

# The Catholic Parish of Sacred Heart & St Columba

Our Parish is a Christian community which welcomes all to walk together in a spirit of compassion, justice and hope.

## PARISH NEWSLETTER 26 / 27 OCTOBER 2024 THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### **St Columba Church**

cnr Glenhantly & Normandy Rds  
Elwood 3184

### **Sacred Heart Church**

83 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182

### **St Columba Primary School**

24 Glenhantly Road Elwood 3184  
9531 6560; [www.stcolumbasprimary.org](http://www.stcolumbasprimary.org)

### **Sacred Heart Mission**

87 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182  
9537 1166; [www.sacredheartmission.org](http://www.sacredheartmission.org)

### **PARISH HOUSE**

2 Normandy Road, Elwood 3184  
03 9531 6120; [shsc@shscparish.org.au](mailto:shsc@shscparish.org.au)  
[www.shscparish.org.au](http://www.shscparish.org.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr John Petrus  
[john@shscparish.org.au](mailto:john@shscparish.org.au)

**Pastoral Ministry Leader:** Christine Mitchell  
[christine@shscparish.org.au](mailto:christine@shscparish.org.au)

**Office Manager:** Jane Hearnese  
[jane@shscparish.org.au](mailto:jane@shscparish.org.au)

### **SHM Pastoral Care Worker**

### **St Columba Principal / REC:**

Daniella Maddalena  
[dmaddalena@scelwood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dmaddalena@scelwood.catholic.edu.au)

**Deputy Principal:** Bern Bradley  
[bernb@scelwood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:bernb@scelwood.catholic.edu.au)

### **Parish Safeguarding Committee:**

Fr John Petrus, Christine Mitchell,  
Daniella Maddalena, Jane Hearnese

**Parish Visiting Team:** Lay Pastoral Care Group; Legion of Mary Groups  
Call or email the Parish Office.

**St Vincent de Paul President:** Dominic Tesoriero  
[domtess1@gmail.com](mailto:domtess1@gmail.com)

**Elwood and St Kilda Legion of Mary**  
Please contact the parish office.

### **Gospel Reflection: Two Kinds of Seeing**

[Source: An extract from Mike Marsh, <https://interruptingthesilence.com/>]

Jesus asks him, "What do you want me to do for you?" Bartimaeus says, "My teacher, let me see again." Did you catch what he said? Bartimaeus wants to see "again" meaning that at one point in his life he had vision. There was a time when he could see. So, what if we were to see Bartimaeus' life in three stages? First, Bartimaeus can see. Second, he is blind, sitting on the roadside, and begging. Third, he regains his sight. He did not, however, regain the sight he originally had. It was a different way of seeing.

Sometimes words challenge us to see more than we think is there. The same word can have more than one meaning, and so it is with today's Gospel. We're told that Bartimaeus wanted "to see again" and that "he regained his sight." So we could say that he got back what he once had. That's one way of seeing this text. But those same words can also mean that Bartimaeus wanted "to look up" and that "he looked upwards." And that's another way of seeing this text.

Regaining sight and looking upwards. What if both kinds of seeings are necessary? What if Bartimaeus sees again but in a new way? He now looks upward. He has a higher vision and a greater consciousness.

Isn't that the pattern of spiritual growth we see in the scriptures? Richard Rohr describes it as order, disorder, and reorder. My guess is that every one of us has lived that pattern. Isn't that what happened to Bartimaeus? Isn't that what happened to the Israelites? They went from Egypt to the wilderness, to the promised land. Each of those patterns is a story of life, death, and resurrection.

The thing about sitting in our darkness and begging is that at the time we can never see what is coming to us. I don't think blind Bartimaeus could see what or who was coming his way that day he sat on the roadside begging. The most he could do was to be faithful to his darkness, to not run away, to cry out in hope. And maybe that's true for you and me.

We sit in our darkness begging and then one day something begins to come into focus. Things start to look different. We catch a glimpse of a new life. We have an insight about ourselves. We begin to see things in a new light. I don't know how that happens. I only know that it does happen, even if it takes years.

That's what sitting in darkness and begging has done for me. It continues to open my eyes. It continues to show me new paths for my life. It continues to help me see things in a new light.

What about you? What have you learned about yourself from sitting in the darkness and begging? What are you seeing anew or maybe for the first time? In what ways is your seeing changing?

What if changing our lives and our world begins with changing how we see?

## **SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT**

Our Parish supports the recommendations of the Royal Commission and all endeavours to bring healing to and justice for the victims of abuse. Our Parish Leadership & Development Team and Safeguarding Committee work proactively to ensure the safety of all children, young people and vulnerable adults in our community. There are a range of important and interesting resources on the Church noticeboards and on our website supporting and highlighting Safeguarding. Please feel free to contact a member of the Safeguarding Committee if you have any concerns or ideas.

## WARM WELCOME

Welcome to all who celebrate the Eucharist with us today, to the church communities across our parish and a special welcome to all who happen to be visiting our Parish.

A special welcome to the children and their families who join us this weekend as part of their journey towards the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today we stand in footsteps millennia old. May we acknowledge the Elders, families and forebears of the Kulin Nations, who are the traditional custodians of our parish land, whose cultures and customs have nurtured, and continue to nurture, this land since men and women awoke from the great dream.

We acknowledge their continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

## AN UPDATE ON THE CALL OUT FOR BLANKETS

Last week we put out a call on behalf of one of our ecumenical partners, the Salvation Army St Kilda Crisis Centre, who are in desperate need of blankets to give to those who are homeless. People were asked to contact Chaplain Jim Vaughn (on 0487 521 776 or email: [jim.vaughn@salvationarmy.org.au](mailto:jim.vaughn@salvationarmy.org.au)) directly. However, our parishioner, Julie from the 9.00 a.m. Mass community has offered to collect these and take them to Chaplain Jim. Note that Julie will only be collecting blankets and sleeping bags. You can leave them at St Columba or Sacred Heart churches and tell Christine, our Pastoral Ministry Leader, or give them to Julie directly. For any other donation, please take those to Sacred Heart Op Shop or Vinnies Op Shop (Elsternwick). We thank you for your generosity.

## CALLING ALL BOOKWORMS!

The Catholic Theological College Mannix Library Book Sale is back with plenty of theological and philosophical books waiting to find new homes. All books are now \$2. Come in and grab a bargain!

**Date:** 7 October - 15 November

**Venue:** Mannix Library, Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to Jane, our Office Manager who celebrated her birthday this week. We hold Jane in our hearts with gratitude and fondness, wishing blessings of good health and happiness for her. Jane is off to celebrate in Tasmania for a week. Safe travels and have a wonderful time.



## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Compassionate heart of Jesus,  
you heard the cry of the blind beggar  
when others would have silenced him.

Teach us to be attentive to the voices others ignore,  
that we might respond, through the power of the Spirit  
to heal the afflicted, and to welcome the abandoned  
for your sake and the sake of the gospel. Amen.

[Source: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>]

## ST COLUMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The latest edition of St Columba's Primary School is available now. We have included a snippet from 'Teacher Insights - Working at a PYP school.' Visit here for read the full version - <https://newsletters.naavi.com/i/5zP3boJ/issue-10/page/cover>

"My Journey as a First-Year Teacher in an IB PYP School: Cultivating Inquiry, Critical Thinking, and Lifelong Learning  
Working in an IB PYP school as a first-year graduate teacher has been an incredibly rewarding experience. The PYP's inquiry-based approach fosters a dynamic learning environment where students are encouraged to ask questions, explore concepts, and engage with ideas independently. I've seen how this framework promotes critical and creative thinking, helping students solve problems and make meaningful connections to the world around them, both collaboratively and independently.

One of the standout features of the PYP is its focus on developing well-rounded learners. Through the Learner Profile, students build essential skills like communication, collaboration, and self-management, preparing them for academic success and real-world challenges.

The collaborative culture within the school has also been a major highlight. Working alongside experienced educators has given me valuable insights and helped me refine my teaching practice through regular planning and discussions. This shared commitment to growth creates a positive, supportive environment where both students and teachers thrive.

What's impressed me most about the PYP is how it encourages students to think deeply and engage meaningfully with complex topics. This focus on lifelong learning helps students develop skills they'll use far beyond the classroom. Starting my teaching career in this environment has provided me with a solid foundation and inspired me to grow professionally while supporting students on their learning journey.

The IB PYP is unique in that it goes beyond traditional education. It encourages deep, conceptual learning rather than relying on memorisation or rigid tasks. Teachers can shape lessons around student interests, making learning more engaging and meaningful. The programme's international perspective also helps students appreciate different cultures and think globally. This well-rounded approach ensures students are prepared not just academically, but as thoughtful, empathetic individuals ready to navigate an ever-changing world."

*Belle do Rozario-Romic,*

*Year 6 Teacher - St Columba's Primary School*

## OPPORTUNITY TO PART OF OUR LEADERSHIP GROUP

The leadership group provides support, advice and oversight to Fr John and the Parish team to assist in managing the operations of the parish. The group meets on the first Thursday evening of each month for about 90 minutes to two hours maximum. Aside from this commitment, members are expected to participate in annual formation workshops and, at this time, to meet with the Discernment Group and at irregular times, with Sacred Heart Mission for collaboration planning. The PLDT would like to hear what skills, gifts and talents you would bring to the parish leadership and those interested will be invited to the PLDT December meeting for a chat and a meal.

**Note that:** In early 2025, the PLDT will be continuing their consultation and formation with the Discernment Group at a weekend workshop using 'scenario planning' as a tool for thinking about our parish over the next ten years. This tool is designed to make us resilient, nimble and responsive to factors and influencers that are likely to shape our future. Therefore, if you are considering coming onto the PLDT, we encourage you to register interest now so that you can be part of this futures planning early next year.

To register your interest, please email: Christine:

[christine@shscparish.org.au](mailto:christine@shscparish.org.au) or Jane: Office Manager, on:

[jane@shscparish.org.au](mailto:jane@shscparish.org.au) Or speak to Fr John or a current member of the PLDT, who can be identified on the poster at the back of the Church.

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CARITAS AUSTRALIA APPEAL FOR LEBANON

Caritas Australia's partners in Lebanon have given an update on the charity's assistance in the beleaguered country, with more than 130,000 hot meals delivered in four days to people in need.

Between 18-21 October, a Caritas Lebanon program run in partnership with the World Food Program saw 134,571 hot meals distributed. On 18 October, 1000 dignity kits were also given to those in need, along with 1327 mattresses, 1328 pillows, 1328 blankets, 776 hygiene kits and 756 baby kits. This is just a snapshot of the work being done by Caritas partners, who have supported over 100,000 internally displaced and affected persons since 24 September, delivering over one million critical services, including daily hot meals, ready-to-eat food packages, hygiene kits, baby and elderly care kits, protection services, and comprehensive healthcare including psychosocial support to help individuals cope with trauma. "Behind the politics of this dire and rapidly escalating conflict in the Middle East are real people, families and communities fleeing their homes with nothing," said Sally Thomas, humanitarian emergencies lead at Caritas Australia. "Caritas Lebanon's vast network is a lifeline for our brothers and sisters facing severe challenges, as is the continued compassion and generosity of the community here in Australia." To support Caritas Australia's Lebanon Emergency Appeal, visit <http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon> or call 1800 024 413 toll free. Your generosity is a lifeline.

## SPRING FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

We hope you enjoy the insert which focuses on last Sunday's wonderful Spring Celebration Festival. More photos are available on the website.

## POPE FRANCIS RELEASES NEW ENCYCLICAL ON SACRED HEART OF JESUS

[Source: Vatican News]

As celebrations are underway for the 350th anniversary of the first manifestation of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673, Pope Francis released his latest Encyclical - *Dilexit nos: On the Human and Divine Love Of the Heart of Jesus Christ*. This Encyclical retraces the tradition and relevance of thought on "the human and divine love of the heart of Jesus Christ," calling for a renewal of authentic devotion to avoid forgetting the tenderness of faith, the joy of serving, and the fervour of mission. In our societies, the Pope writes, "we are also seeing a proliferation of varied forms of religiosity that have nothing to do with a personal relationship with the God of love" (87), while Christianity often forgets "the tender consolations of faith, the joy of serving others, the fervour of personal commitment to mission" (88). He states that in the Heart of Christ "we find the whole Gospel" (89). It is in His Heart that "we truly come at last to know ourselves and we learn to love" (30). By encountering the love of Christ, "we become capable of forging bonds of fraternity, of recognizing the dignity of each human being, and of working together to care for our common home," noting the relationship between *Dilexit nos* and his social Encyclicals *Laudato si'* and *Fratelli tutti* (217). And "in the presence of the Heart of Christ," he asks the Lord "to have mercy on this suffering world" and pour upon it "the treasures of His light and love, so that our world, which presses forward despite wars, socio-economic disparities, and uses of technology, that threaten our humanity, may regain the most important and necessary thing of all: the heart" (31).

To read the full Encyclical, go to: <https://www.vatican.va/>

## LAST POETRY AND FAITH SESSION FOR THE YEAR

This month, assistant priest at St Peter's Eastern Hill Anglican Church, Kathryn Bellhouse, will present on the work of poet John Donne (1572-1632) who was born into a family of Catholic recusants in Elizabethan England and slowly found his way into the priesthood in the Church of England (via a youthful elopement, brief stint in Harrogate Prison, and a failed diplomatic career). Donne's legacy is a body of verse startling in its originality, honesty, wit and passion, as if encouraging us to confront, in each moment of our lives, the very last - and the Other who is at its heart. All are welcome.

**Dates:** Tuesday 12 November from 6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.

**Location:** St. Peter's Eastern Hill Parish Hall

15 Gisborne Street, (Entrance on Albert Street), East Melbourne

Wine and cheese on arrival. Suggested donation: \$10.00

To book or for further information, visit: [www.stpeters.org.au](http://www.stpeters.org.au)

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 31: 7-9

**Responsorial Psalm:**

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 5: 1-6

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death,  
and brought us life through his gospel.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 10: 46-52

## OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**MONDAY 28 October - SUNDAY 3 November 2024**

**MONDAY** 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Community,  
101 Grey Street, St Kilda (WWCC required)

**THURSDAY** 10.00am Funeral Service for Cheyenne McGarvie  
at Sacred Heart Church

11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

**FRIDAY** 9.00am MASS in the Parish House, Elwood

1.00pm Funeral Mass for Evelyn Kayes  
at St Columba Church

**SATURDAY** 6.00pm MASS at Columba Church

**SUNDAY** 9.00am MASS at St Columba Church

11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church  
(this mass is also live streamed)

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34

### COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection	Presbytery Account Collection		
Envelopes	\$32.00	Total	\$182.10
Loose cash	\$460.60		
Total	\$492.60		
Average for 39 weeks	\$406.97	Average for 38 weeks	\$237.43

## PARISH SERVICE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

Fr John and the parish team are so grateful for the wonderful support that continues to be given to him and the parish.

You can contribute to the collections through [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) - click this link - [tithe.ly https://tithe.ly/give?c=911524](https://tithe.ly/give?c=911524) for once off or regular giving using your credit card or download the [tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) app. You can also contact Jane in the office to set up giving.

Just a reminder that our First Collection at mass supports the running of the parish, such as pastoral support & various ministries and administration costs - phones, utilities etc. Our Second Collection supports Fr John and covers his stipend and living expenses."

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

"Prayer is what keeps the faith, without it, faith wavers"

*Pope Francis*

**All Recently Deceased:** Evelyn Kayes.

**1st Anniversaries:** Mary McNamara, George Burns, Bartolo Finocchiaro, Sr Joan Mary CP, William Wallace Duncan, Sheree Meade, Andres Hernandez-Pacheco, Domenico Simonetta.

**Anniversaries:** Bishop Emeritus Hilton Forrest Deakin, Henricus Huybers, Vicki Howard, Tommy, Maria George 15.10.2020, Cynthia Joseph 11.10.2016, Noreen Dempsey, Jim Baxter 09.10.17, Bridgete (Bridie) Rehill 07.10.2015, Maria Palumbo, Tony Zaia, George Speedie, Jessy, Aileen Briglia, William (Billy) Lloyd, Barry Francis Seymour, Loretta Venturoni, Dorothy Riggs, John Nugent, Shirley Chambers, Maureen Mitchell 11.10, Noel Hunt, Patricia Foley, Patricia O'Donnell, Carl Schmidtke, Bernadette Palmer, Alan Cameron, Maureen Bolt, Christine Fedyszyn, Antonietta Severino, Miles Gibbons, Kath McCarthy, Patricia Murphy, Giovanni (John) Guarrealla, Christine Wright, Terry Aherne, James Betram, Douglas Leitch, Jack Henry Green Withers, Maureen O'Grady, Mario Carmelo Gatt, Peter McClade, June Stewart, Paul Glover, Michele (Michael) Scotto 2.10.10 James Francis, Victor Hunt, Iris Loney, Neville Munday 2.10.13, Darryl O Meara 15.12.13, Aivars Endzins 19.10.13, Kevin Charlton 23.10.13, Cora Deegan 3.10.73, Giovanna Stragis 17.10.11, Adrian Houben 24.10.11, Robert Rosewarne 24.10.11, Joseph Lashbrook 18.10.11, Peter Peters 30.10.11, Sylvia Stamper 8.10.10, Nunziata Panettieri 13.10.10, Maria Rosa Contino, Guiseppina Barnao 12.10.10, Eileen Sage, Joan Eifermann 31.10.10, Michelina De Giorgio 7.10.94, Emmanuel De Giorgio 29.10.83, Eddy Rumengan 13.10.08, Guiseppina Contino, Dino Santini 13.10.1983, Michael Sylester Ryan, Margaret Ann MacPherson, Maureen Mitchell, Patricia O'Donnell, Maureen Duke

**Sick:** Lol Patten (UK), Jackie Pyster, Ramon Lopez, Colin Meanwell, Luke Dennis, Eddie, Alison Barry-Jones (Qld), Tony Wright (Sydney), Chail and her husband Callum, Patrick McCaffrey, Seamus Quinn, Sue McLennan, Fr Terry Kean, Peter Nicholson, Mark Weinberg, Sophia, Ned Connors, Jean Cropley, Rose Fonti, Alexander, Felipe and Anne, Pat Ficcaro, Seamus Quinn, Lyn Crossly.

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

**2 / 3 November: Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**St Columba Welcomes**

6pm Mass:

M: Emer Di Muzio

C / L: Joan Davies, Rica Garcia

Set up: Legion of Mary

9am Mass:

M: Volunteer needed

C / L: Kate Bebejewska, Brigid Murphy / Karen

Englebretsen

Set up: Trevor Fletcher, Marcelle Garnier & Priscilla No

Hospitality Roster: Srs Karen & Brigid

**Sacred Heart Welcomes**

11am Mass:

M: Oswald Fernandes

C / L: Helen Freris, Jane Sims / Volunteer needed

Set up: Legion of Mary

**Prayer of the Faithful:** Liturgy team