



# SEASONS

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year B

3rd October 2021

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

## Diary

### Wednesday 6th October

Mission Restructure Meeting  
via ZOOM at 7pm

(See Details )

### Wednesday 20th October

PPLT Meeting  
via ZOOM at 7.30pm



## PARISH "MISSION" MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 6TH OCTOBER @ 7PM

This Wednesday night please join us at 7pm on ZOOM to discuss "Take the way of the Gospel", Archbishop Peter's vision for the Melbourne Church. This meeting will be the first of many where we will share the information we have available and give parishioners the chance to discuss your thoughts, hopes and concerns for our parish's future working in and as a mission. I am mindful that in the midst of lockdown a number of us will not be able to attend this meeting. This meeting is not intended to be exclusive. A summary of our discussions will be provided in Seasons in due course. All parishioners are encouraged to email or write your reflections through to me or the PPLT at any time. It is important that all parishioners have a chance to participate in the future of St Thomas More.

The meeting is scheduled to run for an hour, and will be divided into two parts. Firstly, myself and Jacinta Griffin from PPLT will share our observations and information we have available from the meetings we have attended. Most of this info is accessible on this website <https://melbournecatholic.org/about/take-the-way-of-the-gospel> as well as our own Parish website. During the second half of the meeting parishioners will be invited to speak. Some of the questions which you may like to start thinking about include: "What do we well at St Thomas More?"; "What could we do better?"; "What dreams do I have for the future of our Parish?". You may well have other questions! As soon as possible, we will schedule face-to-face meetings for our Parish. We have been assured that each parish will travel on this journey at their own pace and in their own time. I encourage you to have a read of the online resources above to help understand the rationale and direction of this journey and to inform our discussions. See you there on Wednesday night. – Fr Patrick.

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86148434074?pwd=cDlkVGcrbkRTbWthNkxMUEllcDlvUT09>

**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)

Dear Friends,  
The lockdown continues well into the coming month. Please contact 9787 7777 if you are in need of the sacraments or any other spiritual ministry.

### Reconciliation

Saturday 5pm

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.

## Gospel Reflection for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Jesus and the Young People

In his three short years of his public activity and ministry Jesus went of out his way to seek out and find those who were ignored, rejected and often despised by others. He sat and ate with those others called sinners; he literally reached out to touch those who were deaf, dumb and blind.

The sinners, tax collectors and prostitutes were among his closest friends and followers. In the second part of the gospel this Sunday, we see Jesus as he meets and encounters a group of young people.

Jesus is speaking to the crowd and teaching them about the ancient Law and what he says about marriage and divorce. While he is speaking some adults bring children and young people to Jesus so that he can lay his hands on them and bless them.

Continued on Page 3.....

# We pray for..

## Those who have passed away recently...

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....** Edward Mast, Eileen Redfern, Dr. Francis McCoy, Edna Pearson, Edward Horrigan, John Hill, Keith Marshall, Christine Carter and Kerrie Dash



**The sick...** Keith Donovan, Martin & Helen Steyn, Nicole Thornhill, Bev Johnstone, Kate Matheson, 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, 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, Tequimata, 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 Officer for October is  
Catharina Tirtowinoto**

## 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](#)

## Stewardship

Received last weekend	\$	1,994
Pledged last weekend	\$	979
Sept. Weekly Average	\$	1,721

## Presbytery

Received last weekend	\$	445
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Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.

## Meeting Fr Patrick

Current government restrictions allow for limited outdoor social interaction in a public space. Further information and requirements are available on the Victorian Government Website

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covidsafe-settings>

While our ability to celebrate Mass and public worship remains restricted, I know some of us are feeling the separation from each other, the Church and the Sacraments very keenly.

Each Sunday morning from 10am-12pm I am available to meet parishioners individually outdoors. The health advice around masks, time limits and social distancing will need to be strictly observed.

Please let me know by email [Patrick.bradford@cam.org.au](mailto:Patrick.bradford@cam.org.au) or 03 9787 7777, option 4 and I would be happy to arrange a time to meet.  
- Fr Patrick



A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown...

Well and truly done with sourdough starters? Not interested in another DIY project? To help fill the void during lockdown, each week we'll suggest some inspiring content to bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations at: [www.bit.ly/LockdownLight](http://www.bit.ly/LockdownLight)

PRODUCED BY THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

## Lockdown Light—a weekly series

*A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown ...*

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...[Gospel Reflection](#) continued from Front Page

However, his disciples seem to have taken on the role of body-guards trying to protect Jesus while keeping people away from him. They actually tried to turn them away. Imagine the disappointments on the faces of these parents and their children as they are deliberately stopped from meeting Jesus. However, Jesus sees his followers are doing and he is indignant. This literally means that Jesus was displeased, angry and even furious with his disciples. Clearly, not their best moment with Jesus.

Why would Jesus make a very deliberate point of highlighting the presence of children to his followers? In another gospel when the disciples were fighting over who was more important, again, Jesus told them that they needed to adapt the mind and heart of a child. At the time of Jesus, children had little or worth or value. There were seen as having no more worth or value than that of a slave. The meaning of these comments and actions of Jesus would not have been lost on his disciples. They would have been deeply challenged by what Jesus said to them.

Let us be very clear and not overly romantic; there is nothing simplistic about being a child. A child knows who to trust and love by the way they are treated and respected. Childlike faith is never tired, cynical or indifferent. The faith of a child is anything but 'childish.' It is this faith that Jesus asks us to embrace; a faith that does not separate words from actions. This is a faith that is focused on God and others without condition or expectation.

—Br Michael More, OMI

### Parish Works

Earlier this year the Archdiocesan building office conducted a review of our Parish site.

They recommended that fencing be installed to more clearly demarcate the public oval and grassed areas from the private areas of the parish.

This fence would help us to comply with Archdiocesan policy on safety as well as professional standards protocols. The existing wire fence running along the parish side of the oval has become structurally unsafe, as it has exposed nails and wire which could become a hazard especially around children. Stronger fencing would help to bolster security as the oval is open to the public and has been becoming more popular lately, both day and the night.

A lower profile colorbond fence would run from the Parish Community Centre down the hill to the "Hilton Deakin Oval" sign, then a higher fence will run from that point along the base of the rock wall to connect back to the garage at the presbytery. This proposal for fencing was discussed at two finance committee meetings and three PPLT meetings this year where there was broad recognition and support for this work to proceed. The Parish and School will share these costs. Work will commence within the next two weeks.

—Fr Patrick

### Highlights from the [Plenary Council livestream](#):

**3 October:** Opening Mass of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, 2pm AEDT from St Mary's Cathedral in Perth.

**4-9 October:** Daily Mass broadcast at 9.30am AEDT and on demand afterwards.

**4-6 October and 8-9 October:** Plenary session livestream starts at 11am AEDT and runs until approximately 12.15pm AEDT.

**7 October:** Plenary session livestream starts at 12 noon AEDT and runs until approximately 12.45pm AEDT.

**10 October:** Closing Mass of the First General Assembly, 11am AEDT from St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane.

## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Collect

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those  
who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.  
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

**Genesis 2:18-24**

### A man and his wife become one body

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!  
This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother  
and joins himself to his wife, and they become  
one body.

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm Psalm 127(128)**

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.*

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper.

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.*

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.

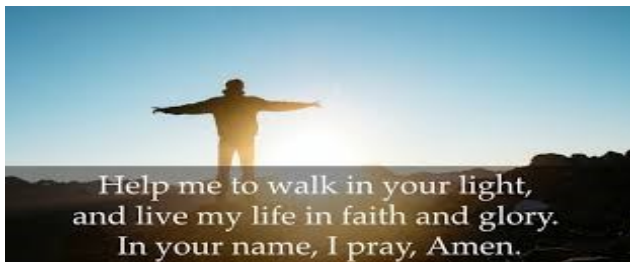
*May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.*

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!

May you see your children's children.  
On Israel, peace!

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.*



**Second reading Hebrews 2:9-11**  
**The one who sanctifies is the brother of those who are sanctified**

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,  
God will live in us in perfect love.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel Mark 10:2-16**  
**What God has united, man must not divide**

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

**Prayer**

Almighty, ever-living God,  
whose love surpasses all that we ask or deserve,  
open up for us the treasures of your mercy.  
Forgive us all that weighs on our conscience,  
and grant us more even than we dare to ask.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, (one) God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**Next Week's Readings 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11  
2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13  
Gospel: Mark 10:17-30



Daylight  
Savings  
Starts this  
Sunday  
Oct 3rd