



# SEASONS

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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time— Year B

25th July 2021

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

Currently there are three places on site sharing the same mailing address at 313 Canadian Bay Road. This means that Woodlands Early Learning Centre, STM Parish and Presbytery and STM School all share the same physical address. Unfortunately, this also means that we share the same physical mail box and deliveries and visitors often make their way to the wrong entrance. It can take some time for mail and visitors to get where they need to be. PPLT and the STM PAC have recommended that we renumber our address: no 313 for STM School; no 311 for STM Parish; no 309 for Woodlands Early Learning Centre. Please let us know any feedback as to how this would affect you in the coming weeks.—Fr Patrick

**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 Leonie Bourke  
Carmel Huggard Margaret Jamieson

**PPLT Email:**

**During the Week**

Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	9.15 am*
Thursday	9.15 am*
Friday	9.15 am*

**Sunday Mass**

Saturday Vigil	6.00 pm*
Sunday	8.00 am*
	& 10.00 am*

**Reconciliation**

Saturday	5:30 - 6:00 pm
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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,

We are hopeful that restrictions will ease on Wednesday, 28th of July. As soon as these details are confirmed, we will let you know when Masses and Sacraments can resume. We had the funeral Mass for Thomas Johnstone this week. The link to the funeral Mass can be accessed at:



<https://youtu.be/UHRiSmQS-b0>

Reflection:

Today, the Gospel of John tells us the story of a mighty God who can do anything. God cannot fail. In today's Gospel passage of the feeding of the five thousand and the multiplication of the loaves and fish, we see that God blesses us abundantly in ways that we can only imagine.

A great affirmation that I heard says, "Don't tell God how big your problems are but tell your problems how big God is." In today's gospel, the disciples are faced with the problem of how to feed more than five thousand people with a few fish and some bread. Today's Gospel is a Gospel of hope. As Jesus made the five barley loaves and two fish more than enough to feed more than five thousand people, Jesus will also work with what we have to provide for our needs. Never think that the blessings we have are too small or that our problems are too big. When we give our all to God, he can transform what we think is too small into that which can satisfy our hunger and thirst. Our worries, our weakness, and our humanness are all transformed by the mighty hand of God.

In John's Gospel, the multiplication story goes into detail about how Jesus blessed the barley bread and fish and shared it with the crowd. Many writers say that fish and bread are the food of the poor. God feeds and nourishes us both physically and spiritually. In this story and at every Eucharist we are sent to serve the poorest among us.

The word Eucharist comes from the Greek phrase meaning "to give thanks." The psalmist King David says, "What can I give to the Lord for all his goodness to me?" We are grateful that we are fed by Jesus himself, and we are sent to serve others. These actions speak louder than words.

In this miracle, Jesus transforms our simple gifts as he did the five barley loaves and two fish into bread for the world. The life that comes from this bread is our efforts transform by God. At every Eucharist, saints and sinners sit down together. The lost and forsaken are gathered around. All of us are given to share of the same bread and cup as the one body of Christ.

From The Congregation of the Holy Spirit  
Province of the United States

# We pray for..

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

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....** Bill Walker, Raymond Hennessy, Ita Koppenol, Anne Pierce, Pamela Phillips, Emma Kelly, and Leonie Purcell



**The sick...** Len Crowe, John Xavier Clifton, 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 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. All activities will be advertised in SEASONS.

## The Welfare Officers for June are Gui Hone and Helen Grech

**QR CODES** If you have not yet downloaded the app, you can do so via the Service Victoria Website: [www.vic.gov.au](http://www.vic.gov.au).

We are aware there will be a few parishioners who may need assistance to register their entry to Church. We will ensure that newcomers will be able to register your visit through a parish device within the foyer.  
Fr Patrick

## 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](#)

## BRING AND BUY STALL



*Homemade, Handmade, Home grown  
Will be suspended  
during Winter*

We hope to resume in October.

## What is going on? Parishioners' Comments.

Trish and Rob Storr want to share their joy filled news. They have purchased a home in Terang and are absolutely over the moon.



## Stewardship

Received weekend	4 July	\$ 3,795
Pledged weekend	4 July	\$ 4,394
Received weekend	11 July	\$ 975
Pledged weekend	11 July	\$ 1,523
Received weekend	18 July	\$ 4,314
Pledged weekend	18 July	\$ 2,284

## Presbytery

Received weekend	4 July	\$ 914
Received weekend	11 July	\$ 511
Received weekend	18 July	\$ 111

(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.

## INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

### DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **14 August, Saturday** 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne.

For more information:

**Watch:** Melbourne's Deacons  
<https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTSO>

**Watch:** Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

**Read More:** [Brochure]  
<https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

**Contact:** Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) [diaconate@cam.org.au](mailto:diaconate@cam.org.au)

### Next Week's Readings

#### 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



1st Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15  
2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24  
Gospel: John 6:24-35

## 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Collect

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

## First reading 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear.' 'Give it to the people to eat', Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some left over, as the Lord had said.

The word of the Lord.



## Responsorial Psalm

**The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.**

All your creatures shall thank you,  
O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing.

They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God.

**The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.**

The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.  
You open wide your hand,  
grant the desires of all who live.

**Responsorial Psalm** - continued

**The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.**

The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts.

**The hand of the Lord feeds us;  
he answers all our needs.**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-6**

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together.

There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

**Gospel: John 6:1-15**

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip

answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down.

Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves.

The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

Praise to your Lord Jesus Christ.

**Prayer after Communion**

We have consumed,  
O Lord, this divine Sacrament,  
the perpetual memorial of the Passion  
of your Son;  
grant, we pray, that this gift,  
which he himself gave us with love  
beyond all telling,  
may profit us for salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.