



SEASONS

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

Twenty-second Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

September 1st 2024

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

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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 Berkery-Coleman

Church Services from 1.9.2024

Sundays

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

Filipino Mass 4:00pm

**(1st Sunday of the month. In English,
all welcome)**

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

Rosary

Monday 12noon

First Friday of the month 6/9

Adoration 8pm

First Saturday of the month 7/9

Adoration 9am

Mass for the Unborn 10:00am

**The Church is now open from
9am until 4.30pm on Wednesdays
and Fridays. All are very welcome
to drop in for quiet prayer.**

Dear friends,

Around Australia this weekend families will be gathering to celebrate Fathers (and Grandfathers) Day. On this day we tribute to, and thank our dads for their guidance, love, encouragement and support. Being a mum or a dad carries many challenges but it also brings many blessings. Our Catholic faith teaches us that fathers (and mothers) co-operate with God in the work of creation when they welcome a new child into the world. St Joseph reminds us that the genius of fatherhood unfolds through the ordinary and everyday. St Joseph did not have all the answers, but he trusted in God, honored Mary and raised Jesus as if he were his own son. On this day we entrust all of our fathers and grandfathers to the care and protection of St Joseph.

Recently I attended the annual Confraternity of Catholic Clergy annual Conference. The conference welcome three guest speakers, who each had something important to say not only to clergy but also to the Church in Australia. First was Fr Stephen Wang, a priest visiting from London and now working in Rome. Fr Stephen spoke to us about the importance of evangelisation—pointing out this in our tradition this has always been both intentional and unintentional; well-resourced and unresourced, well programmed and spontaneous. We need both of these to be successful in our parish—God will work without our help, if we allow him, while we also need to be intentional and deliberate in how we welcome and encourage people to live their faith.

Fr Stephen also spoke to us about discouragement in the priesthood, noting about 40 reasons for us to lose heart— ranging from declining mass attendance, increasing secularism, greater workloads and lack of engagement. He noted that in every age of the Church’s history there have been different challenges. While the temptation is to look back to the “good old days”, and to try rewind the clock, the reality is that God has prepared and equipped us to be here in this time and place. Speaking of the English Reformation, the temptation for Catholics in the mid to late 1500’s was to hope that a new king or queen would arrive and restore the Church. The Church could not move forward until finally, new leadership established a seminary in Rome to secretly train clergy to return to England, minister to the remaining Catholics, and plant the seeds for an underground Catholic Church that would eventually mature and become free to worship in the 1800’s. Each one of us are meant to be where we are, and God wants to use us where we are to do something great in his kingdom.

Fr Wang also offered a fascinating lecture on AI—Artificial Intelligence, and the theological and philosophical aspects of this developing technology. While each of us has our own scepticism or optimism about AI, what is becoming clear is that AI is a force that will be very difficult to opt out of or ignore in the coming years, as its impact will be felt across our own devices, social media, youtube interactions, but also in our interactions with business and government—banks, telcos, centrelink, the ATO, real estate, etc. There are far reaching implications for the Church, how we reach people, and the understanding of transcendence and the sacred. Much like the Industrial Revolution, AI will radically change the landscape of the world and there will be winners and losers. Our duty as Catholics is to try and understand

**We
pray for:**

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



Leo Mulcahy, Ben Grootcholten, Leslie Russell, Fr John Hardy, Timothy Bruitzman, Nancy Wraight,
Fiona Lindner, Reginald Leydin, Norma Jackson

The sick... 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. Next class details below:

Date	Topic
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



These many different forces and to apply Catholic Social Teaching, our faith and morals to ensure these powerful forces are made a servant and not a master to our lives.

Dr Renée Köhler-Ryan also addressed us. Dr Renee has a PhD in Philosophy. She teaches courses on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, Aesthetics, Philosophy of the Human Person, and Political Philosophy, and is a published author. Her lecture spoke about the importance of understanding the philosophy (system of ideas) that underpins the way our secular culture sees the human person, our society and the role of government and institutions. She noted that until the 1500's we always understood ourselves and were subject to the order of God, the forces of nature, and our shared history which shapes culture and language. From the 1500's when Descartes declared "I think, therefore I am", humanity has been moving in a very different direction –my reality, who I am, what I am, how I see the world is determined by me and my own reality. This shift has had profound implications for politics, identity, faith, religion, science and many other areas. Dr Renee stressed the importance of knowing what we believe and why we believe it, using clear language to express our positions, and understanding how other people think, and the consequences of their positions. Her lecture was very helpful to me in thinking of how we engage with young people who are profoundly impacted by social media, identity politics and communicating virtually.

Finally Bishop Richard Umbers spoke about the proposed 2028 Eucharistic Congress. The Australian Bishops have petitioned Rome for us to host this World Congress in Sydney. This would be an opportunity to bring together the country around what is most sacred to Catholics, to encourage young people and families, and to celebrate our Catholic faith. This work is beginning now, and its success depends on the engagement of every parish and diocese. It is hoped that over 100,000 Catholics would gather in Sydney for a week of celebrations in 2028.

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

The Cagliero 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.

Cagliero 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 Cagliero volunteer is not about the volunteer but is focused on the people we go to serve. However, serving as a Cagliero volunteer will probably be the most rewarding thing you ever do!

For more information, or to send us an enquiry: www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

Thankyou from Salesians of Don Bosco

PO Box 264, Ascot Vale, VIC 3032 T - (03) 9377 6000 www.cagliero.org.au

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 6th September**

Sunday 1st September

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to 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 Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

Observe these laws and customs, that you may have life

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 14(15):2-5

The just will live in the presence of the Lord

Second reading James 1:17-18,21-22,27

Accept and submit to the word

Gospel Acclamation

James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

You put aside the commandment of the God, to cling to human traditions

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

Ps 30: 20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.