



SEASONS

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

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year C

13th February 2022

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

Diary:

Monday 21st February

St Vincent de Paul Meeting

Undercroft, 7.30pm



Saturday 26th February

**Parish Discernment Session
2 pm in The Undercroft**

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday we heard Jesus call Peter to be his disciple. Jesus then travels with Peter and the other disciples. Luke reports acts of healing (a person with leprosy and a paralytic man) and the call of Levi, the tax collector. Jesus also replies to questions from the Pharisees regarding fasting and the observance of the Sabbath. In the verses immediately before today's gospel reading, Jesus is reported to have chosen 12 men from among his disciples to be apostles. Apostle is a Greek word that means "one who is sent."



Today's gospel reading is the beginning of what is often called the Sermon on the Plain. We find a parallel to this passage in Matthew 5:1-7,11 that is often called the Sermon on the Mount. As these titles suggest, there are differences and similarities between these gospel readings.

When spoken from the mountaintop in Matthew's Gospel, we can't miss the impression that Jesus is speaking with the authority and voice of God. The mountaintop is a symbol of closeness to God. Those who ascend the mountain see God and speak for God; recall the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments. As Luke introduces the location of Jesus' teaching, Jesus teaches on level ground, alongside the disciples and the crowd. Luke presents Jesus' authority in a different light. He is God among us.

Another distinction found in Luke's version is the audience. Luke's Sermon on the Plain is addressed to Jesus' disciples, although in the presence of the crowd; Matthew's Sermon on the Mount is addressed to the crowd. In keeping with this style, the Beatitudes in Luke's Gospel sound more personal than those in Matthew's Gospel—Luke uses the article "you" whereas Matthew uses "they" or "those." There is also a difference in number: Matthew describes eight beatitudes; Luke presents just four, each of which has a parallel warning.

The form of the Beatitudes found in Luke's and Matthew's Gospel is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, such as in the Psalms and in Wisdom literature. They are a way to teach about who will find favor with God. The word blessed in this context might be translated as "happy," "fortunate," or "favored."

As we listen to this Gospel, the Beatitudes jar our sensibilities. Those who are poor, hungry, weeping, or persecuted are called blessed. This is, indeed, a Gospel of reversals. Those often thought to have been forgotten by God are called blessed. In the list of "woes," those whom we might ordinarily describe as blessed by God are warned about their peril. Riches, possessions, laughter, reputation . . . these are not things that we can depend upon as sources of eternal happiness. They not only fail to deliver on their promise; our misplaced trust in them will lead to our demise. The ultimate peril is in misidentifying the source of our eternal happiness.

The Beatitudes are often described as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. We are challenged to examine our present situation in the context of our ultimate horizon, the Kingdom of God.

[Loyolapress]



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Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr Patrick Bradford (Parish Administrator)

Jacinta Griffin (Chairperson)

Sue Carr Margaret Jamieson

Carmel Huggard

PPLT Email:

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Church Services:

During the Week

Tuesday	Adoration	6.30 pm
	Mass	7.00 pm
Wednesday	Mass	10.00 am
Thursday	Mass	10.00 am
Friday	Mass	10.00 am

Sunday Mass

Saturday	Vigil	5.00 pm
Sunday		8.00 am
	&	10.00 am

Reconciliation

Saturday	4:30 - 5:00 pm
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We pray for..

Those who have passed away recently...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time....

Bill Oakes, Alice Murtagh, Trish Hutchinson, Leo Fennessy, Patricia Duguid, Pat May Lucy Tuck, Clare Sullivan, and Michael Hauser.

The sick... John Spirason, 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 Therese Parish, Bathurst Island and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Alice Springs.*



Parish Sacramental Program - Confirmation



An **Information Night** will be held at 7.30pm on **Thursday 24th February**


If you have a child in Year 6 or older who would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, and they are not at STM Primary School, please contact the Parish Sacramental Officer Faye Sayah on email: fayesayah@gmail.com before the Information Night.

Chaplaincy Appeal 2022 This weekend is the Chaplaincy Appeal. Donations from our parish community will help the Chaplaincy programs to support the most vulnerable people in our community. Your support and generosity will ensure that Catholic Chaplains can continue to be the messengers of God's mercy, love and compassion. Parishioners are encouraged to offer prayers and financial support to help provide continued spiritual and emotional comfort to individuals and families in Victoria facing loneliness, illness, pain, grief and death. You can donate using the envelopes available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call 9287 5513



STM Social Club
New members are most welcome!
 Membership fee is \$30
 Contact : **Carolyn Gascoigne 0448 871 970**

Office – Keeping:
 Have you changed your address, email or phone number recently?
 Please email the office so that we can update our database records.



If anyone has any questions about Membership fees— please contact Treasurer Julian Collins on 0473 474 559.


The Welfare Officers are
 Tom and Maree Shelton



Baptism Enquiries:
 Please send an email to the Parish Office



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](#)

FINANCES	Stewardship		Presbytery
	Actual	Pledge	
2022 6 Feb	\$2,719	\$ 2,899	\$ 791

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)

PPLT

St Thomas More Parish has a proud tradition of parishioners being actively involved and engaged in the life of the Church both within our community and beyond. One obvious example of this is the Parish Pastoral Leadership Team – PPLT.

I want to acknowledge the generous contribution of all those who have served the Parish on the PPLT and especially that of our chair, Jacinta Griffin. It has not been easy for the PPLT to operate in and out of lockdowns over the last two and a bit years while also grappling with constantly changing COVID restrictions, a change of clergy (twice!), a diocesan parish restructure as well as the usual parish business.

Thankyou to current and previous PPLT members for your generous contribution of time and talent.

When I arrived at St Thomas More there were already some vacant positions on the PPLT. While I was still becoming familiar with the Parish and our community, I felt it was important not to make any decisions about PPLT membership until I had got to meet people and understand our Parish. The repeated lockdowns and time of Church closure have extended this time further than I had anticipated. Since last January there we have more vacancies as PPLT members have relocated or resigned. As we begin this new year with much more certainty with COVID restrictions it seems the time is right to consider the membership of PPLT and how St Thomas More can be represented in the future.

I have asked Lorraine McCarthy from the Archdiocesan Proclaim Office to help run a discernment workshop on Saturday, February 26th. Lorraine will help us to think and pray about where we are as a Parish community, where we see ourselves in the future, and how we are going to get there.

The Church's Code of Canon Law gives a helpful summary of how a Pastoral Council is to be chosen (CCC 512/2)

The Christian faithful who are appointed to the pastoral council are to be so selected that the entire portion of the people of God which constitutes the diocese is truly reflected, with due regard for the diverse regions, social conditions and professions of the diocese as well as the role which they have in the apostolate, either as individuals or in conjunction with others.

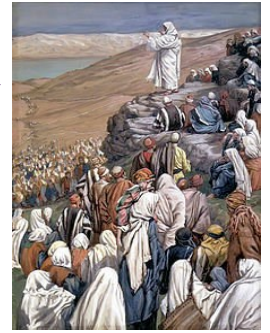
Anyone is welcome to attend the session which will form a part of the process for appointing new members to PPLT.

If anyone is interested in becoming a PPLT member or to learn more, I would be happy to speak with you before then.

**Date and Time of Meeting:
Saturday 26th February at 2pm in The Undercroft.**

Fr Patrick

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**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

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest and on earth
peace to people of good will.
we praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty
Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

First Reading Jeremiah 17:5-8
A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 1:1-4,6

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man
who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

He is like a tree that is planted
beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind:
for the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Second reading I Corinthians 15:12,16-20
**If Christ has not been raised, you are
still in your sins**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great
in heaven. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 6:17,20-26
**Happy are you who are poor, who are
hungry, who weep**

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.

**Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

Hosanna

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Let us pray

To those who love you, Lord,
you promise to come with your Son
and make your home within them.
Come, then, with your purifying grace
and make our hearts a place where you can
dwell. 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 Sunday's Readings

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: I Samuel 26:2,7-9,11-13,22-23

2nd Reading: I Corinthians 15:45-49

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38



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.

