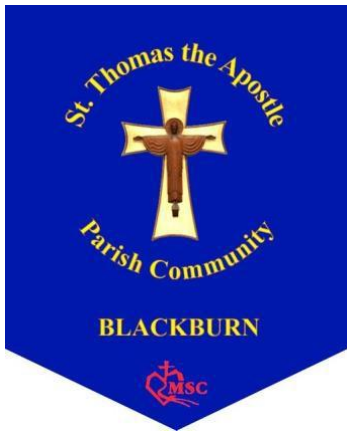




ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE NEWSLETTER

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

25TH OCTOBER 2026 YEAR A

LITURGY CALENDAR

MONDAY 26TH OCT.
No Service

TUESDAY 27TH OCT.
10.00am Mass
10.30 am Rosary

WEDNESDAY 28th OCT.
10.00am Mass
10.30am Mass at St.
Thomas' Retirement
Village

THURSDAY 29th OCT.
10.00 am Mass

FRIDAY 30th OCT.
10.00am Mass

SATURDAY 31st OCT.
10.00am Reconciliation
6.00pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER
ALL SAINTS DAY
8.30am Mass
10.30am Mass
5.00pm Mass



Dear Parishioners,

Gospel Reflection

'Are we content with material goods, immediate satisfactions, the countless little idols that promise us everything but leave our hearts empty?', Pope Leo asks.

Obviously not. 'We all long for happiness, love and fulfilment', he notes. Indeed, he affirms that 'only God can fill the emptiness within us.'

Reflecting on how 'Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, leads us, as a shepherd leads his sheep', the Pope reminds us that Jesus shows us how to love: 'He carries the weary and wounded sheep on his shoulders, and gently brings back those who have gone astray.'

Jesus' love is gentle and persistent, directed to each person in a unique manner. 'Jesus reveals God's unconditional love for us', the Pope reminds us. 'In his eyes, none of us is merely a number or an entry in a register, but a unique and irreplaceable person.'

Experiencing such divine love, we are called to share it with others. 'Do not keep this faith in Jesus Christ to yourselves', the Pope says. 'Let it overflow, so that those you meet may be refreshed and their thirst satisfied. You are called to bring hope wherever discouragement and spiritual dryness prevail.'

Each of us is called to live 'the holiness of those who worship the true God and generously serve their brothers and sisters in charity.'

By Nick Brodie- A Liturgy Help Resource

*[Quotes from Homily, 26 September 2026, Place de la Concorde (Paris):
<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/homilies/2026/documents/20260926-francia-messa-parigi.html>]*

With God's blessings,
Fr Aloysius Lamere msc
Parish Priest

A Prayer for Priests

God, grant them the joys of their vocation, health of mind, body and spirit; a strong faith and a light heart to do the Lord's work in this world; and the love and support of their friends, family and parishioners. Holy Spirit, guide them and give them grace. *Amen*



A Vocation View

In pursuing and living our vocation, we must seek to live these two commandments: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind, and to love your neighbour as yourself.

Please remember in your prayers the following:

Sick:

Louise Crowe, Peter Deayton, Teresita Torres, Isabelle, Maureen, Tracey & Peter L., Jacqui Collins, Norma Broek, Ray Bartling, Charles, Felicia Holland, Jim Leverett, Joyce Turner, Gill Dixon, Ann Leonard, John Philp, Rose Talbot, Lyle Hovenden, Dominic Phan, Joan Johnston, Dorothy Venosta, Tom Tierney, Lan Le, Binh Le, Teresa Bayne, Natasha Barrett, Sarah Hamilton, Fr Brian Gallagher msc, Pat Peake, Luke Douglas, Monica Djojoiswanto, Gregory Woo, Julio Trinidad & Emma Rivet.

Recently Dec.

Lois Maree Harris
Funeral here on:

Anniversaries:

Mary Gartland,
Bryant De Niese & Earle De Niese

PIETY STALL

***ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HELP OUR
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
BLACKBURN**

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS NOW
AVAILABLE AT \$11ea
CHRISTMAS CARDS
AT \$4 PER PK 5**

**BAPTISM CANDLES, STOLES & GIFTS
CHILDREN'S BIBLES & ROSARIES**

EL SALVADOR CROSSES, SAINTS PRAYER

**CARDS, BIRTHDAY & SYMPATHY CARDS
MONASTIQUE COSMETICS**

**FRIENDS OF SAME EAST TIMOR
GROUND COFFEE @ \$9.50ea**

BR. JAMES CD'S AVAILABLE @ \$25 ea

**MSC BOOKS FOR SALE:-
'COMPASSION' (New)
By Fr Brian Gallagher
"Just 2 Minutes., & 10 Minutes More"
Gospel reflections suitable for groups
or individuals.
By Fr Peter Malone msc
\$17.50ea
ENQUIRE AT THE PIETY STALL**

COMPANION NEEDED:

A parishioner has asked if there may be someone in the parish who might be able to assist her with clothes shopping and have the odd coffee or lunch with her. If you feel you could help this lady please call 0421 205 062 for further information? Thank you

CHRISTMAS APOSTLE EDITION ARTICLES NEEDED...



HELLO EVERYONE,

We are seeking articles, so put on your thinking caps and send in those thought provoking and Inspiring stories, community achievements, humorous etc.. to the Parish Office email blackburn@cam.org.au or hand into the Parish Office. Thank you.

Parish Feedback & Gathering — Your Voice Matters

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent Parish Questionnaire. A summary of your feedback will be handed out at Masses this weekend by members of the Parish Synodal Working Group and included with the bulletin emailed to parishioners. Your feedback is helping us listen, discern and shape the future of St Thomas the Apostle together.

Parish Gathering: Sunday 15 November 2026, 11.30 am–2.30 pm, in the School Hall.

Lunch will be provided, with fun activities for school-aged children.

Please register by **Monday 9 November** by scanning the QR code (alongside) or using the sign-up sheets in the narthex.

Come along to connect with fellow parishioners and explore three key themes from the survey: **youth engagement, faith formation, and community and social engagement.** Together, let us continue building a welcoming, vibrant and faith-filled parish—being the heart of God in our world.

Fr Alo, Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Synodal Working Group



Safeguarding Children: Our Commitment to Children and young people

Any issues contact us via email: BlackburnSafeguarding@cam.org.au

A gentle reminder to parents/guardians that your children are to be supervised at all times during Mass and is advisable to accompany them to and from the restrooms.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS: 30TH Sunday in Ordinary Time
25th October 2026—Yr A

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: ALL SAINTS DAY
1st November 2026—Yr A

FIRST READING: Exodus 22:20-26
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 17: 2,4, 47, 51. R. v. 2
SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 14:23
GOSPEL: Matthew 22: 34,40
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 19:6 or Eph 5:2

FIRST READING: Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 23: 1-6. R. cf. v. 6
SECOND READING: 1 John 3: 1-3
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Matthew 11:28
GOSPEL: Matthew 5: 1-12
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Matthew 5:8-10

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK ALL SAINTS DAY 31 ST Oct./1 ST Nov. 2026- Yr A	6.00PM	8.30AM	10.30AM	5.00PM
Commentators/Lectors:	C—Michael Ransom L—Margaret Easton	C- Chrissie Minahan L-Yvonne Crowe	C-Loreto Moore L-Angela Cotter	C- Susan Collins L- Anne Netherway
Extraordinary Ministers:	Lorraine Rodgers	Fill in needed	Mary Crossan	Anne-Maree/Susan
Money Counters Team 2		Piety Stall: Team 4	Flower Roster NOVEMBER Kristina Vickov	Children's Liturgy: Leader: Elinor/Van Colour: GREEN

PARISH SYNOD CORNER: WILL APPEAR EACH WEEK LEADING UP TO THE MELBOURNE SYNOD

31. Synodality and Families

Families are schools of synodality, where listening, patience, and forgiveness are lived daily. The Church learns synodality from family life.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

We are requesting assistance from Parishioners', in the assembly of Christmas Hampers, to assist the needy in the surrounding area of our Parish. We have a combination of Families and many Single Clients. A suggested list of items: Christmas Pudding, Fruit cake, can of Fruit, Long life Custard, jar of Jam, packet of Sweet Biscuits, Long Life Milk, Coffee or Tea Bags, can of Ham, can or packet of Soup, Breakfast Cereal, tin of Fish, packet of Mince Pies.

PLEASE ENSURE USE BY DATES ARE WITHIN USE Bags will be available near the kitchen from the 8th / 9th November.

***Please leave completed hampers near the Kitchen before the weekend of 6th / 7th December.**

Patrick Danaher, President Blackburn Conference.

TO ALL PARISH VOLUNTEERS - IMPORTANT

THE ARCHDIOCESE HAS ROLLED OUT A NEW PLATFORM FOR THE **ONLINE SAFEGUARDING MODULE** CALLED **TRIBALHABITS**. EVERYONE WHO RENEWS THIS MODULE WILL FIRST NEED TO LOG IN AND **REGISTER** AS A **NEW USER** AS ALL PAST SIGN IN HISTORY WILL NO LONGER EXIST. THE MODULE CONTENT STAYS THE SAME. THANK YOU

A reminder to parents with children who Altar Serve to accompany your child while in the Sacristy changing into their Altar robes before and after Mass. As requested by the Safeguarding Unit of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Thank you.

*St. Thomas the Apostle Parish strives to create an environment
where all children and vulnerable adults including Aboriginal, special needs and persons of cultural diversity are
safe, respected and cared for.*

**ST THOMAS THE
APOSTLE PARISH
57 CENTRAL ROAD
BLACKBURN Vic
3130**

(PO Box 5084, Laburnum Vic 3130)

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Aloysius Lamere msc

SUPERIOR TO VIC. & TAS.

Fr Dominic Gleeson msc

FORMATOR:

Fr Dominic Gleeson msc

RETREAT DIRECTOR:

Fr Chris McPhee msc

PARISH PHONE:

9878 0818/9877 7693
(If Urgent mob. 0483 750 564)

PARISH EMAILS:

bblackburn@cam.org.au
BlackburnSafeguarding@cam.org.au

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbcatholic.org/s/blackburn

PARISH SECRETARY:

Susan Collins

PARISH ACCOUNTANT:

Maurice Gartland

PARISH PASTORAL

COUNCIL CHAIR:

Anand Rego

ST THOMAS' SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:

Marcus Gill

SCHOOL PHONE:

P: 9878 8268

SCHOOL EMAIL:

office@stblackburn.catholic.edu.au

SCHOOL WEBSITE:

www.stblackburn.catholic.edu.au



**ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
PARISH ACTIVITIES**

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & CUPPA:

Our next First Friday will be on **6th November** at 10am for Mass and after a cuppa and a chat. All are most welcome.

SCRABBLE NIGHT...

Our next scrabble will be on **Thursday 5th November at 7.30pm in the Church Narthex.** Contact Chrissie 9899 9675 or Maureen 0408 000 794. All are most welcome, come along and check it out.

CARDS-(Solo)...

Our next get together will be on **Thursday 12th November.** We meet in private homes. New players are most welcome to come along. Contact Geraldine Ph: 9877 2087 for our next venue.

**ST THOMAS PARISH/SCHOOL
ARCHIVES**

Archival material always welcome, please include dates and names when possible. Contact Parish Office Ph: 9878 0818

**ST THOMAS' LECTIO DIVINA
TUESDAYS**

We meet every Tuesday morning at 10am via Zoom. For more information contact Bernard.marmion@icloud.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sundays at 10.30am Mass. **During School Terms only.**

ST. THOMAS' PLAYGROUP:

THIS GROUP IS NOT RUNNING AT PRESENT. CONTACT THE SCHOOL on 9878 8268.

USE THE QR CODE OR VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:

www.melbcatholic.org/s/blackburn



ST.VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:

Call Centre for assistance – 1800 305 330
Free Call Weekdays 10am-3pm.
Vinnies Centre Ringwood Ph. 9870 9124,
Unit 1B/76-82 Maroondah Hwy,
Ringwood.
For Furniture & Whitegoods pickup—Call
Eastern Emergency Relief who will
pickup for St Vincent de Paul - week days
9am-1pm . Ph. 9874 8433.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL BLACKBURN
CONFERENCE DONATION OPTION**

On behalf of the Conference **THANK YOU**
for your donations. Alternatively, if you
wish to donate directly, our Bank
Account details are:

BSB: 063 003 | Account No: 1008 1787
Donation Reference: 442.

**A/c name: Society of St Vincent de Paul
Pty Ltd. Grace Mizzi- President**
**Patrick Danaher contact on Mob: 0411
804 635**



FIRST AID EQUIPMENT

Attn Parishioners:

The DEFIB is located outside
the Sacristy door.

A First Aid Kit is also in the Kitchen

Broom Cupboard. First Aid items (blankets
etc.) which are provided by the Church are stored in
a large plastic tub in the Crying Room (right sliding
cupboard.)



GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS.....

Br James' CDs are available at
Piety Stall. **'Hidden Within The
World'** \$25, **Heart voice** (double
CD) \$25 **Gospel of Love** (double CD) \$25.



St Thomas the Apostle Parish acknowledge the
Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional
owners of this land. We pay our respects to their
Elders past, present and emerging.

