



SEASONS

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

1st Sunday of Advent — Year C

28th November 2021

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

Diary:

Wednesday 1st December

Parish/Mission Meeting
Church, 7.00pm

Thursday 2nd December

Baptism Preparation Meeting
Church, 7.30pm

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 |
| <u>Vaccinated-</u> | <u>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



Today marks the beginning of Advent, a time of watchfulness, waiting and renewed hope, as we get ready to welcome the Lord into our hearts and lives this Christmas.

The **First Reading** focuses our gaze on God's promise to David to raise up a 'virtuous branch'. God fulfils that promise by sending his only Son, Jesus, into the world: our Saviour and King in whom we can have total confidence, who rules with honesty and integrity.

The **Psalmist** recognizes the Lord as his Saviour, desiring to follow his ways of truth, love and faithfulness. We too join in the psalm refrain, 'lifting up our souls' in prayer as we wait for the Lord.

Jesus foretells the end times in the rather ominous-sounding **Gospel**, telling his disciples to 'stay awake' and not get distracted by the 'cares of life'. But he has a message of hope too: we don't need to be afraid, for we will see the Son of Man coming to save us. God keeps his promises, so we can hold our heads high and stand confident in his presence. Meanwhile we can pray and try to lead good lives.

St Paul tells us how we can do this in the **Second Reading**. We are to live as Jesus teaches, 'loving one another and the whole human race', and putting Jesus and his values at the centre of our daily lives.

This week as I wait for the Lord, I may like to spend some time each day prayerfully taking stock of how ready I am to receive Jesus, however, wherever and whenever he comes to me.



We pray for..

Those who have passed away recently...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.... Wilfred Oakes, Vernon Hussey, Helen Sorwsen, Rita Fisscher, Millicent Leydin, and Lola Lamm

The sick... Keamy Family (John, Paul, Kelvin & Craig) 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 for November 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.

[STM Parish MISSION Discussion](#)

WELCOME

The Meaning of the ADVENT WREATH



Symbol

Meaning

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Circle | Eternity of God |
| Evergreen Wreath | Life, Immortality |
| Candle | Jesus is the light of the world. |
| 4x Candles | Four weeks of Advent |
| 3x Purple | Purple = prayer, penance, & preparation |
| 1x Rose (Pink) | Rose = Rejoicing |

Stewardship

Received last weekend \$ 1,749

Pledged last weekend \$ 2,119

Presbytery

Received last weekend \$ 695

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)

Next Parish Meeting to discuss

The Way of the Gospel /Mission

will be held this coming Wednesday,

December 1st at 7pm in the Church

All welcome regardless of vaccination status;

no need to pre book or register. (QR at the door)

The meeting will include information about what is being proposed, and a chance to answer any questions.



Please follow this link to look at previous meeting information

First Rite Advent Reconciliation

in the Church

Wednesday, 22nd of December

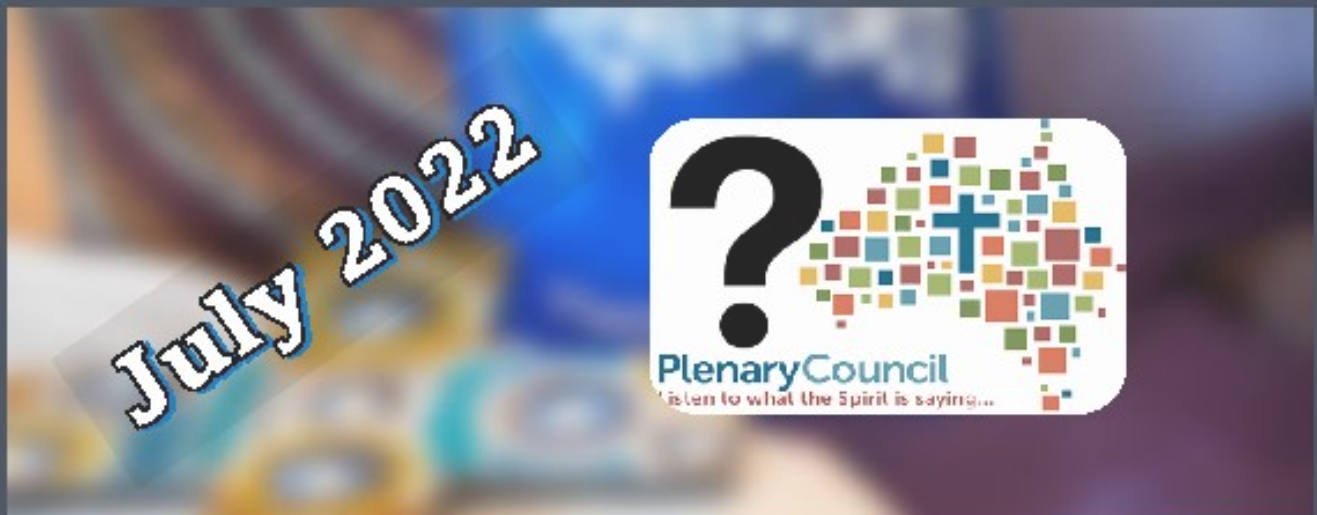
between 7pm to 8pm

Assisting Priest: Fr John Paul

The First Assembly of the Plenary Council “Can the Plenary Council achieve real change?”



One Down, One to Go!



What Now? Where to Next?

December 1st, 2021
7.30 to 9pm

St Kevin's Parish
26-44 Herlihys Road,
Templestowe

stkevinsparish.org.au

Join us for a Q & A evening with guest presenters:



Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan is Master of the Catholic Theological College in Melbourne & part of the Plenary Council 'Instrumentum Laboris' Team



Dr Nimmi Candappa is a Melbourne writer, Plenary Council member and academic.

www.trybooking.com/BVTHF



PPLT Meeting on Wednesday, 27th October 2021

The Parish was successful in receiving a \$20,000 government grant. This will cover most of the shortfall for 2021, but next year we will need to look at restructuring and improving the financial health of the parish

2. Mission restructure / Way of the Gospel. Review of discussion held on October 6th, attended by 20 parishioners. Archbishop's correspondence acknowledges the need for more and deeper consultation. + Comensoli now extended the time of consultation until the end of 2022. In person parish meeting to share information about "Take the Way of the Gospel" scheduled for 1/12 at 7pm. Some further feedback on the Mission restructure was received from two parishioners and this was discussed at PPLT.

3. School report

A) The formula for school funding from the federal government is changing. This will benefit STM as funding will be now based on the actual income of families rather than average income of the postcode where they live.

B) New road signage for the School / Parish is being proposed. More consultation with parishioners will take place in 2022 regarding placement, design and details of the sign

4. Children's Christmas on the Oval discussed. It's long tradition is worthy of revival with consideration for both the Mass and the festive occasion.

5. Mass scheduling and COVID restrictions- Indoor / outdoor Masses. Discussion about the logistics and ethos of vaccinated only Masses vs unknown status Masses. All Masses at STM will be open to everyone except for 10am Sunday, which will be restricted to the fully vaccinated.

6. Leonie Bourke is retiring from PPLT. Jacinta thanked her for her years of service. PPLT membership will be reviewed and expanded early next year. Final PPLT meeting will be a social dinner at Presbytery on December 15th.

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



Thanksgiving to St Joseph

Mornington Peninsula-All Night Vigil

St. Thomas More Parish:

313 Canadian Bay Rd. Mt Eliza

Friday 3rd Dec 7.00pm : Mass, Adoration

Reconciliation until 10.00pm

Adoration throughout the night.

Saturday 4th Dec 7.30am—8.30am: Reconciliation

8.45am Benediction

9.00am Mass for the Unborn

*** A Mystery of the Rosary will be prayed each 2 hours.**

Phone Vicki (Parish Office) 9787-7777

**if you are able to commit to a specific time to keep
Jesus company: otherwise, come when you can.**

During the month of November:

Prior to COVID, we would have the Book of the Names of the Dead displayed in the church during November.

You can still put forward your Names of the Dead Prayer intentions via the Yellow November Mass Intention Envelopes in your Thanksgiving sets or pick up an envelope in Church Foyer. Fill out and place in collection bag or hand to Fr Patrick.



1st 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 Jeremiah 33:14-16
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord
who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the
promise I made to the House of Israel and the
House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time, I will make a vir-
tuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise
honesty and integrity in the land.
In those days Judah shall be saved
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.
And this is the name the city will be called:
The-Lord-our-integrity.’

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

His ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep his covenant and law.

The Lord’s friendship is for those who revere him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Second reading 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
May you be blameless when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 21:25-28,34-36
That day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

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

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth
shall yield its increase.

Next Week's Readings
2nd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

