

## PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Gerard Prunty

### PARISH OFFICES

#### St. Thomas' Terang

P.O. Box 25 Terang. 3264  
Ph: 5592 1195 Fax: 5592 2308  
terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

#### Parish Safeguarding Officer

Clare Neal

"We are a Child Safe Parish"

#### St. Colman's Mortlake

#### St Joseph's Caramut

P.O. Box 25 Terang 3264  
Ph: 5592 1195  
terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

### SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

#### St. Thomas' Terang

Mr. Ben van de Camp  
Ph 5592 1925

#### St. Colman's Mortlake

Mr. Tim Bourke  
Ph 5599 2285

#### Mercy Regional College

Ms Sharon Gillett  
Ph 5593 2011

St. Thomas the Apostle  
and St. Colman's Parishes  
acknowledge and respect the  
traditional custodians of this  
land the Kirrae Wuorong people.

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

#### ST THOMAS' TERANG

Saturday 6.00 pm  
Sunday 10.30 am

#### ST COLMAN'S MORTLAKE

Sunday 9.00 am

#### Next Weeks Readings:

16th & 17th January 2021

1st read: 1 Sam 3: 3-10, 19  
2nd read: 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20  
Gospel: Jn 1: 35-42



# ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE TERANG and ST. COLMAN'S MORTLAKE PARISH BULLETIN

To access this bulletin online go to [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au)  
and select either Terang or Mortlake Parish.

### Baptism of the Lord

9th & 10th January 2021

**RECENT DEATHS:** Chris Sheedy, Maria Clarke

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Bernie Gleeson, Evie Moloney,  
Tony Shanahan, Pat Kelly



**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Nell O'Sullivan

*(Names placed on the sick list will remain for 3 weeks unless otherwise notified)*

### SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES:

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Parishes.

Weekend 26th/27th Dec & 2nd/3rd Jan	<u>TERANG</u>	<u>MORTLAKE</u>
1st Collection	\$ 1,204.75	\$ 270.60
<b>Planned Giving Program Week 22</b>		
2nd Collection	\$ 2,146.00	\$ 135.00
Average given	\$ 2,040.61	\$ 298.70
Amount promised per week	\$ 1,696.46	\$ 300.81

**Masses are allowed with a gathering up to 250(T)/125(M) people.  
All attending must sign in, wear a mask, hand sanitise &  
social distance**

### TERANG & MORTLAKE ROSTERS:

**LINEN:** January Terang: Margaret Irving  
Mortlake: Claire Adams

**FLOWERS:** 16th/17th January  
Terang: Maureen Kenna & Aileen O'Connor  
Mortlake: Fay Murray (& 24th Jan)

**Mortlake Set Up:** January - Carmel Orford

**COUNTERS:** Not required due to COVID

### Liturgy Rosters: Weekend ~ 16th & 17th January 2021

**READERS:** 1st & 2nd reading & Prayers of the Faithful

**Terang Saturday 6.00 pm:** Allison Lourey

**Sunday 10.30 am:** Des McKinnon

**Mortlake Sunday 9.00 am:** Mick Murphy

*(Copies of next weeks readings will be emailed to you)*

### Procession of Gifts & Eucharistic Ministers

**Due to COVID19 we will not require anyone for the Offertory  
or to administer Communion ~ Fr Gerry will do this**

**Music Mortlake Sun 9.00 am:** Volunteer

**Lap Top Terang: Sat 6.00 pm:** Khloe Meade

**Sun 10.30 am:** Max & Greta Neal

We welcome into God's Family  
and our Parish Community

**Mia Elizabeth O'Connor**

daughter of

**Stephen & Hannah**

who will be baptised at St. Thomas'  
Church this weekend.



**There are two ways  
of spreading light:  
to be the candle  
or the mirror that  
reflects it.**

Edith Wharton

**Reflection on the Gospel-Feast of the Baptism of Jesus Year B  
(Mark 1:7-11) -Veronica M. Lawson RSM**

The Baptism of Jesus marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. Many of us have been fortunate enough to get some time after Christmas to reflect on the past year with all its challenges and to set goals for the year ahead so that we might move into Ordinary Time with renewed life and vigour. As Covid-19 vaccines offer hope of a return to more familiar ways of being, we acknowledge the need to explore new ways of living the faith we profess.

Mark's story of the baptism forms part of the prologue to the gospel. It provides the reader with insights that the characters in the story are invited to learn along the way. It is succinct and at the same time replete with evocative imagery. At one level, the imagery leads us back into Israel's faith traditions and forward into the unfolding mystery of God's new way of being in the world through the ministry, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. On another level, the imagery embraces the entire universe, the heavens and the earth, celestial and earthly beings, the human and the more-than-human.

The preceding verses (Mark 1:5-6) have told us that John the Baptizer has drawn huge crowds of people from the Judean countryside and from Jerusalem to be baptised in the Jordan River. In the midst of this activity, John now suddenly announces that one more powerful (literally "the stronger one") is about to come on the scene. John knows who he is in relation to this coming one: he is not even worthy to bend down and untie the thong of his sandals. This footwear imagery evokes the humility and earthiness of John as well as the relentless journeying of Jesus in Mark's gospel. While John baptised with water, the more powerful one will "baptise" with the Holy Spirit.

The baptism story is a commissioning story. The heavens are torn apart, evoking the prophetic hope of Isaiah 64:1 and foreshadowing the tearing of the curtain of the temple at Jesus' death (Mark 15:38). In other words, all the barriers between God and God's creation are now dismantled. Just as God's spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so now the Holy Spirit descends on Jesus in the form of a dove, giving birth to something entirely new. The God of the universe addresses Jesus as "my beloved Son". There are echoes here of the story of Isaac, the beloved son of Sarah and Abraham, the one through whom God's promises were to be fulfilled. Isaac is the ancestor of Israel who struggled with God. God's people have always struggled with God and will continue to do so. But God's favour continues to rest on God's creation just as it rests on Jesus of Nazareth, God's beloved. We take heart from this in face of a world that cries out for justice and compassion.

***Notices need to be at St. Thomas' Parish Office by 10.00 am next Friday***