## **Groups and Meetings**

BAPTISM PREPARATION: 1st Sunday of the month 2.00pm. For more information or registration ring the Parish Office or visit our website. MARRIAGES: At least 6 months' notice. Enquire at the Parish Office

RCIA: For adults interested to join the Catholic Faith. For enquiries, contact Ruth Marais on 0430 716 664 or email: rciastthomasap@outlook.com 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) 4pm email: friendsofjesussttap@gmail.com

VERITAS YOUNG ADULT GROUP: Ages: 18-35 years. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Office. Instagram stthomasap.yag

**VERITAS TEENS** – Ages 13-17 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. Mon – Fri 10am – 2pm LEGION OF MARY PRAESIDIUM - For enquiries or to express your interest, please call Mary on 0432 166 850 or the Parish Office

LITURGY MINISTRIES (Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Altar set-up/pack-up, sacred linen care) please call Eugene 0404 170 798/ Asilo

**MASS INTENTIONS** 

Saturday (20/12) 6.00pm : Repose of the soul of Sheldon Widrose

: Repose of the souls of Gloria Antonio & Stan Bligne **Sunday** (21/12) 9.00am

10.45am : People of the parish

: Repose of the soul of Maxima Berdin

Monday (22/12) : No Mass

**Tuesday** (23/12) : Death anniversary of Catherine Gonsalves

Wednesday (24/12) 6.00pm : Thanksgiving Mass for Ilarde family 9.00pm : Thanksgiving Mass from the Simmons family

Midnight: Repose of the soul of Cheryl Gabelle

Thursday (25/12) 9.00am : For the Holy Father & the Church

: Thanksgiving Mass from the Yong Family 10.45am Friday (26/12) : No Mass

**Saturday** (27/12) : Thanksgiving Mass for Danica Bitoin

Pray for the sick : Fr. Bernie Krotwaar, Derrick Erispe, Anton Davids, Beverley Naik, Marlene Clarke, Fr. Michael Willemsen, Fred Garoni, Rosina Logozzo, Remedios Patawaran, Marie

Luicile Noel, Corazon Laxamana, Rutia Aiava, Dominica Laboucherie, Mary David, Matthew, Berty Chacko, Greg Jacobs, (names > 2 months in sick list may be removed)

Recently deceased : Elizabeth Wanjiku

Death Anniy/Remb : Richard Clarke, Emma Willrow, Marie Herft, Barbara Barlow, Cheryl Gabell, Alice

Redden Germana Mamaril, & deceased clergy of the Diocese of Sale

Parish Council Members:

Fr Denis, Fr Jithin, Den Michael, Jonathan Rubite, Sandra Ignace, Dezlene Orchard, Remona Rao, Jacob Kahonde, and

**Parish Finance** 

Richard Potter

Members: Fr Denis, Fr. Jithin, Charlton Mendes, Declan McDermott,

Shereen

Anandappa, Ruwan Kumaraperu, Sinclair

Thomas.

Col 3:12-21 Mt 2:13-15, 19-23 Next Sunday's readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

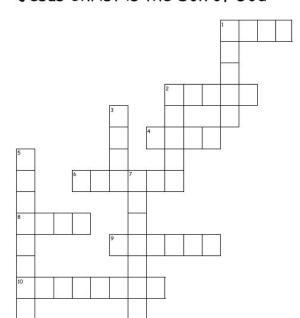
## **New Parishioner Registration**

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

OR pick up a form in the foyer OR call the Parish Office

# **SUNDAY ACTIVITY** (do not draw/write on the seat)

## Jesus Christ is the Son of God



Ps 24:1-2, 3-4abc R.v. (7c and 10b)

#### Across

- 1: sacred
- 2: the angel appeared to Joseph in a ...
- 4: a newborn
- 6: he was engaged to Mary
- 8: Jesus' mother
- 9: the group of people we are related to
- 10: this name means 'God is with us'

- 1: as distinct from animals, a person is a ...
- 2: the opposite of life
- 3: a report of a recent event
- 5: to have given someone your word
- 7: betrothed, to be married

4th Sunday of Advent, Year A [N04ADSUA\_2004\_CW3.rtf] © 2004 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

# St Thomas the Apostle

## Catholic Parish, Clyde North



"My Lord and My God!"

www.facebook.com/stthomasap

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)

**Priest in Residence**: Fr Jithin Anto

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

Pastoral Associate: Christine Salu Email: christine.salu@stthomasap.org.au

Parish Secretaries: Fiona Goh Email: parish@stthomasap.org.au

Manni Carvalho: Email: manni.carvalho@stthomasap.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ann Rode (Wednesday 9.00am – 3.00pm) Email: Clydenorth.Safety@cdsale.org.au



## WELCOME TO OUR MASS

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year A) – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025

### **Mass & Reconciliation Times**

### **Sunday Masses**

Saturday: 6pm

Sunday: 9am, 10.45am & 5.00pm

## Weekday Masses (week of $22^{nd} - 27^{th}$ Dec)

Monday, Wed & Fri – No Morning Mass

Tuesday & Saturday: 9.30 am

Christmas Eve 24/12:6pm, 9pm & midnight

Christmas Day 25/12: 9am & 1045am

Praying of the Holy Rosary after morning Mass

### Solemnity (S), Feast (F) & Memorial (M)

Thu 25/12 – Christmas Day (S)

Fri 26/12 – St Stephen, the first martyr (F)

Sat 27/12 – St John, apostle, evangelist (F)

## **Baptism**

Baptism Preparation 1st Sunday of every month. Sacrament of Baptism most Sundays.

#### Reconciliation

Every Friday & Saturday after morning Mass & Saturday between 5.20pm to 5.40pm.

#### **Blessed Sacrament**

For your safety, we recommend that you use the chapel between the hours of 7am and 7.30pm. Please obtain access code from the Parish Office

## Weddings

To meet with priest 6 months prior to wedding

## **Parish Schools**

## St Peter's Secondary College (Clyde North Campus)

55 MacKillop Way, Clyde North www.stpeters.vic.edu.au Phone: 5990 7777

Principal: Mr Chris Black

### St Thomas the Apostle Primary **School**

5 Fiorelli Boulevard, Cranbourne East

www.cranbourneeast.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 5998 9293

Principal: Mrs Kate Dourley

## St Josephine Bakhita Primary School

40 Wild Goose Way, Clyde North. www.sjbclydenorth.catholic.edu.au

Phone: 5953 9100

Principal: Mrs Kathryn Pepper

## 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 grow 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

First Reading

#### The maiden is with child

The Word of the Lord

## **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 23: 1-6

**R.** Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. **R.** 

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.** 

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **R.** 

Second Reading

Rom 1:1-7

Our apostolic mission is to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations

The Word of the Lord

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

#### **Memorial Acclamation**

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death. O Lord, until you come again.

## NEW, RELOCATING or LEAVING THE PARISH?

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

SAFEGUARDING – Please always supervise your children 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 Officer, Ann Rode, can be contacted via email: clydenorth.safety@cdsale.org.au or call 5998 0947

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT SERVICES:** In immediate danger CALL 000 | Orange Door: 1800 319 354 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm) | Safesteps: 1800 015 188 or safesteps.org.au – any time | 1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732 or 1800respect.org.au - any time | MensLine: 1300 78 99 78 or mensline.org.au – any time | Djirra: (Aboriginal Support Service): 1800 105 302 (Monday to Friday, 9am – 10pm) For more information head to https://safeandequal.org.au/

CARPARK – do note that the entrance to the church carpark is the entrance farther from the church at Gate 2. Gate 1 is for exit only. Please observe ALL carpark signage and arrows especially the Keep Clear area for emergency vehicles. BULLETIN ADVERTISEMENT to be submitted by Wednesday 1:00pm.

### NOTICES

### MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST - Dear Parishioners,

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, the Parish staff, Fr Jithin, Deacon Michael, and I wish you a Christmas filled with the profound tenderness and joy that only the Christ Child can bring. This year has held moments of deep sadness and shadow, particularly the sudden death of Sr Julie Ogbole SON early in the year, and the tragic loss of life at Bondi last Sunday. In the face of such losses and darkness, the Christmas light reminds us that God is intimately with us in our grief, offering a peace the world cannot give.

This Sunday we celebrate in our parish, with Bishop Greg Bennet and visiting parishioners and priests from across the Sale Diocese, the conclusion of the **Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope**. This global celebration has renewed our faith and reminded us that we are a people of Joyful Hope, journeying toward a future held securely in God's hands. On a personal note, this Christmas is bittersweet as I prepare to conclude my time with this wonderful community. In mid-January, I will be moving to my new appointment at Wonthaggi. I am deeply grateful for the years we have shared and for the kindness you have shown me. May the Holy Family bless your homes this season. Fr. Denis, Fr Jithin, Deacon Michael, and the Parish Staff, Christine, Fiona, Ann, Manni, and Alejandra.

### **CLERGY APPOINTMENTS –**

Following the arrival of the new priests Bishop Greg has made the following Assistant Priests Appointments Effective 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

St. Patrick's Parish, Pakenham Fr. V Edward IVDei AP
St. Mary's Cathedral Parish, Sale Fr. Joy Muthappan IVDei AP

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES NEW YEAR MASS TIMES

Wednesday 24th Dec: 6pm, 9pm & 12 midnight
Thursday 25th Dec: 9am & 10.45am

Wednesday 31st Dec: 7pm Adoration followed by 8pm Mass
Thursday 1st Jan: 10am

**BISHOP GREG MESSAGE** – Bishop Greg has issued a message regarding the shooting at Bondi. The copy of the message is available in the notice board.

CONCLUDING JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS – PILGRIMS OF HOPE - A Jubilee is an extraordinary moment of grace in the life of the Church - one that comes only once every 25 years. It is a sacred time of renewal, mercy and deep spiritual blessing. St Thomas the Apostle parish is honoured to invite all parishes across the diocese to gather as 'pilgrims of hope' to share in the concluding celebration. **Date: Sunday 21 December.** The celebration will begin with a Pilgrimage Walk at 4.00pm, departing from St Peter's College and journeying to **St Thomas the Apostle, Clyde North**. This walk is a meaningful expression of our shared journey of faith, gratitude and hope throughout this year. The Jubilee Mass, celebrated by Bishop Greg, will follow at 5.00pm, after which we will gather for fellowship and refreshments. Be part of this rare and grace-filled celebration as we conclude the Jubilee Year together. Limited number of pilgrims passports available on the day. For more information, please contact the parish office on 59980947.

**OFFICE CLOSURE DATES** - The Parish Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year period from 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 and reopen on 6th Jan 2026. For last rite & funeral arrangements **ONLY** please call 5999 0059. For Mass Intention please send an email or drop your envelope (with your contact email or mobile number) in the Parish Office Box in the foyer.

RCIA 2025-2026 - During this time of Advent, our catechumens and candidates continue their spiritual journey towards Christmas. May this Christmas be a special celebration of encountering Jesus with joy, humility and faithfulness. Our last session for the Christmas break will be on Wednesday 17 December 2025 and as a parish community may we share the hope and joy with them through our continued prayers and support. Merry Christmas to all!

FIRST RECONCILIATION 2026 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN – Sacrament of Reconciliation enrolment 2026 NOW OPEN. please scan the QR Code to register. Enrolments CLOSE on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026.



**DIVINE AUSTRALIA RETREAT** – Fr. Antony Parankimalil will be at our parish for Healing Mass on the 7<sup>th</sup> of Jan 2026 @ 6.30 pm.

ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL - Our Conference will again be distributing Christmas presents to those most in need within the Cranbourne/Clyde area. We ask for your generous donation of toys for children 0-14 years of age. Please bring the toys unwrapped and they can be placed inside the double wheelie bin (near the kitchen area). It will be marked as "SVDP Christmas Toy Appeal". This is the last weekend for your donations.

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.