

SEASONS

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

Pentecost— Year A

31st May 2020

New Stages of re-opening Churches for public Mass and other liturgical services

Dear parishioners,

With the further easing of some lockdown restrictions for Victorians, Churches are now permitted to open for Masses and liturgies (under strict number and hygiene limitations). From **1st June 2020** each Church service can have up to 20 attendees as well as the clergy and the people who are required to run the service – i.e. Lector, Commentator, AV Operator, and Registration Officer.

I would like to advise you of the following arrangements for Masses at STM Parish:

Weekday Masses

Wednesday: 9:15 AM and Friday: 9:15 AM

Weekend Masses (Saturday 6th June – Sunday 21st June)

Saturday

5:00 –5:30 PM— Reconciliation

6:00 PM – Vigil Mass

Sunday

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

5:00 PM

The new Mass arrangements will be reviewed after 22 June 2020. The Sunday 5:00PM Mass is added in order to provide further opportunities for parishioners to attend Sunday Mass – if this is what you want to do. **The Sunday 5:00 PM Mass will cease when Churches return to 'normal' services.**

Parishioners who wish to attend any of the Weekday or Weekend Masses **are required** make a booking with the STM Parish Office. Upon arriving at the Church, parishioners **are required** to sign - in the Mass Attendance Register. These are the essential requirements that the Government has asked all Parishes to comply with if we want to re-open our churches.

I understand that these are very strict rules – but, we must observe them in order to re-open our STM church for services. I do ask for your pardon and understanding during this difficult time that the diocese and parishes are living in.

From Tuesday 19 May 2020 the Parish will start taking booking for weekday and weekend Masses. Booking for weekend Masses close on Friday@ 5:00PM. **Vicki and I will do our best to make sure that all the people who wish to attend Mass will have a fair opportunity to do so.**

Finally, I would like to make it clear that **all Catholics living in Victoria are still being suspended from the Sunday Obligation until further notice.** Therefore, I do sincerely encourage that the people who are in the vulnerable groups (i.e. over 60 or with other underlining health issues) to consider attending Mass/Prayer online or Mass which is broadcast on the 10 Network. You are the best person to make the decision as to whether or not you should be coming to Church during this time of Covid 19 Pandemic.

It is the most difficult time for all and we are in it together. Fr Joe Danh Truong

We pray for...

Those who have passed away recently...

Joan Ryan

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time.. Ben Bedenikovic, Kathleen Marshall, Ian Dash, Maria De Jong, Dragana Bedenikovic, Roger Pearson, John Herbert, Frances Taylor, Tony Collins, Harold Redfern



The sick... Les Smith, Jeff Hone, Joanne O'Brien, Ron Congues, Maree Bracken, Maria Truong, Fr Theo Rush, Bill Luscombe, Brigitte Rohner, Eileen O'Beirne, Helen Steinbach, Ava Macias, Michael MacKenzie, Luke Carroll, Betty Corke, Chloe, David Dole, Maria Kelly, Helen Gibson, 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,

Pentecost — Year A

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak different languages.



Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 20:19-23

As the Father sent me, so I send you: receive the Holy .



Next Week's Readings - The Most Holy Trinity

1st Reading: Exodus 34:4-6,8-9

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel: John 3:16-18



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 partici-

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 Team

Fr Joe Truong (Parish Administrator)

Jacinta Griffin (Chairperson)

Sue Carr Paul Stinear

PPLT 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 Am Mass live streamed; it is also available as a recording on-demand.

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>



**Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am—5pm
After Hours: Please leave a message on 9787 7777**

What’s Happening Here...



Dear Father and Parishioners,

Our greetings of good health and wellbeing to you and your families.

PAF is unable to run the Mothers’ Day envelope drive this year so instead we are suggesting that if you would like and are still able to donate to our annual appeal, you can do by paying cash to the parish office, or the centre; by cheque or by a direct payment into our account at **WESTPAC BSB: 033 272 ACC: 318726.**

If you would like a receipt, then please provide your name and contact details which you can email to pafcares@gmail.com

We thought that this year we could extend the appeal run the length of May, the month of Our Lady, Our Saviour’s Mother. She is the mother of all mothers and knows full well the struggles and needs of disadvantaged pregnant women and their babies and families.

Warm regards from the PAF Committee and Volunteers

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

<https://secure.artezpacific.com/registant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&spid=5635822>

Financial Matters

<u>Stewardship</u> 24th May	<u>Actual</u> \$ 1440	<u>Pledge</u> \$ 1421	<u>Presbytery</u> 24th May	\$381
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*(Please note that the majority of our contributions are done electronically via Direct Debit & Credit Card Payments)
Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.*

What's Happening Here ...

Pastoral Care for STM Parish during the time of the Coronavirus pandemic

This plan will be revised upon further easing of restrictions from the Government.

1. **STM Church Open for limited services . 10 Attendees—Max.**
2. **Seasons** publish online, send out by email, or by post,. Homily will be included with **Seasons**.
3. **Pastoral visitation:** Parishioners who would like a visit from Fr Joe are to contact the parish office.
4. **Anointing of the Sick, and Communion for the housebound:** Fr Joe is now only permitted to administer the Anointing of the Sick to the seriously ill, and also, Fr Joe is only permitted to give the Eucharist as Viaticum to the dying
5. **Fr Joe is available at the parish office** from Tuesday to Sunday afternoon for spiritual guidance .
6. If you are elderly/living alone and need assistance with shopping—please call Fr Joe at the Parish Office.

Baptisms

All Baptism Information/Preparation - Please contact Fr Joe at the Parish Office.
Limit to ONE family per booking.



Community Corner

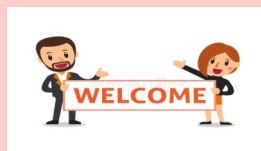
Bushfire appeal for the Cresswell Family

Back in February, our parish took up a collection to support the Cresswell family (former parishioners) - whose family farm was affected by the destructive bushfire. I am pleased to inform you that **we collected in total \$1122.50**. We have forwarded all the money collected along with the notes/cards to the Cresswell family. Thank you very much for your generosity in supporting the Cresswell family during their time of hardship.



Welcome a new family to STM Parish Community

A very warm welcome to Gerry and Carmel Flood and their three children: Joseph, Patrick and Thomas who have recently joined our STM Parish. We will have the opportunity to meet this beautiful young family when we are allowed to congregate in larger numbers.



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

Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle

Due to the current restrictions imposed by the Victorian Government because of the Corona Virus pandemic, the Gambling Commission has granted approval to extend this raffle. The new Draw Date is 26th September 2020 at 7.15pm. If you still have a raffle book at home—you can drop it back to the office or put it into our locked mail box. Hopefully we can resume with this fundraiser later in the year. Regards Vicki.

Homily

On this Pentecost Sunday we give thanks to God for giving the Holy Spirit to us to be our Advocate and special Helper. We pray that we always will be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our life, and with his help remain faith to Jesus.

We do not need to pretend that we have been waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit in the past seven weeks of Eastertide. As Christians we believe that we have received the Holy Spirit at Baptism and Confirmation. However, sometimes we forget about the presence and existence of this special friend. The feast of Pentecost awakens us to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our life and around us. In faith, we believe that the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to hear, to understand, and to believe that God is at work in us. He places deeply within us a desire for God and in this way he ignites the flame of faith for us. The Holy Spirit is the First and Great teacher who teaches us everything that we need to know about Jesus. The Holy Spirit can help us to become holy and Christ like, but he will not do so without our permission and cooperation. It is very important that we are engaging constantly with the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, we will not forget that we have a special friend, the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us and always ready to assist us in life.

Our Advocate, the Holy Spirit gives us seven special gifts to help us carrying out our personal Christian vocation as well as fulfilling the mission that Jesus has entrusted to the Church. It only takes some reflections for us to realise that the gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and wonder and awe are so necessary and important for us in life. The Holy Spirit will help us to develop these seven gifts gradually during the course of our life. However, each one of us needs to take the first step to unwrap these priceless gifts which we have received from the Holy Spirit. Sometimes, I do wonder how many of us have opened all the presents which we received at Baptism and Confirmation, and yet, still haven't unwrapped the gifts we received from the Holy Spirit.

There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit is present and operating in our life, but it is important that we know how to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit. St Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, created guidelines to help us discern the movement of the Holy Spirit. In a nutshell, Ignatius taught that any movement that is driven by the Holy Spirit will bring peace, healing, wholeness, clarity and goodness etc. to us and others. Whenever we are striving to build up relationship among family members, colleagues and neighbours, we know that we are acting under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Similarly, we are being moved by the Holy Spirit every time we choose to use words that bring comfort and healing to others. On the contrary, whenever we say unkind words about other people and not willing to make peace, we are not acting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Ignatius said that in order to discern the movement/guidance of the Holy Spirit we need to have openness and a generous heart – ready to follow wherever he is leading us.

Dear friends, the Holy Spirit plays a vital role in the life of every Christian. We need to learn to involve the Holy Spirit in every aspects of our life. May we learn to trust the Holy Spirit and be willing to follow his guidance throughout our life.



New Members of PPLT



Margaret Jamieson



Leonie Bourke



Michael Robertson



Carmel Huggard

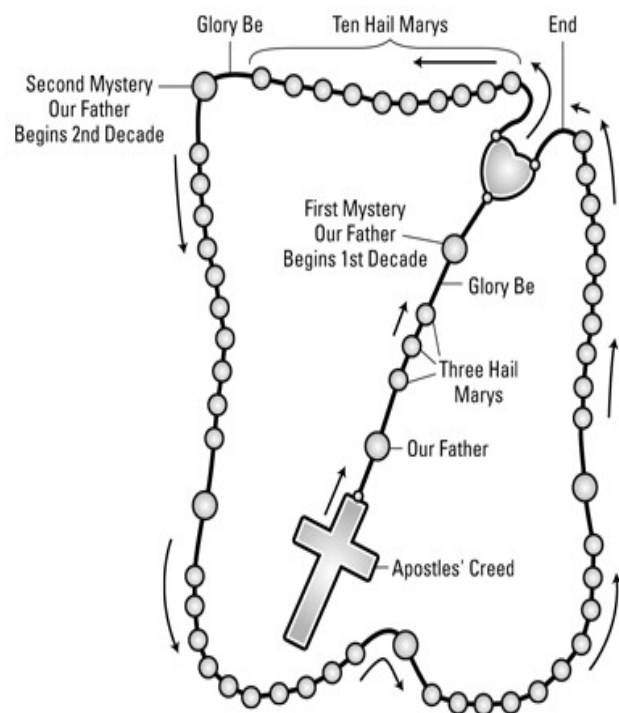
THE MONTH OF MAY- the Month of Mary



Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

The 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.



Hail, Holy Queen (*Salve Regina*)

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy. Hail, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin

Activities for Children



The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Cor. 12: 7-11

