



# SEASONS

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year B

24th January 2021

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

## Diary

Meetings via Zoom



**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

Wednesday 9.15 am

Friday 9.15 am

### Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm

Sunday 8.00 am

10.00 am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Dear Friends,

It was a great honor to celebrate the Masses over the weekend and to meet so many of you. I also had the opportunity to sit down with a number of parishioners at the Vinnies Lunch and got to know some of you a little better. I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself to you a little more.

I grew up in New Plymouth, New Zealand where my parents were farmers. I'm the youngest of six children, all my siblings and immediate family still live in New Zealand. A formative moment growing up was when we relocated to live in the workers cottage at a Cistercian Monastery called Southern Star Abbey, where my parents managed the 1200 acre dairy farm. Our family often hosted the monks for meals and coffees, as well as many couples, singles and other families who came to make retreats at the monastery. Though I did not realise it at the time, these happy years being immersed in the lively community of faith, prayer, work and visitors turned out to be the first seeds sown of my own Priestly vocation.



A further turning point in my life was attending World Youth Day in Toronto, 2002. Here I began to see as a young man my place in the wider Church. I was encouraged to meet other youth who took their faith seriously. I returned to Canada in 2004 to attend a one-year discipleship college where fifty young men and women lived in community for 10 months before a 6 week mission outreach, in my case hosting retreats in schools in parishes all around the province of Saskatchewan. I came back to New Zealand and finished my Bachelor of Accounting, and after looking for full time work in Wellington, I moved to Melbourne in 2006. In 2007 I began working as an Investment and Tax accountant at National Australia Bank. I was working through the process of becoming a fully qualified Chartered Accountant.

While this work was interesting and my future career promising, I found myself thinking more and more about the Priesthood. After a series of unlikely coincidences and some serious discernment, I felt I had no choice (!) but to enter Corpus Christi Seminary in February 2009. I was ordained a Priest with six others on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Since entering the seminary I have spent time in parishes all around the Archdiocese: St Albans, Mordialloc/Aspendale, Bacchus Marsh/Melton, Clayton & Mount Waverley.

In the breviary there is a psalm which reads "the lot marked out for me is my delight". It's a line which has given consolation and encouragement to the Israelites over many centuries, as it has for me. I take it to mean that those who follow God never really know where he will ask them to go, or for how long, or what they might be asked to do. At times God asks us to do things that seem difficult or impossible. It means thought, that we Christians find ourselves on a great adventure and are invited to trust in God's providence and not in our own strength. It is a great privilege and honor to be a Catholic Priest and to be given responsibility for the souls at St More Parish. Let us pray together for God's continued blessings on our parish and for his blessings on each one of us.

Fr Patrick



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.

# We pray for...



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

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....** Doreen Lloyd, Johannes Bruitzman Snr, and Doris Clark

**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 & 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.**

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year B

### First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

*The Ninevites renounced their evil ways.*

### Responsorial Psalm

Teach me your ways, O Lord.

### Second Reading: I Corinthians 7:29-31

*The world as we know it is passing away.*

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News. Alleluia!

### Gospel: Mark 1:14-20



### Next Week’s Readings —Year B

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

2nd Reading: I Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28



## Volunteer assistance

As we continue to invite parishioners back to Mass and the Sacraments, we need more volunteers to assist with welcoming and registration before Mass, proclaiming the readings, A/V support, collecting and sanitising the Church.

These roles are an important part of our COVID-Safe plan and allow us to safely welcome back more parishioners from our community up to our capacity of 130.

At the moment we don’t have enough volunteers to cover all our Masses. If you are able to help once a week or even once a month, please contact the Parish Office to express your interest.

Thanks for your support.



**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>

### Are You New to Our Parish ?

Please take and fill-in a new parishioner form (which are in stand in Church Foyer)

### Does anyone have any spare Tip Vouchers?

The parish could use them as we begin to tidy up our grounds. Thank you.

### STM Social Club Fun & Friendship For All

*New members are always most welcome!*

Membership fee is \$30.

Please contact **Carolyn Gascoigne on 0448 871 970**

### Stewardship

Financial

Received last weekend..... \$3,544

Pledged last weekend ..... \$2,407

### Presbytery

Amount received last week .....\$ 855

*(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.*

## Safeguarding Committee



John Natoli 0418 208 778

Julie Carter 0420 923 859