

# 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 February 2022 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### **St Columba Church**

cnr Glenhantly & Normandy Rds  
Elwood 3184

### **Sacred Heart Church**

83 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182

### **St Columba Primary School**

24 Glenhantly 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 Associate:** Christine Mitchell  
[christine@shscparish.org.au](mailto:christine@shscparish.org.au)

**Parish Administrator:** Jane Hearn  
[jane@shscparish.org.au](mailto:jane@shscparish.org.au)

**SHM Pastoral Care Worker:**  
Karen Englebretsen  
[kenglebretsen@sacredheartmission.org](mailto:kenglebretsen@sacredheartmission.org)

**St Columba Principal:**  
Daniella Maddalena  
[dmaddalena@scelwood.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dmaddalena@scelwood.catholic.edu.au)

**Deputy Principal:** Bern Bradley  
[bernb@scelwood.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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:** Jacqui  
Robillard [svdpeskw@gmail.com](mailto:svdpeskw@gmail.com)

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

### **Reflection on the Gospel by Pope Francis: Invest Wisely**

*Produced by the Diocese of Wollongong; Faith Circles [faithcircles.dow.org.au](http://faithcircles.dow.org.au)*

Today's Gospel presents us Saint Luke's passage on the Beatitudes. The text is arranged into four beatitudes and four admonitions denoted by the expression, "woe to you". With these assertive and sharp words, Jesus opens our eyes and lets us look with his gaze, beyond appearances, beyond the surface and teaches us to discern situations with faith.

Jesus proclaims the poor, the hungry, the suffering and the persecuted blessed, and he admonishes those who are rich, satisfied, who laugh and are praised by the people. The reason behind this paradoxical beatitude lies in the fact that God is close to those who suffer, and intercedes to free them from their bondage. Jesus sees this; he already sees the beatitude beyond its negative reality. And likewise, the "woe to you" addressed to those who are doing well today, has the purpose of "waking" them from the dangerous deceit of egotism, and opening them up to the logic of love, while they still have the time to do so.

The page from today's Gospel thus invites us to reflect on the profound sense of having faith, which consists in our trusting completely in the Lord. It is about demolishing worldly idols in order to open our hearts to the true and living God. He alone can give our life that fullness so deeply desired and yet difficult to attain. Brothers and sisters, indeed there are many in our day too who purport to be dispensers of happiness: they come and promise us swift success, great profits within our reach, magical solutions to every problem and so on. And here it is easy to slip unwittingly into sinning against the first Commandment: namely idolatry, substituting God with an idol. Idolatry and idols seem to be things from another age, but in reality they are of all ages! Even today. They describe certain contemporary attitudes better than many sociological studies do.

This is why Jesus opens our eyes to reality. We are called to happiness, to be blessed, and we become so as of now, to the measure in which we place ourselves on the side of God, of his Kingdom, on the side of what is not ephemeral but rather endures for eternal life. We are happy if we acknowledge we are needy before God – and this is very important: "Lord, I need you" – and if, like him and with him, we are close to the poor, the suffering and the hungry. We too are like this before God: we are poor, suffering, we are hungry before God. Although we possess worldly goods, we experience joy when we do not idolize or sell our souls out to them, but are able to share them with our brothers and sisters. Today the liturgy invites us once again to question ourselves about this and to be truthful in our heart.

Jesus' Beatitudes are a decisive message which urges us not to place our trust in material and fleeting things, not to seek happiness by following smoke vendors – who are often vendors of death – experts in illusion. We should not follow them because they are unable to give us hope. May the Lord help us open our eyes to acquire a more penetrating view of reality, to heal the chronic shortsightedness with which the worldly spirit infects us. With his paradoxical Word he stirs us and enables us to recognize what truly enriches us, satisfies us, gives us joy and dignity; in other words, what truly gives meaning and fullness to our lives. May the Virgin Mary help us listen to this Gospel passage with open hearts and minds so that it may bear fruit in our life and that we may become witnesses of the happiness that does not disappoint, that of God who never disappoints.

## 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.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today we stand in footsteps millennia old. May we acknowledge the Elders, families and forebears of the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri tribes 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.

There are a range of important and interesting resources on the Church noticeboards and on our website supporting and highlighting Safeguarding in our parish. We encourage you to take the time to have a look at them and if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact one of the Safeguarding Committee.

## NEW STAFF AT ST COLUMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL

A very special welcome to the wonderful new staff who have commenced at our school. Conor Markey and Danielle Looney are our Gr 5/6 teachers, Sarah Hobbins and Jenna Wind are our Gr 1/2 teachers and Claire Van Loon is the IB PYP coordinator. We also warmly welcome Emma and Kelly who will be running the office while Julie has time off this year. Also, congratulations to Chantel who recently welcomed her second child, Gemma Julia.

## IB WORLD SCHOOL

Late last year, St Columba's successfully became a proud International Baccalaureate (IB) World School offering the Primary Years Programme (PYP). IB World Schools share a common philosophy and a commitment to improving the teaching and learning of a diverse and inclusive community of students, by delivering challenging, high-quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision.

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK: POPE'S MESSAGE

"Jesus' invitation to be merciful like the Father - writes the Pope - has particular significance for healthcare workers. I think of all those physicians, nurses, laboratory technicians, the support staff and the caretakers of the sick, as well as the numerous volunteers who donate their precious time to assist those who suffer". People who have made their service a mission. Because Your hands, which touch the suffering flesh of Christ, can be a sign of the merciful hands of the Father". The Holy Father reaffirms the importance of Catholic healthcare institutions and their commitment to caring for and treating people. "At a time in which the culture of waste is widespread and life is not always acknowledged as worthy of being welcomed and lived, these structures, like "houses of mercy", can be exemplary in protecting and caring for all life, even the most fragile, from its beginning until its natural end".

Finally, He concludes by recalling the indispensable service of the health care ministry, especially in spiritual assistance to the sick, and the commitment that each of us should have in making ourselves close to those who suffer. Because "the ministry of consolation is a task for every baptized person, mindful of the word of Jesus: "I was sick and you visited me" ( Mt 25:36)".

## JIM FROM TIMOR-LESTE

It wasn't that long ago that we farewelled Jim from our Sacred Heart community for six to twelve months to do community volunteer work with the Salesians. He has sent his first email, here is some of what he said:

"Here I am in Coromo Technical Training Centre and formation place of Salesian students studying to become priests and brothers. There are about 400 technological students here, girls also learning motor mechanics and IT. They have three formation houses for the priests and brothers. There are over 100 men in formation. It takes about 10 years to become a priest and brother as well as their studies they do two years of work in a parish or school during the time of training. I am living with 9 brothers and 8 priests. They are all very welcoming and supportive and it's good to be here. I am teaching English four times a week ( conversation, writing - God help them!) and will teach woodwork soon to the new students who are coming in to begin their TAFE course.

It will indeed be an education to live here for six months. I have already been to church in a village close by which was good to experience but again the village was very poor. It is indeed a big adventure. I am well looked after, washing done and meals cooked! The brothers will not allow me to wash up as it is disrespectful to have an old person washing. I must follow the custom of the land! I have a nice simple room with air conditioning. I have to get use to the cold showers in the mornings that wakes me up. I am up at six each day, mass at 6.30 and I join in on evening prayer at 7pm at night . Tea is at 7.30 pm. I do not go to morning office prayers as it's at 6 am, it's too early for me and I am not training for the priesthood so I get to sleep in."

## ONLINE FAITH FORMATION

Evangelisation Brisbane is offering another course in their online *Going Deeper* series, which they describe as a course for Catholics seeking to understand their faith in a contemporary context, taking faith beyond Sunday.

The course "... explores different aspects of what it means to live a Catholic life. Together we dive beneath the teachings and practices and instead ponder, 'what is this all for?' Here we enter into the wonder and mystery of God's relationship with each of us individually and collectively.

For further details, go to [evangelisationbrisbane.org.au](http://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au) and click on 'Adult Formation'.

## FAREWELL ASH

Last Sunday, Fr John gave a blessing to farewell Ash who is leaving our community after a number of short years to return home to Sydney.

In the time Ash has been with us, she has been a wonderful and helpful presence around our mass and our parish. Happy to always lend a hand, she would be found at the door welcoming people, setting up for Mass, taking up the offertory gifts, singing in the choir and a dedicated member of our Legion of Mary. We are sad to see her go but we pray that Sydney remembers their daughter and opens her heart to her, as she did to us. Farewell and take care Ash.



## RECEIVING NEWSLETTERS

Our PLDT are mindful of people who do not have internet access and who are not coming to Church because of health issues, or because of concerns over the virus infection rate. While we have newsletters available in the church and e-newsletters, this does not reach the above population. Therefore, it was decided that we will draw up a list of those who would like to receive the weekly newsletter by post. While we have an initial list, if you are aware of anyone who would like to receive the newsletter by post, please contact Jane in our office with their details. You can call: 9531 6120, email: [shsc@shshparish.org.au](mailto:shsc@shshparish.org.au) or post it on our website: [www.shscparish.org.au](http://www.shscparish.org.au)

## FEAST FOR FREEDOM

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre is aiming to raise \$1million through their Feast for Freedom campaign, to be held between 25-27 March. Feast for Freedom is a shared food experience in aid of people seeking asylum. Host a Feast in your home, workplace or in your community using recipes gifted to you by refugees to raise funds for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

Step 1: Register to host; Step 2: Receive your Host kit; start fundraising and meet the cooks who are providing the recipes; Step 3: Plan your Feast; Step 4: Host your Feast, raise funds for people seeking asylum and celebrate what unites us. To register, go to: [feastforfreedom.org.au](http://feastforfreedom.org.au)

## DECLARATION ON HUMAN FRATERNITY

On 4 February 2019, Pope Francis and the Grand Imam signed a [Declaration on Human Fraternity](#), a document that they hoped would 'serve as a guide for future generations to advance a culture of mutual respect in the awareness of the great divine grace that makes all human beings brothers and sisters.' James Hanvey SJ reflects on this document. Here are some of his thoughts:

"Both Christianity and Islam share a profound faith in God's mercy and compassion. It is this that each recognises in the other. Out of this experience and on behalf of their faiths, Pope Francis and the Grand Imam speak to a complex and fractured world. Faith does not look through our human eyes only. Taught by God, it tries to see our world in a new light, God's light. The Declaration names the suffering, exploitation, human and ecological destruction, violence, and the ways in which the patterns of human dysfunction register in vulnerable lives. Faith in God, who hears the cry of the poor, opens our ears to the voice of the forgotten and powerless. In the name of this merciful and compassionate God, the Declaration makes visible to our eyes those who have been written off as collateral damage in pursuit of larger economic and geo-political goals. To our ears, it gives voice the voiceless ones whose cries never reach above the noise of the international stock markets or the conversation of the politicians at their dinner tables and in their debating chambers. Yet, if faith can give us insight into the evil in our world, it can also give us courage to hope... A clear-eyed faith not only sees the inhumanity around us, it also sees the capacity to change, to bring forth something better for everyone, whatever their religion or nationality. It knows, too, that this cannot be done without the courage and the perseverance that faith can give. It can see that we are not alone in this work. God has not deserted us. This very God that some would use to divide us calls us to harness all our intelligence and will to build a more humane, just and compassionate world. A world that reflects the divine goodness rather than obscures it. Pope Francis and the Grand Imam witness to God's merciful activity in our world. Their Declaration offers the realism of a hope grounded in faith. It witnesses to the desire of both religions to see humanity flourish - an antidote to the despair and the nihilism that hides in the heart of secularism. Such faith allows us to order our will and our gifts to bring about a world where peace is attainable, and justice is real for all.

...We must work for a deeper understanding of the God who is the substance of our faith. Even when we acknowledge our differences, we can see that it is God who draws us together and will not let us cease the works of mercy and compassion, justice, dignity and peace. Indeed, it is this very God who cannot be made an obstacle to this work, but always calls us to transcend our limits. In service of this God, we discover that we can be greater than we can ever imagine. *Human Fraternity* is certainly an act of intervention that sets out the task and reminds us of the audacity of hope. In doing so, it gives the lie to the secular myth that faith in God has no future."

James Hanvey SJ is the Society of Jesus's Secretary for the Service of Faith from [thinkingfaith.org](http://thinkingfaith.org)



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 17: 5-8

**Responsorial Psalm:**

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 6: 17, 20-26

## OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**MONDAY 14 February - SUNDAY 20 February 2022**

**MONDAY** 2.00pm MASS at Sacred Heart Community (restricted access due to Covid)

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

**FRIDAY** 9.00am MASS at St Columba Church

**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 6: 27-38

### COLLECTIONS: Last two weekend

#### THANKSGIVING COLLECTION

Envelopes	\$107.00
Loose cash	\$175.85
Total	\$282.85
Average for 6 weeks	\$665.00

#### PRESBYTERY COLLECTION

Envelopes	\$224.20
Average for 6 weeks	\$270.09



### Breakdown of service & support: Jan-Dec 2021

Credit card	\$3540
Direct debit	\$14,461
Envelopes / Loose	\$6380
Tap n Go / Quest	\$2905
tithe.ly	\$14726

**Due to the amazing support and generosity of our parishioners - those close and further afield - we are still within budget despite the challenging year. Additionally, there were donations of approx \$20,000 made into the Presbytery account for Fr John which is wonderful and demonstrates the gratitude he inspires.**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

**All Recently Deceased:** Iolanda Iarussi

**1st Anniversary:** Neil Anderson, John O'Connor, Gwen Barry

**Anniversaries:** Howard Shelton 7.2.01, Florence Clarke, Jasmine Luke, Pauline Condon, Silvi Chand, Patricia Priest, Lola Scully, Michael Grigovich Val Belle, Paolo, Audrey Donovan, Barbara Zaia, Stuart Weir, Rodney Bayliss, John Ryan, Bridget Vaughan, Felix O'Donoghue, Mary Dillon, Annie Oldroyd, Tim Pressor, Mary Babington, Joe Andrews, Velia Teseo, Neme Mario Contino 7.2.16, Joseph Molnar, Mario Martinov, Lena Kovacevic, Penny Tamplin, Patricia McCrohan, Antonio Marussi, Harry Clarke, Patricia Fleming 1.2, Mary Cuddihy, Terzita Taranto 3.2, Edith O Keeffe 11.2, Gregory Murphy 10.2, John Boland, Daphne Duttolph, Adrian Keatley 8.2, Leo Flanagan, David Jellis 16.2, Patricia Poole 17.2.12, Jane Mary Boland 5.2.1983, Miroslav Ulehla 14.2.1983 Terry Ryan, Harry Foster 4.2.11, Kevin Healy 14.2.11, Henry Loader 5.2.11, Peg Whitehill 22.2.11, Leo Miller 13.2.11, Ziggy Didl, Sean Monaghan, Kevin L Estrange, Elizabeth Bourke 9.2.04, Alphonsus O Connor 2.2.74, Eileen Madigan 1.2.56, Fr Gordon Gebbie 7.2.01, Lorant Stary Feb 1979, William Kearney 21.2.07, Elizabeth Bourke 9.2.04,, David Jellis 16.2.12, William George Papworth 8.2.92, Marian Flanagan, Shane Brennan, Velia Teseo 12.2,

**Sick:** Di Lopez, Michael Cash, Carole Patten, Vasili Miller, Baby Lewis, Liz Heritage, Leanne Flynn, Colin Nettlebeck, Ruth French, Monique Belcourt, Jackie Pyster, Ghislaine O'Malley, Sarah O'Brien, Michael Ratliff, Peter Dwyer, Patricia Mizzi, David Rankin, Mary Throssell (Perth, W.A.), Carl Riddell, Pat Ficcaro.

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

**All ministry volunteers must be double vaccinated**  
**19 / 20 February: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### St Columba Welcomes

6pm Mass:

M: Volunteers needed

C / L: Brigid Arthur, Becca Heights

Set up: Mahtab Bahadorinejad

9am Mass:

M: Lou Bevilacqua, Maria Kovacevic

(currently only one volunteer needed at mass)

C / L: Lina Tesoriero, Dominic Tesoriero

Set up: Volunteer needed

### Sacred Heart Welcomes

11am Mass:

M: Daniel O'Connor

C / L: Nancye Edwards / Caroline Price, Anna Griffiths

Set up: Mahtab Nahadorinejad

**Prayer of the Faithful:** Daniel O'Connor