



## Our Lady of Mercy Hampden Parish

St Thomas Church, Terang & St Colman's Church Mortlake

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. George Kuruvila

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**Child Safety Officer:** Mr. Matthew Uzkuraitis

**St Thomas Primary School, Terang:** Principal: Mr. Matthew Uzkuraitis Ph 5592 1925

**St. Colman's Mortlake:** Principal: Ms Janet Cain Ph 5592 2285

**Pray for the Sick:** Please remember and pray for Graham Pearson and Patricia Glennen

**Recent Death:** We pray for the recently deceased Bernedette O'Connor.

**Anniversaries:** Ina O'Grady, Bortolo Battistello, Elizabeth "Betty" Healey, David Forrester, Sr Bridget Lourey, Heather Harrison, Bill Heffernan, Clare Kenna, Jim Farrell, Patrick Kenna, Ella Ayres, Kim De Martin, Mary Purcell, Ronald Beard, Pat McLeod, Fr Peter Elder, James Madden and William Harris.

### Rosters for Weekend of 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> July

**Readers:** 6pm: 12<sup>th</sup> Christine Moloney 10.30pm: 13<sup>th</sup> Justine Staunton

**Eucharistic Minister:** 6pm: 12<sup>th</sup> July Clare Banks 10.30am: 13<sup>th</sup> July: Des McKinnon.

**Laptop:** 6pm: 12<sup>th</sup> July Evelyn O'Keeffe 10.30am 13<sup>th</sup> July Robb Storr.

### Terang: Rosters for Weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July

**Readers:** 6pm: 19<sup>th</sup> Alison Lourey 10.30am 20<sup>th</sup> Richard Raju

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 6pm: 19<sup>th</sup> Lorriane Meade 10.30am 20<sup>th</sup> Annette Clifford

**Linen for the month of July:** Josie Vaughan.

**First Collection** 5/6 July Terang \$378.65 Mortlake \$122.00

### Readings for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July:

1st Reading Genesis 18:1-10, 2nd Reading: Colossians 1:24-28, Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

**The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C**, focuses on the parable of the Good Samaritan, emphasizing that loving one's neighbour means showing compassion and mercy to anyone in need, regardless of their social standing.

### Holy Communion to Sick, Elderly or House Bound

Any family members who are aware of relatives (or friends) in the above situations who would like to receive Holy Communion at their place of residence. Please advise details to our Parish Office number or please contact Fr George Kuruvila at any time. Ministry will be arranged.

**Praying with The Holy Father: Prayer for July – For formation in discernment:** *Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel. Lord, hear us.*

**Weekday Masses:** Mass will be celebrated on Wednesdays at 10.30am in Terang, first, third and fifth Thursdays in Timboon/second and fourth Thursday in Simpson at 11.00am and Fridays at 09.30am in Camperdown.

Mass is celebrated on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at Mount View Nursing home at 1.30pm

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

# **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**Sunday 13 Jul 2025**

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

## **First Reading**

### **A reading from the book of Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 30:10-14)**

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul. 'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 68:14. 17. 30-31. 33-34. 36-37. R. see v.33**

**(R.)** Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

1. This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour.

In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails:

Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. **(R.)**

2. As for me in my poverty and pain let your help, O God, lift me up.

I will praise God's name with a song; I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **(R.)**

3. The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive;  
for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. **(R.)**

4. For God will bring help to Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah.

The sons of his servants shall inherit it; those who love his name shall dwell there. **(R.)**

## **Second Reading**

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians (Col 1:15-20)**

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him. Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head. As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

**See John 6:63. 68**

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke (Lk 10:25-37)**

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours.' But the man

was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him,' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do the same yourself.'

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### **HOMILY by Richard Leonard**

Margaret Thatcher once claimed that the Parable of the Good Samaritan showed Jesus' endorsement of the benefits of capitalism! The Baroness' logic ran that the hero of this famous story is the one who could afford to pay for the victim's care. She surmised that the reason the Samaritan had the wherewithal to do such a charitable act was because he worked hard and saved his money wisely. Her Ladyship said this central Christian parable was a justification of her government's policies demanding that unemployed people work for social security and be educated about saving their pennies.

Politicians should stay away from biblical interpretation and theology. It has a habit of saying the opposite of what they think or want it too. Like many people, Lady Thatcher reads this parable in terms of charity and even then she is not really right. Jesus, however, says it is a lesson in mercy. The difference matters.

It is not by accident that the phrase 'as cold as charity' is still current. Deciding on whom we will be kind to, just based on our 'warm fuzzies' and the glow of our purses, may make us feel good; but it will result in a very wintry experience for the not-so-lucky recipient. When we 'do' charitable things, we can often remain powerful and untouched by the situation of those our money helps.

St Thomas Aquinas, however, calls charity the mother of all virtues. He argues it is more concerned with the feelings of the heart than external action. Aquinas maintains that charity enables us to sort through our desires, to see what we really want – whom we actually love; it helps us use the other virtues to act accordingly. Christian charity is not a feel-good moment; it is a life-changing experience. Understood this way, the Good Samaritan can be a great example of charity, but quite differently from that outlined in the Gospel according to Margaret!

For Jesus, nonetheless, he is a model of mercy. The Good Samaritan is not 'good' because he has the money to act on what he sees. His greatness is that he has eyes to see it at all. To really see it. The priest and the morality-teaching levite pretend it's not happening and walk on the other side of the road. But the most unlikely, the least liked person in Israel – a Samaritan – has the view of mercy.

Christian tradition teaches us that mercy and justice are intertwined. Thomas Aquinas says that mercy helps us hear, and justice calls for us to do something. The Samaritan does what he can at the scene of the crime and then he takes the victim with him. He not only sees, but judges and acts. In doing so, he breaks nearly every religious and social law in the book; but it doesn't matter. The virtues of mercy and justice enable us to see all sorts of things more clearly, even civil and religious laws that inhibit the justice of God. This entire episode in Luke's Gospel is about the movement from an individualised faith, which can think that it is just 'me and Jesus against the world', to a faith that goes out to the world acting mercifully and justly. This parable is about what we see, whom we love, and what we want to do about it. The example of the Good Samaritan should enliven our charity, mercy and justice; and it should challenge us to see clearly who needs to be carried with us on the Gospel road.

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### **Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) – Melbourne 2025**



ACYF will take place in Melbourne from Sunday, November 30 - Tuesday, December 2, 2025. This national event brings together young Catholics (Year 9–25 years) for three days of faith, fun, and community. The Festival includes prayer, Mass,

talks, concerts, workshops, games, and more. Watch this video of invitation from Archbishop Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=evbj5eFg3HM>. There is an opportunity of sponsorship from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation for pilgrims attending the Festival. If you're interested in going, please contact your school or local parish office. Learn more at [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or scan the QR code.

The Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation have committed funding for pilgrims attending the Festival. Details of how this funding will be distributed will be determined when we know the number of pilgrims attending.

### **Vinnies Winter Appeal 2025**



Vinnies' 2025 Fundraising Winter Appeal launched early this month which plays a vital role in enabling the good works of the Society. With your support, this appeal will help them continue serving the community. Homelessness is never a choice. Your generous support today can help people facing homelessness, have somewhere safe to stay and help break the cycle of poverty and homelessness. Donate today at <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/winter-appeal-vic> Vinnies Online: The St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria has launched an online retail platform Vinnies online <https://vinniesonline.com.au/>. Shop when it suits you!

### **Sea Sunday: July 13, 2025**

Sea Sunday will be acknowledged on July 13, 2025, in support of Stella Maris. Resources are available at <https://stellamarisaustralia.org/> and include a parish checklist, Prayers of Intercession, Appeal Talk, poster and media release.

**Parish Notices:** All notices need to be delivered in writing, emailed or phoned by noon every Thursday.

"OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WISHES TO RESPECTFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS ON WHICH WE LIVE, WORK AND WORSHIP OUR GOD."

**We are a Child-safe, Welcoming and environmentally friendly Parish**