



SEASONS

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

Christ the King — Year B

21st November 2021

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

Diary:

Thursday 2nd December

Baptism Preparation Meeting



**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
Vaccinated- 10.00 am

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:



Many of the readings from Mark's Gospel that we have encountered over past weeks focus on the misunderstanding the disciples have about the nature of the kingdom that Jesus proclaims. They remain locked into an earthly understanding of political power. In this text from John, Jesus makes very explicit that this is not the case. His kingdom is not of this world! Pilate pushes the point in order to trap him into an admission of guilt: 'So you are a king then?' Jesus' kingship, however, is not to be bound by earthly understandings. He is indeed a king, but he exercises his kingship by making known the love of God. For this purpose alone he came into the world: to bear witness to the truth that 'God so loved the world that he gave his only son' (John 3:16). It is for the world and all humanity that Christ died, so we should avoid the mistake of thinking that Christ's kingdom is in some way unreal or anchored in the clouds. While it is not of this world, it is most definitely anchored in this world. All Christians are challenged to help bring this kingdom to fulfillment here and now. 'Thy kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven.' It is in the lives and hearts of ordinary people and the societies they build that Christ's kingdom lives and awaits completion. We too must bear witness to this truth.

The feast of Christ the King is a relatively new one in the church calendar. It was established in 1925 by Pope Pius XI after the world had experienced the horrors of World War I and been shocked at the brutality and destruction of that conflict between so-called civilised and Christian nations. The role of the Church in social and cultural life was diminishing, and there was greater separation of church and state. This feast sought to confront growing secularism head on. Since Vatican II, the Church has seen itself in a new dialogue with the world, and this feast now more strongly reflects upon the nature of Christ's kingship.

We pray for..

Those who have passed away recently... Matteo Khiabai and Shirley Keamy

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.... Diego Mirabella, Patricia Hansen, John Clark, Judith Hennessy, Dr John Hamilton, and Jane Collins



The sick... Keamy Family (John, Paul, Kelvin & Craig) Thomas Parrish, Keith Donovan, Martin & Helen Steyn, Bev Johnstone, Kate Matheson, John Xavier Clifton, Dennis Mirabella, 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 These 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](#)



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.

Stewardship

Received last weekend \$ 1,684

Pledged last weekend \$ 1,063

Presbytery

Received last weekend \$ 727

Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.

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](#)

Christ the King Sunday



The Christmas Bowl of Remembrance



It's been more than 70 years since Reverend Frank Byatt started the Christmas Bowl. He put a Bowl of Remembrance on his Christmas dinner table and asked his loved ones to place a gift in it to 'share your good dinner with hungry children in other lands'. Please join with us again this Christmas Bowl, as together we share God's love, helping create a world where uprooted people have a safe place to belong. **Please give today.**



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl



The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God. With confidence, let us call on the King of Kings, who graciously accompanies us from beginning to end.

We pray for Pope Francis and all the bishops of the church. May the Holy Spirit inspire them to look after and tend God's people. *Lord hear us.*

We pray for all those in our society who care for the sick, the hungry and the homeless. May they be graced to continue their work and to encourage more people to come to the aid of those in need. *Lord hear us.*

As we come to the end of the liturgical year, we pray with gratitude for all the faithful who have worked to preserve the spirit of our communities through the challenges of the past year. May our churches once again be places of communal prayer as we celebrate the Eucharist together. *Lord hear us.*

We pray for the sick of our parish and all those who have asked for our prayers. We pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they be welcomed into the heavenly kingdom. *Lord hear us.*

God of glory and majesty, truly your decrees are to be trusted. Hear our prayers for your people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Christ the King

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,
grant, we pray,
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,
may render your majesty service
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.
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 Daniel 7:13-14

I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man

I gazed into the visions of the night.
And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven,
one like a son of man.
He came to the one of great age
and was led into his presence.
On him was conferred sovereignty,
glory and kingship,
and men of all peoples, nations and languages
became his servants.
His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty
which shall never pass away,
nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord.



Responsorial Psalm Psalm 92(93):1-2,5

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power.

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are.

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time.

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

**Second reading Apocalypse 1:5-8
Jesus Christ has made us a line of kings and priests**

Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the First-Born from the dead, the Ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega' says the Lord God, who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

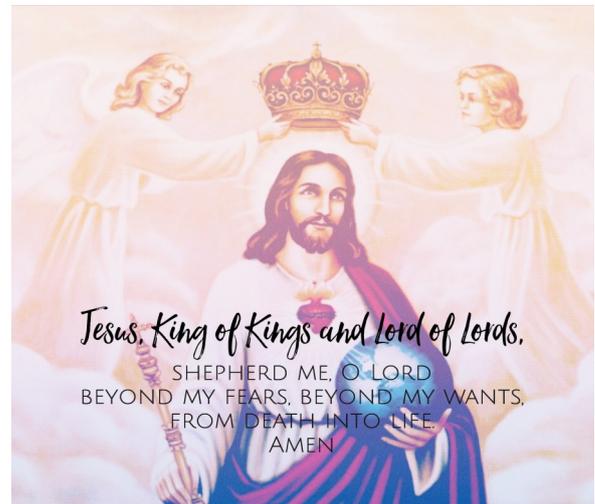
Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom
of David our Father;
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Alleluia!

**Gospel John 18:33-37
Yes, I am a king**

'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked. Jesus replied, 'Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?' Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?' Jesus replied, 'Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is

not of this kind.' 'So you are a king then?' said Pilate. 'It is you who say it' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.'

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

**Prayer**

Lord our God,
give us grace to serve you
always with joy,
because our full and lasting happiness
is to make of our lives
a constant service to the Author of all
that is good.

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****1st Sunday of Advent**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28,34-36

**Caritas Australia Annual Christmas Appeal
Global Gifts**

Through the Global Gifts website, supporters can purchase Christmas cards for their family and friends, with the proceeds going towards supporting the world's most vulnerable.

Online: www.globalgifts.org.au



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

Dear Fathers and Lay Leaders,

With the season of Advent soon upon us, we wanted to reflect a little on our journeying together in the *Take the Way of the Gospel* process and, most importantly, thank you for your continuing involvement in this important work.

Whilst COVID restrictions have made things difficult, back in April and May we were able to gather in person with our clergy and lay leaders to effectively “launch” the *Take the Way of the Gospel* initiative. Echoing the missionary call of Pope Francis, Archbishop Peter spoke of the fundamental need to strengthen and re-invigorate parish life. Archbishop Peter also outlined the three-fold aim of *Take the Way of the Gospel*:

1. to more effectively share the Gospel of the Lord
2. to ensure our local faith communities are places of vibrancy, vitality and viability
3. to fairly share ministerial and other resources for pastoral co-operation and the building up of the whole Body of Christ across the Archdiocese.

At Pentecost, Archbishop Peter wrote to the whole Archdiocese encouraging people to begin *Take the Way of the Gospel* with prayer. In June, prayer resources were developed and people from over 50 parishes gathered online over a series of sessions to reflect on the Archbishop’s letter and pray for our Archdiocese as we begin a new journey together.

In August and September, close to 550 clergy and lay leaders attended 9 online regional meetings. Whilst online is a poor substitute for face to face gatherings, nonetheless the meetings were an important opportunity to share the Location IQ social and demographic analysis and to outline a more local process of discernment and consideration. In a particular way, parishes were invited to overlay the Location IQ work with their own, more direct and intimate understanding of local factors, and begin to explore opportunities for collaboration and partnership with adjacent parish and faith communities.

In September and October, 400 people attended further follow-up sessions to ask questions, seek further clarification and explore resources that have been developed to assist parishes as they begin to discern their way forward.

As a result of these discussions, and following considerable prayer, a number of parishes have entered into a more structured process of spiritual and practical conversations to explore new models of parish collaboration and partnership.

A Parish Resources Pack has been developed to assist parishes ready to embark on these conversations.

Very Reverend Joseph Caddy AM – Vicar General

St Patrick’s Centre, 486 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002 Australia. PO Box 146, East Melbourne VIC 8002 Australia
Telephone: (03) 9926 5638 | Email: vicar_general@cam.org.au | Website: www.melbournecatholic.org

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.

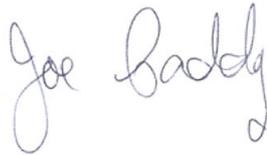
It is important, as our churches begin to reopen, that our parishes once again become welcoming homes and a source of hope for our people. After nearly 18 months of COVID, there is much to catch up on. Understandably then, not all parishes will want to move at the same pace in exploring *Take the Way of the Gospel*. Many parishes have made the decision to wait until next year to begin their in-person parish *Take the Way of the Gospel* listening and discernment sessions. For this reason, the Archbishop has recently announced that the process of prayer and discernment for parishes will be continuing throughout 2022. This allows flexibility for those parishes who would like to move more quickly as well as for those who need more time.

Regularly updated information on *Take the Way of the Gospel* will also be posted on www.melbournecatholic.org.au/about/mission

As we approach, the season of Advent, may we rejoice in the ability to gather once again in our parish communities as we prepare to celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation. Thank you for your help and support with *Take the Way of the Gospel* throughout 2021. We look forward to accompanying you and supporting you in 2022.

May the Christ Child born to us at Christmas come into our hearts and be present to us in a special way this Christmas.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



Fr Joe Caddy AM
Vicar General



Teresa Rhynehart
Director for Mission

Very Reverend Joseph Caddy AM – Vicar General

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