

SEASONS

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

Third Sunday of Advent Year C

16th December 2018

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

Diary

- **Wednesday**
Choir Practice, 8.15pm, C



Be Not Afraid

to find a deeper source of joy than that offered by all our end-of-year activities.

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Pastoral Leadership Team

Fr. Laurie Pearson (Parish Priest)
Lys Crowe (Pastoral Associate)
Peter Whyte (School D Principal)
Ange Virgona (Chairperson)

Jacinta Griffin Carolyn Gascoigne
Sue Carr Paul Stinear
Justin Crawford

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

Weekday Masses

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	7.30 pm
Year 6 Graduation Mass	
Wednesday	9.15 am
Thursday, Lit of the Word	7.00 pm
Friday, Lit of the Word	9.15 am

Weekend Masses

Saturday	6:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am
	10:00 am

Reconciliation

Wednesday, Advent	7.30 pm
Saturday	5:00—5:30 pm

As we light the pink candle on this third Sunday of Advent we are reminded to be joy-filled people. The First and Second Readings and the Responsorial Psalm are filled with an infectious spirit of joy, and the Gospel reminds us to be like John the Baptist in being people of Good News.

Can we set aside our fears, anxieties and uncertainties this week, to find the joy that is in our lives and the good news that awaits us in our empty crib?

Advent Reconciliation Ritual

Our communal Advent Reconciliation Ritual is this week, on Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm.

Thank You, Cherie



We will farewell Cherie Gage at the end of December 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 on Sunday, 23rd December followed by Morning Tea. Fr. Laurie



We pray for...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time...

William Green, Richard Shea, David Duff, Tom Sanders, Margaret Wunder, Carmel Bainbridge, Jason Sutton

the sick...

David Dole, Maria Kelly, Linda Rezek, Andrew

Worthington, Helen Gibson, Len Crowe, Elizabeth Ware, Althea Greff, Michael Blick, Chloe, 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.

Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Responsorial Psalm

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is near.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

What, then, must we do?

Next Week's Roster

	6pm	8am	10am
Lector	M Charley	J Berkery - Coleman	M Wunder
Comm.	G Hannan	A Moloney	J Bourke
Min Euch	J Hannan (B) H Steyn (G) M Canning (G)	M Goss (B) B Ribbons (G) D Cleary (G)	R Storr (B) L Bracken (G) A Coughlin (G)
AV	J Collins	B Smith	I Owsianka
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 this week for the intentions of the Sutton, Gunsekera & Anon families.



Morning Tea

Your hosts this week will be Katie Rodgers and Beatrice Rodriguez. 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 community better.

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



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.

Financial Matters

Stewardship

Received last weekend.....\$2,104

Pledged last weekend.....\$2,842

Presbytery

Amount received last week.....\$1,182

(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.



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...



Each year we help out with this Appeal in conjunction with St James the Less Anglican community and the Village Church Uniting community. Our turn to sit outside Village Fruits is on Wednesday 19th December.

If you can help for an hour or two on that day, please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Church. Thankyou in anticipation.

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.



Christmas Rosters

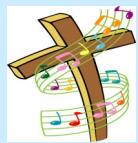
If you are able to help as a Reader, Commentator, Minister of the Eucharist etc. at the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses, please write your name on the Roster at the back window of the church.



PlenaryCouncil2020
'Listen to what the Spirit is saying...'

Plenary Council 2020

If you weren't able to be at the recent Parish Meeting 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.



Choir Practice For Christmas

Our next Choir practice will be held after the Reconciliation Mass on Wednesday 19th December at **8.15pm** in the Church on **Wednesday 19th December**.



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**.

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

An outline of next year's celebrations was included in Seasons over the last 2 weeks. Extra copies 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 have haven't already got a copy of the Christmas Mass times (included in Seasons over the last 2 weeks) there are extra copies in the Church foyer.

Christmas Hamper Raffle



Thankyou to everyone who so generously contributed to our Christmas Hamper Raffle. (There was enough to make up an extra New Year Hamper to raffle at our Bunnings Sausage Sizzle!) 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes are hampers and our 4th prize is a knitted Santa. **Tickets are \$1 each** and are available before and after each Mass. **The raffle will be drawn at the 10am Mass this weekend.**



Baptism Welcomes

At the 6pm Mass this weekend we have the Rite of Welcome for **Samantha McCulloch** (Parents – Daniel & Maegan) and **Max Sullivan** (Parents – Paul & Rachel). Congratulations to **Max Sullivan** (Parents – Paul & Rachel) who will be baptised after the 10am Mass on Sunday.

What's happening here & elsewhere....



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.

Catholic Theological College

2019 Study Options Now Available!

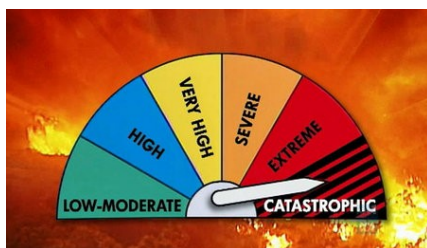
Undergraduate and Postgraduate Options

Systematic Theology, Moral Theology, Religious Education or Christian Spirituality units

Audit options available

Enquiries: Mr John Bartholomeusz, Assistant Dean

T: 9412 3309 E: ctc@ctc.edu.au



PARISH BUSHFIRE POLICY

With the "Advent" of the Fire Danger Period and given the warnings that risk during the approaching Summer will be extremely high, the Parish Bushfire Policy will be very similar to that of the School. Schools identified as being at high fire risk will be closed on days declared by fire authorities to be Code Red. Our School (and obviously the whole Parish complex) has been identified as at high fire risk. If the school is closed, the Parish Office will close.

The decision to close will be confirmed by close to 12 noon the day before the planned closure. Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. No Staff will remain on site when the Parish is closed by the threat of fire.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the safest option when a Code Red day is declared is to leave the night before, or early in the morning of the Code Red day.

This Policy has the potential to impact on some Parish activities. In the unlikely event that Weekend Masses are cancelled - a decision that would be made by 12 noon on the previous day – a message to that effect will be left on the Parish phone. Such a decision would be made reluctantly, but it would be made in good time. Have a wonderful Summer and holiday period, but do make sure that your own bushfire survival plan is clear and up to date.