

SEASONS

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

Nineteenth Sundays of Ordinary Time, Year B

August 11th 2024

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

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

Office Days:
Wednesdays and Fridays 10:30am to 4:30pm

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 11.8.24

Sundays

Saturday Vigil Mass 5.00pm
Sunday Mass 8.00am
Sunday Mass 10.00am

Tuesday Mass 5:30pm

Wednesday Mass 10:00am

Thursday Mass 10:00am

Friday* Mass 10.00am

*Rosary prayed before this Mass.

Reconciliation times

Tuesday 6.00pm — 6.30pm
Friday 9.30am — 10.00am
Saturday 4.30pm — 5.00pm

Adoration

Tuesday 6:00pm -7:00pm

Thursday 9:00am - 10:am

New opening times:

The Church will now be open during officed hours, from 9am until 4.30pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. All are very welcome to drop in for quiet prayer.

Dear friends, on Thursday we celebrated the feast of St Mary Mackillop—Australia’s patron saint and our first declared saint. Below is a biography of her incredible life.

Saint Mary MacKillop were alive today, she would be a household name. It’s not that she sought the limelight. On the contrary, she simply wanted to serve the poor wherever she found them in her native Australia. Born in Melbourne in 1842, to parents who had emigrated from Scotland, Mary grew up in a family that faced constant financial struggles. As a young woman she was drawn to religious life but could not find an existing order of Sisters that met her needs. In 1860, she met Father Julian Woods, who became her spiritual director. Together they founded a new community of women—the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, also known as the Josephite Sisters. Its members were to staff schools especially for poor children, as well as orphanages, and do other works of charity. Father Julian Tennyson Woods, concerned about the lack of Catholic education in South Australia, invited MacKillop and her sisters to open a Catholic school in Penola. Together, they successfully opened the school in a stable. Woods was appointed director of education and he and MacKillop were named founders of the school. Following renovations completed by their brother, the MacKillops started teaching more than 50 children. At this time, MacKillop formally declared her dedication to God and began wearing black.

In November 1866, Mary MacKillop and her sisters were joined by several other women. MacKillop, who now took on the religious name "Sister Mary of the Cross," began wearing simple religious habits. The group of women began calling themselves the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart and moved to a new house in Adelaide.

By the end of 1867, ten more women joined the Josephites. Due to their plain brown habits and name, the Josephite nuns became informally known as the "Brown Joeys." In December 1869, MacKillop and several other nuns travelled to Brisbane to establish their order in Queensland. Two years later, MacKillop travelled to Port Augusta, South Australia for the same purpose. The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart expanded rapidly and, by 1871, 130 sisters were working in more than 40 schools and charitable institutions across South Australia and Queensland. In 1873, Mary MacKillop sought papal approval for the religious congregation. Pope Pius IX encouraged her with the congregation. The authorities in Rome did make changes to the way Josephites lived in poverty and declared the Superior General and her council were the authorities in charge of the order. MacKillop was assured the congregation and their rule of life would receive final approval after a trial period. The Josephites began expanding their operations into New South Wales and New Zealand, but in 1883, MacKillop relocated to Sydney on the instruction of Bishop Reynolds of Adelaide. Mary insisted that her congregation should be governed by an elected mother general answerable to Rome, not to the local bishop. There also were disputes about whether or not the congregation could own property. In the end, Rome proved to be Mary’s best source of support. After a long wait official approval of the congregation—and how it was to be governed—came from Pope Leo XIII. By the time Mary was approaching the end of her life, the congregation was thriving. She died in 1909 at the age of 67. Pope John Paul II beatified her in 1995. In 2010, when Pope Benedict XVI canonized her, she became Australia’s first saint. Her liturgical feast is celebrated on August 8. In 1925, the Mother Superior of the Sisters of St Joseph, Mother Laurence, began the process to have MacKillop declared a saint. MacKillop's "heroic virtue" was declared in 1992.

We pray for:


Those who have passed away recently: Robin McKenzie

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Maria Lindner, Dan Dee, Anne Green, Terry Meehan, Tom Cookesley, Les harper, Christine Jager, Desmonia Thomas, Simon Ryan, Andrew Pinnuck, George Frederick Alsop, Agostino Postregna

The sick... Barbara Hunt, Charlie Ebsworth, Nicole Buchanan Dawn Daff, 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.



Faith Formation for Adults each Thursday night from July 25th in Parish Community Centre 7pm - 8:15pm.

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 warmly 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:

Date	Topic
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	
10/10/24	Marriage & Holy Orders
17/10/24	Catholic Social Teaching
24/10/24	10 Commandments 1-4—Love of God
31/10/24	10 Commandments 5-10 Love of neighbour pt 1
7/11/24	10 Commandments 5-10 Love of neighbour pt 2
14/11/24	The Saints and Mary
21/11/24	World without end

Day of prayer for peace

In the world and in our hearts

On the anniversary of the Feast of Our Lady of Victories, the St Thomas More community will gather on Monday, 7th October for a day of prayer, recollection, meditation and fellowship. This date will mark the first anniversary of the recent tensions that erupted in Israel last year, and have continued until now. The day will run from 9am until 4pm and there will be opportunity for Mass, adoration, reconciliation, the Rosary, divine mercy chaplet as well as time for fellowship and reflection.

Save the date: October 7th





2024 Archbishop's Campaign: supporting the future of our faith community

ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN

This weekend marks the launch of the 2024 Archbishop's Campaign across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The focus of this year's campaign honours the priests who have faithfully served our community of faith in the past and invites us to invest in those preparing to serve the community of faith in the future. This new annual campaign is more than just a fundraising effort; it's a chance for us to show our gratitude and to support the next generation of priests who will continue this vital and sacred ministry.

Information regarding the Archbishop's Campaign including details on how you may contribute and gifting envelopes are available in the foyer.

Summary of PPL Meeting May 26th 2024

The Parish Dedication and St Thomas More Feast Day Event- to be held Sunday 2nd June. After the 10 am Mass, and will be followed by lunch in the Undercroft with medieval music. This is a ticketed event and those wishing to attend can contact the Parish Office for details

School and Parish Activities for Celebrating The Feast of St Thomas More.

Fr Patrick liaised with Martine (School Principal) to initiate the distribution of 'Please pray for me'

cards for the Confirmation Candidates and potentially, other activities, to be discussed with school staff.

Parish Secretary Position- A new secretary will commence in mid July. In the meantime, Lynn Chen attends to essential admin. tasks on Wednesdays

Discussion about the operation of the overhead projector- Volunteers could be sought for this role for parish Masses (following the volunteer drive). Until we can reliably staff the projector at all masses, printed hymn sheets will continue to be provided.

Cabrini Movie Night- Friday, May 31st 7:00-9:30 pm

A free-of-charge movie night is held on Friday, May 31st in the Undercroft commencing at 7:00 pm. (nibbles provided) The movie will screen from 7:30-9:30 pm.

How Can the Parish and School Further Support Visitors Attending Sacramental and Special Event Masses?

How can attendees be informed of the expectations and reminded to remain reverent throughout the Mass? We need to give clearer advice to visitors about appropriate and expected. Considerations regarding the worship venues and context (ie, Mass or liturgy) were discussed. Further consideration of the church capacity and attendance numbers needs to be given for large sacramental Masses in the future, and clearer messaging to families before major events eg Confirmation, Mothers Day Masses etc.

Piety Stall: Parishioners are hoping to reintroduce this in the near future.

PPL Meeting Continued

Welcoming New Parishioners: Welcome event to welcome new parishioners is being considered.

Volunteer Roles & Positions: A volunteer drive is planned for the near future.

Finance: A second collection has been proposed to further support the parish in these times of rising living costs, also affecting the parish. Those who have pledged but are not yet contributing will be contacted.

Alpha- What next for Alpha: Jacquie for the Archdiocese came to speak to the leaders of the Alpha on Thursday, May 16th. An encounter opportunity was provided to participants on Saturday, May 18th. Some participants will now move into RCIA, along with several others. RCIA/ Faith Formation will commence weekly in July until the end of November.

Baptisms- Some changes will be made to the Baptism preparation program for the later part of 2024 to make it both more welcoming to families but also more in depth in content

Social Gatherings: A volunteer to lead the Social Committee is still needed, or members to lead individual events. Members to look into a parish screening of 'Unsung Hero' in the near future.

Christmas Family Mass and Easter Mass Review- it was wonderful to have so many children and parents involved in the Christmas Eve Choir. This was a highly valued school and parish partnership activity. A meeting was held in May to review the Mass, and a future meeting is scheduled for in October to advance plan this year's Christmas Eve Mass.

Confirmation- Bishop Tony Ireland (Principal Celebrant) confirmed the STM Parish and school Confirmation, and was celebrated at Pentecost on Sunday, May 19th.

Other Matters Arising: New members of the PPLT will be considered as the 2-year commitment for most current members is approaching or has passed.

Sunday, 11th August

19th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever.
Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who seek 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 1 Kings 19:4-8

The angel gives Elijah food to reach the mountain
of God

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 33(34):2-9

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second reading Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Forgive each other as readily as God forgave you

Gospel Acclamation John 6:51

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Gospel John 6:41-51

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever

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 Cf. Jn 6:51

The bread that I will give, says the Lord,
Is my flesh for the life of the world.