

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 30 SEPT / 1 OCT 2023 TWENTY-SIXTH 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 Hearn
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SHM Pastoral Care Worker:
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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 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

Elwood and St Kilda Legion of Mary
Please contact the parish office.

Season of Creation

[Source: www.melbournecatholic.org 12 September 2023]

In August, Pope Francis made the surprise announcement that he was writing a 'second part' to his encyclical *Laudato Si'*. This new apostolic exhortation is due to be released on 4 October 2023, the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. The date also marks the conclusion to the Season of Creation, the ecumenical celebration designed to bring Christians together over care for our common home.

As we prepare for the arrival of this document and close the Season of Creation, it might be good to revisit some central ideas present in *Laudato Si'* and how vital they are to understanding Pope Francis' vision.

The figure of St Francis of Assisi cannot be underestimated in the encyclical... It is Pope Francis' conviction that St Francis should open us to think differently about how we see care for our common home. While we might be tempted to think about environmentalism in technical terms—how we can solve this or that problem—the great Italian saint invites us to a more foundational approach. He invites us to go deep inside ourselves, and 'calls for openness to categories which transcend the language of mathematics and biology and take us to the heart of what it is to be human' (LS, §11).

The life of St Francis was an integrated one. His approach to creation, to the poor, and to the faith, were united. But what St Francis had undergirding everything was a contemplative attitude, an 'openness to awe and wonder'. This is what Pope Francis invites us to reclaim.

Following the publication of *Laudato Si'* in 2015, Pope Francis wanted to clarify the meaning of the encyclical amid significant public discussion taking place. In this context he said, 'No, it's not a "green" encyclical, it's a social encyclical ... For in society, in the social life of mankind, we cannot forget to take care of the environment. Moreover, looking after the environment is a social attitude, which socialises us, in one sense or another ...'

While Pope Francis does engage with particular topics regarding the environment—which he acknowledges the Church cannot 'presume to settle' (§188)—the encyclical's ambit is so much wider than any specific issue. This is why he also talks about consumerism, global inequality, and the financial debts of the third world (§48-52); pressing issues of bioethics and the immutability of human nature (§155); the importance of preserving our cultural patrimonies (§143); the pollution of our minds by media and technology, preventing us from 'learning how to live wisely, to think deeply and to love generously' (§47); and, perhaps surprisingly, the way in which modern 'urban chaos' alienates us from creation (§44). And this is just scratching the surface of the topics he addresses.

In that same clarification, the pope said, 'Taking care of the environment means having an attitude of human ecology. That is, we cannot say that mankind is here and Creation, the environment, is there. Ecology is total, it's human.' This is one of the central ideas of the encyclical: When we speak of the "environment", what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it (§139).

The problem with so many activist movements, in Pope Francis' judgment, is that they separate these things from one another. But if we step back and see the ways in which every element of life connects together, we'll have a much fuller and more accurate vision of God's creation.

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 and thank you to **Fr Terry Kean** who is Presider at masses this weekend.

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.

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.

SPACE2B 10TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Friday 27 October 6.30pm - 11.00pm at West Beach Pavilion, St Kilda

Our parish has long been supporters of Space 2b, an art and design social enterprise, supporting newly arrived migrants and refugees. They are now celebrating their 10th anniversary with a Gala Dinner dance. Their biggest celebration ever!

What's included:

- A delicious three-course meal
- MC: St. Kilda music and comedy legend, Brian Nankervis
- Latest update affecting Australian immigrations and those seeking asylum by advocate and Kurdish refugee, *Farhad Bandesh*
- Live Music by Kenyan Soul band, *JoySoul Music*
- There will also be dancing, comedy and a fabulous silent auction

For further information, contact Space 2b: space.2b.com.au

'PEACE ON EARTH' – 60 YEARS SINCE POPE JOHN XXIII RALLYING CALL

A presentation and discussion (and cuppa) on Pope John XXIII's 'Peace on Earth' and its relevance 60 years later. **Sunday 15 October 2023, 2.30 - 4.00pm**, St Dominic's Parish Centre, [816 Riversdale Rd, Camberwell](https://www.google.com/maps/place/816+Riversdale+Rd,+Camberwell,+VIC+3105). Attendance is free, but registration is requested: www.trybooking.com/CLDCW.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

We pray for a bright and just shared future for all who call Australia home we ask that your grace of acceptance and compassion will guide us thank you let the Creator Spirit lead our journey with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this land. may we share your spirit more deeply.

THANKS FROM JIM IN TIMOR-LESTE

Our parishioner Jim, who is still volunteering in Timor-Leste until the beginning of October sent the following message on the day: "I wish to give a big thank you to all who organised and those who attended the musical afternoon from our parish. I wish I was there to experience it. At least we know we can look after two orphans from Lospalos in Timor-Leste. They really need support. The Salesians runs quite a few orphanages up here. A priest told me that last year he got four more young people in the orphanage because a widowed mother of eight could not feed them all.

It was quite heart breaking, he said. At least this mother can be consoled by the fact her children will be fed, clothed and educated by the Salesians which will hopefully give them a good start into life.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon."

MEANWHILE IN SAMOA: NORA AND BILLY

All going well here, we are both teaching English and I teach biology, Billy teaches psychics. The students are lovely, mostly respectful but they are youngsters. Samoan teachers still practise corporal punishment but we, obviously, do not. The island is quite remote, and the life is very different, church is everything. Mormons are biggest congregation, followed by LMS and then Catholics and Methodists. We attend church every week, surprise!! The singing is wonderful and some of the rituals are very different. Fathers Day was amazing. The offertory at the church we were at included a microwave oven, 20 kg rice and lots of other gifts for the priests. On Sundays the parishioners bring food offerings to the priests and we share in the bounty for the Sunday *to'ona'i*. It is lovely, we usually have fish, chicken, taro, breadfruit, chop suey, palusami (coconut milk, handmade of course, cooked in taro leaves) and other foods also. All the villagers have an *umu* (food cooked in lave rocks) every Sunday and the parishioners share with the priests.

PARISH MORNING TEA / COFFEE

Our next gathering will be this coming **Wednesday 4 October at 11.00am** at the parish house.

- The group is open and all are welcome to attend.
 - It is a simple gathering with tea/coffee and biscuits provided.
 - The main focus is on building community and friendships.
- At our inaugural session in September, there were many renewed and new connections with plenty of laughter. If anyone needs a lift please contact Jane at the office.

NATSICC

A Way of New Life

First shared in May 2017, the Uluru Statement From the Heart extends an open invitation to all Australians: to join together in a new life of justice and hope. It also highlights the challenges to be addressed as we move forward. The more than 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Delegates who came together "from all points of the southern sky" to "make this statement from the heart", did so to remind us that the sovereignty of Australia's First Nations Peoples "has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown." Powerfully, they ask, "How could it be otherwise?"

The question affirms the deep and lasting spiritual and ancestral connections between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and the lands they were born on and remain attached to. It also recognises their strength and resilience as the First Peoples of Australia, who have possessed and cared for this place and each other from "time immemorial" to today - for generations, according to their "own laws and customs" and "culture".

At this time in our shared history, as with other key moments in our reconciliation journey, we are invited to walk a way of new life. Our first step is to recognise one another's human dignity.

A Way of Love

Sadly, given ongoing experiences of injustice, many First Nations people feel "unloved" by their fellow Australians. Aboriginal leader, lawyer, academic and activist Noel Pearson underlines the divisive role this lack of love - expressed as racism - plays in our common life and how it breeds hate and fear, to the detriment of First Nations Peoples. But he also imagines a way to overcome it. In the first of his five 2022 Boyer Lectures, he said:

Of all the claims I will make in these lectures, this is the boldest and one of which I am most convicted: racism will diminish in this country when we succeed with recognition. It will not have the same purchase on us: neither on the majority party that has defaulted to it over two centuries, nor the minority that lives it, fears it and who too often succumb to the very fear itself.

How are we to respond?

The road of reconciliation we have to walk is long. But in returning to the best of our spiritual traditions and, for Christians, to the new commandment Jesus gave to "love one another" (John 13:34), we discover again or for the first time that love always leads us to justice and hope - to a new life. So, with the late great Uncle Archie Roach, may we sing: "Let love rule."

Written by Dr Rebekah Pryor, Caritas Australia, in partnership with NATSICC.



CONVERSATION IN CHURCH ON MATTERS CONCERNING LGBTQIA+

Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, Rainbow Catholics InterAgency for Ministry, Garratt Publishing, Yarra Theological Union, and Catholic Religious Australia present James Alison **'How did we get here: LGBTQIA+ and the Church?'** **Monday 2 October 2023**

7.00pm AEDT. Catholics overwhelmingly now support the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in all areas of church activity.

James Alison is a Catholic theologian, priest and author. He is known for his firm, but patient, insistence on truthfulness in matters gay as an ordinary part of basic Christianity, and for his pastoral outreach in the same sphere.

James will reflect on how many parts of secular society have accepted non-heterosexual behaviour over the past 150 years in contrast with the Church's public response.

Where: Via Zoom, Cost: FREE

Registration: To register please visit [here](#). The webinar will be recorded and made available the week following the event.

CITY OF PORT PHILLIP'S SENIORS FESTIVAL

Free fun at biggest ever Seniors Festival. Croquet, community gardening, rowing, bowling, table tennis, online chair yoga, digital storytelling and art can all be enjoyed. The Festival **(1-15 October)** also includes a safety forum, multicultural concert, healthy living seminars presented by the Alba and the Grace Retirement Community, a University of the Third Age Port Phillip seminar and multicultural dance, Beach Boys live music tribute, CaSPA Care annual concert and a joyful celebration of Jewish culture with amazing food, music, videos and dancing. Visit [here](#) for more information. All events are free but bookings are essential.

ST MARY'S BASP TRIVIA NIGHT

St Mary's Hampton online trivia event in support of the **Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project** (basp.org.au) is back on **Friday 6 October**. We aim to provide a fun night for you and your friends and raise money for a good cause. We'd love your support.

To take part, sign up as a team host, and get your team together for a light-hearted night of trivia and conviviality. Suggested minimum donation of \$30 per team member.

Date: **Friday 6 October 2023 @ 7:30 - 9.40 pm**

Booking and more information: cohdig.au/trivia

Where: Your Place! Invite a group of friends to your home, up to 10 people - small groups are welcome. If you prefer you can form a distributed team in several locations and use our online breakout rooms to talk over your answers.

How: You don't need to be a tech wizard. You need a smartphone, tablet (iPad, Android) or a computer with sound (a webcam would be nice but not essential). You'll get a link for the Zoom online chat service and use your web browser to answer the trivia questions. Check the website for more details.

Booking and more information: cohdig.au/trivia

Enquiries: Email basptrivia@gmail.com

CHRISTINE OUT OF OFFICE

Christine will return from a few days of well deserved leave on Tuesday 3 October. If you have any questions or issues please feel free to contact Jane in the office.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Ezekiel 18: 25-28

Responsorial Psalm:

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading: Philippians 2: 1-11

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 21: 28-32

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 2 October - SUNDAY 8 October 2023

MONDAY	11.00am Communion Service at Sacred Heart Community 101 Grey St, St Kilda West
THURSDAY	11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church
FRIDAY	9.00am MASS in 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: Matthew 21: 33-43

COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection		Presbytery Account Collection	
Envelopes	\$32.00	Total	\$181.45
Loose cash	\$197.75		
Total	\$229.75		
Average for 38 weeks	\$341.82	Average for 38 weeks	\$235.50

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 - 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 giving.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS

Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour on Saturday night (and hopefully before you get up for mass on Sunday).

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Achille Di Santo 24.9 (Toni Vatta's uncle).

1st Anniversaries: Gianpaolo Marcon 28.09, Bernard Alfonso 28.09, Connie, Bishop Emeritus Hilton Forrest Deakin, Henricus Huybers, Vicki Howard, Bernard Alfonso, Tommy

3rd Anniversary: Maria George 16.10.2020

8th Anniversary: Jim Baxter 9.10.17.

Anniversaries: Maria Palumbo, Tony Zaia, George Speedie Jessy (Connie's mum), Aileen Briglia, William (Billy) Lloyd, Barry Francis Seymour, Loretta Venturoni, Dorothy Riggs, John Nugent, Shirley Chambers, Maureen Mitchell 11.10, Noel Hunt, Patricia Foley, Patricia O'Donnell, Carl Schmidtke, Bernadette Palmer, Alan Cameron, Maureen Bolt, Christine Fedyszyn, Antonietta Severino, Miles Gibbons, Kath McCarthy, Patricia Murphy, Giovanni (John) Guarrealla, Cynthia Joseph 11.10.16, Christine Wright, Terry Aherne, James Betram, Douglas Leitch, Jack Henry Green Withers, Maureen O'Grady, Mario Carmelo Gatt, Peter McClade, June Stewart, Paul Glover, Michele (Michael) Scotto 2.10.10 James Francis, Victor Hunt, Iris Loney, Neville Munday 2.10.13, Darryl O Meara 15.12.13, Aivars Endzins 19.10.13, Kevin Charlton 23.10.13, Cora Deegan 3.10.73, Giovanna Stragis 17.10.11, Adrian Houben 24.10.11, Robert Rosewarne 24.10.11, Joseph Lashbrook 18.10.11, Peter Peters 30.10.11, Sylvia Stamper 8.10.10, Nunziata Panettieri 13.10.10, Maria Rosa Contino, Guiseppina Barnao 12.10.10, Eileen Sage, Joan Eifermann 31.10.10, Michelina De Giorgio 7.10.94, Emmanuel De Giorgio 29.10.83, Eddy Rumengan 13.10.08, Guiseppina Contino, Dino Santini 13.10.1983, Michael Sylester Ryan, Margaret Ann MacPherson, Maureen Mitchell, Patricia O'Donnell, Maureen Duke

Sick: All in or connected with our Parish who are unwell. Luke Dennis, Michael Meagher, Richard Davis, Eddie, Alison Barry-Jones (Qld), Tony Wright (Sydney).

We periodically start our sick list again. If you have someone you would like on the sick list please contact Jane at the office 9531 6120 or jane@shscparish.org.au

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

7 / 8 Oct: Twenty-seventh 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