

Groups and Meetings

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation, 1<sup>st</sup> 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: friendsoffjesussttap@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.

<b>Mass Intentions</b>			<b>Parish Council Members:</b> Fr Denis, Dcn Michael, Jonathan Rubite, Sandra Ignace, Dezlene Orchard, Jerusha Benjamin,
<b>Saturday (23/12)</b>	6.00pm	: Repose of the souls of Guglielmo Piraino	
<b>Sunday (24/12)</b>	9.00am	: Repose of the soul of Parce Clancy	
	10.45am	: Repose of the souls of June & Theodore Aldons & Anna & Wilfred Peres	
<b>Christmas Eve Mass</b>	7pm	: Thanksgiving for the Illarde family	
<b>Christmas Day</b>	9.00am	: Repose of the souls of Donald & Marie Herft	
	10.45am	: Thanksgiving	
	Midnight	: People of the parish	
<b>Tuesday (26/12)</b>		: No Mass	
<b>Wednesday (27/12)</b>		: Repose of the souls of family, friends & benefactors of the Corrigan & Tran families	
<b>Thursday (28/12)</b>		: No Mass	<b>Parish Finance Members:</b> Fr Denis, Sinclair Thomas, Patrick Ross, Helene Jayamaha, Peter Gomez, Heidi Keel, Ruwan Kumaraperu
<b>Friday (29/12)</b>		: Repose of the souls of Emma & William Willrow, Ashlee Taylor & Mark Saldanha	
<b>Saturday (30/12)</b>		: Repose of the souls of Aurora Mesa-Manjanilla Vda Jover, Doroteo Marquez & Gloria Miranda Detabali	
<b>Pray for the sick:</b>		: 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	
<b>Recently deceased</b>		: Peter Hengel (twin brother of Fr Herman. Requiem Mass 10.30am Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec at St Ita Church, Drouin)	
<b>Death Anniv/Remb</b>		: Fr John Nolan, Fr Daniel Lordon, Monsignor James Fitzpatrick, Fr Daniel Dee, Fr George Todd	

Next week’s readings:	Gen 15:1-6,21:1-3	He 11:8,11-12,17-19	Lk 2:22-40
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New Parishioner Registration

Please register online at <https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/>

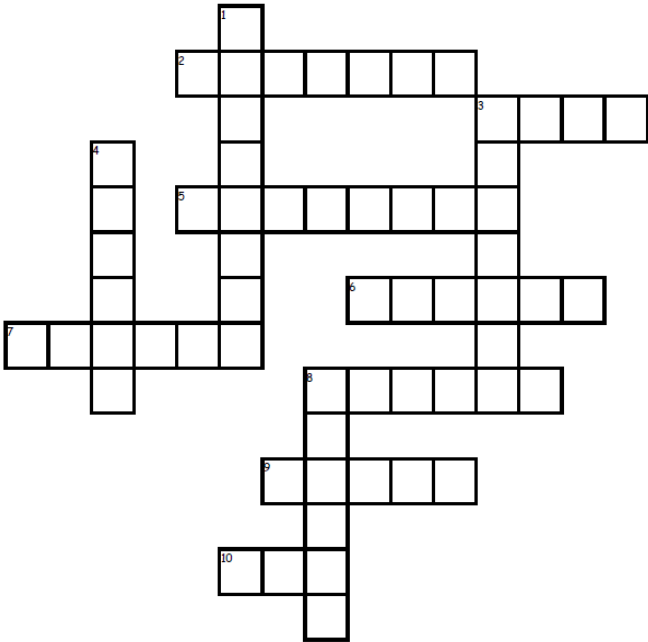
OR pick up a form from our worship space OR call the Parish Office

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

CROSSWORD

Jesus Christ the Good News

Rom 16:25-27  
Ps 47:1-2, 7-8. R. v.8  
Lk 1:26-38



- Across
- 2: the angel sent by God to the town of Nazareth

3: the angel had a message for this person

5: people who spoke of the arrival of the Messiah

6: scared, frightened

7: Mary was engaged to this man

8: the message was kept \_\_\_\_\_ for a long time

9: God commanded his prophets to \_\_\_\_\_ about the good news

10: the opposite of daughter
- Down
- 1: the town where Mary lived

3: information that is passed on to someone else

4: to speak highly of

8: to have strength is to be this

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

Deacon: Michael Manuel

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm

Parish Office Phone: 5998 0947

Email: parish@stthomasap.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Sr Juliana Ogbole

Parish Secretaries: Christine Salu

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ann Rode (Wednesday 9.00am – 3.00pm)

Email: Clydenorth.Safety@cdsale.org.au

Presbytery Phone: 5999 0059 (After office hours emergency)

Email: Michael.Manuel@cdsale.org.au

Website: www.stthomasap.org.au

Email: Clydenorth.pastoralassociate@cdsale.org.au

Email: parish@stthomasap.org.au

Email: Clydenorth.Secretary2@cdsale.org.au

www.facebook.com/stthomasap

WELCOME TO OUR MASS

4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year B) –24<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Masses & Reconciliation Times		Parish Schools
<b>MASS CELEBRATED AT</b> <b>5 FIORELLI BLVD CRANBOURNE EAST</b> <b>Sunday Masses</b> Saturday Vigil: 6pm Sunday: 9am, 10.45am <b>Weekday Masses (week of 25<sup>th</sup> Dec – 30<sup>th</sup> Dec)</b> <b>CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:</b> Christmas Eve 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 7pm & Midnight Christmas Day 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 9am & 10.45am Tues & Thurs – No Mass (Thurs Requiem Mass for Peter Hengel @ 10.30am St Ita’s Church Drouin) Wed, Fri & Sat: 9.30am (praying of the Holy Rosary after morning Mass) <b>NEW YEAR’S DAY MASS</b> New Year’s Eve 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec – 7pm New Year’s Day 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan – 10am <b>FEAST DAYS</b> Tue 26/12 – St Stephen, first martyr Wed 27/12 – St John, Apostle & Evangelist Thur 28/12 – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	<b>Baptism</b> Baptism Preparation 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday every month. Sacrament of Baptism most Sundays. <b>Reconciliation</b> Every Saturday between 5.30pm to 5.45pm. <b>Blessed Sacrament</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Every Friday after morning Mass to 7pm	<b>St Thomas the Apostle Primary School</b> 5 Fiorelli Boulevard, Cranbourne East Phone: 5998 9293 Principal: Mrs Kate Dourley  <b>St Peter’s Secondary College (Clyde North Campus)</b> 55 MacKillop Way, Clyde North Phone: 5990 7777 Principal: Mr Chris Black

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

2 Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88(89):2-5,27,29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages. **R.**

‘He will say to me: “You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me.”  
I will keep my love for him always;  
with him my covenant shall last.’ **R.**

Second Reading

Ro 16:25-27

The mystery is revealed that was kept secret for endless ages

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 1:26-38

'I am the handmaid of the Lord'

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. He went in and said to her, ‘Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.’ She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, ‘Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God’s favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.’ Mary said to the angel, ‘But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?’ ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you’ the angel answered ‘and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.’ ‘I am the handmaid of the Lord,’ said Mary ‘let what you have said be done to me.’ And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Memorial Acclamation

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

<b>NEW, RELOCATING or LEAVING THE PARISH?</b> New Parishioners – please register @ <a href="https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/">https://stthomasap.org.au/new-parishioner-registration/</a> Relocating or Leaving Parishioners – please call the parish office	<b>CHURCH BUILDING DONATION</b> via donation envelope or <a href="https://stthomasap.org.au/donate/">https://stthomasap.org.au/donate/</a> or EFTPOS. Donations are not tax deductible.
<b>SAFEGUARDING</b> – 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: <a href="mailto:clydenorth.safety@cdsale.org.au">clydenorth.safety@cdsale.org.au</a> or call 5998 0947	


**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.**


NOTICES

Message from our Parish Priest

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of all our parish staff I wish you a Christmas filled with Joy, and Peace, and many blessings for the coming New Year. This has been a momentous year for our parish with the opening of our new church and parish offices and the Consecration of our church last April. It has seen an amazingly generous response from hundreds of parishioners as volunteers in various capacities, and we thank every one of you. We remember that we are immersed in the mystery of God’s love for us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Saviour, amongst us. And on New Year’s Day we celebrate the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God, and our Mother too. As we especially honour her as Our Lady Help of Christians and Our Lady of Perpetual Help we pray her intercession for all our families, and especially for peace. With Christine, Fiona, Ann, Sr Julie, Deacon Michael & Pam, we express our gratitude to you all for making this a Spirit filled parish, and we send peace, love, and prayers to your family this Christmas. Fr Denis



**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (YAG) for 18-35 YEARS:** We are now on Instagram   
stthomasap.yag  
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.

**THE PARISH OFFICE is closed** from 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec and will resume on 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024. We wish all our parishioners a very blessed Christmas & a New Year filled with many graces.  
**THE FEAST OF THE EPHIPHANY** – on 6 & 7 Jan. Traditionally marking the door of your home with a blessed chalk is a way of incorporating the liturgical feast of the Epiphany. Fr Denis will be blessing the chalks, and a printout of the prayer is provided. We ask that you take 1 chalk only per family.  
**FEAST OF THE HOLY ESPOUSAL OF MARY & JOSEPH** – This centuries-old feast honoring the union of Mary & Joseph is traditionally celebrated on 23 Jan in different parts of the world. On the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup> /21<sup>st</sup> Jan, a prayer (printout provided) & blessing will be given to married couples at all the weekend Masses as we pray for the grace to imitate the Holy Spouses in every marriage in the same way Christ love for his Church.  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SACRAMENTS IN 2024** – for families of children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion &/or Confirmation in 2024 in this parish, please send email to [parishofstthomasap@gmail.com](mailto:parishofstthomasap@gmail.com) and the Sacrament Team will reply after 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024.  
**STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES & RECEIPT are ready for collection in the foyer. They are arranged in last name order.**  
**VINNIES CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL** – A big thank you to everyone for your generous contribution.  
**SPECIAL COLLECTION ADVENT APPEAL FOR UKRAINE** – Thank you for your generous contribution to this cause. A total of \$2168.80 was collected over the weekend.  
**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 currently is on every Friday after morning Mass till 7pm. **From Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, Adoration will be 24 hrs 7 days a week except during Mass and 1 hr before Mass.** A new passcode will be generated and emailed to those who have registered with the parish office. For those who have not registered with the parish office for the code, please call email: [parish@stthomasap.org.au](mailto:parish@stthomasap.org.au) and we will respond to you after 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024.  
**AUSTRALIAN NATIVITY SCENE** - The public display opens on 4th Dec 2023 and concludes on 12th Jan 2024 @ St Elizabeth Church, Dandenong North. Display before and after the mass, or any other time by prior appointments only. For more details, visit: [www.australiannativityscene.org](http://www.australiannativityscene.org)  
**CATHOLIC RESOURCES:** [formed.org](http://formed.org) (free access password from the parish office), [shalomworld.org](http://shalomworld.org), [EWTN.org](http://EWTN.org), [aleteia.org](http://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](http://www.jisa.org.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.