



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.

### 11<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 2021

Many of us will know the music of singer/songwriter Paul Kelly. Perhaps you have been to one of his concerts. I was listening the other day to him singing the song: 'From little things big things grow'. Without sharing the story of the song, let me just take up the theme and dwell on that thought, 'from little things big things grow.'

I think back to a Wedding reception when a young woman came to my table and asked the question: "You work at the Sacred Heart Mission, don't you?" That was true at that time of my life and I nodded a 'yes'. She then told me the story of her visit to the Mission. She spoke of it being a low time in her life, and she was penniless and hungry. She came for a meal at the Sacred Heart Mission.

She lined up with the hundreds of other people coming for something to eat, and when it came her turn to be served, she spoke of the warmth and the welcome of the volunteers who served the meal. She wasn't asked, 'why are you here?' She was simply welcomed unreservedly and she had several meals at the Mission over the coming days.

I remember her saying to me, "those people at Sacred Heart Mission supported me during a very fragile time in my life. And since then things have turned around. I'm fine now and doing well but I wanted you to know how important Sacred Heart Mission has been in my life."

It was a precious moment for her to tell this story. And even though she didn't talk about what had been so difficult in her life, here she was at the Wedding Reception, dressed beautifully and smiling with appreciation. Talk about a story of 'from little things, big things grow'. Just a simple act of kindness from those volunteers and a welcome to the table of hospitality helped her to change her life.

Food for thought for us all. Perhaps you can think of a time in your life, when a kindness turned your life around. Or a few words of appreciation or understanding made such a difference to your life. I think of Lesley-Ann a friend of mine who once said to me, "Terry, my doctor reads my body, you read my heart." Beautiful words that I carry with me along the story of life.

Why talk about this today, when the Gospel speaks of a parable of Jesus about the mustard seed? Well, it is a parable that teaches, 'from little things, big things grow.'

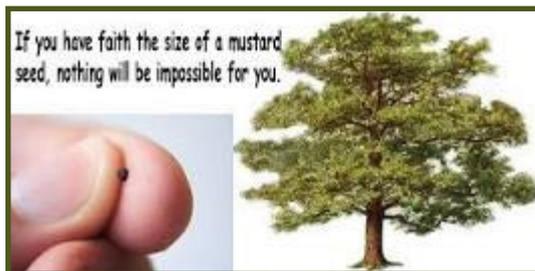
The mustard seed is the smallest of all seeds and yet it grows into the biggest shrub of them all putting out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade. Jesus says the Kingdom of God is like this. What does he mean?

Is he saying that the Kingdom of God is everywhere, all around us? We don't have to look for the Kingdom of God very far. Even the smallest acts of kindness can make a huge difference to someone's life. Of course the opposite is also true. A word spoken in anger and judgment or an exclusion from the table of welcome can hurt forever in a person's heart.

We dwell today on the words and actions that make a positive difference in a person's life. Many people at this time of Covid-19 fears, are finding it hard to be positive. All the more reason for us to be the 'mustard seed' in someone's life.

Is today's Gospel today inviting all of us to make sure we speak and act with kindness and welcome and not with judgment? Even a warm welcome or an offer of support, like leaving a meal at the front door, can make such a difference. Life can turn around for the good, as it did for that young woman at the Wedding. Yes, it is true, 'from little things big things grow.'

**Terry**



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

*For more information visit [pol.org.au/eltham](http://pol.org.au/eltham) or [pol.org.au/montmorency](http://pol.org.au/montmorency).*

*We support the recommendations of the Royal Commission into institutional abuse and pray for all the survivors.*



## PARISH TEAM & INFORMATION



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

### 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**

86 Mayona Road

9435 2178

Mon - Fri 9am-3pm

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

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

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

Peter Williams:

Child Safety Officer

[SFX&OLHC.ChildSafety@cam.org.au](mailto:SFX&OLHC.ChildSafety@cam.org.au)

Website:

[www.pol.org.au/montmorency](http://www.pol.org.au/montmorency)

[www.pol.org.au/eltham](http://www.pol.org.au/eltham)

(pol stands for Parish OnLine)

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: 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: 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

Acting Principal: Therese Stewart: 9439 7824

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

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

#### **Montmorency**

For the recently deceased:

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

*Moira Anderson, Frances Dooley, Terry Hollyoak, Edna Mary McCudden, Fr James Murtagh, Giuseppina Pace*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert), Estelle Levy*

#### **Eltham**

For the recently deceased:

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

*Terry Hollyoak*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Violetta, Denice Donnellan, Geoff Haines, Lidia Marazzato, Tom Nolan, Christine Scott, Ibysek Wojciechowski, Sylvek Zylevicz*

To include an anniversary please contact Parish House

9435 2178 or [eltham@cam.org.au](mailto:eltham@cam.org.au).

#### **RECONCILIATION**

available upon request

please call the Parish Office 9435 2178

**Collections: 6 June 2021 — LOCKDOWN — no Masses**

Community	Thanksgiving	Presbytery
OLHC		
SFX		



Please help our parish continue our important pastoral activities.

You can give an offering online today with CDFpay.

Find our parish by visiting:

<https://bit.ly/CDFpayEltham> or <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMontmorency>



## ABC Q&A - Trauma and Truth-Telling Mitch Tambo on Reconciliation (*excerpts*)

(<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-05-28/mitch-tambo-indigenous-plea-qa-reconciliation-week/100171968>)

"I think it's important that we educate teachers, we educate educators and get to the kids because the reality is that's where we've got a greater scope to build capacity, build empathy and build a heart that's geared towards hearing our story.

Sitting with us and hearing our truths.

We can't turn our head away any more to the truth of what happened here. It's not to point fingers and I don't come from that position because I want to bring us all together so we can heal.

I'm crying out for healing for my people.

We hear the term all the time that you're resilient. It doesn't mean we want to be resilient. We want to be free, we want to be trauma-free.

This transgenerational trauma stuff, it is scientifically proven it can be passed on through the DNA, it is real.

I just hope, I hope with all of my heart that we are coming to a position in this nation where we can stop turning our head away, open our hearts and just grow a little bit of capacity for our story.

Because the truth is the stolen generations, the majority of it — when I say these words, it's not to trigger any of the old people that were taken — they weren't necessarily birthed out of love.

Our women were raped and bastardised and here we sit today with our women 30 to 80 times more likely to be hospitalised due to domestic violence.

That's our women, there's nothing more royal or sacred on this planet than our women.

We're from the oldest living continual culture on the planet and so over-represented in this hell of domestic violence.

It starts as a root where we have to go to.

In order to face that root we have to hit it front on and go "I didn't do it", but rather than turn away and say "that's not my fault, I'm not sorry", it's like a brother's, sister's, auntie's, uncle's passed away and you heard about it and you go, "Are you OK? I'm sorry that happened. I will empathise with you and open up my heart and give you a hug, because I'm sorry".

Let's talk about it.

Our people are dying in jails, overrepresented in incarceration. We make up 3 per cent.

There was a statistic the other day that 41 per cent in out-of-home care, our kids that are in foster care and whatnot, 41 per cent and it's growing.

Our kids have still been taken away. We have got a new generation of stolen generations.

We're dying and killing ourselves. We're absolutely riddled in chronic disease and illness.

We're going into remote communities. There's inadequate human resources, the list goes on.

I'm not here to point and condemn and point out these negativities but I am here to cry out and say "please empathise with us, please get on our story and listen to our story because we need you".

We need everyone.

And we all need to come together and love and accept one another regardless of race, religion, gender, sexuality and class.

Our young people need all of you because our young people are killing themselves. Our young people are dying every day.

Our women are getting bashed every day and that's not me condemning my Aboriginal brothers because our women are with all men from all walks of life and it's not OK.

Our people are dying of type 2 diabetes and we talk about type 2 diabetes like it's a common cold.

Our people in remote communities are spending more time being hooked up to dialysis than out in the bush.

What we need is to grow capacity for our story.

There will be people here tonight that will comment and they'll go "you're not really a black fella. Look at your skin. Are you 1 per cent in your finger?" It's not about that. It's about our spirit it's about what's inside of our heart.

There are so many more like me of this colour because of our past, the stolen generations and because of the obvious, our parents get together and marry from different nationalities because of this beautiful culture.

What you can't take away are our spirit and the resilience of our ancestors, they're here.

We must come together.

We're in the final hour and we need each and every single one of you from every walk of life so we can journey together into a greater future.



*Mitch Tambo, Q+A, May 27, 2021*

*To the parishioners of SFX, the families at SFX and HT primary schools  
we would like to share with you our  
Annual Report from St Vincent de Paul (SVDP)  
Montmorency Conference for the period 1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021*

This is the 59<sup>th</sup> year of the Montmorency St Vincent de Paul (SVDP) conference. We serve the people of Lower Plenty, Montmorency, Briar Hill, St Helena and Eltham North. As a Catholic lay organization of **men and women, Our Vision** is to be recognized as a **caring Catholic organization offering a 'hands up' to people in need in our local community** irrespective of their faith, ethnicity, social background, gender or political opinions. We do this, on your behalf, by respecting their dignity and privacy, sharing our hope for them and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

The theme of this year's Winter Appeal is "***The Crisis in our own Backyard***". In the second year of the global pandemic, families are fighting to stay in their homes and it is their children who are bearing the greatest burden of the crisis. As Job Keeper/Seeker payments wind down, some families are at increased risk of homelessness which means that many children may be without a warm, safe place to sleep and properly fed. The challenge for all in our parish community is to ensure that our Christian and community spirit continues and helps to make the difference from an ordinary to an extraordinary difference to those in need in our local community and helps ease their pain.

We were one of the few parish groups last year who could continue their work/service/mission. Even though we were not allowed to enter their homes, we could meet them on their doorsteps/driveways. We were able to do this only because of the generous donations of parishioners, even though we were not able to attend Mass, and timely contributions from the schools.

**Support from Schools and Parishioners**

SVDP Montmorency is most grateful and thankful to our supporters: ***SFX parishioners, our two parish primary schools - Holy Trinity (HT) and St Francis Xavier (SFX) and Catholic Ladies College (CLC)***, through your support of our appeals, poor box contributions, purchase of Christmas cards and donations to and shopping at the Vinnies shop. We are entirely dependent on the generosity of the SFX parishioners and the school communities, for, despite our advocacy, we have not been able to access any Federal, State or Council grants.

In addition to the above support, over the past three years ***SVDP Montmorency*** entered into a community partnership with ***Lalor Secondary College (LSC)*** and ***CLC*** in providing hearty meals to some families in need in our local community. However in 2020 due to Covid, this program had to be suspended but CLC students improvised and provided child safe recipes and ingredients for kids to make Mother's Day cakes and slices for the mothers we visit.

Both SFX and HT primary schools donated non-perishable food on two food drives during the year. In addition, both schools and CLC donated Christmas gifts and Christmas food for adults and their children. This very much relieved the economic and social pressure on families and helped families to celebrate Christmas as members of our community.

Over the past year, your conference assisted 189 adults and 240 children by providing support, friendship, material assistance and advice about accessing government, health and financial services. In addition to these visits, we also visited 35 families to give them most appreciated Christmas hampers and Christmas gifts for the family.

Although our resources are continually being stretched we were, thanks to your generosity, able to **provide assistance to the value of \$27,038 over the twelve months to April 2021**. Below is a summary of how we have provided material assistance to people in need in the Montmorency/Briar Hill/Lower Plenty/St Helena/Eltham North areas :-

(Please note: *All postage, telephone, travelling expenses and any other administrative expenses associated with the services we provide to local community are borne by the members themselves. As a consequence, we can assure all parishioners that **ALL donations remain within the Montmorency conference and go entirely to help those we assist in the district.***)





<i>Purchased Food &amp; Donated food from SFX, HT and CLC Schools</i>	\$16,700
<i>Furniture, small household items &amp; clothing</i>	\$2,204
<i>Electric/gas/telephone bills/other utilities of families</i>	\$1,682
<i>Clothing vouchers</i>	\$1,750
<i>Accommodation</i>	\$2,164
<i>Medical</i>	\$200
<i>Education</i>	\$622
<i>Transport related expenses</i>	\$204
<i>Other</i>	\$1,512

Whilst we were able to provide this material aid, a significant part of our work involves assisting families by giving them a *hand up rather than simply giving a hand-out*. The complexity of the challenges some of these families are facing and the barriers they have to break through to take their rightful place as citizens in our community can be daunting. We assist them in their search for affordable accommodation through DHS and/or Community Housing and/or ensuring all utility concessions and other social entitlements are obtained. Sometimes, the SVDP call and visit may be the only outside contact that some people experience in a week. This was especially the case during the lockdown periods last year.

### **How to donate to the SVDP Winter appeal**

- Envelopes:** SVDP envelopes are available at SFX in church pews or at the tables at the entrance doors or at the Presbytery/Church office. You are welcome to leave your donations and/or envelopes in the SVDP Donation boxes on the tables near the entrances to the church or at parish office or to an SVDP member or to Mike on 0417 221 245. Receipts can be requested by simply completing name and address on the envelope; or
- On Line:** <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/covid-19-emergency-appeal-vic>. In terms of directing funds back to the Montmorency Conference, you need to state **Montmorency in the "Comments/Conference Name box"** which is just after the postal address box. Again it would also be helpful if you could send an email to [msaid@netspace.net.au](mailto:msaid@netspace.net.au) with your full name and address, amount and date of deposit so that the conference can acknowledge your generosity and ensure these moneys are allocated to the **Montmorency Conference**; or
- By phone:** by calling 13 18 12 and again stating your donation is for the **Montmorency conference**. Again, it would also be helpful if you could send an email to [msaid@netspace.net.au](mailto:msaid@netspace.net.au) with your full name and address, amount and date of deposit so that the conference can acknowledge your generosity and ensure these moneys are allocated to the **Montmorency Conference**; or
- Direct Credit:** BSB 063000 Account 10607556 **with a reference to Montmorency 916**. In this way monies will be credited to the Montmorency Conference account and stay within our community. If you use this method please send an email to [msaid@netspace.net.au](mailto:msaid@netspace.net.au) with your full name and address so that we can acknowledge your gift and receive your tax receipt.

ROSTERS:	
<i>week ending 20 June</i>	
<b>Montmorency</b>	
Emslie, Maureen	W6:00
Kenny, Michael	W6:00
McKinley, Michael	W8:30
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Sullivan, Michael	CLNR
Watson, Denis	CLNR
Williams, Anne	PRYR
Williams, Peter	PRYR
<b>Eltham</b>	
Iiffe, Yvonne	Eucharistic Minister
Reardon, Kathy	Altar Society
Reardon, Kathy	Eucharist Minister
Rigg Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Scully, Helen	Altar Society
Scully, Greg	Commentator
Taylor, Trish	Reader

## Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

### **Friday 11**

9:30am Mass (50 people) Eltham

### **Saturday 12**

6:00pm Mass (50 people) Montmorency

### **Sunday 13**

8:30am Mass (50 people) Montmorency

10:00am Mass (50 people) Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: CANCELLED Montmorency

**Monday 14** Public Holiday - Queen's Birthday

### **Tuesday 15**

9:30am Mass (50 people) Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Eltham

### **Wednesday 16**

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Mass (50 people) Eltham

11:00am Small Church Community Montmorency

### **Thursday 17**

9:30am Mass (50 people) Montmorency

10:30am ASRC food collection & delivery Montmorency

### **Friday 18**

9:30am Mass (50 people) Eltham

### **Saturday 19**

6:00pm Mass (50 people) Montmorency

### **Sunday 20**

8:30am Mass (50 people) Montmorency

10:00am Mass (50 people) Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: to be confirmed Montmorency

### **Tuesday 22**

9:30am Mass (50 people) Montmorency

### **Wednesday 23**

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Mass (50 people) Eltham

### **Thursday 24**

9:30am Mass (50 people) Montmorency

10:30am ASRC food collection & delivery Montmorency

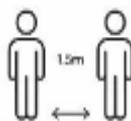
### **Friday 25**

# CovidSafety

## during Mass:



- Face masks are to be worn indoors (during Mass) and outdoors (when social distancing of 1.5m is not possible);



- Please maintain **social distancing of 1.5m** ( families not included ) at all times;



- Please **record your presence** via: QR Code on your phone, this is essential for Record Keeping and if necessary, tracing and numbers;



- Please use **Hand Sanitiser** provided or other personal appropriate cleaning agent.

## Please note:

*current* Covid Regulations allow for **only 50 people** in the Churches of St. Francis Xavier and Our Lady Help of Christians.

# FEEL SAFE AND BE SAFE AT OUR CHURCH



## YOU HAVE RIGHTS

You have the right to feel safe and be safe from harm.

## YOU ARE VALUED & RESPECTED

You have the right not to be hurt, spoken to rudely or made to feel uncomfortable.

## WE WILL PROTECT

We will protect children and young people.

## WE WILL LISTEN & BELIEVE

We will listen to children and young people and believe them.

## WE WILL RESPOND

We will respond to matters of safety and harm.

### IF YOU DON'T FEEL SAFE, PLEASE CONTACT:



A family member  
or a trusted person  
you feel safe  
talking to.



Police  
**000**



kidshelp  
line  
Anytime | Any Reason

Kids Helpline  
**1800 551 800**

### AND THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT

Phone: 9926 5621 Email: [psu@cam.org.au](mailto:psu@cam.org.au)



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE  
OF MELBOURNE

## Gospel - Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.



## Reflection

Almost the whole of the fourth chapter of Mark is devoted to parables. It includes four parables, an interpretation, and two explanatory statements about teaching in parables. Today's excerpt contains two of the parables and a concluding editorial comment.

The first of the parables - that of the seed growing by itself - is unique to Mark. Jesus is inviting his hearers, now us, to trust that there is an inherent dynamic power in the kingdom of God that assures its growth. As mysterious as this power may be, it is sure to achieve its purpose. Perhaps the Church remembered this story in a time of faltering faith.

The same may be the case for the second of the parables (found also in Luke and Matthew), that of the mustard seed. The contrast between the insignificant seed and the large shrub that it produces invites believers to take heart even when beginnings are unpromising.

The concluding remarks about Jesus' practice of teaching in parables leaves the ambiguity unresolved. Did he teach this way in order to obscure or to reveal the mystery of the kingdom? Texts can be cited to support either point of view. What is clear is that those who did grasp the point of the parables gained insight into God's ways of working in our world.

**Break Open the Word 2021**

## Prayers of the Faithful for 13 June 2021 - Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Celebrant:** Let us be still for a moment as we draw nearer to God. Listen, God speaks even through the background noise of the world around us. So, we bring these prayers before you.

**For the world:** that the seed of faith planted in the heart of each person may grow. So together we continue to seek an end to violence in our world. That the weak and innocent may be protected, and that the dignity of each person is respected.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For our parish community:** that we may scatter God's Word through our work, daily activities, and conversations so that many people may encounter Christ today.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For the protection of the human family:** that God will strengthen those who are working to contain and defeat the Covid virus, speed resources to those in crisis, and bring healing to all who are sick.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For newly structured parishes in our archdioceses:** that God will bless their efforts, confirm them in faith, and guide their activities so that the Gospel may transform them into strong, active, cohesive communities.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For a deeper love and appreciation for God's Word:** that the Word of God will nourish and enrich us as we strive to be true disciples of Jesus.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For the tender shoots in our midst:** that God will give abundant growth for the young, to those new to the faith, and those beginning their ministry. Guide them to maturity of faith and service.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**We pray for all who are sick and those who are listed in our bulletin.** May they experience the healing touch of Christ.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**We pray for those who have died recently.** We also remember *Moirra Anderson, Frances Dooley, Terry Hollyoak, Edna Mary McCudden, Fr James Murtagh & Giuseppina Pace* whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in the peace and love of Christ.  
*Lord, hear us.* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** Lord, help us recognise Christ in one another and in all who share the journey of life with us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.