

SEASONS

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year B

14th February 2021

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

Diary

Upcoming:

Monday 15th February

St Vincent de Paul Meeting

7.30pm via ZOOM



Wednesday 17th February

9.15am in Church

7.00pm in Church



Thursday 18th February

Social Justice Group Meeting

7.30pm in PCC

Saturday 13th March

Parish Working Bee

(more information next week)



WELCOME

We're So Glad You're Here!

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 Leonie Bourke

Carmel Huggard Margaret Jamieson

PPLT Email:

MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au

Weekday Mass

Wednesday 9.15 am

Friday 9.15 am

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm

Sunday 8.00 am

10.00 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

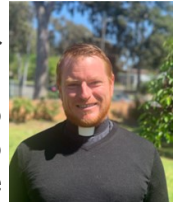
St Thomas More acknowledges the Traditional Land owners, the Bunurong people on which we live, work and worship. We pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging.



Dear Friends,

by now you would have heard that Stage Four restrictions have returned to Melbourne as at 11:59 Friday 12th of February. These restrictions include Public Worship, so unfortunately all Masses from Saturday 12th Feb through to Ash Wednesday 17th of Feb are cancelled. Hopefully we will be able to reopen the Church later this week once the public health advice permits. Please keep an eye on our website for further details.

In the meantime Fr Patrick can be reached by phone at on our usual number (option 3). Messages can also be left for the office and will be attended to as soon as possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need any assistance. Let us pray for a speedy end to this pandemic!



In today's Gospel, we continue to hear Mark report the miraculous healings that Jesus performed in Galilee. The Gospel begins with Jesus healing a man with leprosy. Leprosy is a disfiguring, infectious skin disease that has been surrounded by many social and religious taboos throughout history. In 1873, the cause of leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, was identified. We now know that leprosy is caused by a bacterial infection. Although it is infectious, modern medical studies have shown that transmission is more difficult than previously thought. Since the 1940s, medical treatments have been available, and the patient no longer needs to be isolated once long-term treatment has begun.

In Jesus' time, however, religious and social taboos dictated the behaviour of those with leprosy and other skin diseases. The Law of Moses provided for the examination of skin diseases by the priests, and if leprosy was identified, the person was declared unclean. People with leprosy lived in isolation from the community. They were instructed to rip their clothes and to announce their presence with loud cries when moving in the community. If the sores of leprosy healed, the Law of Moses provided a purification rite that permitted the person to return to the community.

In today's Gospel, the man with leprosy took the initiative, approaching Jesus and asking for healing. In doing so, the leper violated the religious customs of the day by approaching a person who was clean. His request to Jesus can be interpreted as a courageous and daring act. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. But his words can also be read as a challenge to Jesus, asking just how far Jesus was willing to extend himself in order to heal someone. While healing the man, Jesus touched him, which also violated established social norms. This is an important sign of the depth of Jesus' compassion for the man and an important statement about Jesus' interpretation of the Law of Moses.

Although Jesus touched the leper, he did not break completely with the Law of Moses. He instructed the man not to tell anyone about the cure and told him to present himself to the priests as prescribed by the Law of Moses. The first instruction sounds nearly impossible to honor. Certainly, the man would want to share the good news of his healing, and his quick improvement would require an explanation. The second instruction honors the Law of Moses.

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We pray for...

Those who have passed away recently...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.... Alice Murtagh, Trish Hutchinson, Leo Fennessy, Patricia Duguid, Pat May, Lucy Tuck, Clare Sullivan, Michael Hauser,

The sick... John Xavier Clifton, Patricia Leerson-Dash, Bill Hunt, Shirley Spry, Dennis Mirrabella, Michael



Leonard, Liz Spurdle, John Spurdle, Evonne Paddison, Maree Bracken, 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.**

STM Social Club

New members are always most welcome! Membership fee is \$30

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

Because of virus restrictions, there will be no Monthly Meeting in the Undercroft for the time being and no A.G.M. in 2021. Committee positions from 2020 will remain, except for Brian and Carmel who are retiring.

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 the Treasurer Julian Collins on 0473 474 559.

New members would be very, very welcome.

All activities will be advertised in SEASONS.

Wednesday, 17th March: St Patrick's Day lunch at C.B. Hotel, Mount Eliza, at 12 noon. A chance to wear that new (or old) Green outfit! Please book with Carol on 0448 871 970 or Colleen on 0408 314 409 on or before Sunday, 14th of March.



The Welfare Officers for February are Tom & Maree Shelton



Contemplative Prayer

"Let tiny drops of silence fall gently through your day" Silent prayer in the Church each Wednesday from 8:45 am to 9:15 am, followed by Mass.

Baptism Enquiries:

Please send an email to the Parish Office



Stewardship

Received last weekend..... \$ 4,202

Pledged last weekend \$ 4,202

Presbytery

Amount received last week \$ 693

(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.



Holy Communion

During Communion adults or children who are not Catholic or not receiving Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Please indicate your wish for a blessing by crossing both arms in front of you.

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.

OR www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

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

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

Safeguarding Committee

John Natoli 0418 208 778

Julie Carter 0420 923 859



FEEL SAFE AND BE SAFE AT OUR CHURCH

To our children and vulnerable:

YOU HAVE RIGHTS

You have the right to feel safe and be safe from harm.

YOU ARE VALUED & RESPECTED

You have the right not to be hurt, spoken to rudely or made to feel uncomfortable.

WE WILL PROTECT

We will protect children and young people.

WE WILL LISTEN & BELIEVE

We will listen to children and young people and believe them.

WE WILL RESPOND

We will respond to matters of safety and harm.

From Fr Patrick - *Continued from page 1*

Mark's Gospel tells us that after this healing, it became difficult for Jesus to travel freely. There are several possible explanations for this. There might have been concern about the repercussions of Jesus' breach of social and religious norms. In touching the man with leprosy, Jesus made himself unclean. Mark's narrative, however, leads to the conclusion that Jesus' movement was hampered by his popularity. Despite his instructions, the cured man spread the word about Jesus' healing power. Even when Jesus was in deserted places, people sought him out in search of his healing.

Fr Patrick

The next meeting of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be held Via ZOOM on **Monday 15 February** from 7pm–9pm



St Thomas More Parish Social Justice Group is scheduled for Thursday 18 February at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Community Centre.
All are welcome to attend.

Prep Welcome Mass next Weekend

Next Sunday – 21st February – at the 10am Mass all Prep students and their families are especially invited to come along as we celebrate the beginning of their school years with them. This will be a chance for us to get to know the youngest members of our Parish, and their families, at this special and exciting time of their lives.

Project Compassion Sunday 14th February 2021



Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed “**Be More**”. Through your generosity and by aspiring to be more, you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



Wall of Remembrance

Have you considered buying a brick on our Parish Wall of Remembrance? You can either reserve a place for yourself, to be used many years from now, or purchase one for family or loved ones, and have a plaque attached now. Bricks cost \$120, and the current cost of a standard plaque is around \$280, depending on the wording and design. For more information, please contact Vicki in the Parish office.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

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: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

Responsorial Psalm**RESPONSE:**

**I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble,
and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Happy are they whose offences are forgiven,
whose sins are remitted.

O happy are they to whom the Lord imputes
no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

But now I have acknowledged my sins; my
guilt I did not hide.

I said: 'I will confess my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my
sin. **R.**

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of
heart. **R.**

Second Reading: I Corinthians 10:31– 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

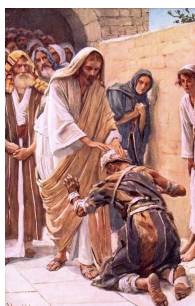
Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

**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.

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

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

Next Week's Readings —Year B

First Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

2nd Reading: I Peter 3:18-22

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

**QR Code Registration System**

To be able to use the QR code
system you will need a have a
smart phone with a camera and
internet connection.

Request for volunteers:

Can you help / assist people lining up to Register
with the QR Code system before each Mass?

This will help reduce the queue waiting times.

Are You New to Our Parish ?

**Please take and fill-in a new parishioner form
from the Church Foyer**

Does anyone have any spare Tip Vouchers?

The parish could use them as we begin to tidy up our
grounds. Thank you.