

SEASONS

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

Fifth Week Ordinary Time

5th February, 2012

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

Diary

- **Monday**
Poetry Group, 1.30am, PCC
Choir Practice, 7.30pm, C
- **Tuesday**
Social Club AGM Meeting, after
10am Mass, U
Baptism Prep, 7.30pm, PCC
- **Thursday**
Finance Committee Meeting,
7.30pm, PCC

**313 Canadian Bay Rd
Mount Eliza Vic. 3930**
Phone: 9787 7777
Fax: 9787 9734
Email: MountEliza@cam.org.au
Web: www.stm-mteliza.org

Parish Priest

Fr. Laurie Pearson

Pastoral Associate

Maria Newbigin

Parish Planning Team

Fr. Laurie

Anne Davey

Maria Newbigin

Mary Cameron

Margaret Carr

Tim Hogan

Peter Whyte

Adel Cowie

Breaking Boundaries

Like most Jewish men Simon (Peter) was married, although his wife is never mentioned. His mother -in-law lives in his home. Since Jewish women married young, in their early teens, this woman need not be very old, perhaps in her thirties or forties.

The Gospel makes a contrast between the religious institutions of the synagogue and later the Temple, and the more domestic scene of the house. Jesus' ministry frequently happens within the house. Jesus breaks through a number of religious taboos in touching a woman and in touching a person who was sick. These actions would immediately make him ritually unclean. But Jesus shows such taboos have no place in the new household that he is forming around him!

Following a very busy evening of healings and exorcisms Jesus leaves Simon's house to pray. Simon goes in search of him. Perhaps he liked the idea of the healer residing in his home. Who knows what enterprise this could lead to! But Jesus is not to be confined to one home, to one village. He has a mission that is bigger than Simon's current perception. Poor Simon! He wants a domesticated Jesus within his grasp, but Jesus refuses to be so limited.

Religious institutions can try to domesticate Jesus; sometimes I can even try to do this, to have a Jesus I can understand and be comfortable with. What about you? Do you still cling to 'good old plastic Jesus' or has Jesus pushed your boundaries?

*Sundays Under the Southern Cross
Mary Coloe PBVM*

Mass Times

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday (Social Club)	10.00am
Wednesday, followed by Holy Hour	9.15am
Thursday	9.15am
Friday	9.15am
No school Mass	
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.

Tequinomata Church

We're looking to send a painting of St Thomas More to our sister parish in East Timor. Is there an artist in our community who might be prepared to donate time and talent? We could send a print similar to the one in the Church, but an original would perhaps be more significant.

Contact Fr. Laurie or Les Harper (9787 6784) if you think you might be able to help.

Combating Child Sexual Abuse

In Australia Internet Service Providers are able to provide an unrestricted service to clients wishing to visit child sexual abuse sites.

The National Council of Churches and others are urging legislation to stop Australian ISP's from allowing this practice by requiring them to block ready access to such sites.

Postcards supporting this initiative are available this weekend. They are addressed to the Leader of the Opposition and will be presented to our local Federal Member Mr. Bruce Billson by representatives of the local Churches on Wednesday, February 22nd.

Please take a card, sign it and return it to the collection bags next weekend. There is no need to attach a stamp.

Fr. Laurie

We pray for...

Those who have died recently

Fr. Peter Fulton

those whose anniversaries fall at this time

Laurie Gage, Leonie Bradley, Michael Pierce, Eileen Kilgariff, Hayden Jackson, Tom Connolly, Terry Sutton, Lee Rayner, Michael Mulcahy.

and the Sick

John Kapanowski, Jan Cooney and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre & Ranelagh Gardens Nursing Home.

November Mass Offerings

Mass will be offered during this week for the family, friends, relatives and benefactors of Yolande and Anselm Gunesequera.



Liturgy - Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Job 7:1-4. 6-7

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Responsorial Psalm:

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering. Alleluia!


Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

Next week's readings:

Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

I Corinthians 10:31-11:1

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..... \$1108

Average 2011 \$3230

Pledged per week \$3455

Presbytery

Amount received last week.....\$1014

Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.



Morning Tea
 Your hosts this week are Alicia and Michael Canning.
 You are all warmly invited to linger for a cuppa after Mass.
 In the coming week we'll be preparing a **new roster**. Please let us know by Wednesday if you have particular dates on which you would prefer not to be rostered.

Parish Group Activities

STM Social Club

Mornington Gallery Exhibition (Australia Artists of the Peninsula), 11am Thursday, 16th February, with lunch afterwards at Steeples. Bookings at Social Club meeting this Tuesday, or phone Carol 9775 2315.

Frankston Arts Centre 10.30am Friday, 16th March **"Swinging Sixties"**. Cost \$18. Bookings at the next meeting, 7th February.

The next meeting of the **Poetry Group** is on Monday, 6th February at 1.30pm in the Parish Community Centre. Your hostess this month is Dorothy McKane, phone 9787 6970.

Social Club Annual General Meeting, Tuesday, 7th February, after 10am Mass in the Undercroft.

The **welfare officers** for February are Bill & Barbara Hunt, phone 5975 2818.

Reconciliation Information Night

We are holding an Information Night for parents who wish to have their (Year 3 or older) child receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this year. The Sacrament itself will take place on the evening of Thursday the 15th of March, and preparation involves a series of weekly classes which parents and children must attend.

Date: This Wednesday, 8th February, 8pm

Venue: School Multipurpose Room

Contact: 9787 7777 for more information

Children's Liturgy



Margo O'Callaghan & Joanne McEvoy will lead the children in an exploration of this week's Gospel. Please encourage your children to join them.

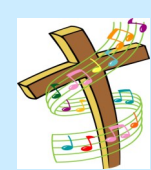
Rosa Mystica Prayer Group



Please join us this Thursday, 9th February at 7.15pm in the Church with Rev Fr. Edwin.

The Rosa Mystica Prayer Group meet every Thursday at 7.15pm, with a Mass celebrated by a visiting priest on the 2nd Thursday of each month. You are more than welcome to attend.

Choir Practice



Do you enjoy singing at church? If so, we would welcome you into the choir which meets for practice on Mondays at 7.30pm in the church. You may like to come to a practice to see if the choir would suit you or you can ring me, Maureen Mirabella, on 9787 3609 to make enquiries.

Our next Choir Practice will be held on Monday, 6th February at 7.30pm in the Church.

11th - 12th February Rosters

Mass Time	Lector	Commentator
6 pm Sat	Mary Charley	Chris Young
8 am Sun	Irene Owsianka	John Kinnaird
10 am Sun	David Dole	Jim Bourke
Mass Time	Ministers of the Eucharist	
6 pm Sat	Sharon Collins (Book) Trish Young (Gifts) Margaret Jamieson (Gifts)	
8 am Sun	Pat McConvill (Book) John Gallagher (Gifts) Tricia Woods (Gifts)	
10 am Sun	Adrian Coughlan (Book) Lois Bracken (Gifts) Colleen McNamara (Gifts)	
Counters	Colleen McNamara Marie Alaimo Margaret Gallagher	

A Message From Maria



Here we are at the start of another school year. May it be one of joyfulness and delight in learning and growth; personally, academically and spiritually.

It is also a good time to consider how you may like to contribute to the different ministries within the parish. That could be as a lector, commentator or Special Minister of the Eucharist at Masses, by becoming involved in one of the various groups that operate within the parish for the benefit of others such as Funeral Ministry (providing food, help with set up or serving); Communion to the sick; St Vincent De Paul; Liturgy Preparation Group; Children's Liturgy; Sacramental Preparation; or RCIA Team. If you want more information on any of these, or want to talk about other possibilities you can speak to Fr Laurie or me.

We are also on the move towards Lent, only 2 ½ weeks till Ash Wednesday. There are sign-up sheets in the foyer for you to show your interest in participating in a Lenten reflection group.

In the coming couple of weeks, we will be asking for people to nominate for various ministries for the Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter services. Please give

(Continued on page 4)

What's Happening Elsewhere

ABC TV Seeks Six Young People to Make a 'Holy Switch'

Challenge yourself by putting your faith to the test.....

ABC TV and Roar Film are inviting six young people aged 18-23 and their families to feature in a new experiential series for **ABC TV's Compass**.

Take up the challenge to live a totally different life for two weeks in March, April or May 2012 and in the process discover who you are.

We are looking for questioning young adults, who are living in a largely secular world but are part of a family who puts faith at the heart of life. You may come from one of the many widely practiced faith traditions within Judaism, Christianity or Islam or you may be a practicing Buddhist, Hindu or Zoroastrian. Alternatively you might belong to one of the neo-pagan belief groups with roots in ancient nature-oriented religions. Imagine leaving your family and taking the place of another young person in a home that's very different from your own. You are about to swap places with someone from completely different religious background.

What will you learn about faith, and more importantly about yourself?

Holy Switch is a broad invitation to Australians of faith. As a young person facing fundamental issues of belief and its expression in the lifestyle of your host family, this is a chance for you to explore and to be challenged.

Are you open to new experiences and interested in how the beliefs of others shape their lives? Can you follow a 'profile' outlining the daily home and faith life for the person with whom you are switching places? Are you prepared to challenge yourself and others as you seek to experience what it's like to live by a whole new set of rules, cultural practices and perspectives? **If So, We Need You!**

Director Varcha Sidwell, who brought *The Abbey*, *The Mission* and *Bali High Wedding* to ABC TV's *Compass* believes *Holy Switch* presents a unique invitation.

"It's not often that young Australians are given such a chance to explore the deeper issues in their lives, beyond the next celebrity scandal or latest fad – to be deeply challenged to discover new insights, not only about themselves but Australia as well".

Are You Ready To Make A Holy Switch?

For applications and more information on Holy Switch, please log onto our website www.holyswitch.com.au.

For further information, either contact Tammy Burnstock tammy@holyswitch.com.au on my mobile 0431 531 100 or Steve Thomas steve@holyswitch.com.au on 6224 5222 mobile 0419 516 937.

Applications close on 17th February 2012

Museum Open To The Public



The Mary MacKillop Museum, at 362 Albert St, East Melbourne, will be open to the public on Saturday, 11th February from 10am - 4pm, to enable visitors to view the special exhibition on loan from Sydney titled: **"Mary MacKillop and the Irish Sisters"** - the story of Mary's travels to Ireland and her return journey to Australia with the Irish postulants.

(Continued from page 3)

some thought to when you may be available. We will have a rehearsal of all the services prior to Holy Week. More details later.

Finally, I want to draw to your attention the postcard in the foyer for the **Stop Debt Vultures** Campaign.

Please take one, or more if you have family or friends who will support this initiative, sign it, stick on a stamp and drop it in the post.

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish,
so that inspired by your word, nourished at your table,
and graced by your empowering love,
our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters,
and the building up of your Kingdom.

May our parish community truly be for this place and time
the body of Christ your Son, through whom we make this prayer. Amen.

Noted in a recent ASW parish bulletin

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