

SEASONS

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

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th October, 2011

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
Social Club Committee Meeting,
1.30pm, PCC
Choir Practice, 7pm, C
- **Thursday**
Rosa Mystica, 7:15pm, C
- **Friday**
Walking Group, Gui Hone's,
9.15am, or Dromana, 10am

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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	No Mass
Tuesday	No Mass
Wednesday, Lit of the Word with Holy Comm. foll. by Holy Hour	9:15am
Thursday	No Mass
Friday Lit of the Word with Holy Communion (No School Mass)	9:15am
Saturday (Vigil)	6:00pm
Sunday	8:00am 10:00am

Reconciliation
Please Note that there will be no Reconciliation until 5th November.

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.

Give To God What Belongs To God

Religion and Politics - always a volatile brew! Today's Gospel shows that this is not a modern dilemma but one faced by Jesus and his first disciples. While we try to live out the values of God's reign, we are not divorced from the realities of this world, in fact it is this world that we are missioned to, and living in this world demands that we are political - that is we are part of the society we live in. Vatican II expressed it like this, 'The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this age...are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ.'

Jesus had been preaching revolutionary values about the treatment of the poor and the outcast. His message had the possibility of turning society upside-down and so some saw him as a social revolutionary. At that time some groups within Judaism were looking for ways to throw off Roman kin-dom. The Pharisees in the Gospel set a devious trap to see if Jesus will align himself with such anti-Roman ideals.

Jesus turns the tables on his opponents with his response - Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. This pithy saying makes me wonder 'what belongs to God' in my life? Does God truly get what rightfully

belongs to God, or just the leftovers in my busy schedule? If only giving God what belongs to God was as simple as paying taxes. My God asks more of me than that.

*Sundays Under the Southern Cross
Mary Coloe PBVM*

Thoughts On The Gospel



In the paper the other day someone wrote about the current economic crash as a 'crisis of faith': we had believed in the money markets as our religion. We just thought that money would make money and money would buy happiness.

'The Pharisees are trying desperately to get rid of Him. If He says you can pay taxes to Caesar, then He's on the side of the hated Romans, whom they hoped the longed-for Messiah would free them from, so they can stir up the people against Him. But if He says not to pay Caesar, then He's guilty of treason and they can hand him straight over to the Romans.

'Jesus saw straight through this. And His answer was not just clever: it had a very basic message that we often forget: God is in control, not human beings. We don't need to try to manipulate God or others. If we are faithful to God, and work within our situation, He will do the rest.

'In these tougher times, we need to rely on God's providence. This is our opportunity to let go of the money religion, so that money becomes what it should be: a useful tool, not our master.

'Excerpt from a homily by Dominic White OP

We pray for...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time
 Margaret Shea, Maria Torcaso, John A. Hoban, John Eggin, Bunty Bowring, Veronica Wood

and the Sick
 Little 8yr old Bonnie, Walter Hengel, Dee Rorke, John Nuttney, Samantha, and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre and Ranelagh Gardens Nursing Home.



Liturgy - 29th Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1.4-6
I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

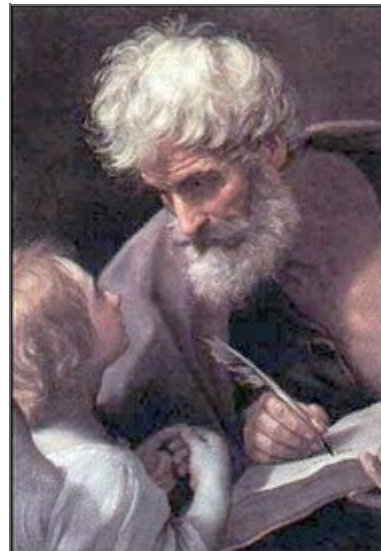
Responsorial Psalm:
 Give the Lord glory and honour.

Second Reading: I Thessalonians 1:1-5
We are mindful of your faith, hope and love.

Gospel Acclamation:
 Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21
Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

Next week's readings:
 Exodus 22:20-26
 I Thessalonians 1:5-10
 Matthew 22:34-40



Saint Matthew
*God of Mercy, you chose a tax collector, St Matthew, to share the dignity of the apostles.
 By his example and prayers help us to follow Christ
 And remain faithful in your service.
 Amen*
From the Mass for Mt Matthew, Apostle & Avaneelist

Financial Matters...

Thanksgiving
 Amount received last week..... \$1632
 Average 2011 \$3128
 Pledged per week \$3429

Presbytery
 Amount received last week..... \$956
Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.

Morning Tea



This week, Beatrice Rodriguez and Gui Hone warmly invite you 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 Alicia and Michael Canning.

Parish Group Activities



St Vincent de Paul Society **Good Works**

The next meeting of the Morning Star Conference will be held in the Undercroft on Monday, 17th October commencing at 9.30am. Any parishioner interested in the work of the Society or in contributing to the work of the Society is welcome to attend.

STM Social Club

The next **Social Club Committee Meeting** is this Monday @ 1.30pm in the Undercroft.

The **Social Club Monthly Meeting**, will be held after Mass on Tuesday, 25th October in the Undercroft. Contributions for Christmas Hampers most welcome.

FAME Tuesday, 1st November in the Undercroft, payment of \$30 for lunch to be paid at the next Social Club Meeting.

Christmas Lunch at Norwood House, Thursday, 8th December. Payment to be made at next Social Club Meeting.

Walk For Your Health

The Walking Group will meet next on Friday, 28th October. The walk will be a coastal trek from Dromana to McCrae, distance 6k return. The walk is on flat ground with pleasant sea views.

We meet at 172 Grant Rd, Mt Eliza at 9.15am (Gui's home) to share car, or opposite Dromana Information Centre by 10am. Melways 159 F7. Coffee afterwards will be at Dromana. You are all very welcome. For further information contact Colleen 9787 2479 or Gui 9787 1449.

The **Welfare Officers** for October are Margaret Carr 9787 1609 and Colleen McNamara 9787 2479.

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.

Holy Hour



Every Wednesday, at the conclusion of Mass (9:45am), we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in our Church. Quiet time and reflective music is followed by the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. All Parishioners are welcome to spend some time or stay for the hour to pray for the many intentions and needs of our Parish, our families and our com-

munity of St. Thomas More.

Choir Practice

Choir Practice will take place this Monday, 17th October at 7pm.



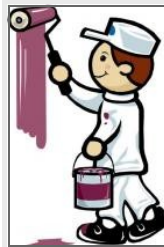
Rosa Mystica Prayer Group

Every Thursday at 7.15pm, with a Mass celebrated by a visiting priest on the 2nd Thursday of each month.



Children's Liturgy

Sarah and Damian Harland will lead the children in an exploration of this week's Gospel. Please encourage your children to join them.



Working Bee

On Saturday 12th November, from 8.30am to 1pm, we'll be holding a working bee to prepare the church and surrounds for Christmas and to paint a couple of rooms in the Parish Community Centre....so we are appealing to painters who would perhaps be able to return in a few weeks to apply a second and third coat. We'd also appreciate contributions from 2-3 people towards morning tea.

If you are able to help in any capacity please add your name and number to the sheet outside the church. We'll be in touch in the week beforehand to confirm or allocate tasks to everyone on the list.

Message From Maria

I'm back! but only briefly. My holiday was wonderful and I am getting back into work mode. This week I have the Pastoral Associate Conference Milgrove, *A Little Yeast in a Changing Church*; being part of the transformation at Pallotti College. The presenter is Kathleen Williams, RSM. It is a great opportunity to spend time with other PAs from the Melbourne Archdiocese, as well as being inspired and encouraged to continue the journey in the face of disappointment and even disillusionment at times.

Hopefully everyone who put their name down to part of the RCIA Team has been contacted about the meeting. If not, please contact the office for details (it is not finalised yet and I do not want to mislead).

This week is Poverty Week. We have nothing organised for this event but I was wondering if there are a few people who may be interested in taking on this event for next year. If so let me know and we can have a chat about it.

What's Happening Elsewhere

Come & See

MacKillop Young Adult Community (MacYAC) is a network of young adults and Sisters of St Joseph centred at the MacYAC gathering place at 155 Melbourne Avenue, Glenroy. It provides an opportunity for young adults (18-35 year old) to 'live in', share life, prayer, reflection, vision and outreach to those in need.

MacYAC is offering a 'Come and See' Session on Saturday, 29th October at 2pm. Come on Friday night and stay from Friday evening, 28th October to Sun afternoon 30th October to find out more about the young adult community.

For more information contact: 9306 8903 or Sr. Rita Malavisi 0419 299 065 or email macyac@sosj.org.au

Mary MacKillop wrote: "Believe in the whisperings of God to your own heart."

On Your Mark!

This is a Quick dive into the Gospel of St Mark for the Year B

Starting in Advent this year, our Gospel readings at Sunday Mass will be taken (largely) from St Mark. St Mark's Gospel is so short, it can be read in one sitting! But it is packed with exciting events and insights into the ministry and person of Jesus. This short five-night course will give you an overview of the Gospel as well as diving into some deeper points of interest, and give you a starting block for a richer engagement with the Sunday Gospels in the coming year.

Course: \$15 per night (\$75 for the whole course)
10 hours of interactive lecture/discussion (5 x 2 hour sessions)

When: Monday nights 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Dates: November 7th, 14th, 21st & December 5th & 12th

Where: 132 Nicholson St, Fitzroy (opposite the Carlton Gardens)

For all enrollments and enquiries: 0400 978 938 or dschutz@cam.org.au

FOCCUS Facilitator Training

Would you like to be a trained facilitator in your parish?

FOCCUS is a facilitative instrument for use with couples preparing for marriage and is conducted over 4 one hour sessions.

Training on: Thursday, 3rd November 7.30pm - 10pm & Saturday, 5th November 9.15am - 5pm.

Where: Knox Centre, 383 Albert St, East Melb

Cost: \$230 per person or \$370 per couple including Foccus Kit, one year registration, lunch, morning & afternoon tea and handouts.

If you are interested in participating in the training please call: CatholicCare and speak to Karin: 9287 5516.

Catholic Theological College Open Day Study Your Faith - Understand Your Spirituality

- Your Study Opportunities in 2012
- Tour of CTC
- Wednesday 2nd November: 4pm - 6pm or 6pm - 8pm
- **RSVP:** Friday, 28th October on 9412 3314 or ctc@ctc.edu.au

"See Judge Act" - Cardijn In Australia Planning For The Future

Melbourne Conference, 4th - 6th November

While our world and our country face big humanitarian and environmental challenges, many of our own neighbourhoods and families also struggle to hold it together. Our Catholic parishes provide a platform for community; a place where ordinary people can ask the question "Who is my neighbour?"

The conference will look at how we might use Cardinal Joseph Cardijn's proven and practical YCW methods - adapted now for our adult lives - to develop spiritually and engage with our local communities and larger worlds.

We warmly invite you to join us. For further details and registration google 'Cardijn College' and look for the 'Cardijn Conference 2011' link, or check the Cardijn Community Australia Website.

Contact: dmo74189@bigpond.net.au
or call 0417 704 427

Assisi In Melbourne

Faith in service for peace

Eminent faith leaders from around the world will be gathering in Assisi (Italy) in October, at the invitation of Pope Benedict, to spend time in listening to sacred texts, reflection and commitment to the work of peace. Similar events will be occurring around the world under the inspiration of that event.

Assisi in Melbourne will be at Chapter House, St Paul's Cathedral on Sunday, 23rd October 3-4pm for the ceremony, & 4-5pm for refreshments and the opportunity to meet and enjoy each other's company.