

SEASONS

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

Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

June 9th 2024



Dear Friends,



Last weekend we celebrated the feast of Corpus Christi and we also remembered our patron Saint, Thomas More. I am very grateful to the generous teams who prepared for the celebrations—especially our hospitality teams, and our skilled musicians. After Mass around 40 parishioners joined together in Undercroft. On arrival we heard music being played on the recorder and viola da gamba from the time of Thomas More—including a piece written by Henry VIII. We heard a little more about the life of St Thomas—his family life, his routines, his deep commitment to prayer, penance and duty. We discovered his sense of humour—even to the very end of his life. The food had a medieval theme—relying heavily on spices like cloves, cinnamon and saffron. After covering all our costs the luncheon raised \$380; thankyou to those who supported this event.

On Friday, 7th of June we celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This feast dates back to the 17th century, in a time where many people were afflicted with scruples and Jansenism (the fear that small faults will lead to condemnation). During this time Blessed Margaret Mary Alacoque invited the Church to return to the heart of Jesus, a heart that is full of mercy, love and forgiveness. In the presence of Jesus heart we learn that our faults and failings can be given over to our saviour, and this surrender brings a deep peace to our lives Today some of these problems still exist, but many other things have changed. In a world dominated by science, materialism (the idea that only things we can see are real), increasing tensions and divisions within society, more cases of anxiety and depression, there is more need that ever to return to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. His heart does not have any walls—Jesus whole life is open and shared with us. His heart does not condemn, but welcomes each one of us to spend time with him and listen to his voice, to receive forgiveness and mercy. As we now resume ordinary

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Mount Eliza Vic. 3930
Phone: 9787 7777**

Email: MountEliza@cam.org.au
Website: <http://pol.org.au/mounteliza>

Office Days:
Wednesdays 1pm to 4pm

At the moment the office is running on reduced hours. Email is the preferred means of communication. Emails, voicemails and letters are being checked and responded to twice per week

Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr Patrick Bradford, Ruth Hilton, Joe Sayah, Emma Chapple, Sandra Taylor, Kathy Raccanello

Pastoral Finance Committee

Joe Sayah, Jim Bourke, Joan Bekery-Coleman

Church Services from June 10th

Monday Rosary 12pm

Tuesday Rosary 12pm

Wednesday Rosary 12pm

Thursday Rosary 12pm

Friday* No Mass/ Rosary

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Reconciliation

Saturday 4.30pm — 5.00pm

While Fr Patrick is away there is a limited Mass schedule at St Thomas More. Further details on alternative services are on page 3

First Friday / Saturday/ Sunday of each month : First Friday / Saturday currently suspended while Fr Patrick is away.

Sunday 2nd July Filipino Mass @ 4.00 pm

We pray for: **Those who have passed away recently:** Gianna Santarosa
Those whose anniversaries fall at this time:
 Ian Dash, Margaret Greaves, Nance Awburn, Maria De Jong, Dragana Bedenikovic, George Awburn, Roger Pearson, John Herbert, Frances Taylor, Tony Collins, Harold Redfern

The sick... Nicole Buchanan Dawn Daff, John Wareham, Maggie Campbell, Carmel Gowans, Sr Elizabeth Brown-Russell, John Miller, Fiona Leyden, Annette O'Brien, Maree Bracken.

Names of the sick will be published for one month, unless otherwise requested. If you would like a Mass to be offered a loved one's intentions, envelopes are available at the back of the church



Padua College School Advisory Council Representative

Padua College School Advisory Council is the governing board which meets once per month to provide advice and support to the Principal, Kelly McGurn in her leadership of several hundred staff and three thousand students across three campuses. The school constitution has been written to include representation from each parish which owns Padua College and to represent the clergy who collectively are responsible for supporting the Catholic mission at the college. Preferably, the parish representative is someone actively committed to their faith, with a knowledge of education and is able to contribute to the Catholic mission of the School. There is currently a vacancy on the board for a St Thomas More Parish representative. The term is for two years, the board meets once per month. The person need not have a child at Padua college. If anyone is interested in this, please contact me directly by email: Patrick.bradford@cam.org.au



Faith Formation for Adults each Thursday night from July 25th in Parish Community Centre

We have some people within our community who are interested in becoming a Catholic or who want to explore their faith. Following the successful launch of the Alpha Programme which focused more on personal faith, the Holy Spirit and prayer, we are now launching the formal catechetical part of our instruction for adults. We are further inviting anyone to join us for regular meetings where we will learn about the Catholic Faith, answer questions and enter into the mysteries, history and beauty of the Church's life and teachings. Over the next few months, Fr Patrick will present 14 classes on various topics. If you or someone you know would like to become Catholic the classes each week will help prepare you to receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. These will be celebrated on November 24th. If you are interested in this please email me directly: Patrick.bradford@cam.org.au. However, anyone is able to join any of the classes if you are curious of would like to know more about the faith. Details below:

Faith Formation Classes 7pm—8.15pm

- | Date | Topic |
|-------------------------|---|
| 25/7/24 | Faith and God in the world |
| 1/8/24 | The Church |
| 8/8/24 | Scripture |
| 15/8/24 | God's family- Father, Son, Holy Spirit |
| BREAK | |
| 29/8/24 | Prayer: why and how to pray |
| 5/9/24 | Intro to Sacraments: Baptism & Confirmation |
| 12/9/24 | Eucharist & the Mass |
| 19/9/24 | Confession & Anointing |
| BREAK - SCHOOL HOLIDAYS | |
| BREAK - SCHOOL HOLIDAYS | |
| 10/10/24 | Marriage & holy orders |
| 17/10/24 | 10 Commandments "worship God alone" |
| 24/10/24 | 10 commandments "love one another" |
| 31/10/24 | 10 commandments "relationships" |
| 7/11/24 | 10 commandments "speaking truth and using |
| 14/11/24 | Saints and Mary |
| 21/11/24 | World without end |

Changes to Mass times and Parish Office

Fr Patrick will be away from next week for a conference, annual retreat and holidays. During this time there will be weekday Mass only on Fridays (except this Friday, 14th June). There will be **no change** to Mass times on the weekends as four different priests will be visiting to offer Mass and hear confessions on Saturday night. The Parish Office will be generally closed to the public but will be attended twice a week to respond to messages, emails and phone calls and for regular counting teams. Email is the preferred means of contact during this time for non urgent or routine matters. If you need a priest urgently, please contact either St McCartans' in Mornington on 59752200 or St Francis Xavier, Frankston 97833484. Weekday Masses are available at Mornington Tuesday—Friday at 9.15am. While there are no Masses being scheduled, there will be the opportunity to come to the Church for personal prayer and to recite the rosary at 12pm, midday, Monday—Thursday. All are very welcome.

Children are to be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times.

time, the last of the great feasts have been celebrated. May we enter into this time staying close to Jesus as he teaches, preaches, heals and brings about the kingdom of God in the world.

Sacramental Preparation for First Eucharist and First Holy Communion

Applications are being received for families who would like their baptised children (aged 7-13) to receive the Sacraments of either Reconciliation or First Holy Communion (or both)

The programme is an important step on their faith journey which is fun, engaging and educational. It begins with an information evening on Thursday, 18th of July at the Parish Community Centre at 7pm. Classes for both Sacraments will be scheduled on Tuesdays 5:30pm until 7pm from July—November. Please email the Parish Office if you would like more information or to register attendance please contact our catechist, Faye Sayah fayesayah@hotmail.com

Thank you for supporting our parish

Presbytery Account: Supports our Parish Priest, other priests of the Archdiocese, sick and retired clergy and the Archbishop

Church Account: Covers regular parish expenses including loan repayments insurance, rates, utilities, staff, repairs / maintenance, cleaning and groundskeeping. **Payment terminal in the Foyer of the Church supports this account**

You can also support the Parish by electronic transfer into our NAB Bank Account for both accounts: **BSB 083-347**

Church Account no. 638 078 704

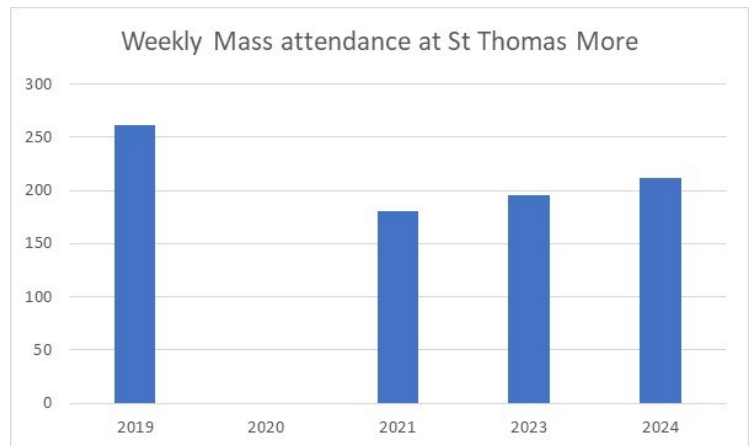
Presbytery Account no 637 953 335

Mass Count Results

During the month of May the Archdiocese asks parishes to collect information on how many people attend each Mass. The 2024 figures are as follows:

May 2024	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Average
5pm Mass	42	52	67	68	57
8am Mass	47	37	42	23	37
10am Mass	122	92	113	93	105
Filipino Mass	45				45
Total	256	181	222	184	211

The census shows that the 10am Mass is the busiest, followed by the 5pm then 8am. I know parishioners appreciate the accompanied music at 10am Masses, as well as the chance to have tea/coffee afterwards. Once per month we have introduced music at the 5pm Mass and the Parish are continuing to look at ways to gather parishioners at all of our Masses, offer prayerful and uplifting liturgies while also working within our financial and volunteering constraints. Encouragingly, the recovery in Mass attendance following COVID continues to improve (see below). The average drop in Mass attendance around Melbourne since COVID is 25-30%, so there is still some work to be done in welcoming back parishioners to Mass. The Parish Census last year revealed that many families do not always attend the same parish or the same Mass. The PPLT will discuss these results at our next meeting, with particular focus on how to continue to rebuild the parish and strengthen our community. For a parish that wants to build community and faith, this presents challenges which the PPLT will explore in the coming months.



Thanksgiving envelopes and contributions

We are very grateful for the financial support offered by the 124 families who are registered givers at the parish. For those who contribute by envelope, new envelopes dated from July are now available in the foyer of the Church, sorted alphabetically by last name. After EOFY June 30, in July, the parish will send out giving statements for those who contribute either electronically or by envelopes. This will contain a report detailing how your support is spent on providing for the the parish’s mission and outreach. Thanks again for your generosity and offering of time, treasure and talent. Fr PB



Entrance Antiphon**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 Genesis 3:9-15

I was afraid because I was naked, and I hid

Responsorial Psalm 129

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of
redemption

Second reading 2 Cor: 4:13-5:1

We are being trained to carry the weight of
eternal glory

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Princes of this world will now be cast out, and
when I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all
to myself, says the Lord, Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 3:20-35

A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand

Nicean Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only
Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all
ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial
with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down
from heaven,

*(At the words that follow up to and including and
became man, all bow)*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin
Mary, and became man. For our sake he was
crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death
and was buried, and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into
heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead and his kingdom will have no
end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I
believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The mystery of faith

When we eat this bread and drink this cup we
proclaim your death O Lord, until you come again

Communion Antiphon

the Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my saving strength.

Next Sunday's Readings:**Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Eze 17:22-24

2nd Reading: 2 Co 5:6-10

Gospel: Mk 4:26-34