



SEASONS

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

September 3rd 2023

Diary

Filipino Mass

Sunday 3rd Sept 4.00pm

Catechism Classes

Tuesday 5th Sept 4.30pm in CC

**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 4th Sept

Tuesday Mass CANCELLED

Wednesday Mass CANCELLED

Thursday Funeral Mass @ 1pm
for John Spirason

Friday Funeral Mass @ 12pm for
Pasqualino Micari

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil

5.00pm

Sunday

8.00am

Sunday

10.00am

St Thomas More acknowledges the Bunorong 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

On Friday we celebrated a Mass with the St Thomas More School and Parish community marking Fathers Day, which falls this year this Sunday the third of September. Our Mass included prayers and songs led by the children, and a moving reflection on the privilege of being a father of five children.



The Patron Saint of Fathers is Saint Joseph, who had the privilege of rearing and guiding God's only son, Jesus Christ. St Joseph was an ordinary man who responded with faith and courage to the extraordinary call of God. St Joseph understood that human life is a beautiful and precious gift, worthy of protection. His statue in our Church depicts a gentle and caring man who holds the sleeping baby Jesus in his arms. Joseph had to overcome incredible obstacles—the attempted murder of Jesus; relocation to Egypt, returning to Nazareth and support Jesus and Mary through his work as a carpenter.

Perhaps St Joseph's most important responsibility was to model to Jesus in a very human way what being a "good" father is like. Under the care of St Joseph and Mary, Jesus "grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God in man". Joseph modelled in a very practical and human way what it means to be a father grounded in justice and virtue. As a leader of the household in the Jewish tradition, Joseph would have taught Jesus how to pray and help him to participate in the great festivals and religious rites.

When Jesus began his public ministry, one of the significant insights he reveals is his relationship with his own father, God. Jesus cannot do his work of salvation without total reliance on his "abba" - father.

While Jesus was on the cross we see him identifying with all those who have experienced broken relationships with their dads. In those times of suffering, loss and pain Jesus asks with us: "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" This moment reveals the burden that Jesus felt of being separated from his dad while on the cross. Jesus' mission was ultimately to restore our relationship with the father, and to show us how to connect to God in prayer, through the Eucharist inaugurated at the last supper, and through family relationships. On this Fathers Day we turn to St Joseph who in his quiet and determined way, allowed Jesus to reveal us who God really is— a loving father.

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

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



Timothy Bruitzman, Nancy Wraight, Fiona Lindner, Reginald Leydin, Norma Jackson,
Jim Hunter, Mary Sheila Butler

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 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.

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.

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



World Youth Day 2023

Our two young pilgrims, Matthew and Charles Sayah have returned from their pilgrimage at World Youth Day. They have described the experience of being with Pope Francis and 1.5 million other young Catholics as life changing.

Thankyou again to St Thomas More Parishioners who supported their journey. They will speak briefly after the Masses in the coming weeks to share more about their experiences.



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

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From Margaret Jamieson

I would sincerely like to thank Fr Patrick for his special blessing last Sunday; it was a lovely surprise, and all involved in providing and attending the morning tea. I really appreciate your kindness and friendship.



Special Collection: Priests’ Retirement Foundation

Today’s collection is for the Priests Retirement Foundation who care for our Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Please donate using the envelopes on the pews or electronically by logging on to: www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation and make your donation through Paypal.

Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Priests.

Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

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 **Jeremiah 20:7-9**

The word of the Lord has meant insult for me.

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 62**

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second reading **Romans 12:1-2**

Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Gospel Acclamation **Ephesians 1:17.18**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Matthew 16: 21-27**

“Get behind me, Satan!”

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

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Next Sunday's Readings:
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



1st Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9
2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-10
Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20