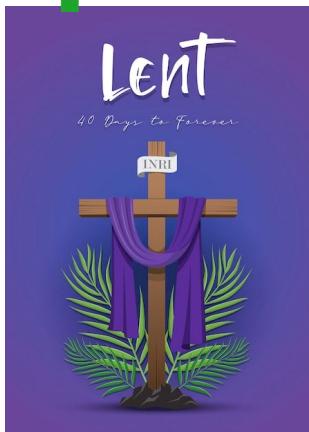


# St. Thomas

THE  
Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

**22 February 2026**

This Week's Feasts:

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb St Polycarp

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Feb St Gregory of Narek

**Administrator**

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**Secretary**

Jackie de Jong  
Office Hours:  
Tues & Thurs 9am-2pm

<b>Masses and Devotions</b>		
Sunday	7.30am 9.30am	Mass Mass
Tuesday	12.30pm	Mass
Wednesday	12.00pm 12.30pm	Rosary Mass (lunch in meeting room)
Thursday	12.30pm	Mass
Friday	11.30am 12.30pm	Eucharistic Adoration Mass
Saturday	5.00pm 5.30pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass



## **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A**

### **Entrance Antiphon (Cf Psalm 90:15-16)**

*When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will deliver him and give him glory,  
I will grant him length of days.*

### **First Reading (Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7)**

A reading from the book of Genesis

*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, ‘Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?’ The woman answered the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, “You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death”.’ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.’ The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### **Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 50:3-6,12-14,17)**

**(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. My offences truly I know them;  
my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;  
what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**
3. A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit **(R.)**
4. Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.  
O Lord, open my lips  
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

## **Second Reading** (Romans 5:12,17-19)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

*The word of the Lord Thanks be to God.*

## **Gospel Acclamation** (Matthew 4:4)

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

*No one lives on bread alone,*

*but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

## **Gospel** (Matthew 4:1-11)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,

and they will support you on their hands

in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.  
and serve him alone.'

*Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

## **Communion Antiphon** (Matthew 4:4)

*One does not live by bread alone,*

*but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.*

## **NEWS & EVENTS**

### **PROJECT COMPASSION**

This Lent, we invite all parishioners to support Project Compassion, a wonderful initiative by Caritas Australia. Through prayer, generosity, and small acts of sacrifice, we can help transform lives and bring hope to communities in need. Please join us in giving this Lenten season. Envelopes and donation boxes are available around the church to be returned at Easter. Use the QR code to donate online.



### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

#### **Fridays During Lent @ 7pm, St Thomas Church**

Parishioners are warmly invited to pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 7pm. Come reflect, pray, and walk with Christ this Lenten season.

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Vinnies has recently expanded its service area to include North Fremantle and is experiencing a shortage of food pantry items. They would appreciate donations of non-perishable foods such as cereal, long-life milk, rice, jams, biscuits, sweets, tea and coffee, and tinned meals, fish, vegetables and soups.

### **WORLD PRAYER DAY**

#### **Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Mar @ 10am– St Aidan's Uniting Church, Claremont**

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian service held annually on the first Friday in March. Begun in 1887, it brings women together in prayer and action for women around the world. This year's service focuses on Nigeria—please join us.

#### **BOOK LAUNCH – Pope Francis, the Disruptive Pilgrims Guide**

#### **Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Feb @ 4.30pm –Thomas Moore Exhibition Centre, John XXIII College**

Fr Frank Brennan's fascinating new publication explores Pope Francis's impact as a 'disruptive pilgrim,' blending Jesuit insight with themes of mercy, justice, and inclusion. The launch will be officiated by Timothy Costelloe SDB, Archbishop of Perth, and Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO. RSVP via

[www.trybooking.com/1514428](http://www.trybooking.com/1514428)

### **NEXT RCIA MEETING**

#### **Weds 11<sup>th</sup> March @ 7pm - Parish Meeting Room**

Parishioners are warmly welcomed to come along and support those who are enquiring about the Faith. The next session will be on The Sacraments of Service; Marriage, Holy Orders and the Consecrated Life All enquiries; [silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au](mailto:silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au)

Next weekend's readings **Second Sunday of Lent, Year A**

Genesis 12:1-4, Psalm 32, 2 Timothy 1:8-10, Matthew 17:1-9