Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

This year our Parish has two Candidates who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation next Easter – Kristal Haley and Melanie Sayers. These two women have been meeting fortnightly with the RCIA Team since August, and next week at 10am Mass they will take the next step in their journey, moving from the Period of Evangelisation and Pre-Catechumenate to the Period of the Catechumenate. This step is called the Rite of Acceptance.

Please join Kristal and Melanie, their Parish Sponsors - Bernice Clutterbuck and Monica Dalstead, and the RCIA Team, at 10am Mass next Sunday – 7th December – as we publically welcome them, and take time after Mass to meet them. Please bring a plate of morning tea to share.

Inter - Church Advent Prayer

Next Wednesday – 3rd December – at 7.30pm in the Church, we are hosting an Inter-Church Advent Prayer. Parishioners from St James the Less Anglican Community and The Village Uniting Church have been invited to join with us.

Please bring a plate of supper to share and come along and take this chance to pause awhile as we prepare for Christmas, as well as taking the chance to get to know our neighbours.
We pray for...

Those who died recently
Leo Maher

those whose anniversaries fall at this time
Rita Fisscher, Millicent Leydin, Lola Lamm

the Sick
Lilia Screaton, Douglas Seymour, John Aras, Jose Luis Mendonza, Len Crowe, Ria Wilson, Barnard Nash,

Alastair Lucas, Rev. John Leaver, Janet Lindner, Fiona Lindner, Peter Camerino, Marcia Fiume, Eileen Dalley, and all of the sick at the George Vowell Centre & Ranelagh Gardens Nursing Home.

and the parishioners of St Thomas More Parish
Tequinomata, East Timor.

Baptism Welcome
We congratulate and welcome Ned & Lenny Speed (Parents – Hayden & Stacey) and Benjamin O’Sullivan (Parents – Mark & Jeanne) who will be baptized at the 10 am Mass this weekend, and Jack Crook (Parents - Alister & Erin) who will be baptized after the 10 am Mass.

Liturgy - First Sunday Of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8
Oh, that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

Responsorial Psalm
Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37
Be watchful! You never know when the Lord will come.

Next Week’s Readings:
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
2 Peter 3:8-14
Mark 1:1-8

November Mass Offerings
Masses will be offered during this week for the intentions of Catharina Tirtowinoto, Anon (Known to God), Mari-anne Corrigan.

6th & 7th December Rosters

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<tr>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>Commentator</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 pm Sat</td>
<td>Irene Owsianka</td>
<td>Margaret Emond</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 am Sun</td>
<td>Colleen Hurren</td>
<td>Kathleen Sheehy</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 am Sun</td>
<td>Jacinta Griffin</td>
<td>Alicia Canning</td>
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Mass Time | Ministers of the Eucharist |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 pm Sat</td>
<td>Sharon Collins (Book)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 am Sun</td>
<td>John Gallagher (Book)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 am Sun</td>
<td>Colleen McNamara (Book)</td>
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</tbody>
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Counters | Don McKenzie | Richard Lindner | Yvonne Minton |

Morning Tea
This week Beatrice Anne Davey & John Bruitzman warmly invite you to linger after 10am Mass for a cuppa and an opportunity to get to know some other members of our parish community better.

Your hosts next week will be Gui Hone & Margaret Gallagher.

Financial Matters

Thanksgiving
Amount received last week.................. $1398
Average October ................................ $3125
Pledged per week ......................... $3098

Presbytery
Amount received last week.................. $1175
Thanks to all of you who give so generously to support our parish.
What’s Happening Here

Rosters for 2015
In the next couple of weeks, I’ll be preparing the rosters for **Morning Tea and Lectors, Commentators and Ministers of the Eucharist**. Please let me know by Friday the 5th of December by email or phone (leave a message if necessary) if there are any dates for which you would be unavailable in the January to April period, or if you would prefer to be removed from the roster.

We would also be very keen to hear from anyone who would like to join our team of morning tea helpers. All that’s required is 15 minutes before the 10am Mass, and about half an hour afterwards. We work in pairs, and everything is provided. Please contact Irene by the 5th if you’d like to come onto the roster.

I will also be preparing the roster for all of 2015 for the **counters**. As we have lost at least one member this year, we would love to be able to replace them so we can keep our 6 teams of 3 intact. This way, you’d be rostered for a month at a time, for 2 months of the year, with opportunities to swap or call on emergencies to fill in if you find yourself unavailable for a week or 2. We also require a Police Check to be conducted – I can organise that for you, and pay the fee. Please contact me for more information, if you’re interested.

Many thanks - Irene

CatholicCare Thanks You
CatholicCare would like to thank the community of St Thomas More Parish for its generous donation of $929.10 to our Church Appeal. Your generosity supports the vital work of CatholicCare. We work on behalf of the Archdiocese in Melbourne and Geelong to fulfil the Church’s mission of service to the community, helping the pain of difficult life transitions through counselling and build new connections for those who are vulnerable and isolated. Thank you for enabling us to continue our vital work.

Nametags: The Parish Pastoral Leadership team invites you to wear a nametag to Mass! This is just one way of us getting to know each other better. You can BYO or we will have some stick-on ones available each week.

Parish Pastoral Leadership Team
At this month’s meeting we –
- were visited by Pat McConvill (Principal of our Parish School) and some members of the Parish Finance Committee
- reviewed the Car Boot Sale (a great community event)
- made our regular check of the Parish Pastoral Plan
- ratified our new Parish Bushfire Policy
- ratified our new Parish Policy re Collections & Appeals
- discussed items/suggestions/requests to be included in 2015 Parish Budget
- made meeting dates and began planning for 2015

STM Social Club (New Members Welcome)
**Fun & Friendship For All**
The next **STM Social Club Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, 2nd December in the Undercroft after 10am Mass.

**Music & Poetry Groups combined Christmas Lunch** at Mornington Golf Club. Thursday, 4th December at 12.30pm. To confirm please ring: Lois Bracken for Music Group 9787 2970 and Catharina Tirtowinoto for Poetry Group 5973 6339.

**Christmas Lunch @ Norwood House**, Wednesday, 10th December, $35 per head, 12 noon. All inclusive. For Bookings please call Margaret Carr 5971 0237.

Baptisms
These are held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month at 11:15 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. Children to be baptised, and their families, are then invited to a Welcome Mass prior to Baptism where they are introduced to the Parish Community and welcomed by them.

**Please note that this Tuesday, 2nd December will be our last Baptism Information Evening before Tuesday, 3rd February 2015.**

When children of school age are to be baptised an extended preparation time is required. It is important to remember that Baptism is about the initiation of a child into a community of Faith or a community of Disciples. There is no such thing as a ‘private’ Baptism... it is something done by the whole Church.
More Of What’s Happening Here...

(Continued from page 3)

**Contemplative Prayer Group**

“Let tiny drops of silence fall gently through your day”.

Silent prayer in the Church each Wednesday from 8:45am - 9:15am followed by Mass.

**Rosa Mystica Prayer Group (since 1986)**

Please join us this (and every) Thursday at 7pm in the Church for Holy Mass followed by Marian devotion and Eucharistic Adoration.

**Children’s Liturgy**

Margo O’Callaghan 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 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.

The Welfare Officers for December are Brian & Sally McAnallen on 5979 4808.

**Parish Bushfire Policy**

With the “Advent” of the Fire Danger Period and given the warnings that we risk during the approaching Summer will be extremely high, the Parish Bushfire Policy will be very similar to that of the School. Schools identified as being at high fire risk will be closed on days declared by fire authorities to be Code Red. Our School (and obviously the whole Parish complex) has been identified as at high fire risk. If the school is closed, the Parish Office will close. I have no intention of putting Parish Staff in danger (or myself for that matter!!) or expect them to be present when teachers and students are not!

The decision to close will be confirmed by close to 12 noon the day before the planned closure. Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. No staff will remain on site when the Parish is closed by the threat of fire.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the safest option when a Code Red day is declared is to leave the night before, or early in the morning of the Code Red day.

This Policy has the potential to impact on some Parish activities. In the unlikely event that weekend Masses are cancelled - a decision that would be made by 12 noon on the previous day – a message to that effect will be left on the Parish phone. Such a decision would be made reluctantly, but it would be made in good time.

Have a wonderful summer and holiday period, but do make sure that your own bushfire survival plan is clear and up to date.

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What’s Happening Elsewhere

**Invitation To Attend Human Rights Oration**

An International Human Rights Event sponsored by the Mornington Peninsula Shire and the Mornington Human Rights Group.

**Speaker:** Andrew Jackomos, Commissioner for Aboriginal Children & Young People

**When:** Thursday, 4th December from 7pm - 9pm

**Venue:** Peninsula Community Theatre, Mornington

Enter from Wilsons Rd

**RSVP:** http://bit.ly/1le9wFh or call 5950 1685

**Gold coin admission.**

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**The Bel Canto Choir Presents.....**

Christmas Readings and Carols conducted by Margaret Brown.

**When:** Sunday, 7th December @ 2.30pm

**Where:** St James the Less Anglican Church, Koetong Parade, Mt Eliza

**Tickets:** $20 Adult/$15 Concession (Primary Students no charge)

**Contact:** 9787 5383 or 9708 8985

All proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to Frankston / Peninsula Carers Inc. Providing lifelong appropriate housing for adults with intellectual disability.