



SEASONS

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

5th Sunday of Lent-Year B

March 17th 2024

SVdP

Monday 18th March 9.00am

Alpha Program

Thursday 21st March 7.00pm

Stations of the Cross

Friday 22nd March 3.00pm

**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 this week

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 18th March

Tuesday Mass 5.30pm

Tuesday Adoration 6.00pm

Wednesday * Mass 10.00am

Thursday Adoration 9.00am

Thursday Mass 10.00am

Friday* Mass 10.00am

*The Rosary will be prayed before this Mass.

Reconciliation

Tuesday 6.00pm –6.30pm

Friday 9.30am -10.00am

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.00pm

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Dear Friends,

A reflection from My Catholic Life...



Suffering Transformed by Glory

"I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." John 12:27-28

Our Lord's human soul was "troubled." Other translations state that His soul was in agony. After expressing His interior suffering, Jesus identified the human temptation caused by this suffering: to flee from His "hour." Of course Jesus dismisses this temptation as a way of teaching us a lesson from His human experience.

As God, Jesus had perfect strength and always remained faithful to the mission He received from the Father. But as a human, Jesus permitted Himself to experience temptation and human suffering for many reasons. One reason was so that He could relate to us in every way. That includes being able to relate to interior human suffering. In doing so, Jesus also made it possible for us to imitate Him and to share in the strength and determination He had as He perfectly fulfilled the will of the Father. Jesus allowed Himself to endure the agony caused by foreseen suffering because we will endure similar temptations through life.

What is it that causes you fear and anxiety as you look into the future? If there is something that immediately comes to mind, try to look at that within the light of Jesus' own experience above. The first thing Jesus does is identify the temptation to fear. He does this by identifying the interior suffering He experiences and then by looking at the cause: His coming "hour." The "hour" of Jesus in the Gospel of John is a reference to His crucifixion and death. This was the reason He came to us. He came to suffer the consequences of our sins and to destroy death itself. But this mission of His was the cause of true human suffering and was also a temptation toward fear. But it was a fear that He perfectly overcame.

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.

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

Those who have passed away recently...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..

Russell Hannan, Norah Connolly, Fr Maurice ADAMS

The sick... Carmel Gowans, Frances Glare, Sr Elizabeth Brown-Russell, John Miller, Fiona Leyden, Annette O'Brien, Maree Bracken, Jim Bourke,

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



Please join us for...

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent
3.00pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

1st Fridays 9.00pm –Midnight
1st Saturdays 9am –10.00am

Safeguarding Committee

For information: Julie Carter 0420 923 859



Project Compassion

Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **for all future generations**. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Thank you for supporting our parish

Presbytery

Supports our Parish Priest and the priests of the Archdiocese

Church

Facilitates regular parish expenses.

Payment terminal in the Foyer of the Church

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

Women's Fellowship Group

Let's get together ladies!

Every first Friday of the month :7pm to 9pm (after dinner) for women 18 - 100 years +
A chance to connect, chat, laugh and share.
Next get together : **Friday 5th April.**

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

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

(Cont. from page 1)

As you look at anything that tempts you to give into fear and anxiety, first ask yourself whether it is the will of God that you fulfill that action. If we are fearful of something that is not the will of the Father, then we should reject it. But very often the plan God has for our lives will include acting with courage in the face of some pending cross and suffering. Experiencing fear is normal, but fear will not turn into anxiety if we imitate our Lord and choose the will of God no matter the cost.

Jesus also embraced His Cross by looking at it through the lens of glory. He understood that His suffering and death would glorify the Father in Heaven. Therefore, He allowed Himself to see the Cross as a glorification of the Father. The same must happen in our lives. No matter what we face in life, no matter the cross we are given, if it is the will of God that we embrace it, then we must see it not only as a suffering we must endure but primarily as an act by which God will be glorified in our lives. This truer perspective will bring with it hope, joy and strength which will free us from anxiety caused by fear.

Reflect, today, upon the ways in which God is calling you to the cross. As you do, don't allow fear to deter you. Instead, look at every pending suffering as an opportunity to glorify God in your life. See your crosses with gratitude and joy, and allow this new perspective to give you the strength you need to fulfill the mission given to you by the Father in Heaven.

Most glorious Father, Your will is perfect. You called Your Son to the suffering of the Cross. Through that act of perfect love, the suffering Your Son endured gave You perfect glory. Lord Jesus, please give me Your courage as I face my own sufferings in life and help me to imitate Your perfect obedience to the Father's will in all things so that I, too, may give Him glory. Jesus, I trust in You.

Working BEE –From 8.30am Saturday 23 March

Are you able to pitch in and also have some fun with other enthusiastic parishioners? If you are able to join us, please add your name to the clipboard in the foyer .



Holy Week Services

Holy Thursday-Solemn Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:7.00pm

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross :10.00am

Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion: 3.00pm
followed by Reconciliation

Saturday: Solemn Vigil Mass 7.00pm

Easter Sunday Masses 8.00am, 10.00am

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 **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

I will write my law in their hearts.

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 50**

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second reading **Hebrews 5:7-9**

He learned to obey and he became the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation **John 12:26**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel **John 12:20-30**

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

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

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Palm Sunday –Year B

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47