



St. Thomas More Catholic Church

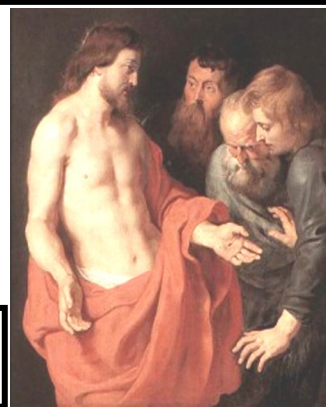
298 BAY ST, BRIGHTON-LE-SANDS, NSW 2216
AUSTRALIA

Phone: 9567 3589

Parish Priest: Fr Manuel Santiago

Permanent Deacon: Rev Mr Raymond Hung

Weekend Mass Times: Sat: 5.00pm, Sun: 8am, 10am & 7pm
Confessions 4.15pm - 4.45pm Saturday Afternoons



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) 14 APRIL, 2024

1ST READING: ACTS 3:13-15. 17-19

Peter said to the people "You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified His servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release Him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the Prince of Life. God, however, raised Him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses."

"Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what He had foretold, when He said through all His prophets that His Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM: Ps 4:2. 4. 7. 9

R. Lord, let your face shine on us.

When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish You released me, have mercy and hear me! **R.**

It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom He loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call Him. **R.**

"What can bring us happiness?" many say. Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. **R.**

I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. **R.**

2ND READING: 1 JOHN 2:1-5

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; He is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping His commandments. Anyone who says, "I know Him",

and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what He has said, God's love comes to perfection in Him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION: CF LUKE 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make Your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when You speak. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:35-48

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about this when Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you!" In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But He said, "Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at My hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch Me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have." And as He said this, He showed them His hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" And they offered Him a piece of grilled fish, which He took and ate before their eyes.

Then He told them, "This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled." He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and He said to them, "So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in His name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 9.30am till 3.30pm
Contact Details: Phone: 9567 3589 **Email:** office@thomasmorebrighton.org.au
Finance Chairman: Mr Peter O'Loughlin **WEBSITE:** www.thomasmorebrighton.org.au
Like us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/298BayStreet>
St Thomas More Primary School: Phone: 9597 5884 - Principal Mr Sean Brown

We remember and pray for those in our parish community who are sick, along with parishioners' special intentions. Names for the sick will be published for 3 weeks then removed unless we receive further notification.

Parishioners who are sick at the moment: Daisy Daneo Bartolo; Danielle, Mariana & Family; Margaret Kazzi; Tony Kazzi; Alfio Dimarco; Fred Spiteri. **Recently Deceased:** Fay McManus; Paul Scott Cleary; Maureen Martin; Brian Martin; Carmesinda Leite De Oliveira; Patrick Formert; Giorgio Festa; Clementina Colagiuri. **Prayers for the Deceased:** Mary, LoLita & Karam Kazzi; Farida & Georges Kazzi; Anna Bia Nguyen; D'Amico and Cecchino Families; Mary, Emmanuel & Charles Portelli; Yvonne Devet; Mary Zammit; Jane Sammut. **Deceased Anniversaries:** Virgilio Ver Manalac; Joseph Tonna; Annie Azzopardi; George Tonna; Emily Zammit; Di Leo & Townson Families; Leonor Diaz Acevedo; Mavis Giblett; Ghassan Touma; Jeanette Jabbour; Eleanor Ferreira; Eufemia Carbone; Florentina Da Silva; Delfim De Paiva; Paul & Mary Gatt; Therese Saliba; Bartolo & Francis Natoli; David & Colleen McIntosh; Jim Dickson; June Waters; Herbert Fenech; Gary Hood; Paul Russell; Joseph Chan; John Charles Longergan; Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Please support our Parish by either:

Our Parish Website:

www.thomasmorebrighton.org.au

Electronic Transfer: To arrange, email:

office@thomasmorebrighton.org.au

May God bless you all for your generosity & support!



Fr Manuel

St. Thomas More, Brighton-Le-Sands

This Week Ahead in the Parish

15 Apr Mon	Monday of the Third Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
16 Apr Tue	Tuesday of the Third Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
17 Apr Wed	Wednesday of the Third Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary 6pm - 7:30pm - Adoration & Rosary
18 Apr Thur	Thursday of the Third Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
19 Apr Fri	Friday of the Third Week of Easter 8am - 9am: Adoration/Benediction 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
20 Apr Sat	Saturday of the Third Week of Easter 4.15pm - 4.45pm - Confessions 5.00pm - Vigil Mass
21 Apr Sun	Fourth Sunday of Easter 8am, 10am, 12:30pm Spanish Mass and 7pm Mass

SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES

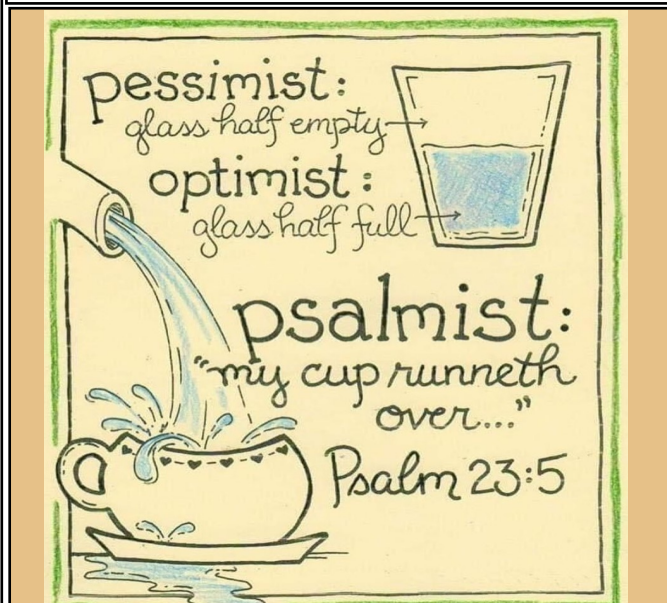


Just a reminder that the Vigil Mass has now changed back to 5pm and Confessions to 4:15-4:45pm following the end of Daylight Saving.

Prayer for Child Protection: Lord, you asked that the little children be allowed to come to you, for it is such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs. You entrust them to the care and protection of our communities of faith. Guide us as we strive to ensure that our Catholic Communities provide a safe environment for each child. We pray especially for all those who have been harmed in their childhood, give them courage in facing the past and lead them to your healing protection. Amen

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney's policy on the care, wellbeing and protection of children and young persons is available on the notice boards. For more info, go to www.sydneycatholic.org or STM Notice Board in Choir area.

3rd Sunday of the Month	20 Apr 5.30 PM (Sat) Vigil	21 Apr 8:00 AM (Sun)	21 Apr 10:00 AM (Sun)	21 Apr 7:00 PM (Sun)
L	T Iakopo M Shea	S Barakat L Rutledge	L Adams K Robinson	J Miskaryan L Lal
E	A Shea	J Meagher B Trott	M Nguyen Zen	J Varga
A	D Blackburn	T Thumboo	A Coll J Damato	R Varga



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: **Child sexual abuse is a crime.** The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. For further info and resources:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/>

Please note - office will not be open before 8.30am

15/4 J Morris, (Volunteer Needed)

22/4 E Collaro; T Gaut



2024 ADULT CONFIRMATIONS FOR ADULTS AND HIGH SCHOOL CHILDREN

Did you miss this important Sacrament? Please email or call the parish office this week on **9567-3589** if you or someone you know has not made their Confirmation and would like to do so.

The process is easy and the sacramental staff of St Thomas More Parish will help you through it. After three lessons, Confirmation will take place at St Mary's Cathedral on Sunday, 19th of May 2024.

PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN REGISTRATIONS FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF CONFIRMATION, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND FIRST RECONCILIATION ARE OPEN ON THE STM WEBSITE



Do you have a knack for simple maths? The STM Counters Ministry is a friendly team that meets once every four weeks.

We require just one more person for our team! If you are interested in learning & volunteering for the STM Counters Ministry, please contact the Parish Office.

Checked out our STM Facebook page??

This is every parishioner's 'go to' page for Parish news, Fr Manuel's 7pm Sunday Mass (watch live or thereafter), inspiring material to help us learn more about our faith, and information about upcoming events!

<https://www.facebook.com/298BayStreet>

Hartford College 2025 Scholarships

Hartford College, a new independent Catholic school for boys which commenced in 2023 near Kingsford, is offering academic scholarships for students going into Years 5-9 in 2025. The scholarships provide assistance to families of boys seeking a Catholic liberal arts education tailored to develop the whole person and the attainment of academic excellence.

Candidates are encouraged to apply early, as applications close 30th June. To express your interest please phone 9184 8840 or visit:

hartfordcollege.nsw.edu.au



Project Compassion Boxes/Envelopes

We would be grateful if all boxes/envelopes be returned as soon as possible. Donations are 100% tax deductible. If you require a receipt, please record your name, address and the amount of your donation on the box/envelopes. Please do not record your name if a receipt is not required.

Camino of St Joseph 2024: An overnight walking pilgrimage to seven churches for men 18+ Friday 26th - Saturday 27th April

The Camino begins with 8.00pm Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers on Friday, 26th April at St Anthony of Padua, Austral, with Confession available from 7.00pm. The Camino will conclude with 6.00am Mass at St Joseph's, Moorebank on Saturday, 27th April followed by a celebration in fellowship with a hot breakfast. Each stop will feature a reflection and a short time in Adoration.

www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1197441



ST THOMAS MORE'S PLAYGROUP

From Crawlers to Pre-Kindy

Gold Coin Donation

for tea/coffee and biscuits.

Please bring a healthy snack and water for your child.



St Thomas More's Catholic Primary School Hall - Francis Avenue Brighton-Le-Sands



9am - 10:30am

Thursday mornings:
Start - 2 May 2024
End - 4 July 2024
(during the school term)

Please contact - Dorothy Coso (Family Educator)
dorothy.coso@syd.catholic.edu.au

Our active parish of STM has something for everyone!

STM Women's Group: Next Sunday, 21st April at 3pm in Parish Centre (3rd Sunday of month).

Food, Faith & Friendship Evening: Next meets on Sunday, 28th April. Invite a friend and form new friendships along the way with other young adults!

STM Children's Liturgy: Returns after the school holiday break on Sunday, 12th May during our 10am Mass (2nd & 4th Sundays during school term).

Men's Breakfast: Next meets on Saturday, 4th May at 9:30am (follows on from the 9am Mass, meets 1st Saturday of the month).

Spanish Mass: Next Sunday, 21st April at 12:30pm.

'Read Me' Bible Study Group: Meets every Saturday at 11:30am - 12:45pm.

STM Playgroup: We're back! See above flyer for details.

Sunday Gospel Reflection:

Take a closer look at the faces of the three apostles on Page 1. The artist beautifully captures Peter & John's feelings as they take in Our Lord's wounds. Then there is *that* look from the third apostle (perhaps the older Bartholomew) as he studies the face of the risen Christ standing in front of him. Jesus stayed true to His word by rising from the dead and appearing to them.

In today's world, Jesus still calls us to trust Him. In the daily devotional, 'God Calling' (a bestseller that has led millions of readers around the world to a deeper and more personal relationship with God), Jesus tells us: "I am your Guide. Strength and help will come to you; just trust Me wholly. Fear not. I am evermore ready to hear than you to ask. Walk in My ways, and know that help will come. Man's need is God's chance to help. I love to help and save. Man's need is God's golden opportunity of letting faith find expression. That expression of faith is all that God needs to manifest His Power. Faith is the Key that unlocks the storehouse of God's resources. My faithful servants, you long for perfection and see your bitter failures. I see faithfulness, and as a mother takes the soiled, imperfect work of her child and invests it with perfection because of the sweet love, so I take your poor faithfulness and crown it with perfection."

Today is the Day of the Unborn Child. The Feast of the Annunciation is internationally recognised as the Day of the Unborn Child. It marks the day Our Lord Jesus Christ became a tiny unborn child in His mother's womb. It is a day of remembrance of the dignity of the unborn and of the millions of unborn children whose lives have been ended by abortion.

Solemn Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral at 10:30am, followed by The Angelus at 12 noon. A street procession will then be led by Archbishop Fisher and Bishop Umbers, followed by an address at Parliament House by Archbishop Julian Porteous. 1:30pm Benediction will then take place at St Mary's Cathedral.

Nappy Company Releases Ad Celebrating 'Every Miracle From God'

The nappy company, EveryLife, has released an ad celebrating the beauty of life. It prides itself on providing "premium products for every baby because every baby is a miracle from God who deserves to be loved, protected, and supported," according to its website. "Life. Every miracle from God. Boy or girl. Black, tan, and white. Planned and unplanned. Gifted and special."

The ad shows images of a woman seeing her baby's heartbeat during an ultrasound, another receiving her baby in her arms for the first time after giving birth, and a father preparing his baby's crib.

The company was created by a group of parents who are passionate about their faith and families. Impacted by the stories of expectant parents who chose life for their babies, they decided to start a company to inspire others to choose life.



We've all heard the words "Regina Coeli" at some point, but what do they mean?

"Regina Coeli" is Latin for "Queen of Heaven." Regina Coeli is recited during the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday in place of the Angelus prayer (which we looked at last weekend). The Regina Coeli can be traced as far back as the 12th century.

During a procession with an image of the Blessed Virgin (that was held to pray for the ending of a pestilence in Rome), angels were heard singing the first three lines of the Regina Coeli antiphon, to which Pope Gregory the Great (590-604) thereupon added the fourth, after which he saw, atop what would consequently become known as the Castel Sant'Angelo, a vision of St Michael the Archangel sheathing his sword, thus signifying the cessation of the plague.

The Regina Coeli:

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.
V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Castel Sant'Angelo in Rome, with a bronze statue of St Michael the Archangel standing atop.