

# Risen



# Christ

Pentecost Sunday - Year A

23 & 24 May 2026

**The Catholic Communities of  
Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham & St Francis Xavier, Montmorency**



We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation who are the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respect to the elders past, present and emerging.



## The women of Pentecost

*This parish has a commitment to ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our community.  
We support the recommendations of the Royal Commission into institutional abuse and pray for all the survivors.*



## PARISH TEAM & INFORMATION

### OUR PEOPLE & OUR CONTACT DETAILS



#### **Parish Priest**

**Michael Sierakowski - Moderator**

[Michael.Sierakowski@cam.org.au](mailto:Michael.Sierakowski@cam.org.au)

#### **Parish Office**

all correspondence to:  
86 Mayona Road,  
Montmorency Vic 3094  
9435 4742

[RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au](mailto:RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au)

**Kate Kogler:**

**Parish Secretary**  
Tue-Fri 9am-3pm

**Peter Williams:**

**Safeguarding Officer**

[RisenChrist.ChildSafety@cam.org.au](mailto:RisenChrist.ChildSafety@cam.org.au)

#### **Volunteers**

**Marisa Capuana:** Various

**Kerry Mash:** Wed & Fri 10am-3pm

[www.melbcatholic.org/risenchristparish](http://www.melbcatholic.org/risenchristparish)

Facebook: [Risen Christ Parish](https://www.facebook.com/RisenChristParish)

Risen Christ Parish Bulletin items:

[RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au](mailto:RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au)

#### **Schools**

**Holy Trinity Primary School**

Principal: Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

[principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au)

[www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au](http://www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au)

**Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School**

Principal: Rudy Vail: 9439 7824

[school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au)

[www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au)

**St Francis Xavier Primary School**

Principal: Jo Nolen: 9435 8474

[principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au)

[www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au)

## **Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events**

### **Saturday 23**

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharist & Confirmation Montmorency

### **Sunday 24 - Pentecost**

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

### **Tuesday 26**

9:30am Mass & SFX Yr 2, 3 & 4 Montmorency

10:00am Marian Month of May - Rosary Montmorency

7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community Montmorency

### **Wednesday 27**

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

7:00pm Marian Month of May - Rosary Eltham

### **Thursday 28**

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:00am Emmaus Small Church Community Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation Eltham

### **Friday 29**

9:30am Mass Eltham

### **Saturday 30**

6:00pm Mass Montmorency

### **Sunday 31**

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

### **Monday 1st June**

9:00am Days for Girls Montmorency

### **Tuesday 2**

9:30am Mass & SFX Yr 6 Montmorency

10:00am Rosary Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community Montmorency

### **Wednesday 3**

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

1:00pm Kairos Small Church Community Montmorency

### **Thursday 4**

9:00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

## **RECONCILIATION**

**available half an hour before  
any weekday or weekend Parish Mass.**

### **Collections: 10 & 17 May 2026**

|                     |                    |            |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------|
| <b>Thanksgiving</b> | Cash<br>Electronic | \$1,467.00 |
| <b>Presbytery</b>   | Cash<br>Electronic | \$1,318.25 |

### **Thanksgiving Offering**

| Month    | Total       |
|----------|-------------|
| February | \$20,922.62 |
| March    | \$21,282.67 |
| April    | \$23,331.17 |

## **Thanksgiving**

Dear Parishioners,

Following is a list of ways in which you can give towards the running of our Parish (left to right):

A) EFTPOS terminals

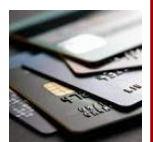
B) scan the QR code (<https://bit.ly/45ifhRp>) & donate to any Parish finance campaign including Thanksgiving, Presbytery Offerings, baptisms etc

C) cash/coins in the collection baskets at each church

D) thanksgiving envelopes

E) set up payments from credit/debit cards/bank account

Thank you for your generous support,  
Michael





**Let us pray for all those who have gone  
before us marked with the sign of faith ...**

For those in need of **healing**, remembering especially:

*Baby Margot Brady, Darby (13 years old), Lizzie, Peter, Stephen Andrew,  
Des Arneson, Bill Boyce, Penny Boyce, Vincent Cipolletta, Nora Edmond,  
Pat Hosmer, Siobhan Lappin, Mary Luttick, Yvonne Mee, Jarrod Mizzi,  
Cindy & Ed Morrissey, Bernard Murray,  
Regina Roszczenko (mother of Liz Gray), Phil Routar, Audrey Tunks,  
Nicholas Turnbull, Jeanne Vanderwert, Brian Witten*

For those whose **anniversaries** are at this time:

*John Whiteside (1st anniversary)  
John Patrick Wall (50th anniversary)  
Tom Barnsley (Snr), John Carmody, Sara-Theresa Concisom,  
Valentina Di Benedetto, Doris John, Kathleen Lagerewskij, Jack Moylan*

To include an anniversary please contact Parish Office  
9435 4742 or [RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au](mailto:RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au).

**Gospel: John 20:19-23**

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

**Reflection - Break Open the Word 2026**

Fifty days after Easter, we go back to the evening of the first day of the week - Easter day. The risen Lord twice greet the disciples with peace. He sends them to continue his own mission of proclaiming God's kingdom.

Then he breathes on them to impart the gift of the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins. The presence of the risen Lord and the working of the Holy Spirit are dimensions of the same Paschal mystery. Pentecost is the last day of Easter.

John alone speaks of the Spirit as Paraclete (or Advocate as the word is commonly translated). The term has the legal connotation of defence lawyer, but it can also mean counsellor or intercessor. In his farewell address to his disciples, Jesus uses the term for the Holy Spirit in a warmer way. Like Paul's account in the second reading, the Spirit, with the Father and Christ himself, will come to make their home in us. It is an intimate relationship of love.

Jesus then explains that the Spirit will be their teacher and guide for the ministry that lies ahead. With these farewell words of Jesus at the Last Supper, the paschal cycle of Jesus' death and resurrection is drawn to a close.

**Roster for week ending 24 May 2026**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Armstrong, Miranda | E10:00 |
| Cotter, Anne       | W8:30  |
| Cseh, Ferenc       | E10:00 |
| Davidson, John     | W8:30  |
| Donnellan, Denice  | E10:00 |
| Donnellan, Denice  | H10:00 |
| Dunell, Linda      | E10:00 |
| Grande, Silvana    | H10:00 |
| Heyhoe, Margaret   | C10:00 |
| John, Audry        | H10:00 |
| John, Des          | H10:00 |
| Maloney, Jo        | W6:00  |
| Maynes, Phil       | W6:00  |
| Nolan, Mike        | PRYR   |
| Reardon, Kathy     | ASE    |
| Ryan Family        | PRSE   |
| Scully, Greg       | E10:00 |
| Watson, Denis      | CLNR   |
| Williams, Peter    | R10:00 |

**Roster for week ending 31 May 2026**

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Bowyer, Darrell      | ASRC   |
| Bowyer, Rosemary     | ASRC   |
| Boyd, Mary           | PRYR   |
| Castellanos, Rodrigo | E10:00 |
| Cricco, Melanie      | H10:00 |
| Donnellan, Denice    | E10:00 |
| Drljo, Frank         | CLNR   |
| French, Jossie       | W8:30  |
| Haines, Geoff        | C10:00 |
| Hall, Vali           | ASE    |
| Illiffe, Yvonne      | E10:00 |
| Love, Philip         | W8:30  |
| Lyons, Maria         | H10:00 |
| Maloney, Nigel       | W6:00  |
| Roy, Yvonne          | E10:00 |
| Scannell Family      | PRSE   |
| Skipper, Patsy       | CLNR   |
| Smith, Neil          | E10:00 |
| Stone, Nan           | W6:00  |
| Taylor, Trish        | R10:00 |
| Volunteer please     | H10:00 |
| Volunteer please     | H10:00 |

**ASE** = Altar Society @ Eltham;

**C** = Commentator;

**CLKR** = PowerPoint Clicker @ SFX;

**CLNR** = Cleaner @ SFX; **R** = Reader;

**E** = Eucharistic Minister; **H** = Hospitality;

**LoW-01** = Liturgy of the Word with  
Communion @ SFX;

**PRSE** = Pilgrim Rosary Statue @ Eltham;

**M** = Music; **W** = Minister of the Word



### **Bishop Terry Curtin on retirement and encountering ‘quiet holiness’**

When he was ordained a bishop at 69 years old - a relatively late age for such an appointment - Bishop Terence ‘Terry’ Curtin thought, ‘Well, this will be a short run, because at 75 you retire. I had hoped quietly though that maybe I might get 10 years in.’ In fact, I got to 79 [years], so my prayer was answered!’

Not long after being appointed an auxiliary bishop of Melbourne, Bishop Curtin attended a formation course for new bishops in Rome and remembers a jovial meeting with Pope Francis. ‘I said to him, “I’m the oldest of the new bishops here - I’m 70.” And he looked at me and said, “a bishop at this age? This pope must be crazy!”’

There was another newly appointed bishop present at the same gathering: one Bishop Robert Prevost - now known as Pope Leo XIV. Bishop Curtin’s cousin David, who was at the time provincial of the Augustinians in Australia and South-East Asia, encouraged his cousin to look up ‘Bob Prevost’, saying, ‘He’s a very good man.’

‘David said to me that he’d been invited to Peru for his episcopal ordination but he had to reply, “Sorry, I’ve got a better offer in Australia.” And that was my ordination in Melbourne!’

A decade later - and a few years past the age of retirement - Bishop Curtin encountered Bishop Prevost (by this time a cardinal) while on pilgrimage to Rome. ‘By then he was in charge of the Dicastery for Bishops, so I said, “Look, I’m 79 and I’m still an auxiliary bishop in Melbourne.” And he said, “I thank you for your service,” which wasn’t quite what I was looking for!’ says Bishop Curtin, laughing.

While he officially retired in January 2025, it wasn’t quite the smooth transition that he’d hoped for, as six weeks later, he was diagnosed with cancer in his right lung.

‘So that changed things,’ he says. ‘I mean, it’s under control. I’m in good hands medically, and I’m in God’s hands ultimately, and that’s okay.’

The thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Curtin finally took place on Saturday 16 May 2026 at St Patrick’s Cathedral, with friends, family, colleagues, students and previous parishioners filling the Cathedral to offer their gratitude for the bishop’s many years of service across academia, diocesan ministry and parish life.

Before his episcopal ordination, Bishop Curtin had already served as a beloved parish priest and academic at Australian Catholic University and as master of Catholic Theological College. Following his episcopal ordination in 2014, he served as Bishop for the Northern Region of the Archdiocese and as Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and Mission, while also leading the Bishops’ Commission for Doctrine and Morals.

‘I was the last president of the Melbourne College of Divinity before it became the University of Divinity,’ he explains. ‘And what was really wonderful about that was people of Christian faith from different denominations all enormously supportive of each other.’

**Full article:** <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/bishop-terry-curtin-on-retirement-and-encountering-quiet-holiness>



### **The most radical act: Francine Pirola on marriage and ministry**

Getting married and having a family may seem like an ordinary path. But for Francine Pirola, it is ‘the most radical, courageous act’ in our world today.

That conviction has been shaped by nearly four decades of walking with couples through the joys and struggles of married life. As a Catholic marriage educator and co-founder of SmartLoving, Francine sees those pressures not only within individual relationships, but in a wider culture that is increasingly individualistic and sceptical of the permanence of love.

It is because of these pressures that she believes couples need to invest in their marriages more intentionally than ever, nourishing their relationships long before crisis arrives.

‘It’s hard to feel motivated for something when you don’t have a felt need,’ she says. ‘It’s like going to the doctor when you’re really healthy.’ But if we wait until the marriage is in trouble to seek support, she argues, we are already behind. ‘If you want to avoid having to go to the doctor for a sickness, it’s much better to be pre-emptive.’

It is this vision that Francine and her husband Byron will bring to Melbourne this month as headline speakers at ‘Beyond the Vows’, a one-day Catholic marriage retreat at Catholic Regional College Caroline Springs on Saturday 30 May.

#### **A long formation**

Francine’s formation in marriage ministry began long before she and Byron started teaching other couples. Both sides of their family were shaped by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, a Catholic movement that helps married couples renew and deepen their relationship through retreat-style weekends and events.

‘We have a long pedigree in marriage ministry,’ Francine says. ‘Byron’s parents introduced Worldwide Marriage Encounter to Australia back in the 1970s ... and my parents were amongst their first recruits.’

For Byron and Francine’s families, marriage was never treated simply as a relationship to be managed. It was a vocation with a clear purpose: to make God’s love visible in ordinary family life and to be a source of renewal for the Church.

Inspired by this vision, Francine and Byron soon felt drawn into the ministry themselves. A key influence was Fr Chuck Gallagher SJ, the originator of Worldwide Marriage Encounter, who later celebrated their wedding. In the early years of their marriage, Byron’s work took them to New York, where the couple were able to spend extended time with Fr Gallagher while he was developing early prototypes of his marriage programs.

‘What consolidated it for us is we had some really good formation by Fr Chuck,’ Francine says. ‘He was very committed to the understanding that the renewal of marriage and the empowerment of marriage was central to the renewal of the Church.’

**Full article:** <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/the-most-radical-act-francine-pirola-on-marriage-and-ministry>



### Eco Justice Hub lives the values of *Laudato si'*

A cloud of happiness surrounds a group of volunteer gardeners taking a well-earned tea break after harvesting a crop of vegetables destined for a nearby soup kitchen. This appealing camaraderie and important purpose are just part of what the Jesuit Social Services' Ecological Justice Hub in Brunswick provides.

The place is a fine example of the principles of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*, where the call for environmental stewardship intertwines with a nurturing of humanity. Here, 'care for the planet, care for the poor' is heeded at the local community level in a practical and genuinely accessible way.

It is an unusual setting for a garden, set on the basketball court of an old primary school. The raised garden beds sit right on the asphalt, but the constant digging-in of rich compost and mulching of the plants counteracts the harshness of the ground beneath. The greenery is cooling and emits a fresh, clean scent throughout the hub.

Senior project adviser Mick McGarvie explains the hub's approach, capturing both its purpose and its scale. 'Jesuit social services generally deals with addressing disadvantage in the community through social means, but it also wanted to find ways of addressing disadvantage through environmental or ecological means,' he says.

'Several years ago, we established this operation to deal with ecological justice - that is lack of access, lack of knowledge, lack of understanding, lack of resources. So this is a teaching operation, it's a place of demonstration, a place of social interaction. And it's a place that recognises others performing social services as well.'

He describes the everyday rhythm of the work as revolving around the neighbourhood's needs. 'For example, we grow food and harvest it seasonally and take it every Tuesday over to the Uniting Church, which has a kitchen that feeds rough sleepers and lonely people. They do like our fresh garden greens! They get a lot of variation through the year, but we're able to supply them with one or two boxes of fresh garden greens each Tuesday.'

This week, volunteers harvested rhubarb and micro greens for the Olive Way kitchen on Sydney Road. As Mick explains, the Uniting Church's hospitality centre gets other food donations but very little fresh produce. And the freshness of the Eco Justice Hub's crops cannot be beaten, being in the ground at 9am and on the table by noon.

The bounty is the result of hard work and carefully planned cultivation. Their compost is made on site from carefully shredded green waste, coffee grounds donated by Reground - which collects from cafes across Melbourne and donates to 'anyone who'll make it into compost', Mich says - and sawdust from a local furniture maker. Seedlings are grown in the greenhouse before being transferred to the garden beds. Snails are not a problem, as they're unable to navigate the asphalt surroundings to get to the delicious plants.

**Full article:** <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/eco-justice-hub-lives-the-values-of-laudato-si>



### Sherry Weddell to speak at Proclaim26

#### on how to respond to renewed spiritual hunger

Internationally renowned Catholic author and expert in discipleship Sherry A Weddell will headline Proclaim26, a two-day Archdiocesan gathering taking place on 26-27 June 2026 at the Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne, at a time of renewed curiosity in faith and growing spiritual hunger.

Developed by Proclaim: The Office for Mission Renewal, the gathering will bring together clergy, religious, lay leaders and faithful from parishes and communities to be formed, equipped and sent to share the Gospel in their local communities.

The theme of Proclaim26 is 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Gospel to all creation' (Mark 16:15), the 'Great Commission' Jesus gave to the Church before his ascension. The gathering aims to inspire and equip participants to respond to that same mission today.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will open the gathering, which comes at a significant moment in the life of the Archdiocese, as parishes continue to respond to the call to become vibrant, vital and viable communities of faith.

Across Melbourne and in many parts of the Western world, there is a growing openness to faith and renewed spiritual curiosity, particularly among younger generations and families. Parishes are reporting increasing numbers of people exploring what it means to be in relationship with God, with a significant rise in catechumens and candidates entering full communion with the Catholic Church in recent years.

In the Archdiocese of Melbourne alone, approximately 550 people entered the Church this year, a 57 per cent increase on 2024, which was itself a 40 per cent rise on 2023.

An outer north-easter parish St Mary's in Greensborough, pastoral associate Sandy Starbuck has noticed this spiritual reawakening, particularly among young people. 'People are looking for that zeal, love and joy of being Catholic,' she says. She recalls a child preparing to receive the sacraments simply saying, 'I want to receive Jesus.' One parent told Sandy that she wanted their children to know 'there is something permanent in their life.'

'Jesus is very real,' Sandy says. 'You can see it and hear it in people's lives. There is evil in this world. And the only way [to respond] is to rise up and proclaim that Jesus is the way.'

Sherry Weddell is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Catherine of Siena Institute and one of the most influential global voices in discipleship and mission renewal. Her bestselling book *Forming Intentional Disciples* has shaped practice in hundreds of dioceses around the world.

At Proclaim26, she will deliver keynote addresses drawing on decades of experience accompanying parishes through the stages of conversion, helping communities recognise how people come to faith and how they can be accompanied into a life in Christ.

Friday 26 June will be particularly aimed at clergy and parish leaders, and will explore the 'what' and 'why' of the Church's mission. Saturday 27 June will be open to all. The day will be dedicated to offering practical resources and tips to continue the journey of renewal.

**Full article:** <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/sherry-weddell-to-speak-at-proclaim26>



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
VICTORIA  
*good works*

**ANNUAL REPORT:  
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY,  
MONTMORENCY CONFERENCE.**

We would like to share with the parishioners of the Risen Christ Parish, the families at St. Francis Xavier and Holy Trinity Primary Schools and Catholic Ladies College our

**Annual Report  
for the period of May 1 2025 to April 30, 2026.**

The Montmorency Conference of SVDP wishes to thank all the parishioners and the school communities of St. Francis Xavier, Holy Trinity and C.L.C. for their financial support over the past twelve months which has enabled the Montmorency Conference members to make a real difference in the lives of the disadvantaged and the underprivileged people in our local community. Unfortunately, we do not receive any monies from any of the three tiers of government to support our work but we are inspired by the message of the Gospels and our Catholic Social Teachings to offer a 'hand up not a hand out' to people in need in our own community.

The current cost-of-living crisis, increases in rents, food and utility prices, interest rates and the prediction that the current state of world affairs will only make matters worse means the calls on our services will almost certainly increase. However, in the past year because of your generosity we have been able to provide assistance to the value of **\$41,043 to 245 adults and 152 children** in our area. The Summary below covers material assistance to people in need in the Montmorency/Briar Hill/Lower Plenty/St.Helena/Eltham North areas:

|                                                             |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Accommodation (including rent relief)                       | \$2,000         |
| Food Vouchers/ Supermarket cards/ Donated Food              | \$15,202        |
| Vinnies Cards (for Vinnies stores)                          | \$2,849         |
| Bills paid                                                  | \$1,543         |
| Education expenses                                          | \$3,042         |
| Furniture / Painting /Carpet/ essential household utilities | \$11,420        |
| Christmas Gifts and Vouchers                                | \$2,600         |
| Other                                                       | \$2,387         |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                               | <b>\$41,043</b> |

Our members conducted **154 home visits and 26 visits at other locations as well as 31 visits on other occasions where no material assistance was required** but were follow up visits, hospital visits or visits for general support.

**SVdP Winter Appeal**

**On the last weekend in May,  
Saturday 30 and Sunday 31,  
(i.e. next weekend)**

**we are conducting our annual Winter Appeal.**

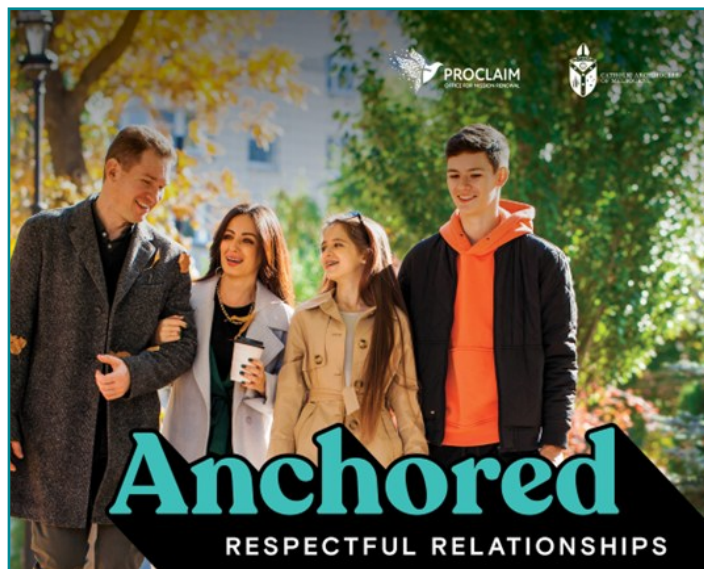
In next week's bulletin there will be more information about how to donate. On behalf of those we have assisted in the past year, many many thanks to all who have made our work possible in the last 12 months.

**Catholic Theological College  
Online Information Session  
Explore Philosophy, Theology,  
and Ministry-related courses  
Monday 15 June at 7pm (AEST)**

Register via our website: [ctc.edu.au/information-session](http://ctc.edu.au/information-session)



For more information contact  
[Dr Maureen Saclot, Registrar](mailto:Dr.Maureen.Saclot@ctc.edu.au)



**Anchored**  
RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Parents and caregivers are called to help teenagers make choices that foster respectful and virtuous relationships, honour dignity and reflect love.



Scan the QR code to register, or go to [www.trybooking.com/DLTHX](http://www.trybooking.com/DLTHX)

**THU 11 JUN  
7PM-8PM  
FREE ONLINE  
WEBINAR**



**PROCLAIM**  
26-27 JUNE 2026

Go out to the whole world;  
proclaim the gospel to all creation.  
MARK 16:15



International Speaker:  
**Sherry Weddell**  
Founder of the  
Catherine of Siena Institute



An inspiring two-day event to form, equip and send you to share Christ in your communities.  
Discover the program and register at [melbournecatholic.org/proclaim26](http://melbournecatholic.org/proclaim26)

## Prayers of the Faithful for 24 May 2026 Pentecost Sunday

**Leader:** A in the days of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit continues to breathe life into the Church and the world. Today, may she renew the face of the earth and come to the aid of all humanity.

Come Holy Spirit into our hearts. We pray for our Church which knows joy and pride in its achievements, but also knows doubt and can stray from the truth. Holy Spirit enlighten our faith journey.

*Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

Come into our hearts Defender of the Poor. We pray for the outcasts, those facing material poverty, or poverty of joy, hope and well-being. Spirit of consolation descend on us all.

*Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

O Light Divine! We pray for those searching for the truth who are misled, or who are victims of sects and manipulation, or who come to dead ends in their search for meaning. Come and fill them with your wisdom and saving grace.

*Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

Spirit of eternal joy! We pray for those recently baptised and/or confirmed, for those recently married or those who will soon be ordained. To all those who have the faith, grant your seven sacred gifts.

*Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

Holy Spirit, give strength, comfort and peace to all those who are ill, especially those named in our bulletin. Give your strength and comfort also to those who care for the sick or elderly.

*Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

Spirit of everlasting peace and hope! Grant eternal rest to those who have died recently and to those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Tom Barnsley (Snr), John Carmody, Sara-Theresa Concisom, Valentina Di Benedetto, Doris John, Kathleen Lagerewskij, Jack Moylan, John Patrick Wall and John Whiteside.*

*Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Leader:** Come Holy Spirit, listen to the prayers of those who have their faith and trust in you. Deign to grant our petitions, you who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen

## Marion Month of May

Rosary for  
Our Lady's Month of May  
will be at:

Our Lady Help  
of Christians  
at 7:30pm  
every Wednesday evening

and

St Francis Xavier  
at 10am  
every Tuesday after Mass  
in May



Since the world  
is very much in need  
of prayers for peace,  
we would like  
to encourage you to join us.

For further information,  
please contact  
Parish Office 9435 4742

## Lebanon Emergency Relief Appeal

The situation in Lebanon remains extremely fragile – over 1.1 million people displaced nationwide.

Stand with the people of Lebanon today.

**DONATE NOW**  
[caritas.org.au/lebanon](https://caritas.org.au/lebanon)



Photo: Caritas Lebanon



ONE IN CHRIST  
UNITED IN  
*Mission*  
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

**catholic mission**

Free call: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/united](https://catholicmission.org.au/united)



In two weeks, we will share the story of Yamikani\*, a young boy in rural Malawi whose daily journey to school is filled with hardship.

You will also meet Fr Matthew Semba who is leading a project to build a new school close to home, so children like Yamikani can learn safely and begin to imagine a future beyond survival.

Through your prayers and support, you are part of this mission, helping to ensure that no child is left behind.

To learn more about Catholic Mission and our work, please go to [catholicmission.org.au/united](https://catholicmission.org.au/united).

\*Name changed for privacy



**41. Synodality helps the Church grow**

Growth in faith often comes through dialogue and shared discernment.

**42. Synodality is a gift**

It is not an obligation imposed from above, but a gift for the Church's renewal.

**43. Synodality and faithfulness**

True synodality deepens fidelity to Christ and His Gospel.

**44. Synodality is about relationship**

At its heart, synodality is relational - walking with God and with one another.

**45. Synodality and witness**

A Church that walks together gives a powerful witness to the world.



## National Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

### ***All In for National Reconciliation Week 2026***

The theme for National Reconciliation Week 2026 is *All In*, a call for all Australians to commit wholeheartedly to reconciliation every single day.

*All In* makes clear that reconciliation is not a spectator sport and that all of us must step away from the sidelines and take action to make change.

The theme also reminds us that reconciliation and advancing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights isn't a passive activity, and is not solely the responsibility of First Nations people, who have carried the weight of championing, explain and acting for far too long.

Reconciliation will not happen by itself, and it will not happen without all of us.