



# SEASONS

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

Feast of Christ the King

20th November, 2011

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

## Diary

- **Monday**  
Choir Practice, 7:15pm, C
- **Thursday**  
Rosa Mystica, 7:15pm, C  
Liturgy Planning, 7:30pm, PCC
- **Friday**  
Walking Group, from 9:45am,  
Darrers' home



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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	9:15am
Wednesday, followed by Holy Hour	9:15am
Thursday	9:15am
Friday	9:15am
School Mass	12:15pm
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00pm
Sunday	8.00am 10.00am

## Reconciliation

Saturday 5.00-5.30pm

## 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.

## Memories of our family saints



The "sold" sign has gone up on the board of our suburban house and our new "home among the gum trees" sits silent and empty, waiting for settlement day. Now we are into the sifting and sorting, packing and throwing out, making decisions about whether unwanted furniture goes to Vinnies or takes its chance on eBay.

We live in a house that has an under-house storage area we call the dungeon, bursting at the seams with legacy items. In other words "stuff" we have inherited or can't bear to throw out because they remind us of other times. Several large plastic crates hold my father's journals, tapes and slides covering at least 50 years of his long life.

As I handle one of the journals with its difficult-to-decipher writing I see my father, sitting at the kitchen table writing about his day in one of the exercise books he bought at a two-dollar shop.

Most homes have a sprinkling of reminders of other times, memorabilia from family who have died. It can be china or a christening gown, jewellery, a recipe book or tools. Such items are precious, tangible reminders of the person who owned

them. Memories are tangled things, sad and lovely.

Our Church does November well with invitations and opportunities to pray for and to our loved ones who have died.

I remember my husband who loved golf and his brother, John, who drove a train and conducted the parish choir. Both died far too young, both moved slowly into death with the same loving faith that characterised their whole lives. A couple of years ago John's wife died, accepting death with a similar quiet graciousness.

I remember an aunt who devoted her life to looking after her widowed mother and unmarried brothers. Her Methodist faith was deep and strong for the whole of her 95 years. I remember Kate, the long-anticipated and much loved baby who knew nothing about Jesus, and whom God gathered up into eternal love before she could walk or talk. None of these will have a church named after them, or be mentioned in the Litany of the Saints.

When I was young the feast of All Saints on November 1 was like a roll call of every woman, man and child (not many of them) who had Saint tacked on the front of their name. They all seemed to be much the same: they lived a long time ago, they either died as martyrs or

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# We pray for...

**Those who have died recently**

Petar Calic (Linda Lee-Brown's father), Walter (Wally) McMahon

**Those whose anniversaries fall at this time**

Lauren Kelly, Mark Landman, Brighty Leneaux-Gale, Kevin Barnes, Gwendaline Pay, Diego Mirabella, Patricia Hansen, Judith Hennessy

**and the Sick**

Chris Malone, Marcia Fiume, Little 8yr old Bonnie, Dee Rorke, John Nuttney, Samantha, and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre and Ranelagh Gardens Nursing Home.



# Liturgy - Feast of Christ the King

**First Reading:** Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17  
*You, my flock, I judge between sheep and sheep.*

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
 The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

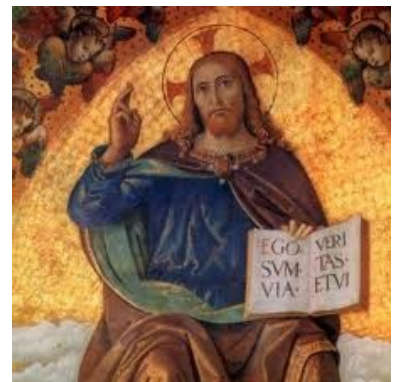
**Second Reading:** I Corinthians 15:20-26, 28  
*He will hand over the kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.*

**Gospel Acclamation:**  
 Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:31-46  
*He will take his seat on the throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.*

**Next week's readings:**  
 Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8  
 I Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37

He will  
 take  
 his seat  
 on the  
 throne of  
 glory



**Padua College**  
**Class of 1991- 20 year reunion**  
 Held at The Social, 60-62 Main Street, Mornington this Saturday, the 26th of November, from 7pm. For enquiries, please contact Melissa Hackett on melissa\_hackett@hotmail.com.

# Financial Matters...

**Thanksgiving**

Amount received last week.....	\$2425
Average 2011 .....	\$3122
Pledged per week .....	\$3374

**Presbytery**

Amount received last week.....	\$1057
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*Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.*

**Morning Tea**

This week, Tim and Catherine Hogan 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 Debbie Bradford and Val Finnigan.

# Parish Group Activities



## **St Vincent de Paul Society** **Good Works**

The broad spectrum of the St Vincent de Paul Society's "Good Works" enables people from all walks of life, regardless of their abilities, to follow the way spelt out by Jesus and highlighted in today's gospel "I was hungry and you gave me food etc."

It has been shown that by being involved in the work of the Society, helping those in need in our community and helping others work through crises in their lives, assists us in coping with difficulties in our own lives.

### **Christmas Cards, Calendars and Toys**

Christmas cards and calendars will be on sale outside the church this week. There will be a box placed in the Church entry for the next few weeks in which donations of toys and gifts can be placed. There is no need to wrap gifts or toys.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Morning Star Conference will be held in the Undercroft on Monday 28th November 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 **Walking Group** will meet for the last time in 2011 on Friday, 25th November, at the home of Raye and Des Darrer, 140 Males Road, Moorooduc, between 9:45 and 10:00am.

Raye and Des have kindly offered their garden to us for a shared picnic after the walk. If you have not already done so, please contact Gui Hone on 9787 1449 to see what you can contribute to our Christmas Party.

Thank you to all who have supported our group throughout the year.

The **Welfare Officers** for November are Judy Jones 0425 787 327 and Mercia Gleeson 5974 1552.

### **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 community of St. Thomas More.

### **Choir Practice**

Choir Practice will take place this Monday, 21st November at **7:15pm**. **Please note the new starting time.**

### **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**



Maria McKenzie and Bernd Dremel will lead the children in an exploration of this week's Gospel. Please encourage your children to join them.

### **A Message from Maria**



Next week is the first week in Advent. For most people this is a very hectic time with various family, work or friendship groupings getting together to celebrate this special time.

Then there is the shopping and the queues and the traffic and all the preparation at home. So when do we find time in all the busyness to be quiet and listen to God speaking to us? For others it is a difficult time of year as some people have a heightened awareness of some form of emptiness in their lives. This can cause them to avoid the quiet because of the fear of the pain it may induce and therefore, perhaps, missing out on the love they could experience in really listening to God speak to them in a special way.

Over the time of Advent there will be some slight changes in the Eucharistic Liturgy. After the homily Fr Laurie will return to his seat for a time of silence. We ask you to respect this time as an opportunity for each of us to reflect on what God is saying to us at this particular moment in our lives: be that consolation; a jab of conscience; time to rest in God's embrace; an awareness of God's presence among us; or how far we are from the Kingdom of God, even as we live it. The liturgy is an expression of our love and faith and it also reminds us that there is no love without sacrifice. The Eucharist is about transformation: the bread and wine are transformed and we too are transformed. This is the tension of life that is played out at every Eucharistic celebration. This is

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# What's Happening Elsewhere

## You can make a difference!

We are looking for bright, energetic and reliable people who enjoy playing with young children to provide ABA therapy (practising simple skills and games with lots of positive reinforcement on a one to one basis), in our home, for our 5 year old son who has a mild form of autism. You will need a WWCC and your own transport. We will pay for

your time and provide initial and ongoing training and supervision by a qualified psychologist. Hours are flexible and experience with autism and ABA is not necessary. You can receive great training and experience, whilst making a difference in the life of a child. For further information, please contact Belinda Cowie at [bscowie@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bscowie@yahoo.com.au), or call 0414 604 570.

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live what seemed to me to be very uncomfortable lives.

Most were priests, bishops or nuns who were known by the place they lived in. All up, they didn't seem to have had much fun or even anything in common with the people I was familiar with. Then and there I decided that sainthood was something that was out of the reach of ordinary people.

Now I know differently. For every Francis of Assisi and Teresa of Avila there are thousands of unknown and long forgotten mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, friends, co-workers, neighbours, nurses, supermarket employees and other individuals in various occupations and countries, who all lived prayerful lives, imbued with the Gospel values of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle's Creed says this very simply: I believe in the communion of saints. Suddenly my family story isn't all there is. In some wonderful God -way I am linked with every person who ever linked their lives to God, whatever their race or culture, whether they died today or thousands of years ago. There's

an ad which says "When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

If anything is tough, it's living Christian values day in and day out. If we would use it, there's wonderful support to be found in all those people who have "been there, done that", especially our family saints with whom our hearts beat as one.

Sometimes it is good to remember that each person's life story doesn't just begin at conception and end at death. Each person's story starts before they are born and goes on into eternity. With God, there is no time. Our prayers for those who have died have been gathered up into eternity, contributing to their bliss of everlasting life with God.

November invites us to pray to and for all the saints – both the canonised and the uncanonised – asking them to help us to live our lives in faithfulness, hoping that one day we too will be numbered among all the saints.

*Judith Lynch is a writer who lives in Melbourne. More of her writing appears at [tarellaspirituality.com](http://tarellaspirituality.com)*

<http://www.cathnews.com/article.aspx?aeid=28889>

Flickr photo credit: [frobroy](#)

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the tension that we try to avoid when we avoid the silence. In preparing the liturgies for Advent, this is the reality of life we hope to allow space for over the coming weeks as we prepare for the coming, again, of Christ into our hearts this Christmas.

Another slight change is during the Prayers of the Faithful. Before each prayer ends with the words "Lord hear us" there will be a short pause. This is to allow us to really prepare to respond deeply to the prayers and not just say the words. Hopefully this will help us make our prayers more alive; in our hearts and on our lips.

Next Saturday we also have the Rite of Welcome for our RCIA candidates at the 6.30pm mass. If you are coming to that Mass we invite you to join us for

some light refreshments after Mass. Everyone is very welcome to join us and meet our RCIA candidates. If you are coming you may like to bring a small plate of mince tarts. Thank you.



## 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.