

SEASONS

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year C

23rd December 2018

PCC=Parish Community Centre U=Undercroft
C=Church MPR=School Multipurpose Room
SSR=School Staff Room

Diary During January 2019

- **Thursday 17th January**
40th Anniversary Committee,
11am, PCC
- **Monday 21st January**
St Vincent de Paul Meeting,
9.30am, U
- **Wednesday 23rd January**
PPLT, 7.30pm, PCC
- **Thursday 24th January**
Liturgy Team Meeting,
6.30pm, PCC
- **Friday 25th January**
Antiques & Collectables
Committee, 10am, PCC

*Wishing all our
Parishioners and visitors*

*Merry
Christmas*

*Lys, Cherie & Vicki &
Fr. Laurie*

313 Canadian Bay Rd
Mount Eliza Vic. 3930
Phone: 9787 7777
Fax: 9787 9734
Email: MountEliza@cam.org.au
Web: www.stm-mteliza.org

Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr. Laurie Pearson (Parish Priest)
Lys Crowe (Pastoral Associate)
Ange Virgona (Chairperson)
Jacinta Griffin Carolyn Gascoigne
Sue Carr Paul Stinear
Justin Crawford

PPLT Email:
MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au

**No Weekday Masses
Until Wednesday
16th January 2019**

Except for New Years Day

Tuesday, 1st January 9.15 am

Weekend Masses

Saturday 6:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am

10:00 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 5:00—5:30 pm



*Be not afraid
to live joyfully and faithfully in the present*

Our Gospel Reading on this 4th Sunday of Advent is Mary visiting Elizabeth and both of them sharing the news and the blessing with each other of being unexpectedly pregnant. It is only by God's grace that they, and we, can live in the present, free from the burden of the past, and untroubled by the fear of an unknown future. Let us give thanks for this grace today.



A Christmas Message

This really is a good time of year. I know that it gets pretty busy for most, but there really is a spirit of joy around the place at this time and I hope we can all enter into that spirit. The friendship and fun at our parish Social Club Lunch at Norwood House, the pride and sense

of achievement seen in our Year 6 Graduates at their Mass on last Tuesday and the celebration of local community at the Carols on the Village Green (which ended up in the Mount Eliza Community Centre because of the weather) were all wonderful examples of people coming together in a spirit of joy and hope.

It's also an important time for families and I do hope and pray that you will be in a situation where you can enjoy Christmas with others that you care for and who care for you.

In a world where violence and confusion are all too prevalent, the message of Jesus Christ about peace and hope is a powerful counter-sign. Might I suggest that as we gather with others at Christmas (perhaps as we begin the Christmas meal) we take a little time to remember why we come together, to express out loud our gratitude for what we have been given and to remember those who are less fortunate.

I do hope you have a great time over these days, enjoy your Summer holiday time and travel safely. May God be with us as we look forward to a New Year in joyful hope.

Fr. Laurie



We pray for...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time...

Frank McConvill, Tom Shannon, Jason Lowndes, Tom Sanders, Marie Peters, George Vines, Margaret Rutherford-Smith, Marianna Landman

the sick...

David Dole, Maria Kelly, Linda Rezek, Andrew

Worthington, Helen Gibson, Len Crowe, Elizabeth Ware, Althea Greff, Michael Blick, Ann Shackleton, Marcia Fiume, Judy Pessato, Maureen Anstey, Fr. Michael Walsh, 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year C

First Reading: Micah 5:1-4

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

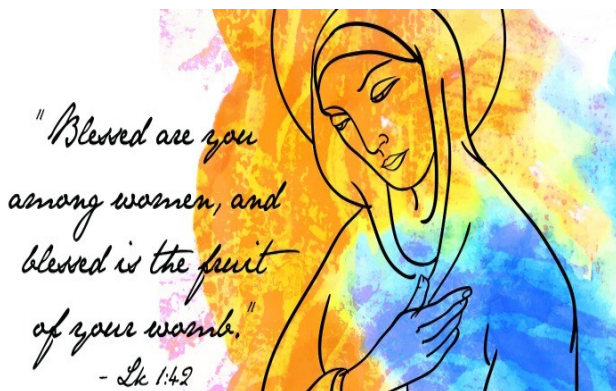
I am coming to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord; may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?



Next Week's Roster

	6pm	8am	10am
Lector	D Wirth	J Berkery - Coleman	R Storr
Comm.	L Crowe	LA Gibson	L Bracken
Min Euch	C Gascoigne (B) S Collins (G) N Davies (G)	H Grech (B) M Alaimo (G) T Woods (G)	A Coughlin (B) A Ferguson (G) G Hone (G)
AV	J Collins	B Smith	D Coyne
Children's Liturgy			No one needed School Holidays
Morning Tea			No one needed School Holidays
Counters			R Lindner D McKenzie Y Minton



November Mass Offerings

Mass will be celebrated during January for the intentions of the Anon, Anon, Seymour, Charley, Anon & Mirabella families.

Rosa Mystica Prayer



For the next few weeks the Rosa Mystica Prayer, on Thursday evenings, will be preceded by a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at 7pm. Masses will recommence from the 17th January 2019.



Holy Communion

During Communion adults or children who are not Catholic or not receiving Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing to any of the Eucharistic Ministers. Please indicate your wish for a blessing by crossing both arms in front of you.

Financial Matters

Stewardship

Received last weekend.....\$2,813

Pledged last weekend.....\$3,057

Presbytery

Amount received last week..... \$913

(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...

Nametags: The Parish Pastoral Leadership Team invites you to wear a nametag to Mass! This is just one way of us getting to know each other better. You can BYO, or we will have some stick-on ones available each week.

STM Social Club

Fun & Friendship For All

New members are always most welcome!

Membership fee is \$20. All enquiries to: Grevis 0414 527 172 or to Colleen 9787 2479.

Sunday, 27th January 2019 - Australia Day / 40th Anniversary Special in the Undercroft at 5pm.

Pizza and DVD movie "A Day in the Life of a Parish Priest" (ie Fr. Peter Fulton), followed by Pizza followed by a DVD "Cabaret". Not to be missed!

B.Y.O nibbles and drinks, \$10pp. All parishioners most welcome. Enquiries to Colleen 9787 2475

The **Welfare Officer** for December & January is Colleen.



Plenary Council 2020

If you weren't able to be at the Parish Meeting in November you might like to submit your own personal responses to the

Plenary Council questions before 6th March 2019. You can do this online at plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au or email plenary.council@catholic.org.au or write to the Plenary Council Team P.O. Box 747, North Sydney NSW 2059.



Are You (Fairly) New To Our Parish?

We would love to invite you to a meal at Fr. Laurie's house to enjoy the company of other parishioners, both old and new.

Just fill in the form in the folder at the Church porch and we will be in touch.



May love come alive within your heart
As Christmas time draws near,
May hope fill each room you decorate
And bring joy to those you hold dear,
May peace be before you at every meal
And faith ring through every song,
For Christ is alive, the light of the world
May he bless you all season long.



Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Thankyou to everyone who has volunteered to help on the day. We have more than enough people which is fantastic. A reminder to everyone to come and buy a sausage or two – and tell your friends as well! – **on Saturday 29th December from 8am – 4pm at Mornington Bunnings.**

No Seasons During January

The next edition of Seasons will be on 26/27 January 2019. If you have something you would like included in it, please send it to the Parish Office by 9am Thursday 24th January.



RCIA Rite of Acceptance

At the 8am Mass this weekend we officially welcome **Kristel Bergman** who began the RCIA journey a few months ago and has been meeting with the RCIA Team.

We thank Kathleen Ronchi who is her Parish Sponsor. Please pray for Kristel as her journey to Easter continues.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Thankyou to everyone! We raised \$766.

Congratulations to our winners:



- ◆ 1st Dot Wines
- ◆ 2nd Aileen Calley
- ◆ 3rd Deirdre Snooks
- ◆ 4th Beryl Moore

Parish Plenary Council Responses

The responses from our Parish meeting on 21st November have been collated and copies are available in the Church foyer.

The PPLT is preparing the submission to send off to the Plenary Council Committee.

40th Anniversary

Copies of the outline of next year's celebrations which begin on the 26th / 27th January are available in the Church foyer.

Please invite any former parishioners you know who may be interested to join us.

Christmas Mass Times



If you haven't already got a copy of the Christmas Mass times there are extra copies in the Church foyer.

What's happening here & elsewhere....

Thank You, Cherie



We will farewell Cherie Gage this weekend after 10 years service in the Parish Front Office. During that time Cherie has been responsible for preparing "Seasons" each week and for the Powerpoint presentation that enhances our Liturgy.

We do tend to take things for granted at times, but I have had many comments made from visitors about the quality and attractiveness of "Seasons". Thanks, Cherie.

A formal farewell for Cherie will happen at 10am Mass this weekend followed by Morning Tea. Fr. Laurie



St Thomas More's School Community Pathway

We are very excited to announce that starting from Term 1 2019, we will be taking orders for personalised, engraved bricks, which will be used to create a special STM Community Pathway going from the new playgrounds to the school oval. Past and present students are invited to add their names to the Community Pathway by purchasing a brick paver for each child, or one for the whole family. The bricks will be engraved and placed along that pathway to link students from the past, present and future. It is a fantastic way to mark your family's time at STM Primary School and will create a lasting connection for your child to the school.

Staff and Alumni are also welcome to purchase bricks so if you know of any neighbours, friends or family who would like to buy one, please let them know. Bricks can be dedicated to an inspirational teacher or a treasured classmate who attended STM Primary School. The aim is to include as many generations of staff and students and parishioners in the pathway as possible.

Each brick will cost \$80 – orders will be taken starting from Term 1 2019.

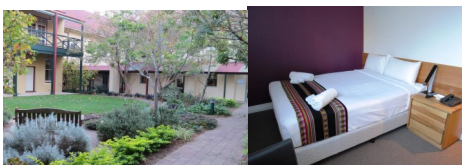


Baptisms

These are held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month at 11:15 am or at any of the Parish Masses on the 2nd, 4th or 5th Sundays. A compulsory preparation night for parents takes place on the first Tuesday of each month in the Parish Community Centre at 7:30 pm. The next Baptism Preparation Evening will be held on the 5th February 2019. Children to be baptised, and their families, are then invited to a

Welcome Mass prior to Baptism where they are introduced to the Parish Community and welcomed by them. In order for this to happen, preparation needs to begin at least **4-6 weeks** before the Baptism, with a call to confirm parents' attendance at the Preparation Night. When children of school age are to be baptised an extended preparation time is required.

It is important to remember that Baptism is about the initiation of a child into a community of Faith or a community of Disciples. There is no such thing as a 'private' Baptism... it is something done by the whole Church.



Are you Planning a Trip to Sydney in January?

Why not stay at Mary MacKillop Place, in the heart of North Sydney! Only 30minutes from the airport, close to ferries, trains, Sydney Harbour foreshore the Opera House and much more!

For accommodation enquires please call (02) 8912 4800