



# SEASONS

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

Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

August 25th 2024

**311 Canadian Bay Rd  
Mount Eliza Vic. 3930**

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Email: [MountEliza@cam.org.au](mailto: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

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

**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

For our Gospel today we hear the conclusion of the “Bread of Life discourse” in the sixth chapter of John’s Gospel. In the preceding verses, which we have heard proclaimed in our liturgy over the past few weeks, we have heard Jesus explain that he is the Bread of Life, given so that those who believe may have eternal life. This discourse follows the miracle in which Jesus fed more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish. As Jesus has been teaching these things, John’s Gospel describes a murmuring crowd unable to accept Jesus’ words. In today’s Gospel, the crowd has dwindled in number, and John no longer references them, or the Jews. Instead John describes the questioning of those considered to be Jesus’ own disciples.

Today’s Gospel first records the response of those in the crowd who are described as Jesus’ disciples. Just as the larger crowd had struggled with Jesus’ teaching, these disciples also cannot accept Jesus’ words. Jesus is said to know about their murmuring. He responds by acknowledging their unbelief and by reiterating that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. John’s Gospel reports that many of those who had been Jesus’ disciples ceased to follow him at this point. The number of people following Jesus dwindled from a crowd of more than 5,000 to only 12 people. And it is to these Twelve that Jesus now turns his attention.

Simon Peter’s response to Jesus’ question as to whether those closest to him will also leave, reminds us of the reports of Peter’s confession of faith in the Synoptic Gospels. Peter announces, on behalf of all the Twelve, that they have come to believe all that Jesus has taught about himself: Jesus is the one from God in whom they have found the path to eternal life.

This conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse focuses on personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. Each person must make his or her own judgment about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God’s grace invites us to be Jesus’ disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life.

**We pray for:**


**Those who have passed away recently:**

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time:**

Rex Swann, Doris A. Hill, Gerard Carra, John Bourke, Ethel May Blake, Valerie Crowe, John Gallagher, Helen "Nell" Hellard, Corrie Grootsholten, Eric Fox, John D. Doherty, Sr Mary Teresita

**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](mailto: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. Next class details below:

Date	Topic
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 second weekend 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.

### **Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region - The Cagliari Project, Salesians of Don Bosco**

*The Cagliari Project is an initiative of the Australia-Pacific Province of the Salesians of Don Bosco, providing overseas volunteer experiences for Australians and New Zealanders who wish to work with young people in the Asia-Pacific region.*

*We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers for January 2025 departure. Our volunteer placements run for 6-12 months and are centered around working with young people in educational settings. We are currently recruiting for volunteers for Cambodia, Samoa, Timor Leste, Mongolia and the Solomon Islands.*

*We aim to utilise the skills and talents of our volunteers to provide the best possible contribution to the host community. Our aim is not to 'help' but to walk in solidarity with young people and for volunteer and host to have a mutual learning experience. We are also present in host communities to be role models - people that young people can aspire to be.*

*Cagliari volunteers commit themselves to working in the 'Salesian way'. This means that young people are the central focus in all work. The Salesian way also means approaching life in a joyful way with a loving heart. The experience as a Cagliari volunteer is not about the volunteer but is focused on the people we go to serve. However, serving as a Cagliari volunteer will probably be the most rewarding thing you ever do!*

*For more information, or to send us an enquiry: [www.cagliari.org.au](http://www.cagliari.org.au) or [lhichaaba@salesians.org.au](mailto:lhichaaba@salesians.org.au)*

Thankyou from Salesians of Don Bosco

PO Box 264, Ascot Vale, VIC 3032 T - (03) 9377 6000 [www.cagliari.org.au](http://www.cagliari.org.au)

### **Women's Fellowship Group**

**Every first Friday of the month 7pm-9pm, for women 18 years and over.**

**Next get together will be on *Friday 6th September***

**Please contact Kathy Raccanello for details: [raccanellokathy@gmail.com](mailto:raccanellokathy@gmail.com)**

# Sunday, 25th August

## 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

### Entrance Antiphon

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.  
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you  
all the day long.

### 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 **Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18**

We will serve the Lord, for he is our God

### Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 33(34):2-3, 16-23**

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

### Second reading **Ephesians 5:21-32**

Christ loves the Church, because it is his body

### Gospel Acclamation **John 6:63.68**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words, Lord, are spirit and life:  
you have the words of everlasting life.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel **John 6:60-69**

Who shall we go to? You are the Holy One of  
God

### 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 6:54**

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood  
has eternal life, says the Lord,  
and I will raise him up on the last day.