

SEASONS

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

3rd Sunday of Lent

7th March, 2010

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

Diary

- **Monday**
RCIA, 9.30am, PCC
Music Group, 2pm, PCC
Choir practice, 7:30pm, C
- **Tuesday**
Prayer Group, 11am, PCC
Sip'n'Sew, 2pm, PCC
PEB, 7.30pm, School Staff Room,
- **Wednesday**
Reconciliation Class (for children not attending parish school), 7.30pm, U
- **Thursday**
Lenten Group, 7pm, U
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	12.15pm
Saturday (Vigil)	6:00 pm
Sunday	8:00 am 10:00 am

Reconciliation

Saturday	5.00pm - 5.30pm
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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.

Time's Running Out

The Lenten theme of repentance (*metanoia*) is the central teaching of today's Gospel. As Jesus moves towards Jerusalem, he speaks with a sense of great urgency to the crowds who come to him. Time is short. Jesus gives the crowd two very graphic images of disasters: the first is of Pilate slaughtering some Galileans while they were offering their sacrifices, and the second is a tower near the pool of Siloam that suddenly collapsed. Jesus' message to the crowd is, "Don't think this couldn't happen to you." There was a tendency to see the hand of God behind such sudden, apparently haphazard disasters, and so to think that those caught up in these events were being punished for sin. In this way some could be thinking, 'This couldn't happen to me. They deserved it'. Jesus warns against such complacency. The parable of the fig tree reiterates this teaching. Time is running out. Today is the moment of choice.

The "time is short" message is not meant to frighten us with thoughts of death, but to urge us to live authentically. Live fully. Live each moment purposefully. Are we people who choose life, or does life just happen to us? Lent is a *metanoia* time giving us a chance to have a change of heart and to live

from the choices of our hearts. We are at the half-way point of the Lenten journey. This week take some time to reflect on your choices and the direction in which you want your life to go. Choose while the choice is still possible. Time's running out.

*Sundays Under the Southern Cross
Mary Coloe PBVM*



"Unless you repent you will all perish as they did."

Luke 13:1-9

We pray for...

Those who have died recently

Maurice Green

Those whose anniversaries fall at this time

Jack Need, Ryan Spencer Hamilton, Nola Kennedy, John Marshall, Peggy Morrow, Ian Stewart, Vin Pearson, Marta Egyed, Isabella (Betty) Brown

and the Sick

Liz Wheeler, Arie Peeperkoorn, Margaret Hill, Bill Oakes, Gunter Herrmann, Harry O'Beirne, Allan Pursell, John Dale, Anne-Marie Corcoran, Baby Peter Kost, John Courtney, Trish Sanders, Barbara Leary, Baby Kate Cameron, Fr. Dan McMahon, Cheryl, Linda Watschur, Mary McKenzie, Noeleen

Walker, Carmel McKane, Sr. Helen Nichols, Jo Pendlebury, Leonie Bradley, Frank Butler, Anne Horton, Kylie Mazoletti, Diana Espino, Laurie Pendlebury, Edward Riordan, Gillian Richards, Eve Parker, Susan Jones, Pamela Wilson, Rod Van dewert, Judy Linton, Lorraine Curtain, 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 - Third Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the deserts was written for our benefit.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!


Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Next week's readings:

Joshua 5:9-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Top 10 Lenten Promises	
Things to Surrender	Things to Embrace
• Grumpiness	• Tongue biting
• Blame	• Early Rising
• Superiority	• Half serves
• Gossip	• Secret Giving
• Vanity	• Apologise
• Self-pity	• Forgive & let live
• Resentment	• Gratitude
• Tiredness	• Blessing
• Busyness	• Listen
• Cynicism	• Random Acts of Kindness (RAK)



Morning Tea
Your hosts this week are Tim & Catherine Hogan.
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 for next week are Anne Marie Lark & Margaret Purcell.


Financial Matters...

Thanksgiving

Amount received last week \$2490
Average since start of Campaign \$3478
Pledged per week \$3743

Presbytery

Amount received last week \$1030
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 Victoria Good Works

Our next meeting will be held in the Undercroft at 9:30 am on Monday the 15th of March (not the 8th, as advertised last week).

All parishioners are welcome to come along and find out more about the work of the society.

STM Social Club

The next session of the **Music Group** will be held on Monday, 8th March, in the Parish Community Centre at 2pm. Your programme this month is arranged by Mercia Gleeson. New members most welcome, for all enquiries phone 5974 1552.

The next meeting of **Sip'n'Sew** will be held on Tuesday, 9th March in the Parish Community Centre at 2pm.

Outings

St Patrick's Day Lunch on Wednesday, 17th March, Kirks Hotel, The Esplanade, Mornington @ 12.30pm.

A visit to **Mary Mackillop Heritage Centre**, Wednesday, 24th March. Cost \$23.00. Details - Social Club AGM on Tuesday, 2nd March.

For all bookings contact Carolyn Gascoigne 9775 2315.

STM 7Up

We will be meeting at CB's for dinner this month on the **18th of March @ 7pm**. If you would like to come, please confirm your booking with me no later than **10th March**. Contact Trish on 9787 3359 or email trishyoung4@gmail.com

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 next meet on Thursday, 11th March, at 7:15 pm in the Church.



Palm fronds: Does anyone have access to large palm fronds? We are hoping to have 8 – 10 x 5 foot fronds for Palm Sunday. We also hope to have some fronds for distribution. If you have excess

fronds on your palms we would love to have them.

Lenten Carbon Fast: How are you managing your Lenten sacrifice? If you feel you would like to do something for the environment this might be of interest to you. The Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutions (NSW) Social Justice Committee have put out a calendar for Lent with a suggestion for each day. There are some at the back of the church. Sorry I didn't get them to you sooner but it is never too late to do something.

Liturgy Planning: Thanks to those who responded to the call for help. Planning for upcoming celebrations is now under way. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 17th March. If you did not put your name down before but are interested in being involved in some way please contact me. I would love to have a chat with you.

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.

St Thomas More Prayer Group

"How good and how pleasant it is for God's people to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133.1

There are a few changes within the **Prayer Group**, which we feel will rejuvenate our prayer days.

- Firstly we will meet **Fortnightly** (Except for Tuesday - Social Club day.)
- The prayer morning will be based on the previous Sunday's Gospel.
- The Gospel of this Sunday, Luke 13:1-9, will be read next Tuesday, 9th March (The Gospel sheet available), followed by meditation, discussion and a short prayer.
- The Prayer Group time is 11am-12.30pm.

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What's Happening Elsewhere

Voices Around The Cross

You are warmly invited to attend the **Parish Retreat Day** in the Parish Hall at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Dromana on Monday, 29th March.

The theme is "Voices Around the Cross".

Join Mary, the mother of Jesus, Simon of Cyrene, John, Mary the sister of Lazarus and Martha, a Roman soldier and a repentant thief for a day of prayer and reflection around the Cross of Christ.

Judith Lynch, an experienced director from the Heart of Life Spirituality Centre, Box Hill, will be our facilitator for the day.

9.30am - 3pm, BYO lunch, tea & coffee available. Suggested donation \$10pp.

Billeting for "Life Walk"

Walkers taking part in the annual "Walk for Life" will be coming through Frankston on Friday, 9th April and we are looking for accommodation for 60+ people.

If you could provide a bed for one or more people for the night and their evening meal/breakfast, could you please ring Margaret on 9783 7271.

International Women's Day Morning Tea and Discussion

"Empowering Women to end Poverty by 2015"

This session will address the theme by exploring the connections between the devastation of Earth's resources and poverty and look at the leadership of women in addressing this issue.

Facilitator Anne Boyd csb is a Brigidine sister with a long history of involvement in Catholic Education. In recent years she has fulfilled her growing desire to explore the inter-relationship between ecology and spirituality and currently coordinates the Earth Song Project. This project seeks to raise awareness of the growing communion between various aspects of human knowledge in this area, to develop new ways of honoring and celebrating the sacredness of all creation and to promote a new ethical structure to protect the integrity of all life forms on planet Earth.

When: Monday, 15th March

Time: 10am-12.30pm

Where: The Carmelite Centre, O'Connor Pilkington Rooms, 214 Richardson St, Middle Park

Cost: \$10 or \$5 session

For all bookings phone 960 5430 or email thecarmelitecentre@pacific.net.au

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

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Listed below are the dates, venues and contacts.

9th March, PCC - Gui Hone 9787 1449

23rd March, 3 Picnic Street, Sth Frankston - Judy Linton 9775 2522

13th April, PCC - Beverly Johnstone 9789 6102

27th April PCC - Gui Hone

11th May, 3 Picnic St. Frankston Sth - Judy Linton

25th May, PCC- Beverly Johnstone

8th June, PCC - Gui Hone

22nd June, 3 Picnic St. Sth Frankston - Judy Linton

Dates for July through to December to be advised.

You are all most welcome !

AV Operators needed

We're looking for some responsible year 5s or 6s (or older!) who regularly attend our weekend Masses to operate the PowerPoint slideshows and recorded music from the AV desk, **especially at 6pm on Saturday nights and 8 am on Sunday mornings.**

We can arrange for you to sit with one of our experienced AV operators for 1 or 2 weeks before you go solo.

We will be drawing up a roster, but you would need

to be **very reliable**, as there would probably be no one else on hand to do it if you don't turn up or arrange a replacement for yourself.

If you'd like to help, please speak to Fr. Laurie, or contact Irene Owsianka at the Parish Office on 9787 7777 or stm@satlink.com.au.



Working Bee

On Saturday 20th of March, from 8.30am to 1pm, we'll be holding a working bee, concentrating this time on the garden around the new car-

park.

We're appealing for labour, of course, but we also need about half a dozen trailers, and the (free) use of a bobcat to level out the fill and distribute mulch. We'd also appreciate it if anyone can put us onto a supply of free mulch — as you may have guessed, we're operating to a very low budget.

If you can help, even for an hour or so, or help with the catering, please add your name to the sign up sheets outside the church, so that we can contact you beforehand if necessary about what specific jobs you can do.