ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH, CLYDE NTH

5 FIORELLI BLVD, CRANBOURNE EAST, 3977 PARISH OFFICE : 5998 0947

PARISH PRIEST: Fr James Fernandez
PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: Fr Jithin Anto
DEACON: Dcn. Michael Manuel

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PARISH SECRETARIES
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1st Sunday of Advent - Year B - 29th November, 2026

BAPTISM
Baptism Preparation
1st Saturday of every month.
Sacrament of Baptism
on Sundays.

CONFESSIONS
Every Friday & Saturday
after morning Mass.

WEDDING
To meet with priest
6 months prior to wedding

ADORATION CHAPEL
Please obtain access code
from the Parish Office

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 David Hansen

St Thomas the Apostle Primary School
5 Fiorelli Boulevard,
Cranbourne East
www.cranbourneeast.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 5998 9293
Acting Principal: Ms Peta Overbury

St Josephine Bakhita Primary School
40 Wild Goose Way, Clyde North.
www.sjbclydenorth.catholic.edu.au
Phone: 5953 9100
Principal: Mrs Kathryn Pepper

St Carlo Acutis Primary School (2027)
121-123 Bellavita Ave. Clyde
Principal: Mrs Michelle Bruitzman

REFLECTION

Today's readings contain several images: the faithfulness of those who suffer, even as they lament their predicament; the admonition to watch and wait; the expectation of the coming of the Day of the Lord. As trustees of the one who is coming, we live in the 'in between' time of ambiguity and hope. The placement of these readings at the beginning of Advent shapes the context for understanding the entire season. They fix our gaze on the world of human pain and then moves beyond it to the hope of a brighter future. Lamentation and expectation find fulfilment in the Day of the Lord.

Waiting is a prominent image this Sunday. Some people wait to be released from suffering, others await the second coming of Christ. Waiting saps our energies and stifles our enthusiasm. Yet wait we must, and as we wait, we wonder: 'What should I be doing?' The readings suggest that we should wait with patient expectation for the day of reconciliation and peace; we should wait in joyful hope that what is to come will come soon. While we wait, we should faithfully fulfil our responsibilities. We believe that we have a future worth waiting for, that there are promises that God will keep. And so we look expectantly to the Day of the Lord, that future day of ultimate fulfilment.

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The first week of Advent invites believers to allow hope to reshape their daily lives. Israel's centuries-long wait for the Messiah was marked not by passive longing but by active, disciplined trust. Their faithfulness set the stage for Christ's arrival, and their perseverance reveals an important truth: hope is not fragile. Hope is steadfast, rooted in God's character rather than human timelines.

Holy Mass Timings this week

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 6pm / Sunday:9am, 10.45am & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES: 1st -5th DECEMBER

Tuesday - Saturday - 9.30am

HOLY ROSARY AFTER MORNING MASSES

Prayers for

For the sick:

Anthony Morril, Joy Adriaanse, Swee Yong, Andrew Mackay, Navaraj Victoria, Mario Gaudio, Celeste, Collette, Rebecca & Sidney Gomez, Margaret Chatelier, Marie Cavalot, Edgar Tellis, Russell Xavier, Maria Nivea Vincent, Bill Sheedy, Mark Aiava, Nic Ithier

Recently deceased: Joe Carvalho

Entrance Antiphon: Ps 24: 1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading: Is 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, 'Our Redeemer' is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from usand gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 79:2-3,15-16, 18-19

R: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R)

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R)

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R)

Second Reading: : 1 Cor 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation : Ps 84:8

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

A Prayer for Advent

Let us open our hearts to receive
the grace of this Advent season,
which is Christ himself,
whom God our Father has revealed
to the entire world.
Where God is born, hope is born.
Where God is born, peace is born.
And where peace is born,
there is no longer room for hatred and for war.
God alone can save us and free us
from the many forms of evil
and selfishness in our midst.
Let us welcome into our lives God's mercy,
which Jesus Christ has bestowed on us,
so that we in turn can show mercy
to our brothers and sisters.
In this way, we will make peace grow!

—Pope Francis

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS
2nd Sunday of Advent
Is 40:1-5,9-11
2 Pet 3:8-14
Mk 1:1-8

Be on your guard, stay awake.....

Fr Jithin's Farewell

You are warmly invited to join us in expressing our heartfelt thanks to Fr. Jithin as he prepares to join the Seminary faculty at Corpus Christi. Let us come together as a parish family to thank his ministry here in our parish and wish him every blessing for the future.

Sunday, 13 December, following the 10.45 am Mass. MARTHAS are coordinating the fellowship and food. Please follow their instructions in bringing a plate to share.

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR FR. JITHIN - We will have a special collection on the weekend of 5th & 6th December. All contributions will be presented as a farewell gift to Fr. Jithin in appreciation of his service to our parish.

Veritas Teens Sausage Sizzle!!

Veritas Teens invites you to our sausage sizzles after each of the weekend masses this weekend **28/29th of November!** It'll be a fantastic weekend with plenty of snags to go around. Enjoy a tasty treat knowing all proceeds go towards supporting Veritas Teens and their mission in supporting our parish's youth. Good food for a good cause - it can't get better than that!

Veritas Teens also encourages our teens to help out with the fundraiser by helping out with sales after mass. If you're interested, please let the team know via the Veritas Teens Parent's Chat on WhatsApp. All help will be greatly appreciated!

Carols by candle light

SATURDAY,19TH DECEMBER, 6PM

Spread the joy !!

HIGH LIGHTS

*Several choirs of our parish leading us in Carol singing
*Children & Youth enacting the Christmas Story
*Multi-Cultural Food organized by Communities under Marthas' guidance

Save the date

CONTACTS :

FOR CHOIR & PLAY
Vivian - 0423 584 230

FOR FOOD ORGANIZING
Kristal - 0430 761 100
Wendy - 0414 191 694

We invite leaders from every cultural group to take the initiative to set up your food stall

Let's come together to celebrate the birth of our Saviour

Advent

KINDNESS

This Advent, let us prepare our hearts for Jesus by spreading kindness and love through little acts of goodness every day! Children, share your random act of kindness on a note and pin it on our **"Shine Your Kindness" Board in the foyer of the Church**– let's make this Advent season shine with love, joy and kindness!

Safeguarding: Code of Conduct

A gentle reminder for our volunteers: As part of our commitment to safe and caring ministry, we invite any volunteer who has not yet signed the 2025 Diocese Code of Conduct to please do so. The declaration page can be found in the working sacristy, and the submission box is located there as well.Thank you for the generous way you serve our parish community.

SAFEGUARDING in Parish Ministry

THE SHIFT from "PSO checks compliance" to "Ministry Leaders own compliance for their ministry"
The PSO enables, advises and provides assurance

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY THE 30TH OF NOVEMBER

Congratulations !!

Wren William Adriel & Mackenzie Marie Pereira

who are our latest addition to our Catholic Community through the Sacrament of Baptism during this weekend. Let us pray for these children and their families.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 28/11 - 6pm - Repose of the souls of Carlton Narcis & Miltina Creado &
Thanksgiving for Mario & Annie on their wedding anniversary
Sun 29/11 - 9am - Repose of the souls of Henry Peters & Frances Cassar
Birthday thanksgiving for Aaron Fernando
10.45am -Repose of the souls of Dennis Danker Gois, Edward Rajendran & Jeromias Vareeth

5pm - Repose of the souls of Odwell D'Silva & John Thengumkudiyil
Thanksgiving & blessing for Josh & healing & blessing for Cynthia
Tue 01/12 - Repose of the soul of Louis Murray, Annie Meneaud & Elia Vivier
Wed 02/12 - Repose of the souls of Ralph & Stephen Smith

Thur 03/12 -

Fri 04/12 -
Sat 05/12 -

Eternal rest grant unto them O' Lord and perpetual light shine upon

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

This Christmas, help us spread joy and kindness to those in need by putting together a Christmas Hamper, with donations of new toys and non-perishable food items.

From the 28th/29th Nov - Handing out of Christmas Hamper envelopes
(with details of families in need)



19th/20th Dec - Collection of completed Hampers

21st Dec - Hamper Distribution Day

More information to come soon
If you have any questions contact Priscilla Crasto on 0423584229

SIMBANG GABI 2026 @ ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE

DATE	MASS TIME	CELEBRANT
Tue 15 December	5:00 – 6:00 PM	Fr James Fernandez
Wed 16 December	7:30 – 8:30 PM	Fr Denis O'Bryan
Thu 17 December	7:30 – 8:30 PM	Fr Denib Josette Suguitan
Fri 18 December	7:30 – 8:30 PM	Fr Justel Callos
Sat 19 December	5:00 – 6:00 PM	Fr Jithin Anto
Sun 20 December	5:00 – 6:00 PM	Fr James Fernandez
Mon 21 December	7:30 – 8:30 PM	Fr Novie Lim
Tue 22 December	7:30 – 8:30 PM	Fr Jithin Anto
Wed 23 December	7:30 – 8:30 PM	Fr James Fernandez

Advent 2026 Reconciliation schedule (7pm)



St Michael's Berwick 11th December
St Thomas the Apostle Clyde 15th December
OLHC Narre Warren 16th December
St Patrick's Pakenham 17th December
St Agatha's Cranbourne 18th December

Preparing our hearts to welcome Christ this season



Special collection this weekend for the Military Ordinariate

The mission of the Australian Catholic Military Ordinariate is to ensure that all members of the Australian Defence community receive the highest level of pastoral care.
A special collection will be taken this weekend, 28th/29th November, in support of this important ministry.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Join us on the first Friday of each month for a sacred evening of worship, prayer and reflection at our church. In December this will take place on the 4th at 7:00 PM. It is a blessed opportunity to spend time with our Lord through Eucharistic adoration, uplifting music, and peaceful contemplation. All are warmly welcome to partake in this spiritual experience.



Piety Stall – Daily Reflection & Liturgical Books & Calendars : The Piety Stall has **God's Word Daily Reflection Liturgical Diary, and the Advent & Christmas Daily Reflection Books** available for purchase. Please visit the Piety Stall and grab your copy to enrich your spiritual journey and prepare for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Thank you for your support!

GROUPS AND MEETINGS

BAPTISM PREPARATION: 1st Saturday of the month 11.30am. Contact Parish Office for Registration
MARRIAGES: At least 6 months' notice.
RCIA ENQUIRY: For adults interested to join the Catholic Faith. For enquiries, contact Parish Office or email: rciastthomasap@outlook.com
RCIC ENQUIRY: For teens (13 - 17yrs) interested to join the catholic Faith or completing their Sacraments contact Parish Office or Christine email:christine.salu@stthomasap.org.au
SACRAMENT FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN: (1st Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation): Visit our website— 'Sacraments for children' Email parishofstthomasap@gmail.com **Check the website for 2027 Dates**
LITTLE FRIENDS OF JESUS: teaching of the catholic faith to children from Prep – Gr 6. Every Tuesday (school term) 5.30 – 6.30pm 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 0452434681

We are committed to the safety, well being and dignity of all children and adults at risk.