



SEASONS

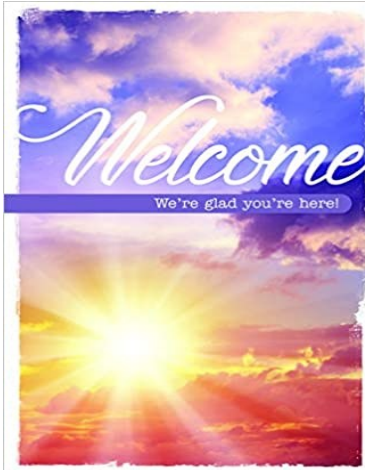
Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St. Thomas More, Mount Eliza

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time— Year B

18th July 2021

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

Diary Upcoming:



**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 Leonie Bourke
Carmel Huggard Margaret Jamieson

PPLT Email:

MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au

During the Week

Tuesday	NO MASS
Wednesday	9.15 am*
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 - 6:00 pm
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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,

Today's gospel presents us with the victorious band of apostles returning from their mission of healing and teaching brimming with excitement, "telling Jesus about all they had done and taught". But the first thing that Jesus does is call them back from this great buzz of activity and command them to go to "some lonely place all by yourselves".



Working for God is meant to be exciting! Jesus' friends had those great moments of fruitfulness, busyness and achievement. These are important experiences that motivate us and reward us. With God's grace we can do all things. But the disciple is not meant to live on the edge all the time. They must also know their limits and have times of repose, reflection perhaps even isolation; time and space away from the good things they are doing.

In the gospel, the disciples don't get much of a choice in the matter! Jesus tells them "you **must** come away ... and rest". He knew what they needed better than they did themselves. It can be hard for us to find peace and stillness in our busy lives. There are so many good things to be done, here and now. Slowing down and stepping away can feel indulgent and wasteful. Our ways of relaxing can even us more exhausted and busy than we were before.

Sometimes we need to be reminded or even forced to change gears. Perhaps the current lockdown (number 5!) could be seen in this light. Lockdowns are disruptive and we don't choose them for ourselves. Lockdowns force us to change our schedules and to slow down. It is understandable to feel frustration and disappointment at our cancelled plans, lost business revenue, the stress of having to learn and work from home. These pressures and many others can take a real toll on ourselves and our families.

But all is not lost. We also have an opportunity to make the most of these days of isolation to step away from our normal routines and to hear the voice of the Good Shepherd more clearly. We could do so with the help of the readings for this Sunday included in *Seasons*—reading them slowly and lingering on their significance for our lives. We might go for a walk and feel God's presence in the stillness of nature. We could pray the rosary, read a spiritual book or watch a solid film. We could reach out to relatives and friends we haven't spoken to in a while. Over these days of lockdown we're like the disciples in the gospel, we are called to step away from our normal lives and to change pace. Let us make the most of this difficult time by resting with The Lord.

- Fr Patrick

The lockdown means that Masses are cancelled from Friday, 26th July until Tuesday 20th of July. We hope Masses will resume on Wednesday, 21st of July. Please keep an eye on our website and Parish Switchboard welcome message (9787-7777) for the latest info.

As always, the Parish Office can be contacted by phone or email. Fr Patrick is happy to chat and urgent pastoral and sick calls will be attended to. Let us pray for a speedy resolution the lockdown and a hopeful return to Mass and the Sacraments very soon.

We pray for..

Those who have passed away recently... Thomas Johnstone



Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....

Rosemaree Fulton, George Mitchell, Patrick Ryan, Audrey Wearne, Geoff Hook, Anne Harland and Maureen Sweeney.

The sick... Tom Shelton, 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, 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.*

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.

Wednesday 21st July - Christmas in July at the Marina Restaurant & Lounge Bar, Mullet Street, Hastings. (Map:M154 J12) at 12.30pm 2 Courses \$30 / 3 Courses \$36.

If interested contact: Carolyn on 0448 871 970 or Colleen on 9787 2479



The Welfare Officers for June are Gui Hone and Helen Grech

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](#)

Thomas Johnstone RIP

Thomas Johnstone passed away peacefully on 13th of July. Thomas was a long time parishioner at St Thomas More. We're grateful for his meticulous research and for the time spent preparing the parish Biography, "Journey of a Faith Community". This publication documents the contribution of many parishioners, priests and seminarians, parish staff that have built up the life of the St Thomas More since its establishment.

Earlier today arrangements were made for Thomas Johnstone's funeral Mass, to be held at St Thomas More on Thursday 22nd of July at 2pm. We will update the Parish Website with the latest information about numbers and any booking requirements.

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre news:

Mary MacKillop Today - Annual Fundraising Dinner - Friday 27th August 2021 - Mt St Joseph Girls' College Altona West. Guest speaker will be **Robyn Miller** MacKillop Family Services CEO. Join us for our silent auctions and raffles. Your donations will help transform lives by going directly into one of many projects sponsored by Mary MacKillop Today. To purchase a ticket or make up a table, please contact Kate on 9926 9300.

BRING AND BUY STALL

*Homemade, Handmade,
Home grown*

*Will be
suspended
during Winter*



We hope to resume in October.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **14 August, Saturday** 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne.

For more information:

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons
<https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTSO>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure]
<https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

QR CODES If you have not yet downloaded the app, you can do so via the Service Victoria Website: www.vic.gov.au.

We are aware there will be a few parishioners who may need assistance to register their entry to Church. We will ensure that newcomers will be able to register your visit through a parish device within the foyer.
Fr Patrick

Next Week's Readings 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



1st Reading: 2 Kings 4:42-44
2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6
Gospel: John 6:1-15

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Collect

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. 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: Jeremiah 23:1-6

I will gather together the remnant of my flock and raise up shepherds for them.

I will gather together the remnant of my flock and raise up shepherds for them. 'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!. 'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.'

Responsorial Psalm

***The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

***The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

***The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

***The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

***The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.***

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

Christ Jesus is the peace between us.

In Christ Jesus, you
that used to be so far
apart from us have
been brought very
close, by the blood of
Christ. For he is the
peace between us, and



has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

They were like sheep without a shepherd.

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

Prayer after Communion

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord.