

# March Newsletter



## What's happening in our Parish?

In February, our Finance Committee Chair updated parishioners on the state of Parish finances and the need to raise funds for repairs to our church façade. The Committee remains committed to transparency and keeping everyone informed of important financial matters.

We are also pleased to share that our new Tap-and-Go donation points are on their way and are expected to be installed before Easter. In the coming weeks, we will offer a brief presentation to explain how these devices work and how they will support the ongoing needs of our Parish.

Our RCIA and catechism programs have resumed with great enthusiasm. Please keep our First Holy Communion candidates in your prayers as they prepare to receive this beautiful sacrament in April.

During Lent, we also encourage all parishioners to prayerfully support Project Compassion, helping to bring hope and practical assistance to those most in need.

ST THOMAS  
the Apostle  
Claremont Parish

## Easter Services at St Thomas

- STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
Friday's during Lent  
**7.00pm**
- **29 MAR** ● PALM SUNDAY  
Mass  
**7.30am & 9.30am**
- **2 APR** ● HOLY THURSDAY  
Mass  
**6.00pm**
- **3 APR** ● GOOD FRIDAY  
Stations of the Cross  
**10.00am**  
Liturgy of the Passion  
**3.00pm**
- **4 APR** ● HOLY SATURDAY  
Easter Vigil Mass  
**6.30pm**
- **5 APR** ● EASTER SUNDAY  
Mass  
**7.30am & 9.30am**

*Parish Team*



## this Lent Project Compassion

This Lent, we warmly invite all parishioners to support Project Compassion, a meaningful initiative of Caritas Australia that reaches out to vulnerable communities both locally and around the world. Through prayer, generosity, and simple acts of sacrifice, we are given the opportunity to make a real and lasting difference in the lives of those experiencing poverty and hardship.

Lent is a season of reflection, compassion, and renewal, and Project Compassion offers a tangible way to live out our faith in action. Even the smallest offering, given with love, can help bring hope, dignity, and opportunity to those in need.

Envelopes and donation boxes are available around the church and can be returned at Easter.

Parishioners may also choose to give online using the QR code provided.



## Eucharistic Adoration

Since late last year, St Thomas has held a weekly Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour. We warmly invite all parishioners to join us for Eucharistic Adoration each Friday before Mass.

This quiet and prayerful time offers a beautiful opportunity to step away from the noise of the week and spend time in the peaceful presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Whether you come for a few minutes or stay for the full time, Adoration is a simple yet powerful way to deepen your faith, pray for your loved ones, and bring your intentions before God. All are welcome — there is no special experience needed, only an open heart.

Come and rest, pray, and be renewed as we prepare our hearts together before the celebration of Mass each Friday.

**Every Friday | 11.30am | St Thomas the Apostle, Claremont**



## Common Ground Faith Education for Young People

Common Ground is a space where young adults who share similar values and beliefs come together and belong. Through faith formation, prayer, mission, ministry and social activities, Common Ground provides opportunities to grow in faith, deepen your relationship with God and explore what it means to live a life of purpose. Ask questions, share your struggles, receive encouragement and guidance. Come along!

<https://www.cym.com.au/common-ground.html>

**Every Wednesday | 6pm - 8.30pm | Catholic Pastoral Centre | 40a Mary St, Highgate**

## Events around the Archdiocese

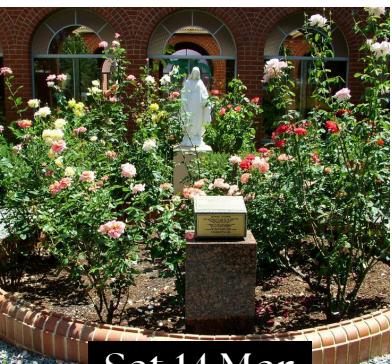


Sat 21 Mar

### Understanding Change Loss & Grief

Understanding Change, Loss and Grief is a 3-hour seminar for people with an interest in learning about what grief is, its potential triggers and impacts, as well as strategies to manage it and move forward. It's not intended to be a grief support group. Register: (08) 9422 7920/ [outreach@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:outreach@perthcatholic.org.au)

**Sat 21 Mar | 9.30am | \$16pp | Catholic Pastoral Centre | 40a Mary St, Highgate**



Sat 14 Mar

### Mary MacKillop Breakfast

Come and join the fun, meet old friends and make new ones at the 2026 Mary MacKillop Today Breakfast in the Garden. BYO chairs & sunscreen.

Register: 0459 364 872 or [robscan52@icloud.com](mailto:robscan52@icloud.com).

**Sat 14 Mar | 8am | \$20pp | Mary MacKillop Centre | 16 York Street, South Perth**



Thurs 5 Mar

### CCR Opening Mass

Catholic Charismatic Renewal will hold our Opening Year Mass this March. Come along to celebrate the beginning of this wonderful year with the Lord and to ask His abundant blessings on us all. Invite family and friends and bring a plate for a light supper, if possible. Further info - Dan 0409 849 049 or [daniel.hewitt5@bigpond.com](mailto:daniel.hewitt5@bigpond.com)

**Thurs 5 Mar | 7.30pm | Holy Family Church | Thelma St Como**



Sat 14 Mar

### Lenten Reflection with Mary

Bishop Don Sproxton and the Parish Renewal Team invite all PPC members & parishioners to come together in this time of Lent to reflect with Mary and her Magnificat of humility and grace. Register: [parishrenewal@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:parishrenewal@perthcatholic.org.au)

**Sat 14 Mar | 10.30am-2.30pm | \$16pp | St Columba's Church | 25 Forrest St, South Perth**



Fri 10 Mar

### World Prayer Day

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.

**Fri 10 Mar | 10am | St Aidan's Uniting Church | 26 Princess Rd, Claremont**



Sat 7 Mar

### Catholic Singles

Join us for an outing to the Subi Night Markets with other Catholic young adults from around Perth! This relaxed evening is a great opportunity to meet like-minded people, enjoy some light social games in a friendly, low-pressure setting. Register:

<https://perthcatholicsingles.eventbrite.com>

**Sat 7th Mar | 5pm | Subi Night Markets**



## Deacon's Diary

*An Invitation to the Heart*

Dear Parishioners

This is my first Deacon's Diary contribution to the monthly Parish Newsletter. It's not a homily, rather it's a brief reflection on some current aspect of our faith journey together. It's no surprise then that this month my Deacon's Diary is about the Holy Season of Lent.

In Lent we are invited to listen and attend with the ear of your heart (St Benedict) to the conversations in the Lenten scriptures – Jesus with the blind man; with the Samaritan woman; with Martha; with the Father. We listen to these words as if they are also addressed to us: 'Do not be afraid', 'I am the light of the world', 'Unbind him and let him go'. In the ebb and flow of each conversation we respond with our concerns, our doubts and our faith.

Our world though is so busy and full of 'noise' often we find it difficult to stop and reflect on what is happening to us; on questions that arise from deep within our hearts. Lent provides an opportunity to 'turn to' this inner dialogue; what are we seeking, what is our heart's desire, what is God's dream for us?

This Lent we are invited to turn again to where God dwells within us – to converse with the word – so that our eyes will be opened, our hearts will be purified, and our minds will be one with Christ Jesus (Philippians 2:6)

Yours in His service

*Deacon Paul*

(Acknowledgement: Heart to Heart, Faith & Life, Archdiocese of Brisbane)

## Ministry Contacts

### Acolytes

John Cranfield 0412 912 769

### Readers

Margaret Sweetman 0488 938 539

### Extraordinary Ministers

Margaret Sweetman 0488 938 539

### Musicians

Eric Hudson-Smith (7.30am Mass)

emhsmit01@outlook.com

Jane Courtney (9.30am Mass)

0419 241 450

### Sacramental Preparation

Silvia Kinder

silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au

### Weekly Rosary

Stephanie Tew 0408 798 174

### Altar Flowers

contact Parish Office

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Henry Simmons 0417 985 992

### Finance Committee

Leo McManus 0417 414 951

### Safeguarding Officers

Jenni Hutton 0400 708 512

Margaret Carman 0406 663 354

### Counters

Jeannette O'Keefe 0431 501 989

### St Thomas Primary School

Natalia Thomson - Principal

08 9286 9500

*Thank you for reading!*

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE	08 9384 0598
www.claremontparish.com	2 College Rd, CLAREMONT WA 6010