

Jesus Christ King of the Universe— Year A

22 November 2020

Places of Worship may have indoor religious ceremonies for a total of 20 people plus 1 celebrant .

**<u>DHHS</u>** has given the following directives for gathering of <u>all</u> religious groups:

- Social distancing is to be observed at all times.
- Wearing of a face-mask is mandatory.
- Hand sanitising is to be observed at all times.
- Absolutely No physical contact between persons.

We are now taking registration for indoor Mass. I would like to invite parishioners who would like to attend Mass to register your interest with the parish by phone (Registration for Weekend Masses - Closed Friday 3PM). I would like to make it clear that you are the best person to make the decision for yourself about attending Mass during this time of Corona Virus.

### Mass Arrangements for STM Parish from the Weekend of 14/15 November 2020

#### Weekend Reconciliation & Masses

Saturday

<b>Reconciliation</b> 5:00PM—5:
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Vigil Mass 6:00 PM

Sunday Mass 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

#### Weekday Masses

Tuesday: Mass on Zoom @ 9:15 AM

Wednesday & Friday 9:15 AM

# We pray for...

#### Those who have passed away recently... Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.... Patricia Hansen, John Clark, Judith Hennessy, Dr John Hamilton, Jane Collins, Wilfred H.

Oakes, Vernon Hussey, Helen Sorcusen

The sick...Shirley Spry, Denis Mirrabella MichaelLeonard, LizSpurdle, John Spurdle, Evonne Paddison,

# Jesus Christ King of the Universe — Year A

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.



#### **Responsorial Psalm:**

The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28

He will hand over the Kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

#### Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our father David!

### Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.



#### Next Week's Readings - Christ the King Year A

Ist Reading:Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-82nd Reading:I Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

The Bishops of Victoria have suspended the Sunday Mass Obligation for all Catholics in Victoria until further notice. Mass is broadcast via the Ten Network (6am, Sunday) for any one who would like to participate. Maree Bracken, Maria Truong,, Bill Luscombe, Brigitte Rohner, Eileen O'Beirne, Helen Steinbach, Ava Macias, Michael MacKenzie, Luke Carroll, Betty Corke, Chloe, David Dole, Maria Kelly, Elizabeth Ware, Althea Greeff, Michael Blick, Maureen Anstey, Jake Steyn, Adrian Gobel, and

all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre & Ranelagh Gardens Nursing home and the parishioners of St Thomas More Parish, Tequinomata, East Timor, St Therese Parish, Bathurst Island and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Alice Springs.

**Catholic Parish of St Thomas More** 

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

#### Email: MountEliza@cam.org.au Web: www.stm-mteliza.org

Pastoral Leadership TeamFr Joe Truong(Parish Administrator)Jacinta Griffin(Chairperson)Sue CarrLeonie BourkeLeonie BourkeCarmel HuggardMargaret JamiesonPPLT Email: MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au

## Mass online

www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass OR http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand

#### **OR** https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass

**OR** St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne. Daily and Sunday Mass is available, with the I I am Mass live streamed; it is also available as a recording on-demand. https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass



Parish Office Hours: **Remain Closed** After Hours: Please leave a message on 9787 7777 Pastoral Care for STM Parish during the time of the Coronavirus Pandemic This plan will be revised upon further easing of restrictions

- 1. STM Church and Office Closed during Stage 4 restrictions
- 2. Seasons publish online, send out by email, or by post.
- 3. **Pastoral visitation**: By request.
- 4. **Anointing of the Sick, and Communion for the housebound:** Anointing of the Sick is available only for the seriously ill. The Eucharist is given as Viaticum to the dying only.
- 5. **Reconciliation:** Please call Fr Joe on 9787 7777 to make an appropriate arrangement.
- 6. **Spiritual Guidance:** Fr Joe is available from Tuesday to Sunday afternoon <u>by phone or **zoom video conference** only.</u>
- 7. Seasons: Please contact the parish office if you would like to receive a copy of Seasons by post.

## **CDF-Online Portal for Parishes**

Dear Parishioners,

We wish to thank you for your support of our parish even during this time of health crisis and financial challenge. We wish to advise you that the Archdiocese of Melbourne and Catholic Development Fund have partnered to build an online payment portal—CDF pay for parishes. This site enables you to make quick and easy online thanksgiving payments—you can set-up a recurring payment, or you can choose a one-off offering. The St Thomas More Mount Eliza site is live and can be found via the link below:

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family every blessing from the risen Christ.

Fr Joe Truong

## Financial Matters 18 October

ActualPledgeStewardship\$ 2510\$ 2287Presbytery\$ 268

Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.

# What's Happening Here ...

### Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Australia's Care

We currently have a significant number of refugees and asylum seekers in our care both within continental Australia and on Nauru, Christmas Island and Papua New Guinea. It has always been legal to seek asylum in Australia and we have human and legal responsibilities for refugees and asylum seekers in our care. The Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) is one important Catholic group that assists in practical ways, those within our own local communities, who need a chance to live a decent life, free from fear of death, persecution and torture. Refugees and asylum seekers need the chance to make a new home, where they are safe and can live in some dignity and hope. Here is one practical way to help people in Community Detention in Australia. Hand write a letter to a politician. All the details, from BASP are provided in two documents below: the first document explains how to write a letter and why it is important for us to act; the second provides all the necessary contact details of politicians who make important decisions affecting refugees and asylum seekers.

Peter Griffin on behalf of the STM Social Justice Committee

All Baptism Information/Preparation - To resume in 2021

## STM Children and Young People Safeguarding Committee

At STM Catholic Parish, Mount Eliza, we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our parish. For more information please call: John Natoli (Coordinator) on 0418 208 778; or Julie Carter (Banda) on 0420 923 859

STM Social Club Fun & Friendship For All

New members are always most welcome! Membership fee is \$30.



## Social Club News

- The Social Club Norwood House Christmas Lunch has been cancelled.
- On Wednesday 9th December a picnic get together at 12noon. Bring a chair and your lunch to the Mt Eliza Park behind the Bowling Club (off Canadian Bay Road.) This is a time to come together before Christmas, no need to contact anybody, simply come along.

Look forward to seeing you.

Love- Carolyn Gascoigne

**Baptisms** 

### Parish Zoom Account

For security reasons zoom logon details can not be included with the parish bulletin. If you would like to attend any of our service on zoom please send us an email, or give us a call on 9787 7777.

Tuesday 24 November 2020

9:15 AM Parish Mass on Zoom

## **Assistance Required**

Soon, the government will permit places of worship to have up to 100 attendees for indoor religious services. Covid – Safe guidelines must be implemented.

Due to building density and social distancing regulations, STM Church can only have between 40 -50 attendees for each service (this figure will be doubled when the building density and social distancing rules are further eased by Christmas). However, before STM Parish can start having 40 attendees at each Mass it is <u>necessary</u> that we have <u>at least</u> a team of 2 volunteers to assist with sanitising the Church after Mass. Also, we need 1 volunteer to supervise the registration process for each Mass. Ideally, we would need to have more than 1 team of volunteers to help with cleaning the Church and to supervise the registration process. If you are able to assist with either of these duties please contact the parish office ASAP.

Sat 6:00PM Mass

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Team 1

Sanitiser 1: Margaret Jamieson

Sanitiser 2:

Registration: S. Failla

Sunday 8:00 AM Mass

Team 1

Sanitiser 1: Barry Hansen

Sanitiser 2: Marj Hansen

Registration: J. Bekery-Coleman

Sunday 10:00 AM Mass

Team 1

Sanitiser 1:

Sanitiser 2:

Registration:

Team 2 Sanitiser 1: Sanitiser 2: Registration:

Team 2

Sanitiser 1: B. Rodriguez

Sanitiser 2:

**Registration:** 

Team 2 Sanitiser 1: Sanitiser 2: Registration:

# STM PARISH MASS ON ZOOM—Tuesday 24 November

Mass commences at 9:15 AM. However, you may start logging on to zoom from 9:00AM.

#### Please contact the parish for logon details.

### Saints Andrew Düng-Lac and his Companions, Martyrs •

on Tuesday of week 34 in Ordinary Time

#### **First reading**

#### A reading from the book of Apocalypse.

In my vision I, John, saw a white cloud and, sitting on it, one like a son of man with a gold crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. Then another angel came out of the sanctuary, and shouted aloud to the one sitting on the cloud, 'Put your sickle in and reap: harvest time has come and the harvest of the earth is ripe.' Then the one sitting on the cloud set his sickle to work on the earth, and the earth's harvest was reaped.

Another angel, who also carried a sharp sickle, came out of the temple in heaven, and the angel in charge of the fire left the altar and shouted aloud to the one with the sharp sickle, 'Put your sickle in and cut all the bunches off the vine of the earth; all its grapes are ripe.' So the angel set his sickle to work on the earth and harvested the whole vintage of the earth and put it into a huge winepress, the winepress of God's anger.

The word of the Lord.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

*The Lord comes to judge the earth.* Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' The world he made firm in its place; he will judge the peoples in fairness. *The Lord comes to judge the earth.* Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, let the sea and all within it thunder praise, let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the presence of the Lord for he comes, he comes to rule the earth.

#### *The Lord comes to judge the earth.* With justice he will rule the world, he will judge the peoples with his truth.

The Lord comes to judge the earth.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! Be faithful until death, says the Lord, and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia

#### HOMILY

This weekend we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. Jesus is not a King like any other kings. Jesus did not win people over by violence, nor did he try to dominate his subjects. Jesus came to care, love and serve his people like the shepherds care for their sheep. When reflecting upon the Kingship of Jesus we are invited to think carefully about the way how we have exercised authority/power over the people who are in our care.

During the short years of his public ministry Jesus often spoke about the Kingdom. Jesus' contemporaries thought that he wanted to establish another political kingdom and power. The Roman authority considered Jesus as a threat and wanted to get rid of him. Yet, little did people understand that the Kingdom that Jesus talked about is not like any other earthly kingdoms... This is because Jesus' Kingdom is:

"An eternal and universal Kingdom,

A kingdom of truth and life,

A kingdom of holiness and grace."

No earthly kingdoms or powers can be compared with the Kingdom of Jesus. Each and every one of us is being invited to be citizen of the Eternal King of Jesus.

Jesus our King shows us the right and proper use of authority. In the New Testament we read that Jesus always places himself at the service of others. Jesus teaches those who are ignorant, heals the sick and suffering, restores dignity to those who are marginalised, gives counsels to the sinners, goes out in search of the lost ones, comes to the aid of the helpless, etc. Jesus never uses fear or intimidation to draw people to himself. People choose to gather around Jesus because they recognise in him the love, care and kindness which they are longing for. In Jesus' life and ministry we can see that the right and proper use of authority is for the service and care of others – not to dominate or to oppress.

Many of us are in positions of leadership and authority. The feast of Christ the King invites us to imitate Jesus in his proper exercise of power and authority. The right and proper use of authority always encourages and empowers others – not wanting to take control. The right and proper use of authority always have the goods of others in mind – not to use them to satisfy our own ego. It does take courage for us to learn to be servant leaders.

On this weekend as we celebrate the feast of Christ the King let us pray for all world and Church leaders that they may continue to lead and guide their subjects with the care and tenderness of Christ. May all leaders make good use of their authority and power to bring peace and justice to all.

#### A Special Message from Fr Joe

Dear friends,

It is so wonderful that freedom has now being restored to us who live in Victoria, and we are now able to travel across the State to visit the loved ones who we have not seen for many weeks. Certainly, it is such a blessing for us to be able to return to our parish church to celebrate the beautiful sacraments that Jesus instituted for our spiritual nourishment. Let us pray that some vaccines will be available soon so that we can enjoy life in this beautiful world without the fear of catching such a contagious Covid 19.

There have been several changes to the appointment of the clergy in the Archdiocese over the last few months. There has also being a change to my appointment. Archbishop Peter Comensoli has appointed me as Chaplain to the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, and part-time assistant priest to the parish of St Michael's, North Melbourne. Some of you may know that one of my passions is to walk with people during their time of illness and suffering. The appointment as hospital chaplain is something that I have been waiting for in the last several years – finally, the opportunity has come!

The appointments as hospital chaplain and part-time assistant priest come into effect on 16 Dec 2020. **Therefore, my last day at STM parish is 15 December 2020.** 

I have been at STM parish for 15 months, and I really enjoy being part of this beautiful parish. I will miss STM Parish very much. Thank you for your hospitality and kindness to me throughout the past 15 months. May the Lord continue to bless you in your good work..

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#### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST- PPLT

The PPLT are currently under quota and so we are calling on all interested parishioners to put their hands up to join the PPLT. We meet in the evening on the 3rd Wednesday of each month to discuss, plan and implement activities that benefit the whole parish community. During this difficult year we have met via Zoom meetings but usually we meet in the Parish House

Please consider joining the PPLT. This represents us, the people of our community and it's where our voices can be heard. We are an advisory group to the Parish Priest/ Administrator and we work together with the best interests of this Parish in mind. At the centre of our meetings is the Parish three year Plan (which is due for an update) and decisions are made within this framework.

If you want further information or wish to express an interest in joining us you can contact any of the PPLT.

PPLT Fr. Joe Truong Jacinta Griffin (Chair) Leonie Burke Carmel Huggard Margaret Jamieson

# **November—Month of the Holy Souls**

### **Please pray for:**

The Duncan, Grieve and O'Hanlon families. Fr Peter Fulton (STM 2nd Parish Priest) Francis Bracken Mona Kelly Deceased relatives of Barry and Marj Hansen

## **Community Corner**

## **VINNIES SUMMER APPEAL 2020**

EARLY THIS YEAR COVID 19 BROUGHT A DRAMATIC CHANGE TO OUR LIVES.

VINNIES VISITATION PROCESS CHANGED FROM IN-HOUSE CALLS TO A PHONE CONSULTATION IN WHICH WE ESTABLISHED OUR CLIENTS NEEDS.

HAVING ESTABLISHED THE NEED, WE MOSTLY SUPPLIED ASSISTANCE BY WAY OF VOUCHERS, WHEREBY CLIENTS COULD VISIT THE NOMINATED SUPERMARKET FOR THEIR FOOD.

BECAUSE OF SOCIAL DISTANCING OUR VISITATIONS WERE LIMITED TO SIX MARRIED COUPLES TRAVELLING

IN PAIRS IN THEIR OWN VEHICLE.

DURING THAT TIME EIGHT OF THE TWELVE HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH MEDICAL ISSUES, RANG-ING FROM

A HOSPITAL STAY FROM BETWEEN THREE WEEKS TO ONE DAY SURGERIES. WE THEREFORE ALWAYS NEED

AN INTAKE OF YOUNGER MEMBERS OF VARYING AGES TO FOLLOW IN OUR FOOTSTEPS.

THIS YEAR THE YOUNGER MEMBERS HAVE BEEN VERY BUSY WITH THEIR WORK, HOME SCHOOL-ING AND HOME DUTIES

AND FRUSTRATED WITH NOT BEING INVOLVED WITH VISITATIONS.

THEY LOOK FORWARD TO GAINING EXPERIENCE WHEN NORMALITY RETURNS.

OUR CONFERENCE IS MADE UP OF APPROXIMATELY 25% YOUNG ADULTS THROUGH TO PEOPLE IN THEIR

MID EIGHTIES.

THERE IS ALWAYS A NEED FOR YOUNGER MEMBERSTO ASSIST ON WEEKENDS AND SCHOOL HOL-IDAYS.

THIS WOULD TAKE UP ABOUT TWO HOURS OF YOUR TIME.

THIS YEAR WE HAVE COPED BECAUSE NO ONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO HOLIDAY DURING WINTER. NORMALLY WE WOULD PROVIDE FOOD AND TOY HAMPERS FOR CHRISTMAS, BUT BECAUSE OF THE VIRUS

WE TOOK AN EARLY DECISION TO GIVE MONEY VOUCHERS IN PLACE OF FOOD AND TOYS. THE VOUCHERS

HAVE STRICT LIMITATIONS AS TO WHERE AND FOR WHAT THEY CAN BE EXCHANGED.

DUE TO ENFORCED LOW NUMBERS THAT WILL BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND CHURCH, AND THE RE-STRICTIONS

PLACED ON SCHOOL-CHILDREN PICK-UP, YOU WILL BE INFORMED IN "SEASONS" AS TO HOW YOU CAN DONATE

THIS YEAR TOWARDS OUR FOOD AND HAMPER CHRISTMAS GIVING.

THERE ARE MANY NEEDY FAMILIES WHO WILL NEED ASSISTANCE THIS CHRISTMAS.

REMEMBER - THE POOR WILL ALWAYS BE WITH US.

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#### Catholic Schools Governance Update - Media Release 22nd October 2020

New era for Catholic education in Melbourne with the establishment of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd

Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS) has been established to assume the governance and operation of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli says.

The change in governance arrangements will see all 293 schools owned by the Archdiocese, its parishes or associations of parishes in the Archdiocese of Melbourne transferred to MACS, which will be responsible for the governance and operation of the schools.

'Building on the significant legacy of parish priest led and governed schools, MACS will usher in a new era for Catholic education in the Archdiocese', Archbishop Peter said.

'Education is integral to the mission of the Catholic Church to proclaim the Good News, and Catholic schooling forms our young people so they may be equipped with the knowledge, skills and hope to live meaningful lives and enrich the world around them.

'The establishment of MACS is a necessary and constructive change to the operations for schools that not only reflects community expectations about the operations of schools, but keeps our Christ Centered mission at the heart of all we do in Catholic education.'

A Steering Committee was established in November 2019 to consider changes in governance for Melbourne Catholic schools. The Steering Committee has overseen 11 months of significant consultation and deliberation which has culminated in today's announcement, Archbishop Peter said.

Archbishop Peter has appointed Mr Gerard Dalbosco as the inaugural Chair of MACS to lead this historic new path for Catholic education in Melbourne. Formerly a senior partner at EY, Mr Dalbosco has had a distinguished career holding several significant leadership roles with EY across Oceania and the Asia-Pacific region. He also has significant governance experience, with current roles including positions with the Committee for Melbourne, Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak and Newman College.

'Gerard brings a wealth of strategic vision and governance experience to our efforts', Archbishop Peter said. 'I am very pleased to appoint him to this position and excited for what the future holds under his leadership.'

Mr Dalbosco said that he was honoured to be appointed as the inaugural Chair of MACS.

'Catholic schooling in Melbourne has a profound footprint across our community', Mr Dalbosco said. 'We are the largest diocese in Australia and, together with Catholic religious institute schools, provide Catholic education for more than 153,000 students across 335 schools in Victoria, employing over 20,000 teachers and support staff.

'I look forward to working with Archbishop Peter and key leaders in the Archdiocese to appoint fellow board members as we move the mission of Catholic education in Melbourne forward.'

Mr Dalbosco also said that he was looking forward to helping foster the renewed relationship between parishes and schools.

'Parishes are the core of Church life in Melbourne', he said. 'These communities have not only planned for but, in many cases, built and paid for schools out of their own pockets because of their understanding of the need for Catholic education in the Archdiocese.

'I am looking forward to MACS working closely with parish priests and parishes, which will continue to be central to the care and education of Catholic school students.'

Archbishop Peter announced that Catholic Education Melbourne, the service arm for Catholic schools in the Archdiocese, will also move to MACS, with recently announced Executive Director of Catholic Education Melbourne, Mr Jim Miles, to serve as MACS Executive Director.

'The contribution of Catholic education in Melbourne and greater Victoria is an ongoing fruit of the gospel and a gift of Catholic educators to Victorian society', Archbishop Peter said. 'Jim will continue to play a critical role, as MACS will build up the leadership, transparency and fairness of that great tradition.

'I have no doubt that he and Gerard, along with the rest of the MACS board and staff, will continue to ensure that each Catholic school is a valued and essential community in the life of the Catholic Church, and honour the relationships of trust and friend-ship between school and parish communities.'

MACS will officially begin its governance responsibilities on 1 January 2021.

Further information about the transition of governance arrangements for Melbourne Catholic schools can be found at <u>www.governance.melbourne</u>

## Face Masks for Sale

Wearing of a face mask may remain mandatory in Victoria for quite sometimes. One of our parishioners and STM School mum, Sonya, has a wide range of face masks for sale at a very reasonable price. Please consider supporting Sonya our parishioner and a school parent.



## Please contact Sonya for further inquiries.

Mobile: 0429300180

Email: sonyamuser@gmail.com

#### Farewell to Fr. Joe

# As you would have read in Seasons, Fr. Joe is about to take up another position in the diocese from the 16th December.

Fr. Joe's farewell and thank you Mass will be at the 10.00am on 13th December. As per Covid restrictions, you will have to book for this mass as per the requirements for religious gatherings.

At this stage, we are unsure as to whether or not we can gather in a small number to say goodbye, however we do intend to farewell and thank him for all he has done for us at St. Thomas More in the last 12 months. The details of this will hopefully be in next week's Seasons when we will have a clearer understanding of what we can or can't do.

If you would like to contribute to a thank you gift for Fr. Joe, could you forward your contribution to the Parish Office Mail Box (which is locked) - Marked "Attention Vicki" by Wednesday the 9th December.

Jacinta Griffin

#### St Thomas More Parish Social Justice Group

Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH) supports the **United Nations 16 DAYS** CAMPAIGN AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



During the COVID-19 pandemic, reports showed an alarming increase in violence against women and girls.

We can Take action during this year's 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence.

The <u>16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence</u> is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day.

A Webinar will be conducted on December 10, at 1.00 pm which will take the form of a prayer prepared by ACRATH members, including two from our parish, and will have a focus on violence against women and girls as well as picking up on the themes of Advent and UN Rights. Parishioners who would like to participate in this prayer may register in advance, by clicking on the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rdeCrrz8iGtz5dB4Lgu68idqhS0AtQG\_q

There is also a Reflection Sheet that can be used on each of the 16 days

https://acrath.org.au/wp-content/uploads/16-Days-Reflection.pdf

Best Wishes

Bernard Dobson (on behalf of St Thomas More Parish Social Justice Group)