

Risen Christ



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

8 & 9 August 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 Archbishop's Campaign invites us to proclaim the Good News by supporting ministries that serve those in need across our Archdiocese. Your generous gift helps bring this mission to life — not only in word, but in action.

Thank you.



THE
ARCHBISHOP'S
CAMPAIGN
2026



melbournecatholic.org/archbishopscampaign

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

Reflection - Break Open the Word 2026

Remember that, at the beginning of last week's gospel, Jesus tried to get away to pray after his anguish at John the Baptist's execution. Now, after feeding the crowd and sending the people away, he does at last get some time alone. He has sent the disciples on ahead to go across the lake.

What happens next? Some have suggested this is really a post-resurrection story in which the risen Christ is present with his disciples. It does seem to be addressed to the early Church battling with the storms of persecution. It reassures the early Church that the risen Lord indeed is with them, urging them to have courage and not to be afraid. Peter is saved, the wind drops, and the disciples come to faith and trust in Christ.

For us today, there is something more important here than getting a grip on historical facts. It is rather about receiving an insight on how faith can shape our engagement with a violent and broken world.

Dear Parishioners, due to planned electrical works in Eltham on Sunday 9th August, there will be no power for our usual 10am Mass. Therefore, to keep our parishioners safe (and warm!) the 10am Mass will be held at St Francis Xavier, Montmorency. Sorry for the inconvenience via AusNet Services!

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

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Saturday 8

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 9

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Monday 10

7:00pm Confirmation Parent Faith
Formation Evening

Montmorency

Tuesday 11

9:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 12

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

Thursday 13

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

10:30am Emmaus Small Church Community

Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation

Eltham

Friday 14

9:30am Mass

Eltham

Saturday 15

12:00pm Baptisms: Kairan, Leo, Chloe,
Maxwell, Roy, Riko

Montmorency

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 16

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharist

Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Pia, Zac, Sophia, Emilia, Ruby

Eltham

Tuesday 18

9:30am Mass: Feast of the Assumption
of Mary Mass & SFX School

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Eltham

2:00pm Bethany Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 19

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

1:00pm Kairos Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thursday 20

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

RECONCILIATION

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

Collections: 19 & 26 July 2026

Thanksgiving	Cash	\$1,451.00
	Electronic	\$6,534.50
Presbytery	Cash	\$1,701.90
	Electronic	\$240.00

Thanksgiving Offering

Month	Total
May	\$18,752.55
June	\$22,507.82
July	\$19,824.17

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

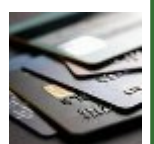
C) cash/coins in the collection baskets at each church

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 Liam & Natalia Park, Baby Margot Brady,
Kiera Taylor (9 years old); Peter, Stephen Andrew, Des Arneson,
Bill Boyce, Penny Boyce, Maria Bredle, Vincent Cipolletta,
Nora Edmond, Pat Hosmer, Siobhan Lappin,
Georgina Lynch, Mary Luttick, Cindy & Ed Morrissey,
Bernard Murray, Regina Roszczenko, Phil Rovtar, Beth Scott,
Audrey Tunks, Nicholas Turnbull, Jeanne Vanderwert*

For those who have **died** recently:

Margherita Bottos, Pearl Clark-Pearman, Helena Griffiths

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

Elaine Bunton, Brian Lappin, Joseph Scott, Elvie Taylor, Marie Zavadil

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



**Congratulations to all who celebrate
their sacraments this weekend:**

Saturday, 8th August, 2026

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 6:00pm

Abigail Jeffrey
Oscar Jutrisa
Maverick Minton

First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist

Sunday, 9th August, 2026

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 10am

Olive Hudson
Sonny Keane
Zoe Kopp
Mia Sabbagh
Azaylia Smith

First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist
Festival Eucharist
First Eucharist

Children's Liturgy Delayed Commencement

Due to the scheduled power outage at Our Lady Help of Christians Church this Sunday, the commencement of Children's Liturgy has been postponed until next Sunday. This short delay ensures that Children's Liturgy will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, where all safeguarding requirements are in place. Thank you for your understanding and support. We look forward to welcoming our young parishioners and their families to Children's Liturgy next Sunday (16 August).

Meet the Team

Left to right: Nathan Reynolds, Nika Cseh, Ferenc (Fez) Cseh, Daniel Cavedon, Sharmaine Perera and Melanie Cricco

Absent: Silvana Grande, Patrick Simoes, Jeanelle Extross-Simoes and Emily Wiltshire



Roster for week ending 9 Aug 2026

Beckford, Peter	PRYR
Capuana, Marisa	CLNR
Cseh, Ferenc	E10:00
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Hannon, Genni	ASRC
Hannon, Kevin	ASRC
Maloney, Nigel	W6:00
McKenna, John	CLNR
Nolan, Kathleen	R10:00
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Reardon, Kathy	H10:00
Reardon, Peter	H10:00
Roy, Yvonne	E10:00
Scully, Greg	H10:00
Scully, Helen	H10:00
Stone, Nan	W6:00
Sullivan, Frances	W8:30
Taylor, Trish	C10:00
Williams, Peter	E10:00
Wood, Marie	W8:30
Zavadil Family	PRSE

Roster for week ending 16 Aug 2026

Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Beckford, Peter	C10:00
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Castellanos, Rodrigo	E10:00
Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Davidson, John	W8:30
Dhanasen Family	PRSE
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Reardon, Peter	E10:00
Reischel, Marita	H10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Stone, Nan	CLNR
Taylor, Trish	PRYR
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Volunteer please	H10:00
Williams, Peter	R10:00
Zerjal, Frida	CLNR

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



2026 KADASIG Aid and Development Inc Winter Newsletter

Livelihood Programs

Livelihood programs are an important part of our vision to improve the lives of our Kadasig families and to assist with sustainability. Recently our colleagues sent us a summary of all the programs so below is an outline of them within our communities:

- Small 'general store' - sari-sari store - Patupat
- Banana planting and growling - Bolocboloc
- Mung bean growing - Bolocboloc
- Peche-peche baking, bread and empanada - Bolocboloc
- Banana chips - Patupat
- Baking bread - Patupat
- Puto cakes - Patupat
- Rice and corn vending - Patupat
- Selling of rice, corn and groceries - Upper San Rafael
- Selling of eggs - various communities
- Selling of rice, corn and groceries - Mantayupan community
- Dressed chicken - Upper San Rafael
- Hog fattening - Upper San Rafael
- Plastic wares - purchased in Colon market Cebu City - various communities

This is an overview of what our families are doing. Livelihood is an important part of the lives of Filipinos. The profit is divided, in different ways, depending on the program, between the grower(s)/sellers and the funder. Livelihood programs are something that operate in various forms all throughout the Philippines as it is necessary and we are pleased to set up families with a view to ongoing production.

Friendship Schools

The Friendship School program was established in 2008, it began with two schools - St Francis Xavier, Montmorency and Holy Trinity, Eltham North followed closely by St Kevin's, Lower Templestowe. The first group social outreach visit took place in 2009, and the three Friendship Schools were visited with Australian teachers joining the group. There was such a lot to learn and understand as the difference between Australian and Philippine schools was great which is why the program was established.

Since that visit other Australian schools have joined the Friendship School program and quite a number of teachers and staff have visited their school Friendship School over the years. We currently have seven schools in the program. Over time four Barili schools who have been part of the program, have reached a point where their basic needs have been met, and they could go forward - that is the aim!

The school year in the Philippines ends the last week of March and the new year begins the first week of June, college is slightly different. They have graduations at all levels; it is a big deal with college/university graduation being the pinnacle. As you can see in the photo below from one of our Elementary schools the celebration is big.

As Anni Miers is retiring this year from the committee and the role of Friendship School Co-ordinator there will be a revision with all Australian schools as to their focus going forward. The contribution all schools have made has been life changing for **SO** many, many students and teachers.

We thank sincerely Annie for her contribution to Kadasig Australia, Kadasig Cebu and especially the Friendship School program.



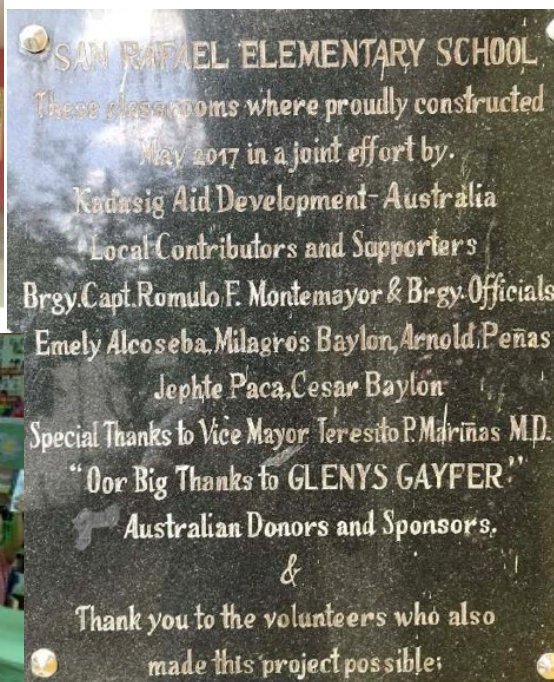
The story of San Rafael Elementary

This is a reflection on how seeing a need and having a range of people respond to it can make a massive difference for many students and teachers. After a visit by a group of Australians in 2016 and listening to the community of Upper San Rafael about how it was way too difficult for the young children in particular to go to the local school as they were up the mountain; it was dangerous, a VERY long walk, flood waters made it impossible for the younger children to negotiate the walk during rainy times and most families couldn't afford to pay for a motorbike, a dream was hatched! The major problem - younger children - Kinder/Preg to Grade 2 weren't going to school.

Following many, many discussions and ideas shared, Kadasig looked to construct 3 classrooms for children of this age group. This was well outside our guidelines, but the need was so great for the children we had to respond. Following reaching out to many Kadasig members, friends and supporters we managed to construct three classrooms! The joy was great on completion! The classrooms were blessed by the local priest and school began!

At that time Holy Trinity Primary, Eltham North, was looking to a new Friendship School as their school had reached a point of going ahead on their own having provided all the basic needs to the teachers and students. San Rafael Elementary was to be their school. Over the years Holy Trinity students, teachers and community have given wonderful support to the school. Holy Trinity teachers have been able to visit the school over the years and share their caring.

In 2023 construction of more classrooms was begun by the Department of Education - Grades 3-6 - it was designed to become a full school! Construction was completed in 2024, and all classes are now full. Holy Trinity has assisted the development of the school with two toilets (septic), a water tank and basic school supplies which most don't have. What an achievement to develop education for young people! It is a very special story that is important to share. Sincere thanks to all involved in this project to make a massive difference for so many for years to come.



Save the Date

The Kadasig Aid & Development Annual Fundraising Dinner will be held on Saturday October 10th at 6:30pm again at Maney's Dumplings, 7/12-16 McLeans Road, Bundoora. Mark the date in your diary! Come along and support our wonderful programs. For details contact Glenys Gayfer, papel-imports@bigpond.com or 0411 196 395

Newsletter Subscription

We also need to advise that due to some changes in legislation regarding sending our communications, we ask for your help, and need you to re-register through MailChimp so that we can ensure that we comply with the recent legislative changes. The link to do this is: <http://eepurl.com/dhpwfv> Once you click on the link, please follow the prompts and you will be ready to receive the Spring Newsletter in coming months!



Shape the Future: Be Counted as Catholic this Census

Australia's national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.



Simplicity September

This September, simplify one thing in your life & discover what truly matters.

Sponsor yourself, your family or a friend to participate and raise money for **Palms International Volunteering**, Australia's only Catholic lay organisation that delivers international development and formation through long term international volunteering.

Join Australians across the country supporting Palms' work in the Asia-Pacific.

02 9560 5333 / 0422 472 567
www.simplicityseptember.org.au

• SCAN HERE •



• SCAN HERE •

SIMPLICITY SEPTEMBER



JOB AND THE MYSTERY OF SUFFERING

Feeling Deeply, Knowing Deeply

Fr Richard points to Job's suffering and grief as a model for our own:

In the Hebrew Scriptures, we find Job suffering some of the most common emotions of grief, including denial and anger. The first seven days of Job's time on the "dung heap" (Job 2:8) of pain are spent in silence, what we might call shock or denial. Then he taps into anger; in verse after verse Job shouts and curses. He says, in effect, "This so-called life I have is not really life, God, it's death. So why should I be happy about being born?" Perhaps some of us have been there - so hurt and betrayed, so devastated by our losses that we echo Job's cry about the day he was born, "May that day be darkness. My God on high have no thought for it, may no light shine on it. May murk and deep shadow claim it for their own" (Job 3:4-5). It's beautiful, poetic imagery. He's saying: "Uncreate that day. Make it not a day of light but darkness. Let clouds hang over it, eclipse swoop down on it." Where God in Genesis speaks, "Let there be light," Job insists "Let there be darkness." A day of uncreation, of anti-creation.

National Vocations Awareness Week

Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our community.



Supporting the persecuted Help rebuild a Cathedral in the Philippines

In 2017, Christians in the city of Marawi in the southern Philippines faced brutal persecution from Islamist militants. More than 800 people were killed and thousands of families were displaced. During the five months of violence, the Cathedral of St Mary was bombed, desecrated and destroyed.

Nine years on, there is a growing desire for healing and reconciliation. The poor and faithful people of Marawi have asked for our help to rebuild their beloved cathedral so they can once again gather, pray, and be witnesses of Christ in this Muslim-majority region.

To learn more or provide your support, please scan the QR code or visit: aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

Thanks to generous supporters, every contribution during August will be doubled.



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

We probably have to have experienced true depression, betrayal, or injustice to understand such a feeling. There's a part of each of us that feels and speaks that sadness. Not every day, thank goodness. But if we're willing to feel and participate in the pain of the world, part of us will suffer that kind of despair. If we want to walk with Job, with Jesus, and in solidarity with much of the world, we must allow grace to lead us there as the events of life show themselves. I believe this is exactly what we mean by conformity to Christ (see Romans 8:29).

We must go through the stages of feeling, not only the last death but all the earlier little (and not-so-little) deaths. If we bypass these emotional stages by easy answers, all they do is take a deeper form of disguise and come out in another way. Many people learn that the hard way - through depression, addictions, irritability, and misdirected anger - because they refuse to let their emotions run their course or to find some appropriate place to share them. Job is unafraid to feel his feelings. He speaks them and acts them out. Emotions ought to be allowed to run their course. They are not right or wrong; they are merely indicators of what is happening.

I am convinced that people who do not feel deeply finally do not *know* deeply either. It is only because Job is willing to feel his emotions that he is able to come to grips with the mystery of suffering in his head and heart and gut. He understands holistically and therefore his experience of grief becomes both whole and holy. <https://cac.org/daily-meditations/feeling-deeply-knowing-deeply/>

Prayers of the Faithful for 9 August 2026 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Jesus instructs us to trust in Him. Strong in our faith in His Word, we pray to the Father for the following intentions.

For the Church: we pray for the Holy Church to be sustained and enlivened to meet the needs of the world by the energy of the Holy Spirit working through its members across the world. Lord, give your abundant blessings to preachers, teachers and all those who spread your Word.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the vital ministries of the Archdiocese of Melbourne: we pray that they may continue to flourish and bear abundant fruit. We pray for our seminarians, our retired priests, and all who serve in these important works. May the Archbishop's Campaign be met with the generous support of the faithful, and may all who labour in these ministries, especially our seminarians and our priests, including those now retired after years of faithful service, be sustained and filled with the light of God's love.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our parish community: we offer a prayer that the love and fellowship within our parish will reflect the glory of the Lord, who as the Psalmist tells us will come to live in our land.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the faithful: we pray for unwavering faith in the face of doubt. Lord, give us the strength to carry out what we profess in the face of temptation, trouble and the distractions of the busy world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who are ill: we pray for all who are sick, especially those named in our bulletin. Bless also those confined to their homes, those who do not have a place called home, and those who feel lonely on dark winter evenings.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died: we remember with love and gratitude those who have died recently, especially *Margherita Bottos, Pearl Clark-Pearman and Helena Griffiths* and those whose anniversaries fall at this time, including *Elaine Bunton, Brian Lappin, Joseph Scott, Elvie Taylor and Marie Zavadil*. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, you know the prayers which come from our hearts. You who have given your only Son to save all humanity, reveal to each person your presence and your love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

The Top Shelf...

My heart did a leap of faith when "The Universal Christ" by Richard Rohr appeared back on the shelves after many, many months. Thank you borrower.

I'd also like to thank the anonymous person who donated Richard Rohr's "Everything Belongs". Know Richard Rohr's books are being read is rewarding. Trish Taylor



The Archbishop's Campaign invites us to proclaim the Good News by supporting ministries that serve those in need across our Archdiocese. Your generous gift helps bring this mission to life — not only in word, but in action. Thank you.



The 2026 **Archbishop's Campaign** is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese.

Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Priests Retirement Foundation, the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, CatholicCare Victoria Chaplaincy Program, Melbourne Overseas Mission, John Pierce Centre, University of Divinity for the Catholic Theological College as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants.

Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation.

Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift.

Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church.

You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishopsacampaign or via the QR codes on the campaign materials.

A MATES' NIGHT IN

FOR THE ONJ CENTRE!

PARTY FOR A PURPOSE

Join us for drinks, raffles & good vibes while raising funds for the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre.

- FINGER FOOD PROVIDED
- BUY YOUR OWN DRINKS
- SILENT AUCTION
- RAFFLES
- GOOD VIBES GUARANTEED!

GREAT NIGHT.
GREATER IMPACT!

SATURDAY
15TH AUGUST

7PM - LATE

MONTMORENCY
RSL

GRAB YOUR TICKETS NOW!

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TO THE OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN CANCER WELLNESS & RESEARCH CENTRE.

Melbourne Synod 2026

What is “synodality”?

The late Pope Francis described synodality as the “path that God expects of the Church in the third millennium.” It’s not just about holding synods (meetings), but about fostering a culture where consultation, collaboration, and discernment are normal.

In reflecting on Pope Francis’ approach Pope Leo, in meeting with the General Secretariat of the Bishops, noted that ‘synodality is a style, an attitude that helps us to be Church by promoting authentic experiences of participation and communion.’ (June 2025)

Synodality refers to how we are to be a communion of believers journeying together. It comes from the Greek word *synodos*, meaning “walking together”. At its core, synodality emphasises:

- **Listening and Dialogue:** Everyone by virtue of baptism, laity, clergy, and religious, has a voice in discerning the Church’s mission.
- **Participation:** There is the shared responsibility held by all the baptised to participate in the mission of the church.
- **Mission-Oriented:** The goal is to better fulfill the Church’s mission of evangelisation and service in the world.

In Australia, we had an experience of synodal practice with the preparation toward the Australian Plenary Council (2021-2022). The agenda for the Plenary Council was developed through a listening and dialogue phase which was built upon the principle of synodal spirituality. We also had the opportunity to participate in the consultation phase for the global Synod (2021-2024).



Light into
the City

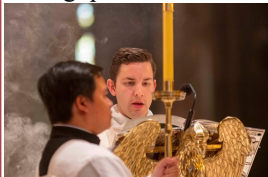
Renewing the
spiritual heart of
Melbourne



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

Melbourne Catholic Digest The patient, persistent voice of God Come closer

God calls and guides us in many ways, and each vocation story is unique. What is common to each of them, though, is the patient, loving, persistent voice of God, always calling us to come closer.



As we mark Vocations Week, we share the story of seventh-year seminarian Deacon Dominic Lawes, who has found, over and over again, that no matter what challenges you face, ‘God will take care of it if you really seek him’.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/we-are-gods-instruments-deacon-dominic-lawes>



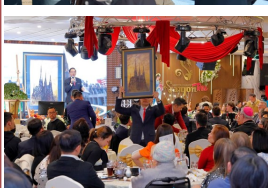
As Rachel Naughton retires after nearly 30 years as archivist and museum manager for the Archdiocese of Melbourne, she speaks with us about the joy she has found in her work, the ways God has guided and sustained her in her calling, and the importance of preserving and sharing the Church’s rich stories and heritage.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/a-treasured-experience-rachel-naughton-reflects-on-three-decades-in-the-archives>



And on the weekend, more than 150 people gathered for Vocations Expo at Australian Catholic University’s Melbourne campus, a chance to hear from Catholics from many walks of life about how God has called them, and to consider their own vocations. Fr Cameron Forbes, rector of Corpus Christi College, encouraged them to trust in ‘the slow work of God’, assuring them that ‘God never pushes us, but he guides us very carefully.’

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/trust-the-slow-work-of-god-young-people-gather-for-vocations-expo>



Melbourne’s Vietnamese community raises funds for ‘spiritual home’ - Melbourne’s Vietnamese Catholic community has raised more than \$150,000 - and counting - for the St Patrick’s Cathedral precinct revitalization project, Light into the City. The community has been welcomed into the Cathedral since the 1980s as it has hosted events important to them, including the annual Vietnamese Martyrs Mass. A fundraising dinner on Friday heard from community leaders and Archbishop Peter A Comensoli about how Light into the City will ensure St Patrick’s remains ‘a living home of faith, hope and love’.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/melbournes-vietnamese-community-raises-funds-for-spiritual-home>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events>

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