

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 Wuorong 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:

4th & 5th April 2020

1st read: Is 50 4-7

2nd read: Phil 2: 6-11

Gospel: Mt 26: 14 - 27:66



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.

5th Sunday of Lent

28th & 29th March 2020

RECENT DEATHS: Dan O'Keeffe

ANNIVERSARIES: Ernest Elliott, Mary O'Keeffe, Coleman O'Keeffe, Don O'Keeffe, Sam Fitzgibbon, Stella Kenna

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Chris Delaney, Patricia Moloney, John Ryan
(Names placed on the sick list will remain for 3 weeks unless otherwise notified)

SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES:

**A letter will be sent out this week in regards to our Parish
Planned Giving Program**



Dear Parishioners

Further to the suspension of public Masses that was put in place for last weekend, we now have been asked to close all Churches for the foreseeable future.

There are opportunities to participate in Sunday Mass online through youtube and facebook eg: St Joseph's Warrnambool, along with Mass for you at home on Channel 10 ~ Sunday at 10am, and repeated on Foxtel Ch 17 AURURA through the day and week.

Lets be encouraged by the words of the Gospel on Ash Wednesday: "When you pray, go to your private room and pray to your Father and your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you."

This week we pray that Dan O'Keeffe will rest in eternal peace and comfort be given to his family and friends

Fifth Sunday of Lent
29th March 2020



Tawonga is a 10-year-old girl living with a disability, and struggling with food insecurity and discrimination in Malawi. Since participating in a Caritas Australia supported program, Tawonga's life has transformed.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to so this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them. Let's Go Further, Together.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

When God pushes you to the edge of difficulty trust him fully because two things can happen. Either he'll catch you when you fall or he will teach you how to fly Anonymous

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

Reflection on the Gospel-5th Sunday of Lent Year A (John 11:1-45) -Veronica Lawson RSM

Sunday's readings touch into the most profound of mysteries, the mysteries of life and death. To hold a new born child or to see the sick restored to health is to experience the wonder of life. On the other hand, sudden death can bring unimagined grief and pain.

The news this morning (March 23) tells us that 14,641 people have died from Coronavirus over the past two months. Some have died alone. With this pandemic comes an extraordinary outpouring of grief and fear. This comes in the wake of bushfires that saw the death of some 1.25 billion animals in my country and deep sorrow at the prospect of species loss.

Death brings tears, even anger. Little wonder that "life" becomes a metaphor for transformation and new beginnings or that "death" so often signifies deprivation and loss.

The gospel reading is about the death and restoration to life of Lazarus, "the one whom Jesus loved". It is the last of the seven "signs" in John's "book of signs" that reveal the "glory" of God. It is also the greatest of Jesus' signs. It functions as a catalyst for the events that lead to his death: "...from that day on they planned to put him to death" (11:53).

It provides the occasion for Jesus to assert "I am the resurrection and the life" and to invite assent to that revelation of his identity. It reveals the compassion and tender heart of Jesus who weeps at the grief of Mary his friend and at the death of her brother. It also reveals the goodness in the hearts of those "Jews" who share her grief and who come to faith in Jesus who raises the dead to life.

Though the story revolves around the plight of Lazarus, Martha and Mary are the characters who, with Jesus, occupy centre stage and into whose faith journey we are invited to enter. Martha and Mary are identified as "sisters" who live in Bethany. Are they blood "sisters" or sisters in their love of Jesus and the community around him, or both? Lazarus is Mary's sick "brother". Martha will later claim him as her "brother".

Might they all be part of a little faith community in Bethany rather than biological siblings? A brief notice alerts the reader to the imminent death of Jesus: "Mary is the one who anointed Jesus with perfumed oil and wiped his feet with her tears". The reader will later discover that Mary's anointing of Jesus is "for the day of [his] burial". As so often in John's Gospel, misunderstanding and irony function to bring the actors in the drama, and to bring us as actors in the theatre of Christian life, to new levels of understanding and faith. Right now, in the face of a pandemic, we are called, as sisters and brothers across the globe, to play our part so that this illness may lead to greater love and even to "life".