

PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Gerard Prunty

PARISH OFFICES

St. Thomas' Terang

P.O. Box 25 Terang. 3264
Ph: 5592 1195 Fax: 5592 2308
terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Clare Neal

"We are a Child Safe Parish"

St. Colman's Mortlake St Joseph's Caramut

P.O. Box 25 Terang 3264
Ph: 5592 1195
terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

St. Thomas' Terang
Mr. Ben van de Camp
Ph 5592 1925

St. Colman's Mortlake

Mr. Tim Bourke
Ph 5599 2285

Mercy Regional College

Ms Sharon Gillett
Ph 5593 2011

St. Thomas the Apostle
and St. Colman's Parishes
acknowledge and respect the
traditional custodians of this
land the Kirrae Wuurong people.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

ST THOMAS' TERANG

Saturday 6.00 pm
Sunday 10.30 am

ST COLMAN'S MORTLAKE

Sunday 9.00 am

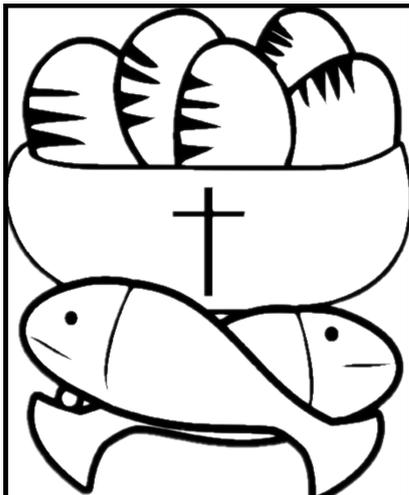
Next Weeks Readings:

8th & 9th August 2020

1st read: 1 Kg 19: 9, 11-13

2nd read: Rom 9: 1-5

Gospel: Mt 14: 22-33



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE TERANG and ST. COLMAN'S MORTLAKE PARISH BULLETIN

To access this bulletin online go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au
and select either Terang or Mortlake Parish.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st & 2nd August 2020

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Jayne McMeel, Vin O'Connor, Peter Murray,
Alison Smith, Frank McAloon, Vera McAloon



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

(Names placed on the sick list will remain for 3 weeks unless otherwise notified)

SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES:

**Thank you for your pledge payments & your ongoing
support of our Parishes.**

Our new 3 year pledge campaign starts this weekend.

Weekday Masses Terang & Mortlake

Every person that attends Mass from Monday, must wear a face mask/covering

We are allowed **20 people** to attend services. We will have two
weekday Masses this week in Terang & one in Mortlake

Wednesday in Mortlake at 10.00am

Thursday in Terang at 10.00am

Friday in Terang at 10.00am

We of course need to practice social distancing, use hand sanitiser and
sign the attendance register for tracing purposes. Please contact the
Parish Office if you have any questions

St Thomas' and St Colman's Churches will be open for private prayer
from 9.00am to 5pm daily. You are asked to **sign your name and
phone number** on entering the Church (every time you enter)

OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

Copies of the latest edition are available in the foyer of
the Church, along with Australian Catholics

St Thomas' Primary School ~ Major Fund Raising Raffle

Only 500

Tickets @

\$50 each

1st Prize: \$5,000 Voucher

(for goods/services of your choice)

Drawn on Friday 28th August at St Thomas' School

Please contact Anna Kenna on 0408 518 632 or the
School 5592 1925 or the Parish Office 5592 1195

Notices need to be at St. Thomas' Parish Office by 10.00 am next Friday

**Reflection on the Gospel-18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
(Matthew 14:13-21)** -Veronica Lawson RSM

According to the most recent International Food Policy Research Institute (IFRI) Report, the number of people living in extreme poverty has fallen below ten percent of the global population for the first time in history, down from nineteen per cent in 1990. The same figures hold for the undernourished in our world. Encouraging as the improved statistics may be, it is still a fact that almost three quarters of a billion people have less than \$US1.90 per day to meet all their basic needs for food, shelter and security and this situation has been seriously exacerbated by the outbreak of Covid-19. It is difficult in our affluent society to imagine the plight of so many in the war-torn countries of our world or to get inside the desperation of parents watching their children die from starvation. According to research conducted by Footprint Melbourne, Melburnians waste enough food annually to feed two million people at a cost of \$3.5 million. That may be changing in these times of pandemic and somewhat heightened awareness of the suffering of those on the edge.

What has this to do with our gospel reflection? In the first reading from Isaiah, God tells the “thirsty”: “Listen and delight in rich food....Incline your ear, and come to me; listen that you may live”. The gospel reading from Matthew tells a story of hungry people “hearing”, following Jesus, and enjoying an abundance of life-sustaining food. In other words, Matthew presents Jesus as the one who makes the Isaian dream a reality for those who hunger and thirst both literally and figuratively. The passage echoes key aspects of Israel’s history. Jesus retreats to a “desert” place, recalling the experience of God’s people in the wilderness of Sinai. Those who follow Jesus find life-restoring food in the desert, evoking the manna that God provided for the hungry in the Sinai desert.

Jesus has compassion for people struggling with disease and thirsting for the means to live. In biblical terms, compassion is always accompanied by action for restorative justice. Jesus heals the sick and creates a structure for the sharing of resources. Faced with a hungry crowd, the disciples offer a simple solution: “Send them away.” Sending the desperate away is a travesty of gospel compassion in a way of life that claims Eucharist as its central tenet. It has, sadly, been part of our national response to many hungering and thirsting for life and security. Jesus refuses such a solution and invites his disciples instead to take some personal responsibility for the situation. The gospel invites us as contemporary disciples to attend to food security in our world and to address ways of meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of eliminating poverty and hunger by 2030. Informing ourselves on the issues might be one place to begin. Another might be to check supplies before shopping for more food than we need.