



# SEASONS

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

St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop)— Year B

8th August 2021

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

## Diary

Monday 16th August,  
St Vincent de Paul Meeting  
7.30pm, Undercroft

Wednesday 18th August,  
PPLT Meeting, 7.30pm, PCC

Thursday 19th August,  
Social Justice Meeting  
7.30pm, PCC



**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)

### During the Week

Tuesday NO MASS

Wednesday NO MASS

Thursday NO MASS

Friday NO MASS

### Sunday Mass

(14th) Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm

(15th) Sunday 8.00 am

& 10.00 am

### Reconciliation

(14th) Saturday 5:30 - 6:00 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.

Dear Friends,

There is an article in today's paper which speaks about the ongoing toll that lockdowns are having on our community. While some of the corresponding frustration has erupted in the form of dramatic protests around Australia, there is a growing realisation that the average citizen is increasingly being affected by the current crisis. In the article, health physician Nathan Grills laments that much of this pain and suffering goes unseen and perhaps, unnoticed. In speaking about the pandemic in Australia, he notes "an underlying baseline of stress and exhaustion over the last 18 months. As soon as you turn the tap on and provide more uncertainty, it pushes more people (to their limits)".



There are no easy answers to this pandemic and much of the policy of governments and leaders is beyond our control. But as people of faith, we can respond personally with our heads and our hearts to the challenges facing us. This is something that Mary Mackillop, Australia's Patron Saint did so well. Her famous quote 'never see a need, without doing something about it' sums up her zeal and faith. With prayer, she looked for opportunities to help bring the kingdom of God to the poor, lonely, and needy.

With her help, we too could ask: is there any one around me who is in need? How are our own family members coping with these restrictions, routines, working and learning from home? There are business owners among us who are stressed by the current situation and its impact on their staff and others. Is there some way I can support them? Do I have any vulnerable relatives in hospital or nursing homes who might not have access to visitors at the moment? How are our neighbors and friends travelling? How might the people I socialise with in clubs or sporting groups getting on?

St Mary Mackillop responded to the needs she identified in two ways: through prayer and through action. St Mary knew that her real strength came from God. Her love for the Mass, the Eucharist, the Rosary and the Word of God prayed through the liturgy of the hours was a constant source of encouragement for her and her community. While we are physically away from Mass, we



can still pray through the readings and scriptures for this Sunday and foster that hunger for the Bread of Life when Mass resumes. We might do so by making a set time on Sunday to join with our household in worship. We can help lift up those in need to God through our prayer. This can be a very powerful way to help them and to help ourselves.

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# We pray for..

## Those who have passed away recently...

Wilma Jean Alivio and Anthony Ased Alivio.

## Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....

Edna Oakes, Catherine Vines, James Cameron, Maria Lindner, Dan Dee, Anne Green, Terry Meehan and Tom Cookesley

**The sick...** Jo Chaney, Evyonne Holmes, 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, 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

## 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 August is Margo Munro

The next meeting of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be held on Monday 16th August in the Undercroft at 7.30pm.

Regards Marilyn Moloney



## 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](#)

## 313 Canadian Bay Road

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 STM PAC have recommended that we re-number our address:

no 313 for STM School;

no 311 for STM Parish;

no 309 for Woodlands Early Learn. Centre.

Please let us know any feedback as to how this would affect you in the coming weeks.

—Fr Patrick

## Next Week's Readings

### The Assumption of the Blessed Mary



1st Reading: Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

## Stewardship

Received last weekend \$ 4,147

Pledged last weekend \$ 3,479

## Presbytery

Received last weekend \$ 801

(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.

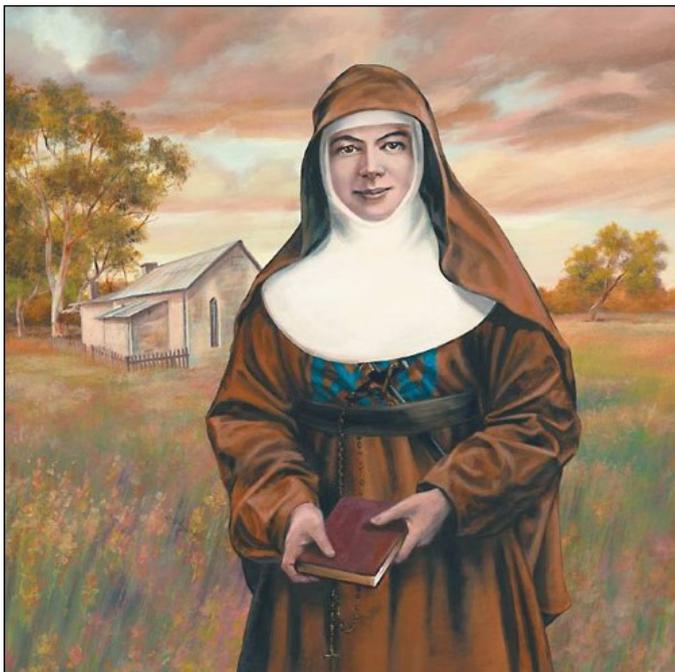
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St Mary's prayer inspired action. She used her gifts in leadership and education to build up the Church. There are different ways that God might be inviting me to 'do something about' the needs around me at this time. For some, it might be picking up the phone or contacting those who are isolated. It might be offering (remote) hospitality – like the widow from Zarapheth in our first reading today. We could offer words of encouragement like St Paul in our second reading today - through a note, or through recommending or dropping off good books and media. While we're holed up for the coming days and looking for something to watch on TV, I recommend watching the "Chosen" series put out by Angel Studios – a great way to connect with Jesus, his life and early ministry. It can be viewed for free through their website – [www.angelstudios.com](http://www.angelstudios.com). It may be of some help to others through these difficult days.

All of us are impacted by the lockdown in some way. Some of this is obvious, like the protests erupting in CBD's around the country, but usually the impact on us is more subtle. As we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mackillop, let us be inspired by her saintly approach to the crosses and to hardship that she and others faced in her life. May her words encourage us in the coming week:

*"Whatever troubles may be before you, accept them bravely, remembering Whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another, and let charity guide you all your life. God will reward you as only He can".*

*St Mary Mackillop – Pray for Us.*



## Saint Mary of the Cross

### Collect

O God, source of all goodness, who have shown us in Saint Mary a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross, teach us, we pray, by her example to live the Gospel in changing times and to respect and defend the human dignity of all in our land. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.



### First reading 1 Kings 17:8-16

#### The widow gives food to Elijah, and is fed

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

*"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."*

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

**Responsorial Psalm Psalm 62(63):2-8**

*My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.*

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.

*My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.*

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.

*My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.*

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

*My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.*

On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

*My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.*

**Second reading Colossians 3:12-17**

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 27:55**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him. Alleluia!

**Gospel Matthew 6:25-34****Do not worry about tomorrow: your Holy Father knows your needs**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it. Surely life means more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, for all his worrying, add one single cubit to his span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin; yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his regalia was robed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the grass in the field which is there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you men of little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed?" It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.'

**God is saying to you today**

**My child, you are worrying too much. Remember who I am. There is nothing too hard for me. You may not see it, but I have everything planned out for you.**

**Final Prayer**

O God, source of all goodness,  
who have shown us in Saint Mary  
a woman of faith living by the power of the Cross,  
teach us, we pray, by her example  
to live the Gospel in changing times  
and to respect and defend  
the human dignity of all in our land.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.