



SEASONS

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

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

15th December 2019

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

Diary

• **Monday**

St Vincent de Paul Meeting
7.30pm, PCC

• **Wednesday**

Social Club Lunch, 12 noon
PPLT Dinner, 6.30pm

Choir Practice, 7.30pm, C

Thursday

Rosa Mystica Prayer Group,
7.30pm, C



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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)
Lys Crowe	(Pastoral Associate)
Pat McConvill	(Principal)
Jacinta Griffin	(Chairperson)
Sue Carr	Carolyn Gascoigne
Paul Stinear	

PPLT Email:

MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au

Weekday Mass

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	
Yr 6 Graduation Mass	7.30 pm
Wednesday	9.15 am
Thursday	7.00 pm
Friday	9.15 am

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil	6.00 pm
Sunday	8.00 am
	10.00 am

Reconciliation

Thursday	
Advent Reconciliation Ritual	7.30 pm
Saturday	5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

For Advent this year, the Liturgy Team has decided to focus on the themes from our 2nd Readings each week.

**This week our theme is
PATIENCE.**

Patience can be hard at this time of the year when there seems so much to get done, queues to wait in, car parks hard to find, the right gift to purchase, people to catch up with..... and all at the end of the year when we're tired anyway!

So, how can we people of patience this week?
What needs to change in our lives so we can be more patient
- with ourselves, and with each other?

***See, the farmer await the precious yield of the soil.
Jesus, we await you every moment of our lives.
Come to us, bit by bit, day by day.
Teach us to wait for the yield of your love.***

We pray for...

Those who have died recently..

Sue Derrick (formerly O'Connor)

Those whose anniversaries fall at

this time.. Carolyn Royal, Fr John Pierce, Henry Haines, Wayne Jackson, William Green, Richard Shea, David Duff, Tom Sanders, Margaret Wunder, Carmel Bainbridge, Tom Shannon

the sick... Bernard Dee, Eileen O'Beirne, Helen



Steinbach, Raymond Reynolds, 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, Tequinomata, East Timor, St Therese Parish, Bathurst Island and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Alice Springs.

Third Sunday of Advent Year A

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10

God himself will come and save us.

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading: James 5: 7-10

You also must be patient: do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be soon.



Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11: 2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

Morning Tea Your hosts this week will be Bernice Clutterbuck and Sarah Harland You are all warmly invited after 10am Mass to linger for a cuppa and an opportunity to get to know some other members of your parish



Next Week's Roster: 21 / 22 December

	6pm	8am	10am
Lector	A-M Hyde	D Snooks	M Wunder
Comm.	J Carter	B Rodriguez	J Bourke
Min Euch	<u>Book</u> M Canning	<u>Book</u> B Hansen	<u>Book</u> B Smith
	<u>Gifts</u> C Gascoigne S Collins	<u>Gifts</u> B Ribbons M Hansen	<u>Gifts</u> A Coughlan L Crowe
AV	J Collins	L Crowe	D Coyne
Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!	Children's Liturgy	School Holidays	
	Morning Tea	A Davey J Bruitzman	
	Counters	R Lindner D McKenzie Y Minton	

Next Week's Advent Readings - 22nd December

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24



If you are on the Reader's Roster...

Please collect your new copy of Break Open the Word (with your name on it) from the Sacristy as the new liturgical year begins. Thank you.

Christmas Rosters

If you would like to be a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Commentator, AV Operator etc at any of the Christmas Masses, please write your name on the sheet at the back of the church.

Financial Matters	Stewardship	
	Received last weekend	\$2980
	Pledged last weekend.....	\$2865
	Church Loose collections.....	\$310
	Presbytery	
Received last weekend	\$681	
<small>(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.</small>		

Contemplative Prayer.

"Let tiny drops of silence fall gently through your day"

Silent prayer in the Church each Wednesday from 8:30 am to 9:15 am, followed by Mass.



Rosa Mystica Prayer Group

Invitation to share in Marian Devotion with the Rosa Mystica Prayer Group on Thursday evenings after the 7pm Mass.



What's Happening Here...

STM Social Club Fun & Friendship For All

New members are always most welcome!

Membership fee is \$20. All enquiries to:
Brian 0428 776 202 or Grevis 0414 527 172

Today, Sunday 15th December - Film "Knives Out" starting 3.20pm at Mornington Cinemas, then those who wish can go for a meal afterwards. Contact Christine 0431 696084.

Wednesday 18th December - Christmas Lunch at Norwood House at 12.00 noon \$55pp
Enquiries to Brian on 0425 776 202



We have 2 functions coming up in January 2020.

We would love to welcome some prospective new members at one or both of these activities. Speak to Brian 0425 776 202 or Colleen on 9787 2479

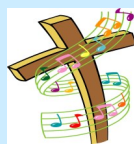
Thursday 16th January Lunch at Steeples Mornington at 12 noon. Let Brian know by the 14th if you are able to come.

Tuesday 21st January Coffee Morning at 'The Sober Mule', Peninsula Lifestyle Shopping Centre at 10am.

The Welfare Officers for December are Sally and Brian

Choir Practice for Christmas

The next choir practice (especially for the 9.30pm Christmas Eve Mass) will be on **Wednesday 18th December at 7.30pm** in the Church. New members are always



Baptism Welcomes

At the 10am Mass this weekend we have the Rite of Welcome for **Airlie Harms** (Parents – Andrew & Carly).

Congratulations and Welcome to **Hamish Egan** (Parents – Timothy & Sandra) who will be baptised after 10am Mass.



The next meeting of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be held on **Monday 16th December in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.** All parishioners are welcome.

Nametags: The PPLT invites and encourages everyone to please wear a nametag to Mass as a way of us all getting to know each other. You can BYO or stick-on ones are available outside the Church each weekend. This will be a really helpful way for Fr Joe to get to know us all, so even if it hasn't been something you have been used to doing, please consider wearing one now!

Christmas Hamper Raffle

Thankyou to everyone who has donated Christmas goodies for our Parish Fundraiser Hampers. So many different things!

It's well worth winning!

We have 1st prize (including a turkey), 2nd prize and 3rd prize Hampers.

Raffle tickets are still on sale

\$1 per ticket. The raffle will be drawn **THIS SUNDAY 15th December at 10am Mass.**

Advent Reconciliation Ritual

All are welcome to our communal Advent Reconciliation Ritual this coming **Thursday 19th December at 7.30pm**

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.



What's Happening Here and Elsewhere...



Farewell and Thankyou Pat

Sadly for our community, this week Pat McConvill will retire as the Principal of our Parish School. Pat has been here for the last 12 years and in that time much has been accomplished and initiated by her within the day-to-day school curriculum and in the wellbeing of families, and also in the building of the Gym and the refurbishment of the Admin Block, but the most major achievement was the establishment of Woodland Early Learning Centre. Pat had the vision and wisdom for this and then made sure it was carried through to completion (which was not always smooth sailing!). Her reason for establishing this was always as an asset to the Parish – to build a bridge between Baptism and School and also eventually to be a financial asset to the Parish.

Apart from the School, Pat has been involved in many ways in the rest of the Parish and especially through the PPLT, Parish Education Board, Parish Finance Committee, the Godstart Team, the Sacramental Team, and as a Lector, Commentator and Eucharistic Minister. Together with Frank, her husband, she was part of the Parish Pilgrimages to the Top End and to Central Australia. We also had the privilege of celebrating Frank's Funeral here in 2018.

Thankyou Pat for all you have contributed to the life of St Thomas More Parish, for all your leadership, love and support of all the children, staff and families that have been in your care, and best wishes for whatever adventures lie ahead. We know that the St Thomas More Community will always have a special place in your heart, as you will in ours.

The School had farewell celebrations for Pat last Friday, and this coming Wednesday the PPLT will celebrate with her over dinner.



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 one will be on **Tuesday 4th February 2020**

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.

Child abuse: Child abuse or maltreatment is defined as an act (or series of acts) that endangers a child or young person's physical or emotional health or development and/or a failure to provide conditions to the extent that the health and development of the child or young person is significantly impaired or placed at risk.



Categories of abuse and maltreatment include:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> physical abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> neglect | <input type="checkbox"/> discrimination | <input type="checkbox"/> emotional abuse including spiritual abuse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> family violence | <input type="checkbox"/> sexual abuse including grooming | <input type="checkbox"/> bullying | |

Signs and indicators of child abuse or maltreatment are not always obvious. Physical abuse may be more visible than other forms of abuse (e.g. bruising). Neglect is harder to identify as it consists of a failure to provide adequate care and attention. Likewise, you may not witness discrimination or bullying in relation to disability, mental illness, family violence, skin colour or race, gender identity or sexual orientation. However, it may result in signs or indicators in the child's behaviour, for example social withdrawal and depression.

All children and young people are vulnerable but there are some children and young people who have an even higher risk of abuse than the general population. They are children who have experienced abuse before or who have a disability, are from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, those experiencing poverty or homelessness or out of home care. Similarly, the child safety needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people are more acute due to a history of racism, marginalisation and dispossession.