



# SEASONS

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent Year C

31st March 2019

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

## Diary

### • Monday

St Vincent de Paul Meeting 9.30am, U

### • Tuesday

Social Club Liturgy & Meeting, 10am, C&U  
First Reconciliation Class, 4pm, PCC  
Baptism Preparation Mtg, 7.30pm, PCC

### • Wednesday

Reconciliation—Group 4, 7pm, C  
Choir Practice, 7.45pm, C  
RCIA Meeting, 7.45pm, PCC

### • Thursday

Liturgy Team Meeting, 5pm, PCC  
Social Justice Group, 7.30pm, PCC  
Confirmation Information/Workshop,  
7.30pm, MPR

### • Friday

Reconciliation—Group 5, 7pm, C

### • Saturday

Reconciliation—Group 6, 5pm, C

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**Mount Eliza Vic. 3930**  
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**Fax: 9787 9734**  
**Email: [MountEliza@cam.org.au](mailto:MountEliza@cam.org.au)**  
**Web: [www.stm-mteliza.org](http://www.stm-mteliza.org)**

### Pastoral Leadership Team

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

### PPLT Email:

[MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au](mailto:MountEliza.PPLT@cam.org.au)

### Weekday Masses

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	Liturgy 10.00 am
Wednesday	9.15 am
Thursday	7.00 pm
Friday	9.15 am
Friday	followed by Morning Tea
School-Stations of the Cross	10.30 am

### Sunday Masses

Saturday	6.00 pm
Sunday	8.00 am
	10.00 am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

## 4th Sunday of Lent

Our quote this week is from Joan Chittister OSB -  
*“Hope requires that we spin a few dreams for ourselves  
 that are possible, doable and desirable.”*

In our first reading this weekend, we learn about the Israelites who kept the Passover during their journey into the desert and how the gift of manna from heaven protected them on their way.

The Gospel story of the forgiving father is perhaps one of the most familiar stories of the New Testament. It is the ultimate explanation of God’s persistent love and compassion no matter the faults and failings of humanity. God’s mercy is continuously available.

Something of the mercy of God, present in the manna that kept the Israelites alive on their journey, is echoed in the compelling story of The Purple House from the Western Desert area of Central Australia. The Purple House in Alice Springs provides dialysis and a sense of belonging and welcome for patients from remote areas. The Wellbeing Project at the Purple House helps patients remain connected to their country, family and culture as they undergo treatment. It is a place of compassion and acceptance for patients and families.

The project not only helps patients with their medical needs, it engages the expertise of patients, their families and communities in ‘sustainable social enterprises.’ The Wellbeing Project makes and sells traditional bush balms and soaps. Revenue from the business funds activities for patients including a nutritional program using traditional ingredients. Patients, who are usually elders, train younger people in traditional medicines so that cultural knowledge and skills are kept alive and passed on to future generations.

Michaela is working as a trainee at The Purple House. She cares for the patients as they receive dialysis, and helps them to remain hopeful and connected to country during treatment. Patients in turn pass on traditional knowledge to Michaela who is eager to listen and learn. The passing on of knowledge and utilisation of family networks provides a space of cultural safety and Dadirri (listening, stillness) at the Purple House.



*What kind of a nation might we be if we accepted the gift of Dadirri (listening, stillness) as we encounter one another on the path to wellbeing for all Australians?*

### Lent Reconciliation Ritual

Our communal Reconciliation Ritual for Lent will be on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm**. We will incorporate the Aboriginal Stations of the Cross into this Liturgy.



## We pray for...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time... Melinda Flahive, Nancy Smith-Johnston, James Walsh.

the sick... Betty Corke, Rob Storr, Chloe, Bev Johnstone, 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 in Lent - Year C

**First Reading:** Joshua 5:9-12

*The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the Passover.*

### Responsorial Psalm

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**Second Reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

*God reconciled us to himself through Christ.*

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

**Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Gospel:** Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

*Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

### Next Week's Roster - 6/7 April

	6pm	8am	10am
<b>Lector</b>	.....	B. Rodriguez	L-A. Gibson
<b>Comm.</b>	L. Crowe	J. Bourke	P. Griffin
<b>Min Euch</b>	C. Gascoigne (B) M. Jamieson (G) M. Canning (G)	B. Hansen (B) M. Hansen (G) M. Alaimo (G)	A. Ferguson (B) L. Bourke (G) C. McNamara (G)
<b>AV</b>	J. Collins	B. Ribbons	A. Ryan
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>			School Holidays
<b>Morning Tea</b>			School Holidays
<b>Counters</b>	C. Landman M. Martin B. Dickson		



## Next Sunday: 7th Apr 2019 Daylight Saving Time Ends

Turn your clocks backwards One Hour



Thanks again to all who helped at the Parish Working Bee last Saturday. Some of the work is unseen—cleaning drainage pits and gutters, removing green waste and so on. But so necessary to keep the place as we enjoy it. Thanks to Barry Hansen for his planning and organisation - done so well and so graciously.



*Fr. Fiume*

## Financial Matters

### Stewardship

Received last weekend..... \$1817

Pledged last weekend ..... \$1530

### Presbytery

Amount received last week .....\$956

(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...

## 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 2nd April

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.

# 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

**Tuesday 2nd April - Monthly Meeting in the Undercroft after the 10am Liturgy. Reminder that Membership fee of \$20 is now due.**

**Friday 5th April - PLOS / Broadway to Beleura, Beleura House (bus from Mornington Golf Club 5.45pm)**

**Tuesday 9th April - The Sip 'n Sew Group will meet in the PCC at 2pm**

**Sunday 7th April** Film group Swimming With Men

**Wednesday 10th April - Ferry trip from Docklands \$89 p.p.** Enquiries to Fiona on 9 76 7064 or 0420 764 234

**Thursday 2nd May - Morning tea at Degani's in Mt. Eliza at 10am.**

**Wednesday 22nd May - Breakfast at Taggart's to celebrate the Club's 30th Anniversary.**

The **Welfare Officers** for March are Betty and Jim Bourke

The St Vincent de Paul Society's next meeting will be in the Undercroft on Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9.30 am. All parishioners are very welcome to come along and find out more about our work.



Thank you Marilyn Hoban

(Please note: The St Vincent de Paul Society is about to introduce night time meetings to enable working people to come along and find out more about our work—more details to follow)

## Children's Liturgy at 10am Mass

Daniel and Clare Parks will lead the children in an exploration of this week's Gospel at the 10am Mass.

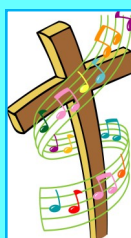
Please encourage your primary school age children to join them in the Undercroft, or you might like to go with your pre-schoolers.

## Bulb Drive – Parish Fundraiser

A reminder that all Bulb orders (if you are returning them and not ordering them online yourself) must be returned by this Sunday – 31<sup>st</sup> March - to the box in Church foyer. Thankyou for supporting this Parish fundraising effort.



**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.



## Choir Practice

In preparation for **Holy Week**, Choir practices will be held in the Church:  
**7:45pm** Wednesday **3rd April** &  
**3.00pm** Wednesday **10th April**

Thank You. Maureen Mirabella



## Morning Tea will be held after the 9:15am Mass this Friday.

All welcome to come to the Parish Community Centre to enjoy the special hospitality of some of our year 4 students.

## Bring and Buy stall this weekend homemade, handmade, home grown

Don't forget to have a look at the stall at all masses this weekend, and see what you may be able to purchase, made or grown by our clever fellow parishioners. All proceeds to the Parish.



## Baptism Welcome

Congratulations and Welcome to **Ryley Mellech** (Parents – Steve & Kim) who will be baptised at the 10am Mass this weekend.



## Combined Catholic Parishes Raffle Update

As of last weekend, we have sold or allocated **134 out of 200 books**, and collected over \$1,644 of \$4,000. We encourage you to bring in books and payment as soon as they're sold as you only have this weekend and the 6/7 April to return them. *This is a fundraising effort: ie: for every \$2 ticket sold—we retain \$1.50 for our Parish.* Many thanks once again to our after-Mass sellers. The Final day for returns will be Tuesday 9th April to the Parish Office.



# What's happening here & elsewhere....

One of the issues being addressed by the St Thomas More Social Justice Group is the just treatment of Asylum Seekers and Refugees. We work of behalf of the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project (BASP).

We believe strongly in the dignity of each human person and so do what we can to welcome the stranger. This involves offering friendship, English lessons and practical support to purchase essential items such as school books and uniforms for children and other essential supplies.

Parishioners are invited to assist in providing support by making a donation to BASP to be used to help the Individuals and families being supported by St Thomas More Social Justice Group. The donation can be a single annual donation or monthly donations. All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

**Bank Details:** BSB : 083-004 Account Number: 56-924-6603

**Account Name:** Brigidine Asylum Seekers Trust Account

**Description:** St Thomas More Parish, Mt Eliza

**Cheques** can be made out to **BASP** with

**Parish details added:** St Thomas More Parish, Mt Eliza

**Post** to BASP, 54 Beaconsfield Pde, Albert Park 3206

**St Thomas More  
Social Justice Group**

On Saturday 8 June, 2019, with the onset of Winter, **Catholic Social Services Victoria** will host a forum "Homelessness – What can Parishes do?" at Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne, from 9.30am-1.00pm. The forum will focus on demonstrating practical ways participants can increase or renew support for homeless people in our communities. Cost: \$20, includes lunch. Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BBQOR>; enquiries to Adrian Foley, [Adrian.foley@css.org.au](mailto:Adrian.foley@css.org.au), tel 0497 780 233.

**Mary Magdalene ... A Most Maligned Woman** – Join us for a reflection day exploring the life of Mary Magdalene! *Can we set the record straight by considering John 20:1,2,11-18 ... so that Mary of Magdala is not cheated out of the integrity of her own life, or of the dangerous memory of her missionary discipleship, or we the People of God deprived of the prophetic power of women's leadership?*

At Heart of Life, 96 Albion Road, Box Hill, Saturday 6 April, 10am-4pm. Cost \$60 (morning tea provided, BYO lunch). Enquiries and bookings - [holsc@bigpond.com](mailto:holsc@bigpond.com) or tel 9890 1101 or [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne)

**Pope Francis said "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act."**

It is estimated that up to 40 million people are trapped in slavery globally – 1 in 4 of these are children. They will never get an education and they will never taste the chocolate produced from the cocoa beans they pick. But people around the world are making decisions that could change this tragedy.

**Good News:** St Vincent's Health Australia is working towards slavery-free procurement of the goods and services used across their 32 sites.

**Action:** Follow the lead of Melbourne Catholic schools and St Vincent's and buy only slavery-free. It is delicious. It will feature one of these three logos. <https://acrath.org.au/take-action/slavery-free-easter/> for information and resources.



## THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM

Go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime & subscribe to weekly shows by email.

## LOCAL RADIO CTHOLIC HOUR

Every Sunday at 8am Radio Rpp 98.7 fm Contact Maureen Federico 9787 6540

## St Thomas More's School Community Pathway

The School Parents Association are very excited to announce they 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. The bricks will be engraved and placed along that pathway to link students from the past, present and future. 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. Each brick will cost \$80 – For more information contact Marcus : [marcusbenbow@gmail.com](mailto:marcusbenbow@gmail.com)

