

Risen Christ



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19 & 20 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 10:38-42

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

Reflection Break Open the Word 2025

Jesus was good friends with siblings Martha, Mary and Lazarus. It is wonderful to see their hospitality as they make Jesus welcome in their home at Bethany. Martha seems to be bustling around getting food and drink to share. Mary on the other hand is content just to take part in conversation with Jesus. Jesus appears to be relaxed in his expectations and encourages Martha too to take it easy.

Interpretations of this story, however, have been incredibly diverse. Does it affirm the superiority of the contemplative life (Mary) over the active apostolic life (Martha)? Does it relegate women to the kitchen (Martha) or invite women to be scholars and disciples (Mary)? Whose side is Jesus on, or is he not taking sides at all? What are the 'many things' of which Jesus speaks and what is the 'one thing' needed? Perhaps all stories are open to a variety of interpretations.

Certainly, it is clear that the sisters Martha and Mary are very different people. Yet, in the final analysis, Jesus is at home with them both. True hospitality rejoices in difference.



*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
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 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

7:00pm Meditation Eltham

Friday 1 August

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 2

12:00pm Baptisms: Ashton, Finn, Archibald Montmorency

6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 3

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Isla, Willow Eltham

Monday 4

11:30am Liturgy with Yr 4 Holy Trinity

2:00pm Mass St Vincent's Aged Care

Tuesday 5

9:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 6

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham



*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 the recently **deceased**:

Bernard Bowler (brother of Patsy Skipper),

Marie Grech (cousin of Mike Said)

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

Honorio Bacani, Glenn McCormack, Shannon Douglas Risson

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:

Matthew Bibby (20th anniversary), Barbara Hermans, Beryl Scott

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



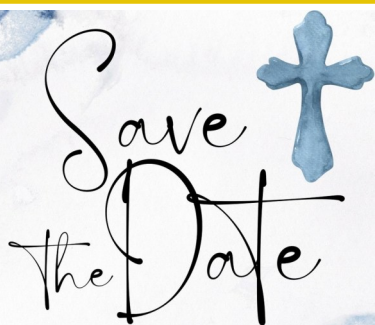
**Congratulations to all who celebrate
their sacraments this weekend:**

Saturday 19th July, 2025

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 6:00pm

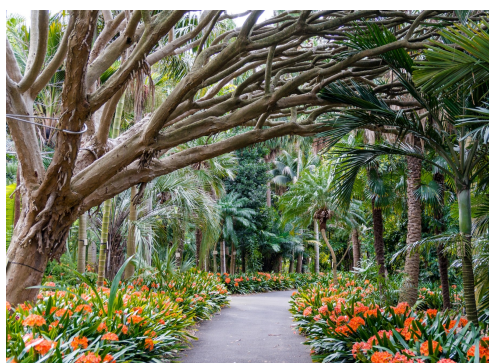
Harry David Moate
Liam Smith
Harry Marcel Stead
Lachlan Alexander Thorpe

First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist



**70 YEAR CELEBRATION
OF ST. MARY'S PARISH
AND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Sunday, September 14 2025



Scarves, Socks & Beanies...

The temperatures continue to remain low, especially felt if you are living and sleeping on the streets. Your contributions of really warm garments keep appearing in the Churches. It must be of some comfort to these people living through hard times, to know other people care.

Thank you so much,
Mary, OLHC & Patsy, SFX



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

Roster for week ending 27 July 2025

Bowyer, Darrell	ASRC
Bowyer, Rosemary	ASRC
Castellanos, Rodrigo	E10:00
Cseh, Ferenc	H10:00
Cseh, Nika	H10:00
Davidson, John	PRYR
Dopheide, Marlis	E10:00
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Furtado, Lorraine	C10:00
Iliffe, Yvonne	E10:00
John, Audry	H10:00
John, Des	H10:00
Leahy Family	PRSE
Maloney, Nigel	W6:00
McKinley, Michael	W8:30
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Scully, Greg	E10:00
Skipper, Patsy	LoW-01 Tue
Taylor, Trish	R10:00
Watson, Denis	CLNR
Witten, Janine	LoW-01 Thu
Witten, Janine	W6:00

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;

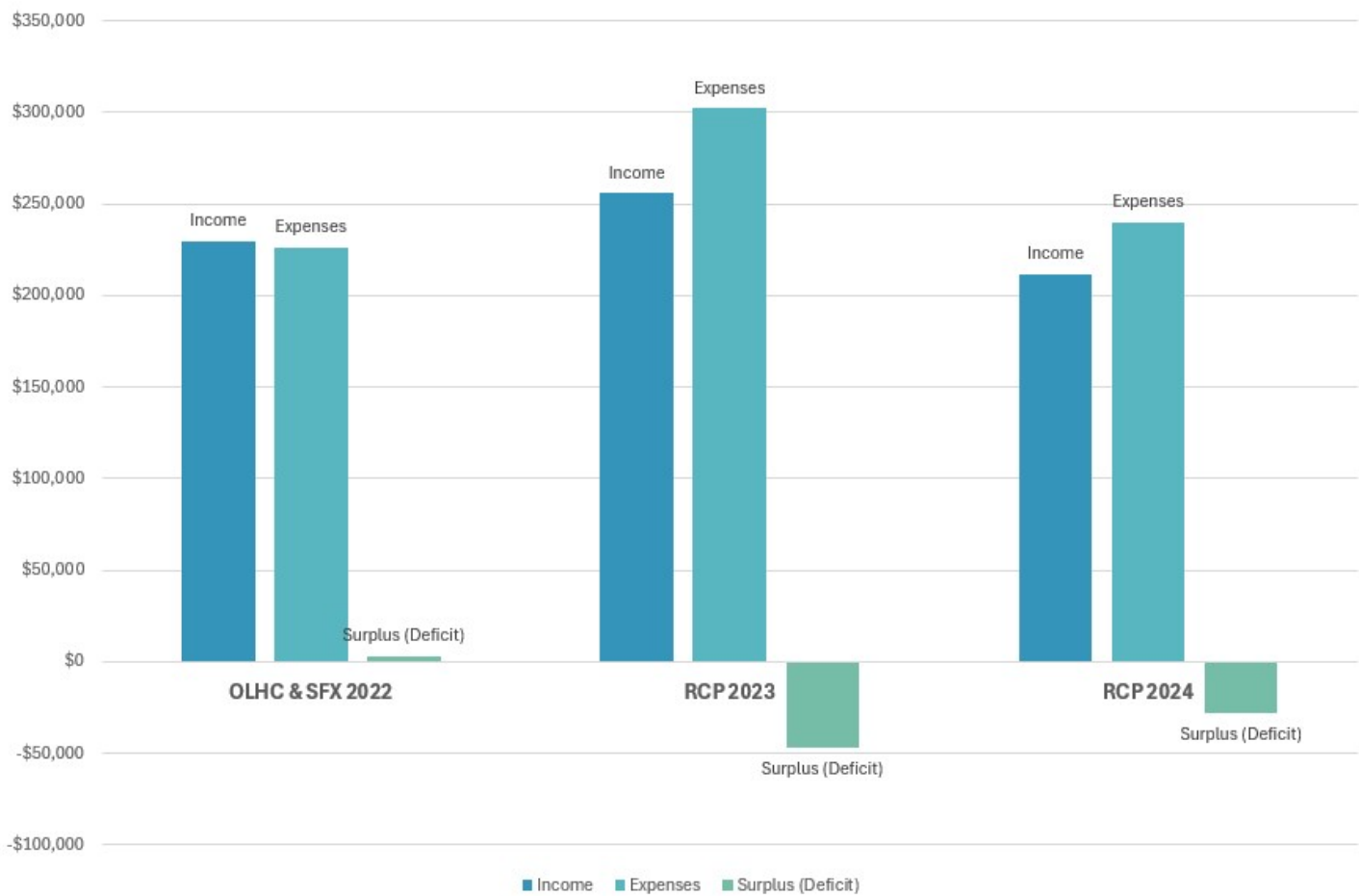
PRSE = Pilgrim Rosary Statue @ Eltham;

M = Music; **W** = Minister of the Word

Risen Christ Parish Finances - 2022 to 2024

Financial Letter 2025

	OLHC 2022	SFX 2022	RCP 2023	RCP 2024
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Income				
Thanksgiving	77,816	125,530	189,607	182,424
Other Income	10,432	15,758	66,119	29,427
Total Income	88,249	141,289	255,726	211,851
Expenses				
Pastoral & Administration	19,359	35,756	54,369	58,519
Church Requirements	7,905	5,097	10,496	11,334
Property Costs	11,622	8,806	24,158	23,334
Church Repairs	3,661	15,099	11,515	15,451
Insurance	16,595	12,000	44,881	42,740
Salary: Parish Staff & Consultants	1,603	59,584	58,000	64,149
Archdiocese Levies	13,462	15,752	98,863	24,552
Total Expenses	74,208	152,094	302,282	240,072
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	14,041	(10,805)	(46,556)	(28,221)



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

This weekend, I have decided to share with you the financial figures from the parish over the past 3 years. Can you believe it - it was 2022 when last we addressed and shared this important information. Our Financial Team has always supported my decisions to offer you transparency on the Parish financials every year. So I can only apologise for my delay on this matter. Actually it shocked me to realise that so much time had passed since my last visit to our Parish Financial position. My only weak excuse - not to be accepted by anyone - is the 3 years of building on the site of the old Presbytery in Eltham. These 4 new unites finally 'Completed' and 'Blessed' in May this year (2025).

To be fair, it was an exhausting, overly long and difficult process, costing \$3.4 million. Importantly, this is totally paid off, I can inform you that our New Parish has no debt! Thus, we now have 13 units on our Eltham Site, under the administration of VMCH (Villa Maria Catholic Homes).

The financial figures given over this 'double page spread' shows the initial Parishes in 2022 as separate, then once formally established as RCP (Risen Christ Parish), as combined figures in 2023 and 2024. These figures which are accurate to date, were submitted on time to the Financial Team at the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne in February for the Annual AFS (Annual Financial Statement) to which every parish must comply.

Naturally, I am deeply grateful to Kate, our parish manager/secretary and our Financial team, who with your blessings and support constantly monitor these matters with forensic interest!

I need to share with you some concerns and future consideration when it comes to financially running our Parish. Your constant support and financial generosity has to date enabled me to run the Sunday Masses without taking up any obvious collections. This action, or lack of, is frowned upon by the Archdiocese of Melbourne as normal practice. Many Catholic parishes would simply collapse and therefore close if they followed my direction on 'Collections', but you have embraced this system with heart and our stability in financial matters is clearly due to your maturity and modern take on supporting RCP! Who carries cash or coins in their pockets any more? Let's thank Covid for this change!

What to do? Two things!

- Firstly, if you are interested, you are hereby invited to our next Financial Meeting to ask any questions directed to our Financial team. This meeting will take place on Monday 25 August at OLHC, Eltham at 7pm.
- Secondly, I have asked/employed Mr Stephen Littleton (Parish First) on your behalf to guide RCP through a very needed Stewardship Programme or Thanksgiving Renewal in November this year. The last official program was held some 10 years ago, in either parish, and are recommended every 3-4 years by CAM Head Office.

We need this Stewardship Programme to stabilise our future financial situation.

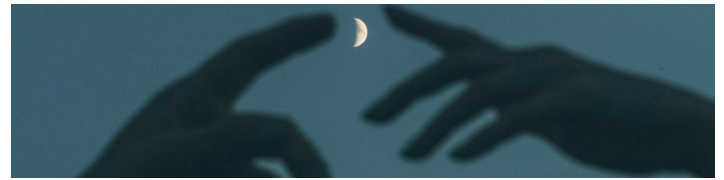
We live in interesting times, and only financially stable parishes will survive into the future. I can assure you that together as Rise Christ Parish, Eltham & Montmorency are in a solid position to date to rise to these challenges! Insurance premiums have gone through the roof since the demise of CCI (Catholic Church Insurance) two years ago and so has compliance and safeguarding issues. We all need to share in this new horizon. So, together we can make a difference and be generous to help all in need, locally and internationally!

Finally, thank you for your love and support of these wonderful Catholic communities.

If we can help you, or you find you have more questions than answers, please reach out!

Warmest love and prayers,

Michael F. Sierakowski
Moderator
July 2025



JONAH & GOD'S SCANDALOUS MERCY

A Story of Transformation

In the CAC's Living School: Essentials of Engaged Contemplation, Father Richard shares how the story of Jonah became so important to him and his framework of transformation:

Soon after I moved to New Mexico in the late 1980s, I began my studies for what would become the men's rites of passage. I read everything I could on why every ancient culture deemed it necessary in to initiate the male. It seemed that no culture assumed that men would grow up naturally, because nothing in the male wants to descend. He wants to ascend; he wants to be number one. It's the competitive nature of masculinity, which has totally informed our culture, no matter who we are. Something has to break through that level of consciousness.

For me, there is no story - other than the Jesus story itself - which has made that quite as clear as Jonah's story. Here we have a man who is running from God, running from his own vocation, and God sends a fish to swallow him and take him where he would rather not go. That's perfect! That's initiation! We have to be swallowed by something bigger than ourselves. The phrase used by many, including Thomas Merton, was that we have to go into the "belly of the beast" - a place where we are not in control, where we can't fix it, explain it, understand it, or even like it. Our lack of control, our lack of preference isn't important. We just have to learn from it.

I've always made a great deal of the passage where Jesus says, "This generation is an evil generation; it seeks a sign, but no sign will be given except the sign of Jonah" (Luke 11:29). He is saying that his message is simple and clear: You've got to die before you die. In rites of initiation we teach people that they have to go down before they can possibly go up. In modern psychological language, we call it the death of the ego or the separate self. What has to die is our sense of separateness, because what goes with separateness is superiority. Once we define ourselves according to our nationality, culture, religion, or identity, then we feel we have to defend each one of those. What a waste of energy! We sink to scolding and blaming; not just are we "number one", but everybody else is a second-class citizen.

That's how dualistic our thoughts become. When the private ego didn't die, Christianity even made salvation into a victory trip, thinking we knew who "won". To undergo the sign of Jonah feels like losing, and by worldly standards, it looks like it, too. The sign of Jonah is a symbol of surrender, of letting go, of giving up. Most of us wouldn't describe those as the stages of the journey of enlightenment, but they're much closer to the real truth and the real journey.

<https://cac.org/daily-meditations/a-story-of-transformation/>

THE DANCE OF DARKNESS AND LIGHT

Two Sides of Darkness

It is very important, friends, not to think of the soul as dark. We are conditioned to perceive only external light. We forget that there is such a thing as inner light, illuminating our soul.

Teresa of Ávila, *The Interior Castle*

Richard Rohr describes periods of darkness, confusion, and struggle as necessary for our transformation and growth:

Experiences of darkness are good and necessary teachers. They are not to be avoided, denied, run from, or explained away. Even if we don't experience clinical or diagnosed depression, most of us will go through at least one period of darkness, doubt, and malaise in our lives. I hope during these times we can reach out to someone - a therapist, spiritual director, friend - to support us. And when we feel strong, may we be the shoulder someone else can lean on.

There's a darkness where we are led by our own stupidity, our own sin (the illusion of separation), our own selfishness, by living out of the false or separate self. We have to work our way back out of this kind of darkness with brutal honesty, confession, surrender, forgiveness, apology, and restitution. It may feel simultaneously like dying and being liberated.

But there's another darkness that we're led into by God, grace, and the nature of life itself. In many ways, the loss of meaning here is even greater, and sometimes the loss of motivation, purpose, and direction might be even greater too. It really feels like the total absence of light, and thus the saints and mystics called it "the dark night". Yet even while we may feel alone and abandoned by God, we can also sense that we have been led here intentionally. We know we're in liminal space, betwixt and between, on the threshold - and we have to stay here until we have learned something essential. It is still no fun - filled with doubt and "demons" of every sort - but it is the darkness of being held closely by God without our awareness. This is where transformation happens.

Of course, the dark night we get ourselves into by our own "sinful" choices can also become the darkness of God. Regardless of the cause, the dark night is an opportunity to look for and find God - in new forms and ways. Neither God nor goodness exist only in the light but permeate all places, seen and unseen. It seems we have to "unknow" a bit every time we want to know in a new way. It's like putting your car in reverse in the mud and snow so that you can gain a new track and better traction.

Periods of seemingly fruitless darkness may in fact highlight all the ways we rob ourselves of wisdom by clinging to the light. Who grows by only looking on the bright side of things? It is only when we lose our certainties that will we be able to deconstruct our false images of God to discover the Absolute Reality beneath all our egoic fantasies and fears.

<https://cac.org/daily-meditations/two-sides-of-darkness/>

Prayers of the Faithful for 20 July 2025 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Lord, we offer our prayers today, trusting in your presence among us.

Abraham recognised the Lord in the strangers nearby, offering them hospitality and welcome. May we too, see the Lord present in those around us, and all those seeking refuge in our country, responding with kindness, generosity and welcome. May we encourage our government to respond with compassion and practical assistance to those seeking asylum.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for gentleness and integrity in our dealings with others. May we hold the Lord in our hearts, being prepared to withhold hasty judgement and long held assumptions. We pray for dialogue, compassion and peace on the world stage especially in Ukraine and the Middle East.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

"Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance." We pray for the courage and strength to persevere, to keep spreading Christ's love even when encountering injustice, unkindness and personal injury. We pray for a spirit of gentleness and understanding with families.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Martha was anxious and concerned with daily matters, whereas Mary chose stillness and trust before the Lord. When we are overwhelmed by life's details and worries, may we take the time to pause, pray, and trust in the Lord's love for us.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are struggling with illness, also for their families and carers. May they feel the Lord's gentle presence with them.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died recently, especially *Bernard Bowler & Marie Grech* and those whose anniversaries occur around this time, including *Honorio Bacani, Matthew Bibby, Barbara Hermans, Glenn McCormack, Shannon Douglas Risson & Beryl Scott*. May they rest peacefully in the love of the Lord.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Dear friends, may we walk together, confident in the Lord's love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Risen Christ Safeguarding Committee Member Profile

Introducing: John Ramsdale

Sentence about yourself and which Mass you attend:

I first became a member of this parish in 1961 when my family moved to Montmorency. Prior to the church opening in 1965, Sunday Mass was celebrated in the SFX school building. I am currently a member of the 8:30 tribe. My wife of 52 years, Sue, and I returned to Montmorency in 1983. We have one daughter, Cecelia and she, her husband and two children live in Eltham. I taught in local Catholic schools for many years, which was overall, a very rewarding career where I encountered, and still do, many wonderful people: colleagues, students and their families. After retiring I was offered a job researching and contributing to Geography textbooks. This was a challenging but enjoyable role and it allowed me to retain connections to education.

What do you do with yourself?

I enjoy walking, gardening, reading, being involved with grandchildren and being part of the Wednesday morning Meditation Group. Other pastimes include: supporting Collingwood, Montmorency and the Old Paradians' football clubs and frequenting the coffee shops of Montmorency and occasionally the RSL with groups of friends. I am very grateful to be able to live in Montmorency and be part of this parish community.

Why did you join the Safeguarding Committee and what do you hope to achieve?

In my role as President of the Montmorency St Vincent de Paul Conference, Fr Michael invited me to attend a meeting to outline the safeguarding practices and policies that we have in place when we visit schools and people in their homes and I instantly became a member of the committee. This group plays a vital role in ensuring the safety of all parish members and visitors, keeping up to date with relevant legislation and archdiocese policies.

What is one thing that would surprise people about yourself?

I once appeared in a school production of *West Side Story* alongside Parish Pastoral Leadership member Mark O'Dowd. By contrast, Mark was very good in his role.



With much dialogue about Christian Meditation, now Father Barry has begun a Thursday afternoon group, and trying to start a Thursday evening too, I have decided to make a space under the top shelf for Meditation CDs. If you're wanting to know

more about WCCM (World Community for Christian Meditation) these CDs are a good place to start. Hopefully you will still have a CD player. I have a portable one if you're keen. I will number the, so when you borrow put the number into the borrower's book.

Blessings, Trish

PS Let me know if you have problems with any CD. I haven't listened for sometime.

Pastoral Visitation Volunteers

Thank you to all of you who have kindly volunteered your time and to anyone who would like to volunteer.

Please would you place your volunteering forms in the box provided in the entrance area of OLHC or SFX by 27 July.

If you have any questions please contact:
Patsy (0429 439 675) or Tricia (0416 212 544).



Calvary



ST VINCENT'S CARE

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OPENS CONSULTATIONS ON ASSISTED DYING



The committee tasked with consulting Territorians on voluntary assisted dying has revealed where it will visit and what questions it will ask as it prepares a report for the Northern Territory Parliament. Source: *NT News*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/16/parliamentary-committee-opens-consultations-on-voluntary-assisted-dying/>

HEALTH SECTOR ISSUES WARNING OVER GROWING WAITLIST FOR HOME CARE PACKAGES



The growing waitlist for home care packages risks thousands of hospital beds being taken up by elderly people experiencing otherwise avoidable

complications or falls without adequate support, providers have warned. Source: *The Australian*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/16/health-sector-issues-warning-over-growing-waitlist-for-home-care-packages/>

AUDIT FINDS SISTERS '100 PER CENT' COMMITTED TO SAFETY OF HUNTER COMMUNITY



The Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar in New South Wales are committed to placing the needs and safety of the Hunter community first, according to a safeguarding audit report published today by Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/16/audit-finds-sisters-100-per-cent-committed-to-safety-of-hunter-community/>

CESA'S 200-STRONG WORKFORCE ON THE MOVE



Catholic Education South Australia will relocate its head office to a prominent city-fringe office space in one of Adelaide's key commercial precincts.

Source: *The Southern Cross*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/16/cesas-200-strong-workforce-on-the-move/>

HOW KICKING A BALL CAN PROMOTE PEACE AND UNITY



Pope Leo XIV has emphasised the importance of coming together for peace and promoting unity through sport, politics, music, and other

means. Source: *Vatican News*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/16/how-kicking-a-ball-can-promote-peace-and-unity/>

INTERFAITH EVENT CALLS FOR ABOLITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS



Representatives of various groups have gathered at an interfaith event in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to call for nuclear disarmament

worldwide. Source: *OSV News*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/07/16/interfaith-event-calls-for-abolition-of-nuclear-weapons/>

Enriched by many cultures

We live in challenging times, but we are also blessed to live in a city shaped and enriched by many cultures. As global conflicts intensify, we are called to respond generously - like the Good Samaritan - to all our neighbours, never losing sight of our common humanity.



Last week, in response to a disturbing arson attack on the East Melbourne Hebrew Congregation Synagogue, Melbourne's religious leaders stood side by side on the steps of the synagogue to denounce the rise in anti-Semitism and affirm their shared commitment to unity, peace and mutual respect.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/no-place-for-hate-in-our-city-faith-leaders-call-for-peace>



During his recent visit to Melbourne, we caught up with Cardinal Virgilio do Carmo da Silva, the first-ever cardinal from Timor-Leste, about the challenges and opportunities experienced by the Timorese community in Australia and an exciting project with Australian

Catholic University to improve educational opportunities for young people in his homeland.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/timor-lestes-cardinal-strengthens-faith-and-ties-in-melbourne>



And on Saturday, a group of about 50 pilgrims of different ages, backgrounds and life experiences walked the 'Camino Domini' together through Victoria's Wombat State Forest to St Mary Magdalen's Church in Trentham - a journey 'from loss to hope' that

drew deeply on the ancient and healing Catholic tradition of pilgrimage.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/a-pilgrimage-from-loss-to-hope-the-camino-domini-in-trentham>



People of the resurrection: local clergy gather to celebrate Jubilee Year

The Jubilee is a time to embody the joy of Christ, said clergy during a special gathering to mark the recent Jubilee for Seminarians, Priests and Bishops.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/people-of-the-resurrection-local-clergy-gather-to-celebrate-jubilee-year>



Parishes need to launch 'revolution of care' for the elderly, Pope says

Pope Leo XIV called on every parish and Church group or association to become part of a 'revolution' of care and gratitude by regularly visiting older people. 'Christian hope always urges us to be more daring, to think big, to be dissatisfied with things the way they are,' the Pope wrote in his message for World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, a Church celebration that will take place on 27 July.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/parishes-need-to-launch-revolution-of-care-for-the-elderly-pope-says>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events>

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