

SEASONS

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th February, 2010

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

Diary

Monday

St Vincent de Paul Meeting,
9.30am, U
RCIA, 9.30am, PCC
Choir Practice, 7.30pm, C

Tuesday

Sip 'n' Sew, 2pm, PCC
Parish Education Board,
7:30pm, School

Thursday

Rosa Mystica, 7:15pm, PCC
Finance Committee, 7:30pm,
PCC

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Parish Priest

Fr. Laurie Pearson

Pastoral Associate

Maria Newbigin

Parish Planning Team

Fr. Laurie Margaret Carr
Anne Davey Tim Hogan
Maria Newbigin Peter Whyte
Mary Cameron

Mass Times

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	9:15 am
Wednesday (Foll. By Holy Hour)	9:15 am
Thursday	9:15 am
Friday	9:15 am
School Mass	12:15 pm
Saturday (Vigil)	6:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am 10:00 am

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.

Requirements of Discipleship

Today's Gospel brings to a close a trilogy of episodes focussing on Jesus' mission to announce the good news of God's love to the poor, the sinners and the outcasts. What Jesus announced in Nazareth he now lives out by the Sea of Galilee in the choice of his first followers. Luke borrowed this 'call story' from Mark's Gospel but made significant additions in Jesus' dialogue with Simon, the miraculous catch of fish, and Simon Peter's response. Luke's additions emphasise Peter's doubt, "We've fished all night," and his unworthiness, "I am a sinful man". But this is just the type of person Jesus announced that he has come to welcome. Peter qualifies as a disciple.

Keep in mind that this Gospel was written for a Christian community living fifty years after Jesus' death. In Peter, later Christians can see a person

like themselves. Peter is a person of common sense and he reluctantly takes advice from this wandering preacher who has arrived in Capernaum. But when God does act, he responds with faith and humility. Don't take Peter's response for granted because it is familiar. There are other ways he could have reacted - made excuses, become cynical or even angry at being shown up. Peter recognises God's power at work and knows his own human weakness. This recognition qualifies him for discipleship. Knowing his unworthiness, he can now be invited to join Jesus. Reluctance, doubt, even sinfulness, are no barriers for Christian disciples. Self-sufficiency is.

*Sundays Under the Southern Cross
Mary Coloe PBVM*

Recognition and Thanks

I know that one aspect of parish life that is too often overlooked is the recognition and expression of thanks to people who have completed a task in our community. People move on for various reasons - often because "it's time" but their contribution is never taken for granted.

Our sincere thanks to **Ange Virgona** who has made a wonderful contribution to the Liturgy of our parish especially in preparing the "environment" of the Church.

Kaye Coughlin who stepped up to take a leadership role with the choir over the last two years.

Bob Condon who represented our parish and accepted the role of secretary on the on the later Church Council.

We acknowledge their contribution and wish them well.

Fr. Laurie

Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday week (17th Feb) . Masses on that day will be at 9.15am and 7pm (please note earlier time)

We pray for...

Those who have died recently

Fr. Brian Bainbridge (P.P. Bennetswood)

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time

Michael Pierce, Eileen Kilgariff, Terry Sutton, Tom Connolly, Lee Rayner, Peter Crowe, Mr & Mrs M Mulcahy and Michael Mulcahy

and the Sick

Harry O'Beirne, Allan Pursell, Martin Herrmann, Carmel Levitt, 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, 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 Vandewert, 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.

Liturgy - Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

The version of Isaiah: Here am I! Send me.

Responsorial Psalm:

In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 15:1-11

In the second reading Paul reminds his listeners of the gospel he preached to them.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

The call of Peter, James and John.

Next week's readings:

Jeremiah 17:5-8
I Corinthians 15:12, 16-20
Luke 6:17, 20-26

Altar Servers for next week

Mass Time	Altar Servers
6 pm Sat	Alex Hosking Sam Smith James Hunter
8 am Sun	<i>Volunteers please?</i>
10 am Sun	Emily Jones Declan Bourke Joaquin McEvoy



Morning Tea

Your hosts this week are Kate Hyland and Sally Cooper.

You are all warmly invited 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 Joanne and Larry McEvoy.

Financial Matters...

Thanksgiving

Amount received last week \$2902
Average since start of Campaign \$3483
Pledged per week \$3743

Presbytery

Amount received last week \$1132
Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.



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, February 8th in the Undercroft at 9.30am.

If you feel you would like to help those in our community that are less fortunate please consider finding out more about the work of the Society. Come along to a meeting or ring the Parish House for a contact number.

Choir

The choir will commence practice at 7.30pm on Monday, 8th February in the Church.

While we welcome any new members with leadership skills and a knowledge of liturgical music, all new members are most welcome.

STM Social Club

Notice of AGM

The Social Club AGM is to be held on Tuesday, 2nd March in the Undercroft after the 10am Mass.

All positions on the committee are vacant. Nominations will be accepted for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and all committee positions.

All nominations must be seconded and endorsed by the nominee. Forms can be collected from Judy Jones or the Parish House.

The next meeting of the **Sip 'n' Sew Group** will take place in the Parish Community Centre commencing at 2 pm this Tuesday, 9th February. Contact Colleen McNamara on 9787 2479 or Carmel Gowans on 9787 2233.

Children's Liturgy

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

Holy Hour



All parishioners are invited to the Holy Hour every Wednesday directly after Mass. Some may wish to stay for the full hour, others may come for a few minutes or a short time.

Everyone is most welcome to spend a little time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.



Invitation

The **Rosa Mystica Prayer Group** will commence again on Thursday, 11th February, Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes,

at 7:15 pm in the Church. Program: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and Cenacle, Holy Mass (Celebrant Rev. Fr. Edwin).

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 to First Eucharist (August).

Maria Newbigin—Pastoral Associate



Lenten Groups: There will be a Lenten group starting Thursday evening 18th February, 7pm - 8.30pm. If you are still interested in joining in a group and another time would suit better please leave your name and

contact number on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

Communion to the Sick: If you take communion to the sick and haven't spoken to me about it could you please give me a call on either Monday or Thursday. We are trying to ensure we have a comprehensive listing of all who perform this ministry as well as who is receiving Eucharist. This means we then have a better idea of who may be missing out and what steps we need to take to provide this important service to all who need it.

Parish Directory: Last year I started speaking with some of the co-ordinators of groups about what they do and how they operate in order to get an updated parish directory printed. This is still in process. If you are the contact person for a group and we have not spoken about your group please call me. I am hoping to have this together before Easter!!!

RCIA: Start this Monday, 8th February, 9.30am. I look forward to seeing you there as we start the year. The Rite of Election for those joining the Catholic Church at Easter takes place in the Cathedral on Sunday, 21st February. If you would like to come along and support our RCIA candidate at this event let me know. We will have to organise numbers to ensure we can all get seating together.

What's Happening Elsewhere



St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Good Works

Attention all people aged 17 – mid 30s!


Peninsula Vinnies Information Night.

If you, or anyone you know are aged between 17 and mid 30s and are looking for an opportunity to volunteer and make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged people and families around the Mornington Peninsula then this is the group for you. **Vinnies Youth** is a branch of the St Vincent De Paul Society that has thousands of energetic young people all over Australia helping those in need.

You are invited to an information night at **St Macartan's Parish**, 4 Drake St Mornington on Tuesday, 16th February at 7:30pm.

For any enquires please contact Emily 0421 471 157 or Jacinta 0439 118 568.

Luncheon Invitation

 The Australian Family Association would like to invite parishoners to a luncheon at Geelong's Leura Park Winery to hear our guest speaker Bill Mullenburg speak about family issues.

When: Sunday, 14th March, 2010

Where: Leura Park Winery, 1400 Geelong-Portarlington Rd, Curlewis

Cost: Adults \$25 / Children (under 13) \$15

It will be a relaxing afternoon with lots of interesting talks. For further information please call Phyllis Restall @ 98160800 or mobile 0429336053

Marriage Encounter Weekend

is a marriage enrichment program for married couples. Volunteer couples and a Priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values, but you don't need to be Catholic to attend. Forget life's tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together in the first place.

The next 3 weekends will be held on 16-18 April, 25-27 June and 20-22 August. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au. Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au



A Note Of Thanks

The Caritas network wishes to express its sincere thanks for the tremendous response to the plight of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. As some of the media attention is moving away from Haiti, the humanitarian response continues and will do so for many years to come as we move from the first stage of emergency response to rehabilitation and reconstruction. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Haiti as they continue to bury their dead (170,000), attend the injured and the homeless and reconstruct their lives. Many thanks for your actions of solidarity in all its forms.

Picking up the Pieces

is a one day program for those who are in the early stages of grief following the end of their relationship. This program can help with the feelings of confusion and loss that come with being separated, divorced or widowed.

When: Saturday 27 February 2010

Where: 62 McKillop Street GEELONG

Time: 9am – 4.30pm

Cost: \$50 (\$30 for concession holders) includes lunch, tea & coffee


Bookings essential – limited places.

Tabor Journey

is for those further down the road of grieving, but who would still like to learn from others, as well as heal the hurt, loneliness and grief they are still experiencing. This is a live-in-weekend held in Templestowe from 7.30pm Friday, 12 March to 4pm Sunday, 14 March.

For further information and an application form for Tabor Journey, please phone 5221 7055.

Pregnancy Assistance Frankston

 made \$3,535 with their Christmas appeal and Christmas raffle combined with income from a sausage sizzle and garage sale and would like to thank everyone who has made this possible with their donations, and

prayers.

We are blessed to have so many wonderful supporters.

Open your hearts to the love God instils... God loves you tenderly. What He gives you is not to be kept under lock and key but to be shared.' Mother Teresa