

September Newsletter

ST THOMAS
♦
the Apostle
Claremont Parish



What's happening in our Parish?

There is plenty happening around our parish as we head into September!

Our church repairs are well underway, with interior painting started in August. Work is also progressing on the mouldings for the cross and spires, with installation expected towards the end of September. We are also in the final stages of ordering our engraved pavers and hope to have them ready in about a month. Once they arrive, we will organise a working bee to install them along the edge of our paving in visible locations. We will arrange a celebration once all of the works are completed, so keep an ear out for details.

Unfortunately, our Second Collection Tap & Go device has been sent to the eastern states for repairs and is likely to be out of service for several weeks. We apologise for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience in the meantime.

The Royal Show will soon be upon us again! While the children may be counting down the days, those of us navigating the inevitable parking disruptions may be slightly less enthusiastic! Please mark 26 September–3 October in your calendars and allow extra time when coming to Mass. Carpooling or walking where possible is encouraged, and we will provide more information closer to the event.

This month we also have some wonderful occasions to celebrate. On Friday, 11 September, 38 candidates from our parish community will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers as they take this important step in their faith journey. Then, on Saturday, 12 September, our St Thomas Year 3 students will join us for Mass, followed by a sausage sizzle. We warmly invite everyone to come along and share in this lovely opportunity for fellowship.

Finally, our Parish Council Planning Committee has been looking at ways to improve our rosters and encourage greater participation in parish life. There are many ways, large and small, that each of us can contribute to our community. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church, with further opportunities to be shared in the bulletin as they arise. Please consider how you might like to become involved — many hands really do make a vibrant parish!



Nepal Emergency Appeal

Powerful flash floods have struck Nepal, devastating communities and leading to significant loss of life. Families urgently require food, clean water, shelter, health care and essential household items. Schools and health facilities have also been damaged, and humanitarian assessments indicate that thousands of children need support.

To support the people of Nepal please consider donating to the Caritas Emergency Appeal using QR Code or by visiting www.caritas.org.au



LAST CALL - Church Repairs Fundraising

We are very close to our \$145,000 fundraising goal, with a current balance of \$138,785. We will continue taking donations until the end of September. Please note that the engraved paver fundraiser has now concluded.

Special Church Repair donation envelopes are available at all entrances. Donations can also be made by direct deposit to **BSB:086006 ACC: 458537432**. Please ensure that you label the deposit 'repairs'.



Monica's Tears Prayer Group

The Monica's Tears Prayer Group invite you to join us as we pray for our lapsed children, grandchildren and loved ones from the Faith. Each and every Thursday 'Monica's Tears Prayer group' meet at 10.45am at St. Bernadette's Church, Jugan St. Glendalough.

Here we place the names of our lapsed loved ones in a box, and starting at 10.45am we pray for them, offer our 11.00am Holy Mass, and conclude with the Holy Rosary all for their return home to their Faith.

Please join us as we pray for this loss of our two generations from their Catholic Faith.



Spend an Hour with the Lord - Fridays at 11.30am

Everyone is warmly invited to our weekly Eucharistic Holy Hour each Friday at 11.30am. Take time out from the busyness of the week to rest in the presence of Jesus through prayer, silence, Scripture, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Whether you can stay for the whole hour or just a few minutes, all are welcome.

This month's theme:

MAKE THEM COME

"Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'" Luke 14:23

Events around the Archdiocese



Thurs 1 Oct

The Risk of Freedom Talk

Join Fr Brendan Byrne SJ, Australian Jesuit priest and New Testament scholar, as he discusses the concept of freedom from the creation story in Genesis through St Paul's teachings and the Ignatian understanding of freedom in the service of mission. Booking essential

7.30pm | Thomas More Exhibition Centre | John XXIII College, Mt Claremont | Free



Sat 12 Sept

Understanding Change, Loss & Grief

his 3-hour seminar explores grief, its potential triggers and impacts, and strategies to manage it and move forward. Suitable for personal and professional application where a deeper understanding of loss and change is sought. Please note, this is an objective, educational seminar, not a grief support group. Call 94227920 or outreach@perthcatholic.org.au

Sat 12 Sept | 9.30am - 1pm | Catholic Pastoral Centre | \$16



Sat 31 Oct

Fremantle Chamber Orchestra Concert

Experience the world premier of John Keene's own composition Reflections complemented by Bottesini's alla Mendelssohn, Geminiani's La Follia, Vivaldi's RV169, Mozart's Adagio from his K334, Air by Grieg and Joachim Raff's String Quartet No1: Mässig langsam, getragen.

Sat 31 Oct | 2.30pm | St Patrick's Basilica, Fremantle | \$40



Sun 20 Sept

Spring Concert Fundraiser for the Homeless

The Fremantle Chamber Orchestra and the Rotary Club of Attadale invite you to experience Corelli, Mozart, Sinding and Mercadante's Flute Concerto in E featuring flautist Michael Howell. Conducted and solo by Paul Wright.

3pm Sun 20 Sept | Fremantle Town Hall | \$50



Sat 19 Sept

Godly Women with Faith

Beloved & Free: Living as God's Beloved Daughters Through Healing, Freedom, Hope & Purpose. Women of all ages and every stage of faith are warmly welcome to a morning of faith, healing, renewal, encouragement and fellowship - bring your teen daughters or granddaughters.

19 Sept | 10am - 1pm | Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Scarborough | \$50



4-8 Jan 2027

Bosco Youth Summer Camp

Super Early Bird Registrations NOW OPEN! Are you between 11½-15 yrs or starting Year 7 in 2027? Come and join us for this 5 day fun filled camp at Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup. For more info visit our website at www.boscoyouth.com Super Early Bird prices end 31 August **4-8 Jan 2026 | Nanga Bush Camp, Dwellingup | 11.5-15yrs | From \$300**



Deacon's Diary

Dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrow

Dear Parishioners

La Pietà is a renowned marble sculpture by Michelangelo depicting the Virgin Mary cradling the dead body of Jesus after his crucifixion. The sculpture captures the moment when Jesus is taken down from the cross and placed in the arms of his mother, representing the "Sixth Sorrow" of the Virgin Mary. The dedication of September invites Catholics to turn their hearts and minds towards the seven sorrows that marked the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Mother of Our Lord who gave birth to the Son of God in all joy and elation, was soon after to receive from Simeon the prophesy that would turn her joy into the deepest sorrow.

As with all the monthly devotions in the Catholic Church, the development took place over time. Devotion to Our Mother of Sorrows, supported in Sacred Scripture, dates back to the early Church Fathers contemplating Mary's sufferings at the foot of the cross. September eventually became known as the month of Our Lady of Sorrows because Her feast day of that title had been fittingly appointed for September 15th, the day following The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

The Seven Sorrows are:

1. Simeon's Prophecy
2. The Flight into Egypt
3. The Loss of Jesus in the Temple
4. The Meeting of Jesus and Mary on the Way of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion
6. Mary Receives the Body of Jesus taken down from the Cross
7. The Burial of Jesus

The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15 is the reason for our monthly devotion and invites us to reflect on the deep compassion, humility, and strength of the Virgin Mary as she experienced the reality of Her Son's mission and accompanied Him through His Passion and Death.

Blessings

Deacon Paul

(Acknowledgement: 'Covenant Catholic')

Ministry Contacts

Acolytes

John Cranfield 0412 912 769

Readers

Margaret Sweetman 0488 938 539

Extraordinary Ministers

Margaret Sweetman 0488 938 539

Musicians

Eric Hudson-Smith (7.30am Mass)

emhsmith01@outlook.com

Jane Courtney (9.30am Mass)

0419 241 450

Sacramental Preparation

Silvia Kinder

silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au

Weekly Rosary

Stephanie Tew 0408 798 174

Altar Flowers

contact Parish Office

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Henry Simmons 0417 985 992

Finance Committee

Leo McManus 0417 414 951

Safeguarding Officers

Jenni Hutton 0400 708 512

Margaret Carman 0406 663 354

Counters

Ray Ryan 0404 480 540

St Thomas Primary School

Natalia Thomson - Principal

08 9286 9500

Thank you for reading!

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