

Celebrating the Life of
THOMAS HARKINS

26-10-1933 - 24 May 2024



Wednesday, 5th June 2024

St Joseph Catholic Church, Cobram

Priest: Fr Junjun Amaya

Entrance Music:

'Mull of Kintyre' by Wings

Gathering Rite: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Celebrant: God, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation be with you all.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Words of Remembrance: *Pia Harkins & Andrea Harkins*

Photo Presentation: *'My Old Man' by the Zac Brown Band*

Christian Symbols

The Paschal Candle (Shannon Harkins)

Celebrant: In baptism, Thomas received the light of Christ.
It has guided him through his life.

All: **May it now lead him into eternal life.**

Sprinkling with Holy Water (Priest)

Celebrant: In the waters of baptism, Thomas died with Christ
and rose with Him into eternal life.

All: **May Thomas now share eternal life with him in glory.**

Symbols of Life: *Golf Stick, Akubra Hat*

Opening Prayer

Celebrant: God, to whom mercy and forgiveness belong, hear our prayers on behalf of your servant Thomas, whom you have called out of this world; and because he put his hope and trust in you, command that he be carried safely home to heaven and come to enjoy your eternal reward. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Acts 10:34-43

Mark Harkins

Reader: **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household:

'The truth I have now come to realise,' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him. 'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ - but Jesus Christ is Lord of all people. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his peo-

ple and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.' The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 23)

The Lord is My Shepherd Boniwell

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.
Over the mountains, the waters and by-ways,
valleys and highways he's waiting for me.

Refrain

**I want to go to meet him there, to lay myself down in his love.
The Lord is my shepherd, and I want to follow,
wherever he leads me, wherever he goes.**

And while on the journey to where we are going,
he promised to be there to help us along.
And over the mountains we'll walk on together,
to know all the wonders he's given to me. **Refrain**

SECOND READING Romans 14:7-12

Gerard Harkins

Reader: A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans
The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. This is also why you should never pass judgement

on a brother or treat him with contempt, as some of you have done. We shall all have to stand before the judgement seat of God; as scripture says: By my life - it is the Lord who speaks - every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall praise God. It is to God, therefore, that each of us must give an account of himself. The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand)

Alleluia, Alleluia!

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me,
and that I should raise it up on the last day. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 6:37-40

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowd:

'All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I shall not turn him away; because I have come from heaven, not to do my own will, but to do the will of the one who sent me. Now the will of him who sent me is that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me, and that I should raise it up on the last day. Yes, it is my Father's will that whoever sees the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and that I shall raise him up on the last day.' The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Be seated

HOMILY: Fr Junjun

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL (please stand)

Adam Harkins, Joshua Harkins

Priest: God our father, we celebrate Thomas's journey through life with joy, and we remember the many blessings you gave him in life, and knowing you are faithful to your promises, we now turn to you in prayer.

Reader: For Thomas, son of God and heir to the kingdom, that he may be held securely in God's loving embrace now and for all eternity. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all of us, Thomas's family and friends, may be comforted in our grief. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the Lord Jesus who blesses those who mourn and are in pain will look upon Thomas's family and friends who gather around him today. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That God may welcome into glory those of our family and friends who have departed this life. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: For the doctors and nurses at Wyndham Baptistcare Lodge, Werribee, who cared for Thomas, that their works of service may be richly blessed. We pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Lord, in humility, faith and hope, we entrust all our prayers to you, for our dear brother Thomas. Hold him in your love forever as we hold him in our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Offertory & Preparation of the Gifts

Priest: Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you. Fruit of the earth and work of human hands. It will become for us the bread of life.

All: **Blessed be God forever.**

Priest: Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you. Fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

All: **Blessed be God forever.**

Priest: Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, our almighty Father.

All: **May the Lord, accept this sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and for the good of his holy Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest: As we humbly present to you these sacrificial offerings, O Lord, for the salvation of your servant Thomas, we beseech your mercy. That he, who did not doubt your Son to be a loving Saviour, may find in him a merciful judge. Who lives and reigns forever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Response: **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you. **All:** **And with your spirit**

Priest: Lift up your hearts. **All:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

Preface for the dead

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. (please kneel or sit)

Priest: The Mystery of Faith.

All: We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until your come again.

Communion Rite (The Lord's Prayer) (please stand)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Breaking of Bread

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

(please kneel or sit)

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Holy Communion

(NOTE: For those who may not receive the Holy Communion, you are still very much welcome to come up and receive a blessing. Just cross your arms upon your chest to indicate the intention for a blessing)

Communion Hymn

I am the Bread of Life (Marilla Ness)

Prayer after Communion (please stand)

Priest: Let us pray
Lord, God, whose Son left us, in the Sacrament of his Body, food for the journey, mercifully grant that, strengthened by it, our brother Thomas, may come to the eternal table of Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Final Commendation and Farewell

Priest: Before we go our separate ways, let us take leave of our brother Thomas. May our farewell express our affection for him, may it ease our sadness and strengthen our hope. One day, we shall joyfully greet him again when the love of Christ, which conquers all things, destroys even death itself.

Priest: Saints of God, come to his aid hasten to meet him angels of the

Lord.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Priest: May Christ who called you, take you to himself, may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Priest: Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

All: Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

Priest: To you, O Lord, we commend the soul of Thomas, your servant; in the sight of this world he is now dead; in your sight may he live for ever. Forgive whatever sins he committed through human weakness and in your goodness grant him everlasting peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Priest: In peace, let us now take our brother to his place of rest.

Recessional Music: Amazing Grace (Bagpipe)

Coffin Bearers

*Craig Harkins, Ted Gorman, Joshua Harkins,
Mark Harkins, Gerard Harkins, Adam Harkins*

"Indeed, for your faithful, Lord
Life is changed not ended."

(Preface for the dead)



Thank You
Thomas's family really appreciate your love,
sympathies, presence and support
today.

Following the graveside prayers
and interment at Cobram Cemetery,
the family welcomes you
to join them at the
Nineteen81 Bar of the Barooga Sporties
Burkinshaw Street, Barooga
for refreshments
and sharing of memories.