

## 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:

6th & 7th June 2020

1st read: Ex 34: 4-6, 8-9  
2nd read: 2 Cor 13: 11-13  
Gospel: Jn 3: 16-18

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

To access this bulletin online go to [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
and select either Terang or Mortlake Parish.

### Pentecost Sunday

31st May & 1st June 2020

**RECENT DEATHS:** Ken Reid, Liam O'Sullivan

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Win Riches

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Marie Glennen, Leanne Batten,  
Graham Pearson

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

### SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES:

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Parishes



## St Colman's Parish Meeting

There will be a meeting this Thursday 4th June at  
**4.00pm in St Colman's Church, to discuss updated child  
safety policies, Planned Giving Program, Governance of  
our Parish School for next year and other items people  
would like to discuss.**

**All Parishioners are welcome & encouraged to attend  
this meeting.**

## Weekday Masses

From this Monday (1st June) the number of people allowed  
to attend services has been lifted to 20. We will start with  
two weekday Masses this week - Thursday & Friday at  
10.00am at St Thomas' with a maximum of 20 people.  
We of course need to practice social distancing and sign  
the attendance register for tracing purposes.  
Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions

## Our Churches Open

With the lifting of some restrictions 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) - for  
the purpose of contact-tracing if it becomes necessary.

Please be guided by the usual on-going hygiene requirements. Social distancing  
of at least 1.5 metres & hand sanitising. Sanitiser will be available with the sign  
in book on the table in the foyer.

## Sunday Mass

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.

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



## **Reflection on the Gospel- Pentecost Sunday Year A (Acts 2:1-11; John 20:19-23)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Pentecost Sunday is often called the birthday of the Church. The earth itself features powerfully in the imagery associated with this feast: harvest, mountain, earthquake, thunder, fire. For the ancient Israelites, Pentecost (meaning 'fiftieth') was a harvest festival celebrated fifty days after the opening of the harvest. When the Jerusalem Temple was built, this harvest festival was transformed into a pilgrimage feast to celebrate the covenant that Israel had made with God on Mt Sinai. Several decades after the death of Jesus, the early Christians reflected on their origins and chose this feast to mark the birth of God's new covenant with God's people.

In today's first reading (Acts 2:1-11), Luke tells the new Pentecost story in symbolic language that evokes the story of Moses and the people of Israel receiving God's Law on Mt. Sinai. Just as God's presence to Israel was marked by earthquake and thunder and fire, so God's Spirit enveloping the people of the new covenant in the upper room appears in a mighty rush of wind and tongues of fire. Luke's account also evokes early rabbinic teaching that the voice of God on Sinai divided into seventy tongues and all the nations received God's Law in their own tongue.

For the teaching at the heart of the new covenant, we turn to the gospel reading from John 20:19-23. The resurrected Christ appears to the disciples who are huddled behind locked doors. He offers the simple greeting: "Peace be with you," the greeting we have been in the practice of offering each other with a simple gesture at every Eucharistic celebration - until Covid-19 challenged us to find other ways of communicating the peace of Christ. Jesus sends his disciples on a mission of peace in continuity with his own God-inspired mission. He breathes on them the gift of the Holy Spirit and tells them that God will forgive those whom they forgive, and will "retain" or "seize hold of" the transgressions of those whose sins or transgressions they "retain". To seize hold of wrong-doing is to expose it and deal with it. Sometimes it is best to forgive and simply allow everyone to move on. In other situations, an easy amnesty only exacerbates the problem.

Much of the enduring conflict in our world derives from the inability of ordinary people and of both church and civic leaders to know how to deal with transgression. The Holy Spirit is the unique source of our capacity to deal with the perpetrators of violence. The Holy Spirit is likewise the source of our power to forgive, of our power to refrain from vengeance and our power to ensure restoration and healing. In our times, the earth itself cries out for forgiveness, for restoration and for healing. As we celebrate this feast of the Holy Spirit in a time of pandemic, we might consider engaging in a "values inventory" by looking at how much of our personal and collective resources we invest in the things that make for peace.