

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:

15th & 16th August 2020

1st read: Is 56: 1, 6-7

2nd read: Rom 11: 13-15,29-32

Gospel: Mt 15: 21-28

St Thomas' Primary School Major Fund Raising Raffle

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 Parish Office 5592 1195
500 tickets @ \$50

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.

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th & 9th August 2020

RECENT DEATHS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Marie McAloon, Mary Kenna, Bill Hirst
Alice Collard,



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 campaign starts this weekend.

From Bishop Paul Bird

It is very sad that we will not be able to gather for Mass in the coming weeks. However, medical advice indicates that the restrictions are necessary for the health of the community. I hope and pray that these steps will be effective in reducing the impact of the pandemic and that we will be able to come together again soon to give thanks to God. In the meantime, we can pray anywhere and anytime in our own heart. Families can pray together at home. We might also pray with others online or simply with a phone call.

Christ promised to be with us always. May we know his presence in the weeks ahead.

Peace be with you. God bless you all.

Bishop Paul

Mask Prayer

May your love and light shine in and through me today, In a way that no mask can hide.

May my eyes dance with the laughter and joy, Replacing my hidden smile.

May my actions of care and concern; Speak louder than my muffled voice ever could.

And may the generosity of my heart; Radiate out through who I am, and how I respond to the world around me.

So that others may not see my mask; but your image shining out, Moving in and through me today. Amen

Feast of Mary of the Cross (Mackillop) August 8th

We remember St Mary of the Cross Mackillop, Australia's first Saint, for her dedication in caring for the human and spiritual needs of children and her care for the poor and the destitute.

Underpinning of all her activities, was her faith in divine Providence. In all the challenges she faced and the crosses she endured, she never doubted the unceasing protection of "our good God".

St Mary of the Cross pray for us in our challenging times.

Reflection on the Gospel-19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
(Matthew 14:22-33)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Right now, our planet is battered by the waves of pandemic. Our church also knows what it means to be “battered by the waves”. Over its two millennia history, there have been periods of discrimination and persecution against its members. Countless church members have died for their faith, while others have been and are being denied the freedom to practice their religion. There have also been times when the church has fallen far short of its own ideals and has quite seriously betrayed the gospel values it seeks to embody and proclaim. It is presently “battered” by huge even terrifying waves, largely of its own creating. Only God can bring order out of the chaos, and God works through the courageous witness and action of faith-filled disciples.

In today’s gospel, Matthew tells of Jesus astride the waves like the God of Israel in Job 9:8. In Israel’s mythology, the sea represents chaos. To walk on water is to have power and authority to bring order out of the chaos. Matthew presents Jesus as exercising the power of God over the potentially destructive chaos. Jesus makes his claim to divine power explicit in words that echo God’s words from the burning bush: “It is I” (literally “I am”). He tells the frightened disciples to take heart and not to be afraid. Peter, leader of the group, continues to doubt. He asks for a sign and is then prepared to take a risk in order to come to Jesus on the water. He begins to falter when he takes his eyes off Jesus and focuses instead on the threatening wind. Jesus reaches out his hand to rescue Peter. In a lovely gesture, Jesus takes him by the hand and holds him firmly in his grip. Jesus names Peter’s hesitation as a response of limited faith.

Matthew weaves the story of Peter into an earlier story from Mark’s gospel. We can only speculate on the reasons for this. Were Matthew’s communities going through hard times? Were they battered by the waves of conflicting loyalties as they found themselves excluded from Pharisaic Judaism? Was the pressure of separation from the synagogue too great for some, even for those in leadership? This is a telling story for anyone who exercises leadership at any level in the church. It is a reminder to us as disciples to keep our eyes firmly fixed on the source of hope in times of struggle and uncertainty and on the crucial issues that face our planetary home.

Finally, this story invites us to consider the threatening waves created by the undeniable reality of a pandemic in a time of climate crisis. The human community is largely responsible for the climate crisis. The human community must join hands to save what can be saved. The growing commitment to renewable energy provides, for me, a contemporary image of a saving hand reaching out to Earth communities that are in danger of being submerged.