

# Monty & Eltham

The Catholic Parishes of  
St Francis Xavier & Our Lady Help of Christians



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

HOLY WEEK AT HOME

PALM  
SUNDAY

to

HOLY WEEK AT HOME

GOOD FRIDAY

*This parish has a commitment to ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our community.*

*For more information visit [www.sfxmonty.org](http://www.sfxmonty.org)*

*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 Priests

Terry Kean - Pastor in Solidum

[terry.kean@cam.org.au](mailto:terry.kean@cam.org.au)

Michael Sierakowski - Moderator

[michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au](mailto:michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au)

Barry Caldwell

#### Parish Office

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9435 2178

Mon - Fri 9am-3pm

[montmorency@cam.org.au](mailto:montmorency@cam.org.au)

Gina Ang: Pastoral Worker & Caring Group Co-Ord

[gina.ang@cam.org.au](mailto:gina.ang@cam.org.au)

Beth Krolkowski: Parish Manager & Pastoral Worker

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Kate Kogler: Parish Secretary & Finance

[eltham@cam.org.au](mailto:eltham@cam.org.au)

Peter Williams: Child Safety Officer

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Website: [www.sfxmonty.org](http://www.sfxmonty.org)

[www.olhc.info](http://www.olhc.info)

Facebook:

St Francis Xavier Parish Montmorency

Monty & Eltham Newsletter & Facebook items:

[eltham@cam.org.au](mailto:eltham@cam.org.au)

#### Schools

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Mr Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

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

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

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Mr 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: Mr Chris Ray: 9439 7824

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

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



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

#### Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

*Elise Emans, Leslie (Les) Waldron*

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Baby Kylie, Sriyani Algama, Nikki Attwood, Justine Best, Kristina Brazaitis, Daniel Brewis, Desmond Deehan, Renee Eastwood, Debbie Edgley, Marilyn Fairbank, Julian Forrester, Gennie Hannon, Samuel Hauser (Kyabram), Colleen Hussin, Jim Hussin, Tina Inserra, Adrian Jones, Patsy Leed, Pat Longton, Erin McLindon, Hasti Momeni, Therese Moore, Patricia Mulholland, Montagna Mustica, Graham Neal, Geoffrey Nyssen, Mercy Oson, Ron Pfeil, Susan Phelan, Andrew Pighin, Terry Said, Anthony Salvatore, Mary Salvatore, Maria Schroeders, Jeanette Steward, John Tobin, Aldo Viapiana, Sheryn Zurzolo.*

#### Eltham

For the recently deceased;

*Gillian Rayson*

For those whose anniversaries are at this time;

*Janet Taylor*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Baby Harriet Banks, Jon D'Cruz, Ruth Decker, Fay Dobson, Jeanette Jenkins, Maureen Jenkins, Baby Finley McPartlin, Simone Owen, Jo Porter, Paul Rushbrook, Pam Watson.*

To include an anniversary please contact Parish House  
9435 2178 or [eltham@cam.org.au](mailto:eltham@cam.org.au).

## LIVE MASSES - STREAMING

St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne

[melbournecatholic.org.au/mass](http://melbournecatholic.org.au/mass)

Sun 11am; Mon - Fri 1pm; Sat 8am



Pope Francis, The Vatican

<http://catholicv.org/shows/pope-francis-daily-mass>

Fr Kevin Dillon, St Simon the Apostle

[youtube.com/channel/UCjLZo7MgGsdREDToBDzqxeQ](https://youtube.com/channel/UCjLZo7MgGsdREDToBDzqxeQ)

John Petrus, Sacred Heart Mission

<https://www.shscparish.org.au/>

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 10:30am Monty ~ Terry  
1/2 hr prior to any mass said by Michael

#### Collections last weekend: 28 & 29 Mar 2020

Community	Thanksgiving	Presbytery
Eltham	\$225.00	\$400.00
Montmorency	\$565.00	\$600.00

Please note the above figures are monies banked & do not include visa/mastercard or direct debits.  
Thank you so much for your contributions.

# Palm Sunday

Take a green branch from your garden. Gather the family together and, with each person holding a branch, pray together.

## FAMILY PRAYER

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Leader:** During Lent, we have been preparing our hearts to celebrate Easter. Today we join Christ as he enters Jerusalem. In the coming days, we will relive the mystery of his death and resurrection. By joining ourselves to Christ, God's grace will lift us up and rescue us.

**Reader:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
When they were near Jerusalem, the disciples brought a donkey to Jesus and laid their clothes on its back. Jesus sat on the donkey. A great crowd spread their clothes on the road, while others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in his path. The crowds who went in front of him and those who were following were crying out: *Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.* And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil as people asked, 'Who is this?' and the crowds answered, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'  
The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Spent a few minutes in silence to think about the Gospel.  
Then talk together about what Jesus will do in Jerusalem in the coming days.  
What will happen on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Saturday?

**Leader:** Let us pray.

**All:** Lord, increase the faith of your people and listen to our prayers. Today we honour Christ our triumphant king by carrying these branches. May we honour you every day by living always in him, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

## Prayers of the Faithful (response: *Lord, hear our prayer*)

**Leader:** Brothers and Sisters, knowing that our God never abandons us, let us place our prayers before him.  
For our community, that we will be generous in caring for those who are struggling with anguish and isolation as a result of the coronavirus shut-down. *In your mercy.*  
For our health care and all emergency workers, that they will not be overwhelmed by the enormity of their work. *In your mercy.*  
For our church leaders, especially Pope Francis, that they continue to advocate for the poor and disadvantaged of our society. *In your mercy.*  
For all who have been deprived of their religious community worship, that they continue to find God in their daily lives. *In your mercy.*  
As we journey with Jesus during his passion and death, we pray for our faith community. May we come to a deeper understanding and acceptance of what that means for us. *In your mercy.*  
With solidarity with those facing a financial crisis: for those whose employment has ceased, for small businesses which are now collapsing, for those seeking Centrelink support. *In your mercy.*  
For all the sick, especially those dangerously ill from the coronavirus, that they may join their suffering with that of Jesus and experience his healing touch. *In your mercy.*  
For all who have died and those who mourn their passing in these difficult times, especially *Elise Emans, Gillian Rayson* and *Leslie Waldron*; and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Janet Taylor*. May they know the peace of Christ. *In your mercy.*

**Leader:** God of Compassion, speak to those whose needs we entrust to you this day. We ask this through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with us forever.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Let us pray in the words Jesus himself gave us:

**All:** Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**Leader:** May God bless us and keep us safe.

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Place your palm branch beside your bed during the days of Holy Week.





# The End of Lent

You may wish to keep your Project Compassion boxes/envelopes until parish Masses resume. Or you could make your gift online at [lent.caritas.org.au/donate/](http://lent.caritas.org.au/donate/). Your gift for the poor is a sign of your commitment to reconciliation, justice and love.

The end of Lent is traditionally a time for seeking reconciliation and peace in the sacrament of Penance. In this family prayer, you are celebrating God's compassion and the grace of forgiveness and reconciliation.

## FAMILY PRAYER

*All:* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Leader:* May God, who has enlightened every heart, help us to know our sins and trust in God's mercy.

*Reader:* A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

At the Last Supper, Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love... I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you should love one another, as I have loved you. No one has greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Spent a few minutes in silence to reflect on Jesus' words.

Ask yourself how well you have remained in Jesus' love. Are there times when you have not been kind and helpful?

Have you spoken badly of others or held a grudge against someone?

Do you care for the environment and respect the property of others? Can you think of any other sins?

*Leader:* Remain in my love, says Jesus. Let us confess our love for God and our sorrow for doing wrong.

*All:* My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

*Leader:* We ask God's forgiveness in the words Jesus himself gave us:

*All:* Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Leader:* May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*All:* Amen.

Now offer each member of your family a sign of peace.

Conclude your prayer with the words of Psalm 117.

# Holy Thursday

In the evening, gather around the dining room table and, if possible, light a candle.  
When everyone is seated at the table, begin your prayer.

Tonight, we look forward to the coming days when Jesus Christ died and rose to new life.

## FAMILY PRAYER

*All:* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Leader:* Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry.' (John 6:35)

*All:* We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*Reader:* A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said: 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

Spent a few minutes in silence to reflect on Jesus' words.  
What does St Paul mean when he says we are 'proclaiming his death'?

*Leader:* Today we are unable to take part in the Mass of the Lord's Supper. But we can now join ourselves spiritually to Jesus Christ the Lord as he embarks on the journey of his passion and death.

*All:* Lord Jesus, we love you above all things. How we long to receive holy communion at the altar, to be one with you and all our brothers and sisters! Although we cannot now receive the blessed sacrament, come, be in our hearts. Live within us and give us life. Feed us with the manna of the Holy Spirit and never let us be separated from you. Amen.

Spent a time together in prayer. Pray for those in need, especially those who are sick or who have died from the coronavirus.  
Remember those who are alone or frightened. Commend the members of your family to God's loving care.  
Intercede for those who are hungry and homeless.

*Leader:* At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to pray:

*All:* Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Leader:* Together with the Virgin Mary, let us praise God.

*All:* My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy.

*Leader:* Lord God, in times of darkness, be our light, in times of pain, be our strength, in times of isolation and anxiety, draw us into the healing love of Christ who shared our human weakness to bring us to the glory of resurrection.

*All:* Amen.

*All:* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Finish by offering each member of your family a sign of peace.



# Good Friday

If you have a cross or crucifix, place it on the table in front of you. If not, you may be able to make a simple cross. Spend a moment to kneel and venerate the cross.

*“Behold the wood of the Cross on which hung the salvation of the world.”*

Now read aloud the story of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

1. Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kedron valley. There was a garden there, and he went into it with his disciples. Judas the traitor knew the place well, since Jesus had often met his disciples there, and he brought the cohort to this place together with a detachment of guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees, all with lanterns and torches and weapons. Knowing everything that was going to happen to him, Jesus then came forward and said, ‘Who are you looking for?’ They answered, ‘Jesus the Nazarene.’ He said, ‘I am he.’ Now Judas the traitor was standing among them. When Jesus said, ‘I am he’, they moved back and fell to the ground. He asked them a second time, ‘Who are you looking for?’ They said, ‘Jesus the Nazarene.’ Jesus replied, ‘I have told you that I am he. If I am the one you are looking for, let these others go.’ This was to fulfil the words he had spoken: ‘Not one of those you gave me have I lost’.

Simon Peter, who carried a sword, drew it and wounded the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, ‘Put your sword back in its scabbard; am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?’

*Pause for a time of silence.*

2. The cohort and its captain and the Jewish guards seized Jesus and bound him. They took him first to Annas, because Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had suggested to the Jews, ‘It is better for one man to die for the people’.

Simon Peter, with another disciple, followed Jesus. This disciple, who was known to the high priest, went with Jesus into the high priest’s palace, but Peter stayed outside the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who was keeping the door and brought Peter in. The maid on duty at the door said to Peter, ‘Aren’t you another of that man’s disciples?’ He answered, ‘I am not.’ Now it was cold, and the servants and guards had lit a charcoal fire and were standing there warming themselves; so Peter stood there too, warming himself with the others.

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered, ‘I have spoken openly for all the world to hear; I have always taught in the synagogue and in the Temple where all the Jews meet together: I have said nothing in secret. But why ask me? Ask my hearers what I taught: they know what I said.’ At these words, one of the guards standing by gave Jesus a slap in the face, saying, ‘Is that the way to answer the high priest?’ Jesus replied, ‘If there is something wrong in what I said, point it out; but if there is no offense in it, why do you strike me?’ Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas, the high priest.

As Simon Peter stood there warming himself, someone said to him, ‘Aren’t you another of his disciples?’ He denied it saying, ‘I am not.’ One of the high priest’s servants, a relation of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, ‘Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?’ Again Peter denied it; and at once a cock crew.

*Pause for a time of silence.*

3. They then led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was now morning. They did not go into the Praetorium themselves or they would be defiled and unable to eat the Passover. So Pilate came outside to them and said, ‘What charge do you bring against this man?’ They replied, ‘If he were not a criminal, we should not be handing him over to you.’ Pilate said, ‘Take him yourselves, and try him by your own Law.’ The Jews answered, ‘We are not allowed to put a man to death.’ This was to fulfil the words Jesus had spoken indicating the way he was going to die. So Pilate went back into the Praetorium and called Jesus to him, and asked, ‘Are you the king of the Jews?’ Jesus replied, ‘Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?’ Pilate answered, ‘Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?’ Jesus replied, ‘Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent me being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.’ Pilate said, ‘So you are a king then?’ Jesus answered, ‘It is you who say it. Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this; to bear witness to the truth, and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.’ Pilate said, ‘Truth? What is that?’ And with that he went out again to the Jews and said, ‘I find no case against him. But according to a custom of yours I should release one

prisoner at the Passover; would you like me, then, to release the king of the Jews?' At this they shouted, 'Not this man, but Barabbas.' Barabbas was a brigand.

Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged; and after this, the soldiers twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him and saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' and they slapped him in the face.

*Pause for a time of silence.*

4. Pilate came outside and said to them, 'Look, I am going to bring him out to you to let you see that I find no case.' Jesus then came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said, 'Here is the man.' When they saw him the chief priests and the guards shouted, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' Pilate said, 'Take him yourselves and crucify him: I can find no case against him.' The Jews replied, 'We have a Law, and according to the Law he ought to die, because he has claimed to be the son of God.' When Pilate heard them say this his fears increased. Re-entering the Praetorium, he said to Jesus, 'Where do you come from?' But Jesus made no answer. Pilate then said to him, 'Are you refusing to speak to me? Surely you know I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?' Jesus replied, 'You would have no power over me if it had not been given you from above; that is why the one who handed me over to you has the greater guilt.'

From that moment Pilate was anxious to set him free, but the Jews shouted, 'If you set him free you are no friend of Caesar's; anyone who makes himself king is defying Caesar.' Hearing these words, Pilate had Jesus brought out, and seated himself on the chair of judgement at a place called the Pavement, in Hebrew Gabbatha. It was Passover Preparation Day, about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews, 'Here is your king.' They said, 'Take him away, take him away. Crucify him!' Pilate said, 'Do you want me to crucify your king?' The chief priests answered, 'We have no king except Caesar.' So in the end Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

*Pause for a time of silence.*

5. They then took charge of Jesus, and carrying his own cross he went out of the city to the place of the skull, or, as it was called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified him with two others, one on either side with Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote out a notice and had it fixed to the cross; it ran: 'Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews'. This notice was read by many of the Jews, because the place where Jesus was crucified was not far from the city, and the writing was in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. So the Jewish chief priests said to Pilate, 'You should not write 'King of the Jews', but "This man said: I am King of the Jews'. Pilate answered, 'What I have written, I have written.'

When the soldiers had finished crucifying Jesus they took his clothing and divided it into four shares, one for each soldier. His undergarment was seamless, woven in one piece from neck to hem; so they said to one another, 'Instead of tearing it, let's throw dice to decide who is to have it.' In this way the words of scripture were fulfilled: *They shared out my clothing among them. They cast lots for my clothes.* This is exactly what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son.' Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother.' And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said, 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, 'It is accomplished'; and bowing his head he gave up the spirit.

*Pause for a time of silence.*

6. It was Preparation Day, and to prevent the bodies remaining on the cross during the Sabbath - since the Sabbath was a day of special solemnity - the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then the other. When they came to Jesus, they found that he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately there came out blood and water. This is the evidence of one who saw it - trustworthy evidence, and he knows he speaks the truth - and he gives it so that you may believe as well. Because all this happened to fulfil the words of scripture: *Not one bone of his will be broken*, and again, in another place scripture says: *They will look on the one whom they have pierced.*

After this, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away. Nicodemus came as well the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time and he brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, following the Jewish burial custom. At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near at hand, they laid Jesus there.

*Pause for a time of silence.*

**Conclude your reflection on the Passion of the Lord by saying together the following prayer.**

**All:** Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis; grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world.  
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.





# Holy Week - At Home, as in ancient times.



This week's bulletin offers people a chance to celebrate at home the essence of Holy Week. (An ancient ritual first begun and remembered in home settings - before churches were built.) In 2000 years we have never been offered this opportunity to gather as family 'only' and share the intimacy of the life of Jesus in 'Death and Resurrection'. Thus the conversations could become very rich and real and personal as we communicate our own experiences of 'dying & rising' in daily life, and link these moments to the 'life & death' of Jesus of Nazareth.

Please, take some time to meditate on these mysteries - 'be still' for a few moments!

Naturally Terry, Barry and I will miss the Catholic Communities of Eltham and Montmorency gathering to celebrate these 'Ancient Rituals' and the wonderful creative vibe that accompanies these Sacred Ceremonies!

As a Priest, I genuinely live for this wonderful Holy Week. I thus will deeply miss all the committed faith people gathering in prayer, all the preparations - the setting and symbols, music and hymns, readings and reflections including for me the highlights of Fire & Water, Oil and Bread & Wine given to the Elect and Catechumens. I will miss such joy on the faces of the newly Baptised and Confirmed.

Normally, this week, the Catholic Church is at its very best - a local vibrant parish setting, shared with people of strong faith - nothing could be better, yet this year we are called to draw upon different resources - ones that come from deep within, from our own loneliness and enforced isolation, from our immediate family and its vulnerability. This 'energy' or 'fire' within us is the Sacred Spirit of God that lives within, and now is the appropriate time to call upon this resource - from the 'Divine Well' that dwells in each of us. We are made in God's image and likeness. Therefore please don't hesitate to set aside some time in your changed daily routine - and know that we are all in this experience together, in this sad yet sacred time of Holy Week.

Warmest Prayers to the:

Catholic Communities of St. Francis Xavier & Our Lady Help of Christians

Michael

## Parish Staff Arrangements during the Coronavirus Time

We hope to keep our office open and thus communication flowing to our Catholic communities during these unprecedented times in which we now find ourselves.

Please call us directly between 9am - 3pm (Monday to Friday) otherwise leave a message or contact our office by email ([montmorency@cam.org.au](mailto:montmorency@cam.org.au) or [eltham@cam.org.au](mailto:eltham@cam.org.au)). We hope to produce a bulletin each week.

Terry & Barry are moving into appropriate isolation - Quarantine time for their own safety.

Beth is taking these next few months away from her normal duties of Parish Manager and Pastoral Services to pursue other interests and importantly family time.

Peter will be around most Mondays while Kate should be available in the office from Tuesday to Friday. Gina will be available and on call for any ministry on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday as usual.

Your Moderator will be available 24/7 during these weeks and months ahead.

### A Message from Fr Terry



Just to let everyone know that I'm doing fine and living one day at a time in my home in North Caulfield where one day it will be my retirement home. I'm pretty much in home isolation but I get my walk each day and I'm on my phone and emails for quite some hours each day.

Fr Michael has asked me to write a Reflection/homily for Easter Sunday's Newsletter and I look forward to being present with you for Easter Sunday in this way. Not the same as being present with you in person, but it's so important we follow the requirements of the law for the protection of the whole community.

Know my thoughts, my thanks and my love as also my prayers are very much with you. (Fr) Terry



### Palm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dominic, 47 is a former teacher & father of 6 from Papua New Guinea. In 2016, he became involved with the Caritas Australia's Safe House & Family Anonymous programs & turned a difficult life & an unhappy relationship around.

The program provides gender-based violence prevention training, counselling services & safe accommodation for women & children survivors of violence. Now a community trainer, he works with other men to help them to change their behaviour and build more harmonious family lives. Dominic & his wife, Christophylda say that their relationship has been transformed - and their family life is now harmonious, happy & safe.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help support the Safe House project and help bring greater harmony to families in Papua New Guinea.**

**Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413

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