

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 1 / 2 NOVEMBER 2025 ALL SOULS DAY



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 Petrulis
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: Natalie Cromie
ncromie@scelwood.catholic.edu.au

Parish Safeguarding Committee:

Fr John Petrulis, 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 Luke 7:11-17

"When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, 'Don't cry.'" (Luke 7:13)

This passage from Luke's Gospel offers one of the most tender and powerful moments in Jesus' ministry. As Jesus approaches the town of Nain, he encounters a funeral procession—a widow mourning the death of her only son. In the ancient world, this woman's grief would have been compounded by her vulnerability. With no husband and now no son, she faced not only emotional devastation but also social and economic isolation.

Jesus' response is deeply human and divinely compassionate. He sees her—not just the crowd, not just the ritual, but *her*. And his heart is moved. He feels her sorrow. And he acts—not because she asks, not because of her faith but simply because his heart is moved. This is one of the few times in the Gospels where Jesus performs a miracle without being prompted. It's a spontaneous act of mercy.

He tells her, "Don't cry," and then approaches the bier, touches it, and says, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" The dead man sits up and begins to speak, and Jesus gives him back to his mother. The crowd is awestruck, declaring, "God has come to help his people!"

This story reminds us that Jesus is not distant from our pain. He meets us in our grief, in our loss and in our moments of despair. His compassion is not reserved for the strong or the faithful—it is poured out for the broken-hearted, the forgotten and the vulnerable.

In the context of remembering our loved ones, this passage speaks volumes. It affirms that our sorrow matters to God. Jesus does not shy away from death; he walks straight into it and brings life. His presence transforms mourning into hope, and his touch restores what was lost.

The miracle at Nain also foreshadows the resurrection. It's a glimpse of the power that will ultimately conquer death. For Christians, this story is not just about one grieving mother—it's about all of us. It's about the promise that death does not have the final word. In Christ, life is restored, and love endures beyond the grave.

All Souls Day is not just about loss—it's about trust. Trust that our loved ones are held in God's mercy. Trust that death is not the end. Trust that Jesus, who raised the widow's son will raise us too. As we remember those we've lost, Luke 7:11-17 invites us to trust in the compassion of Jesus. He sees our tears. He walks with us in our sorrow. And he speaks life into places we thought were beyond hope.

As we enter November, the month of remembrance, this passage speaks directly to our hearts. On All Souls Day and throughout this season, we remember our own loved ones who have died. We carry their stories, their love, and sometimes, our own grief. Like the widow, we may feel the ache of absence. However, this Gospel reminds us: Jesus sees us. He meets us in our mourning. And he brings hope.

In remembering, we honour. In grieving, we love. And in Christ, we hope.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT 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.

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.

Our Safeguarding Committee comprises Fr John Petrus, Christine Mitchell, Jane Hearn and Daniella Maddalena. They work in conjunction with the PLDT to ensure that our parish keeps the safety of all in our community at the heart of everything we do. We would like to extend a warm invitation to a parishioner/s to join the Safeguarding Committee. It would involve a quarterly meeting and an interest in supporting these works. Please speak to one of the committee if you are interested.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE

God of all Grace,

Today we remember those who have gone before us—
Saints known and unknown,
Loved ones held in our hearts.

We thank You for lives that shone with Your light,
For faith passed down through generations,
For the quiet courage of everyday holiness.
We lift up every soul to Your mercy.

Comfort those who grieve,
And renew our hope in the promise of resurrection.
Make us mindful of the great cloud of witnesses around us,
And help us live with love, humility and joy,
Until we are reunited in Your presence. Amen.

STILL LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER(S) TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT TO MASS

We have a parishioner, Katrina, who is a regular at our 11.00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. Katrina is at a stage where she cannot make the walk or take public transport from her home in Balaclava to Sacred Heart Church. Are there any people who are willing to drive her to Mass and take her home again on a regular or irregular basis? If we can get two or three or four people, then it can be once a month commitment. If you can help, please email Christine on: christine@shscparish.org.au

FR BARRY MORAN'S FUNERAL

Fr Barry's funeral will be on Tuesday 11 November at 10.30am at St Mary's Church, East St Kilda

NOVEMBER – REMEMBRANCE MONTH

As people of faith, remembering our loved ones who have died is an act of love, faith and hope. We do not forget those who have gone before us because their lives shaped ours, their love touched us and their presence remains in our hearts. In remembering, we honour the gift they were to us and the ways they reflected God's grace in the world.

However, our remembrance is more than nostalgia—it's rooted in the promise of resurrection. We believe that death is not the end but a doorway into eternal life with God. When we pray for the dead, we entrust them to God's mercy and reaffirm our hope that we will be reunited one day in Christ. November invites us into this sacred remembering. It's a time to light candles, speak names, share stories and hold space for grief and gratitude. In doing so, we join the communion of saints—a vast, unseen fellowship of believers across time and space.

To remember is to love. To remember is to hope – and in Christ, our remembering becomes a prayer that reaches beyond death, into life everlasting.

At every Mass during November, you are invited to write the names of your loved, deceased ones on a silver 'teardrop', found at the back of the churches. Once you have done this, place them in the basket provided. This will be taken up with the Offertory Gifts and later pinned onto a special cloth. We will also have on display our Memorial Books for the past few years – at Sacred Heart, they are found in the Memorial Area and at St Columba, they are on tables at the back of the Church. Feel free to leaf through them.

NEWS FROM THE BRIGIDINE ASYLUM SEEKERS PROJECT (BASP)

Sr Brigid Arthur, co-founder of BASP, will be taking a step back from her leadership position which she has held since 2001, providing essential support to asylum seekers and refugees. Brigid is known for her tenacious advocacy, compassion and support for many people in the community – but particularly for those who newly arrived to Australia, embodying the Project's motto of "I was a stranger and you made me welcome". Her work extends to advocating for systemic change and has earned her numerous accolades: an Order of Australia; Catholic Social Services Victoria Life Membership and recently the international UNANIMA Woman of Courage Award. Brigid is an experienced educator who has taught in and led schools in Melbourne's western suburbs, where she witnessed firsthand the difficulties faced by new migrants and refugees. This experience led her to establish BASP with Sr Catherine Kelly csb. Though she steps down from leadership, Brigid will not be fading into retirement quietly but will continue to play a key role in BASP going forward, particularly around advocacy and community education and connections. Brigid, you are a living saint. We pray for your continuing good health, endless pool of energy and the critical work of BASP. BASP now welcomes Renee Mazloun to the position of co-CEO, alongside Libby Saunders, who has been in the co-leadership role with Brigid since 2015.

COPIES OF THE LATEST BASP NEWSLETTER

Apart from news of their work, on the back of the newsletter, you will find details in how to donate food, money and time. We have, of course, baskets at the back of the churches for non-perishable food donations, which we pass on. Copies are available at the back of the churches (#122 October 25)

HEALING MASS

Catholic Charismatic Renewal in conjunction with Charis invite all to a Healing Mass to be celebrated by Fr Wahid Riad and co-celebrants, Fr Isaac Zaki & Fr Shane Reade on **Monday, 10 November. Beginning at 6.00 p.m.** with the sacrament of Reconciliation, followed by the Rosary, Praise and Worship, with the Healing Mass commencing at 8.00 p.m.

Location: St Peter's Church, 844 Centre Rd, Bentleigh East. Light refreshments will be available in the McKenna Centre afterwards, please bring a plate to share! All are welcome, bring your family and friends to encounter the healing power of Jesus! There are leaflets at the back of the churches.

PEACE CAMINO 2025

This Camino turns remembrance into movement: a symbolic act of turning *the way to war* into *the prayerful path to peace and hope*. Though inspired by the Christian tradition of pilgrimage, the Peace Camino warmly welcomes people of all faiths and goodwill. As we walk through Waddawurrung country we acknowledge this sacred ground walked once by the First Nations people. We walk along the rail line that was once used by the defence forces to supply the Queenscliff Fort during times of war. We now walk it in unity, with purpose and in hope for peace.

Pilgrims will be welcomed and checked in at Holy Trinity Parish church in Queenscliff (a Jubilee Year Pilgrim Place) before being bussed out to the beginning of the walk at the Memorial Indigenous Gardens, Mannerim. Each participant will receive a Camino shell symbol and pebble for the pilgrimage. After a welcome at the gardens, pilgrims will begin their journey together along the beautiful Rail Trail towards Queenscliff. Although not a challenging walk—most of the way is downhill on a solid gravel or bitumen path—please be aware that it is approximately a three- to four-hour walk and is not suitable for people with mobility issues.

In the spirit of the Catholic Church's **Jubilee Year 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope**, we come together to reflect on a world shaped by conflict, yet alive with the promise of renewal.

Date and time: Sunday, 9 November from 12.00pm–4.00pm. **Starting point:** Holy Trinity Church, 34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff. **Cost: \$25 per person or \$50 per family (2 adults and min 1 child).** This covers administrative fee, bus transport & afternoon tea. *Parents walking with children under 18 need only pay for 2 adult tickets.* Please register **all** participants on the Registration page. Please make payment via Trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/DEWAB> Register now to join this walk towards peace, prayer and community <https://peacecamino.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/>

WEBINAR: PRIESTS AND SYNODALITY

Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform (ACCCR) and Garratt Publishing present 'Priests and Synodality in Australia'. With the conclusion of the Synod on Synodality a year ago, the focus has turned to implementation. However, it is claimed that the commitment to making synodality a prominent feature of Church activity and Catholic life generally in Australia and New Zealand seems to be sporadic at best. Few parishes have made it a priority, and the concept is still neither understood nor accepted at parish level to any significant extent. Indeed, it is regularly claimed that parish clergy are largely passively avoidant in relation to promoting or implementing the Final Document of the Synod. Why is this? If true, how can it be turned around? In *'The Afternoon of Christianity: The courage to change'*, Tomas Halik asserts the conviction that personal spiritual accompaniment will be the crucial pastoral role in the Church of the future. How would this play out for priests in a Synodal Church?

In this webinar, Frs Joe Grayland and Brendan Reed will discuss this and related issues. Sr Carmel Pilcher will provide a response and observations. This is a free webinar but it is necessary to book.

Date and time: Thursday, 6 November at 7.00 p.m.

To register, visit accr@accr.online

PARISH PILGRIMAGE: WALKING WITH PURPOSE NEW DATE: SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER

SIGN UP! SIGN UP! SIGN UP!

A pilgrimage doesn't always require distant travel or ancient shrines—it can be a local, prayerful journey that opens our eyes and hearts to the presence of Christ in the margins. A short, local pilgrimage with a social justice focus offers parishioners an opportunity to walk in solidarity with the vulnerable and reflect deeply on the Gospel call to justice, compassion and action. So, on Saturday, **15 November from 9.00 a.m. - noon**, our parish will undertake our local pilgrimage under the theme of: *Go out to the world* (Matthew 16:15) Going out into the world is not just a suggestion but a calling for every believer. The scriptures remind us that we are to embody our faith, share God's love and actively engage with those around us. Whether through words or actions, we are encouraged to be vessels of kindness, compassion and hope in our communities and beyond.

We will begin at 9.00 a.m. travelling to five stations, as follows:

1. St Columba Church
2. Point Ormond
3. St Kilda Marina
4. St Kilda Botanic Gardens
5. Sacred Heart Church

We will finish at 11.30 p.m. with lunch provided.

If you wish to be part of this pilgrimage, **please register on the sheets at the back of our churches.** We understand that some people cannot walk, and they are invited to drive (or be driven) from one station to another. Please indicate if you require a lift to each station.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9

Responsorial Psalm:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: romans 5: 5-11

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me,
and that I should raise it up on the last day.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 7: 11-17

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 3 November - SUNDAY 9 November 2025

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

TUESDAY **PUBLIC HOLIDAY - OFFICE IS CLOSED**

THURSDAY 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

FRIDAY 9.00am MASS in 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: 13-22

COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection		Presbytery Account Collection	
Envelopes	\$57.00	Total	\$163.95
Loose cash	\$245.95		
Total	\$302.95		
Average for 40 weeks	\$393.34	Average for 40 weeks	\$250.36

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://www.shscparish.org.au/support-us) 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.shscparish.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:

"When we pray, God opens our eyes, renews and changes our hearts, heals our wounds, and gives us the grace we need"

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Leon Scroggie, Fr Barry Moran, Jean Cropley (Adrian's mother), Joe Martinico (Mary's brother), Fr Peter O'Rourke, Mario Sirolli (Emer's cousin)

1st Anniversaries: Tony Wright 6.11, Giovanna Morgan

3rd Anniversary: John Ensabella

Anniversaries: Sebastian Maximillian Johann Fitzgerald, Nicholay Solochen Ko, Daniel Planke, Diane Cist, Ron McColl, Ross Hargreaves, Bernadette Jennings, Elaine Barker, Anne Hennessy, Immaculate Maio, Bruna Skerl, Mary Fisher, Therese Mannix, Stephen Bolger, Jason Knowles and Jason Currie, Bill Hill, Manny Cassar, Patricia Featherstone, Max Jackson, Malcolm Gerber, Cassie Bricknell, Molly McKay, Tram Champion, Josef Bogner, Nicholas Dobrotwir 3.11, Eric Mousey, Dick Martin, Els Hendricks, Maria Ulehla 7.11, Betty Rogers, Bob Hunter, Denis McCarthy, Maria Rosa Contino, Giuseppina Barnao, Brian Solis, Eric Walter Peters 4.11.2015, Kathleen Redman, Sean Atkinson, Charlie Noble 16.11, Monsignor James Murray, Christopher Gamble Moloney, Sydney Pyster, Domenico Cerasuolo 23.11.03, Ian Stewart 24.11, Gordon Hill 6.11, George Thomson, 5.11, Rachael DeSilva, Luta Skorwider, John Brown 16.11, Carl Hofler 17.11, Sofia Czarnowaj 27.11, Norman Pittari 2.11.52, Bartalo Canestri, Maria Rosa Contino 3.11, Kathleen Sullivan 11.11.01, Margaret Upfold 24.11.05, Alberto Dos Santos, Clara Santini-Margon 5.11.07, Sheila Keogh 26.11.00, Denis Halden 24.11.93, Michael Sylvester Ryan, Guiseppina Ranieri, Gabrielle Ranieri, Giuseppe Lo Piccolo, Concetta Lo Piccolo, Nunziata Panettieri, Francesco Panettieri, Rosario Russo, Antonio Russo, Sonia Battaglia 15.11.09, Amelia, Emma & Aida Carretta, Herbert Summers, Tom Wilczewski, Ella Blumeris, Aileen Palmer, Pasko Lena, Nikola Lena Saindra

Sick: Lol Patten (UK), Jackie Pyster, Ramon Lopez, Rose Fonti, Luke Dennis, Eddie, Alison Barry-Jones, Patrick McCaffrey, Sue McLennan, Fr Terry Kean, Peter Nicholson, Mark Weinberg, Ned Connors, David Cropley, Pat Ficcaro, Lyn Crossly, Nichole Garnaut, Tony Cogo, Paul Hamilton, Rosanna Scutti, Elaine Dillon, Peter Contino, Joaquin Do Santos. David Hawe, Alva Pickett, Bernadette Callose, Tim Wilson.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

8 / 9 November: Dedication of the Latern Basilica

St Columba Welcomes

6pm Mass:

M: Michael Illott

C / L: Bronwyn Illott and family

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: Cecilia Mwangi

Prayer of the Faithful: Liturgy team