

Risen Christ



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 & 7 September 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.



Risen Christ Parish Discernment and Reflection Sessions *Bringing Our Pastoral Plan to Life*

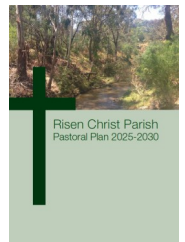
Session Times:

Evening Session: Wednesday 10th September, 7:00pm to 8:30pm,
Gathering Area, Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham

Daytime Session: Sunday 14th September, 1:00pm to 2:30pm,
Church Hall, St Francis Xavier, Montmorency

Facilitated by the Parish Pastoral Leadership Community

Come, be a part of shaping our future together as a community of faith.



Gospel - Luke 14:25-33

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Reflection - Break Open the Word 2025

Today Jesus presents us with the cost of discipleship. It is tough. Disciples takes up their cross and follow him. For some, like Dietrick Bonhoeffer, the cost is very high, but he assured us, it is *a road of boundless mercy* and leads to joy. Where will it lead us?

"Hating" is a very strong word; it is an example of Hebrew hyperbole. It means that a disciple must give preference to Christ and the gospel, even over family attachments.

Two parables follow which emphasis the need for reflection before action. Those who wish to be followers of Christ need to weigh up the cost and make a decision in favour of discipleship.

Finally, we get a strong saying about giving up all our possessions. It says "in the same way", but it is not clear at first how it follows on from the two stories. The two stories suggest that one needs to be able to see something through to its conclusion. So too the disciple of Jesus must not recoil from any of the demands of discipleship, even if it comes to giving up all our possessions.

These are indeed challenging teachings from Jesus! Do we have the courage to embrace what he is saying? Is our trust in God strong enough to take us forward on the path of the cross?

*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: 24 & 31 August 2025

		OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	Cash	\$482.00	\$740.00
	Electronic	\$1,504.00	\$1,959.00
Presbytery	Cash	\$651.80	\$1,051.20
	Electronic	\$70.00	\$410.00

Thanksgiving / Stewardship Offering

Month	OLHC	SFX	Total
June	\$7,561.67	\$10,092.50	\$17,654.17
July	\$5,586.47	\$8,151.50	\$13,737.97
August	\$6,513.67	\$9,149.50	\$15,663.17

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Saturday 6

12:00pm Baptisms: Ryan, Thomas Montmorency
6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 7

8:30am Mass Montmorency
10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

Tuesday 9

9:30am Mass Montmorency
10:00am Rosary Montmorency
7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 10

6:30am Meditation Montmorency
9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 11

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency
10:00am Emmaus Small Church Community Montmorency
10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency
2:00pm Mass Calvary Lower Plenty Garden Views
2:30pm Meditation Eltham
7:00pm Meditation Eltham

Friday 12

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 13

12:00pm Baptisms: Flynn, Jett Montmorency
6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 14

8:30am Mass Montmorency
10:00am Mass Eltham

Tuesday 16

9:30am Mass & SFX Yr 5 & 6 Montmorency
10:00am Rosary Montmorency
10:00am Craft Group Montmorency
11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham
2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 17

6:30am Meditation Montmorency
9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thanksgiving

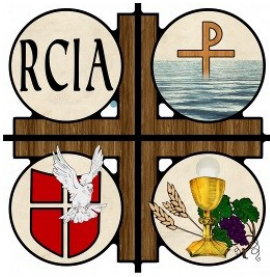
Dear Parishioners,
Following is a list of ways in which you can give towards the running of our Parish (clockwise from top right):

- scan the QR code (<https://bit.ly/45ifhRp>) & you can donate to any Parish finance campaign including Thanksgiving, Presbytery Offerings, baptisms etc.
- cash/coins in the collection baskets at each church
- EFTPOS terminals
- thanksgiving envelopes
- set up payments from credit/debit cards

Thank you for your generous support,
Michael



R.C.I.A. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



An open invitation is extended to people who are not Catholic, or as Adults have not received the Sacraments of Baptism or Confirmation and would like to fully participate in the Mass with the reception of the Eucharist. Please contact us and let's begin our enquiry time together.

Risen Christ Parish, Eltham & Montmorency welcome your participation.

What is RCIA? The RCIA, which stands for **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, is a process through which non-baptised men and women enter the Catholic Church. It includes several stages marked by study, prayer and rites at Mass. Participants in the RCIA are known as catechumens, and it's a wonderful adult journey of Christian discovery and personal renewal.

If you know of anyone in your family or friendship groups or neighbourhood that might like to begin this "enquiry" time, with no obligation to continue in the process to Easter 2026, then please feel free to ask them.

Please let Kate (in the parish office) know by phone (9435 4742) or email (RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au).

Your actions are powerful

2025
NATIONAL
CHILD
PROTECTION
WEEK

National Child Protection Week
7 - 13 September, 2025

*Every conversation matters:
Shifting Conversation to Action*



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

What a week ahead for our Parish and School Communities

Firstly, Happy Father's Day to all dads in our communities. We hope you all enjoy the most fabulous day with your family. There are some Celebrate Father's and New Fathers' booklets in the racks near the front door.

Secondly, this weekend the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) and Dominican communities throughout the world are celebrating the canonisation of a young Italian man who was a member of the Turin SVDP. Despite coming from a wealthy family, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was not attached to wealth or material possessions. He took any opportunity to help the poor whilst also having a great love for the outdoors and the arts.

Thirdly, Tuesday 9th September is also the feast day of the founder of SVDP, Blessed Frederic Ozanam; and

Finally, the really **BIG ONE**, next weekend the Montmorency conference will be celebrating their **Diamond Jubilee at both SFX Masses**. Treats for all after both Masses, supplied by conference members, in appreciation for all the support from St Francis Xavier parishioners, Holy Trinity Primary School, St Francis Xavier Primary School and Catholic Ladies College communities over the past 60 years. Join with us to celebrate this very significant milestone.

Library News:

Many of our parishioners would remember Stephen and Maria D'Agata.

Stephen has written a humorous and satirical novel about cardinals and popes.

The book: *Pope Dreams* is on the top shelf of the library. Please use the Borrowers Book if you take a copy.

Thank you

Trish



You are warmly invited to join us for our final Mass by Candlelight for 2025 on Thursday, 11th September 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 8pm and supper afterwards.

All welcome.

Enquiries: Emilia 0418 120 902.

Risen Christ Parishioner Profiles - Introducing: Jeanette Steward

My name is Jeanette Steward and I have lived in Montmorency for the past 47 years. I am married to Barney and we have 2 children, Andrew and James, who attended St Francis Xavier, and we are lucky to have 8 grandchildren!

I joined small church group in 2019 wanting to get closer to God and mostly to understand the meaning of the gospels more. I struggled at first to the meaning of what was shared, but as I opened up my mind to see how many ways people spoke about their experiences with faith, it helped me to ask and find many different ways to look at the gospels. In other words, I grew through understanding more and how my heart grew closer to my faith.

I worked for Telstra in William Street in Melbourne then left after starting a family, I then changed careers and did a course to teach swimming.

My interests are knitting and playing bingo with a seniors group.

In 1980 I was diagnosed with Good Pastures Syndrome, which cause kidney failure, and I was put on dialysis to save my life. In 1982 I received a kidney transplant from a cadaver donor, which lasted for 24 years, then back on dialysis while my son Andrew was worked up to donate.

Something you don't know about me: With keeping myself healthy, I competed in the Australian and World Transplant Games in Walking, as it gave me a great opportunity to travel to some wonderful countries. I was lucky enough to win lots of medals.



The gospels show that inconsistency in storytelling can be proof of authenticity. In the wake of the Salt Path furore, a prize-winning memoirist has devised a new way to distinguish memory from truth / **By Richard Beard**

The way, the truth and the life

The Christian gospels can be read as stories, but also as memories. The Evangelists - Matthew, Mark, Luke and John - make early moves towards the genre of memoir. They were there or thereabouts around real-life events that shaped and defined their lives, and the telling and retelling of these memories is subsequently recorded in writing - not a story loosely based on true events, but words claiming all to be true. That's the aim and ambition of memoir.

Like memoirists ever since, the gospel writers and their scribes exposed themselves to accusations of embellishment. Worse, of fabrication. Their archetypal hope-over-hardship narrative - a resurrection! - can sound to some too good to be true. In their defence, they had to face the memoir writer's perennial challenge to deliver the rawness of real experience without the falsification of an artfully curated story.

Among our contemporary forms of story-telling, no structure is more familiar than the comforting arc of a feel-good memoir, as recently demonstrated by Raynor Winn's *The Salt Path*. First the popular success; then the sound and fury when an *Observer* investigation alleged the story wasn't so simple. Even if Winn's memoir - about personal healing through walking the South West Coast Path - felt emotionally true, the adherence to a feel-good formula omitted or blurred certain facts that undermined the pact between author and reader: this is what actually happened, told as truthfully as possible.

The writers of the gospels, compiled somewhere between AD50 and 110, didn't have to

contend with editors focused on the market or hopes for a lucrative film deal. They did want to communicate personal memories as accurately as they could because these experiences deserved to be preserved in writing. Truthful to a fault, they ended up announcing their one remembered truth in four different ways. The synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) share many of the same incidents, known to theologians as "pericopes", but these short, self-contained passages about life with Jesus appear in a different order in each gospel. In Matthew the pericopes of the Sermon on the Mount, for example, are gathered together in a single block. In Luke, they're separated.

The word gospel comes from the Old English "godspel", a good story, but the Evangelists seem hell-bent on messing up the telling. Their texts as grouped together in the New Testament agree to disagree on the stories about Jesus worth including (except the Resurrection - they all agree on that). The inconsistencies suggest each gospel is confident of its specific memories only, and can't speak for any of the others. None of the gospels, in all honesty, is prepared to tidy up its material for the sake of overall coherence.

More generally, the writers simply won't bend to the relevant narrative rules, like distinguishing clearly between characters.

The two Marys are reliably a muddle, and in the context of the times the gospels didn't help themselves by insisting that women were the first witnesses at the empty tomb. That was no way to convince a judgmental male readership.

Except it was, because the mixture



The Four Evangelists depicted by Abraham Bloemaert c. 1612-15 : men who remembered the same truth in for different ways

of inconsistency and awkward truth landed in the mind like evidence of authenticity. Variations on a theme might be no way to sell a lie, but they sound about right for the vagaries of human memory. The witnesses to Jesus have different personalities and perspectives, greater or lesser powers of recall, however good the faith in which they look earnestly back.

Nevertheless, others in the Early Church nervously pre-empted our contemporary publishers and production companies. Similarly faint-hearted, they backed into an apparently fail-safe scheme to merge the four gospels into a single linear and more satisfying story. In the second century the theologian Tatian compiled a rewrite of the gospels called the *Diatessaron* ("made of four"). Tatian's single condensed narrative was known as a "gospel harmony", but when it came to recognising the truth of a human life, harmony didn't ring true. The original fragmented Jesus felt more authentic than a narratively sanitised portrait with greater Netflix appeal. Even in the second century.

In the long run (and the greatest story is still being told) truthful inconsistency was preferable to a compromised coherence. The



gospels celebrate the truth of the life they're describing by rejecting preconceived ideas about narrative acceptability. The story is released from the tyranny of "story". Jesus comes alive.

Over the course of a lifetime few of us, if any, live a convincing narrative sweep from conflict through action to resolution. In the remembering, if we're dishonest with ourselves, we might try to reframe certain episodes into these available shapes, but more commonly our acts of memory are unpredictable. Remembering is led by the unknowns of the unconscious - memories jump one to another across different time zones, often with no obvious connection. To paraphrase Einstein, the story of a whole life (including the life of Jesus) should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler than that.

Which is why my latest memoir follows the example of the gospel writers and rejects familiar storytelling conventions. I've contained a life, my life, within 64 chapters patterned to an online chessboard. Each chapter is denoted by a square on the board (on the screen of a phone, or a computer), and behind each square are 1,000 words for each year of my life. The reader moves around the chessboard from year to year like a knight - not chronologically but two steps forward and one to the side, in any chosen direction. Two steps

backwards, for example, or off one side of the board and back on the other. When I think about remembering, I'm never entirely sure where my mind is going to take me next.

Instead of a single narrative path - however much we and Raynor Winn might wish that something so simple existed - there are many pathways. In the case of my new memoir, on a toroidal chessboard with a single starting point, about 207 billion options for a route through all 64 readable squares on the grid.

The unconventionality of The Universal Turing Machine means the memoir can ask new questions about how it has felt to be alive, and the work is titled in homage to the British computer pioneer Alan Turing. In 1950, Turing devised his famous test to distinguish between human thinking and automated imitations of the rich but slippery process. Set against the cultural dominance of formulaic narratives and the growing threat of AI-produced content, Turing's distinction has never felt more relevant. What is human, what is true? The gospel writers must have asked themselves the same kind of questions, both at the time and in retrospect.

Today's technology, despite the various risks and dangers, remains a potential gateway to positive new developments, such as an inclusive online reading experience like The Universal Turing Machine. Touchscreens enable the randomised narrative routes, but also an exciting next phase: an ambitious collective writing project inconceivable in hard copy print. From September, everyone, of any age and from anywhere in the world, will be invited to submit their own memoir to add to The Universal Turing Machine.

The 64-square structure is intended to help memoir writers get started: 1,000 words a year is a manageable target but flexible enough to allow for a unique creative response. Conflate or repeat years to taste, though the number of sections is fixed at 64 to enable each added memoir to be tiled to the next in an ever-expanding grid. Every memoir will exist in the context and company of others, readable for free, creating an anthology of defiantly

true and improbably lives, different yet similar, together communicating the truth of what it has meant to live a human life.

Not unlike, in fact, the interplay between the gospels. A connected group of memoirs allows for different versions of the same truth, each one informing the other, liberated from the obligation to create a single coherent pathway at any cost. Uncertainty and inconsistency plausibly reflect the world as it is, in biblical times just as now. And if memories written in good faith contain the authentic textures of lived experience, they can endure for thousands of years.

The lasting power of the New Testament gospels is deeply reassuring for writers like myself, in thrall to literary experimentation and the modernist imperative to "make it new". The Evangelists reject the lie of neatly packaged narrative. They were confounded by the life of Jesus at the time, and the gospels keep their honest confusion alive by accepting variation and occasionally contradiction.

This trusting attitude from so long ago is hugely inspiring for a project like The Universal Turing Machine. Whatever we remember, the memories themselves occur in isolation - in gospel-style pericopes - and not episodically in a box-set flow of cause and effect, with heart-warming transformations before an uplifting ending. Life's emotional journey rarely heads in a straight line in a single direction with an unchangeable destination. Being alive is more interesting than that, and more extraordinary, and is belittled by formulaic narrative strategies. Jesus was fortunate in his earliest biographers: they stayed true to the confusion of their experience, as can we.

Richard Beard's six novels include *Acts of the Assassins*, *Lazarus is Dead*, *Dry Bones* and *Damascus*. His memoir, *The Universal Turing Machine*, is currently available to read for free at www.universalturingmachine.co.uk. Information about the expanded Universal Turing Machine will be released in September, with details of how to submit a memoir following the same format.

Please help with Malaysian Asylum Seekers

Ridz, Nor and toddler Khayla have been seeking asylum in Australia over the last 3 years. Earlier this year their Visa Tribunal Appeal was rejected but the bulk of the evidence regarding Khayla (and her then failure to thrive) could not be considered because the parents had neglected to register Khayla with Home Affairs. I quickly lodged this amendment.

The family then moved to Robinvale where they lived in free accommodation on a farm where Ridz works as a farm hand. They independently lodged a counter appeal with the Federal Tribunal, but failed to provide adequate documents. Last week this second appeal was rejected.

When Marlis and I went to visit them 10 days ago, we found they were living in a 2m x 2.5m single room and no longer had access to the farmhouse. Nor is 5 months pregnant, and because of her Thalassaemia and some potential issues with the baby, we brought Nor and Khayla back to Eltham to stay with us until Ridz can find appropriate accommodation.

I lodged a lengthy document of the family history with the Federal Tribunal requesting either the family be allowed to lodge a new visa application to include all three of them; OR that Khayla be allowed to seek asylum independently. We are requesting that the parents be given time to gain the help they need acquiring parenting skills before any decision is made regarding deportation.

At the end of last week, we were informed that the family has been granted a "Notice of Listing (Callover)", which we believe will be a hearing where Immigration outlines what will happen next. This will occur as a video conference on Tuesday 23rd September.

The Help We Need:

1. **IT Expertise:** Because this is a video conference and we are all luddites, we need an IT savvy person to be with us on the day, and to record the proceedings. Nika has offered to do this, but it would be good to have a back-up person in case Nika is unwell. If we don't participate in this conference, the family will have 4 weeks to leave the country.
2. **Airfares:** Because Robinvale is 5 1/2 hours drive from Melbourne, it is cheaper and less disruptive to fly Ridz to Melbourne on Monday 22nd September and back to Robinvale on Wednesday 24th September. The fares are not huge, but any assistance will be helpful.
3. **Drivers to and from the airport:** It will be enormously helpful to have people collect Ridz from, and return him to, the airport.
4. **Medical expenses:** Because Nor is an asylum seeker without a Medicare card, any medical visits/tests etc are charged at an International Visitor rate. When Nor and Khayla came back to Eltham they both had infections requiring antibiotics. Nor also has an upcoming ultrasound, blood tests and the need to see an obstetrician. Any assistance with these costs is welcome.



Marlis and I thank you for the love and compassion you have shown this family in the past, and for the way you welcomed them back into our fold on Sunday. If you can assist in any way, please do so at the following links:

Email: thomasinemiranda52@gmail.com

Bendigo Bank: BSB: 633 000; A/c: 210 647 517 Name: Miranda Armstrong Ref: Malaysians

Photos top to bottom: Marlis & Khayla when they first met; Khayla in Eltham; Khayla at a playground.



SEASON OF CREATION

The **Season of Creation** (1 Sep to 4 Oct) has been observed by Catholics since 2015 with the launching of the Encyclical *Laudato Si* by Pope Francis. These five weeks give us time to contemplate, reflect and give thanks to God for all the gifts in creation. This year, Catholics around the world also celebrate 800 years since St Francis of Assisi composed the *Canticle of Creation* and provided a model to relate to creation as brothers and siblings of a common Father.

Week One

Canticle

Most High, all powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, the honour, and all blessing. To you alone, Most High, do they belong, and no man is worthy to mention Your name. Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially through my lord Brother Sun, who brings the day; and you give light through him. And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendour! Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.

Reading

The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet: "Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest". (*Laudato Si* #48)

Contemplation

"Our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us." (Pope Francis)

Prayer of the Week

All-powerful God, fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



*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:

*Libertad Bayola, 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:

*Frances Borg (20th anniversary) Ivy May Caulfield,
Urszula Doss, Don Horne, Nereo Zini*

Eltham

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

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

For the recently **deceased**:

Maurice Brosnan

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

Ada Beech, Rosemary Lee

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

Prayers of the Faithful for 7 September 2025 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: The road to the Lord is not easy, but it leads to true life.
Confidently then, we turn to Christ with our prayers.

We pray for all the Church, that we gain the wisdom and discernment to follow
in Christ's path, to bring forth the new Kingdom.

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

In our troubled times, true wisdom is so important. We pray for our children,
our youth, students, teachers and educators. May your Spirit give them
wisdom and guide them.

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

We entrust to you Lord, the mediators and counsellors in our communities.
May they work to restore peace and social justice to the world.

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

We pray for our aged, who have gained wisdom as they have gathered years.
May they continue to journey through life and find sisters and brothers with
whom they can share their story.

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

We entrust to you Lord, the sick, those out of work, the poor and all those for
whom their cross is heavy. May they find sisters and brothers along their way
to sustain them in their trials.

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

We pray for those who have died recently, especially *Maurice Brosnan* and for
those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Ada Beech, Frances
Borg, Ivy May Caulfield, Urszula Doss, Don Horne, Rosemary Lee and Nereo
Zini*. May they rest in the eternal love and light of Christ.

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

Leader: Lord Jesus, you who have carried the crosses of all humanity
through the ages, deign to listen to our prayers. You, who lives
and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen

Confirmation 2025

Thank you to those families who have completed the 2025 Parish Confirmation
Enrolment Google Form (<https://bit.ly/3PJ9nkH>). All children who are
making their Confirmation this year are required to register via this form.

**If you are still yet to complete this form, please do so ASAP, as the
closing date for applications is Friday 12 September.** A reminder to
also please email a copy of your child's baptism certificate to the Parish Office
(risenchrist.parish@cam.org.au).

Roster for week ending 7 Sep 2025

Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Cseh, Nika	C10:00
Davidson, John	W8:30
Donnellan, Denise	E10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	E10:00
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Edwards, Elisabeth	E10:00
Hannon, Genni	ASRC
Hannon, Kevin	ASRC
Kenny, Michael	W6:00
Mallia, Anthony	E10:00
Maynes, Phil	W6:00
Nolan, Kathleen	PRYR
Roy, Yvonne	E10:00
Stone, Nan	CLNR
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Williams, Peter	R10:00
Wood, Marie	LoW-01 Thu
Zavadil Family	PRSE
Zerjal, Frida	CLNR

Roster for week ending 14 Sep 2025

Armstrong, Miranda	H10:00
Dhanasen Family	PRSE
Donnellan, Denise	H10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	H10:00
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Edwards, Elisabeth	H10:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Haines, Geoff	C10:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Kulkens, Mark	W6:00
Love, Philip	W8:30
Lucas, Maree	CLNR
Mallia, Anthony	E10:00
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Skipper, Patsy	LoW-01 Thu
Smith, Neil	E10:00
Stephens, Patricia	CLNR
Stone, Nan	W6:00
Taylor, Trish	PRYR
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

GOVERNMENT BOWS TO PRESSURE ON HOME CARE PACKAGES



The Albanese Government will immediately fund 20,000 more home care packages to support older Australians living at home, caving to pressure from across the Parliament. Source: *ABC News*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/09/04/government-bows-to-pressure-on-home-care-packages/>

BISHOPS MEET ECCLESIAL COMMUNITIES AND MOVEMENTS



Representatives of 25 ecclesial communities and movements met with Australia's Catholic bishops in Sydney from August 21 to 22 to strengthen their relationships and discuss ways to effectively collaborate. Source: *ACBC*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/09/04/bishops-meet-ecclesial-communities-and-movements/>

SALVATION COMES FROM BEING ABLE TO ASK FOR GOD'S HELP: POPE



The human longing for love is not a sign of weakness but demonstrates that no one is completely self-sufficient and that salvation comes from

letting oneself be loved and helped by God, Pope Leo XIV said. Source: *OSV News*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/09/04/salvation-comes-from-being-able-to-ask-for-gods-help-pope/>

LABOR MOVES TO TOUGHEN AND EXTEND BETSTOP REGISTER



Communications Minister Anika Wells says she is working to strengthen the media watchdog's powers to "crack down" on bookmakers who

breach Australia's gambling self-exclusion register. Source: *The Australian*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/09/04/labor-moves-to-toughen-and-extend-betstop-register/>

DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES CELEBRATE 150TH ANNIVERSARY



The Society of the Divine Word's community in Marsfield, Sydney, celebrated the 150th anniversary of the order's founding in conjunction with its annual Multicultural Sunday event, highlighting one of the most foundational of Divine Word characteristics - interculturality.

Source: *In The Word*.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/09/04/divine-word-missionaries-celebrate-150th-anniversary/>

SISTER WHO INTRODUCED LORETO ORDER TO AUSTRALIA HONOURED



Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry IBVM, the Irish religious sister who introduced the Loreto order to Australia 150 years ago, has been named a

Trailblazer on the 2025 Victorian Honour Roll of Women for her contribution to education.

<https://cathnews.com/2025/09/04/sister-who-introduced-loreto-order-to-australia-honoured/>

What are you going through?

When life is going well, we don't like to think about suffering as something that could happen to any one of us. It's more comfortable to think about it in the abstract, a distant problem to be tackled with policy-making or fundraising or advocacy. But while these things are important, Christ also calls us to be present to our neighbours who are struggling, to sit with them, to listen and offer friendship.



A few days ago we observed Social Justice Sunday, which this year highlighted the connections between homelessness and mental ill-health. We spoke with Episcopal Vicar for Social Services and Justice Fr John Petruilis about 'the infinite value' of those who experience homelessness, and how we can respond with genuine compassion.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/homelessness-in-spotlight-for-social-justice-sunday>



At this year's Simone Weil Lecture, hosted by Australian Catholic University, prominent journalist and author Prof Stan Grant engaged eloquently with Weil's concept of 'mystical activism', asking the 'holy question' that takes us to the heart of

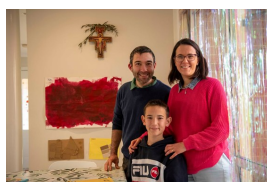
compassion: *What are you going through?*

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/stan-grant-asks-the-holy-question-at-the-heart-of-affliction-and-compassion>



We visit St Macartan's Parish on the beautiful Mornington Peninsula - one of our local Pilgrim Places - to hear about how this vibrant parish is forging strong connections with the local community by meeting and befriending people where they are.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/st-macartans-a-pilgrim-place-of-renewal>



And we share the lovely story of a young boy and his family who reached out to the late Pope Francis, who - much to their delight - reached back.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/a-pope-and-three-saints-a-young-family-faithful-journey>

'GRACE CHANGES US': ARCHBISHOP'S DINNER MARKS 25 YEARS WITH STRONG SUPPORT FOR SEMINARIANS

'Grace changes us', Dr Andy Mullins reminded the 450 guests who gathered at this year's Archbishop's Dinner to raise funds and show their support for Victoria's future priests. Hosted by the Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday 29 August, the evening raised \$80,000 to support the education of seminarians at Corpus Christi College and those preparing to serve as chaplains in the Australian Defence Force.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/grace-changes-us-archbishops-dinner-marks-25-years-with-strong-support-for-seminarians>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events>

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