

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 31 AUG / 1 SEPT 2024 TWENTY-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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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.



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope (Rom 8:19-25)

[Source: Season of Creation Celebration Guide, To Hope and Act with Creation.]

Each year from 1 September to 4 October, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth. The theme this year is: To hope and act with Creation with the symbol, 'The firstfruits of hope', inspired by Romans 8:19-25.

In Roman 8:22, it states that: "We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labour". This biblical image pictures the Earth as a mother, groaning as in childbirth. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used. St Francis understood this when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his Canticle of Creatures. How can Mother Earth look after us if we do not look after her? Creation is groaning because of our selfishness and the unsustainable actions that harm her.

Along with our Sister, Mother Earth, creatures of all kinds, including humans, cry out because of the consequences of our destructive actions causing climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, and human suffering as well as Creation's suffering. And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather groaning, crying and actively striving for new life amidst the struggles.

There's a phrase commonly attributed to St Augustine that says: "Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are." As we witness the cries and sufferings of Earth and all creatures, let holy anger move us toward the courage to be hopeful and active for justice. We believe that the incarnation of God's Son offers guidance enabling us to face the troubling world. God is with us in efforts to respond to the challenges of the world we are living in.

Hope is trust that our action makes sense, even if the results are not immediately seen. We know how much bold action to restrain the climate and ecological crises is urgent, and we also know that ecological conversion is a slow process as humans are stubborn to change their minds, their hearts, and their ways of living. Sometimes we don't know what our actions should look like. As we journey in life, everyday we get new ideas and inspirations to find a better balance between the urgency and the slow rhythm of long-lasting change. We might not fully comprehend all that is happening, we might not understand the ways of God, but we are called to trust and follow with concrete and sustained actions, following the example of Christ, the redeemer of the whole cosmos.

(cont.)

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 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. Please feel free to contact a member of the Safeguarding Committee if you have any concerns or ideas.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE EARTH

God of Holy Dreaming, great Creator Spirit,
from the dawn of Creation you have given your children
the good things of our mothering Earth.

You spoke and the gum tree grew.

In the vast desert and the dense forest,
and in the cities and at the water's edge,
Creation sings your praise.

Your presence endures at the rock at the heart of our land.
When Jesus hung on the tree you heard the cries of all your
people

and became one with your wounded ones: the convicts, the
hunted, the dispossessed.

The sunrise of your Son coloured the Earth anew
and bathed it in glorious hope.

In Jesus, we have been reconciled to
you,
to each other and to your whole
Creation.

Lead us on, Great Spirit, as we gather
from the four corners of the Earth;
Enable us to walk together in trust
from the hurt and shame of the past into the full day
that has dawned in Jesus Christ.

Amen.



SEASON OF CREATION (CONT.)

What can be done: from small everyday acts to formation to advocacy: three options:

A. In the Season of Creation, the emphasis is on celebrating with other Christian Traditions who are caring for our Common Home. This month's Environmental Hint comes from the 'Lutherans Restoring Creation' [site](#). They suggest the following small but significant actions as one way to make a difference:

Eight tips for Water Conservation

- Do not let tap run.
- Run dish washer only when full. Wash small loads by hand.
- Rinse dishes for the dishwasher in a bowl rather than under running water.
- Store drinking water in refrigerator. Do not let the faucet run until the water is cool.
- Avoid bottled water. Use safe water bottles to be refilled with tap water.
- "Bring your own" safe reusable water bottle to be filled for use outside the home.
- Avoid use of disposals. They use a lot of water.
- Compost food scraps.
- Wash cars by hand (sponge and bucket) rather than in carwashes.

B. Catholic Earthcare Convocation!

From 12- 14 September, Catholic Earthcare are holding a convocation to 'wonder', 'weave' and 'heal' Earth and the whole of creation. Gather online during Day 1 and 2 to engage in keynote presentations, workshops, discussions and spiritual experiences. Day 3 gather together in diocesan hubs to transform learning into action.

For more information or to register, go to their website:

www.caritas.org.au or email: catholicearthcare@caritas.org.au

C. Support the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

This season, the Ecumenical Steering Committee are encouraging all Christian voices to unite through a joint advocacy initiative to support the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty which calls for a halt to new fossil fuel projects. This is the mechanism the world needs to manage a global just transition away from coal, oil and gas. For further information and ways to become involved, visit: www.fossilfuel treaty.org

FIRST EUCHARIST

Please remember in prayer our children who will be making their First Eucharist **NEXT Saturday, 7 September** at the 6.00 p.m. Mass at St Columba Church. There will be fifteen children from our school and one child from the wider parish. **We will be allocating the first seven pews to the children and their families so we ask your consideration in sitting elsewhere for this mass.**

We welcome and congratulate **Robert** who is making his First Eucharist this Sunday at 11.00am Mass at Sacred Heart.

May the children become what they receive: the heart of Jesus in the world.

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

We will be celebrating our **Parish Safeguarding Weekend** next weekend, 7 / 8 September. In the lead up we have been highlighting different aspects of our Safeguarding Framework. One concrete way we can all show our support is by committing to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne's Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct which has been endorsed and is fully supported by our PLDT. The Code of Conduct Declaration and Essential Training Module is signed / completed annually by staff and clergy and three yearly by volunteers. If any volunteers have not completed these please contact Jane at the office.

As a symbol of our support there is a special heart poster at the back of church which we are asking everyone to sign. It includes an introduction to our Safeguarding Framework and some words from the Code of Conduct. These hearts will be processed with Fr John on our Safeguarding Weekend and we thank everyone who has signed them already.

Further information and resources on Safeguarding are available on our **'Keeping Our Community Safe'** noticeboards, on our website <https://www.shscparish.org.au/keeping-our-community-safe> and on the Archdiocese's Safeguarding website <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding>

JESUIT IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY AUSTRALIA (JISA)

A Season of Creation Contemplations for 2024

JISA is offering five contemplations over five weeks to help you pause, heal and sustain your relationship with Earth, and with God in Earth. Contemplations to help us work together on behalf of all Creation. This year we will pray on creation with our senses.

We invite you to pause and immerse your senses amongst conferences of God's creation... with stones, winds, waters, trees, and birds. You can take these short audio reflections out into Nature... and you can share them with your friends and colleagues. Complete your registration to receive your contemplation in your inbox each week during the *Season of Creation* - from Wednesday 4 September to Wednesday 2 October 2024. Weekly contemplations are offered free of charge. You can also make an optional financial gift to the ministry when you register. For further details: www.jisa.org.au

YOUNG MERCY LINKS VIC PAINT AND SIP

Young Mercy Links Vic is hosting a Paint and Sip with a twist! In true Mercy fashion, our 'Sip' component will be different teas to try as you sit down for a painting class with high tea style treats. We are raising funds for the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and the Arrupe Center that some of our members visited on our recent Cambodia Immersion. The JRS works hard with people living with disabilities in Cambodia so join us as we further support their efforts!

Sunday 22 September 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Mercy Hub, 617 Nicholson Street, Carlton North Victoria 3054. To book: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1266265>

FATHERS DAY

Wishing all of the fathers and fathers figures in our lives and in our hearts a very Happy Father's Day. A Father's Day blessing and holding cross will be handed to all fathers and father figures at masses this weekend.

PARISH CELEBRATION

Congratulations to pianist Paul Healy on his 40th birthday and 20th anniversary of playing in our parish. Thank you to his family and all who joined us after 11.00am Mass last weekend.

We are very lucky to have active choirs at both churches and Paul is an integral member of our Sacred Heart choir.



RESEARCH PROJECT TO STUDY THE FUTURE OF LAY GOVERNANCE IN A SYNODAL CHURCH

Australian Catholic University (ACU) theologians will team up with one of the country's leading governance experts to contribute to the ongoing studies into lay leadership models in the Church. Associate Professor Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF and Associate Professor Rev. Jamie Calder SJ from ACU's School of Theology will work with Adjunct Professor Susan Pascoe and researchers at Durham University to explore Church governance models that encourage lay leadership. Findings from the research will be used to understand the role of lay leadership in a synodal Church.

Assoc. Prof. Heaney said the research would help to improve ongoing formation of lay leaders through a theological lens. "As a theologian, I'm interested in exploring the theologies of ministry underpinning these emerging forms and how they interweave and support a synodal Church that involves lay people in discernment and decision-taking. This theological lens will help us identify and provide adequate resourcing and formation for such leadership." Assoc. Prof. Rev. Calder said lay people who agree to take up ministerial leadership positions needed to understand and identify what the Church expected of them. "This is where mission formation is crucial because formation is not just a professional development course or a weekend retreat, but continually reflecting on the wisdom of Christian tradition and ethics through a process of discernment in ministering to the world in the name of Jesus and God's Church".

ARCHDIOCESAN JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

Expressions of Interest Now Open The Archdiocese of Melbourne will run two pilgrimages to Rome next year as we celebrate Jubilee Year 2025. The first pilgrimage will be held in May and June 2025, coinciding with the Jubilee for Families, Grandparents and the Elderly. The second pilgrimage will be for young adults (18-35 years), journeying to the Jubilee of Youth in July and August 2025. To express interest email <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ST83H75>

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8

Responsorial Psalm:

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second Reading: James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 7: 1-8,14-15, 21-23

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 2 September - SUNDAY 8 September 2024

MONDAY 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Community, 101 Grey Street, St Kilda (WWCC required)

THURSDAY 11.00am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

FRIDAY 9.00am MASS in the Parish House, Elwood

SATURDAY 6.00pm First Eucharist MASS at 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 7: 31-37

COLLECTIONS: Last weekend

Church Account Collection	Presbytery Account Collection
Envelopes \$37.00	Total \$296.20
Loose cash \$400.90	
Total \$437.90	
Average for 32 weeks \$412.62	Average for 32 weeks \$254.65

PARISH SERVICE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

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](https://tithe.ly/give?c=911524) - 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.

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."



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Nermina Omeragic

1st Anniversaries: Pat Ferry, Neil Ashton, Steve Turba, Ben Donoghue, Kate Rockell, Cecila Araos, Kathleen Dennis, Bridget Phelan, Genevieve Morcom 23.8.

Anniversaries: Frank Alfonso 16.8.2021, Maria Borgia 13.8.2019, Tim O'Driscoll, Terence Kennedy 23.4.22, Peggy Newman, Gregory Bajien, John Bolger, Adele Foldesi, Greta Fisher, Alecia Barker, Stanley Mendis, Rob King, Garry (Gaz) Stewart, Doug Heighway, Daniel Voyles, Andrew Foletta, Anne Speedie, Maggie McKewan, Ralene Finlay, Steven Benstead, Tina Sylvester 2.8, Des George, Peggy Keane, Nick Cincotta, Ted Leale, John McEvoy, Chris Li Donni, Marie Rosengrave, Emma Johnson, Paul Cumming, Mary Schneider, Patricia Davies, James Hughes, Oliver Moore, Maree Hurley, Patricia Davies, Antonio Amarto, Muriel Hyndman, Muriel Lysiuk, Jeremy Warwarick, Gerard Green, baby Felix, Ray Alsaker, James Foley, Yvonne Gorman, Maria Czajkowski, Fr Michael Sheehy Arthur Carbo 12.8, Jan Altman, Cynthia Griffin, Marion Flanagan, Shane Brennan, Leo Flanagan, Margaret Papworth 16.08.80, Danny Martinov 28.8.11, Peter Burgess 30.8.10, Clare Carmody 1.8.09, Noreen O Connor 14.8.09, Tom King 17.8.09, May Pearce 24.8.11, Lyn Von Oudtshoorn 1.8.09, Daniel Cassar 17.8.05, Shirley Evans 11.8.08, Perc Marten 12.8.97, Cherry Wood- Wallis 21.8.08, Monica Bourke 14.8.00, Therese Johnson 23.8.98, Sheleagh Davidson 3.8.11, Shane Walsh 7.8.11, Robert Callaghan 8.8.1, Rinaldo Cova 9.8.14

Sick: Lol Patten (UK), Jackie Pyster, Ramon Lopez, Colin Meanwell, Luke Dennis, 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, Liz Hawes, Fr Terry Kean, Peter Nicholson, Mark Weinberg, Sophia, Ned Connors, Jean Copley, Rose Fonti, Alexander, Felipe and Anne (friends of Slawek), Graham Townsend.

If you have someone you would like on the sick list please contact Jane at the office.

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

7/8 September: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time **St Columba Welcomes**

6pm Mass:

M: Michael Illott

C / L: First Eucharist children

Set up: Mahtab Bahadorinejad

9am Mass:

M: Bernadette Cheet, Frances Pititto

C / L: Priscilla No, Tony Lopes

Set up: Trevor Fletcher, Marcelle Garnier & Priscilla No

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: Liturgy team