



SEASONS

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

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A

5th February 2023

Baptism for Preparation

Thursday Feb 9th 7.30pm

Parish Pastoral Leadership Meeting

Saturday Feb 11th 1.30pm

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

Email: MountEliza@cam.org.au

Website: <http://pol.org.au/mounteliza>

Office Days/Hours:

Wednesday 9.30am to 4pm

Friday 9.30am to 4pm

Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr Patrick Bradford

Ruth Hilton Joe Sayah

Paul Keane Emma Chapple

Sandra Taylor Kathy Raccanello

Church Services:

This Week

from 6th February

Tuesday Adoration 6.00 pm

Tuesday Mass 7.00 pm

Wednesday* Mass 10.00am

Thursday* Mass 10.00am

Friday Mass 10.00am

Saturday Mass for Unborn 10.00am

*Rosary before Mass

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm

Sunday 8.00 am

Sunday 10.00 am

Sunday Filipino Mass 4.00pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.00pm

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

As this is our first copy of Seasons for this year, I wanted to acknowledge the work that went into the four Christmas Masses held at end of last year, which were a great celebration of faith for our Parish. Each celebration was accompanied by our musicians from St Thomas More



School and parish. My sincere thanks to all those who assisted with preparing the Church and grounds for these celebrations.

During the Masses over the coming three weeks Parishioners will be invited to fill out a census card. One census card will cover a family. Pencils and cards will be distributed around the time of the offertory and there will be time given to fill out cards then. Cards can be returned later in Mass, placed in the baskets as you leave or dropped in our letterbox. The last time a Parish census occurred at St Thomas More was around 2015, so many details on our database are no longer correct. Having current records will ensure our database has correct details so that parishioners can be kept up to date with Parish life, Mass times and planned events. I know many of us have abandoned landlines and now rely solely on mobile phones, so many landline numbers we have on file no longer operate. On the forms you will be able to indicate if you would like to receive Seasons electronically each week – we are able to do this if we have your current email address. All information collected is treated confidentially and in line with the Archdiocese's Privacy Policy, which is available on our website. Paper copies of the Privacy Policy can be found in the foyer of the Church.

Since the last edition of Seasons at Christmastime a lot has happened in the secular world, as well as the world of faith. News of Pope Benedict's passing came to Australia on New Years even. Benedict's service in the Church spanned 71 years first as a baptised christian, then as a Deacon, Priest, Bishop, Cardinal, Pope and retired Pope! His ministry as a Priest began in Post-war Germany, which faced the formidable task of rebuilding Europe's morale, people and culture in the 50's and 60's. One of his great contributions to Catholic thought was inspired by the events of his youth. In the words of Catholic author Professor Tracey Rowland

“The generation of 1968 desperately needed some explanation for what happened in Germany during the thirteen years of Nazi brutality. The narrative it adopted was that reason itself is dangerous. Ratzinger ended up spending much of his life defending concepts like reason, truth, and rationality. He coined the expression ‘the dictatorship of relativism’ and complained of the narrowing of the scope of reason. He believed that faith and reason need to work together to mutually purify each other and that cultures become pathological when these two critical couplets are not allowed to play in concert”.

The scandal of warring Christian nations and the terrible loss of human life

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

Those who have passed away recently...

Mavis McDonald



Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..

John McCartney, Anne McGrath, Fr Peter Fulton, Adelheid Behrenbruch, Jeremy Lourey, Bill Oakes, Raye Darrer, Laurie Gage, Michael Pierce, Eileen Kilgariff, Hayden Jackson, Tom Connolly, Terry Sutton, Lee Rayner, Peggy Fox, Keith Donovan

The sick... Maureen Mirabella, Adrian & Maree Gobel, Caroline Herbert, April Morrissey, John Spirason, Thomas Parrish, Rodney Abbatangelo, 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, Julian Collins, Sue Emerton, Jimmy and Gary Lakeman, Anneliese Rose 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 officers for February are Tom and Maree Shelton 0428337950

NEED TO DISPOSE OF A VEHICLE?

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process - getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even garaging it until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!).

If you need to dispose of a vehicle either from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, please consider gifting it to the "Lifeboat Geelong Foundation", a registered charity with tax deductible status which for nine years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors of church-related sexual abuse.

If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to "Lifeboat", please contact : Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360, frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or Adam Kaali (0411 486 605, or adam-kaali@hotmail.com).

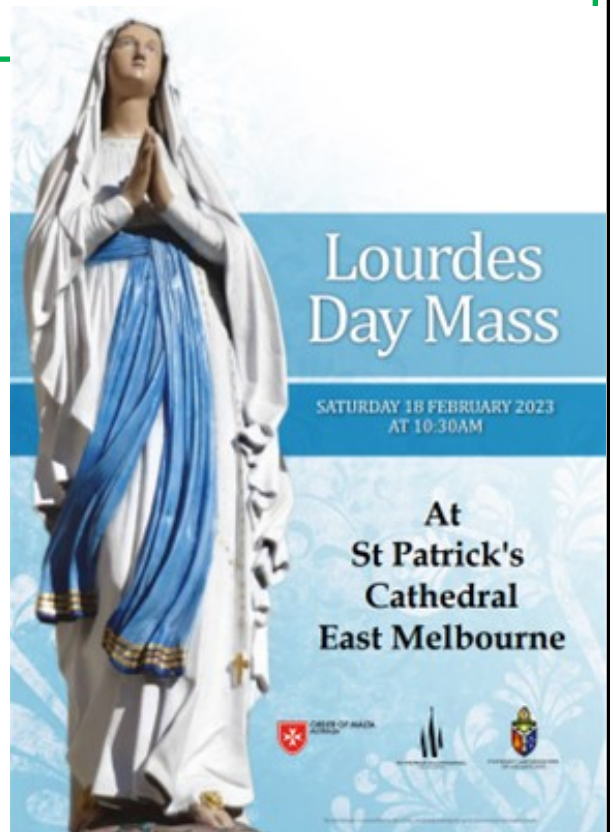
Parish Social Function

Fashion Parade

Parish Community Centre
Tuesday February 7 at 2.00pm

U and I Fashions: a well known brand both in Victoria and the Gold Coast (and daughters of Lois Bracken) will present classic, classy and casual clothing.

Phone Lois to book before February 1st
9787 –2970 (after 5.00pm is best)



would be theme later taken up by the Second Vatican Council. The experience of working at Vatican II as a theological advisor would stay with Benedict throughout his life. In time, Benedict developed an understanding of the teachings of VII through a “hermeneutic of continuity” – the idea that the Church’s teachings do not abruptly change, but organically grow and mature by remaining faithful to what Christ has handed on to us through the centuries. His longest appointment was to the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith from 1981 until his election as Pope in 2005. His resignation in 2013 came a shock to many. During his retirement, Benedict spent his time in prayer, reading, writing and playing the piano. He passed away on December 31st, 2022.

A few days later on the 10th of January this year, Cardinal George Pell passed away in Rome following complications from hip surgery, aged 81. Cardinal Pell grew up in Ballarat and attended St Patrick’s college. In 1960 he joined Corpus Christi College Werribee and began studies for the Priesthood. In 1963 he continued his studies in Rome where he was ordained in 1966. In 1971 the Fr Pell was appointed to work amongst the farming community in the Parish of Swan Hill – a time he would later remember with great fondness. His commitment to improving education was marked by his appointment as Vicar of Education in 1973. During his lifetime he was instrumental in establishing three higher learning bodies: Australia Catholic University; the University of Notre Dame and Campion College in Sydney. From 1987 to 1996 George Pell was the bishop for the southern region of Melbourne which included St Thomas More Parish. Parishioners remember his visits to the school and parish in connection with the Sacrament of Confirmation, his support of local clergy and his strong interest in walking with the faithful, helping them grow in faith through dialogue, catechesis and formation. From 1997 until 2003 he was Archbishop of Melbourne. During this time he oversaw the redesign of the cathedral precinct, moving the regional seminary to Carlton and the renewal of RE textbooks. From 2003 until 2012 he was Archbishop of Sydney, hosting 300,000 international pilgrims and the Pope at World Youth Day. In 2012 Pope Francis appointed His Eminence as prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy, where he was tasked with modernising and scrutinising the administration of the Church’s temporal goods. Between 2017 and 2020 Pell returned to Australia where he appeared at the Supreme Court to defend charges of sexual misconduct. After 404 days in jail Pell’s convictions were overturned by the High Court, with the seven justices unanimously ruling that the evidence did not support a conviction. From 2020 Pell spent most of his time in Rome where he continued to work at the Vatican until his passing last month. Cardinal Pell’s funerals were celebrated in Rome and Sydney, with a memorial service celebrated at St Patrick’s Cathedral last Friday night.

In 2022 we farewelled Bishop Hilton Deakin, former Parish Priest of St Thomas More and Bishop in Melbourne. Through a number of entries in Seasons at his memorial service and the gathering afterwards our community acknowledged his incredible contribution to the Church and Society. Whenever we consider someone’s life, we remember the Catholic Church is made up of incredible diversity of cultures, peoples, gifts and temperaments, each person contributing to the body of Christ in a unique way. As St Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians “The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!". Each of us has a part to play and in some mysterious way our different contributions complete the body. I am very grateful for the great contribution of many great people who have inspired me in my faith journey. Cardinal Pell established Corpus Christi College Carlton as a modern seminary centred on prayer, learning, pastoral outreach and fraternity, something I appreciated during my seven years there. Pope Benedict inspired me with his brilliant mind and his willingness to engage with serious issues thinking of both head and heart- faith and reason- his book “Jesus of Nazareth” is a great resource I draw upon for my preaching and reflection. As we begin this new year we give thanks for the positive contributions of those who have gone before us and we ask for God to bless the Church with great leaders and great followers of Jesus Christ. (Above photo taken at World Youth Day Sydney, 2008)



Entrance Antiphon

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

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 **Isaiah 58:7-10**

Then will your light shine like the dawn.

Responsorial Psalm:

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second reading **I Corinthians 2:1-5**

The only knowledge I claimed was of the crucified
Christ.

Gospel Acclamation **John 8:12**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man
who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 5:13-16**

Your light must shine in the sight of men.

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

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
His wonders for the children of men,
**for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.**



Next Sunday's Readings for Mass during the day.

12th February - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15: 16-21
2nd Reading: I Corinthians 2: 6-10
Gospel: Matthew 5: 17-37