



SEASONS

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

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

July 16th 2023

DIARY

SVdP Meeting

Monday 17th July 9.30am

WYD Fundraising dinner

Sunday 23 July 6.00pm

**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 17th July

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:

Growing Rich in Grace

"To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand." Matthew 13:12-13



How is it that someone can look without seeing or hear without listening or understanding? This is only possible when one's eyes and ears are working properly, but the mind is distracted, not attentive to what is seen or heard. For example, say you were listening to a book being read and suddenly you realized that even though you heard what was read, your mind was elsewhere and you had no idea what was spoken. This is a common experience for everyone from time to time.

This portion of the Gospel quoted above comes immediately after Jesus spoke the Parable of the Sower to the crowds from a boat. In that parable, seed fell on the path, on rocky ground, among thorns and in rich soil. Only the seed on the rich soil grew and produced good fruit. Therefore, Jesus' teaching quoted above, as well as His parable spoken before it, teach that there were many who heard the Word of God and witnessed Jesus' miracles but failed to allow His teachings and miracles to produce faith in their hearts.

This Gospel passage is especially important for those who have been Catholics for many years but have become stagnant in their faith. When someone goes to Mass every week, listens to the Gospel and shares in the Eucharist but fails to continually grow in holiness and understanding of the Mysteries of Heaven, then they will slowly lose even the little faith they have. They will become lukewarm Catholics who go through the motions but fail to produce the good fruit that comes from authentic faith.

When you look back at your life as a practicing Catholic, what do you see from year to year? Was there a time when you were strong in faith but have slowly closed your ears to the Gospel and have drifted away from a deep and prayerful interior engagement with our Lord? Or when you look back do you see that the Lord has continuously given you more and more, leading you to a life of true spiritual riches? Has the Gospel entered not only your ears, but also your mind and your understanding? Do you both see and perceive the action of God in your life and in the world around you? Are you actively engaged with the life of grace and find that you grow closer to God every day? Or, sadly, have you lost interest and zeal and now find yourself slowly drifting away from the fruitful practice of your faith?

Reflect, today, upon these important questions and strive to answer them honestly. If you do not see yourself growing in faith every year and becoming truly rich in the grace of God, then know that something needs to change. Stagnation and lukewarmness in the faith are not good. They lead to the slow loss of everything. As you reflect upon your own faith journey, recommit yourself to a zealous embrace of the Gospel so that your soul will be truly rich soil that continually produces an abundance of good fruit.

Lord, You desire that all people hear Your Word and see Your action in their lives. Please continue to pour forth Your grace into my life so that I will continually grow rich in Your mercy. I pray that my eyes and ears will be open to You more fully every day. Jesus, I trust in You.

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

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



Rosemaree Fulton, George Mitchell, Patrick Ryan, Audrey Wearne,
Geoff Hook, Anne Harland

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, 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.

Change to Tuesday Mass time.

From Tuesday 18th July...

Mass will be at 5:30pm.

Adoration and confession will be from 6-7pm

Safeguarding Committee

For information: Julie Carter 0420 923 859



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, we consider the safety and wellbeing of all persons to be our highest priority.

We too acknowledge that children, young people and adults at risk may require additional safeguards to promote their participation, wellbeing and safety.

We respect the human dignity of each person and strive to create an inclusive and welcoming Church that enables its people to grow and develop in their faith freely and in a caring and supportive environment.

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 4th August.

(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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Feast Day: July 16

"Whosoever dies wearing this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire!"

Our Lady to St Simon Stock July 16 1251



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

Monday the 17th July in the Parish Community Centre at 9.30am.

Thank you

Marilyn Moloney



WYD – Auction at Fundraising dinner



Men's and Women's sunglasses
RRP \$398

This night will be a lot of fun!
Some wonderful prizes have been
donated. Here is a sample...

Plumbing Service
**Rewashing of taps to the
value of \$500**



Penfolds Father Grand Tawny gift set

We give sincere thanks to the generous donors.

World Youth Day Fundraising Dinner -Sunday 23rd July at 6pm

Parishioners are invited to 1001 Nights restaurant in Mount Eliza for a fun night to help support Charles and Matthew Sayah on their pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Portugal later this month. The World Youth Days were initiated by Pope John Paul II in 1985 in Rome. Pope JP II based these days on the "light-life" model in Poland, where young Catholics would come together in summer camps, volunteer in the community and celebrate their faith together. World Youth Day is actually a whole week, which invites young people aged 16-35 this year to join Pope Francis in Lisbon to pray together, deepen their personal faith through small groups and attend catechesis offered by bishops and speakers from around the world. Our two pilgrims will land in Fatima where they will spend time at the shrine to Our Lady and meeting members of the local Catholic community before travelling to nearby Lisbon. Here, the nearly 600 young pilgrims from Melbourne will be joining an estimated 2-3 million pilgrims in the final week from Portugal, Europe and beyond.

I remember for myself as a 16 year old travelling to my first World Youth Day, this was a defining moment in my life. Until then, my experience of faith was the Sunday Mass at our local Parish—and I was the only teenager at Mass most weeks! Being at the closing Mass with the Pope and millions of other young people was deeply encouraging and a moving celebration which reminded me that I am part of a vibrant, faith filled universal church. It laid the foundations for my vocation as a Priest and the deep friendships made while on pilgrimage would continue over the following two decades.

For Matthew and Charles, we have a target to raise \$2000 each or \$4000 total to cover their remaining costs (\$12,000). The Fundraising Dinner registration includes a glass of wine, beer or soft drink with a shared middle eastern style entrée, main course and desert for \$70 per person. Included in the fee is a \$20 fundraising contribution per person. Further beverages including tea or coffee can be purchased from the restaurant on the night. Registrations can be made on the clipboards after Mass this weekend, or via our trybooking site: <https://www.trybooking.com/CJTRS>

We are delighted that John Canavan is able to join us. John has worked as a comedian and is an accomplished host who will entertain and MC the evening's raffle and auction. If any parishioner has goods or services to be offered for the auction, please contact the Parish Office. This experience is not intended just for these two pilgrims. When Matthew and Charles return to us, their encounter with the Lord in the Church will be a blessing for our whole Parish and our community. If you would like to make a contribution to their trip, you may do so by leaving an envelope in the collection, or donating via the following link, indicating "WYD" in the comments:



<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=70>

Entrance Antiphon

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

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 55:10-11**

The word that goes out from my mouth does not
return to me empty.

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 64:10-14**

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a
fruitful harvest.

Second reading **Romans 8:18-23**

The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to
reveal his sons.

Gospel Acclamation **Matthew 11:25**

Alleluia, alleluia!
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 13:1-23**

A sower went out to sow.

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 sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my
God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever
singing your praise.

Next Sunday's Readings:

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19
2nd Reading: Romans 8: 26-27
Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43