

Risen



Christ

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5 & 6 July 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 10:1-12, 17-20

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him, in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself was to visit. He said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Start off now, but remember, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Carry no purse, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road. Whatever house you go into, let your first words be, "Peace to this house!" And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house. Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is set before you. Cure those in it who are sick, and say, "The kingdom of God is very near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say, "We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near." I tell you, that on that day it will not go as hard for Sodom as with that town.'

The seventy-two came back rejoicing. 'Lord,' they said, 'even the devils submit to us when we use your name.' He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Yes, I have given you power to tread underfoot serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you. Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice rather that your names are written in heaven.'



Reflection - Break Open the Word 2025

This passage is important for a Church that seeks to become a community of missionary disciples.

- The purpose of this missionary venture is to bring peace to households and to announce in word and action that *the kingdom of God is very near to you!*
- The need is great, for the harvest is rich but the labourers few.
- Missionary disciples are vulnerable (*lambs among wolves*); they will therefore need to rely entirely on God's providence (*no purse, no haversack, no sandals*).

The longer version is important for the phrases: *the seventy-two came back rejoicing*. This theme of the joy of discipleship - whatever the difficulties and trials the disciple might have encountered - has been well established by the other readings today.

'The work of evangelization enriches the mind and the heart; it opens up spiritual horizons; it makes us more and more sensitive to the workings of the Holy Spirit, and it takes us beyond our limited spiritual constructs. A committed missionary knows the joy of being a spring which spills over and refreshes others. Only the person who feels happiness in seeking the good of others, in desiring their happiness, can be a missionary' (Francis, The Joy of the Gospel 272).

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

Kerry Mash:

Volunteer
Wed & Fri 10am-3pm

Ripley Timmins:

Volunteer
Fri 9am-3pm

New Website:

www.melbcatholic.org/risenchristparish

Facebook:

[Risen Christ Parish](#)

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: Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Collections: 15 & 22 June 2025

		OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	Cash	\$587.00	\$871.00
	Electronic	\$3,753.67	\$3,115.50
Presbytery	Cash	\$1,058.40	\$1,190.50
	Electronic	\$100.00	\$150.00

Thanksgiving / Stewardship Offering

Month	OLHC	SFX	Total
April	\$6,796.67	\$10,257.50	\$17,054.17
May	\$6,846.67	\$7,868.50	\$14,715.17
June	\$7,561.67	\$10,092.50	\$17,654.17

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Saturday 5

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 6

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharist Eltham

Tuesday 8

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 9

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 10

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:00am Emmaus Small Church Community Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation Eltham

7:00pm Meditation Eltham

Friday 11

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Saturday 12

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharist Montmorency

Sunday 13

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

Tuesday 15

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 16

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

1:00pm Kairos Small Church Community Montmorency

Thursday 17

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation Eltham

7:00pm Meditation Eltham

Friday 18

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Saturday 19

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 20

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

Tuesday 22

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 23

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 24

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency



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

Montmorency

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

*Pat Hosmer, Siobhan Lappin, Frances McDonald,
Jarrod Mizzi, Cindy & Ed Morrissey,*

Regina Roszczenko (mother of Liz Gray), Jeanne Vanderwert

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

Leon Nolan

Eltham

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

*Stephen Andrew, Penny Boyce, Ruth Decker, Mary Luttick,
Bernard Murray, Audrey Tunks*

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

Leon Nolan

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



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

Saturday, 5th July, 2025

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 6:00pm

Hanna Alina Borowska

Ariel Cricco

Ava Quinn Ierardi

Thomas David Miller

First Eucharist

First Eucharist

First Eucharist

First Eucharist

Sunday, 29th June, 2025

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

Sophia Frances Connors

First Eucharist

Risen Christ Safeguarding Committee Member Profile

Introducing: Nika Cseh

Sentence about yourself, family and which Mass you attend:

My name is Nika and I enjoy attending the Sunday 10am mass with my husband Fez and two little girls Arielle and Parisa.

Why did you join the Safeguarding Committee?

I joined the committee as a way of giving back to the wonderful Parish that embraced me and my family so openly and kindly when we first moved here into Eltham 2 years ago.

What do you do with yourself?

I work as a Psychological Counsellor when I'm not acting as a mum taxi. Outside of work I love spending time with my family, seeing friends, and learning Farsi (the Iranian language; my mum is Iranian).

What's one thing you think would surprise people about yourself?

I love reading crime thriller novels and try to get through one a week, the darker the better!



Roster for week ending 6 July 2025

Davidson, John	PRYR
Dopheide, Marlis	E10:00
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Edwards, Elisabeth	E10:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Hannon, Genni	ASRC
Hannon, Kevin	ASRC
Illiffe, Yvonne	E10:00
Kenny, Michael	W6:00
Mallia, Anthony	E10:00
Maynes, Phil	W6:00
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Renny, Teresa	H10:00
Renny, Tom	H10:00
Stewart Family	PRSE
Taylor, Trish	C10:00
Williams, Peter	R10:00
Wood, Marie	LoW-01 Thu
Wood, Marie	W8:30

Roster for week ending 13 July 2025

Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Cseh, Ferenc	E10:00
Davidson, John	W8:30
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Fitzgerald, Susan	H10:00
Haines, Geoff	E10:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Kulkens, Mark	W6:00
Nolan, Kathleen	H10:00
Nolan, Mike	H10:00
Nolan, Mike	PRYR
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Reischel, Marita	H10:00
Roy, Yvonne	E10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Scully, Greg	C10:00
Skipper, Patsy	LoW-01 Thu
Smith, Neil	E10:00
Stone, Nan	CLNR
Zavadil Family	PRSE
Zerjal, Frida	CLNR
Zylstra, Diane	R10:00

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

KADASIG AID & DEVELOPMENT Inc. 2025 WINTER NEWSLETTER

Thank you to our wonderful donors

To run an organisation like Kadasig Aid & Development Inc, a totally voluntary & not for profit organisation, many kinds of support is needed from a range of supporters – sponsors, individuals, businesses, schools, parishes & Foundations. Our programs take a great deal of planning & implementation along with a cost. Without our amazing colleagues in Cebu we could not achieve the effect that we do. It's amazing what can be achieved when we all work together!

Over recent years a massive difference has been made for families through:

- Many, many young people have been able to follow their dreams of an education which would not be possible without sponsorship & they gained employment.
- Purchase of land for housing.
- Construction of more solid houses.
- Safe pathways in communities.
- Activities for the development of a child's skill & learning development.
- Livelihood programs for mothers & young girls in communities.
- Making & selling rice, eggs, rice, bananas, banana muffins, empanadas, bread, mung beans, cookies, peche-peche & many other items to earn an income.
- Placement of a nurse in Kadasig communities for 12 months.
- Purchase of a new efficient van.
- Medical care for sponsor children & their family members.
- Construction of three new classrooms in Patupat & San Rafael.
- Weekend assistance for struggling students with Child Development classes.

Where are they now?

Mel

"I am Melody, and I was fortunate to be part of the Kadasig sponsorship program. I became a sponsor child when I was 9 years old. At the time, I didn't fully understand what it meant, but it would later open doors that changed my life. I still remember clearly how we would write letters to our sponsors and receive gifts from them, especially during the Christmas holidays.



When I turned 10, I started attending seminars and leadership training organised with the help of KAID. Kadasig offered us more than just support for education - we were taught essential life lessons, values, and the importance of giving back. I remember summer camps and sessions where we learned how

to communicate, care for others, and become leaders in our own simple ways. At 13, I was chosen to serve as a regional representative, an opportunity that allowed me to grow further and develop leadership skills. At 21, I was given the chance to travel to Australia through the support of the Kadasig sponsorship program for World Youth Day in Sydney, especially through the generosity and guidance of Ms. Glenys and Ms. Emely. That experience made a lasting impact on me and is something I carry with pride and gratitude.

Today, I work online as a virtual assistant, specialising in bookkeeping, administrative work, and customer service. My confidence in communicating with international clients has been strongly influenced by my experience with KAID. My husband is currently working overseas in New Zealand, and together we are raising four children - two boys and two girls.

Looking back, I know that without the support from Kadasig, my path would have been very different. The sponsorship didn't just help with my education - it equipped me with practical knowledge, confidence, and opportunities that shaped who I am today. I am deeply thankful for everyone behind the program, and for the continued impact they make in the lives of others.

As the saying goes, 'Gratitude is the memory of the heart.' The lessons and support I received from Kadasig will always stay with me."

Jephte

Jephte obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work in 2018. As a KAID colleague Jephte travelled to Australia on a couple of occasions, one being with Mel for World Youth Day. Currently he is working as a Receptionist, Assistant Manager/Overseas Worker – Dubai, UAE. Jephte has been married for 5 years & has a 4 year old son.



Jephte wishes to share the following:

The child sponsorship program is the best thing that ever happened in my life. "My early years in sponsorship program – in another non-government organization. I was 10 years old when my mother asked help for my education where Ms. Emely worked previously in another child sponsorship program – the first chapter, I may call it. I was just an ordinary child before – shy, aloof and self-reserved. Surprisingly, everything changed when I was in the program where I became confident, goal-oriented, affectionate & sociable."

My journey in Kadasig "This was the time that I am about to start my college education when the first sponsorship program I was before ended but luckily, I was saved by Ms. Emely through Kadasig. What I learnt from the previous organization – knowledge, skills and attitude was all applied and I was able to share with my co-sponsored child, families and communities. I volunteered to work and helping others – developing their life skills, trained potential children and parent leaders and strengthen partnerships to local governments and other organizations. My life in Kadasig was not merely as a sponsorship child but it gave me a venue to help others and to share my talent or skills in return the way Kadasig help me."

Sponsorship Program as a holistic program "Sponsorship doesn't only provide financial assistance on child's education but it does also prepare a child for a dynamic and competitive life after education – where various life-skills and self-development trainings, annual summer camps, values enrichment sessions and exercising social responsibilities. Aside from molding or shaping one's life for the future, sponsorship also completes the important celebrations that we Filipinos treasures every year like Christmas where mostly families are unable to buy desired and delicious meals on the table through the annual Christmas hampers or the bundles of

joy. During our most challenging times when every time our communities are hit by typhoons or any calamities, Kadasig stood up and helped families to survived and start again rebuilding. The friendship school program helps the entire school children to experience better education and appreciates friendships and connections to Australian schools. The livelihood programs help the financially challenged parents to strive harder in generating incomes to support individual families and soon to be independent entrepreneurs. Various programs to mention were initiated by Kadasig that provides significant help and changes to children, and families.

My story is just one of the many children who were helped by the sponsorship program that greatly made a difference in our lives and where we are right now. My story would not be that great if not because of you who gave me and once in a lifetime opportunity to be a better version of me. My heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Emely, Ms. Glenys, Ms. Linda, Fr Terry, Sharon Powell, Brenda Morales, Victoria Hauke, Leanne Ross, and to rest of the Aussie families and friends who were there to support me all the way through. Daghang salamat kaninyungtanan (Thank you so much to everyone)."

ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CAMP

As we have said on many occasions, camp each year is so important for our children & young people. It is held in April/May, annual school holidays in the Philippines. There were two camps again this year – the first with some of our children along with children from other Cebu City Task Force child caring organisation. The second was for 150 of our Kadasig children.

Parents play an important role with these camps – a number of Dads are there for night time security & the mothers are 'house mothers & chefs'. Oh they cook up some delicious food! Everybody has three meals a day & the children go to bed with some longlife milk & Milo – this is a yearly special for all children.

At camp they have time to be children – no jobs or any pressures for a week. They play games, swimming, reflection time, group discussion time, identification of children in need of extra support & make new friends with children from other barangays & organisations. The senior high school & college young people are leaders & play an important role within the camp.



EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP

Education is definitely the way to alleviate poverty. We have seen this over the past just on 35 years of our sponsorship program working with our Filipino friends & colleagues.

Currently we have five children urgently needing sponsorship to enable them to gain an education & lead them to follow their dreams & assist their family.

Sponsorship is \$280 per year, paid annually or 6 monthly. Camp is \$40 for each child & if you wish to become a member the donation is \$20 a year. Please know that membership gives you a voice at an AGM and also that money goes towards sending balikbayan boxes of aid to our many families.

Our wonderful Sponsorship Co-ordinator, Fay Sinclair would be very happy to chat with you about sponsorship.

Her contact details are:

0425 732 992 fayasinclair@gmail.com

Fay will be away on holidays from June 10th for 3 weeks, if you wish to obtain further details during that time please

Contact: Glenys Gayfer

0411 196 395 papel-imports@bigpond.com

AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER NURSE

As we have referred to over the last few newsletters, we are absolutely delighted to have a volunteer Registered Nurse, Annie Anthony, volunteering for 12 months in the communities of Kadasig in Barili as well as our Cebu City community.

It has been quite a challenge for all involved to get to this point. This placement has eventuated through co-ordination between Palms Australia International Volunteering & Kadasig. Annie arrives in Cebu July 1, she will be met by Emely & Cesar & they will take her to the Good Shepherd Sisters in Banawa for a week where she will care for the Sisters in the Infirmary as well as familiarize herself with Filipino life & ways. Annie will then transfer to the Kadasig community in Patupat, Barili, where she has her own 'house' & 'clinic'. Very different to Australia but oh so important! Annie will be embraced by Kadasig families & they will assist her.

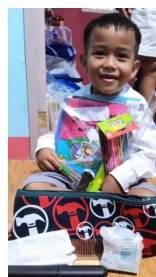
Kadasig is so grateful & so thankful for Annie offering to volunteer in our wonderful communities. Annie will have many roles: monitoring the unwell – all ages, attending to those who have accidents, pregnant mothers, distributing the Days for Girls reusable menstrual kits, giving the mother & baby bundles to new mothers, give basic medical training to Kadasig mothers & anybody interested in learning, attend meetings to mention just a few activities. Annie will grow into the great need of families where her care will be so important..

Palms Australia International Volunteering & Kadasig are sharing a basic weekly financial support for Annie. We thank those who have donated financial support of Annie during her time in Barili. We are needing further support so if you would like to contribute to this special & important program to assist so many please contact Glenys Gayfer:

papel-imports@bigpond.com 0411 196 395.

EXPANDING PATUPAT PLAY AREA

The playground in the Patupat community, swing, slide, monkey bars etc, is the only one for miles & miles around. The current playground has been there for a number of years & needs updating & adding to as SO many children come from everywhere to play. Better they be there than wandering around & at risk. Emely is modelling the playground on the play area she saw at a kinder in Melbourne. This is a very exciting project that will be completed over the next few months – the rainy season has officially commenced. Looking forward to showing you the finished project.



Balikbayan Boxes

Balikbayan boxes are always full of so many goodies - needs for parents, our children and our colleagues. This can range from bedding, towels, clothing, personal hygiene needs, school supplies, stationery, tins of food especially fish, cooking utensils to name a few.

Thank you

Again we thank all those who support our programs. We are so proud of our wonderful colleagues in Cebu - they are amazing & make things happen!

**Kadasig Aid & Development Inc,
Australian Committee**

Homily of Pope Leo XIV during the Mass of Inauguration of the Petrine Ministry



Pope Leo XIV, formerly Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, waves at the conclusion of his inauguration Mass at the Vatican May 18, 2025.

He is the first U.S. pope in history.

(OSV News/Reuters/Guglielmo Mangiapane)

by OSV News

This is the full text in English of the homily given by Pope Leo XIV in St. Peter's Square during the Mass of Inauguration of the Petrine Ministry May 18, 2025. The homily was delivered originally in Italian.

Dear brother cardinals, brother bishops and priests, distinguished authorities and members of the diplomatic corps, brothers and sisters - I greet all of you with a heart full of gratitude at the beginning of the ministry that has been entrusted to me. St. Augustine wrote: "Lord, you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you" (Confessions, I: 1,1).

In these days, we have experienced intense emotions. The death of Pope Francis filled our hearts with sadness. In those difficult hours, we felt like the crowds that the Gospel says were "like sheep without a shepherd" (Mt 9:36). Yet on Easter Sunday, we received his final blessing and, in the light of the resurrection, we experienced the days that followed in the certainty that the Lord never abandons his people, but gathers them when they are scattered and guards them "as a shepherd guards his flock" (Jer 31:10).

In this spirit of faith, the College of Cardinals met for the conclave. Coming from different backgrounds and experiences, we placed in God's hands our desire to elect the new Successor of Peter, the bishop of Rome, a shepherd capable of preserving the rich heritage of the Christian faith and, at the same time, looking to the future, in order to confront the questions, concerns and challenges of today's world. Accompanied by your prayers, we could feel the working of the Holy Spirit, who was able to bring us into harmony, like musical instruments, so that our heartstrings could vibrate in a single melody.

I was chosen, without any merit of my own, and now, with fear and trembling, I come to you as a brother, who desires to be the servant of your faith and your joy, walking with you on the path of God's love, for he wants us all to be united in one family. Love and unity: these are the two dimensions of the mission entrusted to Peter by Jesus.

We see this in today's Gospel, which takes us to the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus began the mission he received from the Father: to be a "fisher" of humanity in order to draw it up from the waters of evil and death. Walking along the shore, he had called Peter and the other first disciples to be, like him, "fishers of men." Now, after the resurrection, it is up to them to carry on this mission, to cast their nets again and again, to bring the hope of the Gospel into the "waters" of the world, to sail the seas of life so that all may experience God's embrace.

How can Peter carry out this task? The Gospel tells us that it is possible only because his own life was touched by the infinite and unconditional love of God, even in the hour of his failure and denial. For this reason, when Jesus addresses Peter, the Gospel uses the Greek verb *agapáo*, which refers to the love that God has for us, to the offering of himself without reserve and without calculation. Whereas the verb used in Peter's response describes the love of friendship that we have for one another.

Consequently, when Jesus asks Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" (Jn 21:16), he is referring to the love of the Father. It is as if Jesus said to him, "Only if you have known and experienced this love of God, which never fails, will you be able to feed my lambs. Only in the love of God the Father will you be able to love your brothers and sisters with that same 'more,' that is, by offering your life for your brothers and sisters."

Peter is thus entrusted with the task of "loving more" and giving his life for the flock. The ministry of Peter is distinguished precisely by this self-sacrificing love, because the Church of Rome presides in charity and its true authority is the charity of Christ. It is never a question of capturing others by force, by religious propaganda or by means of power. Instead, it is always and only a question of loving as Jesus did.

The Apostle Peter himself tells us that Jesus "is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, and has become the cornerstone" (Acts 4:11). Moreover, if the rock is Christ, Peter must shepherd the flock without ever yielding to the temptation to be an autocrat, lording it over those entrusted to him (cf. 1 Pet 5:3). On the contrary, he is called to serve the faith of his brothers and sisters, and to walk alongside them, for all of us are "living stones" (1 Pet 2:5), called through our baptism to build God's house in fraternal communion, in the harmony of the Spirit, in the coexistence of diversity. In the words of St. Augustine: "The Church consists of all those who are in harmony with their brothers and sisters and who love their neighbour" (Serm. 359,9).

Brothers and sisters, I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world. In this our time, we still see too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference, and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalizes the poorest. For our part, we want to be a small leaven of unity, communion and fraternity within the world. We want to say to the world, with humility and joy: Look to Christ! Come closer to him! Welcome his word that enlightens and consoles! Listen to his offer of love and become his one family: in the one Christ, we are one. This is the path to follow together, among ourselves but also with our sister Christian churches, with those who follow other religious paths, with those who are searching for God, with all women and men of good will, in order to build a new world where peace reigns!

This is the missionary spirit that must animate us; not closing ourselves off in our small groups, nor feeling superior to the world. We are called to offer God's love to everyone, in order to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people.

Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love! The heart of the Gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters. With my predecessor Leo XIII, we can ask ourselves today: If this criterion "were to prevail in the world, would not every conflict cease and peace return?" (Rerum Novarum, 21).

With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the Word, allows itself to be made "restless" by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.

Together, as one people, as brothers and sisters, let us walk towards God and love one another.

Prayers of the Faithful for 6 July 2025 Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: God our Father, in your mercy, hear the prayers we offer you today.

For the Church and all who profess faith in Christ: may the joy of Christ inspire all people of faith to spread the Good News to the world. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our Risen Christ Parish communities: may we strive constantly to live according to Christ's teaching and to work to bring people closer to Jesus and to care for all those in need.

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

For peace throughout the world: may the world leaders strive to find the way to bring about the end to hostilities and to establish a lasting peace that ensures the rights of all people to live free and safe lives.

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

For those affected by severe weather, especially drought or floods: may they receive the help and support they need to get their lives back on track.

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

For those in our Parish who are ill: may we keep them in our daily prayers and may the knowledge of Christ's presence in their lives give them strength and comfort.

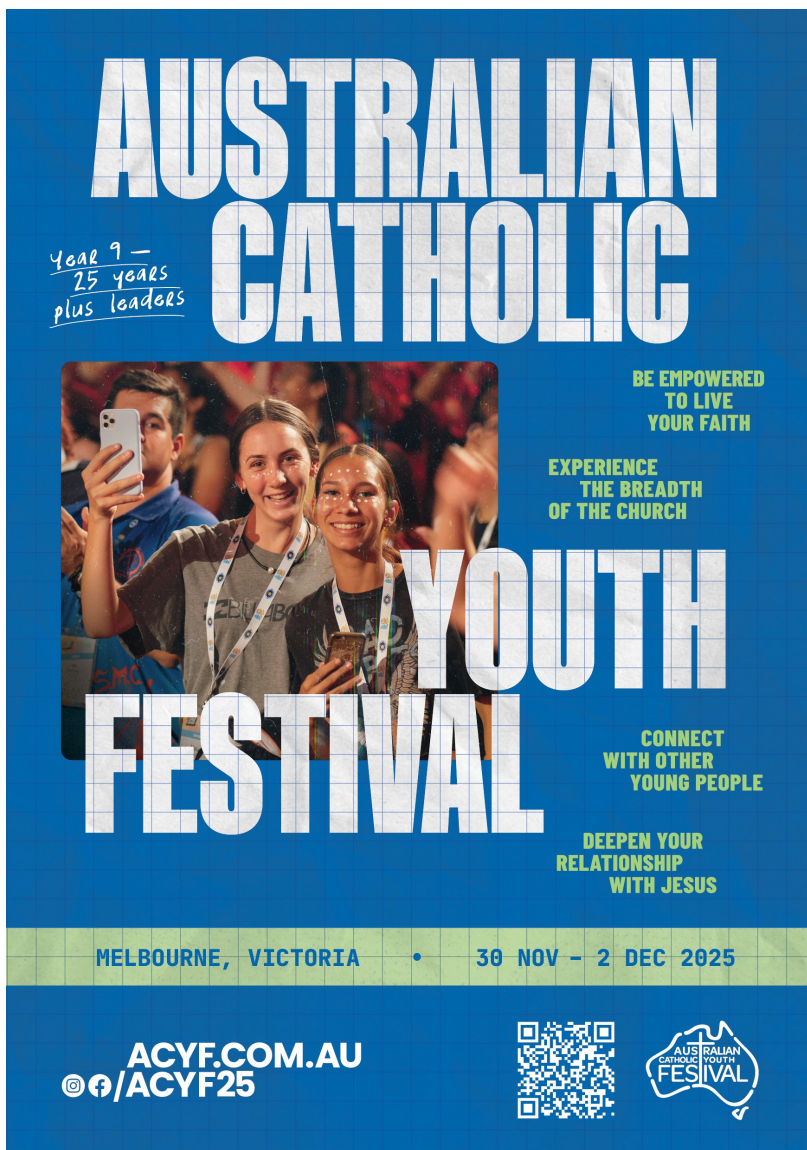
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Leon Nolan*: may they dwell forever in the light of Christ.

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

Leader: God our loving Father, receive these prayers offered to you today in hope and faith. Through Jesus Christ your Son.

All: **Amen**



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Year 9 – 25 years plus leaders

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CONNECT WITH OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE

DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA • 30 NOV – 2 DEC 2025

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AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

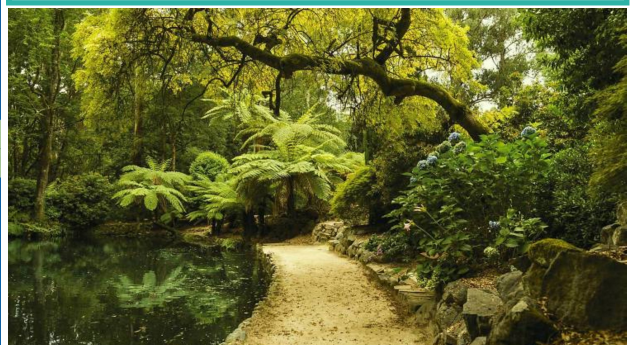
Scarves, Socks and Beanies.

To the Communities of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Francis Xavier,

Sincerest thanks to all those very generous people for your contributions to the homeless. It was so good last night, a freezing windy night, being able to provide warmth and to cater for the needs of people shivering as they try to find shelter from the winter elements. There has been a huge increase this year in people who are homeless. There are mothers with several children living in their cars because they have been evicted from their dwellings unable to pay their rent. There are those also who are fleeing domestic violence. Each person has a story to tell and it is wonderful that you have been so generous in helping us to improve their situation even in a minor way.

Thank you to Mary and Patsy for organising, inspiring and inviting us all to give.

Lorenda Gracey (Vinnies)



VATICAN TO PUBLISH DOCUMENT ON SYNOD'S FINAL PHASE



Almost four years after Pope Francis opened the Church's path toward synodality, his successor has thrown his support behind the last leg of the Church's synodal journey. Source: CNS.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/03/vatican-to-publish-document-on-synods-final-phase/>

MARIST ASSOCIATION HOLDS ASSEMBLY, MARKS 10 YEARS SINCE FOUNDING



The Marist Association of St Marcellin Australia's fourth national assembly, held in Brisbane, brought together more than 120 Marists from

across the country.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/03/marist-association-holds-assembly-marks-10-years-since-founding/>

BRISBANE SHELTER FOR HOMELESS ONE STEP CLOSER AFTER \$500,000 DONATION



Emmanuel City Mission is a step closer to providing ongoing overnight sanctuary for people sleeping rough on Brisbane's streets after a

\$500,000 gift from the Brisbane City Council in its 2025-26 budget. Source: *The Catholic Leader*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/03/brisbane-shelter-for-homeless-one-step-closer-after-500000-donation/>

HOLY SHROUD CONFERENCE TACKLES THE PROFOUND QUESTIONS



The Shroud of Turin is an image wrapped up in mystery, woven into the fabric of faith and increasingly supported by science.

Source: *The Catholic Weekly*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/03/holy-shroud-conference-tackles-the-profound-questions/>

NURTURING CATHOLIC IDENTITY 'FROM BABIES TO PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN'



"Explore, wonder, connect" are the key themes of a new booklet that supports South Australian early learning educators in their mission to nurture faith and curiosity in young children.

Source: *The Southern Cross*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/06/27/directory-a-witness-to-the-living-faith-of-a-pilgrim-people/>

CABRINI RESEARCHERS LOOK FOR LINK BETWEEN CANCER AND MICROPLASTICS



Cabrini researchers are investigating if there is a link between microplastics - tiny plastic particles that can be ingested - and the rising rate of colorectal cancer in people under the age of 50.

Source: *CHA*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/03/cabrini-researchers-look-for-link-between-cancer-and-microplastics/>

Pilgrims of faith and service, from Rome to Uganda

Pilgrimage is a movement of the heart toward God as much as it is a physical journey, and the destination can often be unexpected.



In a moment of great joy, Deacon John Vespa of Melbourne was among 32 men ordained to the priesthood by Pope Leo XIV in Rome. Fr Vespa's path to the priesthood has been a journey of dedication, set to continue as Pope Leo said in his homily, 'transformed by the love that flows abundantly from the Heart of Christ'.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/pope-leo-xiv-ordains-deacon-john-vespa-to-the-priesthood>



Back in Melbourne, the old seminary run by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in Croydon is now Sacred Heart Church, and one of our Jubilee pilgrim places. <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/pilgrim-place-sacred-heart-croydon>



This historic spiritual haven invites the faithful to encounter God, as many of Melbourne's Catholics have already done at various pilgrim places around the Archdiocese.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/melbournes-catholics-answer-the-call-to-be-pilgrims-of-hope>



Hospitality and hope are also on offer at Caritas Christi, a specialist palliative care service run by St Vincent's in Kew. It's where 'the healing ministry of Jesus' continues, as observed by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli during a recent pastoral visit.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/palliative-care-by-caritas-christi-continues-healing-ministry-of-jesus>



Resurrection Parish's work in Uganda demonstrates that pilgrimage extends beyond borders. Fr Gerard Keith and the parish's support of education in Buyaga, a small town in eastern Uganda, embodies the call to be pilgrims of hope.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/transforming-lives-in-uganda-through-education-and-partnership>



And in case you missed it: Archbishop Peter A Comensoli recently met with Pope Leo XIV in Rome, offering the prayers of the people of God in Melbourne.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/archbishop-comensoli-meets-pope-in-rome-cardinal-bychok-takes-possession-of-titular-church>



Rome was also host to the recent International Safeguarding Conference, attended by members of the Archdiocese's Safeguarding Unit.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/building-bridges-in-safeguarding-reflections-from-ireland-and-rome>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events>

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