

**The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year B: 29-30 June 2024**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Richard Rutkauskas  
**Secretary:** Prue Pupazzoni  
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 Claremont WA 6010  
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**Office Hours:** Tue, Wed, Fri 9.00am -  
 2.00pm  
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**Safeguarding Officers:** TBA  
**Inclusivity Co-Ordinator:**  
 Louise Davenport: 0428752913  
**MASS:**  
**Tue:** 9.00am  
**Wed:** 12.30pm (St Thomas)  
**Thu:** 9.00am  
**Fri:** 9.00am  
**Saturday Vigil:** 5.30pm  
**Sunday:** 7.30am, 9.30am  
**RECONCILIATION:** Sat: 4:30pm



**Next Weekend's Readings**  
 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B  
 Ezekiel 2:2-5  
 Psalm 122 (123)  
 2 Corinthians 12:7-10  
 Mark 6:1-6



**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!



### The Apostle Thomas

is famous for doubting the resurrection of Jesus when his fellow apostles told him about it; but if he is the sceptical apostle, he is also the believing apostle, for having seen and touched a risen man, he made the immediate leap of faith and so became the first apostle to call Jesus God.

Nothing is known about Thomas' later career. A well-known apocryphal document called the *Acts of Thomas* relates his missionary journeys to Persia and India. Although the document as it stands is not historical evidence (it was written to provide evidence for certain heretical Gnostic teachings), it still bears witness to the likelihood of a tradition that Thomas did go to India. If you are writing something that you intend to use to convince people of a controversial doctrine, you do not invent completely new facts: instead, you weave the existing facts and traditions into something that suits your purpose. Thus the very fact that the heretics used a journey of St Thomas to support their case shows us that, in the third century at least, there would have seemed nothing implausible about such a journey. The journey would have been easy enough – important trade routes lay that way – and if some of the apostles went west, to Rome, the centre of the world, there is no reason why some others should not have chosen to go east, to the edge of the known world.

When the Church, inspired by Christ and millennia of prayer and reflection, tries to teach us what to do and what not to do, we pay no attention. We have to go and try it out for ourselves and later, made wise by experience, we discover that the teaching was right all along. We are like my friend's small son. We are like St Thomas, who obstinately wouldn't believe what he was told but had to see and touch for himself. St Thomas the Apostle, if you can stop laughing for long enough, pray for us!



If you have any news to share please forward to Prue: [Claremont@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:Claremont@perthcatholic.org.au)

• **COMMUNION AT HOME.** *If you or someone you know are not able to church and would like a Eucharist Minister to visit each weekend please contact Fr Richard, Prue or Margaret Sweetman. Each month Fr Richard visits Montgomery House, Alfred Carson and Queenslea, in our area for Anointing and Communion. If you have friends or family members who reside in either of these care facilities please let them know.*



• **Louise Davenport has been running Circle of Friends** in our parish for a number of years and the time has come to cease this meet up group. We thank Louise sincerely for her many years of dedication to our special friends

### SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY by Dianne Bergant CSA

Appropriating the Hellenistic concepts of immortality and imperishability, the author reinterprets the Genesis accounts of creation and sin (cf. Genesis 2-3). He argues that God did not make death, but, by sin, humans brought it on themselves. Inheriting the Jewish belief in the relationship between righteousness and life and borrowing the Greek notion of immortality, he claims that: 'justice is immortal (undying)' (v.15). The Epicureans held that incorruption or imperishability (aphtharsía) was a divine quality, which rendered the gods invulnerable to disintegration. Jewish tradition held that humankind was made in the 'image of God' (Gen 1:26-28) The author argues that, though mortal by nature, as images of God human beings were meant to be imperishable. This is a psalm of thanksgiving for deliverance from the peril of death, the nether world, the pit (v.4). The psalmist is also concerned with enemies who would take delight in the misfortune. The prayer asks to be preserved from this insult as well. The psalm does not explicitly state that the suffering was the deserved penalty for wrongdoing. However, that was the customary explanation of misfortune. However, retribution is not the point of the prayer. Rather, the psalm compares the vast difference between God's wrath and God's graciousness. The former is short-lived; the latter is everlasting. God can be trusted to come to the aid of one who cries for help. Some Christians suffered severe financial need, and Paul pleads with the Corinthian Christians to come to their assistance. Their openness to the preaching of Paul revealed them to be an earnest people, devoted to the things of God. Paul appeals to these characteristics as he pleads with them for assistance. He then turns to the example of Jesus, who willingly relinquished life itself for the sake of the Corinthians. This example of Jesus' generous giving is placed before the Corinthians as a motivation for their own generosity to other followers of Jesus. He refers to the story of the manna (Exod 16:18). No one had too much and no one had too little; all were satisfied. Within the gospel story of the healing of Jairus' daughter is the account of the haemorrhaging woman. Because of his privilege in a patriarchal society, the father comes to Jesus openly. As a woman and being unclean, she violates religious and social taboos as she approaches him. This is the only miracle story where Jesus does not initiate the cure. However, both the woman and the man act out of faith. They believe that Jesus has the power to heal, and Jesus grants their wishes. Their faith is in contrast to the incredulity of those gathered at the home of Jairus. At the heart of each of these stories is the question of faith in Jesus, and his power over sickness and death.



Thank you all for your donations to SVDP of food etc for the poor and hungry. The donation box is always at the entrance of the church. Contact Henry on: 0417 985 992. Thank you.  
**God bless from your local Vinnies Team**

**New Parishioners, and those not so new, who wish to update their census details:** Please put your name and address in the space below and drop into the collection basket or email to the office. Thanks!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ No of People in household \_\_\_\_\_

**PS:** If you would like to join the St Thomas' Parish Planned Giving Programme and give your financial support to the Parish, please tick this  box and Prue Pupazzoni (Parish Secretary) will organise for a set of planned giving envelopes to be issued to you. Alternatively, she can arrange for you to make your contributions by direct debit.

**THE ROSARY IS RECITED IN ST THOMAS' CHURCH** at 12.00noon before the 12.30pm mass each Wednesday. If you have a special intention, please phone Stephanie 0408 798 174. You are welcome to come & join us in prayer to Our Lady. Followed by;



**THE WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB** held in the Parish meeting room, after the 12.30 pm Mass, you are all welcome. Please bring a plate to share. *See you there.*



*Divine Heart of Jesus,*

*I offer you through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of the Church, in union with the Eucharistic Sacrifice, my prayers, actions, joys and sufferings of this day in reparation for sins and for the salvation of all people, in the grace of the Holy Spirit and for the glory of the Heavenly Father. Amen.*

**The Holy Father is soon to release a document on the importance of understanding the Sacred Heart of Jesus, in our times.**

**WHATS ON 21 Jul ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL - ORCHESTRAL MASS 2024** Calling young musicians to take part in the St Mary's Cathedral Orchestral Mass 2024. We are looking for young music students from around Perth and join forces with the Cathedral Choir to fill St Mary's Cathedral with glorious sound forming an orchestra and massed choir to sing and play at the **11am Solemn Sung Mass, Sunday 21 July**. Instrumentalists and singers welcome - playing level for orchestral players advisable to be minimum Grade 4 level. Our special guest conductor for 2024 is well-known Perth conductor Sarah Mills Menogue. **Registration close Friday 12 July**. *Further info;* Jacinta at [music.cathedral@petrhcatholic.org.au](mailto:music.cathedral@petrhcatholic.org.au) or phone 08 9223 1377.

**22 Jul CATHOLIC OUTREACH - MERCYCARE AND STAY ON YOUR FEET PRESENTATIONS** MercyCare will talk about aged care services in general, eligibility and how to access these services, and which home care services are available under the different programs; Stay on Your Feet® will provide information and strategies for older adults, their friends and family to prevent slips, trips and falls. Morning tea provided. **Monday 22 July 10am to 12.30pm, Catholic Pastoral Centre, 40A Mary Street, Highgate**. RSVPs is essential by **Wednesday 17 July** to [outreach@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:outreach@perthcatholic.org.au) or 08 9422 7920.

**26 Jul - 28 Jul BENEDICTINE - AN INTRODUCTION TO ECCLESIASTICAL LATIN** Since the very beginning of the Roman Catholic Church, Latin has been its principal language for spiritual and theological literature, as well as for the celebration of the liturgy. A knowledge of Latin is an important resource, which unlocks the vast and rich treasures of the writings of the Church Fathers and saints of Western Christianity in their original form. This weekend will provide a concentrated introduction, which will equip participants with enough knowledge to continue their own studies with confidence. No prior knowledge is required. Presenter Fr Robert Nixon, OSB. Please visit New Norcia's webshop to book: <https://shop.newnorcia.com.au>.

**27 Jul CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE - IN HER FOOTSTEPS: ANSWERING THE INVITATION OF THE FEMININE GENIUS** Do you yearn to dive deeper and embrace your feminine identity as a daughter of God? Step into the journey with other like-minded Catholic women from all walks of life to be formed and equipped for the challenges of our modern world in the footsteps of Mary Magdalene. With engaging keynote speakers, interactive workshops, and fellowship, we aim to inspire and empower women to recognise their God-given gifts and embrace their role as apostles of the faith in their homes, workplaces, schools, and communities. A Collaboration with Centre for Faith Enrichment, Centre for Life, Marriage and Family and University Notre Dame Australia. Visit <https://CLMF.org.au/InHerFootsteps> to stay in the loop for more information

**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.**

Please be aware there will more traffic and children around as the schools are on term break. We wish the Children a happy fun filled term break and trust the teachers will have a wonderful and reenergizing couple of weeks ready for the 3rd term of school.





**First Reading:** A reading from the book of Wisdom (1:13-15; 2:23-24)

Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living. To be – for this he created all; the world's created things have health in them, in them no fatal poison can be found, and Hades holds no power on earth; for virtue is undying. Yet God did make man imperishable, he made him in the image of his own nature; it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world, as those who are his partners will discover.

**The Word of the Lord**

**Responsorial Psalm:** (29:2. 4-6. 11-13. R. v.2)

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. (R.)
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment: his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. (R.)
3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing, O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

**Second Reading:** A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (8:7. 9. 13-1)

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

**The Word of the Lord**

**Gospel Acclamation:** (2 Timothy 1:10)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (5:21-24. 35-43)

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him. Some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Prayer to St Thomas the Apostle** Almighty and everlasting God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with sure and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM:** Are you in the St Thomas' Parish Planned Giving Program? Would you like to join the Program? When 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 Prue at the Parish Office on 9384 0598 during office hours, or fill in one of the direct debit forms available at the back of the church. **Please email me to forward one to you. Thanks Prue**