

SEASONS

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

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

24th January, 2010

Caritas Responds to Haiti Tragedy

Through the Caritas Internationalis network we are responding to the most urgent needs of medicine, water, food, clothing and shelter. Caritas Norway is responding with the provision of a satellite phone system as all forms of communication have been destroyed in the country. Haiti has a long history of devastation through natural disaster, only now recovering from the impact of four extreme cyclones in 2008.

We ask for your prayers for the people of Haiti as they discover the true devastation of this most recent event. Caritas Australia has committed to the international emergency response and long term reconstruction of Haiti, the poorest country in the Western hemisphere. Caritas Australia is once again appealing to the known generosity of the Australian community to support this action of solidarity with the people of Haiti.

Caritas aid is being delivered in Port-au-Prince, as more than 5,000 people have already been assisted with aid including medical care, food, clean water and hygiene kits. In the coming weeks the Caritas response is planning to assist a further 50,000 as the aid response swings into high gear.

In a massive show of solidarity, Caritas organisations from around the world have sent 200,000 blankets, 15,000 tents, water cans and purification tablets, as well as food, water and hygiene kits. Twenty trucks of aid arrived in Port-au-Prince on Sunday as part of relief efforts from Caritas members which are set to top \$30 million.

Caritas has set up two mobile operating theatres with pre and post operative care and provided medicines and fuel. Six mobile clinics will soon be operational. As late as Saturday three people were pulled from the rubble by rescue teams.

An emergency clinic is being flown in from Holland, with personnel including a surgeon, six technical staff for installing water purifying installations and seven water purifying installations.

Thirty-four tonnes of aid will be flown into Haiti from Germany on Tuesday. Half will be given out in Port-au-Prince and the other half will be distributed closer to the epicentre, in the south of the country, yet to receive significant aid supplies. A ship with 80 containers of food has also arrived.

“The real strength of Caritas is its network of parishes that gives us direct contact with communities and a point from which we can provide help,” said Alistair Dutton, Humanitarian Director for Caritas Internationalis, who is leading the coordination of the international Caritas response from Port-au-Prince.

Jack de Groot CEO of Caritas Australia said, “Though the situation on the ground remains extremely desperate; the response of the Australian public has been incredible. Our staff members on the ground are being overwhelmed with demand for basic necessities and medical treatment and our local partners are working around the clock to deliver relief.

“Australians must be congratulated for their support for the people of Haiti in their darkest hour of need.. Caritas Australia has raised over \$400,000 so far. This is an incredible show of solidarity and a great morale booster for our people on the ground.

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“The extent of the disaster is still unfolding yet it is already clear it will take years to rebuild. All the support the Australian public has given us will be used to assist the people of Haiti in the short, medium and long term, recover from this tragedy”, said Mr. de Groot.

You can help by making a donation to the Haiti Emergency Appeal. Donations can be made online at www.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413, (03) 9926 5786 or by mail to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830, Melbourne, Vic 3001.

Thanks for considering this appeal on behalf of the people of Haiti.

Please pray for...

Those who have died recently

Don Buschert

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time

Elizabeth Morse, Doris Clark, John C. McCartney

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.

Celebration of First Reconciliation 2010

An Information and Enrolment Night will be held on Wednesday, 17th February for the parents of **all children** who will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in 2010.

This Information Night will be held in the School Multi Purpose Area at 7.30pm.

Please note that it is the practice in the Archdiocese of Melbourne that Reconciliation be celebrated prior First Eucharist (August).

Mass Times this Week

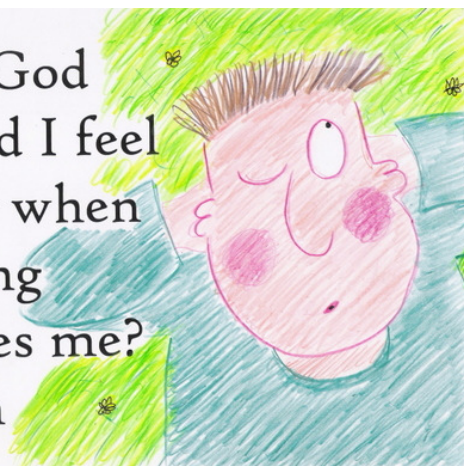
Monday no Mass, Tuesday 9.15 am, Wednesday 9:15 am, followed by Holy Hour, Thursday-Friday 9:15 am Saturday (Vigil) 6 pm, Sunday 8 am and 10 am, **Reconciliation:** Saturday 5pm - 5:30 pm

PLANNING A LARGE PARTY OR FAMILY FUNCTION?



It's common knowledge that glasses can be hired from bottle shops, but many parishioners may not be aware that STM School has a large supply of crockery and cutlery available for hire, at very reasonable prices. Bookings are essential: please call Kerrin Smith on 9787 9891 or 0410 561 031 to discuss your requirements, including convenient pickup and return times.

Dear God
Should I feel
guilty when
nothing
worries me?
Amen



Parish Group Activities



St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Good Works

The next meeting of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be held on Monday, 25th January at 9.30am in the Undercroft

Any parishioners who have a few hours to spare each week and would like to do something for those less fortunate than themselves please come along to our meeting or ring the Parish House for more information.

Gardener Required for 2-3 hours per week. Please phone Peggy Fox on 9787 1006.

Frankston Arts Centre "Ernie Sigley in Concert" on Friday, 5th March, 10.30am. Tickets \$16.50. For all enquiries phone Carolyn Gascoigne on 9775 2315 or pay at the next meeting (2nd February).



Last week I spoke of people taking up different ministries. If you have thought about becoming involved in a ministry that is new to you, such as liturgy, please speak to me in the very near future. Training is planned by the archdiocese for Saturday, 6th February. This may be useful if you are interested in learning about particular areas or updating skills in your ministry.

I am still trying to catch up with Ministers of Eucharist to the Sick. In order to have the process run smoothly for everyone it would be very helpful to have an up to date list of ministers and their availability level as well as recipients of their ministry.

It is important that when giving information about someone wishing to have Eucharist brought to them that you check it out with them first.

I wish you all a happy Australia Day. I hope you enjoy some special element of being Australian on the day.

Welcome back to school staff, students and families. May the year ahead be a wonderful time of discovery and learning for all.

February Rosters

Mass Time	Lector	Commentator
6 pm Sat	Anne-Marie Hyde	Robyn Donaldson
8 am Sun	Colleen Hurren	Mary Martin
10 am Sun	Chris Anwyl	Joanne McEvoy
Mass Time	Ministers of the Eucharist	
6 pm Sat	Maureen Dennett (Book) Sharon Collins (Gifts) Michael Robertson (Gifts)	
8 am Sun	John Hurren (Book) Barry Hansen (Gifts) Marj Hansen (Gifts)	
10 am Sun	Peter Royal (Book) Colleen Symes (Gifts) Betty Hooper (Gifts) Michael Canning (Min. of Eucharist) Volunteer please? (Min. of Eucharist)	
Counters	Mardi Healy Marie Alaimo Anne-Marie Lark	

This week, we sent this month's readings and notes to the rostered Lectors for whom we have email addresses. If you don't have access to the internet, photocopies can be collected from the Parish House. or mailed on request.

Altar Servers for next week

Mass Time	Altar Servers
6 pm Sat	Zoe Ford Taryn Loughnan Tegan Rooth
8 am Sun	Volunteers please?
10 am Sun	Abigail Leamon Sophie Canning Gabrielle Parker

The News Elsewhere (in brief)

Party for Peru

Come and join in a delicious 6 course Vietnamese Feast whilst raising much needed funds for Fr Joe Ruys and the Columban Fathers Mission in Peru.

When: Friday, 29th January @ 6.30pm

Where: Happy Receptions, 199-203 Union Road, Ascot Vale (Mel: 28 G9)

Cost: \$40 per person (Tables of 10, **BYO Alcohol**)

For bookings please contact Fr Hien Vu on 9885 2498 or email josephhien@yahoo.com.au

For more information please contact Fr Bill Attard 9379 1398, Bernie Cronin 9379 4793, Chris Ruys 9546 1398, Fr Linh Tran 9302 3376.

Australia Day Prayer

'Dear God, Thousands of years ago, you created this land Australia.

Thank you for such a special gift.

Keep this land Australia safe and peaceful, help us all to care for this land Australia,

to be kind to all who live in this land Australia, and to welcome those who come

from other countries to make their home in this land Australia.

Please, God, keep this land Australia a good and beautiful land or all to love and to enjoy.

AMEN.

The Catholic Weekly, 23.1.05

A Letter of Thanks from the John Herbert East Timor Foundation

Dear Father Laurie,

On behalf of the young people of East Timor, I would like to thank the Parishioners of St Thomas More, who organized and supported the raffle.

The \$1920.00 will go towards the technical scholarships for 30 students studying at the Comoro campus in Dili, which is run by Fr Trans Pinto.

Many thanks, Michael Quinn

Thank You

Pregnancy Assistance Frankston wishes parishioners and supporters a blessed and joyful 2010 and to give sincere thanks for your support in 2009. Our Christmas raffle and appeal made over \$2,300.

Our first fundraiser this year will be a large garage sale at 59 Boes Rd., Tyabb on Saturday 30th January.

If anyone has any items to donate, you can drop them off at the centre at 14 Young St., Frankston, or if preferred, straight to Boes Road by Thursday 28th January or arrange for pick up. We will sell large items on consignment, if required. Contact Liz 0430533377 or Denise 0411667560.



Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Positions Available

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the part time positions of Building Services Administration Assistant, East Melbourne and Domestic Support, Ministry to Priests, Carlton

Further details can be found on either the Archdiocese website <http://www.melbourne.catholic.org.au/policies/hr-jobadverts.htm>