

# SEASONS

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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

14th August, 2011

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

### Diary

- **Wednesday**  
1st Eucharist Retreat Day, School  
Mt Eliza InterChurch Council,  
7:30pm, PCC
- **Thursday**  
Peninsula Deanery, 7.30pm, PCC  
RCIA Catechetics, 7.30pm, PCC



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### Parish Priest

Fr. Laurie Pearson

### Pastoral Associate

Maria Newbigin

### Parish Planning Team

Fr. Laurie Tim Hogan  
Maria Newbigin Peter Whyte  
Mary Cameron Adel Cowie  
Margaret Carr

### Mass Times

Monday, Feast of the Assumption Mass	7.00pm
Tuesday	9.15am
Wednesday, followed by Holy Hour	9.15am
Thursday	9.15am
Friday (No School Mass this week)	9.15am
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00pm
Sunday	8.00am 10.00am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 5.00pm - 5.30pm

### Baptisms

are held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month at 11:30 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.

## Church - Beacon of Hope for the Future



### Children of Tequinomata

As I mentioned on my return from there a couple of months ago, I found the situation in East Timor very confronting and even quite disturbing. However it seemed to me (and I may well be prejudiced) that the Church is perhaps the one beacon of hope for the future. I was convinced too, that the contributions we have made in various ways have, in fact, made a difference - if only to a limited number of communities, schools and parishes.

Now might be a good time to review that commitment, and we have nominated the weekend of September 10/11 as a special East Timor weekend. Specifically, I will be suggesting that as a parish we might take on the task of completing the Church at Tequinomata. It's an \$8000 project and I'm sure we can find a way to raise that amount of money. On that weekend we will present a "budget" nominating the kind of work that is

needed as well as showing photos of the Church and nearby school.

In the meantime, please remember our First Communion candidates as they prepare for their very special day over the next fortnight or so. They have worked very hard and are very excited. Special thanks to all our teachers and catechists who have worked so well with our children and their families to celebrate this important time.

Good wishes to Maria Newbigin who departs for Scotland next week to visit family and friends. We all hope you have a safe and memorable trip, Maria and we certainly look forward to seeing you again in October.

As always, let us all continue to support one another as we journey in faith together.

### First Communion Masses



Children from St Thomas More School will celebrate their First Communion at Mass at 2pm on Sunday, August 21st and Sunday August 28th.

Children from other schools will celebrate at **10am Mass on Sunday August 28th.**

Please remember all our young people in our prayer.

*Fr. Laurie*

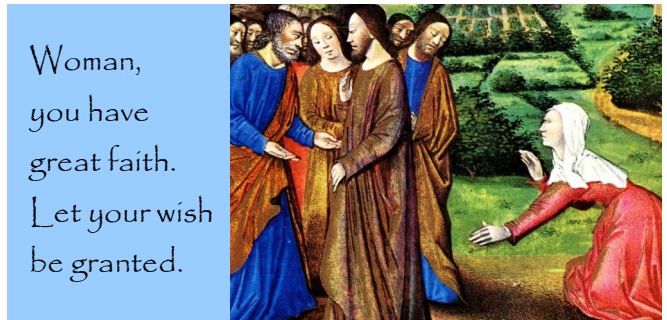
# We pray for...

**Those who have died recently**  
Lidia Conti

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time**  
Simon Ryan, Andrew Pinnuck, Thomas Hansen, Donn O'Connor, Doris Driscoll, James T. Kennedy, Thomas P. Smith, Ruby McCartney, Ethel May Blake

**and the Sick**  
Corey (Russ) Macgregor, Dee Rorke, John Nuttney, Helen Sorensen, Samantha, Tracey Jamieson, Jenny Morrison, Mel Hoban and all of the sick at the

George Vowell Centre and Ranelagh Gardens Nursing Home.



## Liturgy - Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Isaiah 56:1 6-7  
*I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.*

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
O God, let all the nations praise you!

**Second Reading:** Romans 11:13-15 29-32  
*The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, and healed all who were sick. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 15:21-28  
*Woman, you have great faith.*

**Next week's readings:**  
Isaiah 22:19-23  
Romans 11:33-36  
Matthew 16:13-20



### Feast Of The Assumption

Monday, 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - one of the two "obligation" days on the Church Calendar (the other is Christmas). **Mass will be celebrated at 7pm.**



### Are You (Fairly) New To Our Parish?

Are you 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.

## Financial Matters...

### Thanksgiving

Amount received last week..... \$4820  
Average 2011 ..... \$3255  
Pledged per week ..... \$3450

### Presbytery

Amount received last week.....\$843  
*Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.*

### Morning Tea



Your hosts this week are Ruth Pusic and Katie Rodgers.

You are all warmly invited to linger for a cuppa and an opportunity to get to know some other members of your parish community better.

Your hosts next week will be Tim and Catherine Hogan.

# Parish Group Activities

## STM Social Club

On Friday, 26th August, the **Walking Group** will visit Coolart Wetlands and Homestead, (Mel 193, H8), Lord Somers Road, Somers. We will assemble in the car park, ready to begin the walk at 10am.

Those who would like to car pool should meet at Gui and Jeffrey's, 172 Grant Rd, Mt Eliza at 9.15am.

Coffee afterwards in Balnarring Village.

Enquiries to Colleen 9787 2479 or Gui 9787 1449.

**The welfare officers for August are Lois Bracken 9787 2970 and Gui Hone 9787 1449.**

## Contemplative Prayer Group



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

Silent prayer in the Church each Tuesday (except the 1st Tuesday of the month) from 8.45am-9.15am followed by Mass.

## Children's Liturgy



Catherine Hogan and Gabrielle Dole will lead the children in an exploration of this week's Gospel. Please encourage your children to join them.

## Holy Hour



All parishioners are invited to Holy Hour every Wednesday, directly after Mass. Some may wish to stay for the full hour, others may come for a few minutes or a short time. Everyone is most welcome to spend a little time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

## A Message From Maria



I have some exciting news – maybe not for you but it is for me. Next week is my last week before flying off to Italy, Ireland and Scotland. Apart from a short break in Italy, I will be spending the time with my family. Just as the weather is (hopefully) starting to fine up here, I am heading off into autumn. I will be back in the parish the week of 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Last week I spoke about the need for more assistance with the Funeral Ministry. This week there will be sign-up sheets in the foyer again for anyone wanting to add their name to the Funeral Ministry list. This is to help provide, set-up and serve refreshments for funerals in the parish.

Another, connected, request is for a few people prepared to learn to operate the AV system who are available during the week for special events such as funerals.

It would be of great help to have a couple of people we could call on at such times. Although we cannot predict when a funeral may occur we can say the AV operator is only needed for approximately an hour for this role and they take place within school hours. If you have any questions about this please speak to Fr Laurie or Irene.

Caritas are appealing for donations to assist with the famine being experienced in the Horn of Africa. For more information go to their website [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)



## A Journey To Jordan & Israel



Here is a wonderful opportunity to visit those places with names so familiar to us...Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee, Jerusalem.

Our pilgrimage to Jordan and the Holy Land will begin on 11th April next year.

You are warmly invited to an **information night** at the Parish Community Centre on **Wednesday, 24th August at 7.30pm** (alternatively, you may wish to attend the evening at St Macartan, Mornington, on Wednesday, 31st August).

Fr. Laurie will speak about the attractions of these sacred sites and Steven Green (ETM Travel) will explain the details and answer your questions. We would love to see you on one of those evenings.

**Copies of the itinerary and application forms are on the table at the back of the church.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fr. Laurie'.

Copies of **Kairos** are on sale at the back of the church. Please leave \$2 in the container marked KAIROS.

# What's Happening Elsewhere



## Glamour Of The Gown Parade

Catholic Care, together with Friends of St Mary of the Cross, are holding a stunning **Glamour of the Gown Parade** as a fundraiser for CatholicCare's Alcohol & Other Drug Family Service.

A collection of after five and special occasion gowns dating back to the 1940's will be modelled. The gowns will include a collection worn by Nan Rivett, wife of renowned Australian journalist Rohan Rivett, who wore many of these glamorous international gowns at overseas events.

**When:** 7.30pm Thursday 1st September

**Where:** Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill

**Cost:** \$35 per head (light supper included). All funds raised will support families torn apart by a loved one's misuse of alcohol or other drugs.

Please contact CatholicCare's St Mary of the Cross Centre on 8417 1200 to purchase event tickets or

arrange assistance for your family, or go to our website [www.ccam.org.au](http://www.ccam.org.au)

## Happy 50th Birthday, Palms!



Come and celebrate at the Jubilee Dinner on the 22nd October.

Join returned volunteers and the many friends and supporters of Palms who have travelled - and are still on the road with us - for the next 50 years

**Organise a Parish Table!** Register by the 1st September and pay the **special price of \$50 (incl. GST)** per person or \$500 (incl. GST) for a table of 10. For more information contact Palms (02) 9518 9551 or you can register online at: <http://www.palms.org.au/news/50th-anniversary-dinner-22-oct-2011/>

See you there !

## Jazz for East African Drought

Fundraiser Jazz Concert for the drought in Kenya and Somalia.

Featuring the **Simon Pilbrow Trio** (Simon Pilbrow on piano, Leon Heale on bass & David May on drums).

**When:** Saturday, 3rd September @ 8pm

**Where:** New Peninsula Church, 370 Craigie Rd, Mt Martha (Mel 146 A11)

**Cost:** Adults \$20, Children \$10, Family \$60

All welcome, with **all proceeds to Red Cross East Africa Drought Appeal 2011**.



## Caritas Australia's East Africa Crisis Appeal

*"If there is hunger anywhere in the world, then our celebration of the Eucharist is somehow incomplete everywhere in the world. In the Eucharist we receive Christ hungering in the world. He comes to us not alone, but with the poor, the oppressed, the starving of the earth."* Pedro Arrupe SJ. 1976

Caritas Australia invites the Catholic Community to pray for and support the victims of the worst droughts in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and across East Africa in 60 years which has left at least 10 million people in need of food, water and basic facilities. Half of those are children. Tanzania and the new state of South Sudan are experiencing serious food and water shortages too.

Through Caritas Australia's East Africa Crisis Appeal, you can help provide food relief, clean water and basic necessities, and help the most vulnerable families to maintain their livelihoods in this time of crisis.

For more information or to donate please visit [www.caritas.org.au/eastafricacrisis](http://www.caritas.org.au/eastafricacrisis) or call 1800 024 413; or post donations to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830, Melbourne, Vic 3001 or 383 Albert Street East Melbourne 3002.