



SEASONS

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

September 10th 2023

Diary

Baptisms

Sunday 10th Sept 11.30am

Catechism Class

Tuesday 12th Sept 4.30pm in CC

Information Evening-First Eucharist

Wednesday 13th Sept 7.00pm

**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 11th Sept

Tuesday Mass 5.30pm

Tuesday Adoration 6.00pm

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 6.00pm -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

A Reflection from My Catholic Life:

Reconciling With Another

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." Matthew 18:15



It takes much humility and a pure heart to confront another person with their sin in such a way that they listen and repent. Normally, confronting another with their sin is done more out of anger than it is out of love. We ought not confront another with their sin out of our woundedness and a desire to inflict guilt as retribution. We ought not confront another to humiliate them or harm them. We should only bring up another's sin because we love them and have already forgiven them and now want them free of their sin for their own good. When this happens and when this is our sole motivation, another might more easily receive correction.

This teaching, however, should not only be looked at from the point of view of us confronting others with their sins. It must also be looked at from the perspective of others confronting us with our sins. We sin every day. We sin against those whom we love every day. Therefore, try to think about someone close to you bringing your sin to your attention. How do you react when this happens? Perhaps if they did so with the most pure motivation and compassion, you would listen. But what if they did so because they were angry? Though this is not the ideal way for someone to confront you, it doesn't give you the right to reject what they say. Therefore, it is a good spiritual practice to listen to anyone's concern they bring to you regarding your sin, no matter how they bring it. If, after listening and evaluating their concern with humility you see they are right, even to some degree, then the loving response is to express sorrow, apologize and commit yourself to change. If, however, after humbly evaluating their concern you do not believe that you have sinned, then it is time for you to gently and compassionately try to confront that person with their rash and false judgment.

This passage gives three successive levels of confronting a person. First, it must be done one-on-one. Second, it is done with two or three others. Third, it is done in the presence of the Church. Try, at first, to set aside the second and third approach and only look at the first one. The goal of this one-on-one confrontation is reconciliation. It is good to put much energy into reflecting upon how well you do with this sort of situation because if you can do it well, there will be no need for the second or third form of confrontation.

The number one enemy of reconciliation is pride. Pride is a habit by which we think about ourselves first and foremost, or even exclusively in the most serious cases. Pride makes self-evaluation impossible. We become blind to our sin and are agitated the moment it is identified or causes problems. Of course, the opposite of pride is humility. This is the virtue that enables us to forget about ourselves and have concern only for others. When a person grows in humility, the evil one will always tempt them with thoughts such as: What about you? You are right and they are wrong! This is unfair! You shouldn't be treated this way! These tempting thoughts must always be rejected. Humility only makes sense when we are humble. To the person who has pride, humility will seem foolish. But humility is true wisdom. (Cont. Page 3)

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

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



Myrtle Haines, Maurice Doyle, Matthew Kelly, Monica Prendergast, Patricia Ginnane, John Murphy

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.

Come and see, be touched by God

MISSION NIGHTS

John has given over 250 missions in parishes. Please join us for these nights:

Monday 18 September

NIGHT 1: GOD'S LOVE

Tuesday 19 September

NIGHT 2: GOD'S MERCY

Wednesday 20 September

NIGHT 3: GOD'S HEALING



Love, Mercy, Healing

What other people have said about John Pridmore's retreats:

"John's stories were so emotive and made me reflect on personal experience. He was huge; a bit scary to start with, but you could tell how devoted he is to God".

"John Pridmore was very inspiring and his stories were really interesting. They also had an impact on me because they were so personal"

John's stories were engaging, down to earth and resonated deeply with our parishioners. His message that our God is a merciful and forgiving God encouraged many to seek comfort and healing. What a beautiful and grace-filled week! I encourage all parishes to experience John's message and enthusiasm for his Faith.

This was a great retreat for our parish. It filled us with faith and hope and renewed zeal for our prayers. It gave us a sense of the presence of God and the reassurance of our Lord's words: "Do not be afraid for I am with you". Many people have stopped me in the street to say how much they enjoyed the retreat and some parents have spoken of the effect it had on their children too.

Parish Social Event:

Our next function will be on:
Friday, 15th September.

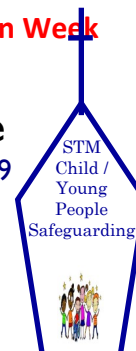
Please join us for a stroll through the laneways of Melbourne— rich in history and full of interesting places. Coffee and lunch somewhere along the way. Meet at Frankston Station at 10am.
Enquires to Colleen 0408 314 409

**4th-10th September – Child Protection Week
Safeguarding Sunday**

Safeguarding Committee

For information: Julie Carter 0420 923 859

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, we consider the safety and wellbeing of all persons to be our highest priority.



(From Page 1.)

Reflect, today, upon how humble you are when someone expresses concern to you about your sin. How do you react? Do you find yourself getting angry and defensive when this happens? If so, be honest and admit to yourself that this is pride; this is your sin. Spend time trying to reflect upon the ideal and humble way you should respond when confronted by another. If reconciliation is your number-one priority in any relationship that has experienced hurt, then that holy and humble desire will become your guide to being able to reconcile with everyone in your life.

Most merciful Lord, You came to earth to reconcile us to You and to one another. Please show me my sin and give me the humility I need to see it so that I can repent and turn back to You. Help me to also be open to the many ways that You reveal my sin to me, especially through the mediation of others in my life. Jesus, I trust in You.



September is the month of Our Lady of Sorrows

We celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15th. It commemorates the profound union of heart that existed between the Mother of the Redeemer and the Saviour, through which she experienced many interior sorrows as a consequence of His Mission, but particularly during His Passion and death.

Let us offer some little sacrifice today, without complaining, in honour of Our Lady of Sorrows.

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.



Les Harper RIP—East Timor Shipping Container Update



Dear Friends, last month marked the one year anniversary of Les Harper, OAM who passed away on 11th of August 2022. For many years Les co-ordinated the Friends of East Timor, which brought together parishioners and supporters from Mount Eliza and beyond to support the education and development of children and their families in East Timor, which was suffering in the aftermath of East Timorese Crisis of 1999. Les's untiring efforts helped to build several school buildings and provide better education for many children. St Thomas More Parish was the base for Les's energies as the Parish Office co-ordinated the work of this group. Les also worked hard to secure donations for East Timor which were sent over in shipping containers. Once the goods were distributed, the shipping container itself would be transformed into a classroom or a building which could be used for shelter in the local community. Sadly, this work was suspended during 2020/2021, and Les passed away last year before the final container could be sent overseas. Les's wife Patti has asked for the container to be donated to St Thomas More School where it has been repurposed as a secure and dry storage area for St Thomas More student play materials. The container has been repainted and given a rolladour for easy access at lunchtimes and recess. The St Thomas More School community are very grateful for this donation which stands as a tangible sign of Les's years of commitment and courage. Later this year a plaque will be installed on the container to note this donation and the important contribution of Les and his family over many years. —Fr Patrick

Entrance Antiphon

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful
love.

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 33:7-9**

If you have not warned the wicked man, I will hold
you responsible for his death.

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 94**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

Second reading **Romans 13:8-10**

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Gospel Acclamation **2 Corinthians 5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to
himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he
has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 18: 15-20**

If your brother listens to you, you have won back
your brother.

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

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
My soul is thirsting for God, the living God

Next Sunday's Readings:

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Sirach 27:30 - 28:7

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35