



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: 5.30pm, Sun: 8am, 10am & 7pm
Confessions 4.30pm - 5.15pm Saturday Afternoons

He is not here;
for He is risen,
as He said.

Matthew 28:6

Easter Sunday
BLESSINGS

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (YEAR B) 31 MARCH, 2024

1ST READING: ACTS 10:34. 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how He began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with Him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything He did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed Him by hanging Him on a tree, yet three days afterwards, God raised Him to life and allowed Him to be seen, not by the whole people, but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with Him after His resurrection from the dead - and He has ordered us to proclaim this to His people and to tell them that God has appointed Him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to Him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through His name." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESP PSALM: Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

2ND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 5:6-8

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

ACCLAMATION: 1 CORINTHIANS 5:7-8 SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to His Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as He rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: He goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb" she said, "and we don't know where they have put Him."

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over His head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Please note that there will be
NO MASSES between 8th-11th APRIL.
Communion Services only.


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: 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:** Vassallo and Attard Families; Leonie Cristi; 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; Delfin 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.

This Week Ahead in the Parish

1 Apr Mon	Monday within the Octave of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
2 Apr Tue	Tuesday within the Octave of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
3 Apr Wed	Wednesday within the Octave of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary 6pm - 7:30pm - Adoration & Rosary
4 Apr Thur	Thursday within the Octave of Easter 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
5 Apr Fri	Friday within the Octave of Easter 8am - 9am: Adoration/Benediction 9am Mass - Followed by Rosary
6 Apr Sat	Saturday within the Octave of Easter 9am First Saturday Mass - Followed by Rosary 4.30pm - 5.15pm - Confessions 5.30pm - Vigil Mass
7 Apr Sun	2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday 8am, 10am and 7pm Mass 

Please note: **NO MASSES** between 8th-11th **APRIL.** Communion Services only.

I wish to extend a very warm welcome and Easter blessings to you and your families. For those visiting our parish this weekend, we are delighted to have you here!

Fr Manuel

"I am with you always! I spoke these words to My disciples after My resurrection. I continue to proclaim this promise to all who will listen." Matt 28:20



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




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



Thank You to all those who have helped with the Easter Masses and Services: Altar Society members, Readers, Extra Ordinary Ministers of Communion, Acolytes, Collectors, Choir members, Cleaners, and all the silent humble helpers! I thank you, may God bless you!

Fr Manuel

 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 the Choir area.**

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/>

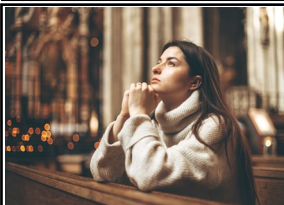
1st Sunday of the Month	6 Apr 5.30 PM (Sat) Vigil	7 Apr 8.00AM (Sun)	7 Apr 10:00 AM (Sun)	7 Apr 7.00 PM (Sun)
L	M Thompson C Palomero	A Grady B Hodgson	L Adams ONE MORE NEEDED	A Kolak M Ziehlke
E	TWO MORE NEEDED	A Grady E Hodgson	C Searson ONE MORE NEEDED	J Varga
A	R Leo L Festa	T Thumboo	J D'Amato A Coll	R Varga (Altar Server)

Please note - office will not be open before 8.30am

Wed 3/4 T Fahey; (Volunteer Needed)
Mon 8/4 A Mackenzie, G Daniels

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHURCH MEMBERS!

We warmly welcome our four new members who have been journeying with us this year, and we send our congratulations to Cherie, Rebecca, Jennie and Aileen who celebrated Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during our Easter Vigil Mass!



A RESPECTFUL SILENCE IN THE CHURCH

Out of charity for other parishioners, you are asked to kindly keep a sacred silence before and after our Masses, and turn your mobiles to silent. In doing so, we are respecting others who want to remain in quiet prayer.

Thank you for maintaining reverence inside the church and for helping to make it a sacred place for all of Us.

Fr Manuel



Daylight Saving Ends Next Sunday, 7th April

Please keep this in mind when attending next Sunday's Masses.

*On 13th April, the Saturday evening Vigil Mass changes back to 5pm

* Confessions to 4:15 - 4:45pm.



*The Funeral Mass for
STM long-time volunteer
Fay McManus
will be held at St Thomas More
Church on Tuesday, 2nd April
at 10:30am.*



2024 Sacramental Program at St Thomas More Parish

Online registrations **are now open** via our parish website:

www.thomasmorebrighton.org.au

Confirmation will take place at St Thomas More Church at 6pm on Tuesday, 4th June. Our Confirmation Information Evening will be held at **6:30pm this Wednesday, 3rd April, so please register your child as soon as possible.**

First Holy Communion will take place at St Thomas More Church at 11:30am on Sunday, 8th September.

Reconciliation (Confession) will take place at St Thomas More Church at 4pm on Saturday, 16th November.

Dates for Adult Confirmation & High School Children will be Sunday, 19th May and Sunday, 27th October at St Mary's Cathedral.

Visitor Offering Envelopes / TAP & Go are now available at the back of the church. Thank you so much for supporting our Parish!



2024 PARISH COURSE FOR ACOLYTES

On these Saturdays between 9am-12pm at the St Thomas More Parish Centre:

This Saturday, 6th April (attend 9am 1st Saturday Mass with us, or start course at 9:30am), 13th April and 20th April.



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.

Planned Giving Boxes are awaiting collection at the back of the church.

Could Parishioners please check to see if you know any of the people who are left.

Our active parish of STM has something for everyone!

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

Food, Faith & Friendship Evening: Next meets Sunday, 28th April. Please note: we will not be meeting in March due to our evening coinciding with Easter Sunday.

STM Children's Liturgy: Sunday, 14th April during our 10am Mass (2nd & 4th Sundays during school term).

Men's Breakfast: No Meeting in April—Next meeting Saturday, 4th May at 9:30am (follows on from the 9am Mass, meets 1st Saturday of the month).

Upcoming Sunday Spanish Masses at 12:30pm: Today (Easter Sunday), then 21st April.

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

Eucharistic Retreat Day for STM Liturgical Ministers

All St Thomas More Liturgical Ministers are invited to join the Liturgy Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney and the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia for a Eucharistic Retreat Day. Both Deacon Raymond and Fr Manuel would like to encourage you to attend and be nourished. The retreat will help you grow in your love for the Eucharist.

There will be talks, personal testimonies, discussions, and time for silence & prayer during a Holy Hour. Reconciliation will also be available. Please use the below link to register directly with the Archdiocese. If you are having trouble registering, please email the STM Parish Office to make an appointment for the Parish Secretary to register for you.

Details: Saturday, 11th May between 10am-4pm at St Martha's, 38 Renwick Street, Leichhardt. Cost: \$15pp. www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1162316



Divine Mercy Sunday at St Joseph's / St Mary MacKillop Parish, Walz Street, Rockdale Next Sunday, 7th April

2pm: Adoration with Divine Mercy Prayers, and Confessions

3pm: Benediction & Holy Mass



Holy Week through to Pentecost: Keeping the Kids Involved

Lacy, the Mum from 'Catholic Icing', has put together 'The Symbolic Holy Week & Easter Cookbook', a PDF file you can download and print for \$15.

This digital cookbook includes 29+ recipes to use with kids, and are chock-full of symbolism from Palm Sunday through to Pentecost to help keep the kids focussed on the true meaning of the season... Jesus!

catholicicing.com

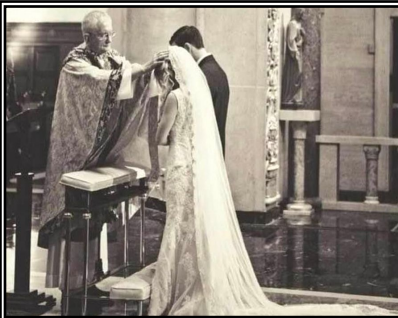


Safeguarding Quarterly Newsletter



The March Safeguarding Newsletter is located on the Safeguarding Notice Board for you to read.

With the Easter holiday season upon us, bless your car before embarking on that road trip (why not keep a small bottle of it permanently in the glove box?), and get into the habit of blessing your home, your children and even your pets, regularly. Holy Water is always available at our parish, near the sacristy.



GOT YOUR WEDDING PLANS UNDER CONTROL? HOW PREPARED ARE YOU FOR MARRIAGE?

"Marriage is to help married people sanctify themselves and others. For this reason, they receive a special grace in the sacrament, which Jesus Christ instituted. Those who are called to the married state will, with the grace of God, find within their state everything they need to be holy." St Josemaria Escriva

Marriage isn't just a 'social' act. It's a vocation that's born from the heart, a conscious decision for the rest of one's life that requires specific preparation. A wedding is a day ... a marriage is a lifetime.

'Engaged Encounter' provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. **Save the date before your busy schedule gets ahead of you: The weekend of May 18th - 19th.**

For further information visit our website: www.engagedencounter.org.au



Would you like to discover a way of tracking your cycles and understand a method of family planning in which both members of the couple share this awesome responsibility?

This knowledge is something every woman should have and every man can learn!

The Billings Ovulation Method® is based on sound science and has been proven an effective method to achieve or postpone a pregnancy and to monitor reproductive health. More info can be found at their website: <https://billings.life/en/>

Catholic Lay Chaplains at St George Public Hospital

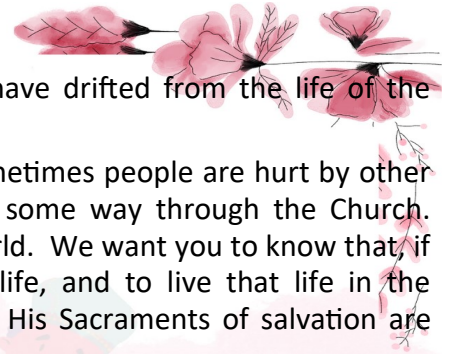
Gary Cartmer and Sr Maria Pineda

are Catholic Care lay chaplains at St George Public Hospital providing emotional, spiritual & sacramental support for you or your family member on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.

Feel free to call the Chaplain Office on **9113 2189** and leave a message with the patient's name, and they will provide ongoing support during their stay.



Catholic? Been Away?



Our parish of St Thomas More wants to welcome back people who have drifted from the life of the Church for whatever reason, or who have never really been a part of it.

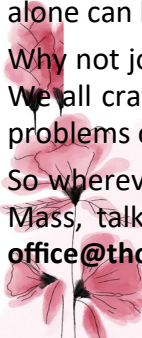
The Church is God's family and, like any family, has its differences. Sometimes people are hurt by other family members. We ask your forgiveness if you have been hurt in some way through the Church. Sometimes people can leave home just through the pressures of the world. We want you to know that, if you have been away, you are still called by God to the fullness of life, and to live that life in the Community of the Church, where Christ with His life-giving Word and His Sacraments of salvation are available.

Why not join us again? We need each other. We need your help in carrying on the mission of Jesus. Only with you, can we be all that Jesus calls us to be as His Church. You have a God-given gift which you alone can bring to the Church. We need that gift.

Why not join us again? We all need God. The Church is not a palace for saints but a hospital for sinners. We all crave the healing Jesus offers. We can find it in the Church. Alone we can never solve our own problems or find our way. We need help. We need one another. We need God.

So wherever you are on your journey ... come and celebrate with us. How to connect? Simply come to Mass, talk with Fr Manuel, or contact the friendly staff at our Parish Office on either **9567-3589** or office@thomasmorebrighton.org.au, or take a browse through our website at:

www.thomasmorebrighton.org.au



Thinking about becoming a Catholic, or want to know more about the Catholic faith?

You may have a friend or family member who has never been baptized, or baptized in another Christian faith. An acquaintance or co-worker may have asked you questions about the Catholic Church. Someone may indicate to you they are searching for a sense of community, or a desire to hear more of the Good News of Jesus, the Gospel.



This is their opportunity to ask questions about "things Catholic" such as what do Catholics believe and what do Catholics do? This is their opportunity to raise the issues that are on their minds or in their hearts. This is their chance to get information with no commitment! Those who have never been baptized can investigate what it means to be Christian. Those baptized in another Christian tradition can explore the process to come into full communion with the Catholic Church. And those baptized Catholic as infants but never raised as Catholic can learn about being Confirmed and receiving the Eucharist.

The three phases of the parish-based process to become Catholic will be outlined. The first phase, appropriately called the period of inquiry, is an informal opportunity for interested individuals to begin the journey that may or may not result taking the next step toward full membership in the Church.

For those that choose, the next step is to enter the more formal process of the Rite for Christian Initiation for Adults (commonly abbreviated to RCIA) which begins in late September and culminates with the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) that are celebrated at the Easter Vigil in April.

The first step begins with you, today, as you invite your family members, friends, co-workers, or others to explore what it means to be Catholic.

All are most welcome to contact our Parish Office on **9567-3589** to inquire about the Catholic Christian Faith.

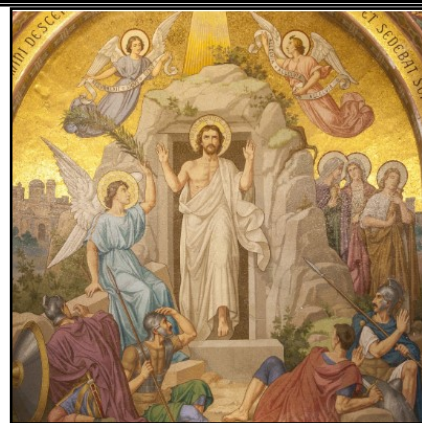
"No one, on his deathbed, ever regretted having been a Catholic." St Thomas More

Easter Sunday 2024 - Fr Manuel's Easter Message

A Meditation on the Resurrection of Christ*

The central element of the Christian confession of Easter is the affirmation of Christ's resurrection. When we say that Jesus has risen from the dead, we are affirming an eschatological event, that is, an event that is related to the "end of time."

God's actions are always signs. Faith is always concerned with the meaning of the events of Jesus' life, just as we can always and only understand the reality of Jesus Christ through a way of speaking or an interpretation. Our recognition of Jesus as Lord comes to us from a group who experienced a new relationship with him. That relationship was only possible because something had happened. It was, then, an experience combining an event and its interpretation: "We have seen and we bear witness, since Scripture had to be fulfilled."



Our life does not lead simply to death. Jesus is our pledge and our source of eternal birth. Christ has achieved for us a victory of life that does not point toward an illusory future but is above all a victory today. The Passover that we celebrate with Christ enables us to pass even now into that true life, that is, communion with God. Since Easter morning we have been living in the order of the resurrection. "In that everyday existence which we receive from your grace, eternal life has already begun" (Preface for the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time).

* *Reflections from God Day By Day, Following the Weekday Lectionary Vol1, Lent and The Easter Season.* by M. Bastin, G Pinckers, & M Teheux, pages 133-135, with English trans. copyright 1984 Missionaries of St Paul the Apostle, New York.

The Three Fires of Easter - Reminding us about God's Love

The first fire, there is a scene during the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ about Simon Peter warming himself in the fire outside the praetorium and the latter betrayed him three times. Simon Peter repented in answering the question **Do you Love Me?**

And this is the second fire, it happens in the supper at Emmaus, the Risen Jesus who at the start appeared to be a stranger to the two disciples walking, revealed Himself at the breaking of the bread and sharing with them and "their eyes were opened." **"Did not our hearts burn** within us as he talked to us on the road (Luke 24:32).

There is the third fire, as soon as they came ashore, the disciples saw **Jesus alive** and bread and fish and a charcoal fire!

Dear Parishioners, let us continue keeping the flame of faith and the warmth of God's love alive in us BECAUSE HE IS RISEN!

God will be with us FOREVER, ALLELUIA! **A BLESSED EASTER TO ALL!** *Fr Manuel Santiago*

To her, first of all!

Some things don't have to be spelt out, you know? It's just common sense. The very first Easter greeting had to be to her who stood by Him faithfully to the very end.

And then to the rest of us. Happy, blessed, luminous, joyful, Jesus-filled Easter! Christ is risen!!



 srjulia



Waiting In Joyful Hope!

Waiting, longing, anticipating ... with a joy that can't hold back any longer!

We think that's a description of us, but really it's Him. It's God's relentless longing, His patient, endless waiting for us. It's like when someone you love from a distance suddenly turns in a crowd and recognises you, and their face lights up and they start running towards you. Ok, it's a pale comparison, but that's the way He's looking and waiting for us. Jesus is immersed in this Easter expectancy even more than we are.

If we long to see that welcoming smile on His face, we don't have to look any further than the Tabernacle here at St Thomas More Church - which is available throughout the day. Just go. Don't keep Him waiting any longer!

Adoration is held at our Parish Church:

* Each Wednesday night between 6:00pm-7:00pm, followed by the Rosary at 7:00pm.

* Each Friday morning between 8:00am-9:00am, including Benediction, (prior to the 9am Mass).

 srjulia

More's Ministries

Ministries in our Parish Community

"There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in them." 1

Corinthians 12: 4-6

At St Thomas More, we rely on the generous support of volunteers. Below is an overview of some of the ministries within the parish that you may like to consider. There is something for everyone! We thank everyone who has volunteered in the past, and urge you to re-commit for another year. We also encourage anyone who is volunteering for the first time or is looking at a different ministry. There will be training provided for some of the ministries and plenty of support from the parish.

"No-one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way, your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:15-16

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

To assist with the distribution of Holy Communion during Mass. Training and commissioning is required for this Ministry.

Reader (Lector)

At each Mass, the Word of God is proclaimed. The priest proclaims the Gospel and delivers the Homily. The Reader/Lector proclaims the First and Second Readings, and the Responsorial Psalm.

If you commit to this ministry, there will be a formation to help carry out this ministry as it is required.

Musicians

Music is an integral part of the celebration of the Eucharist, and a vital component in helping to enhance the overall experience at Mass. Please consider lending your musical talents as either a chorister or as a musician. New members are always welcome. Choir rehearsals are held in the church on Friday nights.

Counters

Our counters are a fun group that count and record monies collected on Sunday and Holy Days.

Altar Servers

Children are invited to be part of this ministry. They are given formation and practice. Their participation is an important contribution and helps them gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the Mass.

Church Cleaning

Church clean happens regularly

throughout the year. All volunteers are welcome.

Liturgy Group

To prepare for the various seasons of the Church year and special celebrations, the Liturgy group assists in the choice of music, structure and various ways to enhance the celebrations.

Children's Liturgy

We cater for the youngest members of our parish during the 10am Mass on the 2nd & 4th Sundays during the school term.

Finance Council

The Parish Finance Council assists Fr Manuel in making plans and policies regarding the financial status of the parish, and assists in the stewardship of parish finances. The Council also maintains our parish property, plans future capital works, and raises the necessary finances for various parish services.

Hospitality

On various occasions, we gather after Mass to meet other parishioners, visitors and others to enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

Altar Society

The Altar Society cares for the altar, sacristy and sanctuary. Their purpose is to help maintain and beautify our worship area, and maintain the ceremonial objects used in worship.

Sacramental Preparation Team

Each year, families enrol their children to prepare for Baptism, Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

To assist parents during this time of their family life, sessions are held prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Assistance with hospitality and preparation of these sessions is welcomed.

Catechists/Helpers

Children in Government schools have a half-hour lesson of Special Religious Education each week. When they are preparing for the sacraments, they also attend 2-4 lessons beforehand after school or on Sunday mornings. Teaching material and support is available for those who are able to help in this area.

Offertory - Gift Bearers

Gift Bearers bring forward the bread and wine, which will become Christ's Body and Blood, at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Individuals, couples and/or families are encouraged to act as Gift Bearers.

Welcomers

A key moment for being a welcoming church is when people who have decided to attend Mass arrive at the church. The way that a person is treated at this moment can have a profound impact on their experience of church. This is a beautiful and important ministry that can be preformed by a family or by friends. It can be as simple as a warm smile and a "Hello".

If you would like to be involved in any of these ministries, kindly call the Parish Office on 9567-3589. Alternatively, fill out the application form overleaf and return it to us.

Application Form: Applying for a Ministry at St Thomas More Parish

Block letters please

Name:

Address:

Email: Mobile

Ministry you are considering:

Training in all areas of ministry will be provided. All applications can be submitted via post, or email the Parish Office at: office@thomasmorebrighton.org.au

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn." Benjamin Franklin

Our active parish of St Thomas More has something for everyone. Here are some good reasons to consider joining any of our parish groups: Our STM Children's Liturgy caters to the children's specific needs and allows them to form friendships within our parish community; our Young People meet up with Fr Manuel each month over a meal to discuss their faith; both our STM Men's & Women's Groups provide an opportunity for parishioners to come together to encourage and strengthen their faith in order to fulfil their duties and responsibilities to God, the Church and their families. Then there's our Knitting Club, the St Vincent de Paul ministry, and regular get-togethers for special Parish occasions. Take a browse through our below flyers.



STM'S SCRIPTURE READING STUDY GROUP: "READ ME!"

Meets every Saturday in the Parish Centre between 11:30am-12:45pm. Beginners welcome!

Come along and enjoy a very informal and friendly gathering of like-minded souls focussed on exploring the treasures revealed to us in God's Holy Word.

STM Women's Group

Please join us on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 3pm in the STM Parish Centre.



STM CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Takes place on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month during our 10am Mass.



STM MEN'S BREAKFAST & FELLOWSHIP



Come join other men for brunch on the first Saturday of each month at 9:30am (follows on from the 9am Mass) to find out the benefits and the reasons why men need to meet to support each other.

"Bring a friend, bring a mate, bring somebody who you can share this experience with so we might build up the quality of Christian men across our nation and beyond ... DEEPER Faith, DEEPER Service, and GROWTH in Christian Character."

STM Spanish Mass takes place on the third Sunday of each month at 12:30pm.



2024 STM Vigil Family Masses:

* 4th May, 22nd June, 3rd August and 21st September at 5:00pm.

* 26th October and 7th December at 5:30pm
All Masses are followed by a sausage sizzle!



Food, Faith & Friendship Evening

Our young adults of STM are invited to join Fr Manuel between 8pm-9pm on the last Sunday of the month to share a meal and discuss aspects of your faith (after the 7pm Mass).

No March meeting due to Easter.

SEEN OUR STM FACEBOOK PAGE??



This is every parishioner's 'go to' page for parish news, inspiring material to help us learn more about our faith, and information about upcoming events! Fr Manuel's 7pm Sunday Mass will be resuming in the New Year to watch live or thereafter. Here's the links to our main Facebook and Group pages: www.facebook.com/298BayStreet
www.facebook.com/groups/249081506770357