

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 6 / 7 JANUARY 2024 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



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:
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 Pope Francis

Faith Circles, Diocese of Wollongong, www.faithcircles.dow.org.au

On Christmas Eve we meditated on the hastening of several shepherds of the people of Israel to the grotto of Bethlehem; today, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, we remember the arrival of the Magi, who came from the Orient to adore the newborn King of the Jews and Universal Saviour and to offer Him symbolic gifts. With their act of adoration, the Magi bear witness that Jesus has come to earth to save not one people alone but all peoples. Therefore, on today's feast our gaze broadens to the horizons of the whole world in order to celebrate the "manifestation" of the Lord to all peoples, which is the manifestation of the love and universal salvation of God. He does not reserve his love to the privileged few but offers it to all.

As the Creator and Father is of all people, so the Saviour wants to be for all people. That is why we are called to always nourish great faith and hope for every person and his or her salvation: even those who seem far from the Lord are followed – or better yet "chased" – by his passionate love, by his faithful and also humble love. For God's love is humble, very humble!

The Gospel account of the Magi describes their journey from the East as a journey of the spirit, as a journey toward the encounter with Christ. They are attentive to signs that indicate his presence; they are tireless in facing the trials of the search; they are courageous in deducing the implications for life that derive from encounter with the Lord. This is life: Christian life is a journey, but being attentive, tireless and courageous. A Christian journeys like this. Journey attentively, tirelessly, courageously. The experience of the Magi evokes the journey of every man and woman towards Christ. As for the Magi, so for us, to seek God means to journey – and as I said: attentive, tireless and courageous – focused on the sky and discerning in the visible sign of the star the invisible God who speaks to our hearts. The star that is able to lead every person to Jesus is the Word of God, the Word that is in the Bible, in the Gospels. The Word of God is the light that guides our journey, nourishes our faith and regenerates it. It is the Word of God that continually renews our hearts and our communities. Therefore, let us not forget to read it and meditate upon it every day, so that it may become for each like a flame that we bear inside us to illuminate our steps, as well as those of theirs who journey beside us, who are perhaps struggling to find the path to Christ.

Weekly Prayer [An extract by Dr. Susan M. (Elli) Elliott. [Source: <http://ellielliott.webs.com/sermonsprayers.htm>]

Light-giving God.

We lumber together in hope as Your church to lift Your Light.

Let the light that we lift be this light visible in the manger.

Let us lift not the light of our congratulation of ourselves,

not the light of belief in our own superiority,

not the light of our belief in our own narrow presuppositions,

not even the light of our own church.

Let us lift the light from You that we can encounter here,

the light of the power You make known to us

in the truth of our powerlessness,

the light we can see as we sit quietly as magi at the manger

learning to be at ease with our common humanity,

learning to be at ease with You.

Let this be the light we lift as a beacon in the darkness we know best.

As we lift that light, may we too be lifted to know the true power that lies among us waiting to rise as a beacon of our true hope. Amen.

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 in our parish.

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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 8 January 2024 - SUNDAY 14 January 2024

MONDAY	11.00pm Mass at Sacred Heart Community, 101 Grey Street, St Kilda
TUESDAY	2.00pm Funeral Mass for Edna Czermak at St Columba Church
THURSDAY	11.00am Communion Service at Sacred Heart
FRIDAY	9.00am Communion Service at 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 1: 35-42

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Lilian (Edna) Czermak, Ben Dalton, Vincenzo Lococo, Neil Corkery, David Evers.

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, Delsyia Fullinaw 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, Jospheh 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.

**Christine will be back at work this Monday 8 January.
Fr John will be on leave from Wednesday 10 January
and will return on Thursday 18 January.**

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

13 / 14 January 2024: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Columba Welcomes

6pm Mass:

M: Michael Illott

C / L: Meg Taylor, Bronwyn Illott

Set up: Meg Taylor

9am Mass:

M: Bernadette Cheet, Frances Pititto

C / L: Lydia St Ange, Tony Lopes

Set up: Trevor Fletcher, Marcelle Garnier

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: Stefan Fothe