

SEASONS

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

Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

6th November, 2011

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

Diary

- **Monday**
Music Group, 2pm PCC
Choir Practice, 7pm, C
- **Tuesday**
Sip'n'Sew Group, 2pm, PCC
PEB Meeting, 7.30pm, SSR
Baptism Prep, 7.30pm, PCC
- **Thursday**
Rosa Mystica, 7:15pm, C
Finance Committee, 7:30pm, PCC
- **Friday**
Mass of Remembrance, 7:30pm.C
- **Saturday**
Working Bee, 8:30am-1pm

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Parish Priest

Fr. Laurie Pearson

Pastoral Associate

Maria Newbiggin

Parish Planning Team

Fr. Laurie Tim Hogan
Maria Newbiggin 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 Remembrance Day Liturgy	12:15pm
Mass of Remembrance	7:30pm
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00pm
Sunday	8.00am 10.00am

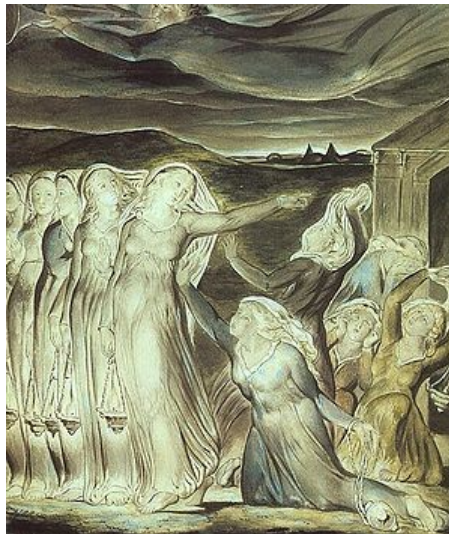
Reconciliation

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.

Stay Awake!



Today's Gospel, the parable of the ten girls at a wedding, is a homely tale which climaxes in the crunch line, "Stay awake because you do not know either the day or the hour."

'In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus would ask, "Could you not have stayed awake with me one hour?" This is the moment when a new world is to be born; when God-made-man is to make the ultimate sacrifice of his infinitely precious life; when the endless energy that sacrifice releases is about to pour back into the world as the One we call the Holy Spirit – the Spirit who makes all things new, the Spirit who renews the face of the earth.

Our faith invites us to see the death and resurrection of Christ as the central events in the history of the world. Through them, God's Spirit is sent abroad to remake humanity in the image of his Son, to gather men and women into that union with him we call his mystical Body. And in such

we see what human nature can become if only we let grace do its stuff. This is our remedy as Christians for the ills of the world: the new start, the new energy, the new hope for the world of the risen Lord.'

*Excerpts from a homily
by Fr Aidan Nichols OP*

More Thoughts on the Gospel

'The truly wise person builds his life on Jesus as the Way, on Jesus as Truth and Life, not only for the future but for here and now. The Gospel, understood and adopted, is the only program that can guarantee fulfillment and happiness right away. The others all depend on an uncertain future.

'It is not a question of taking a gamble on making a last-minute confession on your deathbed. A surprising number of people do not die in their beds. It is a question rather of what I plan to do this very day and every day. There is absolutely no better way to prepare for the final call than, first, to put it completely out of one's head, and, second, to learn to spend each and every day in the company of Jesus. "I am with you always."

'There are two short prayers which we may find useful to be said at any time as we go through our day:

"Lord, grant that all my thoughts, intentions, actions and responses may be directed solely to your love and service this day." *and*

"Help me, Lord, to seek, to find, and to respond to you in every person and every experience of this day."

*Excerpt from a commentary
by Fr Frank Doyle SJ*

We pray for...

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time

Irene Ryan, Mary Connolly, Mary Donnellan

and the Sick

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

*"You can tell whether a person is clever by their answers.
You can tell whether a person is wise by their questions."*

Naguib Mahfouz, Egyptian, Nobel Prize for Literature, 1988



Liturgy - 32nd Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Responsorial Psalm:

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading: I Thessalonians 4: 13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Next week's readings:

Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

I Thessalonians 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30

Morning Tea



This week, Joanne and Larry McEvoy 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 Ruth Pusic and Katie Rodgers.

Financial Matters...

Thanksgiving

Amount received last week.....\$3700

Average 2011 \$3102

Pledged per week \$3429

Presbytery

Amount received last week..... \$924

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



Thanksgiving receipts and envelopes are available for collection outside the church this weekend.

Please collect yours as you leave, to help us keep postage costs to a minimum.



Parish Group Activities



St Vincent de Paul Society **Good Works**

Christmas Cards

As the Melbourne Cup is now behind us, it is obvious that Christmas is not far away. Therefore, commencing this weekend, members of the Morning Star Conference Mt Eliza will be selling Christmas Cards and St Columban Calendars at the completion of each Mass. This is a good opportunity for you to purchase Christmas Cards which reflect the real meaning of Christmas. At the same time, it also provides a good opportunity for you to quiz members about what it is like to be a Vincentian.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Morning Star Conference will be held in the Undercroft on Monday, 14th 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 next meeting of the **Music Group** will be on Monday, 7th November in the Parish Community House at 2pm.

The next meeting of the **Sip'n'Sew Group** will be on Tuesday, 8th November at 2pm in the Parish Community House. Your hostesses will be Carmel Gowans 9787 2233 & Judy Jones 9787 1130.

Christmas Lunch at Norwood House - \$45 per head. Nepean Hwy, Mt Eliza on Thursday, 8th December. Places are still available and remember - **everyone from the Parish is invited.**

For payment and more information please call Carolyn Gascoigne 9775 2315.

Donations for the Christmas Hamper can be left at Carol Gascoigne's place, at 25 Colstan Court, Mt Eliza.

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

Holy Hour



Please see the notice on Page 4 re the Divine Mercy and Marian Conference at St Macartan's Church in Mornington. To allow our parishioners to attend, **Holy Hour will not be held at St. Thomas More on Wednesday week, November 16th.**

Choir Practice

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

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



Catherine Hogan and Gabrielle Dole will lead the children in an exploration of this week's Gospel. Please encourage your children to join them.

Memorial Wall Plaques

Arrow Bronze, our suppliers of plaques for the Memorial Wall, have advised that their cutoff date for supply of plaques before Christmas is the 18th of November. However, allowing time for approval of proofs and any special requirements, we recommend that you place any orders with us up to a week earlier (**this Friday, November 11th**). The current cost of plaques is \$192, including up to 6 lines of text. If you wish to place an order, please contact Irene in the office for a form. Payment is not due until the plaque is delivered.



Mass Of Remembrance

Our annual Mass of Remembrance will be held at 7.30pm **this Friday, 11th November.**

We sent out invitations this week to parishioners who we know have lost loved ones during the year. However, at this Mass we remember, pray for and light a candle for **all** relatives and friends who have died. It has become one of the very significant events in our liturgical year. All are invited to attend and remember.



A supper will be served afterwards in the Undercroft. Please let us know by Wednesday, 9th November if you would like to come.

A Message from Maria

I hope all of you that had a bet on Cup Day had a good return for your money! I wish I could suggest there is some sort of obvious return I could offer

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What's Happening Elsewhere

A Special Divine Mercy and Marian Conference



Rosa Mystica and the Legion of Mary Mornington Peninsula Curia invite you to attend a special *Divine Mercy and Marian Conference* on Wednesday, 16th November at St Macartan's Church, 4 Drake St, Mornington.

Special guest speakers, Joy Hunt (President of the Combined Societies of Mary) and Ian Gaudry, (Secretary). The two lay missionaries who have visited India 17 times and addressed millions of people.

Program:

- 10am Holy Mass followed by prayer
 11am Talk by Jo Hunt & Ian Gaudry on the *Divine Mercy - The greatest gift to mankind*.
 12 noon BYO Lunch
 1pm Special talk on *Our Lady of Health, Vailnakkanni*

Contact: Elaine 5977 1334 or Sandra 5973 6939, Legion of Mary, St Macartan's, Mornington.

NB: Holy Hour at St. Thomas More will not take place on this day because of this special conference.

Local Music Fest

Brosnan Centre Fundraiser

To support the Brosnan Centre's work with young

people released from the justice system, we're bringing together some of our best local musicians at the same time, by providing an afternoon of fun, food and great music.

Join us at **Main Ridge Community Centre**, 441 Main Creek Rd, Main Ridge, **Sunday, 27th November**, from 1.30pm to 5.30pm. Cost: \$60 per Adult, \$140 Per Family (2 Adults, 2 Children under 16yrs). All tickets include food. Alcohol available at bar prices.

Please phone Maree Bannister as soon as you can on 0418 987 521 for pre-sale tickets (tickets not available on day).

Helping Victorians Save

Brotherhood Of St Laurence

Saver Plus Matched Savings Program

Saver Plus is a nationally-recognised program that pays people \$1 for every \$1 you save (up to \$500) to help pay for education. By joining Saver Plus, you could receive \$500 to help pay for school items like computers, community activities, books and uniforms. The program is Australia's first matched savings program, designed to help families achieve a savings goal, establish a long-term saving habit and pay for education. It has been recognised by the government and received a Prime Minister's award.

To be eligible you must have:

- A child attending school in 2011-2012, or be intending to attend vocational training yourself in 2011-2012.

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for involvement in the Liturgy Preparation Group. As you are probably aware, we started a new group just about two years ago and had a great response. This group has put in a lot of time and effort in putting together various liturgies throughout the year and preparing the Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter Seasons, in a way that brings deeper meaning to our lives as we proceed through the liturgical year.

Like all areas in life; time brings change. We are now facing the coming new year with fewer people involved, and still a lot of work to do. If you think this might be an area of interest to you, please speak to me, Fr Laurie or one of the liturgy group. We meet one Thursday night a month. There are various different aspects that individuals (or pairs or whatever) can take on specifically, or just come and get a feel about how it all works and see if you would like to be

part of this ministry.

Working Bee



This 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 **5-6** people towards morning tea (please note this is more than we originally requested).

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