



# SEASONS

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

Christ the King-Year A

November 26th 2023

**Diary**

**Catechism Classes**

Tuesday 28th Nov 4.30pm CC

**First Friday devotion**

Friday 1st December 9.00pm-MN

**First Saturday devotion**

Saturday 2nd Dec 9.00am

**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 27th Nov**

Tuesday Mass 5.30pm

Tuesday Adoration 6.00pm

Wednesday \* Mass 8.30am

Thursday\* Mass 10.00am

Friday Adoration 9.00am

Friday Mass 10.00am

First Friday Adoration 9.00pm

First Saturday Adoration 9.00am

Protection of life Mass 10.00am

\*The Rosary will be prayed before this Mass.

**Reconciliation**

Tuesday 6.00pm –7.00pm

Friday 9.30am -10.00am

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.00pm

**Sunday Masses**

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Filipino Mass 3rd Dec 4.00pm

Dear Friends



The celebration of the Feast of Christ the King draws to an end the season of Ordinary time. Ordinary time means “ordered time”. For the followers of Christ, the hours, days, weeks and years of our lives don’t just unfold, but they are consecrated to God. Each year the Church’s feasts of Advent, Christmas, Ordinary time, Lent, Easter and Pentecost mark those important moments where God has acted in our own lives and the world. Christ is King of our hearts and he is king of our nations.

Next week as the Church prepares to welcome Jesus at Christmas, we enter the season of Advent. For us in Australia, December marks the “silly season” where the pace of life speeds up and there is a rush to get everything done. In the next few weeks the Parish will be offered a number of opportunities to slow down and spend time with the Lord and the Parish community. On Thursdays there will be Advent bible studies; on the first Friday and Saturday there will be extended times of Adoration, and after the 10am Mass on Sunday 17th there will be a Parish BBQ and Picnic. I pray that amongst the busyness of the coming month we will experience the peace of Christ’s kingdom.

A Reflection:

“Would Jesus feel at home among the opulence of The Vatican?” The question is sometimes asked by tourists who experience some of the Church’s great cathedrals, churches and artwork.

These were the remarks made by a professional baseball player—a fallen away Catholic, it turns out—who had visited the Sistine Chapel and later remarked to a reporter: “They could sell all those things, auction them off and probably feed half that world’s starving population. There is that much wealth stored in the Sistine Chapel. For it just to be sitting there I think is a crime.”

There are numerous flaws with such myopic thinking, including the athlete failing to recognize that no other Christian group in the world operates as many charitable organizations, orphanages, schools, hospitals, hospices, and shelters as does the Catholic Church. And what about his multi-million dollar contract, paid for by fans coming to watch grown men throw and hit baseballs in huge, billion dollar stadiums, underwritten by the advertising of great corporations?

Yet, if the stadiums and the teams were sold, what then? Are sporting events evil? Is it wrong to make a good living being an athlete? Of course not.

Which brings up a point directly related to this great feast day: cathedrals, churches, and works of art were created over the course of many centuries as essential features of the Church’s worship of Jesus Christ, who is the King of kings.

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

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



Rita Fisscher, Millicent Leydin,

**The sick...** Adrian Gobel, Caroline Herbert, April Morrissey, 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, Annette O'Brian, Elaine (Dee) Smith, Sr Elizabeth Browne-Russell, Philip Yee, John Miller, Jim Bourke 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.*

**Can you spend some time with  
Jesus?**

First Friday & First Saturday  
(Please add your name to clipboard.)



**Men's Prayer and Beer**

On the first Fridays, beginning Friday 1st of December there will be a Holy Hour for men at St Thomas More Parish. Come and spend some time with The Lord from 8pm—9pm in the Church. This month there will be a guided meditation focussing Advent and Christmas. Following the Holy Hour there will be supper and drinks available in the Parish Community Centre until 10pm. Donations are welcomed via card or cash to cover refreshments on the night. No need to RSVP –just come along. - Fr Patrick

**Women's Fellowship Group**

Let's get together ladies!  
Every first Friday of the month :7pm to 9pm  
(after dinner) for women 18 - 100 years +  
A chance to connect, chat, laugh and share.  
Next get together : **Friday 1st December.**  
  
Where: at my home - Please email me for details if you're interested in attending (raccanellokaty@gmail.com).  
If you can, please bring something to share with everyone.  
Hope you can come!  
Kathy

Dear Families,

The Parish of Saint Thomas More, Mount Eliza warmly invites families to be part of a special *Youth and Family Parish Choir*. The choir will sing Christmas carols, followed by the Vigil Mass hymns at St Thomas More Church on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th, commencing at 5:15 pm**. All children **must** be accompanied and supervised by a parent or adult carer throughout all rehearsals, the carols, and the Mass. Parents and carers are therefore also invited to join the choir for what promises to be a very special Mass, so don't be shy; please bring yourself and your voice along and join in with your child too. Please register via this [Trybooking Link](#).  
[www.trybooking.com/CNJPP](http://www.trybooking.com/CNJPP)  
Rehearsals will take place in the church on:

**Friday, November 24th, 3:40 pm- 4:20 pm**  
**Friday, December 1st, 3:40 pm- 4:20 pm**  
**Friday, December 8th, 3:40 pm - 4:20 pm**  
**Friday, December 22nd, 3:40 pm - 4:20 pm**

We hope that this invitation will provide a wonderful opportunity for our families to participate joyfully together in the Mass.

Yours in partnership +  
The STM Parish Pastoral Leadership Team

Today's reading from the opening chapter of The Apocalypse describes Jesus as "the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth." If Jesus really is God, he deserves our praise; if he is King of all, he deserves our obedience; if he is the Alpha and Omega, he deserves our adoration.

Sacrosanctum concilium, Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, observed that "the fine arts are considered to rank among the noblest activities of man's genius ... These arts, by their very nature, are oriented toward the infinite beauty of God which they attempt in some way to portray by the work of human hands; they achieve their purpose of redounding to God's praise and glory in proportion as they are directed the more exclusively to the single aim of turning men's minds devoutly toward God." (par 122). Man was created out of God's overflowing love, and man returns that love by expressing his love for the Lord, who is king and "robed in majesty," through prayers, words, songs, art, and architecture.

Ultimately, the cathedrals and statues and artwork belong to the King. This is all the more meaningful when considering that the Eucharist—the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ—is kept in the houses of God. The Eucharist could be kept in a closet or a gymnasium, but is that any way to show respect and love for the King?

Jesus told Pilate, "My kingdom does not belong to this world." Some Christians have mistakenly thought this means they should have no part of churches, vestments and artwork. But it should be understood in light of the Incarnation, which Jesus referred to a moment later, saying, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth."

The Son was not of this world, yet he came into the world. He had no beginning, but was born a babe in a manger. He was all-powerful, yet suffered and died. And when he rose from the dead and ascended to the Father, he did not shed his humanity. He is standing in heaven—the Lamb, human and divine, "as though it had been slain" (Rev. 5:6)—surrounded by cherubim and elders singing ceaseless praise.

In other words, Christ's Kingdom does not belong to the world, but his Church—the "seed and beginning of this kingdom" (CCC 567)—is in the world. And it is growing, mysteriously, not through bloodshed, tyranny, or coercion but through the body and blood of the King, through truth, and through conversion.

Taken from 'Our Sunday Visitor'

### Working Bee – From 8.30am Saturday 9th December

Are you able to pitch in and also have some fun? Please add your name to the clipboard in the foyer. It would be great to receive any spare **Tip vouchers!**



**Save the Date !!!**

**Parish BBQ & picnic**

**Sunday 17th December**

**After 10am Mass**

### Payment terminal in the Foyer of the Church



Many will have noticed a black terminal which is fixed to the wall on the left side of the main doors as you exit the church. As we move to become a "cashless" society, this device accepts credit card donations which exclusively support the Church account.

This account facilitates regular parish expenses like staffing, utilities, insurance, liturgical costs, and more. If you wish to donate you will find four preset donation amounts, or you can choose "other" and type in any amount up to \$100. Simply touch the denomination you wish to donate, then you will be prompted to wave your card on the top of the unit. It will "beep" when processed. It is possible to request a printed receipt. If you have any difficulties please approach Fr Patrick or any of the welcomers for assistance.

You can also support the Parish by electronic transfer into our Bank Account for both accounts: **BSB 083347**

Church Account no. 638078704

Presbytery Account no 637953335

**Entrance Antiphon**

How worthy is the lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and divinity,  
and wisdom and strength and honour.  
To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

**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      Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17**

The Lord will judge between sheep and sheep.

**Responsorial Psalm:      Psalm 22:1-3a, 5-6**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Second reading    I Corinthians 15:20-26, 28**

Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father; so that God may be in all in all.

**Gospel Acclamation    John 15:4. 5**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him, who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

**Gospel****Matthew 25:14-30**

I was naked and you clothed me; sick, and you visited me.

**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**

The Lord sits as King for ever.  
The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Next Sunday's Readings:

**1st Sunday of Advent –Year B**

1st Reading:      Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8

2nd Reading:    I Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel:            Mark 13:33-37