

Risen Christ



Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

15 & 16 November 2025 - Year C

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.



Gospel - Luke 21:5-19

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now - the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master,' they said, 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived,' he said, 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he" and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.'

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name - and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

Parish Renewal Program

Welcome to the **Engagement Weekend** of our Renewal Program!

This week celebrates our commitment to being a *Mission* driven parish - helping all celebrate God's presence and expressing our faith through outreach, service, and justice. We all have a role to play - indeed a responsibility to use our gifts and talents for the benefits of others. So please be involved in one of our parish Groups or Ministries - either for the first time or in a continuing role - your involvement will be personally rewarding and a great contribution to our parish. Our Program Coordinator, Stephen Littleton, will speak with us at each Mass and distribute copies of the special Ministries form.

A special thank you to the wonderful parishioners who spoke so beautifully at Masses last weekend as we launched the Program.

Thoughts for Reflection:

Q: Why is it important to be actively engaged in Parish Ministries?

"It is so important for the mission of our parish! When we engage, our faith becomes stronger, we help others, and we keep our community strong and vibrant. Engagement is faith in action!"

"To give back for all we have received - and by our example, encourage others to do the same. It is being community!"

Pope Francis said: "It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our action."



Dear Parishioners,
for all November
Masses,
weekday & weekend,
the Sacrament of
Anointing
will be offered to
everyone
at the conclusion of our
Parish Celebrations
of the Eucharist.



*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

RECONCILIATION

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

Collections: 2 & 9 November 2025

		OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	Cash	\$412.00	\$921.00
	Electronic	\$1,089.72	\$3,817.00
Presbytery	Cash	\$577.95	\$919.90
	Electronic	\$50.00	\$190.00

Thanksgiving / Stewardship Offering

Month	OLHC	SFX	Total
August	\$6,513.67	\$9,149.50	\$15,663.17
September	\$6,600.67	\$11,649.50	\$18,250.17
October	\$5,901.67	\$10,143.50	\$16,045.17

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Saturday 15

12:00pm Baptisms: Jackson, Zoe,
Aria, William

Montmorency
Montmorency

6:00pm Mass

Sunday 16

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

9:30am Small Church Community
Facilitators Meeting

Montmorency
Eltham

10:00am Mass

12:00pm Baptisms: Luca, Leo & Leo

Eltham

Monday 17

7:30pm RCIA Class

Eltham

Tuesday 18

9:30am Mass & SFX Yr Prep, 1 & 2

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Eltham

Wednesday 19

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

1:00pm Kairos Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thursday 20

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation

Eltham

Friday 21

9:30am Mass

Eltham

Saturday 22

6:00pm Mass

Montmorency

Sunday 23

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Monday 24

7:30pm RCIA Class

Eltham

Tuesday 25

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thanksgiving

Dear Parishioners,
Following is a list of ways in which you can give towards the running of our Parish (clockwise from top right):

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

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

C) EFTPOS terminals

D) thanksgiving envelopes

E) set up payments from credit/debit cards

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 the recently **deceased**:

Fr Frank Moloney

Montmorency

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

Joan Billings, Nora Edmond, Pat Hosmer, Siobhan Lappin,

*Frances McDonald, Jarrod Mizzi, Cindy & Ed Morrissey, Michael O'Meara,
Regina Roszczenko (mother of Liz Gray), Jeanne Vanderwert, Br Doug Walsh*

For the recently **deceased**:

Paul Riboni (brother of Frida Zerjal), Marie Warden

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

Cliff Bredle, Gwen Radcliffe, Damian Williams

Eltham

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

Stephen Andrew, Sheilah & Des Arneson, Bill Boyce, Penny Boyce,

*Paul Carton, Ruth Decker, Nora Gorman, Mary Luttick,
Bernard Murray, Audrey Tunks*

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

Aaron Carter, Neil Patrick Donahoo

To include an anniversary please contact Parish Office

9435 4742 or RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au.

November Remembrances...

Lina & Charles; Adrian Aloï; Andrzejewski Family;
Andrew John Azzopardi; Peter Baker; Natalia & Boleslav Baryla;
Matthew Bibby; Cliff Bredle; Peter Carbone; Aaron Carter;
Antonion Chincarini (jnr); Ryszard, Teresa & Zbigniew Cichacki;
Anthony & Elizabeth Corera; Desmond Deehan;
Neil Patrick Donahoo; Bernard Edmond; Bill Gayfer;
Philip Ferrarotto; Rudolf Jakubik; Julian Keogh;
Ryszard Klepac; Jim Kollaris; Melinda Layne;
Betty Lord; Peggy Marmion; Leo Maynes;
Ian McCabe; Joseph McCudden; Russell Mee;
Maria Morabito; Fr Frank Moloney; Fr Barry Moran;
Fr Peter O'Rourke; Frank Paoli; Valeria Perosin; Gwen Radcliffe;
Paul Riboni; Derek Rollins; Maria, Janina & Wladyslaw Rygala;
Snopkowski Family; Marie Warden; Damian Williams



**Congratulations to all who celebrate
their sacraments this weekend:**

Saturday, 15th November, 2025

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 12:00pm

Jackson James Anderson
William John Bellchambers
Zoe Mim Herz
Aria Marie Toohey

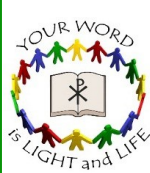
Baptism
Baptism
Baptism
Baptism

Sunday, 16th November, 2025

Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham, 12:00pm

Leo Alex Debenham
Luca Mark Gaulke
Leo John-Russel Gow

Baptism
Baptism
Baptism



Small Church Community

There will be a meeting of Facilitators of Small Church in the Parish
House, 86 Mayona Rd today, 16th Nov, after the 8:30am Mass.
All are welcome. Patsy 0429 439 675

Roster for week ending 16 Nov 2025

Castellanos, Rodrigo	E10:00
Cseh, Nika	C10:00
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Edwards, Elisabeth	E10:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Illiffe, Yvonne	E10:00
Leahy Family	PRSE
Love, Philip	W8:30
Maloney, Nigel	W6:00
Nolan, Mike	PRYR
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Rigg, Peter	H10:00
Rygala, Ella	H10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Skipper, Patsy	CLNR
Skipper, Patsy	LoW-01 Thu
Smith, Neil	E10:00
Stone, Nan	W6:00
Taylor, Trish	R10:00

Roster for week ending 23 Nov 2025

Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Boyd, Mary	PRYR
Capuana, Marisa	LoW-01 Thu
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Cotter, Anne	CLNR
Cseh, Nika	R10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	E10:00
Fitzgerald, Susan	H10:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Hall, Vali	ASE
Mallia, Anthony	E10:00
McKinley, Michael	W8:30
Northrop, Greg	E10:00
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Renny, Teresa	H10:00
Renny, Tom	H10:00
Rigg Family	PRSE
Taylor, Trish	C10:00
Williams, Peter	E10:00
Wood, Gerard	CLNR

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



WHO WE ARE

OUR VISION

Risen Christ is a welcoming Catholic parish, a living community inspired by the Gospels, enriched by the vision of Vatican II, formed by vibrant liturgy and sacraments, and respectful of the different histories and identities of our two faith communities.

A HUMBLE AND SYNODAL PARISH - 'WALKING TOGETHER'

In the words of Pope Francis, the church, as the people of God, is a "humble and synodal church." This means that it is a learning church and an inclusive church - a church for everybody - marked by consultation, discernment, formation and participation. A synodal church is a church where synodality (walking together) is practiced. At Risen Christ, we are committed to being a synodal parish.

OUR FUTURE

Our 2025 Parish Pastoral Plan, developed by our current Parish Pastoral Leadership Team, and informed by our Parish Mission Statement and the 2024 Parish Survey Report, serves as a guide and framework for the pastoral life of our parish. The Pastoral Plan seeks to provide a foundation for the development of a vibrant, collaborative, lay-led parish - recognising that our future relies on the faith, engagement and passion of our parishioners.

OUR PRIORITIES

There are five focus areas at the heart of the Pastoral Plan - *Hospitality, Prayer and Worship, Family, Social Justice, and Safeguarding*. Through these five focus areas, we seek to build a vibrant parish that is safe, welcoming, inclusive, prayerful, communal, outgoing, service and action-oriented, and future focused. These are our priorities and key areas for investment - both human and financial. We need your support to make this vision a reality.

HOSPITALITY

Jesus' way of being reflected an open hospitality. He dined with the outcast, sat with the grieving, and touched the 'untouchable'. He welcomed the stranger. His example encourages us to be a parish that invites, includes, reaches out, and welcomes. *Let's ask ourselves - how are we following his example? How do we greet each other? How do we make newcomers feel at home? Would a first-time visitor to our parish be eager to return a second time?* We invite your engagement - we all have a responsibility we are all part of the solution.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Prayer and worship builds relationships with ourselves, with our community, and with God. It is through the communal celebration of our faith that personal connections are formed and developed, where our faith is strengthened and enhanced. Through the Second Vatican Council we are invited to "full, conscious and active participation on the liturgy." It is in the celebration of the Eucharist at weekend Mass - the "source and summit" of Christian life - that we are nourished and guided, ready to live our faith in our everyday lives. To continue to be the face of God in our world. *So, let's ask ourselves - how do I participate in the prayer and sacramental life of the parish?*

How am I present with my faith? Am I merely an observer, taking my spiritual nourishment and walking on my way, or do I truly understand that my faith requires me to be an active participant? There are many opportunities at our parish to be involved. We invite your engagement.

FAMILY

We are a diverse community of faith - diverse in make-up, expressions of faith and cultural roots. It is this very diversity that enriches us as a community. Each member of our parish family brings their own story, their own history, and we are blessed that this has often spanned across generations of involvement in parish life. Yet we also recognise that the way of experiencing parish life has changed quite significantly over the years. For many parents and children, the only experience and exposure to the Church they might have is through our Catholic schools. This brings challenges. It means we must be creative in our approach to parish life. It means we must recognise that regular Weekend Mass attendance is not the only way to be part of a vibrant parish community. It is important that all members of our communities know they are a welcome and valued part of Risen Christ Parish. *How do we support our families - particularly those less engaged in weekend Mass? How do we best listen to the voices of the disengaged? How do we hear the voices of our young - the future of our church and our parish? What skills and interests do I have to use?*

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Christian faith is lived most authentically in active service to others. Our love of God goes hand in hand with our love of neighbour. Catholic Social Teaching calls us to recognise the inherent dignity of the human person, and to strive for the common good. Our communities cannot flourish unless the needs of all - and especially the most vulnerable - are met. As a parish, and as individuals, we have a duty and responsibility to contribute to this work. Our two communities have a strong charism and heart for social justice and outreach - playing a pivotal role in the fabric of the parish. Accordingly, we will continue to invest human and financial resources into these key areas. We continue to challenge ourselves. *How do we work with our local communities to identify key areas for co-operation and assistance? How do we engage with and harness the power of our schools and young people to support these initiatives? What role are you prepared to play?*

SAFEGUARDING

"... if one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it." (1 Cor 12:24-26)

Risen Christ Parish has a strong commitment to safeguarding children, young people and the vulnerable. This commitment is informed by the 2013 Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. As a parish community, we must acknowledge the past, and create opportunities to remember, grieve, and heal. The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults must be considered in every aspect of parish life and across all five areas of our Pastoral plan. *How can we educate ourselves about archdiocesan and parish safeguarding requirements? Are we doing enough? Can we do more? What role are you playing in this shared objective?*





DEAR FRIENDS

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Risen Christ Parish, the Catholic Communities of Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham and St Francis Xavier, Montmorency.

It is now 'High Time' for us to have this Renewal Program in our Remembrance month of November. Certainly, in the six years that I have had the privilege of being among you - and from what I can gather - there has not been an official 'Stewardship or Thanksgiving' campaign for some 10 years, and more like 15 years! So, it is vitally important to lift our game in this area and to consider to continue our support of this new parish and its financial needs and ministries for the next five years. This is perfect timing to align with our wonderful five year 'Parish Pastoral Plan' that was launched on Pentecost Sunday and begins to gather pace for our future stability.

We are blessed to be part of such a wonderful modern parish in the Diamond Valley, and we are committed to the call of both Popes - Francis & Leo - to be a Missionary Church in all that we do in living out our Christian Faith in a Synodal way. How do we provide essential support, pastoral care and upgrade of parish facilities to meet the challenges of our new Risen Christ Parish? We all 'co-share' in this ministry and responsibility as this parish partnership evolves. You are the 'Body of Christ' in Eltham and Montmorency! We therefore need to financially support the five 'key' areas identified in our future pastoral plan - Family, Hospitality, Social Justice, Prayer & Worship and Safeguarding. But wait, there is more: our parish 'office' and church facilities need urgent love and attention - things like painting and carpet and much needed maintenance to bring up to standard!

Through this timely Parish Renewal Program, I am not asking a lot but a thoughtful considered financial response from everyone to help us all grow this parish to the next stage, for our healthy community to thrive - this is our parish and therefore our responsibility! Yes, our weekly approach to financial support of this community is unique - no actual collections taken up during Sunday masses - but your ongoing financial support is amazing and greatly appreciated - we thus need to invite everyone to participate and hopefully 'lift' our future financial situation for years to come!

Warmest thanks for all that you already do to help grow our Risen Christ Parish,
Let's do this together!

Michael

BEING GOOD STEWARDS

Our "calling people to Ministry" guides and informs all we do - helping us to live our faith and grow the parish community. Yet we cannot ignore the practical - our responsibility to be good stewards of our churches and facilities, employ professional staff (thank you Kate), and to provide a sustainable financial position that enables us to properly fund our parish mission.

OUR PARISH FACILITIES

- Church Roofing - replacement needed at both churches;
- Parish House - new carpet and internal painting required, with special attention to the Parish Office;
- Review required - to investigate the best use of the Parish House in the longer term; and
- New Income Stream - provided by the opening of the four units at Eltham in May.



OUR FINANCIAL REALITY

Over the last two years our expenditure has exceeded our income by an average of nearly \$40,000 per year. To cover these operating deficits, we have had to draw down on parish reserves. This is simply not sustainable and must be addressed. Whilst every effort is being made to ensure our spending is prudent, the reality is we need a significant increase in parish income. Whilst we have several sources of income, by far the most significant is PLEDGED Thanksgiving Income - the regular, committed contributions from parishioners - preferably by credit/debit card or direct debit from your bank account.

WHAT IS OUR CHALLENGE?

- To address the deficit issue, and to properly fund our parish mission, we need a significant increase in PLEDGED Thanksgiving Income.
- We prefer a monthly direct debit or credit card deduction - but direct transfer and the traditional cash envelopes are also available.

WHO DO WE NEED TO PLEDGE?

- *Current contributors* - thank you! Please review your current pledge and make a new Thanksgiving commitment during this Renewal Program.
- *Giving by Tap N Go machines at Mass* - we thank you for your current support when you attend Mass, but would ask you to consider a regular pledge commitment to Thanksgiving.
- *New to the parish* - this is now your spiritual home so please partner with your fellow parishioners in building our parish community by making a regular pledge commitment to Thanksgiving.
- *Our parish school families* - our parish is central to the Catholic education of our children, so please 'come on board' and make your regular pledge commitment to Thanksgiving.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I PLEDGE?

- We simply ask that you contribute to the very best of your ability. How do you use your discretionary income? Is parish support a financial priority for you?
- We unashamedly ask those with the greatest capacity to contribute the most.
- We reserve special thanks for those on restricted incomes - your continued support is greatly appreciated.

OUR FINANCIALS

INCOME	2023	2024	2025*
Thanksgiving (pledges)	150,000	141,000	156,000
Thanksgiving (Tap N Go)	40,000	42,000	44,000
Other Income	66,000	29,000	2,000
Total Income	256,000	212,000	202,000
EXPENSES	2023	2024	2025*
Pastoral & Administration	54,000	59,000	60,000
Church Requirements	10,000	11,000	11,000
Property Costs	24,000	23,000	25,000
Church Repairs	12,000	15,000	25,000
Insurance	45,000	43,000	31,000
Salary - Parish Staff & Consultants	58,000	64,000	79,000
Archdiocesan Levies	99,000	25,000	28,000
Total Expenses	302,000	240,000	259,000
OVERALL POSITION	2023	2024	2025*
Surplus (Deficit)	(46,000)	(28,000)	(57,000)

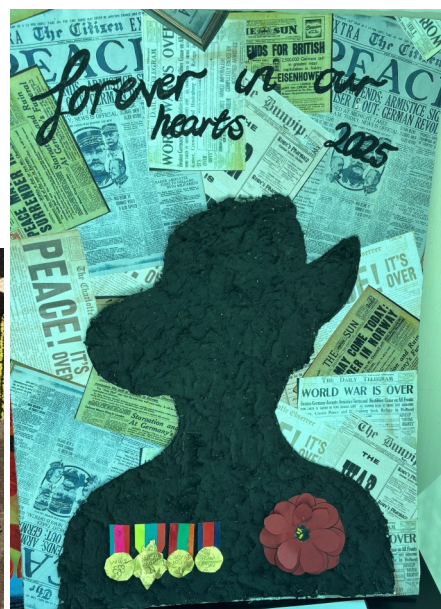
* 2025 as per Parish Budget



Montmorency RSL Remembrance Day School Art Competition

St Francis Xavier Primary were joint winners of the competition this year. Congratulations!

The paintings, along with all submissions from local schools, are on display at Montmorency RSL.



ONLY JUST
FAIR TRADE • HANDMADE • ETHICAL



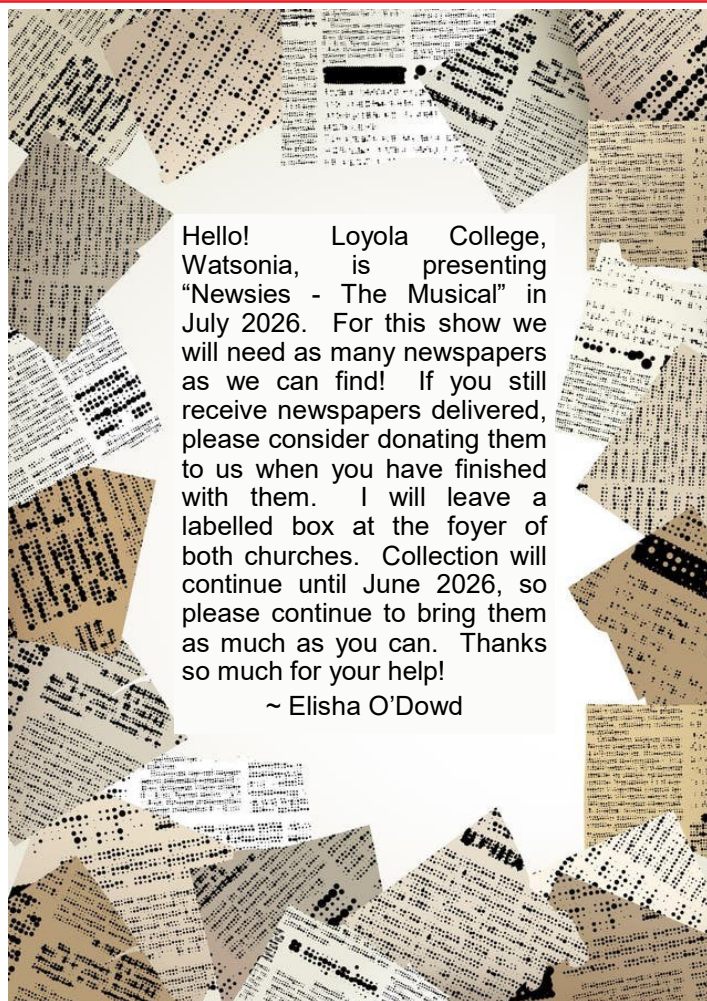
Fair Trade - It makes a World of Difference

Next weekend after the 6pm Mass on Saturday and 8:30am Mass on Sunday, **Only Just** will be holding a Christmas Stall.

We will have a range of ethical gifts suitable for Christmas presents or for you.

Buying Fair Trade supports communities throughout the world, giving people dignity, a living wage to support their families and their communities.

For further information, please contact the parish office or John Davidson.



Hello! Loyola College, Watsonia, is presenting "Newsies - The Musical" in July 2026. For this show we will need as many newspapers as we can find! If you still receive newspapers delivered, please consider donating them to us when you have finished with them. I will leave a labelled box at the foyer of both churches. Collection will continue until June 2026, so please continue to bring them as much as you can. Thanks so much for your help!

~ Elisha O'Dowd



A Charismatic Mass
will be celebrated on
Thursday 20th November
at St Thomas the Apostle Church,
251 Diamond Creek Road,
North Greensborough.

The evening will commence at 7:30pm with
Praise & Worship
followed by Mass and supper.

All welcome.

For further details, please contact
Emilia 0418 120 902.

Help Communities recover from devastating storms in the Philippines and Vietnam

What is the current situation?

A series of compounding weather events have struck the Philippines and Vietnam, leaving communities devastated. Many lives have been lost, with people also missing, and thousands displaced. Our partners on the ground are providing urgent support to affected families amid absolute exhaustion. Your support will provide emergency relief and help communities rebuild.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/asia-storms/>



Prayers of the Faithful for 16th November 2025 Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Sisters and brothers, with faith and perseverance let us pray for all humanity, particularly families isolated in poverty.

This Sunday celebrates the World Day of the Poor, established by Pope Francis. May our Church show itself to be faithful always to the example of Christ. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

St Paul stressed the value of work. And so, we remember those excluded from work by reason of their age, physical condition, lack of qualifications or opportunity.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Christ's words and the glory of his name are entrusted to us. May our parish communities, and each of us, be faithful witnesses of the One who gives Life to the world.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

As we review and renew our commitment to our Risen Christ Parish, let us be mindful of what we can offer to further enrich the life and activities of our parish community.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those in our parish who suffer mentally or physically. May they be comforted and strengthened by Christ's love that enfolds them and by those who offer help and friendship.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died recently, especially *Paul Riboni, Fr Frank Moloney and Marie Warden*; and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Cliff Bredle, Aaron Carter, Neil Patrick Donahoo, Gwen Radcliffe and Damian Williams*. May they find eternal peace in the presence of our loving God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of justice and peace, you who rule over all peoples, hear our prayers. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Develop community self-reliance and create lasting change!

Discover how you can get involved in Palms International Volunteering

Discover Palms International Volunteering [online](#) in these two special sessions where you'll hear how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities in our Southeast Asian region.

1. Explore our **GAP YEAR opportunities** for (18-25yo) Year 12 graduates and university students, that could shape your future.

Date: Thursday 4 December 2025

Time: 6pm or 9pm AEDT (NSW/VIC/ACT/TAS)

2. Join our **TIMOR-LESTE ENCOUNTER** Information session for those who would like a short taste and tour of Palms placements to Timor-Leste from 14-27 May 2026.

Date: Monday 8 December 2025

Time: 7.30pm-8.30pm AEDT

Venue: ONLINE-Scan the QR code or register at palms.org.au/events

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Christmas Cards and Decorations Montmorency Conference

The conference has a limited supply of SVdP Christmas Cards available for sale after each Mass from this weekend. The cost is \$4 per packet of five. We have kept the cost to practically cost price (\$3.75) so as to make them available to as many parishioners as possible.

Also, one of our members has made some magnificent, colourful Christmas ornaments. These limited and exclusive ornaments are available at the table outside the church. In previous years, the member made Christmas Angel earrings which were appreciated by parishioners. All monies from the sale of the decorations are donated to our conference.



PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD



Red November: Pray for Persecuted Christians

Aid to the Church in Need invites all Catholics to remember, pray for and support persecuted Christians throughout **Red November**.

Please pray especially for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria, Sudan and the Middle East, where Christians are facing grave danger right now.

Watch the official video and download your Red Rosary prayer card by scanning the QR code or visiting www.rednovember.org



ALL CHRISTIANS ARE BROTHERS AND SISTERS TO EACH OTHER: POPE

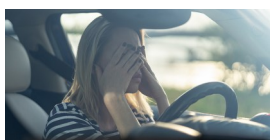


Being a Christian means recognising every person as a brother or sister and always being ready to lend a helping hand, Pope Leo XIV said

yesterday. Source: OSV News.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/11/13/all-christians-are-brothers-and-sisters-to-each-other-pope/>

PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION SAYS LANDMARK NATIONAL AGREEMENT FAILING



A landmark mental health agreement signed by federal, state and territory governments three years ago is failing, a scathing Productivity

Commission inquiry has concluded.

Source: ABC News.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/11/13/productivity-commission-says-landmark-national-agreement-failing/>

MARISTS APPOINT NEW PROVINCIAL OF STAR OF THE SEA PROVINCE



The Marist Brothers' Star of the Sea Province has appointed Br Darren Burge as its new Provincial, succeeding Br Peter Carroll FMS, who was elected

Superior General of the Marist Brothers on September 30.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/11/13/marists-appoint-new-provincial-of-star-of-the-sea-province/>

CARITAS LAUNCHES URGENT APPEAL FOR TYPHOON VICTIMS



Caritas Australia has launched an urgent appeal to support communities in the Philippines and Vietnam following a series of catastrophic weather events

and natural disasters.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/11/13/caritas-launches-urgent-appeal-for-typhoon-victims/>

JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES SAYS TOUGHER LAWS WILL NOT REDUCE YOUTH CRIME



The Victorian Government's plan to introduce "adult time for violent crime" laws is deeply concerning, will not make the community safer and is

incompatible with the fundamental rights of children, Jesuit Social Services says.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/11/13/jesuit-social-services-says-tougher-laws-will-not-reduce-youth-crime/>

HEARING THE VOICES 'OFTEN MISSING IN A HYPER-PARTISAN DISCUSSION'



A new four-part documentary series from Common Home TV, a Redemptorist digital media mission, is exploring what it means to live, teach, and serve amid conflict in the Holy Land.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/11/13/hearing-the-voices-often-missing-in-a-hyper-partisan-discussion/>

A TIME TO REMEMBER Lest we forget

November is a time to remember those who have gone before us, their generous love and courageous witness, and the value of the peace and freedom we enjoy when so many lives are marred by conflict and injustice.



As we mark Remembrance Day, we share the story of the more than 100 pilgrims who recently walked the 'Peace Camino' from Mannerim to Queenscliff on Melbourne's beautiful Bellarine Peninsula. Connecting with the region's wartime history, they embarked on 'a journey of remembrance and renewal', treading 'a prayerful path to peace and hope'.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/peace-camino>



On Sunday, Melbourne's East Timorese Catholic community also gathered for a special Mass to remember the more than 250 young people who lost their lives in the 1991 Santa Cruz massacre, helping to bring peace and freedom to their homeland.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/melbournes-timorese-community-commemorates-horrific-massacre-that-led-to-independence>



And this month - dubbed 'Red November' by Aid to the Church in Need - we remember all those around the world who bear courageous witness to their faith in the face of persecution and suffering.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/red-november-unites-thousands-to-remember-pray-for-and-support-persecuted-christians>



We also remember renowned biblical scholar Rev Prof Frank Moloney SDB AM, who passed into eternal life last week, and whose remarkable scholarly contribution and quiet, generous ministry have significantly enriched the Church, both here in Australia and around the world.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/vale-fr-francis-moloney-sdb>

And in just over two weeks, we are thrilled to be welcoming 6,000 pilgrims to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne. All Melbourne parishes are invited to come along to the opening event - the Melbourne Festa - on Sunday 30 November at St Patrick's Cathedral, from 1:30pm. Come and pray before the World Youth Cross and Icon and then join the pilgrimage walk through the streets of Melbourne to MCEC. It promises to be a beautiful witness of faith!

MEDICINE WITH A MORAL COMPASS: DR STEPHEN PARNIS DELIVERS 2025 PLUNKETT LECTURE

The foundation of medical practice rests on a clear moral compass, said emergency physician Dr Stephen Parnis in this year's Plunkett Lecture for the ACU's Plunkett Centre for Ethics.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/the-plunkett-lecture-2025-ethics-in-healthcare>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events>

For more information: www.melbournecatholic.org or www.facebook.com/CatholicArchdioceseofMelbourne