



SEASONS

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

2nd Sunday of Advent — Year C

5th 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

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

Services are Vaccination

Status 'Unknown' unless stated:

During the Week

Tuesday 7.00 pm
Wednesday 10.00 am
Thursday 10.00 am
Friday 10.00 am

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm
Sunday 8.00 am
Vaccinated- 10.00 am

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 week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptizes for repentance and for forgiveness of sins, preparing the way for God's salvation.



The three Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke—attest to the importance of the baptism of John in preparing for Jesus. Only the Gospel of Luke, however, extends the connection between these two men to their birth. The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel contain the Infancy Narrative, which tells about the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. These stories set the stage for the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in chapter 3.

The evangelist Luke is the author of the Gospel that bears his name, and he also wrote the Acts of the Apostles as a continuation of the story of Jesus and the Church. In these two works, Luke's sense of time and history emerges. He identifies three epochs of salvation history: the time before Christ, the time of Christ, and the time of the Church and the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel reading, as elsewhere, John the Baptist is presented as the figure who bridges the time before Christ and prepares the way for Christ's own ministry.

In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

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 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.... Jim Hutchinson, Clarence Wearne, Ella Hutchinson, Lloyd Beard, Audrey Hussey,



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.



This year COVID has made getting together very difficult. So instead of our usual Christmas Lunch the Social Club will have a **Social Christmas Morning Tea in the Howard Parker Reserve.** (off Canadian Bay Rd—Melway ref: 101 E12) on **Wednesday 8th December** between 10am-12noon.

BYO tea, coffee, nibbles and a chair if possible.

We will have a chance to catch up with friends and have a good chat. Hope to see you there.



The Welfare Officers are Tom & Maree Shelton

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](#)

First Rite Advent Reconciliation

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

Assisting Priest: Fr John Paul

Stewardship

Received last weekend	\$	1,107
Pledged last weekend	\$	1,497
November Weekly Average	\$	1,648

Presbytery

Received last weekend	\$	558
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Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.

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)

2nd 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 Baruch 5:1-9**God means to show your splendour to every nation****Responsorial Psalm Psalm 125(126)***The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad.

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.*

Second reading Philippians 1:4-6,8-11
**May you become pure and blameless in
 preparation for the day of Christ.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
 Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make straight his paths:
 all people shall see the salvation of God.
 Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3:1-6
The call of John the Baptist

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
 Prepare a way for the Lord,
 make his paths straight.
 Every valley will be filled in,
 every mountain and hill be laid low,
 winding ways will be straightened
 and rough roads made smooth.
 And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon
 the heights,
 and behold the joy which
 comes to you from God.



Next Week's Readings
3rd Sunday of Advent



1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

On Saturday 4 December 2021, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will ordain five new priests for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The ordinations were originally scheduled for September, but due to the extended period of lockdown they were forced to hold off a while longer. Now that life in



Melbourne is returning in strides to a "new normal", it's time to meet the five ordinands: Deacons Alexander Chow, Hoang Dinh, Jaycee Napoles, Joseph Nguyen and Samuel Pearson.

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

