



SEASONS

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

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

July 2nd 2023

DIARY

Filipino Mass

Sunday 2nd July 4.00pm

Baptism Preparation Meeting

Thursday 6th July

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

**Email: MountEliza@cam.org.au
Website: <http://pol.org.au/mounteliza>**

Parish Priest:

Rev. Fr. Patrick Bradford

Secretary: Ann Hancock

Office Days/Hours:

Wednesday 9.30am to 4pm

Friday 9.30am to 4pm

Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr Patrick Bradford

Ruth Hilton Joe Sayah

Emma Chapple Sandra Taylor

Kathy Raccanello

See your happy team on the Notice Board!

Church Services from 3rd July

Tuesday Adoration 6.00pm

Tuesday Mass 7.00pm

Wednesday* Mass 8.30am

Thursday* Mass 10.00am

Friday Adoration 9.00am

Friday Mass 10.00am

*The Rosary will be prayed before this Mass.

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Sunday 2/7 (Filipino) 4.00pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday 6.30pm -7.00pm

Friday 9.30am -10.00am

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.00pm

St Thomas More acknowledges the Bunurong people as the Traditional owners of the land on which we live, work and worship. We pay our respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging.

Dear Friends

On 12th of June, I joined around 150 clergy from around the Archdiocese of Melbourne who attended the annual Clergy Conference. It was great to be able to spend this time with my fellow priests, especially friends assigned to remote parishes who I have not seen in a while. The keynote speaker at the Conference was Abbot Paul Gunter, who is a Benedictine Monk. Abbot Paul began his studies for the priesthood at Heythrop College at the University of London. Ordained to the priesthood in 1991, he spent a decade in parishes as an assistant priest and parish priest, before arriving in Rome in 2002, where he undertook his License and Doctorate in Sacred Liturgy at the Pontifical Institute of Liturgy at Sant'Anselmo all'Aventino, global headquarters of the Benedictine Order. Completing his doctorate in 2006, he remained in Rome as a professor for another 10 years. During this time, he also served for five years as a consultor of the Office of the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff and took up his role as Secretary of the Department for Christian Life and Worship. On returning to England Fr Paul was delighted to take up the role of parish priest again, this time at Our Lady and St Joseph Parish in Alcester, Warwickshire, before being elected as Abbot of Douai Abbey in May last year. Abbot Paul gave an excellent series of talks to at the conference about the liturgy and the Eucharist. His words have encouraged me to think about the different ways we as a Parish, can use Pope Francis's recent document *Desiderio Desideravi* to help St Thomas More parishioners to participate in the Eucharist and the Sacraments more deeply.



Speaking about the conference, Abbot Paul said 'It's an opportunity for priests to be drawn together to consider the subjects that matter to their lives and ministry.' At first glance, the 'art of celebrating' might seem to be only about how priests say Mass, but 'it's about so much more than that,' he says. 'It's about how priests draw life from the mysteries they celebrate, and communicate their hope to the holy people of God, who are nourished by the Church's liturgical life and sacraments.' In his conference presentation, Abbot Paul conveys this deeper sense of the *ars celebrandi*, particularly through his discussion of *Desiderio Desideravi*, an 'absolutely up-to-date' document on the liturgical formation of the people of God, addressed to bishops, priests, deacons, consecrated men and women, and the lay faithful. 'So our concern isn't just how priests say Mass but about how we [priests] present a liturgical formation of the people of God, starting with ourselves'. As well as considering the style of our celebrations, Abbot Paul focussed on how we might 'foster an encounter with Christ through the celebration of the liturgy ... so that we can really ... put a strobe light, if you like, on what is the most important thing we do.' Quoting the Rule of St Benedict—'Prefer nothing to the love of Christ' (ch. 4)—he observes that nowhere does Christ communicate his love to us so obviously as in the liturgy, 'where he gives us himself.' It is by 'putting Christ at the centre, and Christ at the centre of the liturgy,' he says, 'that we're able to focus on how to communicate with him'—a task that affects 'all of us'. The mission of the Church is intrinsically linked to its liturgical life, he says, and 'liturgical formation is the key to making the nuts and bolts of the liturgy accessible, so people can draw missionary impulse and inspire missionary endeavour with and from the liturgy.'

(Continued on Page 3)

**We
pray
for.....**

**Those who have passed away recently... Antonina Jung
Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..**



Lillian Oakes, Nan Hoban, Mary Goss, Kevin Gascoigne, Stanley Norris

The sick... Adrian Gobel, Caroline Herbert, April Morrissey, John Spirason, Bev Johnstone, Kate Matheson, John Xavier Clifton, Michael Leonard, Liz Spurdle, John Spurdle, Evonne Paddison, Maree Bracken, Bill Luscombe, Brigitte Rohner, Eileen O'Beirne, Ava Macias, Michael MacKenzie, Betty Corke, Maria Kelly, Elizabeth Ware, Althea Greeff, Michael Blick, Maureen Anstey, Rosalie McKiernan, Sue Emerton, Jimmy and Gary Lakeman, Anneliese Rose, Charlie Ebsworth, Noel Anstey, Mary Doherty, Barbara Hunt, Annette O'Brian 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.

Change to Tuesday Mass time

From Tuesday July 11th

Mass will be at 5:30pm.

Adoration and confession will be from 6-7pm

Women's Fellowship Group

Let's get together ladies! Every first Friday of the month from 7pm to 9pm (after dinner) for women 18 - 100 years plus!

A chance to connect, chat, laugh and share.

Next get together Friday 7th July.

(Where: at my home - Please email me for details if you're interested in attending (raccanellokathy@gmail.com).

If you can, please bring something to share with everyone.

Hope you can come!

Kathy



I sincerely thank St Thomas More Parishioners for your sustained prayers and good wishes for my mother Millie, currently visiting from New Zealand who spent the last two weeks in hospital. Millie is now out of hospital and doing much better.

The Bradford family are very grateful for the kindness and support we have received during this time of sickness and bereavement – Fr Patrick.

Dear Melbourne Parishes
Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraiser Project Compassion has been a success this year thanks to the dedication and support of over 1,700 schools and 1,200 parishes across the country. Your kindness and generosity will help us to all stand in solidarity with communities who face the challenges of poverty and ecological injustice. It is the passion and spirit of our supporters across Australia whose generosity of heart enables us to have our hands and feet in marginalised communities across the world.

Thank you so much for your support of Caritas Australia's Project Compassion appeal this year!

On behalf of Caritas Australia and the communities we support, thank you to your staff and parishioners for all their fundraising efforts this year. Your compassion in action will allow real change for our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.

Kind regards
Gwen



First Reconciliation & Eucharist

A sacramental program for children (not attending Catholic Schools) who want to take the next steps in their Catholic faith in receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will commence next term. Those hoping to receive these Sacraments should be baptised Catholics. For more information and to register, please contact Faye on fayesayah@hotmail.com

(From front page)

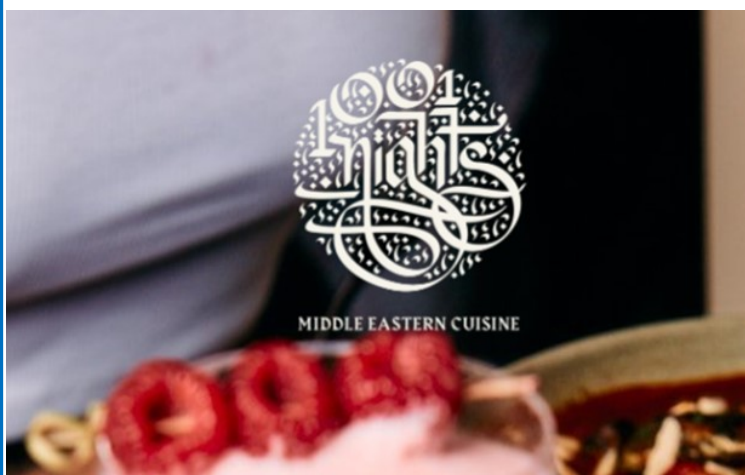
'If you think about it, the liturgy is our shop window,' he says, noting that a person's most basic encounter with Catholicism will often be when they first come to Mass. That is the most direct access, isn't it. It's built from there. It's going to be a while before they join anything—subscribe to a parish or knock on the presbytery door—but the first foray, the first encounter, is at Mass. For this reason, he says, the Sunday celebration must 'be missionary of impulse, because it's offering to the Christian community the possibility of being formed by the Eucharist. From Sunday to Sunday, the Word of the Risen Lord illuminates our existence—it has to—and that affects how we preach what we preach. And it also builds communion. Parishes can't be truly missionary, he says, 'if the people aren't in communion; if the priests don't celebrate that communion'—a responsibility that they share with the bishop. Through these 'God-given relationships, harnessed and developed, you experience that fraternal communion, that ability to share, to develop, to rejuvenate—from a hospitality of service, from that ability to be surprised.'

Abbot Paul believes we must retrieve the ability to be astounded by the liturgy. None of it surprises us any more, and yet, in fact, from Sunday to Sunday, the bread broken is energy; it's food, and it's not an it; it's a person, Jesus Christ, sustaining us to announce the Gospel, from which the missionary impulse of parishes—the authenticity of a rejuvenated life—will make the Church ever-young, because the Church is celebrating Christ. Central to this sense of astonishment—and to the missionary impulse it feeds—is the intimacy of relationship with Christ that we experience in the liturgy. 'If we find friendship beautiful—and I do, for one; I love my friends, and I'm utterly energised by them—should we not expect to be astonished at the beauty of the liturgy? 'And the liturgy is worthy of our being astonished, not only because it is beautiful and should be beautiful; it is pointing to Eucharistic amazement, because the liturgy is the best experience this side of heaven of Jesus Christ, with whom we will spend eternity.'

Abbot Paul acknowledges that music is an 'intrinsic element' of the beauty we experience in the liturgy. But he believes that care needs to be taken with every aspect of our liturgical life. 'Let's not forget the readings,' he says. 'It's extraordinary debilitating when the readings are not well pronounced, when the gospel isn't well proclaimed, when the homily isn't up to the task. Because there are two tables at Mass: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. They complement each other. If we are not amazed by the Word, how are we going to be amazed with the Blessed Sacrament? The Liturgy of the Word is not a warm-up act for the Liturgy of the Eucharist; they complement each other. God is present in both, he says, so when care is taken with every part of the liturgy, 'people are brought into a vivid liturgical life'—one that begins with the genuine engagement of priests in the liturgy. 'That's what I'm wanting to enliven, wanting to encourage, wanting to draw enthusiasm for, so that the people are enthused in God's gift to them, which is his liturgical life ... the gift of himself.'

Discussing the reticence of some people to return to Mass after COVID, Abbot Paul acknowledges that people first have to feel safe, 'but we, of course, have to—in the best Benedictine sense—practice hospitality. It's not just about the ministry of welcome; it's much more profound than that. It's about being a people of hospitality. Hospitality makes space. It doesn't just give people a hymn book and say there's coffee after Mass. It's got a wisdom that fits the time ... It really has everything to say about transforming how we relate to one another, how we shun selfishness, and how we encourage inclusiveness. Drawing on his own Benedictine tradition, he says a number of factors are at work in drawing people into community: 'You're looking at prayer, obedience, humility and hospitality. You can't be hospitable if it's all about me.'

Rev. Fr. Patrick



World Youth Day Dinner

Sunday, 23rd July 6PM

Parishioners are invited to 1001 Nights restaurant in Mount Eliza for a fun night to help support Charles and Matthew Sayah travel to World Youth Day in Portugal this year. We have a target of \$2000 each to cover their remaining costs. A shared multicourse banquet and drinks will be included for \$70pp. Please add your details to the clipboard at the back of the church.

Entrance Antiphon

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

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 **2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16**

This is a holy man of God; let him rest here.

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 88:2-3, 16-19**

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second reading **Romans 6:3-4, 8-11**

When we were baptised we went into the tomb
with Christ, so that we too might live a new life.

Gospel Acclamation **1 Peter 2:9**

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy
people. Praise God who call you out of darkness
and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 10:37-42**

Anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

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.

Communion Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his
holy name.

Next Sunday's Readings:

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

2nd Reading: Romans 8:9, 11-13

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30