



# SEASONS

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

October 1st 2023

## Diary

### Filipino Mass

Sunday 1st Oct 4.00pm

### Infant Baptism Preparation

Thurs 5th Oct 7.00pm in the church

### PPLT Meeting

Saturday 7th Oct 1.30pm in CC

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

**Email: [MountEliza@cam.org.au](mailto: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 2nd Oct

**There will be no services on  
Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday**

Friday Mass 10.00am

**Saturday 7/10 Mass for the  
Protection of Life 10.00am**

### Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.00pm

Dear Friends,

*From My Catholic Life: A Life of Ongoing Conversion*

*Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir,' but did not go." Matthew 21:28-30*



This parable presents a message of great hope to those who find it difficult to follow the will of God. The first son, the one who said he would not obey the father but then changed his mind, refers to those who have initially rejected the will of God but then repented and turned back to Him. The second son represents those who claim to be faithful followers of the will of God, but are not. This second son presents us with a very dangerous trap we can fall into. He represents the interior disposition of the chief priests and elders of the people. They said one thing but did another. They acted as if they were righteous but were not. They might have even been fooling themselves.

Of course, there is another possible scenario Jesus doesn't present. Ideally, when the father asked his son to work in the vineyard he would have said "yes" and then followed through with his commitment. But this is not mentioned because no one falls into that category, except for our Blessed Mother. All people have sinned, and everyone needs to repent.

When we look at these two sons, we must humbly strive to be like the first one. We must begin by acknowledging that we have refused to obey the will of God in many ways throughout our lives. God has invited us to serve Him, and we have said "no." Acknowledging this is an essential starting point for a life of true conversion and service of God. When we fail to humbly admit that we have sinned, we are acting like the second son. We are living a lie and are trying to convince ourselves that we are faithful to the will of God when we are not. This second son represents a very dangerous interior disposition that we must avoid with all of our might. It is the sin of impenitence, a sin against the Holy Spirit. It is dangerous because this type of self-righteousness keeps a person from truly serving the will of God. They believe their own lie and see no need to repent.

Which of these two sons are you most like? Are you keenly aware of your weaknesses and sins? Can you humbly admit them to yourself and to God? Or do you tend to present yourself as one who is holy and does not need to repent? Never be afraid to admit your sin. Never pretend to be someone you are not. Never allow yourself to be drawn into self-righteousness. We are all called to a life of ongoing conversion. Seeing that fact, admitting to it and striving for that conversion will win for us the glorious Kingdom of Heaven.

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.

*(Cont. Page 3)*

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

**Those who have passed away recently...**

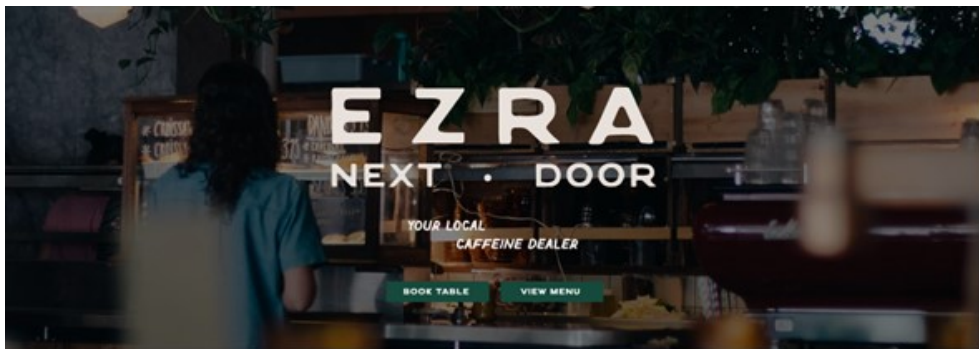


**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..**

Edward Mast, Eileen Redfern, Francis McCoy, Edna Pearson, Edward Horrigan, John Hill, Keith Marshall, Peter Van der Linden, Kerry Dash

**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 Patrick Guest, Elaine (Dee) Smith, Sharon Collins, Bernadette Smith, Sr Elizabeth Browne-Russell, Philip Yee, John Miller 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.

### Parish Social Function



**Friday 13th October at 12.00pm**  
**Ezra Next Door (Formally The Girl & The Bull)**  
**Contact Jim Bourke 0429 011 082**

#### Want to become a Catholic?

At S.T.M, we are about to start classes for those who would like to learn about our beautiful Catholic faith.

If you, or someone you know, would be interested in this invitation, please contact Ann at the parish office on 9787-7777.

#### 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 October.

(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

**Children's colouring sheets.** After children have finished colouring - parents, please remind your children to put any bags of borrowed pencils back on the table in the foyer, so that other children can use them at other Masses. Thank you.



(From Page 1)

Reflect, today, upon the many ways that you have initially said “no” to the will of God. Sometimes we do so in grave matters, and sometimes we do so in less serious ways. The humble truth is that we all refuse to fully embrace the will of God every day. The invitation we have been given to obey Him is much more than a black-and-white, yes-or-no answer. God’s call to obedience goes deep and is a call on a continuously deepening level. Keep looking into your soul and confess the ways you reject the will of God. The more clearly you see your sins and confess them, the more fully you will be in a position to say “yes” to the will of God with all your heart.

*Most merciful Lord, You continuously call us to repentance. We have all sinned against You and do so every day. Please give me the gifts of humility and honesty so that I will be aware of the ways in which I refuse to say yes to Your perfect will and so that I can repent of those sins and daily turn back to You. Jesus, I trust in You.*

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Feast Day -October 1st:

### St. Thérèse of Lisieux

For more than a century, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, also known as “The Little Flower,” has captivated countless minds and hearts. Her simple and pure heart burned with a deep love for our Lord, and that love overflowed into the lives of many. She daily inspired those who knew her, and she continues to inspire those who read her story.



### Stewardship

Would the person who is contributing via Envelope No 32 please contact the parish office.

Many thanks



### March for the Babies 2023

Come and join thousands in our peaceful walk through Melbourne’s CBD, to protest against the horrors of full term abortion in Victoria.

Help us speak out against this law and celebrate life!

**October 7th, 1.00pm**

Meet at Treasury Gardens, corner of Spring and Wellington Parade.

Transport may be available.

Contact the parish office for details.

### St Vincent de Paul Sunday



### YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN STM PLAYGROUP

At the Undercroft  
St Thomas More Primary school, Mt Eliza  
Every Tuesday 9:00 am - 10:30 am



Coffee, tea and water provided.  
Please BYO travel cup and/or drink bottle and snacks.

CONTACT: STMPLAYGROUP.AU@GMAIL.COM

### Safeguarding Committee

For information: Julie Carter 0420 923 859



**Entrance Antiphon**

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

**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 18:25-28**

When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live.

**Responsorial Psalm:** **Psalm 24:4-9**

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

**Second reading** **Philippians 2:1-11**

Be united in your love.

**Gospel Acclamation****John 10:27**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel****Matthew 21:28-32**

Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.

**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**

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,  
by which you have given me hope.  
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Next Sunday's Readings:  
**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**



1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7  
2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9  
Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43