

Anzac Day 2024



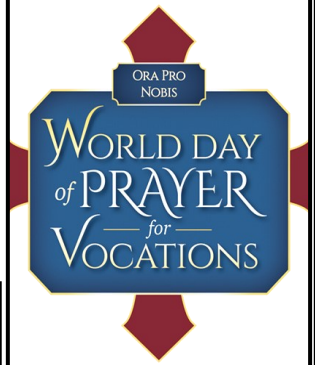
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

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



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B) 21 APRIL, 2024

1ST READING: ACTS 4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: "Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **R.**

I will thank You for You have given answer and You are my Saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His love has no end. **R.**

2ND READING: 1 JOHN 3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world

refused to acknowledge Him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed, we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He really is.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION: JOHN 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know My sheep, and mine know Me. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; I know My own and My own know Me, just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for My sheep.

And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to My voice, and there will be only one flock and one shepherd.

The Father loves me, because I lay down My life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of My own free will, and as it is in My power to lay it down, so it is in My power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by My Father."

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: Leonor Diaz Acevedo; Virgilio Ver Manalac; Joseph Tonna; Annie Azzopardi; George Tonna; 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:

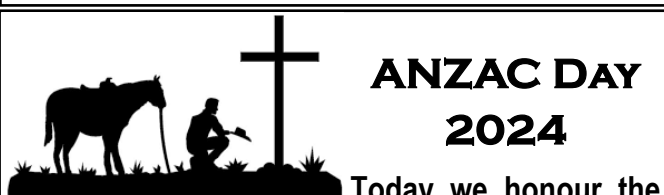
office@thomasmorebrighton.org.au

May God bless you all for your generosity & support!



Fr Manuel

St. Thomas More, Brighton-Le-Sands



**ANZAC DAY
2024**

Today we honour the memory of the ANZACs who served our country with valour and selflessness. We're proud to be part of a community that upholds the spirit of the ANZACs and values their legacy.

We warmly invite all STM parishioners to join us for our 9am Anzac Day Mass this Thursday.



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 safeguardinginquiries@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/>

This Week Ahead in the Parish

22 Apr Mon	Monday of the Fourth Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
23 Apr Tue	Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
24 Apr Wed	Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary 6pm - 7:30pm - Adoration & Rosary
25 Apr Thur	Anzac Day 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
26 Apr Fri	St Mark, Evangelist 8am - 9am: Adoration/Benediction 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
27 Apr Sat	Saturday of the Fourth Week of Easter 4.15pm - 4.45pm - Confessions 5.00pm - Vigil Mass
28 Apr Sun	Fifth Sunday of Easter 8am, 10am and 7pm Mass

We join our prayers to Pope Francis' for the souls of the victims of last Saturday's Westfield Bondi Junction incident, and pray for healing and peace for the injured and traumatised. We especially pray for the injured nine-month old baby who now has a life ahead of her without a mother. Lord, please protect us always! Amen.



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.

4th Sunday of the Month	27 Apr 5.00 PM (Sat) Vigil	28 Apr 8:00 AM (Sun)	28 Apr 10:00 AM (Sun)	28 Apr 7.00 PM (Sun)
C		M Coronel	Ave Maria Choir	
L	M & M Mutuanene	B Trott, T Liaw	P McGovern ONE MORE NEEDED	P Botterill ONE MORE NEEDED
E	M Thompson L Manalac	A Shea G Thumboo	Zen M Pirota	P Botterill
A	L Festa	M Tomasiello	J D'Amato A Coll	R Varga

Please note - office will not be open before 8.30am

22/4 E Collaro; T Gaut
29/4 T Fahey; K North



STM Parish Office Hours:

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed from this Wednesday, 24th April to Friday, 10th May. Normal office hours will resume on Monday, 13th May. For urgent requests, please leave a message on the answering machine, as this will be checked regularly.

2024 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM AT ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

Online registrations are open for all three Sacraments via our parish website

Confirmation will be taking place at St Thomas More Church at 6pm on Tuesday, 4th June. Lessons begin Friday, 3rd May, so please register your child as soon as possible.



On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations:

Discernment Retreat with the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia

Single, Catholic women ages 18-30 are invited to this "come and see" opportunity to discern a vocation to religious life.

Friday 24th - Sunday 26th May

Contact the Sisters at: sydney@op-tn.org

Our first CWF appeal for 2024 will be taking place in two weeks' time on the weekend of 4th / 5th May.

STM Playgroup Restarts 2nd May!

Please join us every Thursday during school term at 9am-10:30am in the school hall, Francis Avenue. Gold coin donation for tea/coffee & biscuits. Please bring a healthy snack and water for your child.

Contact: dorothy.coso@syd.catholic.edu.au

Camino of St Joseph 2024:

An overnight walking pilgrimage to seven churches for men 18+ next weekend,

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 Confessions available from 7.00pm. Concludes with 6.00am Mass at St Joseph's, Moorebank on Saturday, 27th April followed by fellowship over a hot breakfast. Each stop will feature a reflection/short time in Adoration.
www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1197441



Last Reminder for 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.

Statement from the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP



The stabbing of Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel and Father Isaac Royel is shocking and has caused distress to many in the community. Houses of prayer have traditionally been places of peace and solace, refuge and sanctuary and so the video footage of the attack upon a religious leader during a religious service inside a church has been especially confronting. The images of the violence that subsequently occurred outside the church are also confronting. We have seen these types of events in other countries but, up until now, Australia has been largely free from this type of blatant violence in and around places of worship.

Every person in this country, be they bishop or priest, rabbi or imam, minister or congregant, should be able to worship in safety, without fear that they might be subject to acts of violence while gathering in prayer. I urge the faithful to not respond to these events with fear, avoiding places of worship because they are worried about further attacks, nor with anger, engaging in acts of reprisal or revenge. The best response to violence and fear is prayer and peace.

On behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, and in solidarity with other religious leaders, I offer prayerful support to Bishop Emmanuel, Father Royel and all others affected. May the God of peace reign in our land.

Our active parish of STM has something for everyone!

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

Food, Faith & Friendship Evening: Next Sunday, 28th April after 7pm Mass. Invite a friend and form new friendships along the way with other young adults!

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

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

Today's Gospel Reflection: Good Shepherd Sunday

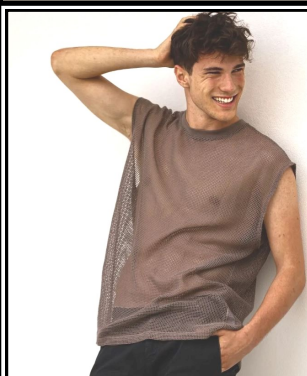
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff,
they comfort me. Psalm 23:4



What is the meaning of Good Shepherd Sunday? The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally celebrated as Good Shepherd or Vocations Sunday. This is because in the Gospel of the day (from St John's Gospel), Jesus speaks of Himself as the shepherd who is prepared to lay down His life for His sheep.

The Church presents before us the beautiful and comforting image of Christ the Good Shepherd, the model of true leadership. Jesus is the Good Shepherd of our lives. He knows us by name, protects us from the evil one, and laid down His life for our salvation. May we never take that for granted!

An inspiring story on this World Day of Prayer for Vocations: Edoardo renounces a promising career for his faith!



Edoardo Santini, considered "the most handsome man in Italy," has decided to leave his promising career as a model and enter a seminary to become a priest. Dancer, swimmer, actor... these were a few of the dreams of Santini, a 21-year-old Italian who in 2019 when he was 17 earned the title of the most handsome young man in his country after winning a national contest.

This award opened doors to the world of fashion, and his future seemed clear: he was destined to become a big star. However, God's plans were different. Santini was going to continue shining, but away from the spotlight and catwalks.

A courageous first step: In a video posted recently on social media, Santini explained that he is on his way "to become, God willing, a priest." He says that during these years he has met people who, "by showing me what it means to 'be Church,' have given me the strength to investigate this question that I had been carrying around since I was little" but which, he says, "I didn't delve into because of fear."

In January 2020 he discovered "the real Church," and that was when on social media he began to talk about God and the call he felt. "Living in God doesn't mean locking yourself inside the church but rather living one's life more fully," he told his more than 11,000 followers on Instagram. He stressed that he didn't feel "alone" in his decision and that he was "tired of satisfying the will of others and posting photos where I am apparently secure and happy."

The young man from the Tuscany region took "a first step" and last year went to live with two priests, which he described as "the most beautiful experience of my life." Sharing his daily life with the priests allowed him to "find in everyday life the answer that I hoped for, which has come to me from above."

"At the end of the year, it was natural for me to ask the bishop to enter the preparatory course, the year preceding life in the seminary. And here I am, studying theology and serving in two parishes of the Diocese of Florence," he said in his video.

He also shared that he was slow in taking the first step "for fear of not being accepted" and that making this decision was something "that terrified him" although, he said honestly, "I built more walls for myself than there were."

Experiencing World Youth Day in Lisbon: Santini also shared on Instagram his experience during World Youth Day last August in Lisbon, Portugal. Through different videos, he showed how this gathering of young people marked a before and after in his life. Between "laughter, dancing, jumping up and down," and new friendships, Santini discovered that "the Church is beautiful." Now, at the age of 21, and after having dared to say "yes" to the call of the Lord, he said he feels really "happy."

God our Father, we thank you for calling men, like Edoardo, and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith here at St Thomas More support vocations in our youth and young adults. Amen.