

# SEASONS

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

Third Sunday in Lent — Year B

7th March 2021

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

## Diary Upcoming:

**Tuesday March 9**  
Parish Education Board Meeting,  
7.30pm, SSR

**Thursday March 11**  
Finance Committee Meeting,  
7.00pm, PCC

**Friday March 12**  
Lenten Program, 10am, PCC  
Ongoing during Lent

**Saturday March 13**  
Parish Working Bee  
8am—1pm



Dear Friends,

As we begin the month of March we have welcomed a number of families who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Reconciliation at St Thomas More. It is heartening that after the disruption of COVID last year there remains a great interest for children to receive the grace of the Sacraments and to be immersed in the Parish Community. Let us keep them all in our prayers over the next few months.



You will have noticed that from this week onward weekday Masses are scheduled every day from Tuesdays to Fridays. This will continue throughout the year. The Tuesday evening Mass at 7:00PM will make weekday Mass available to workers, and for the children in our Sacramental programme who will join the Parish community for Mass during school term. After the 9:15 Mass on Wednesday there will be Stations of the Cross celebrated during Lent; all are welcome to join. On Fridays after Mass we have the Easter Scripture DVD Series the Parish Community Centre. As we continue to spiritually prepare ourselves for the coming feasts at Easter, let us make good use of the opportunities available to us at work, at home and in the parish.

Reflection:

Today's gospel passage foreshadows the death of Jesus. As a devout Jew, Jesus goes up to Jerusalem at Passover. His final going-up will be the occasion of his death and resurrection. The Jerusalem Temple, Judaism's most holy place, is the site of a dramatic incident, an event that is recounted in all four gospels. The Synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) locate it towards the end of the gospel. They present it as a catalyst for the intensification of hostility between the temple authorities and Jesus. John's gospel, in contrast, places it at the beginning of Jesus' ministry.

The tension between Jesus and the temple authorities that is to culminate in his death in all four gospels is thus present from the outset in John. Jesus acts decisively, even violently, to draw attention to the primary function of God's house. He creates an effective weapon, a whip of cords, and comprehensively clears the temple precinct of merchants, sheep, and cattle. He overturns the tables of the money-changers, orders the dovesellers out and tells them all, in words that evoke the prophecy of Zechariah (14:21), to stop making God's house "a market-place". Zechariah had declared that, in the end times, there would no longer be traders in God's house. There was legitimate commercial activity associated with temple worship, such as the purchase of animals and doves for sacrifice, a practice we might now critique, and the conversion of money to pay the Temple tax.

The traders seem to have forgotten that this activity was a means to an end and not an end in itself. In John's account, the disciples partially understand: they interpret Jesus' actions in the light of Psalm 69:9: "It is zeal for your house that has consumed me". "The Jews" request a "sign ... for doing this". In other words, they ask Jesus to demonstrate the source of his authority for his actions. His response is a challenge: "Destroy this temple, and in three days, I will raise it up". "The Jews" misunderstand. This provides Jesus with the opportunity to play on the word "temple": the temple is not only a material edifice that took forty-six years to build. It is also, metaphorically, his body that will be destroyed and raised up "in three days". The narrator provides the explanation and indicates that the disciples will eventually understand and come to belief. It is important to note that John writes with the wisdom of hindsight. As we travel the journey to Jerusalem this Lent, we are invited to remember that God, and not the opponents of Jesus, will have the final word in this drama.

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

### Weekday Mass

Tuesday	7.00 pm
Wednesday	9.15 am
	+ Stations of the Cross after Mass
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 pm - 6:00 pm
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## We pray for...

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

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this**

**time....** Mortimer Hurren, Michael Connolly, Jack Need, Ryan Hamilton, Nola Kennedy, John Marshall, Luke Prattley, Peggy Morrow, Ian Stewart

**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 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.**

### 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.*

**Time to book your seat**

**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.



**The Welfare Officers for March are Jim & Betty Bourke**



### 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.

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

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

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

### Stewardship

Received last weekend..... \$2,113

Pledged last weekend .....\$ 961

February weekly average.....\$2,506

### Presbytery

Amount received last week ..... \$ 791

*(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.

### Safeguarding Committee

John Natoli 0418 208 778

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**

## PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

*'he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.'* Lk 9:2

### Slavery-Free Easter



**The sweet,  
but sometimes-bitter  
truth about  
Easter Chocolate**

#### Excerpts from the Message of Pope Francis for Lent 2021

*During this season of conversion, let us renew our faith, draw from the "living water" of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ.*

*The path of poverty and self-denial (**fasting**), concern and loving care for the poor (**almsgiving**), and childlike dialogue with the Father (**prayer**) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity.*

*One way to show concern and loving care for the poor (**almsgiving - healing**) is to take action on practices that exploit the poor.*

*The ACRATH **Slavery Free Easter** campaign is one form of action. Some of the chocolate we enjoy at Easter is tainted by slavery and comes at the cost of a child's health, education and sometimes his or her freedom. Much of our chocolate is made using cocoa beans harvested by children, often in the West African region. Many of these children are forced into labour. We can help change this by buying slavery free chocolate*

#### Where to buy chocolate that is certified slavery-free?

Slavery-free chocolate is chocolate that is certified. Look for chocolate with one of the four logos (below) on it – Fairtrade, UTZ or Rainforest Alliance.

There are some slavery-free chocolates available in most large supermarkets and ALDI and Haighs have an extensive range of UTZ certified chocolates and even more leading up to Easter.

**Fairtrade Australia and New Zealand** has a list of slavery-free certified chocolates.

Find it at: <https://fairtradeanz.org/for-consumers/products/chocolate> **BE SLAVERY Free** has an [Easter Chocolate Shopping Guide](#) with information on what chocolate is slavery-free.

The 2021 version of this guide will be available mid-March.



[www.acrath.org.au](http://www.acrath.org.au)

People are NOT for sale



## Parish Sacramental Program Reconciliation & First Eucharist

**An Information Night will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th May**



If you have a child in Year 3 or older who would like to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist this year, and they are not at STM Primary School, please contact the Parish Office on 9787 7777 or email [mounteliza@cam.org.au](mailto:mounteliza@cam.org.au) before the Information Night.

## Working Bee

Our next parish working bee will take place  
**Saturday March 13th, 8am-1pm.**

There are plenty of jobs to be done to prepare the church and surrounds for Easter.

Does anyone have any spare Tip Vouchers?

Please add your name and number to the signup sheet after Mass (outside EXIT Door) if you can help on the day, serve or prepare morning tea.



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**After the 9:15 Mass on Wednesday there will be Stations of the Cross celebrated during Lent; all are welcome.**

## EASTER volunteers:

**Readers, AV Operators, Registration Desk and after-Mass Cleaners are REQUIRED for MASSES held on:**

Holy Thursday 7.00 pm

Good Friday 3.00 pm

Easter Saturday 8.00 pm

Easter Sunday 8.00 am

Easter Sunday 10.00 am

**Please contact the Parish Office to put your name on the lists.**



Oliva, 22, could not read, write or count, and her business was losing money. Then she attended Caritas Australia-supported literacy and numeracy classes, and set up a home classroom to teach her neighbours. Now her classes, business and family are thriving, and she aims to become a pastor and run for local leadership.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and support people like Oliva's gain access to education to build a brighter future and live in communities that upholds everyone's dignity.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## Pick up your Stewardship Envelopes This Weekend

Stewardship (Thanksgiving) Envelopes sets are available at the Church EXIT this weekend.

Please collect yours today, to keep our mailing costs to a minimum. Receipts will be emailed during the week to those people who contribute electronically.

If you contribute by Direct Debit or Credit Card and we don't have your email address, could you please send it to us.

Thank you..... Vicki



## QR Code Registration System



To be able to use the QR code system you will need 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**

**Baptism Enquiries:**

Please send an email to  
the Parish Office



Parishioners are warmly invited to join Fr Patrick in the Parish Community Centre during the Fridays of Lent to discover the Holy Land with Best-selling author Edward Sri's DVD series "No Greater Love".

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us by guiding us through the last hours of Christ's life. We will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—grow closer to Jesus than you ever have before.

Meetings will take place in the Parish Community Centre on Fridays (after Mass) at 10AM. After Morning tea we'll watch a 30 minute video, followed by a time of fellowship and discussion. No need to register- all are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, which will conclude around 11am.

Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	The Prayer of Agony: Jesus in Gethsemane
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Are you the Christ? Jesus arrest and trial
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March	The Trial: Jesus is condemned to death
Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> March	The death of the Messiah: Jesus carries his cross
Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> March	The seven last words: Jesus the teacher

# Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre

362 Albert St, EAST MELBOURNE

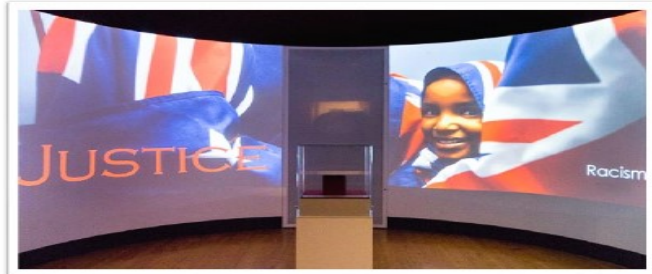
# OPEN DAY

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>  
March 2021



10.00am – 4.00pm

- Pray in the Chapel
- Take a tour of the Museum
- Visit the Gift Shop
- Enjoy light refreshments
- Mary MacKillop Walking Tour available @ 11am



We appreciate your adherence to our social distancing guidelines and the wearing of face masks.

For further information and acceptances please contact MMHC on 03 9926 9300 or [admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au](mailto:admin.mmhc@sosj.org.au)

Catholic Parish of St Thomas More  
Mount Eliza



## Holy Week/Easter Calendar 2021

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

7:00 pm ..... Reconciliation

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Passion (Palm) Sunday**

6:00 pm ..... Mass with Blessing of Palms

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Passion (Palm) Sunday**

8:00 am ..... Mass with Blessing of Palms

10:00 am ..... Mass with Blessing of Palms and Procession  
(beginning in Memorial Garden)

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Holy Thursday**

7:00 pm ..... Mass of the Lord’s Supper

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Good Friday**

3:00 pm ..... Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Holy Saturday**

8:00 pm ..... Easter Vigil of the Lord’s Resurrection

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Sunday**

8:00 am and 10:00 am ..... Mass

## Reader's Workshop

The celebration of Mass is at the heart of our life as Catholics. Through the Liturgy of the Word we hear the living voice of God speaking to us at Mass through the lectionary.

We're currently looking for new volunteers to assist with proclaiming readings at Sunday and Weekday Masses. To assist parishioners in this sometimes daunting task, we'll be running a workshop on **Saturday, 17th of April at 10am.**

This workshop is for all new volunteer readers and all existing readers are welcome to join for a refresher. The workshop will explore why readings are chosen and combined, and highlight how readings fit into the liturgical year.

Parishioners will learn how to interpret the text to help them proclaim more effectively. If you're interested, please contact the Parish Office .



**CREATE  
DESIGN  
COLLABORATE  
INNOVATE**

**PADUA  
COLLEGE**

**TWILIGHT  
OPEN  
DAYS  
2021**

**Rosebud 7-9 Campus**  
Wednesday 10 March 4–7pm

**Tyabb 7-9 Campus**  
Wednesday 10 March 4–7pm

**Mornington 7-12 Campus**  
Thursday 11 March 4–7pm

Experience a taste of the curriculum, sporting, cultural and spiritual life that Padua College can offer your child.

**Year 7 2023 Enrolments**  
Open 1 February 2021  
Close 14 May 2021

Visit our website to enrol online or book a Twilight Open Day tour  
[www.padua.vic.edu.au](http://www.padua.vic.edu.au)



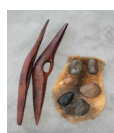
Next Week's  
Readings -Year B

**Fourth Sunday  
of Lent**

1st Reading:  
2 Chronicles  
36:14-16, 19-23

2nd Reading:  
Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel:  
John 3:14-21



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.

## 3rd Sunday in Lent—Year B

### 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

### First Reading:

Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

*The Law was given through Moses.*

### Responsorial Psalm

**RESPONSE:** Lord, you have the words  
of everlasting life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple. **R**

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes. **R**

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth,  
and all of them just. **R**

They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold,  
sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb. **R**

### Second Reading:

I Corinthians 1:22-25

*We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but  
to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.*

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of  
endless glory !**

God loved the world so much, he gave us his  
only Son, that all who believe in him might  
have eternal life.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of  
endless glory !**

### Gospel: John 2:13-25

*The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal  
life.*

### 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.

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your  
hands for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy  
Church.

### 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

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a  
nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and  
my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your  
house, for ever singing your praise.