

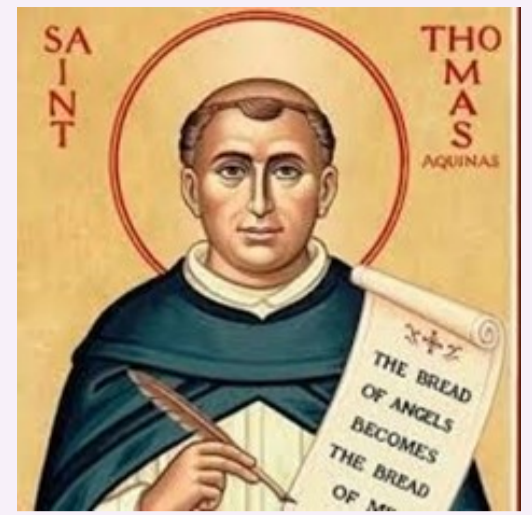
St Thomas Aquinas Parish

Jubilee Year 1974 - 2024

WEEKLY BULLETIN

4th Sunday of Lent

10 March 2024



Parish Vision

The Parish of St Thomas Aquinas seeks to maintain a strong, joyful, welcoming community. We strive to deepen our faith and spirituality, as individuals and as a community. We will live our faith more fully by carrying the message of the Gospel to all.

MASS & SACRAMENTS

Sunday:

Vigil (Saturday) 6pm

Sunday 9am

Weekdays:

Mass: Tuesday-Friday 9.30am

Communion Service: Monday 9.30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday 5-5.30pm

Baptism:

Second Sunday of the month

Anointing of the Sick

Celebrated during Mass on the First Wednesday of the month at 10am followed by morning tea.

From the Pastor's Desk

Lent is the time for us to remember Jesus, the one who was willing to give his life for us. In this Sunday gospel we hear the life giving words from John's gospel: "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life."

God's love was at the heart of the vision and mission of the founder of the MSC (Missionaries of the Sacred Heart of Jesus), Jules Chevalier. Next Friday will mark the 200th anniversary of his birth. Below is an excerpt from his writings which speak of the wonder of God's love for each and every person.

God says to me, I have loved you with an everlasting love! Me! It is specifically me whom God has so loved, ungrateful me, sinful me. God of surpassing majesty, God of supreme beauty and limitless perfection, God has love me. God!...me!...What distance! The infinite...and nothing! Loved! O God of love, make me understand this word: Loved! He who has always existed has always loved me, and it is through love that he decreed my creation from all eternity.

From the writings of Jules Chevalier

Fr Gerard

Parish Office

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6258 1563

Pastor: Fr Gerard McCormick MSC
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Parish Secretary: Sharon Greaves
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School

25 Lhotsky Street, Charnwood 2615
6258 4077

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Principal: Mr Tim Cleary

<i>Rosters</i>		
	Saturday 6pm 16 March	Sunday 9am 17 March
Acolyte	Angelo	Gavin
Servers	Sav, Vince	Robert, Melinda
Communion Minister	Tim Cleary	Trish
Readers		Peter, Rod
Music/Screen	Michael	Choir/Pam
Slide Prep	Pam	
Children's Liturgy	Natasha P	Catherine H



Prayers For the Sick

& Deceased

For the Sick

We remember and pray for those who are ill at home or in hospital at this time.

Maida Kajkic, Peter McArdle, Frederick Nield, Tom Roberts, Carolyn Holloway, Susie Purcell, Trish Jean, Bernard Tierney, Denis Hally-Burton, Margie Pater, Christine Greenwood.

Recently Deceased

We remember in prayer all those who have died.

Stephen Lean, Maureen Carey, Fr. Laurie Blake, Carmel Salmon, Mary Croker, Suzanne Scardoni, Manuel Fontan, Tony Teh, Fr. Henry Byrne, Rod Frazer, Fr. Kevin Barry-Cotter, John Fauth, Mario Benassi, Terence Southwell, Peter Moore, Leendert Burggraff, John Galogly, Pat Howe, Janette Faigafa, Maria Bonadei, Damien Conlan, Andrew Vumbaca, Ann Weeden, Maureen Carey, Wolodymir Rudys, Bernard Marcus, Vince Howe, Wally Rudyj, Ronni George, Samuel Carmichael, John Kidd, Ronnie George

Deceased are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

Open Scripture Discussion Groups

Wednesday following 9:30 am Mass.

Friday following 9:30 am Mass during school terms.

Latte with Our Lady

Rosary outside Charcoal Chicken every first Saturday of the month at 10:15 am. Praying for renewal and safety in our parish with coffee and a chat. Contact Julie 0412 337 367.

Adoration & Exposition of Blessed

Sacrament 5.30-6.30 pm every Thursday.

All parishioners are invited to come and spend time with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

COLLECTION DETAILS

Collection During Mass There is one collection during Mass at the time of the Offertory.

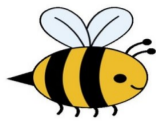
Tap and Go Machine next to the Collection Box to give people an opportunity to donate, should they wish to do so, when they aren't carrying cash.

Direct Debit forms available by contacting office.

Electronic Funds Transfer Bank account details are available on the website, or by contacting the office.

Have YOU thought?
God in popular culture

Think for a moment of the last time you saw or heard a reference to God on a television program, in a song, or some other popular medium. Chances are, the reference was one of a judging, vengeful, punishing God. This sort of image plays particularly well with a modern audience. It's easier to dismiss God as irrelevant if we can paint God in that sort of image. TV sitcoms do it particularly well with thunderclaps, bolts of lightning and booming, disapproving voices from above. It's much harder to dismiss a God of love who will go to extremes to demonstrate that love.



Church Working Bee

A working bee will be held from **9.00am on Saturday the 16th of March** to prepare the Church for Easter. Tasks to be undertaken include:

Dusting all the seats and window ledges.

Removing cobwebs from under the church seats and around the windows.

Cleaning inside windows.

Cleaning the Crucifix, and the votive candle stand,

Paschal Candle stand and thurible stand.

Morning tea will be provided at the end.

Please bring eye protection as some of the places to be cleaned are above head height.

Could you please let our Parish Secretary, Sharon Greaves, know if you will be

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE PARISH CHILDREN

We pray for the children of the parish who have begun their preparation for the Sacrament of Penance on **Thursday 21 March**.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

6:00pm every Friday during Lent in the courtyard



PLANT DONATIONS

We are seeking the donation of plants to be sold at our Plant Store. Plants can be brought in on any day and the class with the most plant donations receives a prize!

SAVE THE DATE!

STA FETE '24

SATURDAY, 23RD MARCH 2024

GET EXCITED ABOUT!

Great Food • Market Stalls • Entertainment • The Prize Wheel • Side Show Alley
Amusements • Exhibitions • The Chocolate Toss • Tombola • The Raffle
AND MUCH MORE!

WE NEED YOU, OUR STA FAMILY!

We need your help to make this Fete amazing for our kids and our School!
Let's rally together to make this a success!

There are various positions and roles that need to be filled - if you can spare some time to help run a stall, become a sponsor or make a donation? Any help is welcome and all are invited to volunteer!

GET INVOLVED!



The Fete is happening soon!
Send us an email and leave your name and number and we will be in touch!
StThomasAquinasFete@gmail.com



SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday 14 March 7:00pm

The 200th Anniversary of the birth of
Fr. Jules Chevalier msc
Friday 15 March 2024



Chevalier Family
6:00pm Evening Prayer
Followed by supper

St John the Apostle Parish ● Kippax ACT

Save the Date

Wednesday	Anointing during Mass
13 March	10am
Thursday	Second Rite of Reconciliation
14 March	7pm
Friday	Stations of the Cross
15 March	6pm

FOCUS ON THE WORD



Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us

out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life.

We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA.

RESPONSORIAL PLASM

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung up our harps. *R.*

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' *R.*

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! *R.*

O let my tongue
cleave my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! *R.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his
only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal
life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.