

This week's Sanctuary Lamp burns for:

Mario Conversano & Paul Carman

If you would like to have the lamp burn for a week, please put the details and \$10 in an envelope and hand to Fr Wayne in the Parish Office or in the mail box.



WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS:

We take this opportunity to welcome all new parish members. We hope that you find St Thomas the Apostle a friendly parish community. Please join us after the 7.30am and 9.30am

Masses for a 'cuppa' in the parish centre. Say hello to Father, meet some new/old friends, sit down and have a chat. Please become part of the family of St Thomas the Apostle. See you there!



Do we have your email address? If you have changed your email address, please let us know by contacting us at our email address: claremont@perthcatholic.org.au

If you would like to receive the parish bulletin each week, please email us and we will place you on the email list. The bulletin is emailed out each Friday Afternoon. *Thank You.*

St Thomas Parish Sacramental Enrolment 2024...

Enrolments are now open for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation. To attend preparation classes for these sacraments (this applies to students not attending a Catholic school) or to receive a sacrament in the Parish (for students being prepared at a Catholic school) please contact Silvia Kinder for a registration form. Enrolments close on February 29.

silvia.kinder@cewa.edu.au



An Australia Day Mass will be held on **Friday, 26 January 2024 at 8.00am** in the Church. All welcome as we pray for this great country of ours.



PLEASE remember to turn your phone off or on silent when in the church. Thank you.

Next Weekend's Readings: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year B: Jonah 3:1-5,10 1Cor 7:29-31 Mk 1:14-20



CLAREMONT WA

Parish Priest: Fr Wayne Davis

Secretary: Prue Pupazzoni

Priest Administrator:

Fr Richard Rutkauskas

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Web: www.claremontparish.com.au

Office Hours: Tue, Wed, Fri 9.00am-2.00pm

Safeguarding Officers—Contact Nos:

Mr Ralph Goodman: 0419 740 443

Ms Janet Payton: 0438 212 053

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK:

Tue: 9.00am Mass

Wed: 9.00am Mass

Thu: 9.00am Mass

Fri: 9.00am Mass

Sat: 9.00am Mass

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm Kids' Mass

Sunday: 7.30am, 9.30am

RECONCILIATION: Sat: 4.30—5.00pm



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time -
Year B: January 13-14, 2024

THE FRIENDSHIP REFLECTION - BY GAIL RODGERS

Why is it we are drawn to some people more than others? What makes us want to maintain a friendship?

Friendship is a lifeline. Connecting with like-minded people who genuinely care about one another is a gift we take for granted all too often. **Friends are people we feel good with.** Some make us laugh, some hear us out and really listen to our hearts, others support us when the going is tough, and still others just hang with us when we need down time.

A true friend holds up a mirror in which we see ourselves. They are the ones who show us our strengths when all we see is weakness; they point out our good character traits, like courage and loyalty, when we are down on ourselves. They remind us of past accomplishments and spur us on in our future. They build into our lives, and we are richer for having spent time with them. We come away with a stronger sense of “self” because we have been together. But friends don't just expose our good qualities; they tell it as it is. They are the people in our lives who aren't afraid to tell us what they really think, who hold us accountable when we're out of line. They speak the truth in love, and in the process, make us better: *"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another"* (Proverbs 27:17). Be mindful of the mirror you hold up for your friends.

Do you reflect back to them the goodness you find in their hearts and in their character? Are you able to lovingly reveal the areas in their lives that they need to work on? It's popular today to be sarcastic and even mean in our comments with one another. It's all said in the “I was only joking” way. Yet when we come away from times with friends and admit that their words cut and hurt, we need to evaluate our friendships. A true friend can joke and laugh with you, but the tone changes when they laugh *at* you. When that happens, the reflection they hold up to you is negative and it leaves a bad taste in your mouth. You come away with a lesser sense of “self.” People who leave you with this reflection are not true friends. Be mindful of the reflection you hold up to those close to you. How do they feel after an interaction with you? Be intentional about reflecting back their strength of character. Be gentle when honesty requires a hard look at something in another's life. Be conscious of building people in a way that challenges them to continue moving forward in their lives.

BE A RELATIONSHIP-BUILDER: Remember that words make up only 7% of your communication. Be aware of the tone and body language you are sharing with those you care about. It communicates loud and clear! Be intentional about surrounding yourself with friends who are truly friends, and not ones who tear you down. **Over the course of time, people will seldom remember what you said to them. But they will always remember how you made them feel.** Evaluate your friendships. Nurture those who build into your life. Seek out ways to support those you care about.

- Listen well and offer advice only if asked.
- Respect different points of view. Remember every coin has two sides, just as every issue does.
- Never betray trust. Hold confidences with care.
- Never manipulate by being intentionally controlling, needy, or weak.
- Deal with conflict. Left to simmer, it will boil over and do damage.
- Cultivate warmth and care.

CHINESE CHICKEN CURRY... serves 4

Ingredients: 250g basmati rice cooked 500g boneless chicken thighs, cut into bite-sized pieces
3 tbsp dark soy sauce 1 tbsp cornflour 1 tsp Chinese five-spice powder 1 tbsp vegetable oil
2 brown onions, thickly sliced 1 tbsp finely grated ginger 1 tbsp finely grated garlic
3 tbsp mild curry powder 600ml chicken stock 200g fresh pineapple chunks
225g tin sliced water chestnuts in water, drained 2 mixed capsicums, thickly sliced

Method: Mix together the chicken with the soy sauce, cornflour and Chinese five-spice. Toss to coat evenly. Heat the oil in a wide, non-stick wok or frying pan and add the onions. Stir-fry over a medium heat for 6–8 minutes, or until softened and lightly browned. Stir in the ginger, garlic and curry powder and stir for 1–2 minutes. Add the coated chicken and stock and simmer for 12–15 minutes. Add the pineapple, water chestnuts and capsicums. Cook for 5–6 minutes or until the peppers are just tender and the curry has thickened. Serve in warmed bowls, ladled over steamed rice.

SOLEMN PROFESSION OF SR MARIE CHRISSIE OF TRINITY... You are invited to the Solemn Profession of Sr Marie Chrissie of Trinity on Saturday, 20th January 2024 - 10 AM at Carmelite Monastery, 100 Adelma Road, Dalkeith. Archbishop Costelloe will preside. Light refreshment will follow the Ceremony and Mass.

NEW PARISHIONERS, and those not so new, please complete the Census Cards which are available in the back of the Church (one for each member of your family) and hand the completed cards to Fr Wayne or one of the acolytes after Mass. It is very important for all new parishioners to register with the Parish and for existing parishioners to update their registration details so that the Parish Office is able to keep accurate records. Please be assured that **ALL INFORMATION WHICH YOU SUPPLY IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND FOR PARISH USE ONLY** in accordance with the Privacy Act of Australia 1997. **Please Note: That no phone numbers or personal details can be given out to any person phoning the parish office. It is against the law. Please do not ask, as refusal may offend. Fr Wayne** PS: please be sure to include your email address.

What is Ordinary Time?

The rhythm of the liturgical seasons reflects the rhythm of life — with its celebrations of anniversaries and its seasons of quiet growth and maturing. Ordinary Time, meaning ordered or numbered time, is celebrated in two segments: from the Monday following the Baptism of Our Lord up to Ash Wednesday; and from Pentecost Monday to the First Sunday of Advent. This makes it the largest season of the Liturgical Year. In vestments usually green, the colour of hope and growth, the Church counts the thirty-three or thirty-four Sundays of Ordinary Time, inviting her children to meditate upon the whole mystery of Christ — his life, miracles and teachings — in the light of his Resurrection. If the faithful are to mature in the spiritual life and increase in faith, they must descend the great mountain peaks of Easter and Christmas in order to "pasture" in the vast verdant meadows of *tempus per annum*, or Ordinary Time. Sunday by Sunday, the Pilgrim Church marks her journey through the *tempus per annum* as she processes through time toward eternity.



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate...

What's in a Name?

What's in a name? A lot, if it is God who confers the name. Jesus of Nazareth, the embodiment of God-for-us, knew the power of naming in relation to calling and destiny. So, when Andrew brought his brother to Jesus, Jesus exercised the divine prerogative of changing Simon's name to 'Cephas' which in English is 'Peter'. Jesus gave Simon a nickname, 'rock-solid' which was the exact opposite of his character! Nevertheless, he did become the rock on which Jesus built his Church. The tradition continues with the successor of Peter. So, Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio took the name 'Francis' which indicates that he believes that the Holy Spirit inspired the Cardinals to choose him to be Pope to follow in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi. Each one of us has a divinely ordained name (Rev 2:17) which we may not be aware of, but the Holy Spirit is always prompting us to live up to that name. We could pause for a moment to pray that we might so live as to reach Heaven to find that name which God has loved from and for all eternity.

"Perhaps the most important thing we bring to another person is the silence in us, not the sort of silence that is filled with unspoken criticism or hard withdrawal. The sort of silence that is a place of refuge, of rest, of acceptance of someone as they are. We are all hungry for this other silence. It is hard to find. In its presence we can remember something beyond the moment, a strength on which to build a life. Silence is a place of great power and healing."

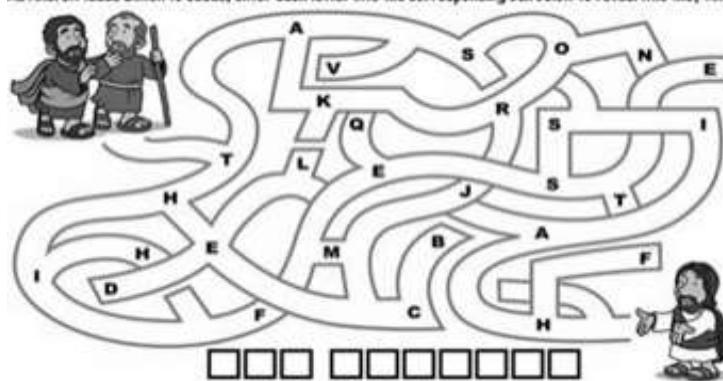
Rachel Naomi Remen



Parish Prayer to St Thomas the Apostle...

O St Thomas, the Apostle, Father of our faith, you spread the light of Christ in the hearts of all. You humbly confessed "My Lord and My God" and sacrificed your life for love of him. We pray to you to strengthen us with love and faith in Jesus Christ so that we may dedicate ourselves totally to the cause of the kingdom of justice, peace and love. We pray that through your intercession we may be protected from all trials, dangers and temptations and be strengthened in the love of the Triune God, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

As Andrew leads Simon to Jesus, enter each letter into the corresponding box below to reveal who they find.



New Parishioners, and those not so new, who wish to update their census details: Please put your name and address in the space below and drop into the collection basket or email to the office. Thanks!

Name: _____ Email: _____

Residential Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ No of People in household: _____

PS: If you would like to join the St Thomas' Parish Planned Giving Programme and give your financial support to the Parish, please tick this ☐ box and Prue Pupazzoni (Parish Secretary) will organise for a set of planned giving envelopes to be issued to you. Alternatively, she can arrange for you to make your contributions by direct debit.

THIS WEEKEND'S SCRIPTURE READINGS...

First Reading: *A reading from the first book of Samuel*

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: (R.) *Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord, and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. (R.)
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. (R.)
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. (R.)
4. Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. (R.)



Second Reading: *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!*

We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

Gospel: *A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

GLORIA.... Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

APOSTLES' CREED.... I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. **Amen.**