today at Mass. We ask this through Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for:  
**People who are travelling on holidays at this time**  
 If you wish to dedicate the Sanctuary Lamp for a week, please put the details and \$10 in an envelope and place it in the collection basket.



**Dear Parishioners,** Our larder is bare again. If you could supply any of the following it would be greatly appreciated: pasta, canned tomatoes/pasta sauce, tuna, cereal, long-life milk, rice. Thank you for all your kind generosity in the past. **The Vinnies Team**



**THE WEDNESDAY LUNCH**

**CLUB** will host a Light Lunch in the Parish Centre after the 12.30pm Communion Service on Wednesday, 4 October. You are cordially invited to join this friendly group. All welcome. Good food, great companionship. Come along and have some fun. See you there.



**ROSARY TO CELEBRATE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA** will be recited in St Thomas' Church on Friday, 13 October after the 9.30am Mass. All welcome to attend.



**Next Weekend's**

**Readings:**  
 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)...  
 Is 5:1-7  
 Phil 4:6-9  
 Mt 21:33-43

**"They do not love that do not show their love."**  
**William Shakespeare**

**26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YR A) 30 SEPTEMBER-1 OCTOBER 2017**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Wayne Davis  
**Address:** 2 College Road Claremont WA 6010  
**Email:** [claremont@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:claremont@perthcatholic.org.au)  
**Office Hours:** Tue/Wed/Fri: 9.15am-2.45pm  
**Safeguarding Officer:**

**Secretary:** Rossana Terpolilli  
**Telephone:** 9384 0598  
**Web:** [www.claremontparish.com.au](http://www.claremontparish.com.au)

Mr Ralph Goodman—Phone No: 0419 740 443  
**MASS TIMES:** **Saturday Vigil:** 5.30pm Kids' Mass;  
**Sunday:** 7.30am, 9.30am, 6.30pm  
**Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat:** 9.00am Mass; **Wed:** 12.30pm Mass  
**RECONCILIATION:** **Sat:** 8.30-9.00am



**WORDS FROM YOUR SOUL TO BLESS YOUR WORK**

May the light of your soul guide you.  
 May the light of your soul bless the work you do with the secret love and warmth of your heart.  
 May you see in what you do the beauty of your own soul.  
 May the sacredness of your work bring healing, light and renewal to those who work with you  
 and to those who see and receive your work.  
 May you work never weary you.  
 May it release within you wellsprings of refreshment, inspiration and excitement.  
 May you be present in what you do.  
 May you never become lost in the bland absences.  
 May the day never burden you.  
 May dawn find you awake and alert, approaching your new day with dreams, possibilities and promises.  
 May evening find you gracious and fulfilled.  
 May you go into the night, blessed, sheltered and protected.  
 May your soul calm, console and renew you.  
**John O'Donohue, Philosopher, Poet and Mystic**

**The Parable of the Two Sons**

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Matthew 21:31 (NIV)  
 Based on Matthew 20:28-32 (NIV)



Z I N C K I N G D O M L T R K  
 T A K G D W M X V H N K T N W  
 M Z O Y H W A Y V T I Z N W M  
 Y W B R F T J Y X N M R S B O  
 T D G S H E I L M O H Z N O G  
 N R D Z F O T O D A Y F L L W  
 H O U W T F L W O R K L O Y Y  
 G H O T A H T G B E L I E V E  
 G H Q S H D I Q Q G A R N V C  
 S P U E H P J N V M V H S E P  
 G G F Q U Z H S K V O F X S L  
 J K U M J N N I A J J Y L O S  
 V I N E Y A R D I E Q Z K N Q  
 L U F A T H E R F R G A R S W  
 D I O F E Y N D H E F W U W X

MAN	GOD	JOHN	KINGDOM	BELIEVE
THINK	TODAY	WAY	WORK	VINEYARD
SONS	FATHER	TWO	TRUTH	SHOW

**THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM AND**

**CHRISTMAS LITURGIES:** Anyone wishing to join the Choir for the Road to Bethlehem or the Christmas Liturgies, please contact Silvia Kinder at [john.kinder@uwa.edu.au](mailto:john.kinder@uwa.edu.au)

**NEW PARISHIONERS**, and those not so new, please complete the Census Cards which are available in the back of the Church (one for each member of your family) and hand the completed cards to Fr Wayne or one of the acolytes after Mass. It is very important for all new parishioners to register with the Parish and for existing parishioners to update their registration details so that the Parish Office is able to keep accurate records. Please be assured that **ALL INFORMATION WHICH YOU SUPPLY IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND FOR PARISH USE ONLY** in accordance with the Privacy Act of Australia 1997.



**WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS:** We take this opportunity to welcome all new parish members. We hope that you find St Thomas the Apostle a friendly parish community. Please join us after the 7.30am and 9.30am Masses for a 'cuppa' in the parish centre. Say hello to Father, meet some new/old friends, sit down and have a chat. Please become part of the family of St Thomas the Apostle. See you there!



**ARE YOU IN THE ST THOMAS' PARISH PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM? WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE PROGRAM? IF YOU JOIN, YOU WILL ASSIST THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN PLANNING FOR THE PARISH'S FUTURE ON-GOING COSTS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEND YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS WAY, PLEASE PHONE ROSSANA AT THE PARISH OFFICE ON 9384 0598.**



**THOMAS CARE...** If you are in need of emergency assistance, with no family to help you, please contact Sharon on 0400 453 311; Trish on 0434 570 403 or Rossana during office hours on 9384 0598.

**PARISHIONERS PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ROSSANA WILL BE IN THE OFFICE on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 3, 4, 5 October but not Friday, 6 October.**

**Our Privilege Is Service...** I remember being really frustrated with some young retreat leaders. They were discussing who should sleep in beds and on the floor during a retreat where beds were limited. The retreat leaders insisted they should get beds, because they were leaders. Boy, they needed a tongue-lashing from Jesus like the one he gave some Jewish leaders in the reading for this week. It's normal to want privileges after working hard for a position, whether it's team captain, club president, or retreat leader. But Jesus' followers should always be willing to give up privileges to serve others. Many Jewish religious leaders missed Jesus' message and an opportunity to grow closer to God, because they valued their privileges. Like the son in the story, they said yes to God but then didn't do the work God asked of them. They closed their minds to Jesus' message and clung to their power. They rejected Jesus' message to change the system that gave them privileges and power over people. As Christian leaders we need to keep our minds open, even when ideas threaten our egos, our privileges, or our status. Jesus calls us to focus on what's best for the people who look up to us. Can you do that this week when you deal with little brothers and sisters? Can you do it at sports or music practice? During that club or youth group meeting? Sure, privileges are nice, but the greatest privilege is to follow Jesus. This week let's make sure we aren't like the second son. Let's say yes to Jesus' invitation and then set the examples for others that he would set. ***When have the privileges of leadership or being an older sibling tempted you to take advantage of or ignore others?***

**THE BENEFITS OF COMPASSION (By Leigh Tremaine)...** Today, the world is in even more greater need of our compassion than ever before. However, the opportunities for expressing compassion are greater than ever before in history, not least because the Internet enables us to connect with each other globally and become more aware of the suffering that is happening in the world. Staying present to our feelings of wanting to relieve suffering, and allowing them to carry us onward into action, is an important motivational force for authentic living, and is the reason why working in service to others and the natural environment is so rewarding. While we are not responsible for the lives of others, we are responsible for honouring the social, ecological and spiritual whole that we are part of, which we can do through acts of kindness, caring and support—making sure to balance our compassion for others with our compassion for ourselves, so that we do not, for instance, neglect ourselves when serving others. Here are 9 powerful benefits of compassion:

1. Compassion reduces suffering and contributes to the wellbeing of the whole, making the world a better place.
2. Compassion opens your heart.
3. Compassion enlarges your perspective and identity as you discover your commonality with others, realising that, just like you, they experience suffering.
4. Compassion increases your happiness, fulfilment and wellbeing.
5. Compassion enables you to become better connected, improving your social, ecological and spiritual relationships, and inspiring loyalty and commitment in your regular relationships.
6. Compassion improves your health by strengthening your immune system, normalising your blood pressure, lowering your stress and depression, improving your physical recovery from illness, and even extending your life.
7. Compassion enables you to understand yourself and others more as you seek to relieve suffering.
8. Compassion increases the possibilities for peace and reconciliation where there is conflict.
9. Compassion is contagious and spreads outwards, inspiring further acts of compassion and kindness when witnessed and experienced.

**Dear God,** We praise you for your love and faithfulness. We thank you for your protection and care over our families. Thank you that you give us the power to love well; the wisdom to lead and teach our children. We know you're for us; You are Redeemer, Restorer, and Friend, we believe you have good in store. We confess, some days, parenting is tough. Many days we can feel anxious or overwhelmed. We ask that you would make us more like you, more aware of your constant Presence in our lives. Help us to release our children to You, so that You are free to fully accomplish all that You desire, in them, through them. Please fill our families with your truth and cover us with your favour. Lord, we pray for these blessings over our children, today, and every day. **AMEN.**

**MARRIAGES AND BAPTISMS AT ST THOMAS' CHURCH:** Marriages by appointment: 6 months' notice required. \*Baptisms: 10.00am each Saturday, except for the 3rd weekend of the month when Baptisms are held during the 9.30am Mass on Sunday. Contact Rossana (Parish Office) for more details. **PLEASE NOTE:** The Catholic Church requires that baptismal godparents **have been baptised in the Catholic faith** as they are required to make a promise that they believe in God. People who belong to other Christian faiths can also be godparents, **but one must be Catholic.**



**THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

**First Reading: A reading from the prophet Ezekiel**

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.' **The Word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm: (R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**



**Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!**

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**GLORIA....** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

**APOSTLES' CREED....** I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. **Amen.**