

# 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 2 / 3 AUGUST 2025 EIGHTEENTH 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](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 Hearn  
[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:** Natalie Cromie  
[ncromie@scelwood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ncromie@scelwood.catholic.edu.au)

### **Parish Safeguarding Committee:**

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

**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.



*As we celebrate the feast day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop this coming week (8 August), we remember her the gift of her legacy to those marginalised by poverty. We will honour St Mary at the Masses this weekend.*

St Mary MacKillop, also known as Saint Mary of the Cross, was born in Melbourne in 1842 and died in Sydney in 1909. The process to have her declared a saint began in 1925 and she was eventually canonised in 2010, making her Australia's first saint. Her feast day is celebrated on 8 August.

*'There where you are you will find God.'*

Born into a large, financially challenged family of Scottish heritage, at aged 18, St Mary was offered a job working as governess to her aunt and uncle's children in Penola, South Australia. During this time, she began helping the poor. After two years she accepted a teaching job in Portland, Victoria and after another two years, opened her first boarding school. She and her sisters opened another school in Penola, teaching over 50 children.

*'Tis true I only seek to serve God in the care of the little ones of His flock.'*

In 1866, St Mary MacKillop took on the religious name 'Sister Mary of the Cross'. As other women joined her family, they started calling themselves Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (The Josephites). The Josephites opened many schools dedicated to educating the poor and needy. By 1871 they had 130 sisters working in over 40 schools across South Australia and Queensland.

*'God wants us by every means in our power to lead others to life.'*

St Mary and the Josephites encountered many clashes with the clergy and were subject to interference in their constitution. St Mary refused to comply with the changes and was excommunicated for insubordination by Bishop Shiel. Most of the Josephites' schools were closed. On his deathbed, Bishop Shiel instructed that the excommunication be lifted, and St Mary was exonerated by an Episcopal Commission.

*'Whenever your troubles may be before you, accept them cheerfully, remembering whom you are trying to follow. Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another, and let charity guide you in all your life.'*

Pope Leo XIII approved the Josephites, declaring them an official congregation in 1885. St Mary MacKillop was elected Superior General but there was ongoing friction over issues such as the Josephites' refusal to accept government funding or teach girls from wealthy families. St Mary was replaced but re-elected Mother Superior-General in 1899 and held the position until her death.

*'Make no reserves with God. Reject no-one. You never know what grace can do.'*

Mary, you lived from the heart of kindness,  
You served the very poor and needy,  
You bestowed dignity on all, pray for us.

Mary, you bore deep suffering with courage  
You taught us to forgive from the heart  
You believed grace could do great things, pray for us.  
*Adapted from 'St Mary of the Cross Litany', Monica Brown.*

## 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 also to **Theodore** 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.

## 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.

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**Our Parish Pilgrimage of Hope: Saturday, 30 August, 9.00 a.m. - 12 noon.** Commencing from St Columba school, comprising five stations along the way to St Kilda, come and join us as we make our own Pilgrimage of Hope journey. Sign up sheets and more information will be provided next week.

## THANK YOU FROM FR MALCOLM

Fr Malcolm Crawford and his family would like to thank you for your warm welcome at mass last Sunday. He looks forward to visiting again when the weather warms up.

## ST VINCENT PALLOTT SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

St Vincent Pallotti, founded the Union of Catholic Apostolate (UAC) in 1835. St Vincent Pallotti's aim was to spread the concept of a Church in which all people are actively involved. The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, for example; the promotion of faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Scholarships of between \$500 and \$3,000 are awarded on an annual basis. For further information or to receive the application form, please email: [contact@uacpallottines.au](mailto:contact@uacpallottines.au)

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 15 August 2025**

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Loving God,  
You see into the heart of every desire, every ambition, every fear.  
Teach us to guard against greed in all its forms—the need to possess, to control, to store up what we cannot keep.  
Help us not to measure our worth by wealth or success, but by love, generosity, and our faithfulness to You.  
Remind us, Lord, that life is fleeting, and that true security lies not in what we own, but in who we are before You.  
May we seek treasures that last—compassion, mercy, and justice.  
May our hearts be turned from selfish gain toward building a world where all have enough.  
Make us rich in Your sight, O God, storing not in barns, but in love.  
Amen.

## ST COLUMBA SCHOOL NEWS

### A word from the Principal, Daniella Maddalena (an exert)

Last week, we had the pleasure of welcoming 15 international students from China to our school community. These students have joined classes across Prep, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5 and will be with us for the first half of the term. Opportunities like this—where students connect across cultures and form new friendships—enrich our learning environment and reflect the global-mindedness we value as an IB World School.

As is our tradition, we begin the term with Wellbeing Week—a timely reminder that student wellbeing sits at the heart of everything we do. When children feel safe, valued and connected, they are best placed to thrive—both in their learning and in their relationships. Wellbeing is not an 'extra'—it is essential. During the week, teachers designed experiences across the curriculum, including Units of Inquiry and Social and Emotional Learning, to strengthen students' sense of belonging, agency and personal growth.

You may have seen recent coverage of NAPLAN results in the media. At St Columba's, we are proud to share that our students are achieving outstanding results, with the majority performing in the strong and exceeding bands across Reading, Writing, Spelling and Numeracy. These results reflect the strength of our teaching and learning programs, the expertise and commitment of our staff, and the consistent use of evidence-informed practices across the school.

We place a strong emphasis on supporting the whole child—academically, socially and emotionally—and it's clear that this approach is leading to excellent outcomes. It is a privilege to witness the growth, confidence and success of our learners each day.

*The latest edition of the school newsletter is available online. It includes Daniella's full article and a range of other great articles about our wonderful school.*

<https://newsletters.naavi.com/i/5DaBjIN/issue-7/page/cover>

## AUGUST TRIBUTES TO OUR LADY

The Combined Societies of Mary are holding a special celebration on **Sunday 10 August** honouring the Assumption and Queenship of Our Lady, two closely connected events that highlight her unique role in salvation history. The Assumption reflects the privileges bestowed upon Mary—including her Immaculate Conception and her role as the Mother of God, in so far as Jesus is both divine and human—while her Queenship reminds us of her enduring intercession and exalted place in heaven. Together, these feasts reveal God's love for humanity through Mary's example and care. This event also offers a rare opportunity to venerate first-class relics of two beloved saints: Padre Pio, known for his miraculous stigmata, and St Rita of Cascia, the patroness of impossible causes. Their intercession can bring comfort and hope, especially in challenging times. More information at [www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com](http://www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com), or contact Joy Hunt on 9509 2207.

## ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT FOR VISITING GRANDPARENTS

Colette and Derek Ward are the Irish grandparents of Rory, baptised at Sacred Heart church earlier this year. They plan to travel from Dublin to visit Rory and his parents again from **24 Jan 26 to 21 March '26**. If there are any parishioners who need their homes taken care of/pets minded/plants looked after etc in exchange for accommodation please email Colette and Derek, [coldercdw@gmail.com](mailto:coldercdw@gmail.com). During their previous visit they stayed in Elwood and can provide references.

## COMMUNITY NEWS: SHARE AND SWAP SHOP

Discover the joy of a shop where everything is absolutely free! Welcome to Share&Swap Shop – a community "shopping"! Join us in sharing your pre-loved items and swapping for re-loved treasures, all in a lively pop-up setting. Just like an op shop or garage sale, where everything is free. What to bring? Anything non-bulky that you'd comfortably share with close friends. Think clothes, shoes, books, kitchenware, plants, cosmetics, seeds, garden harvest, pet items, postcards, kids' items, toys, puzzles, bags, photo frames, jewellery, art supplies, hobby items, umbrellas, stationery, long shelf-life food etc. **Date and time:** Saturday, 9 August from 12:00pm – 2:00pm **Venue:** Port Phillip EcoCentre, 55 Blessington Street, St Kilda (New EcoCentre building), Item drop-off between **12:00pm to 12:30 pm** and **maximum 5 items** per participant. Please contact by tel.9534 0670 or email: [info@ecocentre.com](mailto:info@ecocentre.com). Your registration helps us organise this event. Please get your tickets from Humanitix here. Let's connect to actively contribute to a sustainable future of our community.

## YOUTUBE/PODCAST SERIES: THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

Hosted by Jesuit priest, Fr James Martin and his producer Maggie van Dorn, this new podcast sees Fr Martin interviewing a wide-range of people, discussing all things spiritual, which may offer new spiritual insights. To watch, go to <https://youtu.be/Wt5FqKWMHBw?si=F8mWvGAzKunB5xEC>

## KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

In keeping with our commitment to keeping our community safe and providing a safe environment for all, particularly children, young people and vulnerable adults, we will celebrate our annual Safeguarding Weekend on 6 / 7 September. During August we will focus on and promote a number of safeguarding initiatives. Please keep an eye out also on your email and on the website for a range of tasks we will ask you to support.

It is timely therefore that the Australian Catholic Standard Ltd (ACSL) is undertaking a planned audit of The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne over the next four months. This comprehensive audit assesses an organisation against the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS).

ACSL was created to promote and oversee a nationally consistent, comprehensive and sustainable framework for the protection of children and adults at risk within the Church in Australia. The findings of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse place responsibility on the Catholic Church to demonstrate greater respect, care and protection for everyone who places their trust in the Church and to comply with legislative obligations in safeguarding and professional standards.

The ACSL audit is a Strength-based Approach:

- Focuses on abilities, knowledge and capacities rather than deficits, or things that are lacking.
- Recognises that Church Authorities are resilient and are capable of growth, learning and change.
- Identifies strengths the Church Authority can build upon and use to support their ministries to manage risks.
- Doesn't avoid or minimise problems, challenges or risks.
- Doesn't attribute blame – instead identifies changes to improve quality, safety and reduce the occurrence of abuse.
- Presents findings developmentally and as part of a continuous improvement program.
- Acknowledges that safeguarding is an ongoing journey.

The ACSL audit:

- Is provided to the Archdiocese and is at the Archdiocese level, not parishes. Captures an accurate understanding of how safeguarding policies, practices and processes are developed and embedded across the congregation.
- Is strength-based approach that highlights the capabilities, knowledge, skills, connections and potential in individuals and ministries.
- The report addresses any areas of need that has emerged during the process.
- A draft Audit report is presented to the Leadership team for review and feedback. Recommendations for action and the timeframes are agreed by the leadership team.
- The Audit Report is finalised is published on the ACSL website.

Each parish across the Melbourne Archdiocese must undertake a Parish Self Assessment Tool. Our parish submitted the first version in 2022 and will submit the new version by the end of August. Twenty-five parishes across the Melbourne Archdiocese will be randomly selected to be part of the fieldwork section of the audit.



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading:** Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2: 21-23

**Responsorial Psalm:**

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3: 1-5, 9-11

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 12: 13-21

## OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**MONDAY 4 August - SUNDAY 10 August 2025**

**MONDAY** 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Community  
101 Grey Street, St Kilda

**THURSDAY** 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

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

**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: Luke 12: 32-48

### COLLECTIONS: Last two weekends

Church Account Collection		Presbytery Account Collection	
Envelopes	\$30.00	Total	\$122.00
Loose cash	\$460.00		
Total	\$490.00		
Average for 28 weeks	\$407.13	Average for 28 weeks	\$235.69

## PARISH SERVICE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

You can contribute to the Service and Support Program in a number of ways. Options include; direct debit, credit card, collections at mass, via Tithe.ly - click this link - [tithe.ly https://tithe.ly/give?c=911524](https://tithe.ly/give?c=911524) or download the [tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) app, scanning the new QR code and via our Tap n Go machines at mass. To find out more about our Service and Support program you can visit our website <https://www.shsccparish.org.au/support-us> or contact Jane at the office.

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.

In addition to the second collection, the parish transfers \$4500 to the Presbytery account each quarter to cover the percentage of direct debit donations earmarked to support Fr John.



## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

### All Recently Deceased:

**1st Anniversaries:** Gino Nardella, Elizabeth Hawes, Reg Robertson, Gerry Walker, Annemarie Fischer, Juan Ignacio Tolosa Correa.

**Anniversaries:** Pat Ferry, Neil Ashton, Steve Turba, Ben Donoghue, Kate Rockell, Cecila Araos, Kathleen Dennis, Bridget Phelan, Genevieve Morcom 23.8.Frank Alfonso 16.8.2021, Maria Borgia 13.8.2019, Tim O'Driscoll, Terence Kennedy 23.4.22, Peggy Newman, Gregory Bajien, John Bolger, Adele Foldesi, Greta Fisher, Alecia Barker, Stanley Mendis, Rob King, Garry (Gaz) Stewart, Doug Heighway, Daniel Voyles, Andrew Foletta, Anne Speedie, Maggie McKewan, Ralene Finlay, Steven Benstead, Tina Sylvester 2.8, Des George, Peggy Keane, Nick Cincotta, Ted Leale, John McEvoy, Chris Li Donni, Marie Rosengrave, Emma Johnson, Paul Cumming, Mary Schneider, Patricia Davies, James Hughes, Oliver Moore, Maree Hurley, Patricia Davies, Antonio Amarto, Muriel Hyndman, Muriel Lysiuk, Jeremy Warwarick, Gerard Green, baby Felix, Ray Alsaker, James Foley, Yvonne Gorman, Maria Czajkowski, Fr Michael Sheehy Arthur Carbo 12.8, Jan Altman, Cynthia Griffin, Marion Flanagan, Shane Brennan, Leo Flanagan, Margaret Papworth 16.08.80, Danny Martinov 28.8.11, Peter Burgess 30.8.10, Clare Carmody 1.8.09, Noreen O Connor 14.8.09, Tom King 17.8.09, May Pearce 24.8.11, Lyn Von Oudtshoorn 1.8.09, Daniel Cassar 17.8.05, Shirley Evans 11.8.08, Perc Marten 12.8.97, Cherry Wood- Wallis 21.8.08, Monica Bourke 14.8.00, Therese Johnson 23.8.98, Sheleagh Davidson 3.8.11, Shane Walsh 7.8.11, Robert Callaghan 8.8.1, Rinaldo Cova 9.8.14

**Sick:** Lol Patten (UK), Jackie Pyster, Ramon Lopez, Colin Meanwell, Luke Dennis, Eddie, Alison Barry-Jones (Qld), Patrick McCaffrey, Sue McLennan, Fr Terry Kean, Peter Nicholson, Mark Weinberg, Ned Connors, Jean Cropley and David Cropley, Rose Fonti, Pat Ficcaro, Lyn Crossly, Nichole Garnaut, Tony Cogo, Jillian Harrison, Paul Hamilton, Rosanna Scutti, Elaine Dillon, Arraya, Peter Contino, Joaquin Do Santos

**If you have someone you would like on the prayer list please contact Jane at the office.**

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

**9 / 10 August: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**St Columba Welcomes**

6pm Mass:

M: Michael Illott

C / L: Bronwyn Illott, Volunteer needed

Set up: Mahtab Bahadorinejad

9am Mass:

M: Bernadette Cheet, Frances Pititto

C / L: Pristille No, Mizel Filho

Set up: Marcelle, Pristille, Priscila

Hospitality Roster: The Brazilians

**Sacred Heart Welcomes**

11am Mass:

M: Christina Siciliano

C / L: Oswald Fernandes, Kathleen Upfold

Set up: Natalia Setyawan

**Prayer of the Faithful: Liturgy team**