

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 13 / 14 JANUARY 2024 SECOND 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
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Pastoral Ministry Leader: Christine Mitchell
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Office Manager: Jane Hearnese
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SHM Pastoral Care Worker:
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St Columba Principal / REC:
Daniella Maddalena
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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 Today's Gospel

[Source: an extract from LivingSpace, part of Sacred Space - www.sacredspace.ie the prayer site run by the Irish Jesuits ©2024 [Sacred Space](http://www.sacredspace.ie)]

Today we have an introductory encounter between Jesus and his first disciples...The passage opens again with the words, "The next day...". John the Baptist is there with two of his own disciples. Just then, Jesus walked by. This is a common feature of Jesus in the Gospel, and it reminds us that Jesus also walks by us so many times in our ordinary day. Are we aware of that? And how do we respond? As Jesus passed by, John says: Look, here is the Lamb of God! Perhaps the disciples had already heard what John had said about the Lamb, and so they began walking after Jesus. They are not yet disciples but were more moved by a kind of curiosity about this man... At that point Jesus turned, saw them walking behind him, and asked: What are you looking for?

It would be good for us to hear Jesus asking that question of us too. We think we are following Jesus in our Christian life, but have we ever felt that we have been asked that fundamental question: "What are you looking for?" And indeed, what am I looking for in my life, or from God? It is good to realise that God asks me that question. We often tend to think that it should be the other way round, that we should be asking God what he wants from us. But the answer to the first question is very revealing. Our answers could be very trivial, or very self-centred, or very altruistic. The answer to the question tells me a lot about where I stand with God, with other people, and with myself. If my life depended on it, what would I ask of God? And my life in the fullest sense does depend on it.

How did these two men answer Jesus' question? They asked him one of their own: Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where are you staying?... Where can Jesus be found? He is not in any one place - he can be found anywhere. Later on, Jesus will tell his disciples that he stays in the Father, and that he also stays in them. Again, we need to reflect on the answer to this question. Where do I think Jesus stays? Where can I find him in my life? In what places, in what people, in what situations? Is he only to be found in the tabernacles of our churches? As we read through the Gospels we will find that Jesus is to be found in many places, some of them quite surprising. What is Jesus' answer to their question? He says to them: Come and see. It is the only way they will find out. Knowing where Jesus stays is not to be found in theology or catechism books or in listening to theoretical lectures. The only way we can know where Jesus stays is by personal experience of meeting him where he is. That is something which everyone can do, and it is something we need to be doing all the time.... There is in fact no place, person or situation where he cannot be found. So the two men went with Jesus and they stayed with him. They went and they saw. What did they see? We are not told, but we do know the outcome of their experience. It was that the experience of staying with Jesus was something that simply had to be shared with others. One of the two men was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. He went to his brother and said: We have found the Messiah! They had discovered the true identity of this Jesus. And then Andrew brought his brother to Jesus... Here we have a perfect example of evangelisation. Andrew himself finds Jesus, stays with him, comes to know who he is, and then goes to bring his brother to share the experience. It was another "Come and see" situation and Peter, the fisherman, was hooked! It is also worth noting that Peter, who would become the leader of the new community after Jesus left them, was not called directly by Jesus, but by his brother.

How many people, who could do great things for Jesus and the Kingdom, are waiting for me to bring them to Jesus? I should also reflect with gratitude on the many people who have brought me in so many ways to a deeper personal knowledge of Jesus.

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 very warm welcome and thank you to **Fr Joseph Liaia** who is Presider at masses this weekend.

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.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

God, forgive me for thinking I am a stranger to you.
 You have known me from the beginning; you fashioned me.
 You see me from the inside; you know me better than I do.
 And you love me. You see my preciousness when I cannot.
 You know my goodness even when I betray it.
 You know my brokenness and my sin,
 and you heal and forgive.
 You hold me in your delight.
 Though my trust is flimsy,
 I entrust myself to you and your grace.
 May I never be a stranger to your love. Amen.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes, Unfolding Light www.unfoldinglight.net

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19

Responsorial Psalm:

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

Gospel: John 1: 35-42

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 8 January 2024 - SUNDAY 14 January 2024

MONDAY NO MASS - resumes next week

THURSDAY 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

FRIDAY 9.00am MASS at 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: Mark 1: 14-20

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Rev Monsignor Gerard Diamond PE

1st Anniversaries: Diane Lopez, Audrey Hooker, Sr Josephine Hoare, Lizzy Ferris, Sue Barbuto, Pauline Paulka, Michael Cash.

Anniversaries: Nagib Charma, John Nolan, Bob Maes, Barry Hanrahan, Claudio Bevilacqua, Damian Moloney Victor Saunders, Mr Allan Shallue, Bill McGrath, Randall Clarke, Neil Anderson, Pat Crofts, Tom Tesoriero, Anna Debac, Teh Kok Leong, Dale Carlos, Jennifer Anderson, Katherine Ford, Dylan Anderson, Tracey Reynolds, Tibby Hart, Kate Mason, Sean Heraghty, Cynthia Pyster 3.1, Cecilia Opie, Daysi Fajardo, Adrian Smith, Ray Gill, Gladys Wheeler, Jane Robinson 13.1, Delsya Fullinfaw 10.1, Rose Bell 14.1, Paulina Mejia Bonila 14.1, Llewellyn Wood, Susie Nolen 5.1, Loretta McCormick 24.1, Lee Ranahan, John Simington, Joseph Panettieri, John Weston, Mario DiMarzio, Billy Cannon, Gavin O'Leary, Vittorio (Vic) Di Muzio 9.1, Pauline McEvoy, Frances Tierney, Victor Chircop, Merlin Coles, Reg 'Maldon' Nicholson 21.1, Maria Terzita Canestra 7.1.72, Paula Nelson, Joseph Micallef, Joannie Lloyd, Mary Reagan, Miguel Marin 5.1.10, Anna Durack 13.1.2010, Rosario Russo 19.1.2010, Bernice Marten 3.1.07, Alberto JR Dos Santos, Julie O'Callaghan, Luciana Spring, Tracey Doherty, Leon Massoni, Margaret O'Keefe 12.1.2010, Nunziata Panettieri, Neily Murphy, Natie Mario Contino 18.1, Dominic Mizzi, Samantha Mizzi, Ruby Boulter, Rosaria Russo 19.1, Gaby Pozo, Ken Reynolds, Paul Reynolds, Danny Reynolds.

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.

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

20 / 21 January 2024: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Columba Welcomes

6pm Mass:

M: Luke Fulton-Tindal

C / L: Meg Taylor, Becca Beights

Set up: Meg Taylor

9am Mass:

M: Lou Bevilacqua, Maria Kovacevic

C / L: Lina Tesoriero, Dominic Tesoriero

Set up: Trevor Fletcher, Marcelle Garnier

Hospitality Roster: Raymond

Sacred Heart Welcomes

11am Mass:

M: Daniel O'Connor

C / L: Nancye Edwards, Anna Griffiths

Set up: Volunteer needed

Prayer of the Faithful: Daniel O'Connor

Fr John is on leave and will return on Thursday 18 January. Jane is now on two weeks annual leave and will return to work on Tuesday 30 January. Sr Brigid will be monitoring the emails and phone Tuesday-Friday.