

Risen Christ



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

5 & 6 September 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.



Nepal Flood Disaster

Powerful flash floods have struck Nepal, devastating communities and leading to significant loss of life.

A sudden and catastrophic flash flood struck Nepal's Rasuwa District on the morning of 26 August 2026.

A rapid surge of water tore through the Bhote Koshi River, overwhelming riverside communities with very little warning and causing widespread destruction. The flood rapidly swept through communities along the river corridor, leaving many families displaced and critical infrastructure severely damaged.

Impact and damage

The areas of Timure, Rasuwagadhi and Syabrubesi are among the hardest hit. Initial assessments indicate extensive damage to:

- Settlements and local markets
- Roads and bridges
- Security facilities
- Hydropower projects
- Critical communications infrastructure
- The Rasuwagadhi border area, a major trade and tourism route between Nepal and China

The impacts extend beyond Rasuwa District, with communities downstream also affected and authorities issuing flood alerts across vulnerable areas along the river system.

Over 1,222 deaths have been reported, and 4,875 people are reported missing as search and rescue efforts continue (*edit: 3 Sep*). Damaged roads, bridges and communications networks are making it difficult for responders to reach some affected communities.

We are on the ground responding now

Caritas Australia is working alongside Caritas Nepal and local partners to assess immediate needs and provide lifesaving humanitarian assistance to affected communities. Caritas Nepal is coordinating closely with local authorities and humanitarian partners to identify priority needs and support the wider relief effort.

Immediate humanitarian priorities include emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, health care and protection support for families impacted by the disaster.

This remains a rapidly evolving situation, and assessments are continuing as responders work to reach isolated communities and determine the full extent of the damage.

How can you help

Your support can help provide urgent humanitarian assistance to communities devastated by these floods.

Donations will help deliver lifesaving assistance where it is needed most, including emergency shelter, food, clean water and other essential support for affected families.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/nepal-floods/>



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](#)

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: 2 & 9 August 2026

Thanksgiving	Cash	\$2,271.00
	Electronic	\$8,873.40
Presbytery	Cash	\$1,982.45
	Electronic	\$225.00

Thanksgiving Offering

Month	Total
June	\$22,507.82
July	\$19,824.17
August	\$21,312.57

Risen Christ Parish Calendar of Events

Saturday 5

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 6 - Father's Day

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Monday 7

9:00am Days for Girls

Montmorency

Tuesday 8

9:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Rosary

Montmorency

7:00pm Jordan Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 9

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

Thursday 10

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 11

9:30am Mass

Eltham

Saturday 12

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 13

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists

Eltham

Monday 14

2:00pm Mass

St Vincent's Care

Tuesday 15

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 16

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

1:00pm Kairos Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thursday 17

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

2:30pm Meditation

Eltham

Friday 18

9:30am Mass

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





*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,
Chiara Sansonetti (7 years old), Kiera Taylor (9 years old),
Peter, Stephen Andrew, Des Arneson, Bill Boyce, Penny Boyce, Maria Bredle,
Vincent Cipolletta, Nora Edmond, Monivic Fanlo, Michelle Hogan,
Pat Hosmer, Mary (Mehru) Irani, Siobhan Lappin, Georgina Lynch,
Mary Luttick, Cindy & Ed Morrissey, Bernard Murray, Regina Roszczenko,
Phil Rovtar, Beth Scott, Audrey Tunks, Nicholas Turnbull,
Jeanne Vanderwert, Grant Whiteside*

For those who have **died** recently:

Rosemary Dunn

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

*Libertad Bayola (1st anniversary), Ada Beech,
Frances Borg (20th anniversary), Antonia Capuana, Ivy May Caulfield,
Urszula Doss, John Elliott, Don Horne, Rosemary Lee, Nereo Zini*

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, 5th September, 2026

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 6:00pm

Cooper Abbey

Eloise Abbey

Alfred Price

Imogen Saward

First Eucharist

First Eucharist

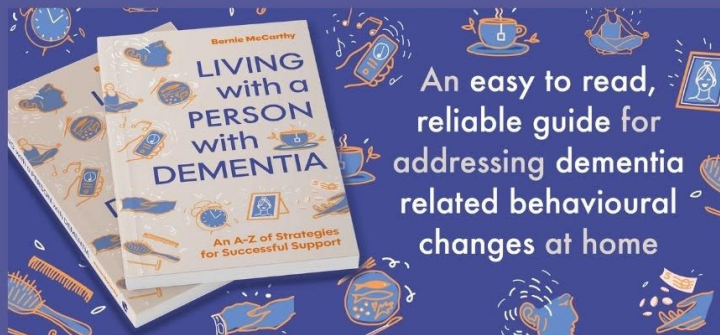
First Eucharist

First Eucharist

BOOK LAUNCH

Bernie McCarthy

will be in conversation with Anne Connor
to celebrate the release of his latest book
Living with a Person with Dementia



An easy to read,
reliable guide for
addressing dementia
related behavioural
changes at home

**Wednesday 23 September | 6pm
Readings Hawthorn**

free event, bookings essential

[https://www.readings.com.au/events/living-with-a-person-
with-dementia-by-bernie-mccarthy](https://www.readings.com.au/events/living-with-a-person-with-dementia-by-bernie-mccarthy)

Roster for week ending 6 Sep 2026

Armstrong, Miranda	H10:00
Boyd, Mary	PRYR
Donnellan, Denise	E10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	H10:00
Drljo, Frank	CLNR
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Furtado, Lorraine	C10:00
Haines, Geoff	R10:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Hannon, Genni	ASRC
Hannon, Kevin	ASRC
Love, Kathleen	H10:00
Maloney, Jo	W6:00
McCarthy, Bernie	W6:00
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Reardon, Peter	E10:00
Rough Family	PRSE
Roy, Yvonne	E10:00
Skipper, Patsy	CLNR
Sullivan, Frances	W8:30
Wood, Marie	W8:30

Roster for week ending 13 Sep 2026

Cotter, Anne	CLNR
Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Cseh, Ferenc	E10:00
Davidson, John	PRYR
Davidson, John	W8:30
Hall, Vali	ASE
Iliffe, Yvonne	E10:00
Liss, Judy	H10:00
Lodi, Liduina	H10:00
Maloney, Nigel	W6:00
Nolan, Kathleen	R10:00
Northrop, Greg	E10:00
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Renny, Teresa	H10:00
Renny, Tom	H10:00
Ryan Family	PRSE
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Scully, Greg	C10:00
Smith, Neil	E10:00
Stone, Nan	W6:00
Wood, Gerard	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

Pope Leo's Vision - Parish Leadership Community 2026

As his authority inside and outside the Church grows, so does Pope Leo's insistence that the Church must be transformed from within if it is to bring the Gospel to the contemporary world. Not everyone is listening / **By Austen Ivereigh**

Such was the Pope's message at the second extraordinary consistory he has called this year, gathering the world's cardinals to focus on interconnected themes he summed up as "our view of the world, peace, the common good and synodality". (late June 2026)

Synodality Matters: Leo's concluding speech doubled down on this, carefully linking their two-day experience to the broader synodal conversion, vital for the Church's mission today. Consistories like this, using conversation in the Spirit for reciprocal listening and discernment, would happen now at least annually, he promised, "so that the Holy Spirit might assist the Pope in guiding the Church". This was not a parliament or congress for the negotiation of different opinions and interests, "but an experience of communion for the purpose of mission. In this way it models the "style" needed in the whole Church, "such that every baptised person, in accordance with their own vocation and responsibilities, may participate in building a civilisation of love and in serving the common good." Creating spaces in which the People of God "can listen to one another, pray, discern and walk together" was - he reminded them - "the very heart of the process of implementing the Synod".

He dealt firmly with objections and excuses. Synodality was not holding lots of meetings nor a management method but a "spiritual style", in which, "by listening to one another, we learn together to listen to the Lord".

"When we listen to one another with humility and openness, making room for the Holy Spirit, our conversations are not merely an exchange of ideas, but become a place of conversion, where we grow together in faithfulness to the Lord."

Leo ended by asking the cardinals to put the Final Document into practice, and whole-heartedly. "I wish *once again* to entrust to you the path of implementing the Synod. I ask you to accompany the process *with conviction* in the Churches you serve, fostering a genuine understanding of it and encouraging everyone to take part,"

"awakened throughout the Church a widespread desire for participation, mutual listening, and communal discernment". Conversation in the Spirit had shown people that discernment is not an exchange of opinions but a "shared search for what the Spirit is saying to the Churches today".

Mind and Heart: Two Ways of Encountering God

St Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) and St Bonaventure (1221-1274) lived at the same time, taught in the same city, and loved the same Lord. They even shared roots in the same school: both studied and taught in Paris.

History did not treat them quite equally. Centuries later, the Church came to lean on Aquinas as its principal guide for philosophy and theology, where Bonaventure's thought never disappeared, though; it simply found its home in the living spirituality of the Franciscan family.

Each of these Saints had two different ways of relating to a God who is both utterly knowable and utterly beyond us.

Aquinas: God Known Through the World

For Aquinas, God is reached largely through the mind's careful climb upward. Look at the world - its order, its causes, its beauty - and reason can lead you, step by step, to the One who must be behind it all. God is Truth itself, and the more clearly, we think, the closer we come to him.

It's a steady, daylight kind of faith. God is not hiding from us; he has left his fingerprints everywhere, and a humble attentive mind will find him.

Bonaventure: God Met Through Love and Wonder

Bonaventure begins somewhere else entirely - not with the mind climbing up to God, but with God already present, quietly shining through everything he has made. Every creature - a sparrow, a candle flame, a stranger's face - is a kind of love note from God, a "trace" of the One who made it out of sheer delight. The whole world is, for him, less a puzzle to solve than a presence to notice.

Perhaps the simplest way of expressing the difference is:

- **Aquinas** sees the relationship with God beginning in the head and flowing into the heart - know God truly, and love will follow.
- **Bonaventure** sees it beginning in the heart and drawing the head along with it - love God, and your eyes will be opened to see him everywhere.

Yet these are not competing approaches. Perhaps they remind us that we need **both mind and heart** in our relationship with God.

It is possible to have a well-formed mind but a heart that has become distant. We can know our teachings, understand our traditions and have answers to difficult questions, yet lose sight of the relationship at the centre of our faith.

Equally, we can have a passionate heart but lack the wisdom and discernment needed to know where that love is leading us.

Our faith calls us to bring the two together - **truth and love, knowledge and relationship, mind and heart.**

Aquinas trusts reason as a gift that carries us toward God. Bonaventure trusts love and wonder as a gift that carries reason itself toward God. One is the patient theologian; the other is thoughtful in love.

How This Shapes the Way We Pray

These two ways of seeing God don't just stay in books - they shape the very devotions Catholics still practise today.

A Thomist instinct tends toward devotions built on clear truth, careful words, and steady repetition: the Rosary prayed thoughtfully, the precise wording of the Catechism, Eucharistic adoration approached through reflection on *what* is truly present and *why*. There's a love of doctrine prayed slowly - truth turned, almost without noticing, into love.

A Bonaventurian instinct tends towards devotions built on image, story, and the senses: the Christmas crib, the Stations of the Cross walked physically, step by step, meditating on Christ's wounds, simple prayer before a sunset or a wildflower as if creation itself were speaking. Franciscan spirituality loves gesture and symbol - bowing, touching, walking - because for Bonaventure, the body and the senses are themselves doorways into love, not just illustrations of an idea.

Most parishes, without quite realising it, blend both. A novena said with careful, repeated words is Thomist in spirit; a quiet moment lighting a candle before an image of the Sacred Heart is pure Bonaventure. Neither is more "Catholic" than the other - they are simply two ways the same heart has learned to reach for God.

Most of us probably need a little of both: a mind willing to think clearly and a heart willing to be moved.

Catholic aid worker in Nepal witnesses ‘unprecedented’ disaster for region

Written by Gina Christian, OSV News

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/catholic-aid-worker-in-nepal-witnesses-unprecedented-disaster-for-region>

Devastation from the 26 August flooding and mudslides along the Nepal-China border is staggering, and the road to recovery will be long, a Catholic aid worker on the ground has told OSV News.

‘What we are actually witnessing is unprecedented in these areas,’ said Senthil Kumar Gurunathan of Catholic Relief Services, the US bishops’ official humanitarian and development agency.

Gurunathan, CRS country representative for India, spoke with OSV News by phone from Nepal’s capita, Kathmandu, where he is assisting Caritas Nepal in responding to the disaster. CRS and Caritas Nepal are part of Caritas Internationalis, the Catholic Church’s global humanitarian agency network.

At least 955 people have been killed in Nepal and China and more than 4,470 remain missing following the glacial collapse in Nepal’s Langtang National Park. Debris flowed more than 96 kilometres, resulting in what the US Geological Survey called ‘catastrophic impacts downstream’ in communities along the Trishuli and Bhoté Koshi rivers.

Video and photographs from the region show rapid surges of water and mud churning through the river channels, sweeping away communities. Victims - many of them part of tour groups and Hindu pilgrimages - include hundreds of foreign nationals from 32 nations.

The Department of Foreign Affairs says 43 Australians are unaccounted for.

Determining the number of casualties has been further complicated by the Chinese government’s information restrictions in China and Tibet, which preclude access by foreign journalists.

In his 30 August Angelus address, Pope Leo XIV offered continued ‘prayers for those affected by the terrible flood that struck Nepal and Tibet.

‘Let us pray for those who have lost their lives, for the injured, those missing, for the families and rescue workers,’ said Pope Leo. ‘May the concern of everyone help to alleviate the suffering and provide the necessary aid to the people affected.’

Caritas Australia is urging Australians to support the devastated communities as local partner Caritas Nepa expands its emergency response to reach families who have lost homes, livelihoods and loved ones.

On the ground, Caritas Nepal has established community kitchens initially intended to provide meals for 300 affected families. Alongside Catholic Relief Services, this response has now expanded to 50 community kitchens throughout remote areas of Nepal where many have lost not only their homes, but also their food supplies, cooking equipment and ability to prepare meals.

Further emergency assistance is set to reach 1,000 families, with ready-to-eat meals, shelter materials, household essentials, hygiene kits and solar lighting for displaced households.

Caritas Nepal remains particularly concerned about communities that are still difficult to reach. Hundreds of families in isolated locations are reportedly relying on host communities and limited remaining food supplies, with many lacking enough food to last the day. Many of these areas can currently only be reached by helicopter.

The floods have also damaged schools and health facilities, creating longer-term challenges for affected communities. According to humanitarian assessments, 38 schools have been damaged or destroyed and around 10,000 children require support to continue their education. Health services have also been disrupted, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks and other public health concerns.

‘While search and rescue remains the immediate priority, recovery has already begun. Communities will need support to clear debris, restore essential services, rebuild livelihoods and recover from the trauma of this disaster. This will be a long-term recovery effort,’ Caritas Australia humanitarian manager Sally Thomas said.

Caritas Australia has joined the Emergency Action Alliance in the Nepal Floods Joint Appeal, with funds raised going to thirteen Australian organisations responding to the crisis.

To support Caritas Australia’s Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal or call 1800 024 41 toll free.

Images from top: Police officers carry an elderly survivor to a safer place in Nepal’s Nuwakot district, following deadly flash floods and mudslides. (Photo by Naveesh Chitrakar/Reuters, courtesy OSV News.); Caritas teams responding in flood-affected areas. (Photo courtesy of Caritas Nepal.); Damaged properties are seen along the Trishuli River in Nuwakot, Nepal, on 31 August 2026. (Photo by Sunil Kataria/Reuters.)



Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Reflection - Break Open the Word 2026

Peace and peacemaking are essential features of the followers of Christ.

The risen Christ's greeting of peace needs 'to resound in your hearts, in your families, among all people, wherever they may be, in every nation and throughout the world.' It is a wonderful dream and vision, but sadly the human reality in our world does not always measure up. So, Pope Leo said, we need to 'build bridges through dialogue and encounter'.

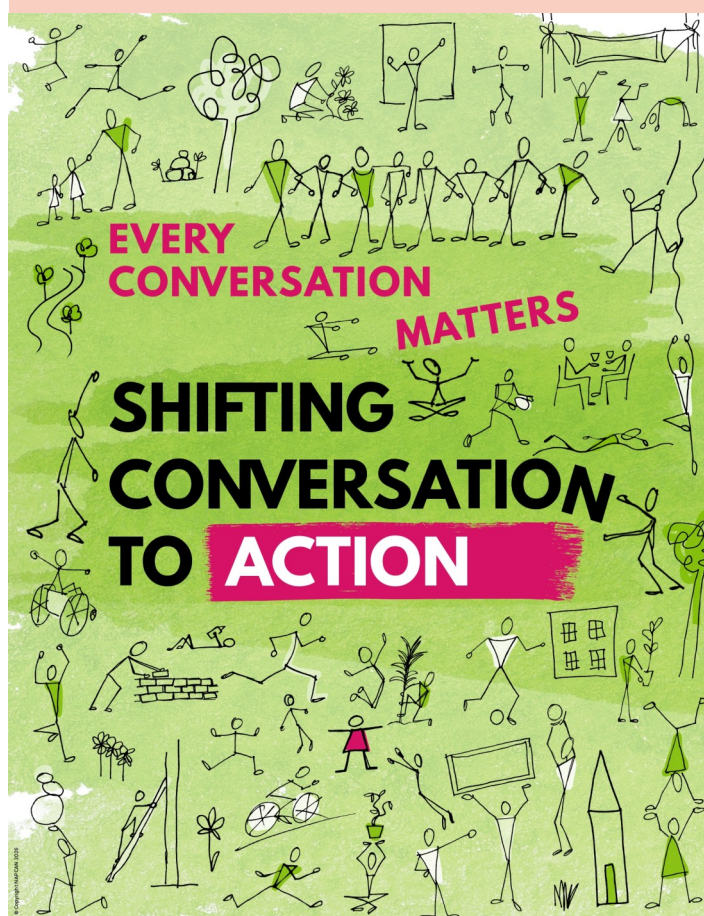
Today's gospel shows how we must leave no stone unturned to seek to resolve differences - along, or with a few others, in the community. Then follows a familiar teaching about binding and loosing. Two weeks ago, we heard Jesus speak the words to Peter; now they are spoken to the community.

The passage concludes with two sayings. The second (Christ is in our midst) is particularly powerful. It is the risen Christ who stands in our midst saying, *Peace be with you!*

The NRSV version makes the text inclusive in its expression.



In 2026, on this memorial we will gather as the Church in Melbourne for our annual Service of Lament for survivors of abuse. The Service of Lament will be held on Tuesday 15th September 2026 at 4pm in the grounds of St Patrick's Cathedral.



NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
6-12 September 2026

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services

News from St Francis Xavier Primary School



This term during Religious Education, our Year Two students at St Francis Xavier have been learning about the significant people in our church and the parish.

Two of our wonderful SFX parishioners Jeanette and Frida kindly volunteered their time to share their insights into the important roles and responsibilities required to keep the SFX church community running smoothly. The Year Two children enjoyed hearing more about how members of the parish work together to care for our church and support the parish masses.

Following this discussion, Frida and Jeanette led the students and teachers on an interactive tour of the church, where students enjoyed exploring the different parts of the church and identifying the various church symbols.

We thank Frida and Jeanette for sharing their knowledge with the students, as we continue to work together to grow and strengthen the relationship between our SFX school and parish. - **Megan Bird, Faith Leader.**



A Franciscan Journey Towards the Feast of St Francis



WEEK 2 - HOSPITALITY: WELCOMING CHRIST IN EVERY PERSON

Parish Ministry: Hospitality - Welcoming Christ in Every Person

Over these four weeks, our parish journeys towards the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October, reflecting on Franciscan spirituality and how it speaks to our Parish ministries. Each week invites us to see the Gospel not simply as something we hear, but as something we live - in our homes, our relationships, our community and our prayer.

Reflection

One of the most striking moments in the story of St Francis is his encounter with people he had previously feared or avoided. His embrace of the leper became a decisive moment of conversion: the person he had seen as frightening became someone in whom he encountered Christ. Franciscan hospitality therefore goes deeper than being friendly to people we already know. It asks us to widen the circle. Who is new in our parish? Who sits alone? Who finds church difficult to enter? Who might feel unseen because of age, disability, language, circumstance or past experience? Our Hospitality pillar invites us to become a community where people do not simply attend, but genuinely belong. Franciscan welcome is grounded in welcoming the stranger - the recognition that every person is worthy of dignity, attention and love.

A Franciscan thought

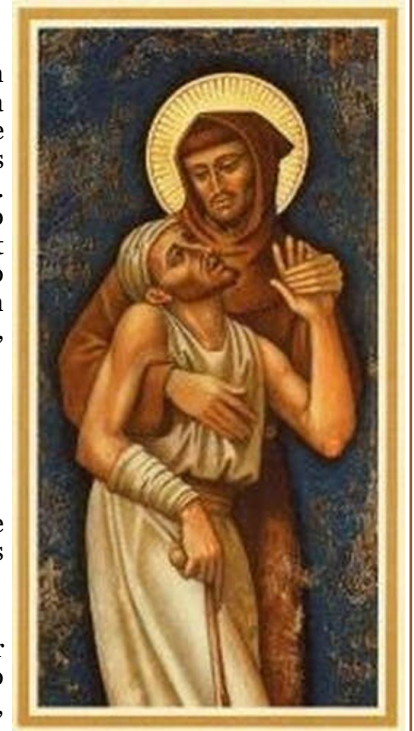
"The face of the Crucified Christ" can be encountered in those who suffer or are easily overlooked.

Living the Gospel this week

Notice one person this week whom you might normally pass by. Offer a genuine greeting, introduce yourself to someone new, or invite someone who is on the margins into conversation.

Prayer

God of welcome, open our eyes to recognise Christ in every person we meet. Give our parish generous hearts, listening ears and hands ready to serve. May no one who enters our community feel forgotten or alone. Through the example of St Francis, make us people who reach out of our perimeters of comfort. Amen.



The Top Shelf...

Reading *A Franciscan Journey towards the Feast of St Francis* in last week's bulletin prompted me to seek out a couple of resources from the library.



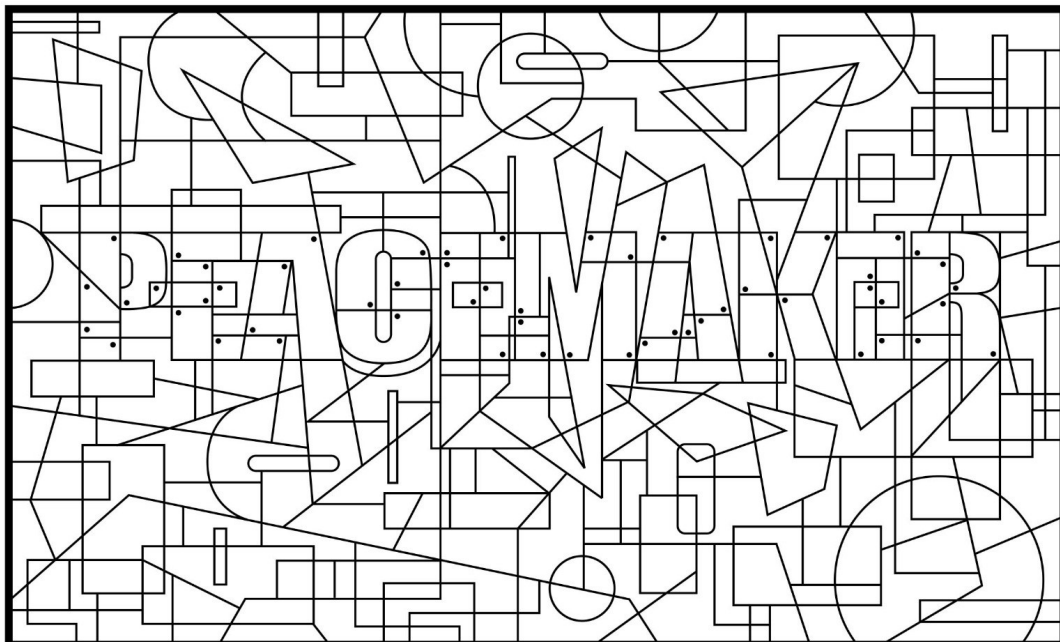
1. *In the Footsteps of Francis ... awakening to Creation* is a talk by Richar Rohr 'exploring St Francis' life and vision from fresh eyes.' The CD is available on the Top Shelf.

2. *Francis: A Saints Way* by James Cowan is a book I bought in Assisi, written by an Australian who lived in Italy for three years, walking in the footsteps of Francis, breathing his air and sleeping in his caves. **I couldn't find it on the Top Shelf so if you have it at home, please return ASAP.**



Children's Liturgy

Colour in each shape that contains a dot • to discover the hidden word.



Melbourne Synod 2026

What is synodal spirituality?

At its heart, the work of synodality is a spiritual practice. It is characterised by an approach that is contemplative, involves communal listening and discernment. It refers to a way of 'walking together' in communion, participation and mission.

Communion

- Synodal spirituality emphasises unity in diversity, seeing the Church as the People of God journeying together.
- It calls for listening to the Holy Spirit and to one another, fostering mutual respect and discernment.
- Listening is central to synodal spirituality - listening to Scripture, tradition, and the lived experience of the faithful.
- Discernment is prayerful and communal, seeking God's will rather than personal agendas.

Participation

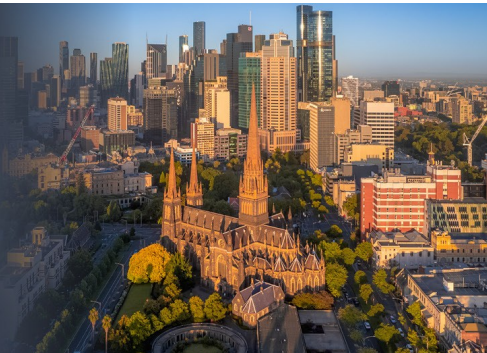
- Everyone - laity, clergy, religious - has a voice and a role in the mission of the Church.
- Synodal spirituality encourages active engagement.

Mission

- The spiritual approach is outward-looking: the goal is evangelisation and service.
- Synodal spirituality inspires openness to the margins and are for those excluded.
- It requires an openness of heart, humility, patience, and willingness to change.



Light into
the City



Renewing the
spiritual heart of
Melbourne

<https://lightintothecity.org.au/>



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

Melbourne Catholic Digest Everything that blossoms

What we inherit, what we hand on

We are heirs to gifts we did not create ourselves. We inherit communities built by faithful people before us, receive the Gospel from those who pass it down, and live within a world entrusted to our care.



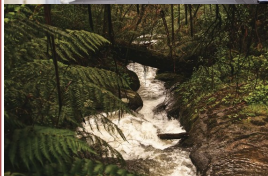
With a sense of gratitude, the Catholic Parish of Corio Lara looks back on 50 years of faith, sacrifice and community, and ahead to the next generation carrying it forward.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/50-years-of-grace-corio-lara-parish-celebrates-golden-jubilee>



Last weekend's Episcopal Consecration Mass is likewise about receiving a legacy of faith and stepping into a new mission of service. That mission, Bishop Stuart Hall says, is 'to bring the peace of Christ to every corner of the military ordinariate.'

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/the-peace-christ-gives-bishop-stuart-hall-consecrated-bishop-of-the-military-ordinariate>



The Season of Creation has begun, inviting us over the coming weeks to receive the natural world as a gift from God, one that we are called to enjoy and praise, but equally to protect into the future.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/a-season-of-wonder-five-sources-of-inspiration-this-spring>



It takes a village (and the Holy Spirit!): Fr Boniface Endorf on drawing others to Christ - Visiting priest Fr Boniface Endorf OP shares how his parish in New York is attracting hundreds of young adults through authentic Christian community, friendship and faith. Speaking to Melbourne young adults at Holy Hour+, he explains why evangelization starts with love and encourages Catholics to trust God's work in their lives.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/it-takes-a-village-and-the-holy-spirit-fr-boniface-endorf-on-drawing-others-to-christ>

<https://melbournecatholic.org/events> ~ www.melbournecatholic.org or www.facebook.com/CatholicArchdioceseofMelbourne