

# SEASONS

Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St. Thomas More, Mount Eliza

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A

28 June 2020

## **New Stages of re-opening Churches for public Mass and other liturgical services**

Dear parishioners,

With the further easing of some lockdown restrictions for Victorians, Churches are now permitted to open for Masses and liturgies (under strict number and hygiene limitations). Until **12 July 2020** each Church service can have **up to 20 attendees** as well as the clergy and the people who are required to run the service – i.e. Lector, Commentator, AV Operator, and Registration Officer.

I would like to advise you of the following arrangements for Masses at STM Parish:

### **Weekday Masses**

Wednesday: 9:15 AM and Friday: 9:15 AM

### **Weekend Masses**

#### **Saturday**

5:00 –5:30 PM— Reconciliation

**6:00 PM – Vigil Mass**

#### **Sunday**

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

Parishioners who wish to attend any of the Weekday or Weekend Mass **are required** make a booking with the STM Parish Office. [Booking for Weekend Masses close on Friday@ 5:00PM.](#) **Vicki and I will do our best to make sure that all the people who wish to attend Mass will have a fair opportunity to do so.**

Finally, I would like to make it clear that **all Catholics living in Victoria are still being suspended from the Sunday Obligation until further notice.** Therefore, I do sincerely encourage that the people who are in the vulnerable groups (i.e. over 60 or with other underlining health issues) to consider attending Mass/Prayer online or Mass which is broadcast on the 10 Network. **You are the best person to make the decision as to whether or not you should be coming to Church during this time of Covid 19 Pandemic.**

It is the most difficult time for all and we are in it together.

### **Sunday 4:00PM Mass**

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to advise that **the Sunday 4:00pm Mass will not be instated** because there are very few people who indicated that they would attend this Mass. Thank you to those of you who responded to this consultation.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Joe Truong



## We pray for...

### Those who have passed away recently...

Alicia Hoare

### Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..

.. Maria Knuckey, Lillian G. Oakes, Nan Hoban

**The sick...** John Curwood, Salve Caleo, Evonne Paddison, Les Smith, Jeff Hone, Joanne O'Brien, Maree Bracken,



Maria Truong,, Bill Luscombe, Brigitte Rohner, Eileen O'Beirne, Helen Steinbach, Ava Macias, Michael MacKenzie, Luke Carroll, Betty Corke, Chloe, David Dole, Maria Kelly, Elizabeth Ware, Althea Greeff, Michael Blick, Maureen Anstey, Jake Steyn, Adrian Gobel, and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre & Ranelagh Gardens Nursing home **and the parishioners of St Thomas More Parish, Tequinomata, East Timor, St Therese Parish, Bathurst Island and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Alice Springs.**

## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A

**First Reading:** 2 Kings 4:8-11,14-16

That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.



### Responsorial Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**Second Reading:** Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11

Having been buried with him through Baptism, we shall walk in a new life.

### Gospel Acclamation:

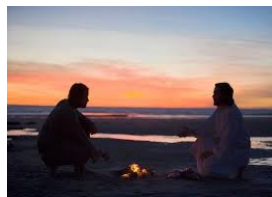
#### Alleluia, Alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light.

#### Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 10:37—42

Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.



### Next Week's Readings - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

2nd Reading: Romans 8: 9,11-13

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30



**The Bishops of Victoria have suspended the Sunday Mass Obligation for all Catholics in Victoria until further notice.** Mass is broadcast via the **Ten Network (6am, Sunday)** for any one who would like to participate.

### Catholic Parish of St Thomas More

**313 Canadian Bay Rd  
Mount Eliza Vic. 3930  
Phone: 9787 7777**

**Email: [MountEliza@cam.org.au](mailto:MountEliza@cam.org.au)**

**Web: [www.stm-mteliza.org](http://www.stm-mteliza.org)**

### Pastoral Leadership Team

*Fr Joe Truong (Parish Administrator)*

*Jacinta Griffin (Chairperson)*

*Sue Carr Paul Stinear*

*Leonie Bourke Carmel Huggard*

*Margaret Jamieson Michael Robertson*

**PPLT Email: [MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au](mailto:MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au)**

### Mass online

[www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass](http://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass)

**OR** <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

**OR** <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

**OR** St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. Daily and Sunday Mass is available, with the I am Mass live streamed; it is also available as a recording on-demand.

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>



HOSPITALITY

**Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am—5pm  
After Hours: Please leave a message on 9787 7777**

# What's Happening Here...



**On 27/28 June 2020 STM Parish will have a leaving collection after all Masses in supporting of the Annual Winter Appeal for St Vincent de Paul Society.**

Donating online at [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au) - (and here is the link that takes people straight to the Winter Appeal website - <https://bit.ly/2AFtZt1>)

Calling with your credit card details 13 18 12

**Thank you for your generosity.**

## Would You Like To Advertise Your Business In This Space In Seasons?

- ◆ Business card size In colour
- ◆ \$50 for one month

We print 200 copies per week, and distribute to all STM School families by email. It is also available on the Parish website for six months. Please contact the Parish Office on 9787 7777 for further details.

## GET AHEAD IN ENGLISH

**English tutoring available  
Year 7 to Year 12**

**Ask me about "Table for 6"**

**Call Alicia Canning on 0435 665 477**

**Current Padua College Staff Member**



## Financial Matters

<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Pledge</b>	<b>Presbytery</b>	
21st June	\$1899	\$ 4832	21st June	\$782

*(Please note that the majority of our contributions are done electronically via Direct Debit & Credit Card Payments)  
Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.*

# What's Happening Here ...

## Pastoral Care for STM Parish during the time of the Coronavirus pandemic

*This plan will be revised upon further easing of restrictions from the Government.*

1. **STM Church Open for limited services . 20 Attendees—Max.**
2. **Seasons** publish online, send out by email, or by post,. Homily will be included with *Seasons*.
3. **Pastoral visitation:** Parishioners who would like a visit from Fr Joe are to contact the parish office.
4. **Anointing of the Sick, and Communion for the housebound:** Fr Joe is now only permitted to administer the Anointing of the Sick to the seriously ill, and also, Fr Joe is only permitted to give the Eucharist as Viaticum to the dying
5. **Fr Joe is available at the parish office** from Tuesday to Sunday afternoon for spiritual guidance .
6. If you are elderly/living alone and need assistance with shopping—please call Fr Joe at the Parish Office.

## Baptisms

**All Baptism Information/Preparation - Please contact Fr Joe at the Parish Office. Limit to ONE family per session**



## STM Parish Ministry Groups.

STM Parish Ministry Groups may reconvene from 22 June 2020. In consultation with the Government, the Archdiocese has put together strict guidelines for meeting of parish ministry groups (similar to the guidelines for Mass Attendance). The diocese has advised that the Victorian Police have been monitoring parishes and places of worship to make sure that we are complying with the regulations.

In some instances, these have resulted in fines. Convenor/Chair of any ministry group that wishes to resume meeting is required to contact the parish office for a copy of the guidelines.

**PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT FR JOE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY STM MINISTRY GROUP TO RECONVENE AT THIS STAGE .**

## **STM Children and Young People Safeguarding Committee**

At STM Catholic Parish, Mount Eliza, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. For more information please call: John Natoli (Coordinator) on 0418 208 778; or Julie Carter (Banda) on 0420 923 859

## **Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle**

*Due to the current restrictions imposed by the Victorian Government because of the Corona Virus pandemic, the Gambling Commission has granted approval to extend this raffle. The new Draw Date is 26th September 2020 at 7.15pm. If you still have a raffle book at home—you can drop it back to the office or put it into our locked mail box. Hopefully we can resume with this fundraiser later in the year. Regards Vicki.*

## Community Corner



### Plenary Council 2020 and beyond: Promoting parish conversations about change

**A group of parishes from Melbourne and beyond are sponsoring this website:**

<https://www.senseofthefaithful.org.au>

#### **Promoting parish conversations about change**

To explore further the shared sense of the faithful in the Australian Church, a number of parishes have established this website to foster greater communication between Catholic parishes in Australia. Our aim is to encourage parishes in Melbourne and elsewhere to share information about their parish discussions and recommendations for the Plenary Council 2020. We also hope that the website will become a valuable way for parishioners in the future to exchange information about the reforms that are taking place in their parishes. We invite all parishes across Australia to use it and to participate in its work.

**We invite all involved in the Plenary Council (PC) process in their parish to join in a conversation to contribute to change in the Church.**

For information about the submission process and other guidelines see 'How to contribute' tab on the website. We seek contributions from all points of view, provided they are considered, respectful and do not involve attacks on individuals. Photos and videos are welcomed

Fr Gerard McKernan (St Kevin's, Lower Templestowe)

## Homily

There are many themes in the readings for this Sunday: hospitality, the demand and cost of discipleship, and the centrality of Christ in the life of every Christian's life. In this homily I am only focusing on the themes of hospitality and the call to place Jesus at the centre of our life.

Today, many parishes are keen to convince others that their community of faith is a hospitable place. For some people, hospitality is a means to attract more people to Church on Sunday. There are also people who see hospitality as being part of evangelisation, and so on. However, Fr Henri Nouwen (Spiritual Writer) defines hospitality as “the creation of a friendly space where a stranger can enter and leave in freedom. The aim of hospitality is not to change people or mould them or convince them about our beliefs, but to provide a comfortable empty space for them to enter and discover their own best selves”. It is very important that we take this message from Nouwen seriously and keep it in mind as we continue to welcome people into our community of faith. We ought to make sure that any visitor to our community feels that he/she is welcomed just as he/she is. In order to live out fully the spirit of hospitality as defined by Fr Nouwen we need to have an open and generous heart. A community with a generous heart welcomes anyone who comes to its doors, and willingly provides service without expecting for anything in returns. May we also remember Jesus' words, “If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple....he will most certainly not lose his reward”.

In today's Gospel Jesus is not playing down the sacredness and importance of family ties, but he simply wants to stress the importance of the bond between his disciples and himself. Jesus wants the disciples to make him the focal-point of their life. This message is more important for our society today than ever before. This is because more and more people in our community are not interested in making connection with Jesus and their faith. Yet, it is faith that gives people something to hold on to during the stormy and rainy days of their life.

On this weekend let us renew our commitment to Jesus who is the source and meaning of our life. May we have the courage and generosity to welcome all people into our life and offer them hospitality.



**ST THOMAS MORE -22 JUNE**

**PARISH PRAYER**

Creator God, whose Spirit leads our  
Parish of St. Thomas More,  
be with us this day.

Help us to know your gifts in our lives,  
to be proud of your calling us to be part of  
our parish, to know and acknowledge –  
your belief in our potential,  
and to trust you enough  
to be open to your will.

In the midst of our blessings  
may we rejoice and be thankful.

When our hopes disintegrate  
and our dreams are shattered,  
open our hearts to forgiveness  
and give us strength  
and courage to move onwards.

Enable us to act in ways  
that will be life-giving for all  
in our parish, our Church and our world  
so that all people will come to know  
the life and freedom that Jesus  
came to give us.

## Activities for Children



**St Thomas More: Patron of STM Parish**

### **Answers to last Sunday's questions**

**Date of birth:** 7 February 1478

**Place of birth:** London, England

**Place of death:** England, 6 July 1535

**Feast Day:** 22 June