

Groups and Meetings

BAPTISM PREPARATION: 1st Sunday of the month 2.00pm for more information or registration call the Parish Office or visit our website.
MARRIAGES: At least 6 months' notice. Call the Parish Office
RCIA: For adults interested to join the Catholic Faith. Classes to begin soon. For enquiries, contact Ruth Marais on 0430 716 664.
SACRAMENT FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN (1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation) :
 Email parishofstthomasap@gmail.com
LITTLE FRIENDS OF JESUS – teaching of the catholic faith to children from Prep – Gr 6. Every Saturday (school term) email: friendsofjesustap@gmail.com
YOUNG ADULT GROUP: Ages: 18-35 years. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.
ST VINNIES PHONE ROOM – if you or someone you know need assistance from St Vinnies, please call 5995 0211.

Mass Intentions	
Saturday (16/12) 6.00pm	: Repose of the souls of Gennaro & Rosina Piraino
Sunday (17/12) 9.00am	: Mass for the People of the parish
10.45am	: Repose of the soul of Raymond Thompson
Monday (18/12)	: No Mass
Tuesday (19/12)	: Repose of the souls of the Doyle, Magee & Stephens families
Wednesday (20/12)	: Repose of the soul of Theresa George
Thursday (21/12)	: Good health for Gillian Apollon
Friday (22/12)	: Good health for Ewan Langson
Saturday (23/12)	: Repose of the souls of Swarna Fernando & Edward Peiris
Pray for the sick:	: Fr Bernard Buckley, Luicile Noel, Sue Dower, Salvador Guidos, Albert Hartung, Greg Recalde, Carol Vincenz, Anura Fernando, Ross Smith, Clermont Ignace, John Stray, Ben Kerr, Gillian Apollon, Carmen Vella
Death Anniv/Remb	: Glyniss Sheedy, Fr Cornelius Sheehan, Fr Patrick Kavanagh, Fr John Gowen, Monsignor Thomas Lynch, Fr James Duffy

Parish Council Members:
Fr Denis, Dcn Michael, Jonathan Rubite, Sandra Ignace, Dezlene Orchard, Jerusha Benjamin,
Parish Finance Members:
Fr Denis, Sinclair Thomas, Patrick Ross, Helene Jayamaha, Peter Gomez, Heidi Keel, Ruwan Kumaraperu

Next week's readings:	2 Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14,16	Ro 16:25-27	Lk 1:26-38
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New Parishioner Registration

Please register online at <https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/>
 OR pick up a form from our worship space OR call the Parish Office

SUNDAY ACTIVITY (more activity sheets for children, teens and young adults available in the foyer)

SENIOR WORDSEARCH

I have been chosen to prepare for the Lord

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

Is 61:1-2
 Lk 1:47 & 49, 53-54, R. Is 61:10b
 1 Thes 5:16-24
 Jn 1:19-28

Try to find these words:

- chosen
- desert
- Elijah
- first
- leaders
- news
- one
- peace
- Pharisees
- sister
- water
- year

St Thomas the Apostle

Catholic Parish, Clyde North



"My Lord and My God!"

Church & Parish Office: 5 Fiorelli Blvd, Cranbourne East 3977
Mailing address: PO Box 6089, Clyde VIC 3978
Parish Priest: Fr Denis O'Bryan **Presbytery Phone:** 5999 0059 (After office hours emergency)
Deacon: Michael Manuel **Email:** Michael.Manuel@cdsale.org.au
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm
Parish Office Phone: 5998 0947
Email: parish@stthomasap.org.au **Website:** www.stthomasap.org.au www.facebook.com/stthomasap
Pastoral Associate: Sr Juliana Ogbole **Email:** Clydenorth.pastoralassociate@cdsale.org.au
Parish Secretaries: Christine Salu **Email:** parish@stthomasap.org.au
 Fiona Goh **Email:** Clydenorth.Secretary2@cdsale.org.au
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ann Rode (Wednesday 9.00am – 3.00pm)
Email: Clydenorth.Safety@cdsale.org.au

WELCOME TO OUR MASS

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year B) – 17th December 2023

Masses & Reconciliation Times	Parish Schools
<p>MASS CELEBRATED AT 5 FIORELLI BLVD CRANBOURNE EAST</p> <p>Sunday Masses Saturday Vigil: 6pm Sunday: 9am, 10.45am</p> <p>Weekday Masses (week of 18th Dec – 23rd Dec) Monday: No Mass Tues - Sat: 9.30am Praying of the Holy Rosary after morning Mass</p> <p>ADVENT PARISH RECONCILIATION Wednesday 20th Dec @ 7pm</p> <p>CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS TIMES: Christmas Eve 24th Dec – 7pm Christmas Day 25th Dec – Midnight, 9am & 10.45am New Year's Eve 31st Dec – 7pm New Year's Day 1st Jan – 10am</p>	<p>St Thomas the Apostle Primary School 5 Fiorelli Boulevard, Cranbourne East Phone: 5998 9293 Principal: Mrs Kate Dourley</p> <p>St Peter's Secondary College (Clyde North Campus) 55 MacKillop Way, Clyde North Phone: 5990 7777 Principal: Mr Chris Black</p>

Prayer of Saint Thomas the Apostle

Glorious Saint Thomas, Your love for Jesus, and faith in Him as your Lord and God, are an inspiration for all who seek Jesus. You gave up your life for Him as an Apostle, and as a missionary. You encourage us to be courageous in giving witness to our faith and in proclaiming the Gospel. You lead us to be missionary in our endeavours. As our patron, pray for us as we build a new Catholic Church in Clyde North. We ask your intercession that we may spend ourselves in the service of Jesus and His mission. Under your watchful care may we grow in faith, and generously use our talents, gifts and vision in the service of Christ Jesus, and in love for our neighbour. St Thomas the Apostle Pray For Us

First Reading

Is 61:1-2,10-11

He has sent me to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Lk 1:46-50, 53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R.**

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R.**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R.**

Second Reading

1 The 5:16-24

May you all be kept safe for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel

Jh 1:6-8,19-28

'There stands among you the one coming after me'

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Memorial Acclamation

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

NEW, RELOCATING or LEAVING THE PARISH?

New Parishioners – please register @
<https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/>
Relocating or Leaving Parishioners – please call the parish office

CHURCH BUILDING DONATION

via donation envelope or <https://stthomasap.org.au/donate/> or EFTPOS. Donations are not tax deductible.

SAFEGUARDING – Please do not leave children unsupervised in the church and in the toilets. Our parish is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk. Our Safeguarding Office, Ann Rode, can be contacted via email: clydenorth.safety@cdsale.org.au or call 5998 0947

NOTICES

ADVENT PARISH RECONCILIATION – Our whole parish reconciliation is on Wednesday 20th Dec. Other parishes Advent Reconciliation dates are : Wed 13th Dec St Patrick, Pakenham. Tue 19th Dec Our Lady Help of Christians, Narre Warren. Thur 21st Dec St Agatha's, Cranbourne. All reconciliation is at 7pm.



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (YAG) for 18-35 YEARS: We are now on Instagram  [stthomasap.yag](https://www.instagram.com/stthomasap.yag)

Thank you to all who came to make the Christmas celebrations a fun one! We thank the Lord for His many Blessings throughout the year & the fellowship & dedication of our Adult leaders and Young Adults. 2024 is going to be another exciting year ahead for our Young Adult Groups & our Teen Youth Group. Keep watching this space for updates. New members welcomed. For enquiries, please contact the parish office.

BEST WISHES TO DEACON MICHAEL ON HIS 1ST DIACONATE ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY. We pray the Lord's blessing be upon him and we thank Deacon Michael for his dedication to his ministry in our parish & the community. Parishioners are welcome to write their best wishes on the anniversary card for Deacon Michael in the foyer.

THE PARISH OFFICE is closed from 23rd Dec and will resume on 16th Jan 2024. We wish all our parishioners a very blessed Christmas & a New Year filled with many graces.

THANK YOU to everyone who made our 1st Parish Christmas Carols a successful one! A special thank you to our volunteers & choirs who have made this possible and to all who turned up to share in the joy of Christmas.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SACRAMENTS IN 2024 – Families of children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion &/or Confirmation in 2024 in this parish, please complete the form with the QR code or this link <https://forms.office.com/r/M1w8iT0rvt> to express your interest. Closing date: 22nd Dec

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES & RECEIPT are ready for collection in the foyer. They are arranged in last name order.
VINNIES CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL - The Christmas toy appeal aims to collect toys for ages 0 - 14 years which volunteers from Vinnies will distribute to needy families. Help bring a smile to a child's face this Christmas. Collection boxes available in the foyer till Sunday 17th Dec.

SPECIAL COLLECTION ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE – During Advent 2022, all Australian dioceses were invited to take up a special collection(s) for the people of Ukraine. Hundreds of thousands of dollars was raised to support people in the war-torn nation through the work of *Mudra Sprava* (Wise Action), a Patriarchal Charitable Foundation in Ukraine.

At the Bishops Conference's November 2023 meeting, bishops were asked to again consider if an appeal could be taken for the people of Ukraine during Advent. To support this cause, a special collection will be collected this weekend, 16/17 Dec, at all Masses. Please support generously.

DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH – TAP POINT TERMINALS: Terminals are in the foyer on the on the table under the painting of Our Lady. Please note that these donations are NOT combined with the Planned Giving Stewardship donations. To join or donate to the Planned Giving Stewardship Program please contact the parish office.

ST VINNIES FOOD BIN – if you'd like to help those in the community that are doing it tough, the St Vinnies Food bin in the foyer is available for you to donate non-perishable food. Thank you.

ADORATION CHAPEL - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday after morning Mass till 7pm. For code to access the chapel, please contact the office on 5998 0947 or parish@stthomasap.org.au

AUSTRALIAN NATIVITY SCENE

The annual Australian Nativity Scene (ANS) celebrates 20 years and a big thank you to Fr. Tad, parishioners and well-wishers from all over, who have been supporting this event year after year. The public display opens on 4th December 2023 and concludes on 12th January 2024. Family, friends and groups are invited to view this display before and after the mass, or any other time by prior appointments only. Contact Parish office on 9795 6217 or Wilson on 0428 927 110 for a personalised tour.

For more details, visit: www.australiannativityscene.org

CATHOLIC RESOURCES: formed.org (et free access password from the parish office), shalomworld.org, EWTN.org, aleteia.org

FREE ONLINE ADVENT RESOURCE 2023 – Listen to the Word from the Sydney Archdiocese. <https://gomakedisciples.org.au/>.

JESUIT & IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY CENTRE – Looking for retreats or spiritual formation? Visit www.jisa.org.au

MAGI HOLIDAYS PILGRIMAGE - Fr Maria Raju would like to invite you for an 18-day pilgrimage, departing on 23rd September 2024. This pilgrimage features Fatima, Lourdes, Turin, Milan, Padua, Venice, Florence, Assisi, Rotondo and Rome for an all-inclusive price of \$8790. The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides. For enquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au.

THE BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD @ - This is a natural method of fertility management. It teaches you to recognise your body's natural signal of fertility. For more information, go to <https://billings.life/en/>

2023 CCPR RAFFLE - LIST OF WINNERS DRAWN SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER AT 7:30PM AT RESURRECTION PARISH 402 CORRIGAN ROAD, KEYSBOROUGH Permit No – 10175/23 PRIZE WINNING TICKET NUMBER NAME OF WINNER ORGANISATION SELLING TICKET Kia Picanto Auto 25450 Marian Flynn St Thomas Parish Drysdale | \$5000 Coles/Myer Voucher 26548 Ann McGeary Lifeboat Geelong | \$3000 Coles/Myer Voucher 16925 Liam Gill Holy Trinity Parish East Bentleigh | \$1000 Coles/Myer Voucher 09756 David Swlleksz Holy Family Parish Mt Waverley | \$1000 Coles/Myer Voucher 07033 Mirco Kovac Resurrection Parish Keysborough | \$500 Coles/Myer Voucher 09505 Peter Agardy Holy Family Parish Mt Waverley | \$500 Coles/Myer Voucher 55483 Losefo Holy Child Parish Dallas.

We kindly ask that you keep the house of GOD clean. No Food & Drinks in the Church and check that you have not left any belongings behind before leaving Church.