



SEASONS

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

5th Sunday of Lent -Year A

26th March 2023

Youth Alpha

Tuesday 28th March 5.00pm

Confirmation Information

Evening

Wednesday 29th 7.00pm

Altar Society Meeting

Thursday 30th March 10.30am

STM School Mass

Friday 31st March 2.30pm

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday at 3.30pm

PPLT Meeting

Friday 7.30pm

Dear Friends,

In the last few days we have been privileged to celebrate three major feast days. The solemnity of St Patrick on the 17th of March bears witness to deep faith of the men and women who were foundational for the Melbourne Church. The waves of Catholics arriving from Ireland made a tremendous contribution to our Church. Archbishop Mannix who arrived from Maynooth Seminary in 1913 was instrumental in establishing a Church in Melbourne that had strong parishes, a local seminary and was focussed on education and supporting the family.



On the 19th of March we celebrated St Joseph's Feast Day. St Joseph was given the tremendous responsibility, together with Mary, of raising God's son of teaching him the traditions of faith, the building relationships within the extended family, the importance of work and supporting the family. St Joseph's example of humble simplicity is a great encouragement to all of us – especially Dad's whose vocation is to help their young ones grow to maturity. On Monday we celebrated Mass with his statue in pride of place near the front of the Church.

On Saturday, 25th of March we celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation. This feast, nine months before the birth of Jesus, is first of all, a joyful reminder of the sanctity of human life in all its stages of development. Jesus, co-creator of the universe began his life totally reliant on his creation, namely his mother Mary. Mary reminds us that God in some mysterious way relies on us to co-operate with him in bringing his kingdom of peace, justice and life to reality in the world. Mary's "yes" of faith would grow within her, ultimately bearing the fruit of new life.

In the midst of the prayer, fasting and generosity that lent inspires, the Church proposes these feasts as part of our journey of consolation and desolation, the ups and downs that lead us ultimately to the mountain of Calvary where Jesus gives his life to us. May each of us continue to make use of this great season to grow in our appreciation of the faith witnessed by the saints – especially Mary, Joseph and St Patrick

Fr Patrick

**311 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

See your happy team on the Notice Board!

Church Services from 27th March

Tuesday Adoration 6.00pm

Tuesday Mass 7.00pm

Wednesday* Mass 10.00am

Thursday* Mass 10.00am

Friday Exposition 9.00am

Friday Mass 10.00am

Saturday Mass 10.00am

for the Unborn

*Rosary before Mass

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Sunday (Filipino Mass) 4.00pm

Reconciliation

Tuesday 6.30pm –7.00pm

Friday 9.30am –10.00am

Saturday 4.30pm –5.00pm

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

Those who have passed away recently...

Gregory Nelson, Denis Prowse, Russell Hannan

Kevin Harrison: Funeral 29th March 1.30pm



Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..

Gwen Murtagh, Geoff Wines, Kate Gloury, Jack Hooker, Betty Sullivan, Mary Russell, Bartolo Vino, Nancy Flume, Bill Hunt, Adolf Wigger, Patricia Lawton, Janet Lindner, Melinda Flahive, Nancy Smith-Johnston

The sick... Maureen Mirabella, 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, Julian Collins, Sue Emerton, Jimmy and Gary Lakeman, Anneliese Rose, Charlie Ebsworth, Noel Anstey, Mary Doherty, Barbara Hunt, Annette O'Brian and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre and the parishioners of St Thomas More Parish, Tequiomata, East Timor, St Therese Parish, Bathurst Island and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Alice Springs.

The Parish Welfare officers for March are Jim and Betty Bourke 0429 011 082

Meet the PPLT – Wine and Cheese night

On Sunday 2nd of April at 7pm parishioners are warmly invited to join the Parish Pastoral Leadership Team for a social evening at the Parish Community Centre. Refreshments will be provided.

The evening will provide an opportunity to get to know the six members of the Parish Council, to hear about the progress we have made since being formed last April, and how we are working together listening to God's spirit to build up the Parish in the future. Our areas of focus are building community, and the celebration of the Sacraments. There will be an opportunity to share your thoughts and questions with our team.

Kindly RSVP for catering purposes on the sheets at Mass over the coming two weekends, and on behalf of the PPLT I look forward to seeing you there. Fr Patrick

Parish Social Function for April

**“Join us valued friends, in Westernport;
Gateway to the West”**

**Tosceno Italian –Kitchen & Wine Bar
126 Marine Pde, Hastings**

Friday 21st April at 12.30

RSVP to Hone 0439 378 072 by 17th April

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 7 April (Good Friday evening).

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

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.



Please join us when you can.
Stations of the Cross
3.30pm
Every Friday during Lent



World Youth Day

Over the last several weeks the Parish has been advertising World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. World Youth Day is a major bi or tri annual festival which brings together youth from around the world to be formed in their faith, to hear from the wisdom and guidance of Pope Francis, to celebrate the sacraments, to meet other young people from around the world and to build relationships with other young Catholics from Melbourne.

Melbourne will be taking 585 young people aged 16-35 from parishes and schools to participate in this exciting opportunity.

Here at St Thomas More we have been advertising World Youth Day since January, and are pleased to announce two pilgrims from our Parish who will be attending – Matthew and Charles Sayah.

I have separately been invited by Archbishop Peter to attend as one of the supporting chaplains to the Melbourne group. Matthew and Charles are looking forward to attending, and I am hopeful that the Parish will be able to support them prayerfully and financially.

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Hi I'm Matthew. I'm a young Catholic and a regular Mass goer at St Thomas More's parish. When I first heard about World Youth Day I thought "WOW...how amazing would that be, to be with millions of young Catholics from all around the world."

I'm very excited about World Youth Day and hope to experience the Universal Church as well as form authentic friendships with other Catholics from around the world.

Thank you for supporting us.

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Hello, my name is Charlie Sayah, I'm a parishioner at St Thomas More who enjoys the gym, swimming and nature.

I love coming together at St Thomas More Parish as the experience of prayer and union we share here invigorates me to try and live as Jesus does in my own life. I'm very excited to attend World Youth Day later this year and I am looking forward to experiencing the universal Church with the millions of others attending.

I hope that I will bring some of this enthusiasm back to St Thomas More where I can share God's love with all I meet.

Palm Sunday is approaching!

If you have any palms that we could use for this special occasion would you please let us know at the parish office.

Many thanks!!

BISHOP ROBERT RABBAT'S SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

PLEASE DONATE NOW
 The recent Syrian earthquake has hit people who were already displaced in a region that has been devastated by more than a decade of civil war. Yet again, we are seeing people fleeing and desperate for shelter in freezing winter conditions. We want to help provide that light in the deepest darkness, to get through this devastating disaster.

MCF DGR ACCOUNT
 Ref: Syrian Appeal
 BSB: 062784
 Account: 100011493

Melkite iCare
Melkite
 Charitable Foundation

All donations are Tax Deductible.
 For a receipt please email mcf@melkite.org.au or contact on (02) 9750 5514

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.

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause
against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for
you, O God, are my strength.

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 37:12-14**

I shall put my Spirit in you, and you will live.

Responsorial Psalm:

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of
redemption.

Second reading **Romans 8:8-11**

The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead
is living in you.

Gospel Acclamation **John 11:25.26**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die forever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel **John 11:1-45**

I am the resurrection and the life.

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

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die
for ever, says the Lord.

Next Sunday's Readings for Mass during
the day.



2nd April - Palm Sunday

Gospel: Matthew 21: 1-11
1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7
2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11