



SEASONS

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

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

17th January, 2010

Do Whatever He Tells You

Usually in Year C, the Gospels are taken from Luke but today, in keeping with a theme of 'beginning' we hear the first miracle story from the Gospel of John. It is a story you are probably familiar with; how Jesus was able to provide an enormous amount of very good wine for the wedding group at Cana. But this is just the surface story. The way John's Gospel works is to use these dramatic miracles as "signs" pointing to something far deeper. We are told at the end of this scene, "This was the first of the signs" so it is important when reading John to know that the meaning of the miracle will be hidden below the surface sign.

In the Scriptures of Israel, a wedding was often used as a symbol of God's reign. When the power of evil was overcome and God and humanity could be perfectly united, it was as if God and humanity were being wedded in love. Human love and especially married love was the great sign of God's love for us. Notice too that in this miracle Jesus takes on the job of the bridegroom in providing the wine. If we were listening to this Gospel as a first century Jewish/Christian community we would immediately recognise this symbolism and realise that in this miracle John is teaching that Jesus is God with us, the divine bridegroom, drawing us into loving union. In the symbolism of the six jars, one less than the Jewish symbol of completeness (seven), John also suggests that the former rituals of Judaism are now being brought to their perfection.



Can you see the signs of God's love in your own life experiences?

Sundays Under the Southern Cross, Mary Coloe PBVM

Thank You



Once again a most sincere thank you to all who contributed to the Christmas Offerings and to all who sent cards, gifts and good wishes at Christmas. In addition so many parishioners offered messages of sympathy at the time of my sister Carmel's death. In many ways it was a tough Christmas but the support of so many people did make a real difference. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is appreciated and never taken for granted.

Fr. Laurie

Mass Times this Week

Monday no Mass, Tuesday 9.15 am, Wednesday 9:15 am, followed by Holy Hour, Thursday-Friday 9:15 am Saturday (Vigil) 6 pm, Sunday 8 am and 10 am, **Reconciliation:** Saturday 5pm - 5:30 pm

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November Mass Offerings

Mass will be offered during this week for the intentions of the Jones, Hooker and Finnigan families.

Please pray for...

Those who have died recently

Br Frank McCarthy, Martin De Koning (Maree & Tom Shelton's brother-in-law)

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time

Michael Gleeson, Dr. Ralph Skinner, Margaret Connolly, Mary "Maisie" Horrigan, Gerald Pierce, George Morrow, Tomasine Hennessy, Sidney A. Smith, Karel Merkus, Tony Pinnuck, Agnes McDonald, Inga Kinfer

and the Sick

John Dale, Anne-Marie Corcoran, Baby Peter Kost, John Courtney, Trish Sanders, Barbara Leary, Baby Kate Cameron, Fr. Dan McMahon, Cheryl, Bill Oakes, Linda Watschur, Mary McKenzie, Noeleen Walker, Agnes Hogan, Carmel McKane, Sr. Helen Nichols, Jo Pendlebury, Leonie Bradley, Frank Butler, Anne Horton, Kylie Mazoletti, Gloria Sisson, Margaret Hill, Carolyn Royal, Diana Espino, Edward Riordan, Gillian Richards, Eve Parker, Susan Jones, Pamela Wilson, Rod Van dewert, Judy Linton, Lorraine Curtain, Laurie Pendlebury, Henrique Mendonca, Margaret Beale, Alex Kelly, Mary Lauren, Michaela Baker, Fr. Peter Robinson, Fr. Joe McMahon, Sonia Webb, Nina Lion, Baby Matilda, Robert Fitzgerald, Steven Daniels, Giovanni Lazzaro, Carol Mason and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre and Ranelagh Gardens Nursing Home.

The News (in brief)



As we start into Ordinary Time we are confronted with how we will live our lives. "Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations" we pray today. How will you do that? "There are all sorts of service to be done" and "there is a variety of gifts". Maybe today is a good time for each of us to think about what service we might be able to do for others and how we have been gifted in order to do so. If you are interested in becoming involved in a parish ministry or service group, or want to change your current involvement please contact me to talk about it.

I am still trying to catch up with Ministers of Eucharist to the Sick. This has two main aspects to it. One includes the ministers who take communion to those who are ill or housebound. It is important to know who is available for this ministry and if there are any changes that need to be made to their workload. The second aspect is knowing who is in need of receiving this service. For both of these elements to be correct I am dependant on you keeping me informed. It is important that when giving information about someone wishing to have Eucharist brought to them that you check it out with them first.

St Thomas More Social Club

Wine'n'Dine at the Black Angus Restaurant (cnr Bentons Rd & Nepean Hwy Mt Martha, Melways 145 D5), Wednesday, 13th January at **6.30pm**. BYO wine only. For all enquiries telephone Paul Kost 9787 3759.

Message of Thanks

City Life have sent the following message of thanks for the contribution our parish made as a result to the 30th Anniversary Raffle.

Dear Father Laurie,

Thank you so much for the donation towards the needy of Frankston and our work here at City Life. Your money will go a long way in purchasing food supplies for our meals and is greatly appreciated.

We wish you abundant blessings as a parish for 2010 and hope you will pass this on to your congregation.

Blessings & Thanks!

Janet Reid (City Life)