

Risen Christ



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

4 & 5 April 2026

**The Catholic Communities of
Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham & St Francis Xavier, Montmorency**



We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation who are the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respect to the elders past, present and emerging.



*This parish has a commitment to ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our community.
We support the recommendations of the Royal Commission into institutional abuse and pray for all the survivors.*



PARISH TEAM & INFORMATION

OUR PEOPLE & OUR CONTACT DETAILS



Parish Priest

Michael Sierakowski - Moderator

Michael.Sierakowski@cam.org.au

Parish Office

all correspondence to:
86 Mayona Road,
Montmorency Vic 3094
9435 4742

RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary
Tue-Fri 9am-3pm

Peter Williams:

Safeguarding Officer
RisenChrist.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Volunteers

Marisa Capuana: Various

Kerry Mash: Wed & Fri 10am-3pm

www.melbcatholic.org/risenchristparish

Facebook: [Risen Christ Parish](https://www.facebook.com/RisenChristParish)

Risen Christ Parish Bulletin items:

RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au

Schools

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Principal: Rudy Vail: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Jo Nolen: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Thursday 2 - Holy Thursday

10:15am SFX School: Holy Week Tableau Montmorency

12:00pm OLHC School: Holy Week Liturgies Eltham

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper Montmorency

Friday 3 - Good Friday

11:00am Good Friday: The Way of the Cross Eltham

3:00pm Good Friday: The Passion of Our Lord Eltham

Saturday 4 - Holy Saturday

12:00pm Easter Sacrament Rehearsals
for ALL Masses Montmorency

5:00pm Holy Saturday: Blessing of the Food Montmorency

7:00pm Easter Vigil Montmorency

Sunday 5 - Easter Sunday

6:00am Dawn Vigil of the Resurrection Eltham

8:30am Easter Mass Montmorency

10:00am Easter Mass Eltham

Tuesday 7

9:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 8

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 9

9:00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

10:30am Emmaus Small Church Community Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation Eltham

Friday 10

9:30am Mass Eltham

11:00am Funeral: Alice Ley Montmorency

Saturday 11

6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 12

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

Monday 13

2:00pm Mass Montmorency

RECONCILIATION

available half an hour before
any weekday or weekend Parish Mass.

Collections: 15 & 22 March 2026

Thanksgiving	Cash	\$1,478.00
	Electronic	\$8,184.17
Presbytery	Cash	\$1,494.95
	Electronic	\$500.00

Thanksgiving Offering

Month	Total
January	\$20,974.17
February	\$20,922.62
March	\$21,282.67

Thanksgiving

Dear Parishioners,

Following is a list of ways in which you can give towards the running of our Parish (left to right):

A) EFTPOS terminals

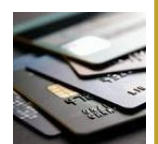
B) scan the QR code (<https://bit.ly/45ifhRp>) & donate to any Parish finance campaign including Thanksgiving, Presbytery Offerings, baptisms etc

C) cash/coins in the collection baskets at each church

D) thanksgiving envelopes

E) set up payments from credit/debit cards/bank account

Thank you for your generous support,
Michael





*Let us pray for all those who have gone
before us marked with the sign of faith ...*

For those in need of **healing**, remembering especially:

*Darby (13 years old), Stephen Andrew, Des Arneson, Elizabeth Benson,
Bill Boyce, Penny Boyce, Ruth Decker, Nora Edmond, Brian Garvey,
Pat Hosmer, Siobhan Lappin, Mary Luttick, Jarrod Mizzi,
Cindy & Ed Morrissey, Bernard Murray, Phil Rovtar, Audrey Tunks,
Regina Roszczenko (mother of Liz Gray), Jeanne Vanderwert*

For those who have **died** recently:

Denise Johnston

For those whose **anniversaries** are at this time:

Peter Donnellan

To include an anniversary please contact Parish Office
9435 4742 or RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au.

Roster for week ending 12 Apr 2026

Armstrong, Miranda	R10:00
Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Boyd, Mary	PRYR
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Cseh, Ferenc	E10:00
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Fitzgerald, Susan	H10:00
Heyhoe, Margaret	C10:00
McKinley, Michael	W8:30
Nolan, Kathleen	H10:00
Nolan, Mike	H10:00
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Reischel, Marita	H10:00
Roy, Yvonne	E10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Skipper, Patsy	LoW-01 Thu
Stewart Family	PRSE

ASE = Altar Society @ Eltham;

C = Commentator;

CLKR = PowerPoint Clicker @ SFX;

CLNR = Cleaner @ SFX; R = Reader;

E = Eucharistic Minister;

H = Hospitality;

LoW-01 = Liturgy of the Word with
Communion @ SFX;

PRSE = Pilgrim Rosary Statue @ Eltham;

M = Music; W = Minister of the Word



Congratulations to all who celebrate their sacraments this weekend:

Saturday, 4th April, 2026

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 7:30pm

Henry Lee Leyden Arthur	Baptism
Daniel Lee Glass	First Eucharist, Confirmation
Audrey May Johnston	Baptism
Elliot Harvey Peter Johnston	Baptism
Ethan Michael Juzva	First Eucharist, Confirmation
Brooke Jade Nankervis	Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation
Alice Athene Peckham-Thomas	Baptism, First Eucharist
Clara Sophia Peckham-Thomas	Baptism, First Eucharist
Matthew Brian Peckham	Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation

Sunday, 5th April, 2026

Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham, 6:00am

Daniel Robert Buchanan Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 8:30am

Francesca Antonia Forster Baptism

Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham, 10:00am

Ross James Bowlby Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation

Rebecca Goddard Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation



Building the Synodal Way Together

As we enter the Easter season, we are invited to continue growing as a Church that listens, learns, and walks together. The *Synodal Way* calls each of us - clergy, religious, and lay - to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the

Holy Spirit.

In the coming weeks, we will focus on deepening our commitment to:

- **Listening with an open heart** to the experiences, hopes, and concerns of others.
- **Engaging in meaningful conversation**, grounded in respect, humility, and prayer.
- **Strengthening our sense of communion**, recognising Christ at the centre of our shared mission.
- **Discerning pathways forward**, so that our parish and wider Church can respond more faithfully to the needs of our time.

Reflection question: How can we deepen our understanding of synodality in our parish life?

The first meeting of the Diocesan Synod Commission will be held on Thursday 9 April. We ask for your prayers as we gather to discern and plan for the work of the Synod. If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email: Synod2026@cam.org.au



The Exsultet

Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven,
exult, let Angel ministers of God exult,
let the trumpet of salvation
sound aloud our mighty King's triumph!

Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her,
ablaze with light from her eternal King,
let all corners of the earth be glad,
knowing an end to gloom and darkness.

Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice,
arrayed with the lightning of his glory,
let this holy building shake with joy,
filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

Therefore, dearest friends,
standing in the awesome glory of this holy light,
invoke with me, I ask you,
the mercy of God almighty,

that he, who has been pleased to number me,
though unworthy, among the Levites,
may pour into me his light unshadowed,
that I may sing this candle's perfect praises.

It is truly right and just,
with ardent love of mind and heart
and with devoted service of our voice,
to acclaim our God invisible,
the almighty Father,
and Jesus Christ, our Lord, his Son,
his Only Begotten.

Who for our sake paid Adam's debt
to the eternal Father,
and, pouring out his own dear Blood,
wiped clean the record of our ancient sinfulness.

These, then, are the feasts of Passover,
in which is slain the Lamb, the one true Lamb,
whose Blood anoints the doorposts of believers.

This is the night,
when once you led our forebears,
Israel's children,
from slavery in Egypt
and made them pass dry-shod
through the Red Sea.

This is the night
that with a pillar of fire
banished the darkness of sin.

This is the night
that even now, throughout the world,
sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices
and from the gloom of sin,
leading them to grace
and joining them to his holy ones.

This is the night,
when Christ broke the prison-bars of death
and rose victorious from the underworld.

Liturgy Brisbane (www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/resources/liturgy-lines/the-exsultet)



2026 EASTER MESSAGE

Easter offers a way forward

Friends,

Easter invites us to stand at the threshold from night into dawn. In the Gospel, we meet Mary Magdalen arriving at the tomb while it was still dark (Jn 20:1). She carries grief and confusion, yet a fragile hope. What she finds is not an ending but a beginning: the stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty. And before her stands the One who knows her name: Mary.

As dawn breaks, a quiet truth emerges: death has not had the final word; life has arisen.

The resurrection unfolds like morning light. It does not blind, but illumines. It does not erase wounds, but transfigures them. Christ, the Light of the World, comes to meet us as the light we need. Christ is present; Christ is life.

Yet many today experience absence. For the young especially, the world can feel stripped of mystery - flattened, reduced. Meaning feels distant; hope can seem lost. Our lives can appear dark and empty. Conflict and war confront us.

And yet, it is precisely there that Easter speaks our name. The empty tomb is the sign which awakens us to the truth that God is still with us; Jesus is still for us. This Easter, we are called not only to receive Christ's light, but to rediscover its wonder—and to bear that light for others.

Here in Melbourne, we see both vitality and vulnerability: generosity among neighbours, yet distance towards others. Into this world comes the risen Christ, shining light into every darkness and upon every life. To be a light is to reflect the One who brings hope, and to keep it alive in a world that can forget to hold in safety those in need.

In our divided and conflicted world, Easter offers not escape but a way forward: to live with compassion, seek truth, build peace, and stand for hope.

To the steadfast in faith: may this Easter renew your joy and courage. To those who feel distant: the light of Christ is already seeking you. To people of goodwill: Easter proclaims that life is stronger than death, love stronger than fear, and hope stronger than despair.

May the risen Christ bless Melbourne and all its people this Easter. And may we rediscover his company as we walk from darkness into his marvelous light.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne