



SEASONS

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

5th Sunday of Lent — Year C

3rd April 2022

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

Diary:

Thursday 7th April

Baptism Preparation Meeting
7.30pm, Church



**313 Canadian Bay Rd
Mount Eliza Vic. 3930
Phone: 9787 7777**

Office Days/Hours: 9am to 5pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
(Leave a Phone Message at other times)

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

Church Services:

During the Week

Tuesday	Adoration	6.00 pm
	Mass	7.00 pm
Wednesday	Mass	10.00 am
Thursday	Mass	10.00 am
Friday	Exposition	9.30 am
	Mass	10.00 am
	Stations of the Cross	3.00 pm

Sunday Mass

Saturday	Vigil	5.00 pm
Sunday		8.00 am
Sunday		10.00 am



Reconciliation

Tuesday	6:30 - 7:00 pm
Saturday	4:30 - 5:00 pm

Reflection -

The Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last Sunday we heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke. Today we hear not a parable, but the report from John's Gospel of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery.



In John's Gospel, the conflict between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees occurs much earlier than in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is reported at the beginning of John's Gospel. Even after this event, Jesus continues to teach in the Temple. After returning to Galilee for a time, Jesus again enters Jerusalem and cures a man on the Sabbath. From this point forward in John's Gospel, the Pharisees are described as making plans for Jesus' arrest and seeking his death.

In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by his teaching and his actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by his words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus.

Today's Gospel begins by reporting that Jesus is again teaching the crowds in the vicinity of the Temple. The scribes and the Pharisees approach Jesus, bringing a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They put to Jesus the question of what ought to be done in this case.

The Pharisees state clearly that according to the Law of Moses, those caught in the act of adultery were to be stoned to death. Under Roman occupation, however, the Jewish people did not have the authority to execute people; this is cited in John's passion narrative. To answer the Pharisees' question, Jesus must propose an action that will be either contrary to the Law of Moses or contrary to Roman law. The purpose of the question appears to be similar to the question about paying taxes found in Mark 12:13-17. Either answer, yes or no, will support the Pharisees' case against Jesus.

Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with his finger, addresses those who stand before him and suggests that the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to his writing. This Scripture reading, by the way, is the only evidence we have of Jesus writing. Yet there are no specific details about what he wrote.

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We pray for..

Those who have passed away recently... Kevin Pearson

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.... Alma Baxter, Nora Hanmer, and Donald Young

The sick... Carmel Kost, Caroline Herbert, Rodney Abbatangelo, April Morrissey, Kerrie Milne, John Spirason, Thomas Parrish, 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, 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 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.*



STM Social Club

Contact : **Carolyn Gascoigne 0448 871 970**

New members are most welcome! Membership fee is \$30 If anyone has any questions about Membership fees— please contact Treasurer Julian Collins on 0473 474 559.

The Welfare Officer is Margaret Gallagher

Baptism Enquiries:

Please send an email to the Parish Office. Next Baptism Preparation Meeting: Thursday 7th April in Church at 7.30pm



Confirmation Enquiries:

Contact Sacramental Co-ordinator Faye Sayah on email: fayesayah@gmail.com

Reconciliation & First Eucharist Enquiries:

Program will start in June. Please register your interest now—contact the Parish Sacramental Co-ordinator Faye Sayah on email: fayesayah@gmail.com



Holy Week/Easter Calendar 2022

Friday 8th April

7:00 pm Reconciliation

Saturday 9th April - Passion (Palm) Sunday

5:00 pm Mass with Blessing of Palms

Sunday 10th April – Passion (Palm) Sunday

8:00 am Mass with Blessing of Palms

10:00 am Mass with Blessing of Palms and Procession (beginning in Memorial Garden)

Thursday 14th April – Holy Thursday

7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 15th April – Good Friday

3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday 16th April – Holy Saturday

8:00 pm Easter Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection

Sunday 17th April – Easter Sunday

8:00 am and 10:00 am Mass

Parish MISSION Discussion 6th October 2021 Meeting minutes and information can be located on our Website Home Page or follow this link.

[STM Parish MISSION Discussion](#)

FINANCES

	Stewardship		Presbytery
	Actual	Pledge	
2022-20 March	\$ 788	\$ 837	\$ 705

Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish. (Please note that the majority of our contributions are done electronically via Direct Debit & Credit Card Payments)



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.

Safeguarding Committee

For information: Julie Carter 0420 923 859



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, we consider the safety and wellbeing of all persons to be our highest priority. We too acknowledge that children, young people and adults at risk may require additional safeguards to promote their participation, wellbeing and safety.

We respect the human dignity of each person and strive to create an inclusive and welcoming Church that enables its people to grow and develop in their faith freely and in a caring and supportive environment.

Existing Volunteers are asked to provide to the Parish Office : A copy of their Vaccine Certificate

**Palm Sunday and Easter Services Volunteer Sign Up sheets
are in the Church Foyer this weekend.
We need Readers and AV operators**

Fr Patrick's Reflection -Continued from Front Page

We can easily imagine the scene as the Pharisees and the elders disperse, one by one. Jesus has eluded the trap they had prepared. We might also give credit to the elders and the Pharisees who do not, in the end, claim to be sinless and worthy of passing judgment. These Pharisees are not as self-righteous as the portrait found in the parable of the pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:9-14).

Left alone with the woman, Jesus asks where the accusers have gone. With no one remaining to condemn the woman, Jesus (the one who truly is without sin) sends the woman on her way, refusing to pass judgment on her and exhorting her to avoid future sin.

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.

Parish PUMPKINS are growing nicely near the Parish Office.

Thank you to Paul Kost who prepared, planted and is still putting in the hard work tending as they grow.

They will soon be ready to pick.....

We are intending to sell them as a Parish Fundraiser. You can choose a whole or a piece at one of the weekends (after each Mass) after Easter, towards end of April.



You are invited to

The St. Thomas More Social Justice Group Forum

***Affordable Housing for People
on Very Low Incomes***

at the school gym on

Thursday 28th April at 7.30 p.m

*John Baker -CEO Mornington Peninsula Shire
John McKenzie – Seaford Housing Action Coalition*

*Russell Joseph – President Peninsula Community
Housing Inc.*

They will all speak about this important local
and Australia-wide issue.

There will be opportunities to ask questions
and to continue to discuss ideas over supper.

We plan to be finished by 9.30 p.m.

The St. Thomas More Social Justice Group is looking for 6-8 volunteers to assist with car parking from 6.50 p.m. until 7.45 p.m. on the evening of the 28th April for the Forum

***Affordable Housing for People
on Very Low Incomes***

We would also like to have
some volunteers to assist
with tea/coffee during supper



Please contact either:

Ron Congues ron-congues@hotmail.com
or

Jacinta Griffin jacintag73@hotmail.com

Next Sunday's Readings
Passion (Palm) Sunday

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56



5th Sunday in Lent

Penitential Act:

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and
in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:

through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God. Amen

First Reading Isaiah 43:16-21

See, I am doing a new deed, and I will give my
chosen people drink

Responsorial Psalm 125(126)

*The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs.

*The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.

*The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

*The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

*The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

Second reading Philippians 3:8-14

I look on everything as so much rubbish if
only I can have Christ

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!

Gospel John 8:1-11

'Let the one among you who has not sinned
be the first to throw a stone'

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was
buried; he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

The mystery of faith

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you come
again.

Or:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you
come again.

Or:

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your
Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.