

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 8 / 9 FEBRUARY 2025 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St Columba Church

cnr Glenhuntly & Normandy Rds
Elwood 3184

Sacred Heart Church

83 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182

St Columba Primary School

24 Glenhuntly Road Elwood 3184
9531 6560;
www.stcolumbasprimary.org

Sacred Heart Mission

87 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182
9537 1166;
www.sacredheartmission.org

PARISH HOUSE

2 Normandy Road, Elwood 3184
03 9531 6120; shsc@shscparish.org.au
www.shscparish.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr John Petrusis
john@shscparish.org.au

Pastoral Ministry Leader: Christine Mitchell
christine@shscparish.org.au

Office Manager: Jane Hearnese
jane@shscparish.org.au

SHM Pastoral Care Worker

St Columba Principal / REC:

Daniella Maddalena
dmaddalena@scelwood.catholic.edu.au

Deputy Principal: Bern Bradley
bernb@scelwood.catholic.edu.au

Parish Safeguarding Committee:

Fr John Petrusis, 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

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

Reflection on the Gospel

[Source: an extract from *LivingSpace* is part of Sacred Space - www.sacredspace.ie]

Today we read Luke's version of the first call of Jesus' disciples... Because of the large crowds pressing in on him to hear the word of God, Jesus was forced to borrow one of two boats moored near the shore where their owners were washing their nets:

He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat...

It is a simple, straightforward statement and yet there is a symbolism here. Jesus gets into Simon's boat and teaches from it. In the Gospel, the boat is frequently a symbol of the church community. It is very meaningful to say that Jesus stepped into that boat, that it was Simon's boat, and that he taught from there. It is a symbol of what is to come in the near future.

... At the end of the teaching, Simon is told to go out into the deep water and start fishing. Simon says in response: *Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.* Perhaps one can sense something of the condescension of the expert towards the amateur in Simon's response, i.e. "we know there are no fish there but, just to make you happy, we'll put out the nets."

But their nets were hardly in the water when they were so full of fish that they were on the point of breaking. They (Simon and those others with him in the boat) had to call their companions in the other boat to come to their help (they do not seem to have caught any fish; only Simon's boat does). The two boats together were now so full of fish that they were on the point of sinking.

Simon, just before, so arrogant and all-knowing, is now totally overcome. He knew there were no fish there. So there was only one explanation. The man standing before him was someone very special: *Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!*

It is the reaction of a person in the presence of God's overwhelming power and goodness.... Simon—the 'expert'—realises he is nothing in the presence of this man. Instead, he becomes aware of his shortcomings. Paradoxically, it is the saints who are most ready to acknowledge their sinfulness....

Jesus then reassures Simon and his companions: *Do not be afraid...*

These are words they will hear again because he is calling them to be his partners in the work of building his Kingdom. The huge catch of fish made by the boat carrying Jesus and Simon is a sign of a much greater catch of people to be made by the new community led by the Spirit of Jesus and under the leadership of Peter.

Unlike the other Gospels, Luke has a period of teaching and miracles preceding the call of the disciples. This makes their unhesitating response less surprising and more plausible.

They heard the message, they accepted the call and: *When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.*

In Mark and Matthew, they left their nets and boats. In Luke's Gospel especially, the following of Jesus is understood as absolute—one must leave everything and throw in one's lot totally with Jesus wherever that will lead. Those boats and nets were the security on which the lives of Simon, his companions and their families depended. But they left them and everything else. This is faith; this is trust. Without it, the mission cannot succeed.

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.

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.

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.

2025 WOMINDJEKA NGARGEE (‘Welcome Celebration’ in the Boonwurrung language)

Sacred Heart Mission warmly invites you to celebrate the beginning of the year with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony provided by Yalukit Willam Boonwurrung Traditional Owners.

Wednesday 19 February from 2.00pm-4.00pm at Sacred Heart Mission, 87 Grey Street, St Kilda.

Free refreshments provided.

RSVP is appreciated to help with catering. Click on the link below or email Jane at the parish if you have trouble.

<https://mailchi.mp/sacredheartmission.org/2025-womindjeka-ngargee>



ST KILDA FESTIVAL 2025

On **Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 February (next weekend)**, we'll be bringing you a massive feast of summer festivities including an outstanding and diverse line-up stacked with Australian music icons and rising stars.

For more information visit <https://www.stkildafestival.com.au/>

Road closures affecting access to Sacred Heart Church

Please see the flyer at the back of the church for full details of road closures on Sunday 16 February.

- Full road closure at Fitzroy Street between Grey Street and The Esplanade.
- Partial road closure at Grey Street between Fitzroy and Barkly Streets and all side streets of Grey Street.

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Gracious Lord,
lead each of us who own Your name onto greater things.
May we perceive Your vision of what can be done in this world and submit ourselves to the leading and the power of Your Spirit to fulfil this call.
May we become those who ‘catch’ people for Your Kingdom, and are content to do Your will alone. Amen.

PARISH FINANCE UPDATE

The parish finance committee met last Monday night. Please see some notes below. Feel free to contact Jane at the office if you would like further details.

- We have closed the books for 2024 and have managed to balance our expenditure against our revenue.
- We are planning similar in 2025, albeit with some capital spend on parish roofs.
- Parish still maintains strong cash and property reserves.
- Rental income and interest from term deposits (thanks to bequests and sale of church) allow us to operate within budget.
- Service and Support income remains steady but is low relative to our numbers.
- We will seek volunteers for a Service and Support Committee and focus on increasing income from donations.

FUNERAL NOTICE

For those who remember **Josie Cernia**, former parishioner and member of the Legion of Mary, will be sad to hear of her passing. Her funeral will be held on Friday, 14 February at 1.00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Church, Middle Park.

SENSE OF THE FAITHFUL ZOOM INVITATION

The Synod and the Australian Church - Where to Now?

‘Sense of the Faithful’ are holding a report back and discussion session on the global Synod and its implications for the Australian Church, which concluded in Rome last October.

Bishop Shane Mackinlay and Dr Sandie Cornish, participants at the Synod, will speak on their experiences of the final meeting, plus key issues, such as the role of women in the Church, the diversity of opinions across the global Church and the scope for local autonomy. A key question is how the Australian Church will implement the results of the Synod and address unresolved issues. There will be ample time for discussion. This is a free event but you need to register.

Date and Time: Wednesday, 19 February at 7.30 p.m.

Register via: <https://www.senseofthefaithful.org.au/>

ST COLUMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL

The first edition of the newsletter is available online at:
<https://newsletters.naavi.com/i/54yz8WN/issue-1/page/cover>

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

As the School Year begins, St Columba School Principal, Daniella Maddalena in her first Principal's Address for the year spoke of how she sees the Jubilee Year of Hope reflected and articulated in the school vision (an extract):

"This year, we are guided by a special theme: HOPE. In this Jubilee Year, we embrace the theme of Pilgrims of Hope, reflecting on how this idea is woven into the fabric of our school vision. As Pope Francis beautifully reminds us, *"Hope is the virtue of a heart that does not close itself in darkness, does not dwell on the past, does not simply get by in the present, but is able to see a tomorrow."* This sentiment resonates deeply with our mission at St Columba's, inspiring us to nurture hearts and minds that look forward with optimism, resilience, and purpose.

In considering how to articulate our core values, I reflected on our mission, vision, and the essence of our school community. Four key values emerged that capture who we are and what we strive to achieve:

- **Compassion** – Our commitment to empathy, care, and respect for diversity.
- **Inclusion** – A nurturing environment where every individual is valued.
- **Sustainability** – Leading the way in sustainable practices and environmental responsibility.
- **Inquiry** – Fostering curiosity, critical thinking, and a dynamic, student-centred learning journey.

Then, I was reminded of a post I read last year by George Couros, an innovative educator, author, and speaker known for his work in leadership and modern learning environments. In his book *The Innovator's Mindset*, he synthesises 21st-century skills into three core concepts: Connection, Curiosity, and Creation. These 3Cs highlight the essential skills students need to thrive in our rapidly changing world—the ability to build meaningful relationships, nurture a love of learning, and engage in creative problem-solving... which led me to reflect on how these ideas align with St Columba's values. Here's how they beautifully intersect:

1. **Compassion → Connection:** We cultivate compassion through meaningful relationships within and beyond our school. Valuing empathy and respect helps our children develop strong interpersonal skills and a deep sense of community.
2. **Inquiry → Curiosity:** Our commitment to learning and teaching nurtures curiosity. We encourage children to ask questions, explore ideas, and seek deeper understanding through the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP), fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
3. **Sustainability → Creation:** Sustainability at St Columba's is about more than environmental stewardship; it's about fostering innovation, responsibility, and action. Through real-world learning experiences, our children are empowered to think globally and act locally.



PILGRIMS OF HOPE (CONT.)

4. **Inclusion → Connection & Creation:** Inclusion is at the heart of our identity. We celebrate the diversity within our community, helping children appreciate different perspectives, develop empathy, and collaborate effectively—skills that prepare them to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Ultimately, our role as educators is to nurture compassionate, responsible individuals who believe in their power to make a difference. This guiding principle shapes every decision we make, every lesson we teach, and every connection we foster. Through the lens of HOPE, we aim to inspire our students to envision a future filled with possibility and to become active participants in shaping a brighter tomorrow.

JESUIT AND IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY

Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality offer a Quiet Time in the Bush: "Come away to a quiet place and rest awhile." Mark 6.30

"There is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face" (Pope Francis Laudato Si n.233). Join us for 1.5 hours of quiet time in a bush setting in the Bush Hut in Studley Park Kew for a guided reflection and gentle, personal time for prayer, to sit and/or walk in nature or just sit inside or outside and look out at nature, to experience a sense of the sacred.

When: 10.30am to 12noon on the fourth Monday of the month... 24 February, 24 March, 28 April, 26 May, 28 July, 25 August, 22 September, 27 October, 24 November.

Where: Jesuit Social Services Bush Hut, 110 Studley Park Road, Kew VIC. Public transport: The **Studley Park Rd/Kew Junction buses 200, 207** will get you to the Bush Hut which is opposite Walmer Street. **Price:** \$25

To register, visit their website: jisa.org.au

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB (SIP)

We are pleased to invite you to our first SIP event for 2025.

Tim Winton: 'Exiles at Home: What our contempt for nature is costing us.' The presentation will be a video of a lecture hosted by the Centre for Public Christianity in Sydney in November 2024. It is challenging and inspirational.

Wednesday 26 February at 12.30pm. Hampton RSL, 25 Holyrood Street Hampton. Please join us for lunch from 12.30pm with the presentation and conversation to follow 2.00pm-4.00pm. Bookings are essential. Please contact Michele michelekennan@presvic.org.au / 0415 956 107 or Catriona catriona3171@gmail.com / 0419 109 830.

Please note that we having this as a lunch-time session. We plan to try this out, to see how people liked it. It is just a one-off, to begin the year.

ASH WEDNESDAY: WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH 2025

- St Columba Church, 9.00am Mass
- Sacred Heart Church. 7.00pm Mass

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8

Responsorial Psalm:

In the sight of the angles I will sing your praises Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come follow me, says the Lord,

and I will make you fishers of my people.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 10 February - SUNDAY 16 February 2025

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

THURSDAY 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

FRIDAY 9.00am MASS In the Parish House, Elwood

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: Luke 6:17, 20-26

COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection	Presbytery Account Collection
Envelopes \$80.00	Total \$137.90
Loose cash \$227.50	
Total \$307.50	
Average for 5 weeks \$374.35	Average for 5 weeks \$179.63

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 - 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 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."

Thank you to everyone at Sacred Heart Church for their patience while we worked out the issues with the 'Tap n Go' machine.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Adam Hasson, Gordon Lester, Josie Cernia.

1st Anniversaries: Janine Nasr, Tom Devlin, Claude Lopez, Reg Massey, Ruth Vail, Frank Housen, Fanny Korn, Peter Duckworth, Ian McKensie, Gabrielle Dindinosanta.

3rd Anniversaries: Bill Richards, Iolanda Iarussi,

Anniversaries: Robin Deakin, Carl (Paul) Rydell, Kathleen Dennis, Steve Williams, Maurice Sinclair, Dick O'Brien, Beatrice Tarquinio, Virgilio Tarquinio, Silvana Tarquinio, Oscar Fullinfaw 21.2.2021, Neil Anderson, John O'Connor, Gwen Barry, Howard Shelton 7.2.01, Florence Clarke, Jasmine Luke, Pauline Condon, Silvi Chand, Patricia Priest, Lola Scully, Michael Grigovich Val Belle, Paolo, Audrey Donovan, Barbara Zaia, Stuart Weir, Rodney Bayliss, John Ryan, Bridget Vaughan, Felix O'Donoghue, Mary Dillon, Annie Oldroyd, Tim Pressor, Mary Babington, Joe Andrews, Velia Teseo, Neme Mario Contino 7.2.16, Joseph Molnar, Mario Martinov, Lena Kovacevic, Penny Tamplin, Patricia McCrohan, Antonio Marussi, Harry Clarke, Patricia Fleming 1.2, Mary Cuddihy, Terzita Taranto 3.2, Edith O Keeffe 11.2, Gregory Murphy 10.2, John Boland, Daphne Duttolph, Adrian Keatley 8.2, Leo Flanagan, David Jellis 16.2, Patricia Poole 17.2.12, Jane Mary Boland 5.2.1983, Miroslav Ulehla 14.2.1983 Terry Ryan, Harry Foster 4.2.11, Kevin Healy 14.2.11, Henry Loader 5.2.11, Peg Whitehill 22.2.11, Leo Miller 13.2.11, Ziggy Didl, Sean Monaghan, Kevin L Estrange, Elizabeth Bourke 9.2.04, Alphonsus O Connor 2.2.74, Eileen Madigan 1.2.56, Fr Gordon Gebbie 7.2.01, Lorant Stary Feb 1979, William Kearney 21.2.07, Elizabeth Bourke 9.2.04, David Jellis 16.2.12, William George Papworth 8.2.92, Marian Flanagan, Shane Brennan, Velia Teseo 12.2

Sick: Lol Patten (UK), Jackie Pyster, Ramon Lopez, Colin Meanwell, Luke Dennis, Eddie, Alison Barry-Jones (Qld), 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, Petra Dreischaefer, Nichole Garnaut, Bernadette Cassar.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

15 / 16 February: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Columba Welcomes

6pm Mass:

M: Volunteer needed

C / L: Volunteers needed

Set up: Mahtab Bahadorinejad

9am Mass:

M: Lou Bevilacqua, Maria Kovacevic

C / L: Lina Tesoriero, Dominic Tesoriero

Set up: Trevor, Marcelle, Pristille, Priscila

Hospitality Roster: Dom

Sacred Heart Welcomes

11am Mass:

M: Volunteer needed

C / L: Nancye Edwards, Anna Griffiths

Set up: Anzel & Chella

Prayer of the Faithful: Liturgy team