

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 15 / 16 FEBRUARY 2025 SIXTH 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 Petrus
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 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

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

A Reflection on the Gospel by Pope Francis

At the centre of the Gospel of today's Liturgy are the [Beatitudes](#) (cf. Lk 6:20-23). It is interesting to note that Jesus, despite being surrounded by a great crowd, proclaims them by addressing them to "his disciples" (v. 20). He speaks to the disciples. Indeed, the Beatitudes define the identity of the [disciple](#) of Jesus... "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the Kingdom of God" (v. 20). Blessed are you poor. Jesus says two things to his people: that they are blessed and they are poor; indeed, that they are blessed because they are poor. In what sense? In the sense that disciples Jesus do not find their joy in money, power, or other material goods; but in the gifts they receive every day from God: life, creation, brothers and sisters, and so on. These are gifts of life. They are content to share even the goods they possess, because they live according to the logic of God. What is the logic of God? [Gratuitousness](#). The disciple has learned to live in gratuitousness. This poverty is also an attitude towards the meaning of life, because Jesus' disciples do not think about possessing it, about already knowing everything, but rather they know they must learn every day. And this is poverty: the awareness of having to learn every day. The disciple of Jesus, since he or she has this attitude, is a humble, open person, far from prejudice and inflexibility.

There was a good example in last Sunday's Gospel reading: Simon Peter, an expert fisherman, accepts Jesus' invitation to cast his nets at an unusual hour, and then, full of wonder at the miraculous catch, leaves the boat and all his goods to follow the Lord. Peter shows himself to be docile by leaving everything, and in this way, he becomes a disciple. Instead, those who are too attached to their own ideas and their own securities, find it difficult to truly follow Jesus. They follow him a little, only in those things in which "I agree with him and he agrees with me"... but then, as far as the rest is concerned, it goes no further. And this is not a disciple... Disciples, on the other hand, know how to question themselves, how to humbly seek God every day, and this allows them to delve into reality, grasping its richness and complexity.

In other words, the disciple accepts the paradox of the Beatitudes: they declare that those who are poor, who lack many goods and recognize this, are blessed, that is, [happy](#). Humanly speaking, we are inclined to think in another way: happy are those who are rich, with many goods, who receive plaudits and are the envy of many, who have all the certainties. But this is a [worldly](#) mindset, it is not the way of thinking of the Beatitudes! Jesus, on the contrary, declares worldly success to be a failure, since it is based on a selfishness that inflates and then leaves the heart empty. Faced with the paradox of the Beatitudes, disciples allow themselves to be challenged, aware that it is not God who must enter into our logic, but we into his. This requires a journey, sometimes wearisome, but always accompanied by joy. Because the disciple of Jesus is joyful, with the joy that comes from Jesus. Because, let us remember, the first word Jesus says is: blessed, beati, which gives us the name of the Beatitudes. This is the synonym of being disciples of Jesus. The Lord, by freeing us from the slavery of self-centredness, breaks our locks, dissolves our hardness, and opens up to us true happiness, which is often found where we do not expect it to be. It is he who guides our life, not us, with our preconceptions and our demands. Disciples, in the end, are those who let themselves be led by Jesus, who open their heart to Jesus, who listen to him and follow his path.

We might then ask ourselves: do I - each one of us - have the disciple's readiness? Or do I behave with the rigidity of one who believes him- or herself to be right, who feels decent, who feels they have already arrived? ... And then, with the logic of the Beatitudes, setting aside the hardships and difficulties, do I feel the joy of following Jesus? This is the decisive trait of the disciple: the joy of the heart. Let's not forget - the joy of the heart. This is the touchstone for knowing if a person is a disciple: does he or she have joy in the heart? Do I have joy in my heart? This is the point.

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 **Rory** who is baptised this weekend St Columba. We pray blessings for him as he grows in love and the faith of his family.

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.

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.

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.

NEXT 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>

HOLY HOUR AT ST PATRICK’S CATHEDRAL

Every Thursday evening from 6.30 p.m., join with young Catholics from across the city for a time of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, music and an opportunity for confession. For more information, email udisciple@cam.org.au or call 9926 5677.

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Loving God,
Keep us from being preoccupied with money and worldly goods,
and with trying to increase them at the expense of justice.
Help us not to be ruthless with one another,
and to eliminate the discord and violence that exists in the world around us.

Let us not be impatient under our own burdens
and unconcerned about the burdens of others.
Make us thirst for you, the fountain of all holiness,
and actively spread your influence in our private lives and in society.

Grant that we may be quick to forgive and slow to condemn.
Free us from our senses and our evil desires, and fix our eyes on you.

Aid us to make peace in our families, in our country, and in the world.

Make us willing to suffer for the sake of right rather than to practice injustice;

and do not let us discriminate against our neighbours’ and oppress and persecute them. Amen.

[Source: based on a prayer by Catholic online prayers]

LEARN TO PRAY EVENING

Do you desire a deeper encounter with God?

Do you want to be consistent with your prayer routine, and deal with distractions that come up?

Join André Regnier for a practical evening for the distracted and busy that will unlock a richer prayer life! Andre Regnier, co-founder of Catholic Christian Outreach and a leader in missionary outreach and ministry, will guide all through five steps to a daily prayer life. You will come away with a clear, step-by-step approach to establish a prayer routine that fits your life and practical strategies to turn silence into sacred moments. A free evening to which all are welcome. No need to book. Details:

Date and Time: Tuesday, 18 February, 7.00 p.m. – 9.15 p.m.

Venue: St John Vianney’s Parish Hall, 23 Police Rd Mulgrave.

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.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Jubilee Year features 36 individual Jubilee celebrations, each honouring the contributions made by a specific group of people within the Church. This week in February, it is the Jubilee of Artists. The Jubilee of Artists rejoices with gratitude at the creative insights artists bring to human life. The service of beauty is a pathway into the divine and helps us dream of new horizons for the common good. The Jubilee invites artists to contribute to the work of the Church in bringing about a New Creation where people can live in peace and justice. Bless artists by whose gifts we see the beauty which is truth, the key to the mystery and the call to transcendence. May the work of their hands lead Christian communities to that infinite Ocean of beauty where wonder becomes awe, exhilaration, unspeakable joy.
[Source: *The Bridge Newsletter*]



UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible is a series of eight 30-minute video-based sessions hosted by St Michael's Parish. It is an easy way to deepen your understanding of the Bible and the Good News it contains. The innovative series of videos and resources, produced by Ascension Press, is the foundation for Fr Mike Schmitz's number 1 ranked podcast. This engaging journey through salvation history provides an easy way to understand the Bible. *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* makes the complex simple, helping you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture so that you can get the 'big picture' of the Bible and understand what it is all about. The Bible is a story about the Father's unfailing love for you—a love that you are invited to share with others. This is a free event.

Dates and Time: Wednesdays, 26 February, 5, 12, 19 and 26 March, 2 and 9 April, 7.00 - 9.00 p.m.

Venue: St Michael's Parish, 460 Dryburgh Street, North Melbourne. For further information, contact: <https://northmelbourneparish.com/>

SHORT COURSE ON FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

Australian Catholic University is presenting a short course exploring the theological virtues that lie at the heart of Christian faith and theology. *Faith, Hope and Love* will explore what the 'theological virtues' are and how they serve as the means through which Christ transforms our lives, relationships and actions. These will be four face-to-face sessions in March.

Session 1: 5 March, 6 - 8pm: Love

Session 2: 12 March, 6 - 8pm: Introduction to the Theological Virtues

Session 3: 19 March, 6 - 8pm: Faith - Dr Nigel Zimmermann

Session 4: 26 March, 6 - 8pm: Hope

Each session will include light refreshments. The cost is: \$70.00 for the course or \$140.00 if a certificate is required.

Register via: www.acu.edu.au and go to short courses.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Loyola Institute and the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry invite papers for 'Idol Talk? In the Image of the Disabled God: Disability, the *Imago Dei* and Practical Consequences', to be held on 22-23 May 2025 at Australian Catholic University's Melbourne campus. The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life conducted two listening exercises among Catholics with disabilities in preparation for the Synod on Synodality. In its most recent, 'An Unlimited Joy', those consulted called upon the Church to recognise that disability has no relationship with sin (original or otherwise) and that limitation is an intrinsic characteristic of the nature of the human person, who is created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1: 6-27). All these limits were taken on and redeemed by a merciful God who through incarnation took upon himself our humanity in its entirety. Accordingly, the contributors called for a deeper theological reflection on the incarnation and redemption and the baptismal dignity of all in the context of disability.

In response to that call, this conference invites papers reflecting on:

- the theoretical understanding of disability and human limitation (and society's response to it) in the context of incarnation
- the practical response to it by Church and society at large
- the prophetic role of the Church in relation to the 'internal exile' (*Fratelli tutti* §98) of many of its members.

Proposed contributions should be *either*:

- suitable for presentation as standalone presentations (25-30 minutes with time for questions) or
- suitable for presentation as part of a working panel (7-10 minutes).

Deadline: 200-word abstracts are required by Monday 17 February 2025 via email to Elisa Cugliari: Administration Officer at the Loyola Institute: idotalk@acu.edu.au. When submitting, please advise of any accessibility requirements. Queries? Contact Justin Glyn SJ at justin.glyn@acu.edu.au or Kylie Crabbe kylie.crabbe@acu.edu.au.

TERESA OF KOLKATA ADDED TO LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The optional memorial of St Teresa of Kolkata (1910-1997), beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2003 and canonized by Pope Francis in 2016, is now part of the General Roman Calendar to be celebrated on 5 September. This memorial must now be included in all liturgical calendars and books for the celebration of Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours. Cardinal Roche, Prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship stated that Pope Francis elevated the commemoration of Mother Teresa to an optional memorial given the "influence of the spirituality of Saint Teresa of Calcutta throughout the world," and that he wished to propose her as "an outstanding witness to hope for those who had been discarded in life." Today, her legacy continues through the Missionaries of Charity, which now has over 4500 nuns who care for people all over the world. The organisation runs schools, soup kitchens and homes for orphaned children. All of these services are free.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 17: 5-8

Responsorial Psalm:

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6: 17, 20-26

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 17 February - SUNDAY 23 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: 27-38

COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection		Presbytery Account Collection	
Envelopes	\$30.00	Total	\$285.15
Loose cash	\$268.00		
Total	\$298.00		
Average for 6 weeks	\$361.63	Average for 6 weeks	\$197.22

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 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: Barbara Goss. Jimmy Bowden, David Parker, John Kelly, Wilma.

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 Fullinaw 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 Croypley, Rose Fonti, Alexander, Felipe and Anne, Pat Ficcaro, Seamus Quinn, Lyn Crossly, Petra Dreischaefer, Nichole Garnaut, Bernadette Cassar.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

22 / 23 February: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Columba Welcomes

6pm Mass:

M: Volunteer needed

C / L: Karen Ramanair, Caroline Price

Set up: Katen Ramanair & Sree Chelvakumaran

9am Mass:

M: Roger Vail, Ada Nardella

C / L: Alecia Rathbone, Lydia St.Ange

Set up: Trevor, Marcelle, Pristille, Priscila

Hospitality Roster: Dom & friends

Sacred Heart Welcomes

11am Mass:

M: Anne Dexter

C / L: Adrian Croypley / Carlo Marcon, Toni Vatta

Set up: Legion of Mary

Prayer of the Faithful: Liturgy team