

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:

5th & 6th September 2020

1st read: Ezek 33: 7-9

2nd read: Rom 13: 8-10

Gospel: Mt 18: 15-20



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.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

29th & 30th August 2020

RECENT DEATHS: Alice McKinnon

ANNIVERSARIES: Doreen Avery

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.**

	2017-2020 Pledge per week	2017-2020 Given per week	2020-2023 Pledge per week New program began 1 st August
St Colman's	304.75	297.62	300.81
St Thomas'	1,624.34	1,583.06	1,596.62



Social Justice Sunday ~ August 30th 2020

The theme of this year's Social Justice Statement is titled :

To live life to the full: Mental Health in Australia Today

It encourages faith communities, governments and each of us to make mental health a priority. It is a timely message in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic is affecting many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support.

The Statement encourages us to all reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for the policies and service marginalised members of our community.

Download the Statement at <http://bit.ly/Socailjustice2020>
or contact Fr Gerry for a copy.

Sunday Mass

**Unfortunately we are unable to have any weekend or
weekday masses at this time.**

There are opportunities to participate in Sunday Mass online through YouTube www.tiny.cc/joe3280 and facebook eg: St Joseph's Warrnambool, along with Mass for you at home on Channel 10 ~ Sunday at 6am, 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-22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
(Matthew 16:21-27)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

We all know people in leadership who take themselves a bit too seriously. Some confuse their role or title with their significance in the scheme of things. Some look for privilege and an easy life, forgetting that leadership of anything worthwhile involves hard work, misunderstanding, and invariably brings opposition. The first part of today's gospel story presents Peter, who has just been declared the foundation rock of the church and given the "keys" of the kingdom or empire of the heavens, refusing to accept that Jesus' mission will involve suffering, even death. The reader is confronted in this story with the expansive rock face at Caesarea Philippi and invited to consider the friable properties of the seemingly indestructible rock. Even rocks can be reduced to sand or gravel and a humbler mode of being.

For all its seriousness, there is something quite comical about this story. Peter actually censures or reprimands Jesus. Jesus then sets him straight in no uncertain terms. The "rock" becomes the leader of the opposition, a serious obstacle to God's purposes, a stumbling block. He is ordered back to the place where disciples properly belong, namely "behind" Jesus, "following" him. Matthew provides a striking contrast in this section of the gospel between Peter who "rebukes" Jesus and Justina, the Canaanite woman, who respectfully and persistently implores Jesus to see from a new perspective. Peter receives a decisive rebuttal, while the woman's plea is heard and she is praised for her great faith.

Peter's impetuous outburst provides the trigger for Jesus to invite his disciples to think about what they really want. In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is the teacher and the disciples are the students who have accepted the invitation to follow him. That means living out in their lives the pattern of his life. If they really want to be his followers, then they have to embrace the pain involved in his relentless program of teaching and of healing the sick and brokenhearted. They will also share the "glory". If they choose to put their own interests first, then they will surely lose themselves. It is ultimately a question of choosing life. Peter forgets this for a while and has to be reminded to be true to what he has previously professed. He is not very different from the rest of us. We too need to rethink our choices and to reorder our priorities from time to time if we want to find life. September 1 is the World Day of Prayer for Creation and our church, along with many churches, is celebrating September 1 to October 4 (Feast of St Francis of Assisi) as a Season of Creation. At a time when life on our planet is seriously endangered, we might attend more closely to the urgent gospel challenge of living in ways that help to sustain the life of the whole Earth community. We bring into our celebration those most affected by Covid-19 and we pray for the insight to live in right relationship with all that is.