



# SEASONS

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

## 3rd Sunday of Advent — Year C

12th December 2021

PCC=Parish Community Centre U=Undercroft  
C=Church MPR=School Multipurpose Room  
SSR=School Staff Room

### Diary:

**Monday 13th December**

St Vincent de Paul Meeting  
Undercroft, 10am



**Thursday 16th December**

Social Justice  
Meeting  
PCC, 7.30pm



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

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

### Website:

<http://pol.org.au/mounteliza>

### Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr Patrick Bradford (Parish Administrator)  
Jacinta Griffin (Chairperson)  
Sue Carr Margaret Jamieson  
Carmel Huggard

### PPLT Email:

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

Services are Vaccination

Status 'Unknown' unless stated:

### During the Week

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Tuesday   | No Mass  |
| Wednesday | 10.00 am |
| Thursday  | 10.00 am |
| Friday    | 10.00 am |

### Sunday Mass

|                |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Saturday Vigil | 5.00 pm                     |
| Sunday         | 8.00 am                     |
|                | <u>Vaccinated- 10.00 am</u> |

### Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 - 5:00 pm

St Thomas More acknowledges the Traditional Land owners, the Bunurong people on which we live, work and worship. We pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging.

### Reflection:

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.



In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Dear friends,

Parishioners are warmly invited to drop in to St Thomas More

Presbytery anytime between 1pm to 4pm on Sunday, 19th of

December to reconnect with each other and celebrate the joy of

Christmas. Light refreshments and festive drinks provided. If you are

attending please let us know by email: [mounteliza@cam.org.au](mailto:mounteliza@cam.org.au) or

phone 97877777 by Friday, 17th of December.

Fr Patrick

**We  
pray  
for..**

**Those who have passed away recently...**

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....** Tyler Cassidy, Harry Knuckey, Catherine Farrell, Carolyn Royal, John Pierce, Henry Haines, Wayne Jarkson, William Green, Richard Shea,



**The sick...** Thomas Parrish, Keith Donovan, Martin & Helen Steyn, Bev Johnstone, Kate Matheson, John Xavier Clifton, Dennis Mirrabella, Michael Leonard, Liz Spurdle, John Spurdle, Evonne Paddison, Maree Bracken, Bill Luscombe, Brigitte Rohner, Eileen O'Beirne, Ava Macias, Michael MacKenzie, Luke Carroll, Betty Corke, 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 and Chronos / 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.*

**Sacramental Program Enquiries:**  
Reconciliation, First Eucharist & Confirmation



**Baptism Enquiries:**  
Infant and older Children



**Please send an  
email to the  
Parish Office**

**STM Social Club — New members are most welcome!** Membership fee is \$30

Please contact : **Carolyn Gascoigne on 0448 871 970**

Membership fees from 2020 will carry into 2021. Those with fees outstanding from last year, or anyone who would like to join the Club, can contact Treasurer Julian Collins on 0473 474 559.

*Fun was had by all who attended the Picnic in the Park last Wednesday. It was a great opportunity to catch up and have a chat before the Christmas rush.*

*We are all looking forward to the New Year and a time where we can return to having meetings and planning events to attend.*

*Merry Christmas to everyone. Regards Carol Gascoigne*

**The Welfare Officers are Brian and Sally McAnallen**

## Safeguarding Committee

For information: Julie Carter 0420 923 859



Existing Volunteers are asked to provide to the Parish Office :

1. A copy of their Working With Children Card and
2. Sign the Code of Conduct Declaration Form after reading the Code of Conduct.

[Code of Conduct Document](#) to read

[Code of Conduct Declaration Form](#) to sign

[How to apply for WWCC Card instructions](#)

Our Parish MISSION Discussion  
6th October Meeting  
minutes and information can be located  
on our Website Home Page or follow this link.

1st Meeting [STM Parish MISSION Discussion](#)

## Stewardship

Received last weekend \$ 2,947

Pledged last weekend \$ 2,899

## Presbytery

Received last weekend \$ 558

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

## First Rite Advent Reconciliation

**Wednesday,  
22nd of December**  
in the Church  
between 7pm to 8pm

Assisting Priest: Fr John Paul

All Christmas Masses will be held outside.  
Further details about any booking/COVID requirements to follow

### Christmas Eve, December 24th

**5:30pm** Christmas Carols hosted by students of St Thomas More Primary school

**6:00pm** Mass (following Mass refreshments provided)

**9:00pm** Mass

### Christmas Day, December 25th

**9:00am** Mass

(No Sunday Vigil/ Saturday night Mass on Saturday, December 25th)



### Sunday December 26th (Mass resumes inside the church)

**8.00am** Mass

**10.00am** Mass (vaccinated)

## Young Adults Dinner

As we emerge from COVID and begin rebuilding and reconnecting with our community, St Thomas More Parish will be hosting a monthly dinner for young adults aged 18 to 35. This informal dinner is chance to meet up and fellowship with other young people from St Thomas More Parish and the Mornington Peninsula. The first dinner will be on Monday, 13th of December at 6:30pm at the Presbytery and conclude at 9pm. Next year beginning in February, dinners will take place on Tuesday evenings following the 7pm Mass. If you would like more details please speak with Fr Patrick after Mass or by email: [patrick.bradford@cam.org.au](mailto:patrick.bradford@cam.org.au).

The next meeting of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be held on Monday the 13th December in the Undercroft at 10am.



Thank you Marilyn Moloney

## 3rd Sunday of Advent

### Penitential Act:

I confess to almighty God  
 and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
 that I have greatly sinned,  
 in my thoughts and in my words,  
 in what I have done and

in what I have failed to do,

**And, striking their breast, they say:**

through my fault, through my fault,  
 through my most grievous fault;  
 therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
 all the Angels and Saints,  
 and you, my brothers and sisters,  
 to pray for me to the Lord our God. Amen

### 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.

**First Reading** Zephaniah 3:14-18  
**The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst**

**Responsorial Psalm Isaiah 12**

*Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation.

*Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name.

*Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds;  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

*Cry out with joy and gladness:  
for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

**Second reading     Philippians 4:4-7**  
**The Lord is very near**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel                     Luke 3:10-18**  
**'Someone is coming who will baptize you with  
the Holy Spirit and fire'**

**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.

**Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.****Hosanna**

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.

**Communion Antiphon**

Say to the faint of heart:  
Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come,  
and he will save us.

**Next Week's Readings**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**



1st Reading: Michah 5:1-4  
2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10  
Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

**Note from the Parish Office:**

We still sending out hard copies of our SEASONS weekly bulletin to those who do not have any electronic means of accessing ONLINE emails or website.

Please let us know if you have resumed coming to Mass and we will take you off our weekly mailing list. Thanks

