



SEASONS

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

3rd Sunday of Lent-Year B

March 3rd 2024

Diary

Filipino Mass

Sunday 3rd March 4.00pm

**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:

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 March

**No Masses Tuesday,
Wednesday or Thursday**

Friday Mass 10.00am

Reconciliation

Friday 9.30am - 10.00am

Saturday 4.30pm - 5.00pm

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm

Sunday 8.00am

Sunday 10.00am

Sunday 3/3 (Filipino) 4.00pm

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.

Dear Friends,

In our First Reading we hear the Ten Commandments, the laws given to Moses and the People of Israel. God had placed his law about right and wrong in every human heart from the creation of men and women. The natural law which prohibits things like stealing and murder can be known by anyone through our minds - reason. But the natural law was partly obscured because of sin, so God re-affirmed it in his supernaturally revealed law (the Old Law, given to Israel, fulfilled in the New Law manifested in Christ). Jesus teaches that love of God and neighbour (made in God's image) is the unifying principle and motivation of God's whole Law; and he imparts grace and love through the Holy Spirit, inscribing this Law on our hearts and enabling us to fulfil it freely and joyfully. The Ten Commandments of the Decalogue sum up true love's minimum requirements. If someone seriously violates any of God's laws they reject the love by which we love him supremely and do his will - excluding ourselves from salvation, unless we are redeemed by repentance and God's forgiveness. (Fr Justin Ford)



From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2005): 'The Moral Law':

The Compendium is a helpful summary of what we believe as Catholics, which is presented in a question-and-answer format. While this was very popular for teaching children, it's format can be useful for anyone. It can be accessed from: https://www.vatican.va/archive/compendium_ccc/documents/archive_2005_compendium-ccc_en.html

What is the moral law? The moral law is a work of divine Wisdom. It prescribes the ways and the rules of conduct that lead to the promised beatitude and it forbids the ways that turn away from God. In what does the natural moral law consist? The natural law which is inscribed by the Creator on the heart of every person consists in a participation in the wisdom and the goodness of God. It expresses that original moral sense which enables one to discern by reason the good and the bad. It is universal (applies to everyone) and unchangeable and determines the basis of the duties and fundamental rights of the person as well as those of the human community and civil law. Is such a law perceived by everyone? Because of sin the natural law is not always perceived nor is it recognised by everyone with equal clarity and immediacy. For this reason God "wrote on the tables of the Law what men did not read in their hearts." What is the relationship between the natural law and the Old Law? The Old Law is the first stage of revealed Law. It expresses many truths naturally accessible to reason and which are thus affirmed and authenticated in the covenant of salvation. Its moral prescriptions, which are summed up in the Ten Commandments of the Decalogue, lay the foundations of the human vocation, prohibit what is contrary to the love of God and neighbour, and prescribe what is essential to it.

(Cont page 3)

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

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



Rosemary Kimpton, Marta Egyed, Doug Lang, Mortimer Hurren, Michael Connolly,
Jack Need, Ryan Hamilton, Nola Kennedy, John Marshall, Luke Prattley

The sick... Carmel Gowans, Frances Glare, Sr Elizabeth Brown-Russell, John Miller,
Fiona Leyden, Annette O'Brien, Gui Hone, 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
3.30pm

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.

(From page 1) What place does the Old Law have in the plan of salvation? The Old Law permitted one to know many truths which are accessible to reason, showed what must or must not be done and, above all, like a wise tutor, prepared and disposed one for conversion and for the acceptance of the Gospel. However, while being holy, spiritual, and good, the Old Law was still imperfect because in itself it did not give the strength and the grace of the Spirit for its observance. What is the New Law or the Law of the Gospel? The New Law or the Law of the Gospel, proclaimed and fulfilled by Christ, is the fullness and completion of the divine law, natural and revealed. It is summed up in the commandment to love God and neighbour as you love yourself.



Alpha Program

Commencing 7th March 2024, 7pm

The PPLT warmly invites parishioners, members of the school community and anyone from our local community to join us for Alpha. The Alpha programme has attracted nearly 22 million people to learn more deeply about their faith and to explore belief in a non judgemental, no pressure setting. The programme looks at who is Jesus? Why did he die? How can I have faith, understand the bible and pray? What is the Holy Spirit? What about evil, the Church, being a follower of Christ today?

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Each week looks at a different question around life and faith such as

- * Is there more to life than this?
- * Who is Jesus?
- * How can I make the most of the rest of my life?

Alpha is fun, relaxed and free - and you can ask anything you like! Millions around the world have found it a wonderful introduction to the Christian faith.

Each session starts with a meal. There's a video presentation and plenty of time to ask questions and share opinions - it's designed to create conversation. And there's no obligation and no pressure.

'Alpha was the best thing I ever did. It helped answer some huge questions and to find a simple empowering faith in my life.'

Bear Grylls, TV Adventurer

Starts Thursday, 7th of March @ 7pm

For more information or to register please contact Parish Office. Registration also through [trybooking.com/CPFDZ](https://www.trybooking.com/CPFDZ) 

Sessions are scheduled for Thursday evenings from 7pm until around 8:30pm. The meetings will run from 7th of March, taking a break for Easter then running each week from the 18th of April until we finish on 30th of May. There is no charge nor any obligation to attend particular sessions.

Alpha is also the pathway for anyone in the community who is interested in becoming a Catholic. Once completing the Alpha series, RCIA / Catechism classes will commence in July for those adults and older children who have not yet been baptised Catholic, or for those adults who are baptised Catholic and would like to receive their first communion, reconciliation and confirmation. If anyone is interested in becoming Catholic, Alpha is the first step on this journey. For more information on any questions please contact the Parish or speak with Fr Patrick after Mass

Can you help? To support our Alpha program over the coming weeks we would greatly appreciate donations of food. For this Thursday 7th March, we are asking if any parishioners would like to make a salad, cake or desert. The donation can be dropped off at the Community Centre from 6.30pm. To manage the donations, a clipboard has been placed at the back of the church. Any questions can be directed to Karen on 0428 393 855. Thank you so much for your support!



A message from Fr Dishan and the Vocations Team

Dear Friends

I would like to thank you for your prayers for Vocations over the years. We were delighted to

accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year: Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy, Luke Emslie, Tung Phan, Joseph Mae, Patrick Harris and Mathews Noble.

Many of you have personally helped and encouraged these men along their journey to apply to join the Seminary; it truly is a team effort! Please continue to pray for them!

Entrance Antiphon

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

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 **Exodus 20:1-17**

The law given at Sinai

Responsorial Psalm: **Psalm 18:8-11**

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second reading **I Corinthians 1:22-25**

The crucified Christ, the power and wisdom of God.

Gospel Acclamation **John 3:16**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel **John 2:13-25**

Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up.

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

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

Next Sunday's Readings:

4th Sunday of Lent –Year B

1st Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21