

# St Thomas the Apostle

## Catholic Parish, Clyde North

Phone: 03 5998 0947

0407 085 532

E-mail: denisobryan13@gmail.com

Parish Office: 50 Heather Grove, Cranbourne East.

PO Box 6089, Clyde, Vic, 3978



2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parishioners,

God's grace and peace be with you.

Next week is Holy Week and I am writing to you with a timeline of the ceremonies up to Easter Sunday, along with an invitation to join together as best we can as a parish in their celebration.

All the following will be shown live on the St Thomas the Apostle Parish, Clyde North, Facebook page. I thank the very many parishioners and friends who have already joined us for our live Masses and the Holy Hour last Friday and also for the video messages. I very much appreciate the encouragement and support that you are giving to me and the parish staff, and, most importantly of all, for your prayers. I can't tell you how grateful we are for your prayerful support.

As we are more confined to our homes please stay in contact with us. I invite you to join us live for the following:

- **Morning Mass** at 9.00am each day
- **Holy Hour on Friday** at 7.30pm (Stations of the Cross & Adoration of Blessed Sacrament)
- **Palm Sunday Mass** with Blessing of Palms at 9.00am (Please have your own palms ready at home before the Mass)
- **Penitential Celebration on Tuesday of Holy Week** at 7.30pm (This is not the Sacrament of Reconciliation but a way of preparing ourselves spiritually for the celebration of the Triduum)
- **Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper** at 7.30pm followed by Adoration (This will include an invitation for families to participate in the Washing of the Feet at home at the appropriate time during this Mass.)
- **Good Friday Stations of the Cross** at 10.00am
- **Good Friday: The Passion of Our Lord** at 3.00pm
- **Easter Vigil** on Saturday at 7.00pm
- **Easter Sunday Mass** at 9.00am

I want to encourage you to take a little time each day to reflect on the past day. When we are faced with so much troubling news we can sometimes lose sight of the graces and blessings that are also part of every day; the beauty of sunrise and sunset, the kindness people show us; unexpected graces in what can seem like a long day at home; the ways in which Jesus is present to us in the love we bear to one another as Christians.

Our ability to recognize these blessings and to give our praise and thanks to God for them also helps us to be conscious that Jesus is with us in varied and wonderful ways every day bearing to us the compassion and mercy for which we long. From this comes our hope and our trust in God's providence in difficult times.

I look forward to joining with you in our parish liturgies, our daily Masses and the great liturgies of Holy Week and Easter. These are at the heart of our parish life. Please invite your friends to join us.

May God's merciful presence with us in Christ Jesus calm our anxiety and fears, bring us the peace of healing, and renew our hope. May the Holy Spirit enliven us for the mission of the church in these times.

May God bless you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denis O'Bryan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a heart symbol between the first and last names.

Fr Denis O'Bryan