

Risen Christ



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

11 & 12 July 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.



NAIDOC WEEK
50 YEARS DEADLY
5-12 JULY 2026

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.

Reflection - Break Open the Word 2026

Around a table with food and drink, we tell stories. In the quiet moments before bed, we tell stories. Gathering around a campfire, we tell stories. Human beings have told stories since the dawn of time. They are a way of connecting with others and sharing experiences. With a story, we take others on a journey and give them a different perspective. A story is an offering to the listener, allowing a variety of interpretations. Stories are open. Jesus often taught using stories, parables.



*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

Parish Office

all correspondence to:

86 Mayona Road,
Montmorency Vic 3094
9435 4742

RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

Tue-Fri 9am-3pm

Peter Williams:

Safeguarding Officer

RisenChrist.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Volunteers

Marisa Capuana: Various

Kerry Mash: Wed & Fri 10am-3pm

www.melbcatholic.org/risenchristparish

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

Risen Christ Parish Bulletin items:

RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au

Schools

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Principal: Rudy Vail: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Jo Nolen: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

RECONCILIATION

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

Collections: 21 & 28 June 2026

Thanksgiving	Cash	\$1,817.15
	Electronic	\$7,464.50
Presbytery	Cash	\$1,509.05
	Electronic	\$550.00

Thanksgiving Offering

Month	Total
April	\$23,331.17
May	\$18,752.55
June	\$22,507.82

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Saturday 11

6:00pm Mass

Montmorency

Sunday 12

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Monday 13

9:00am Days for Girls

Montmorency

Tuesday 14

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 15

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

1:00pm Kairos Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thursday 16

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation

Eltham

Friday 17

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

Saturday 18

12:00pm Baptisms : Jax, Kye, Lincoln

Montmorency

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 19

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharist

Eltham

Tuesday 21

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Eltham

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 22

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

Thursday 23

9:00am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am Emmaus Small Church Community

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation

Eltham

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



To recognise, to reconcile, to receive

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli delivered the following homily at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 5 July 2026, marking Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday & the beginning of NAIDOC Week.



This year, in October, marks the 40th anniversary of the papal visit to Australia of St John Paul II. Arguably the most remarkable part of that visit was when the Holy Father travelled to Alice Springs. St John Paul II became the first Pope to address Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on their own Country, speaking words of respect, solidarity and deep spiritual recognition. He began by saying:

It is a great joy for me to be here today in Alice Springs and to meet so many of you, the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders of Australia. I want to tell you right away how much the Church esteems and loves you.

John Paul's watershed Alice Springs speech was prophetic, stating that God's Holy Spirit had been with the Indigenous peoples of Australia since the beginning of time, acknowledging God's abiding presence among our First Peoples and their communities.

He went on to say:

The silence of the bush taught you a quietness of soul that put you in touch with another world, the world of God's spirit. Your careful attention to the details of kinship spoke of your reverence for birth, life and human generation. You knew that children needed to be loved, to be full of joy. They need a time to grow in laughter and to play, secure in the knowledge that they belong to their people.

These words are remarkably similar to the words St Paul wrote to the Roman Christians many centuries earlier:

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you.

And, indeed, they resonate with that great cry of joy from Jesus Christ, himself:



I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children.

God's children of this Great South Land of the Holy Spirit, both ancient and recent, are planted in this presence of God, who is with us, and always has been. We are, together, generative from God, whose Spirit animates us and gives us his life. Jesus Christ bears this same yoke, guiding us to opening our hearts to the gift of the ancient cultures and traditions that have shaped our land and country for more than 60,000 years. Our country - and our peoples, all of us - is called to be a land of hope and light, of reconciliation and belonging, in a world and at a time desperately in need of respect and peace.

There is work to do, in this regard. Recognition is still to be

realised. Walking together remains a challenge. Burdens continue to be carried inequitably. But it is Jesus Christ who can lift for us these burdens, giving us the courage to persevere in faith and hope.

As St John Paul said to our Indigenous people on that remarkable day in November 1986:

The Church herself in Australia will not be fully the Church that Jesus wants her to be until you have made your contribution to her life and until that contribution has been joyfully received by others.

This remains our common task in Christ's Spirit: to recognise, to reconcile, to receive.





TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL

Formation and Participation

INTRODUCTION

The Melbourne Synod is an invitation to our local Church to listen attentively to the Holy Spirit and to discern how we are called to proclaim the Gospel more faithfully in our time and place. The purpose of this synod is to help shape our evangelical and missionary priorities for the years ahead. This synodal journey will focus on three themes: Young Discipleship, Missionary Leadership, and Formation and Participation.

This paper has been prepared to assist with reflection on the theme of *Formation and Participation*. As we reflect on this theme, we are encouraged to ponder: Where is the Holy spirit leading our Archdiocese at this time? Whom are we being called to accompany in faith more intentionally? How might we reflect the face of Christ more clearly in our local Church?

This paper aims to foster a spirit of hope and imagination - trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal and deeper communion.

Reflect:

Do you have a story about your experience of formation and participation?

Share your experience via email:
synod@cam.org.au

UNDERSTANDING FORMATION

In the Catholic tradition, *formation* is the ongoing, transformative process of shaping a person to live as a disciple of Christ. Grounded in faith and guided by the Holy Spirit, it involves theological reflection, dialogue and discernment.

Formation is lifelong. It integrates belief, practice and attitude, helping individuals grow in their relationship with God and live out their faith at every stage of life. As such, formation is never complete; God continually shapes each person throughout their life.

At its heart, formation enables all people to participate more fully in the life and mission of the Church. Formation in faith shapes the heart and mind for the work of evangelisation, the sharing of the Good News about Jesus Christ and inviting others to respond to this message in faith.

FORMATION FLOWS FROM BAPTISM

Formation is grounded in baptism and in the dignity and vocation of all the People of God. Through baptism, all - lay, ordained, religious - are called to:

- *discipleship*: a lifelong journey of following Christ, deepening knowledge of him and leading others to him
- *co-responsibility*: shared responsibility for the Church's life, mission and witness
- *missionary engagement*: active participation in God's mission in the world.

Formation nurtures this calling by fostering conversion of heart, maturity of faith and the capacity to interpret the signs of the times in light of the Gospel. As faith deepens, participation in the life of the Church naturally grows.

FORMATION IS PARTICIPATORY, RELATIONAL AND MISSIONARY

Formation in a synodal Church is:

- *participatory* - engaging all the baptised as active contributors
- *relational* - formed through community, accompaniment and shared experience
- *missionary* - directed outward in service, witness and evangelisation.

Throughout the Archdiocese of Melbourne, formation finds its expression in a variety of ways, including:

- RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)
- theological pastoral study opportunities
- youth and young adult ministry
- accreditation for Catholic educators
- programs such as *The Bethany Way*
- ecclesial movements and communities
- involvement in events such as the Australian Catholic Youth Festival and World Youth Day
- children's sacramental programs
- family ministry
- ongoing priestly formation aligned with *Pastores dabo vobis*.

CHALLENGES TO FORMATION AND PARTICIPATION

Despite its importance, access to formation is uneven. People experience limited opportunities, or they encounter approaches that focus primarily on information rather than transformation. There are other pressures, such as a lack of engagement in the life of the Church, and a growing gap between the lived reality of our people and their connection with their local parishes and with parish life.

There is a growing need for formation that is:

- accessible and inclusive
- integrated across life stages
- responsive to contemporary cultural and pastoral realities.

FORMATION IN A SYNODAL CHURCH

The synodal process has highlighted formation as a central priority. There is a clear desire for formation that deepens faith, builds capability and fosters authentic Christian witness.

Formation is essential to the Church's communion, participation and mission. It enables all the baptised to grow in relationship with Christ and to engage actively in the life of the Church.

It also cultivates a culture of synodality by forming people in:

- listening and dialogue
- communal discernment
- respectful engagement with diversity
- shared responsibility in decision-making.

These capacities require intentional development through formation.

The formation of missionary disciples begins with Christian initiation and is sustained through relationships within families, communities and the wider Church (compare Synod of Bishops Final Document, §142).

LIFELONG FORMATION

Ideally, faith formation accompanies people throughout their lives and across all vocations. While catechesis provides essential foundations, ongoing adult formation is particularly vital so that faith can mature and respond to complex personal, social and cultural realities. Formation in witness, mission holiness and service is for all the People of God - clergy, religious and lay people.

Not everyone has this experience, however. For some, access to formation is limited.



FORMATION IS WHOLISTIC AND INCLUSIVE

Formation engages the whole person and includes:

- *human formation*, through which identity, character, values and capacities - emotional, intellectual, social, moral, spiritual - are developed
- *intellectual formation*, grounded in Scripture, Tradition, and Catholic Social Teaching

- *spiritual formation*, grounded in prayer, the sacraments and discernment
- *pastoral and missionary formation*, expressed through service, accompaniment, and commitment to justice and care for the marginalised.

FORMATION SERVES MISSION

Ultimately, formation serves mission. A Church that invests in formation is better able to proclaim the Gospel with credibility, accompany those who are wounded or searching, and engage the world with hope. Formation enables the People of God to be missionary disciples, witnessing together to Christ in word and action.

In light of this, formation becomes as a shared priority requiring commitment at all levels of the Church. By renewing our approach to formation, we strengthen our capacity to walk together, to discern faithfully and to respond courageously to the call of the Spirit today.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Where do people in my community experience growth in faith and discipleship?
- What prevents people from participating more fully in the life and mission of the Church?
- Which groups might be needing further formation?
- What forms of formation are most needed today?
- What three priorities could the Archdiocese seek to implement to strengthen formation and participation over the next five years?



FURTHER READING

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, Balancing Holiness and Mission. (<https://bit.ly/4pjslwc>)

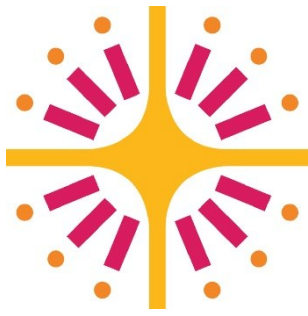
Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, Called by Christ. (<https://bit.ly/4eUm77W>)

Pope Francis, For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission, Final Document of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, Part V: "So I send you": Forming People for Missionary Discipleship". (<https://bit.ly/4f87Hjp>)

NEXT STEP

Please provide your feedback by scanning the QR code or visiting: <https://melbcath.org/synod-formation>





MELBOURNE SYNOD

TAKE THE WAY OF THE GOSPEL

Guide for the Consultation Process

PURPOSE OF THE SYNOD

The purpose of the synod is to help shape the evangelical and missionary priorities for the Archdiocese of Melbourne for the years ahead.

WHAT ARE WE CONSULTING ABOUT?

Our consultation will focus on the three themes identified by the Archbishop:

- Young Discipleship
- Missionary Leadership
- Formation and Participation.

Three theme papers have been prepared to assist in focusing on the themes. It may be helpful to suggest that the papers are read prior to the consultation meeting/s. The purpose of the papers is to provoke thinking and encourage feedback responses.

The consultation process is Spirit-led, and for each theme we are encouraged to ponder:

- Where is the Holy Spirit leading our Archdiocese at this time?
- Whom are we being called to accompany in faith more intentionally?
- How might we reflect the face of Christ more clearly in our local Church community?
- Where do we sense the Holy Spirit speaking?
- Where is the Spirit calling us to dream boldly?
- Whom are we being called to accompany in faith more intentionally?
- How might we reflect the face of Christ more clearly in our local church and community?

WHEN WILL THE CONSULTATION PROCESS OCCUR?

During the months of July to mid-August 2026, faith communities are invited to enter into a consultation process to provide feedback in response to the discernment themes.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

The suggested process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. It is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these questions can be uploaded via the QR code which can be found at the end of each

paper. Alternatively, feedback can be emailed to: Synod2026@cam.org.au.

It is recommended that each 'Conversation in the Spirit' focus on one of the themes.

WHEN CAN WE HOLD THE CONVERSATIONS IN THE SPIRIT?

There are a number of opportunities where ministries could facilitate conversations:

- Building time into existing meetings (e.g. setting aside a leadership or PPC meeting)
- Gatherings after Mass
- Morning or afternoon tea opportunities.

CONVERSATIONS IN THE SPIRIT

A practical consideration: this process works best with small groups of 6-8 people. Usually, people are seated in a circle, which assists with communication. It is helpful for the group to nominate a 'facilitator' or leader. This role assists with time-keeping and ensuring the process is followed. The process includes:

Welcome and opening prayer

First round of conversation

- *Reflection.*
- *Sharing and listening.*

Second round of conversation

- *Reflection.*
- *Sharing and listening.*

Third round of conversation

- *Reflection.*
- *Sharing and listening.*

Closing prayer and thanks

- *Have a moment of silence.*
- *Offer a prayer of thanksgiving.*
- *Submit responses.*
- Responses can be uploaded until 5pm on Friday 21 August.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

At the conclusion of the consultation period (Friday 21 August), feedback from the Conversations in the Spirit sessions will be compiled and contribute to the working document that will go to the floor of the synod. Each theme will be addressed as part of the Working Document for each theme.

There will be an opportunity to provide feedback to the Working Document throughout the month of October. This round of feedback will be compiled for the synod members as supplementary papers.

The full 'Guide for the Consultation Process' can be found at: <https://bit.ly/4vpMFTt>

Thank you for being part
of the consultation process
for the Melbourne Synod.





*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, Peter, Stephen Andrew, Des Arneson, Bill Boyce,
Penny Boyce, Maria Bredle, Vincent Cipolletta, Nora Edmond, Pat Hosmer,
Siobhan Lappin, Mary Luttick, Cindy & Ed Morrissey,
Bernard Murray, Regina Roszczenko (mother of Liz Gray), Phil Rovtar,
Beth Scott, Audrey Tunks, Nicholas Turnbull, Jeanne Vanderwert,
Noel Vincent, Brian Witten*

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

Adrian Jones, John (Jack) Kearns, Montagna Mustica

To include an anniversary please contact Parish Office
9435 4742 or RisenChrist.Parish@cam.org.au.

Prayers of the Faithful for 12 July 2026 Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: From everywhere, crowds ran to meet Jesus and listen to His Word. Like them, let us turn towards our Saviour and pray for the Church and the world.

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise and thank you for those who sow the Gospel throughout the world, in both good times and challenging times. We pray for the workers in the Church, who may be faced with difficulties and the enormity of the task. *Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for those in public and political spheres who use their influence to allow the Good News to be heard in the general community. We pray for those in authority who live out their faith.

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

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for the people who work with those who have learning difficulties or struggle with illiteracy. We pray for those who feel marginalised because of learning impairments.

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

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise and thank you for the splendour and variety of our seasons and for our ability to enjoy the natural wonders of our world. We pray that all people can have greater access to all that our world has to offer.

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

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for those in our parish communities who are ill or suffer from depression, that they may be supported by family and friends in their need.

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

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for those who have died recently, especially xx, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Adrian Jones, Jack Kearns & Montagna Mustica* that they may rest forever in your loving arms.

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

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you who sow your Word of Life throughout the world, listen to our prayers and deign to answer them, you who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen



Roster for week ending 12 Jul 2026

Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Castellanos, Rodrigo	E10:00
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Hall, Vali	ASE
Liss, Judy	H10:00
Lodi, Liduina	H10:00
Nolan, Kathleen	C10:00
Nolan, Mike	PRYR
Renny, Teresa	H10:00
Renny, Tom	H10:00
Rough Family	PRSE
Roy, Yvonne	E10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Scully, Greg	E10:00
Smith, Neil	E10:00
Sullivan, Frances	CLNR
Sullivan, Frances	W8:30
Watson, Denis	CLNR
Wood, Marie	W8:30
Zylstra, Diane	R10:00

Roster for week ending 19 Jul 2026

Armstrong, Miranda	E10:00
Boyd, Mary	PRYR
Connor, Anne	W6:00
Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Davidson, John	W8:30
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Haines, Geoff	R10:00
Heyhoe, Margaret	C10:00
Kenny, Michael	W6:00
Lyons, Maria	H10:00
Mallia, Anthony	E10:00
Ryan Family	PRSE
Skipper, Patsy	CLNR
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Williams, Peter	E10:00

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



Melbourne Synod 2026

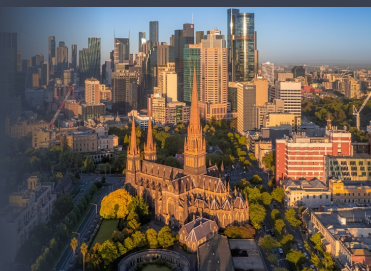
The Synod theme papers are an important step in our journey of listening and discernment as we prepare for the Melbourne Synod. The papers aim to foster a spirit of hope and imagination - trusting that, as we walk together, God is calling us into a future marked by faithfulness, renewal, and deeper communion. The suggested reflection process is a 'Conversation in the Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. This method is based in prayer and allows people to come together to both speak and to listen. Different from a discussion, it is an attentive listening process that aims to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. At the conclusion of each theme paper, there are prompt questions for reflection. Responses to these prompt questions can be provided via the QR code with is at the end of each paper. (Theme papers can be found on the Parish website: <https://www.melbocatholic.org/s/risenchristparish>)

Archbishop's vision

"I envision St Patrick's Cathedral precinct as a Light into the City: a welcoming home of prayer, pilgrimage and mercy; a beacon of beautiful liturgy and sacramental life; a centre for formation, culture and dialogue; and a hub of charity, outreach and reconciliation. Renewed for mission, it will gather diverse communities, serve the vulnerable, and stand as a spiritual and civic heart for Melbourne. <https://lightintothecity.org.au/vision/>



Light into
the City



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

Melbourne Catholic Digest Countless stories of God's people

Ancient and new

The People of God in Melbourne have been shaped by countless stories and experiences, some ancient, some new. The Holy Spirit breathes life into each of us - weaving our stories together, restoring and reconciling, animating and encouraging - as we travel together into God's promised future.



In the lead-up to the annual Mass for marriage anniversaries at St Patrick's Cathedral this Sunday, we chat with Lina and Joe Iaria, who share stories about their 60-year marriage, the large, tight-knit Italian-Catholic community that shaped them and some of the things they have learnt along the way.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/joe-and-lina-iarria>



We hear from Cathy Jenkins about the next steps in our synodal journey as the Church in Melbourne, including the release of the first two theme papers. These documents will help guide the conversations in the Spirit that will play a central role in discerning the way forward together.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/next-steps-for-the-melbourne-synod>



And this week, as we mark NAIDOC Week and give thanks for our country's oldest culture, an international teaching conference at Australian Catholic University heard about the progress that has been made over the past 50 year in recruiting and training Indigenous teachers, as well as some of the challenges that remain.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/celebrating-50-years-of-progress-for-indigenous-teachers>



And in his homily on Sunday at the annual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mass, Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli recalled the prophetic words of St John Paul II to Australia's Indigenous peoples 40 years ago in Alice Springs, and reminded us of 'our common task in Christ's Spirit: to recognise, to reconcile, to receive.'

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/to-recognise-to-reconcile-to-receive>



Archbishop welcomes appointment of Mgr Stuart Hall as Bishop of Military Ordinariate - The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne warmly welcomes the appointment by Pope Leo XIV of Mgr Stuart Hall, Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne, as Bishop of the Military Ordinariate of Australia.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/archbishop-welcomes-appointment-of-monsignor-stuart-hall-as-bishop-of-the-military-ordinariate-of-australia>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events>

For more information: www.melbournecatholic.org or www.facebook.com/CatholicArchdioceseofMelbourne