

Risen Christ



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12 & 13 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 10:25-37

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the Law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours.'

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the brigands' hands?' 'The one who took pity on him,' he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go and do the same yourself.'

Reflection - Break Open the Word 2025

So deep was the prejudice between Jews and Samaritans that the very idea of a 'good Samaritan' was deeply shocking. Jesus makes one of them the hero of his story, placing him as a model to be followed above the priest or Levite (a Temple officer). We should try to recapture the impact of this now very familiar tale.

It is extraordinary even on the part of Jesus! A page earlier in the gospel of Luke, a Samaritan village will not receive Jesus because he is heading towards Jerusalem. Now Jesus presents one of them as the ideal neighbour who exemplifies the great commandment of love which gains people access to eternal life.

In Jesus' time, there may have been less surprise than we feel today that the priest and Levite fail to help the victim. This would have rendered them ritually impure and consequently unable to fulfil their responsibilities.

The story challenges today's Christians not just to show love to those in need, but more broadly to confront our ingrained prejudices and racism.



*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:
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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
Ripley Timmins: Fri 9am-3pm

New Website:

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: Philip Cachia: 9435 8474
principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au
www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Collections: 28/29 June & 5/6 July 2025

		OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	Cash	\$372.80	\$709.00
	Electronic	\$1,499.00	\$4,292.00
Presbytery	Cash	\$571.25	\$1,112.20
	Electronic	\$50.00	\$405.00

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 12

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists 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

10:00am Emmaus Small Church Community Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation Eltham

7:00pm Meditation Eltham

Friday 25

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Saturday 26

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 27

8:30am Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

Tuesday 29

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

Wednesday 30

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 31

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation Eltham



*Pope Leo XIV anoints the hands of Fr John Vespa.
(Photo by Vatican Media.)*

Pope Leo XIV ordains Melbourne's John Vespa to the priesthood

Australian John Vespa entered St Peter's Basilica on Friday a deacon and left a priest, ordained by Pope Leo XIV himself. In a special Mass marking the end of the Jubilee of Priests, Pope Leo ordained 32 men to the priesthood, including the Melbourne-born Fr Vespa, and urged them to be faithful witnesses of service.

The deeply moving celebration took place on the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and was attended by Fr Vespa's parents and three siblings, the Archbishop of Melbourne Peter A Comensoli, and the Rector and Vice-rector of Corpus Christi College, where Fr Vespa studied, Fr Cameron Forbes and Fr Brian Nichols. Other family and friends also flew in from around the world to support Fr Vespa, including parishioners from St Bede's, Balwyn, and St Francis of Assisi, Mill Park.

We are called to exercise pastoral charity with a generous love, like that of the Father.

POPE LEO XIV, AT THE ORDINATION MASS

'We are called to exercise pastoral charity with a generous love, like that of the Father,' said Pope Leo in his homily, 'and to foster in our hearts the desire that no one be lost but that everyone, also through our ministry, may come to know Christ and have eternal life in him.' Addressing the ordinands, the Pope encouraged them to 'keep close to your flock, give freely of your time and energy to everyone, without reserve and without partiality, as the pierced side of the crucified Jesus and the example of the saints teach us to do.'

In a poignant moment of the ceremony, Pope Leo imposed his hands on each ordinand's head as they knelt before him. Ten priests then did the same to each ordinand, following an ancient ritual invoking the Holy Spirit. The prayer of ordination followed, and then the investiture of the stole and chasuble, symbolising the office of the priesthood. Fr Cameron Forbes was on hand to assist the newly ordained Fr Vespa with his vestments. The ordinands then knelt before Pope Leo once more, for the anointing of hands and handing over of bread and wine.

The following day, friends and family gathered at the St Peter Chanel Chapel in Domus Australia as Fr Vespa celebrated his Mass of Thanksgiving. ■



Fr John Vespa's first Mass at Domus Australia.



With St Patrick's Cathedral in the background, Bishop Martin Ashe leads thousands of the faithful in a prayerful procession.

Love, urgency and longing: thousands gather for Corpus Christi

Record crowds gathered on a gloriously sunny winter's day in Melbourne for the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus (Corpus Christi), with almost 4,000 coming together across the day for the annual Mass and Eucharistic procession.

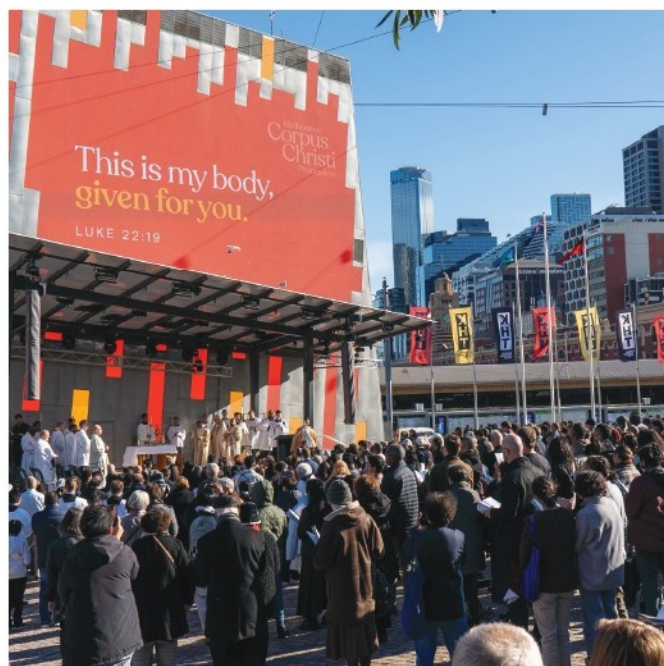
This year was the first time the procession ventured into the heart of Melbourne's CBD, beginning at St Patrick's Cathedral then making its way towards Flinders Street and Federation Square, stopping traffic as thousands of pilgrims sang hymns of praise and walked with Christ present in the Eucharist. Pilgrims of all ages came from across Melbourne to join in the celebration—some from as far as Clyde North and Koo Wee Rup in the southeast—with groups representing various parishes, schools, ecclesial groups and movements.

Bishop Anthony Ireland, who was recently appointed as the next Archbishop of Hobart, was the principal celebrant for the Mass, accompanied by Bishop Martin Ashe and priests and deacons from around the Archdiocese.

'Soon, the Eucharist will pass among us in the Cathedral and then go before us—through the streets of our city, to Federation Square, into the public square,' Bishop Ireland said. 'The Eucharist is abundance, not only for private nourishment, but also for universal transformation. So today's procession is not just a Catholic display, nor is it a moment of pious nostalgia. It is witness. ... In this Jubilee of Hope, we do not process with pride but with love, urgency and longing. We walk through the city not to impose but to propose: that Jesus is here; that love is real; that hope has a name.'

Sunday's Mass and procession drew a number of lay ecclesial movements, including the Neocatechumenal Way, of which there were almost 150 members in attendance. Young adults Katherine and Eve from St Paul's in Coburg attended along with other members and felt deeply encouraged by the event. 'We're all so different and we don't know each other but we all have one thing in common,' said Katherine. 'We all believe in Jesus Christ, and we know that he loves us, and so I'm really happy to be here today.'

'Sometimes it can be a bit overwhelming, and you can feel a bit alone in your faith, but being here today was so beautiful,' shared Eve. 'It was really encouraging.' ■



Thousands of pilgrims filled Federation Square.



Bishop Anthony Ireland.

Pope appoints Bishop Anthony Ireland as new Archbishop of Hobart

Pope Leo XIV has appointed Bishop Anthony Ireland as the new Archbishop of Hobart.

Currently an auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, the Archbishop-elect has also served in academic and spiritual formation as a lecturer and seminary rector, as well as having considerable ministry experience in parishes and the health-care sector.

Bishop Ireland said he had received the news of his appointment 'with a heart full of quiet joy', saying he was 'humbled and grateful for the trust placed in me to shepherd a diocese'. In his years as a parish priest, he had 'found deep fulfilment in the pastoral relationships formed through shared faith and mission,' he said. 'I now look forward with great hope to walking that same path of grace with the people of Tasmania.

'It is with a spirit of service and devotion that I come to the Archdiocese of Hobart—to lead in faith, to serve with love, and to worship in spirit and in truth, as our Lord calls us to do in the Gospel of St John. I kindly ask for your prayers—for me, and for all those I will soon be blessed to serve and guide.'

Bishop Ireland succeeds Archbishop Julian Porteous who has served as Archbishop of Hobart since 2013. The installation Mass for Archbishop-elect Ireland will take place on Tuesday 12 August. The news follows the recent appointment of Bishop Shane Mackinlay by Pope Leo XIV as the next Archbishop of Brisbane. ■

Archbishop Comensoli meets Pope Leo XIV

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli met with Pope Leo XIV during a private audience at the Vatican in June, part of an official visit to Rome during the 2025 Jubilee Year. Accompanied by Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, Mrs Annie Carrett, the meeting was an opportunity to share insights from the life of the Church in Australia and to reaffirm the spiritual unity of the Archdiocese of Melbourne with the universal Church. ■



Mrs Annie Carrett and Archbishop Peter A Comensoli meet with Pope Leo XIV.



Registrations now open!

ACYF.ORG.AU



Wilma and Francis Hangan.

A labour of love: Francis and Wilma's 70 years of marriage

More than 250 couples gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral in early June for the annual Marriage Anniversaries Mass—one of the largest turnouts in the event's history.

The Mass coincided with the global Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and the Elderly, part of the ongoing Jubilee calendar. Couples marked anniversaries ranging from five years to an extraordinary 70 years of marriage and, during the liturgy, renewed their vows to each other, receiving a blessing from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli.

One of those couples was Wilma and Francis Hangan, who celebrated 70 years of marriage.

'They're so happy, and they're still each other's best friend,' shared their daughter Clare. The couple are the proud parents of four and great-grandparents to 12. 'I think their biggest legacy, and one of the secrets to their amazing marriage, has been [my sister] Anne,' reflects Clare. 'My eldest sister's disabled, and they have cared for her for 67 years ... they still do, and they do it with such grace and love.'

They're so happy, and they're still each other's best friend

CLARE, ABOUT HER PARENTS

Clare believes the heart of their love story is their lifelong commitment to sacrificially caring for others, especially Anne. 'She is like the love of their life, and they wouldn't have it any other way,' Clare says. Wilma and Francis often say that God has been good to them. 'Because caring for my sister taught them humility, patience and gentleness,' said Clare. 'Because of their faith, and their love of family and [their] commitment to my sister Anne, they've just worked as a team their whole life.' Growing up, Clare notes, 'there wasn't a lot "extra". But we had love. We didn't need anything else.' ■



Archbishop Peter A Comensoli with couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries.

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—walk it with us.

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*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:
*Bernie Bowler, Pat Hosmer, Siobhan Lappin,
Frances McDonald, Jarrod Mizzi, Cindy & Ed Morrissey,
Regina Roszczenko (mother of Liz Gray), Jeanne Vanderwert*

For the recently **deceased**:
Michael Dunning, Dianne West (sister of Lorraine Tunks)

For those whose **anniversaries** are at this time:
*Laura & Paddy Farrell, Ron Gregson,
Adrian Jones, Montagna Mustica, Lino Zini*

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:
John (Jack) Kearns

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:**

Thursday 10th July, 2025

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 1:00pm
Tara Pinder & Joseph Ramos

Marriage

Saturday, 12th July, 2025

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 6:00pm
Marcus Angelucci
Luca Felice Johnston

First Eucharist
First Eucharist

Risen Christ Safeguarding Committee Member Profile

Introducing: Mark Kulkens

Hello! My name is Mark Kulkens. I was born some 54 years ago on Wurundjeri Country, the son of a Dutch soldier and Anglo/Celtic mother. Myself and wife Maree moved into the Parish in 2009 from Yarraville. We fell in love with the hills, trees, community spirit and the potential for our children, here in the DV.

Hannah and Jacob completed their primary schooling at SFX, with us most frequently attending Risen Christ's 6pm Mass. Some of our fondest memories are of Hannah and Jacob awaiting a hug from Fr Terry, at the end of 8:30am services - when early morning waking was something our children were more prone to do.

I joined the Safeguarding Committee for a number of reasons, not least of which is that since 1997 I have been working with people who have histories of using family, domestic and sexual violence, and I know the devastating impact these behaviours can have.

People who don't know me are often surprised to discover my fascination with the concept of 'shame' and the beauty and wisdom I have gathered through my engagement with First Nations people, over the past several years: There is so much knowledge that lies waiting to be uncovered by western eyes in First Peoples culture. I certainly look forward to the time where the joys I have been gifted are common to us all.

I look forward to serving the Risen Christ Parish as best I can and thank all those who work so diligently to keep others truly Safe. Feel free to come up and say "hello"!



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

Roster for week ending 20 July 2025

Boyd, Mary	PRYR
Dhanasen Family	PRSE
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Dopheide	C10:00
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Edwards, Elisabeth	E10:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Haines, Geoff	R10:00
Hall, Vali	ASE
Love, Philip	W8:30
Lucas, Maree	CLNR
Maloney, Joanne	W6:00
Northrop, Greg	E10:00
Reardon, Peter	E10:00
Skipper, Patsy	LoW-01 Tue
Stevens, Patricia	CLNR
Stone, Nan	W6:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00

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

Prayers of the Faithful for 13 July 2025 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: By His cross, Christ has made peace with all humankind, on Earth and in Heaven. Let us widen our prayer to match the extent of His love, and present to God our Father, our intentions for ourselves and for the whole world.

We pray for the Church, that we will engage with all people and that we will be instruments of reconciliation in troubled times. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who minister to others, that we don't lose sight of their needs and that we offer solidarity with them. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who care for the most fragile in our community. May they find strength and joy in God's love. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray that all of us will find ways to rejoice in our understanding and appreciation of the Good News that we hear in the readings at Mass. May the Gospel revive joy and hope in our hearts. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for all those who are struggling with ill health, particularly those in our parish. May they receive the care and comfort they need. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died recently, especially *Michael Dunning & Dianne West*; and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Laura & Paddy Farrell, Ron Gregson, Adrian Jones, John (Jack) Kearns, Montagna Mustica and Lino Zini*. May they rejoice forever in God's love. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God our Father, we beseech your love and bounty. Hear our prayers on this day. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son.

All: Amen



You are warmly invited to join us for our first Mass by Candlelight for 2025 on Thursday, 17th July at St Thomas the Apostle Church, 251 Diamond Creek Road, Greensborough North.

Celebrated in the spirit of Taizé, quiet music will commence at 7:30pm, followed by Mass at 8:00pm and supper afterwards.

All welcome.

Enquiries: Rose 0411 650 39 or Emilia 0418 120 902



**Scarves,
Socks
and Beanies...**

Thank you!



Holiday Family Movie Recommendation: *The King of Kings*

The King of Kings offers a beautiful way to reflect on the life of Jesus through the eyes of a child. The story begins with Charles Dickens telling his son a bedtime tale that becomes a transformative journey - one that brings the Gospel to life in a deeply personal way. As the boy imagines himself walking beside Jesus, witnessing His miracles and His ultimate sacrifice, families are invited to rediscover the heart of our faith. This film is a gentle yet powerful way to open conversations about Jesus' love, hope, and the true meaning of Easter and beyond.

Available on Amazon Prime Video, Fetch or Apple+ TV.