

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 24 / 25 FEBRUARY 2024 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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

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:
Karen Englebretsen
kenglebretsen@sacredheartmission.org

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 Fr Michael Moore OMI

Sometimes, without knowing it or even being aware of it, we can get locked into our own world and our particular situation. We can forget about or lose sight of the fact that we are part of a much bigger world.

In the gospel for today's feast Jesus takes some of his friends away from the business of the village and marketplace. He invites them to travel with him as he makes his way up the mountain. This is not unusual. We know from the gospels that Jesus often went off by himself to the mountains to pray. While they were there praying something wild and wonderful happened. Jesus was *transfigured*; he was changed; *his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light*. Imagine how surprised, shocked and taken aback those with Jesus were. Once composed, Peter utters the famous words, *'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here'*. But more importantly than what was said, is what they heard; *'This is my Son, the beloved, he enjoys my favour, listen to him'*.

These words are as much meant for us today as they were for those who first heard them. Today, we are surrounded if not bombarded by news all the time. We now have twenty-four hour news on our televisions, news from around the world arrives in seconds to us through the internet and there is no end to magazines and newspaper we can buy. They are filled with news, but not all of it good news; some of it may even be fake news.

The word and message that Jesus speaks to us and offers is life-giving and life-changing. The words of Jesus, nourish, nurture, and sustain us, if we open our hearts and lives to hearing it. As John's gospel reminds us, *Lord, you have the message of eternal life*.

The Transfiguration gives us a brief and fleeting glimpse of Jesus in all his glory. It is a taste of what is to come. It is offered to us to encourage and challenge us in our daily lives. It reminds us that our lives are far more than what we see, hear and experience every day. It is not just a matter of getting through the day. Being a follower of Jesus is about living with meaning, purpose and hope. The transfiguration not only offers us a glimpse of Jesus in all his glory, it also offers each of us a foretaste of what God promises each of us in the fullness of the Kingdom.

We may never experience anything as powerful as the Transfiguration. But every day in countless and seemingly small ways God does break into our world and our daily lives. Every time we experience a moment of peace, joy, reconciliation or forgiveness, God is with us. Every time that we reach out to help another person is a moment of transfiguration both for ourselves and for those we help. Each time somebody shows care and concern for us is a moment when God reaches out to us.

This week, let us open our hearts so that we may hear Jesus speaking to us. May we slow down and look for moments of small but important times of transfiguration in our own ordinary daily lives.

[Source: <https://oblates.ie/gospel-reflection-transfiguration-jesus/>]

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.

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 **Shonee** who is baptised this weekend. We pray blessings for her as she grows in love and the faith of her family.

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.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Reconciliation for Easter:

Reconciliation: First Rite (Individual)

- Saturday, 16 March: 9.00 a.m. at St Columba
- Saturday, 16 March: 10.00 a.m. at Sacred Heart

Reconciliation: Communal

- Monday, 18 March: 7.00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

Easter Triduum Dates:

Holy Thursday, 28 March, Mass of the Lord's Supper:

- 7.30 p.m. at St Columba

Good Friday, 29 March:

- Ecumenical Service: 9.30 a.m. at Sacred Heart
- The Lord's Passion: 3.00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

Easter Vigil, 30 March:

- Lighting of the Fire, 7.30 p.m. Parish House carpark.
- Mass begins at 7.45 p.m. at St Columba Church

Easter Sunday, 31 March:

- 9.00 a.m. at St Columba
- 11.00 a.m. at Sacred Heart

ZERO DISCRIMINATION DAY

Zero Discrimination Day is observed by the United Nations every year on 1 March. This day celebrates the right of every person to live fully and productively with dignity. As the [official website](#) states: "Zero Discrimination Day is helping to create a global movement of solidarity to end all forms of discrimination".

CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Project Compassion boxes or envelopes are available at the back of church. Lent is a time to consider our impact on the world and what we can do to help. Your donations support Caritas Australia's community development and emergency relief programs around the world.

PRAYER FOR THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Lord, Open our hearts to you.
Help us to realise fully that your light is always with us,
No matter how deep the darkness that surrounds us.
Give us the courage to trust you.
Let us, like Jesus, surrender to your will,
knowing that wherever you lead us, we are not lost.
Amen.

THE JOURNEY OF THE RCIA CONTINUES ...

Last Sunday at 3.00 p.m our two catechumens, Amy and Stella; plus our three candidates, Helen, Patricia and Luigi, accompanied by their Godparents, sponsors, family, friends and members of the RCIA support



crew went along to St Patrick's Cathedral, where we joined with hundreds of other catechumens and candidates across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for the Right of Election. To decode all that, catechumens are those who are unbaptised and seek to enter our faith tradition. At the Easter Vigil, they will be baptised, confirmed and receive Communion. The Candidates are those already baptised but have not completed their sacraments of Initiation. Three sacraments comprise the sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. In our case, our three are seeking Confirmation. The age for Confirmation varies across the world so often we have a number of adults whose country of origin confer this sacrament to people as teenagers whereas in Melbourne we confirm children in grade six. The Rite of Election is the second step in Christian initiation which closes the period of the Catechumenate - that is, the lengthy period of formation. The celebration of the Rite of Election usually coincides with the opening of Lent, marking the beginning of the period of final, more intense preparation for the Sacrament of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. No longer called catechumens or candidates, they are now known as the Elect, their names have been inscribed into the Book of the Elect, held at the Cathedral and we are asked to surround them in prayer, accompanying and leading them to greater encounter with Christ. Please pray for our Elect at this time that they may open their hearts to complete surrender to all that God offers and find welcome among us.

MORNING CUPPA: 11.00AM WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH

Come along to the Parish House on Wednesday 6 March at 11.00am and mingle, meet or catch-up and with other parishioners over a cuppa. Enjoy this hour of connection and friendship. If you require a lift, please let Sr Brigid, Christine or a member of the Legion of Mary know.

IMAGINING OUR FUTURE WEEK TWO: WALKING TOGETHER TO NEW LIFE

Walking Together to New Life is the theme of our parish Lenten journey. It not only refers to a spiritual renewal, the hallmark of Lent but also a parish renewal.

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'What If...' Questions for Parishioners about What We Could Be Like As A Parish

Week One: On Faith Formation and Liturgy: What if...

1. We had an opportunity to explore our faith in a way that is vibrant and nurturing for us and also attracts new people and those who have left their faith. What might it look like?
2. We had lay leaders who took our worship out of the church and into the community? What might it look like?

Week Two: On Welcome, Hospitality and Belonging: What if...

1. A stranger approaches you outside the church, curious about what is there inside for them: What can you offer, that will encourage the stranger to enter with you, and return at another time?
2. What if we create a spirit of belonging for all, no matter what their life circumstances or where people are on the 'scale of faith'? What would this look like?

Week Three: On Leadership and Governance: What if...

1. We all shared the leadership of the parish, how would it look like?
2. What if we thrived without a priest to lead us?

Week Four: On Pastoral Care: What if...

1. We all took responsibility for care and wellbeing of those in most need in our parish and beyond. What would be possible?

Week Five: On Community Outreach: What if...

1. The wider community knew about the gifts within our parish?
2. Those on the edges or outside the parish were at the centre? What would our parish be like?

PALM SUNDAY WALK FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES

Please consider walking in solidarity with asylum seekers and those in the community urging change. The route and the time has changed this year—in response to the Free Palestine protest which is at the State Library at midday also on Palm Sunday. The Palm Sunday walk for asylum seekers and refugees is at 10.00 in the morning beginning and ending in Parliament Gardens (corner of Spring and Albert Streets). There will be a symbolic ritual to begin (everyone can join) followed by some talks and music and a walk around nearby streets, finishing back at the gardens. Anyone willing to help by leaving posters in places you frequent or acting as marshals or money collectors on the day please contact Brigid (barthur@basp.org.au)

IN SUPPORT OF THE BEAUTY OF MUSIC AND THE WORK OF BASP

Bring friends and family to enjoy harp and piano in a fundraising concert featuring our own 'resident' harpist at St Columba church, Katia Mesatovic and Sacred Heart pianist, Paul Healy; two people of immense musical talent. This will be a prelude for Katia who is soon to travel to play in the semi-finals (and hopefully finals) of the World Harpist Concert in Europe. Entrance to the event will be by donation, all of which will be donated to the Brigidine Asylum Seekers' Project (BASP). So come along and bring your family and friends to appreciate and support this wonderful music, and the work of BASP in caring for one of the most marginalised groups in our society. **St Columba Church, Sunday, 3 March from 2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.** (Doors open at 1.30 p.m.).

SACRED HEART MISSION

The Mission is now working on their new Strategic Plan, Strategy 2030. As part of this, they would like to hear from people about the work they do. They particularly want to ensure that their services reflect who they are and who they want to be as the organisation grows into the future. If you would like to give a response, please **please visit their website: www.sacredheartmission.org** and complete the short, anonymous survey by Wednesday, 6 March.

INVITE TO INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Launch of the HerStory map commemorating women in the City of Port Phillip. Please join us for the launch of 'HerStory', an illustrated map showing the places where inspiring women have been commemorated in the City of Port Phillip and their stories. Event details - Friday 8 March, 9.30 am to 10.30 am, St Kilda Town Hall, 99A Carlisle Street, St Kilda. Numbers for the event will be limited and RSVPs are essential. To book your place please use this TryBooking link: <https://www.trybooking.com/CPGSW>

ROAD CLOSURES AFFECTING ACCESS TO SACRED HEART

Sunday 3 March from 6.30am - 11.30am. 2XU Triathlon. Road Closures: Beaconsfield Parade, Marine Parade, Jacka Boulevard, Ormond Esplanade from Kerferd Rd to St Kilda St

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Responsorial Psalm:

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 31-34

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 26 February 2024 - SUNDAY 3 March 2024

MONDAY 10.30am Funeral for Peter Duckworth
at Sacred Heart Church

THURSDAY 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church
1.00pm Funeral for Frank Howson
at Sacred Heart Church

FRIDAY 9.00am MASS at the Parish House

SATURDAY 6.00pm MASS at St Columba Church

SUNDAY 9.00am MASS at St Columba Church
11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church
(this mass is also live streamed)
Gospel: John 2: 13-25

PARISH MESSAGES FOR TERRY KEAN

There are a number of cards at the back of church for anyone who would like to write a message of support to Fr Terry. We will deliver them next week.

COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection	Presbytery Account Collection		
Envelopes	\$32.00	Total	\$213.45
Loose cash	\$578.15		
Total	\$610.15		
Average for 8 weeks	\$480.57	Average for 8 weeks	\$245.39

SERVICE AND SUPPORT

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 cash, direct debit or credit card payments.

THANK YOU!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Peter Duckworth, Ian McKensie, Gabrielle Dindinosanta

1st Anniversaries: Robin Deakin, Carl (Paul) Rydell, Kathleen Dennis, Steve Williams, Maurice Sinclair, Dick O'Brien

2nd Anniversaries: Bill Richards, Iolanda Iarussi,

Anniversaries: 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: All in or connected with our Parish who are unwell. Luke Dennis, Richard Davis, Eddie, Alison Barry-Jones (Qld), Tony Wright (Sydney), Chail and her husband Callum, Norma Childers (Texas - Becca's grandma), Patrick McCaffrey, Seamus Quinn, Sue McLennan, Liz Hawes, Fr Terry Kean, Lol Patten (UK).

We periodically start our sick list again. If you have someone you would like on the sick list please contact Jane at the office.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

2 / 3 March 2024: Third Sunday of Lent

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 Bebejewski, Brigid Murphy / Karen Englebretsen

Set up: Trevor Fletcher, Marcelle Garnier

Hospitality Roster: Srs Karen & Brigid

Sacred Heart Welcomes

11am Mass:

M: Oswald Fernandes

C / L: Helen Freris, Jane Sims / Daniel O'Connor

Set up: Enastin Fernando

Prayer of the Faithful: Liturgy Team