



SEASONS

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

6th Sunday of Easter -Year A

May 14th 2023

DIARY

Baptisms

Sunday 14th May 11.30am

SVdP Meeting

Monday 15th May 9.30am in CC.

Youth Alpha

Tuesday 16th May 5.00pm

Dear Friends,

In these last few weeks of the season of Easter, the readings from the Acts, St Peter's letter and the Gospel of John are preparing us for the Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.



Jesus made it possible for us to know and love God's family—the Holy Trinity. Before his crucifixion, Jesus promised his disciples that while he must go to be with the Father, he would send another advocate, a helper for us. The Holy Spirit radically transformed the apostles from being fearful, isolated, downcast to becoming bold, united and optimistic.

As we now begin the second week of our Parish Offertory Renewal campaign, the readings at this Sunday's Mass give us a marvellous glimpse into God's generous character. The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. The Spirit is an expression of the total and complete gift of Jesus to his Father, and the Father's gift of his son to us. The spirit that animated Jesus to restore sight to the blind, to set captives free, to teach the truth and to baptise is the same spirit that we receive in full through our baptism and confirmation. The Holy Spirit, Jesus promises "is with you and is in you". And so, through this promise we are given the same opportunity to participate in the animating power of God's family who is constantly in a state of giving and receiving.

We can never be more generous than God, who gave us everything he has—even his own son. We see in Jesus the same attitude that everything he has received from the father is given for a greater purpose. In the creation account in Genesis God gives us, men and women, a mandate of stewardship to care and look after the beautiful and wonderful gifts that God has given. Men and women are given the freedom to name and to use the plants and animals for his greater glory. This commandment continues today. Each of us has been trusted with gifts which ultimately are not just for us, but for God's kingdom. We have each come from a family, and belong to a family. We live in a beautiful country with stable government and institutions, where we have immense freedom to choose what path we may take in life. We have access to the beauty of nature and beautiful art and music. We have relative peace and freedom to live our Catholic faith, to live according to our conscience. Through the Church and civic life we work to make these opportunities accessible to all in our society, especially the most vulnerable.

This week, may we take a moment to appreciate all the godness that I have been given—through our faith and friendship with God, through our relationships with family and friends, through our work at home or in society, through rest and recreation. May we foster a sense of gratitude to God for these gifts. God desires for us to be happy. Thomas More found his happiness in using his incredible intellect, his sense of compassion, his commitment to truth and justice for others. Jesus used his divine powers to establish the kingdom of God. May we grow in experiencing the power of gratitude which is revealed to us in the Holy Spirit and through Father and Son. May this spirit guide us to use God's gifts wisely and well.

Fr Patrick

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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 15th May

Tuesday Adoration 6.00pm

Tuesday Mass 7.00pm

Wednesday * Mass 10.00am

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

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.

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

Those who have passed away recently...



Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..

Eileen Cookesley, Thomas Smith, Marcus Redfern, Margaret Pingiaro,
Catherine Eggins, Chloe Hyland, James Willstead,

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.

The Parish Welfare officer for May is Margaret Gallagher 0410 210 500

Perhaps you would like to join this special group of volunteers?

They nominate one month of the year when they will try to contact those in the parish who are sick or alone. This mainly just means a phone call but according to your choice could involve a hospital or home visit.

This contact by a caring person means a great deal to the receiver, and the role is very fulfilling.

If you have any interest in this role or would like more information
please contact Ann at the parish office on 9787 7777.



The next meeting of the
St Vincent de Paul Society will
be held on

Monday the 15th May in the
Parish Community Centre at
9.30am.

Thank you
Marilyn Moloney

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 2nd June.

(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



Aid to the Church in Need ACN Australia and New Zealand



The Catholic Charity *Aid to the Church in Need* has
launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign. Did you know that in
2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria? These were not Nigerians
who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death. This is a
Church being crucified with Christ. To watch testimonies and to make an offering visit
www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal or scan the QR code.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli's visit to St Thomas More on June 10th

Parish Patronal Feast Day on June 22nd

Recently Archbishop Comensoli has confirmed that he will be visiting Mount Eliza on June 10th to install me as the fourth Parish Priest of St Thomas More Parish. This celebration will take place during the Saturday evening Vigil Mass at 5pm and all parishioners are invited to join us. There will be a reception to follow afterwards, with more details to follow including RSVP instructions.

While the appointment as PP took effect last April, the installation ceremony is an important moment for the life of our Parish, and for me. This visit is a practical and tangible sign of the Archbishop's care and concern for our community. The appointment and ceremony brings with it certainty that we can confidently work together to plan and build the Parish, it represents the stability necessary for the pastor to put down roots, to get to know people, to build relationships (to make mistakes!) and to learn from them. It gives us all an opportunity to plan for the future and respond to the challenges and opportunities of life post COVID. It allows to move forward after a time of change and uncertainty. A small committee will be put together to organise the evening with info to follow.

Later in June on Thursday the 22nd we will celebrate the feast of St Thomas More. Thomas More was chosen as our Parish patron because like most of the Mount Eliza community, his first vocation was as a parent with responsibilities for his wife and family; for his work and his contribution to society. More also had deep interest in education, and a commitment to justice, to following a well formed conscience and serving God and the King. This year we hope to come together and celebrate More feast day on Sunday, 25th of June. Details will follow in next week's Seasons.

World Youth Day 2023

World Youth Day is a major bi or tri annual festival which brings together youth from around the world to be formed in their faith, to hear from the wisdom and guidance of Pope Francis, to celebrate the sacraments, to meet other young people from around the world and to build relationships with other young Catholics from Melbourne. Our Archdiocese will be taking 585 young people aged 16-35 from parishes and schools to participate in this exciting opportunity.

St Thomas More Parish is pleased that two pilgrims from our Parish will be attending – Matthew and Charles Sayah. I have separately been invited by Archbishop Peter to attend as one of the supporting chaplains to the Melbourne group.



The pilgrimage will leave Melbourne on 29th of July and we will travel to Fatima, where we will spend four days visiting the Shrine of Our Lady, celebrating the Eucharist and being immersed in the faith of Jacinta, Lucia and Francisco. Then our group will join the other 500 pilgrims from Melbourne and several million from around the world for the week in Lisbon. Shortly after our return to Melbourne in September there will be a retreat with the Archbishop ordered towards sending out and equipping pilgrims to live their faith in parish communities. The organisers have ensured our Parish Pilgrims will be journeying together with other young people from neighbouring parishes in Hastings, Mornington, Rosebud and Padua College, and that these relationships will continue to build in time.

The cost for the flights, accommodation and meals for the 14 day trip for each pilgrim is \$5,900. Matthew and Charles are working to raise 1/3; the Parish has agreed to support them with a further 1/3 and it is my sincere hope that we are able to raise the final 1/3 by hosting events and engagement within our community. The fundraising target then for both pilgrims comes to \$4000. At this stage an event(s) are being planned through the PPLT to happen late June or July. We look forward to Matthew and Charles speaking to the congregation in the coming weeks and allowing us all to be involved in this important faith journey.

- Fr Patrick

Entrance Antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

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 **Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

They laid hands on them, and they received the
Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm:

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Second reading **1 Peter 3:15-18**

In the body He was put to death, in the spirit He
was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation **John 14:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my
Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel **John 14:15-21**

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another
Advocate.

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

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the
Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you
another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever,
alleluia

Next Sunday's Readings:

The Ascension of the Lord –Mass of the Day

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11
2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23
Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

