



# SEASONS

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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ — Year A

14th June 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

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.

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 underlying 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.

### **Parish Consultation**

As parishes are now permitted to resume liturgical celebration with a limited quota per each service, we are considering to introduce **4:00pm Mass on Sunday afternoon** in order to provide further opportunity for parishioners to attend Sunday Mass. We are proposing Sunday 4:00pm Mass because we understand that it may not be convenient for people to leave the house during the wintry months when the day is shorter and the weather can be unbearably harsh. We will instate Sunday 4:00pm Mass **ONLY** if parishioners are interested in taking up this offer. Please, send your expression of interest to us by 26th June 2020 .

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

Parish landline: 9787 7777.

## We pray for...

Those who have passed away recently...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time..

Louise Anna-Maria Kasperlik, Ellen Breen, Lorna MacGregor, Lorna Marshall

The sick... John Curwood, Salve Caleo, Evonne Paddison, Les Smith, Jeff Hone, Jo-



anne O'Brien, Ron Congues, Maree Bracken, Maria Truong,, Bill Luscombe, Brigitte Rohner, Eileen O'Beirne, Helen Steinbach, Ava Macias, Michael MacKenzie, Luke Carroll, Betty Corke, Chloe, David Dole, Maria Kelly, 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.*

## The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ — Year A

**First Reading:** Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16

He gave you food which you and your ancestors did not know.

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

**Second Reading:** I Corinthians 10: 16-17

Though we are many, we form a single body because we share this one loaf.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord: whoever eats this bread will live forever.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** John 6:51-58

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.



**Next Week's Readings - 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13

2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-15

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33



**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 participate.

**Catholic Parish of St Thomas More**

**313 Canadian Bay Rd  
Mount Eliza Vic. 3930  
Phone: 9787 7777**

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

**Web: [www.stm-mteliza.org](http://www.stm-mteliza.org)**

**Pastoral Leadership Team**

*Fr Joe Truong (Parish Administrator)*

*Jacinta Griffin (Chairperson)*

*Sue Carr Paul Stinear*

*Leonie Bourke Carmel Huggard*

*Margaret Jamieson Michael Robertson*

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

### Mass online

[www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass](http://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 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...

### 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/registrant/donate.aspx?eventId=52905&spid=5635822>

### Would You Like To Advertise Your Business In This Space In Seasons?

- ◆ Business card size In colour
- ◆ \$50 for one month

We print 200 copies per week, and distribute to all STM School families by email. It is also available on the Parish website for six months. Please contact the Parish Office on 9787 7777 for further details.

### GET AHEAD IN ENGLISH

English tutoring available  
Year 7 to Year 12

Ask me about "Table for 6"

Call Alicia Canning on 0435 665 477

Current Padua College Staff Member



### Financial Matters

<u>Stewardship</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Pledge</u>	<u>Presbytery</u>	
7th June	\$ 4829	\$ 6686	7th June	\$471

(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 . 20 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 session**



## STM Parish Ministry Groups.

STM Parish Ministry Groups may reconvene from 22 June 2020. In consultation with the Government, the Archdiocese has put together strict guidelines for meeting of parish ministry groups (similar to the guidelines for Mass Attendance). The diocese has advised that the Victorian Police have been monitoring parishes and places of worship to make sure that we are complying with the regulations. In some instances, these have resulted in fines. Convenor/Chair of any ministry group that wishes to resume meeting is required to contact the parish office for a copy of the guidelines.

**PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT FR JOE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY STM MINISTRY GROUP TO RECONVENE AT THIS STAGE .**

### **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.*



## Community Corner

### The Miracle of Life

Congratulations to Anthony and Monica Hansen who have just had a baby girl!!! Anthony and Monica have named their daughter, “**Danyu**”. Danyu means Rainbow in Acholi—Monica’s tribal language.



### Thank you from the Cresswell Family

"To the wonderful and thoughtful community at STM, thank you so much for your generous donation. We miss being amongst the STM community but at the same time we have been welcomed warmly into The Upper Murray community. We have decided to put the money towards installing new, efficient and more powerful water pumps here on the farm, and also increasing our water holding capacity by installing more tanks. Fires are an ongoing risk so we want to keep our farm, our family and our community safe. Thank you once again."

God Bless. Love The Cresswell's.



## Homily

This weekend as we come together to celebrate the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ let us pray that God will place in us a deeper love and appreciation for the gift of the Eucharist.

ST Augustin of Hippo once said, “you see on the altar bread and a cup. This is what the evidence of your eyes tells you, but your faith requires you to believe that the bread is the body of Christ, the cup the blood of Christ”. The real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist cannot be proven by science or any other way. Without faith we cannot explain the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Also, we need faith in order to believe that the substance of bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ (*transubstantiation*) at the very moment when the priest consecrates the bread and wine by repeating the words that Jesus used at the Last Supper – **“this is my body....this is my blood”**. Only faith can explain how such *transubstantiation* can happen. It is in faith that we come to celebrate the Eucharist and it is in faith that we receive Jesus in the form of bread and wine.

I experience a sense of wonder and awe as well as feeling unworthy when I repeat Jesus’ sacred words, “this is my Body....**given up for YOU**”. (Jesus gives himself as food for anyone who welcomes it in faith!). I feel unworthy because I am conscious of my sins, unfaithfulness, and imperfections. Yet, in spite of my unworthiness, Jesus still loves me so much that he gives himself as food in the Eucharist for my nourishment. I have a sense of wonder and awe every time I consecrate the bread and wine because at one moment what I am holding in my hands are ordinary bread and wine, but, a short moment later I am holding the Body of Christ. For me, this is indeed, **“the mystery of faith”**. My only suggestion to you, if I may, is every time you come to pray the Mass in the Church or online or television, listen attentively to Jesus’ sacred words “this is my Body...given up for you”. Jesus gives himself fully to us no matter what...

In the Gospel of John we often hear Jesus making statements like: “I am the gate”, “I am the Shepherd”, “I am the light”, “I am the way”, and so on. In today’s Gospel passage Jesus says, “I am the living bread that came down from heaven”. Jesus is the living bread that gives nourishment to our spiritual life. But, the question is, will everyone be open to receive this gift of living bread?

May the gift of Jesus’ Body and Blood bring healing and nourishment to all those who receive it.

## I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS



Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.

Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her Glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints. Amen

Activities for Children

E	V	E	N	V	A	E	H	S	E
L	I	V	E	N	D	A	E	R	B
A	E	D	Y	A	E	N	Y	O	E
N	D	O	O	R	E	V	E	T	H
R	N	O	S	E	D	F	A	S	T
E	F	L	E	H	O	R	E	E	A
T	A	B	D	T	E	L	I	C	H
E	V	R	E	A	F	A	B	N	I
L	S	E	L	F	E	E	V	A	K
A	N	R	E	T	E	D	A	E	L

BREAD HEAVEN LIVE  
 EVER FLESH DRINK  
 BLOOD ETERNAL FATHER  
 ANCESTORS DEAD ANYONE



"This is my body-  
 take and eat...  
 this is my blood -  
 take and drink..."

Your friend, Jesus.