

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:

18th & 19th July 2020

1st read: Wis 12: 13, 16-19

2nd read: Rom 8: 26-27

Gospel: Mt 13: 24-43



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.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th & 12th July 2020

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Edna Jubb, Frank Giblin, Jim Delaney

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Graham Pearson

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

SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES:

Giving from April 1st - June 30 2020

	<u>TERANG</u>	<u>MORTLAKE</u>
1st Collection	\$ 640.00	\$ 274.00
Planned Giving Program Week 153		
2nd Collection	\$ 18,148.00	\$ 3,840.00
Average given	\$ 1,792.55	\$ 340.95
Amount promised per week	\$ 1,718.54	\$ 343.88

Thank you for your pledge payments & your ongoing support of our Parishes. Please return relevant (any changes, new pledges & all credit card) planned giving forms by next weekend. A copy of the Parish profit & loss (2019/2020) is on the Church notice board.



Weekday Masses Terang & Mortlake

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 and sign the attendance register for tracing purposes.

Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions

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

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.

Reflection on the Gospel- 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (Matthew 13:1-23)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Since the outbreak of Covid-19, we have necessarily distanced ourselves from others. Some of us have retreated to the natural world so that our sensitivities have sharpened and our planetary awareness has heightened. We have become more attuned to the complexity of nature and to its rhythms. We have observed the diverse feeding habits of the birds, for instance, and their communication patterns. There is new and renewed interest in gardening, in the growing of vegetables and fruit in pots or in built-up garden beds. Such changes in lifestyle are conditioning us to use our eyes to see and our ears to listen, as today's gospel invites us to do. Jesus' directive, "let anyone with ears listen", is a reminder that we do have ears and that we do not always hear. Ann Lewin's words come to mind: "You do not have to Look for anything. Just look. You do not have to Listen for specific Sounds. Just Listen. You do not have to Accomplish anything. Just Be. And in the Looking and the Listening and the Being, find Me."

To what sort of being, of looking and listening does today's gospel call us? The parable of the soil, of the seed, of the birds and the thorns, of the sun and the sower alerts us to Jesus' deep sense of connection with life in its multiple forms. It calls us to examine our connection with the natural world. For a long time, we have focussed on the human character in the parable, a character who evokes an agricultural world that is far removed from our post-industrial world, but not so far removed from the world of millions of people in our planetary home who live close to the soil and to earth's elements and who struggle to produce the food they need to stay alive. Is the Matthean Jesus presenting in the sower an image of an estate owner, or a tenant farmer or even a slave? Or is the reader being asked to imagine the sower, whether estate owner, tenant farmer or slave, as an image of an extraordinarily generous God whose life-sustaining gifts are there for all, no matter their readiness to receive? It may not be one or the other but both

What of the silty clay loam or red sandy soil, of the wheat or barley seed, of the birds and the thorns and the sun? We know that barley was domesticated some ten thousand years ago in what became bible lands and that these lands are also the original home of the finest bread-making wheat. The birds and the thorns and the sun are for another reflection. We bring our experience of looking and listening and being into dialogue with the parable and search out its meaning for us. We trust that God will ensure an abundant harvest if we but learn to look and to listen to the needs of a planet in peril.