

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.

A round table conference on the finances



Well actually, the large table was square - but who cares! With the assembled finance team linking Eltham & Montmorency numbering seven, and the important addition of Kate Kogler being present and available to answer any day to day running issues with your financial matters, we were happily joined by seven members of the parishes (two couples and 3 very interested supporters) all asking questions and finding out a little more about the financial running of the 2 catholic communities during these two Covid-19 years in particular. Fifteen people with shared financial wisdom and concerns about the future is a small gathering, but an important one nonetheless. Covid or no Covid, we hope to move to a more regular 'open' parish financial meeting each year, around March or April 2023 and beyond for your interest. Many areas of our finances were covered on this night, and I'm deeply grateful for those people who asked questions and who showed gratitude for the work of the members of the finance team.

For your interest: it has always been my experience in other parishes too, that the number of people attending such annual meetings are small in number - maybe because they think that it's an AGM and because of their attendance they might be voted onto the Executive by the end of the night! Whatever the issues, I certainly take your absence as confirmation that we are doing a good job with the governance of your money and are always grateful for your financial contributions to the running of St. Francis Xavier, Montmorency and Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham. Thank you.

Last Sunday's MONTMORENCY gathering

The Transitional Leadership Community (TLC) led by Chris Pearson, were deeply grateful for your attendance and participation, for exactly one and a half hours last Sunday at Montmorency. About 60 parishioners in all were led to consider the 'Light' & 'Darkness' of their Catholic journey, and importantly their 'Dreams' for the future local community. Starting with personal writing time, that was kept private, the two small group gatherings produced a lot of 'public writing' which was placed on the walls of the Parish/School Hall for all to see. Naturally, we have so much in common. All the gathered sheets, everything that was written down, will be shared with both parishes in the month of September, after the September TLC Meeting with Chris.

Don't worry, you won't miss out on anything important that was shared or written.

ELTHAM it is your turn next Sunday at 1pm in the OLHC Church Foyer, and we hope that you will gather with the TLC as your attendance is very much required to balance the efforts of Monty as we move forward together.

So, again, I can only stress the importance of this gathering and process for our healthy future together. Please join the Transition Leadership Community at Eltham on Sunday 28th at 1pm.

If you have missed the St. Francis Xavier gathering because the date/time was difficult last week, then please know that this occasion is open to Eltham and Montmorency Parishioners!

Michael

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 or pol.org.au/montmorency.

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

86 Mayona Road

9435 4742

Tue - Fri 9am-3pm

montmorency@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

eltham@cam.org.au

Peter Williams:

Child Safety Officer

SFX&OLHC.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Website:

www.pol.org.au/montmorency

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

Schools

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

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: Patrick Green: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

RECONCILIATION

available upon request

please call the Parish Office 9435 4742

Collections: 7 August 2022

	OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	\$1,328.00	\$1,738.00
Presbytery	\$1,019.65	\$877.20

Stewardship Offering

Month	OLHC	SFX	Total
April	\$7,964.46	\$11,281.00	\$19,245.46
May	\$5,768.51	\$11,421.00	\$17,189.51
June	\$6,530.13	\$10,509.05	\$17,039.18

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Saturday 20

12:00pm Baptisms: Annabelle, Charlie, James, Everly Montmorency

6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 21

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Eleanor, Atticus, Theodore Eltham

Tuesday 23

9:30am Mass (SFX Yr 1 class) Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 24

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

Thursday 25

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

Friday 26

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 27

12:00pm Baptisms: Mila, Zara, Jake, Harper Montmorency

1:00pm Baptism: Scarlett Montmorency

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 28 - ACBC Social Justice Sunday

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Gia, Leo, Leonardo, Liv Eltham

1:00pm TLC Parish Meeting Eltham

Tuesday 30

9:30am Mass (SFX Y5 class) Montmorency

Wednesday 31

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 1 September

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

2:30pm Mass Calvary Lower Plenty Garden Views

Friday 2

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 3

12:00pm Baptisms: Lucas, Sebastian, Benjamin, Bobby Montmorency

6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 4

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

Tuesday 6

9:30am Mass (SFX Yr 2 class) Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

Wednesday 7

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

Support Montmorency Parish by giving with CDFpay

Simply scan the QR code with your mobile phone and in a few easy steps you can quickly and securely give to your parish.




Support Eltham Parish by giving with CDFpay

Simply scan the QR code with your mobile phone and in a few easy steps you can quickly and securely give to your parish.




Francis' call with Zelenskiy shifts diplomatic ground

Jonathan Luxmoore
and James Roberts

The Vatican's diplomacy with regard to Ukraine took a new turn last week after Pope Francis on Friday spoke by telephone to the Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy.

Mr Zelenskiy said in a tweet that he told Francis that Ukraine needs the support of "world spiritual leaders who should convey to the world the truth about acts of horror committed by the aggressor in Ukraine". The Ukrainian ambassador to the Holy See, Andrii Yurash, added that the "Ukrainian state and society will be happy to greet the Holy Father", expressing hopes for a visit by Pope Francis to Kyiv.

The possible visit, however is testing Vatican unity. In remarks on 10 August to the Italian geo-political magazine *Limes*, Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, said the Pope still hoped to visit "both Moscow and Kyiv with the intention of ending the war", adding that he hoped "some ray of hope will open" to make both moves possible. Witheringly, he described running accusations that the Pope is too "pro-Russian" as "an incredible simplification of reality. Is the Pope pro-Russian for calling for peace? Because he invites us to reflect on what led to these worrying developments?" Pope Francis has "unequivocally condemned Russian aggression against Ukraine from the outset", Parolin pointed out. The fact that he and the Vatican are not tied to any state but to international law that



PHOTO: ALAMY

President Zelenskiy

has "no political, economic or military interests" meant that the Holy See can "carry sufficient weight diplomatically".

Speaking after the Angelus on Sunday 7 August, welcoming the departure from Ukraine's ports of ships loaded with grain and keeping the door to negotiations open, Francis said "This step shows that it is possible to dialogue and achieve concrete results,, which benefit everyone. Therefore, this event can be seen as a sign of hope, and I sincerely hope that, following this path, we can put an end to the fighting and arrive at a just and lasting peace."

On 5 August Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, met Francis at the Vatican. No details of the meeting were provided by the Holy See, while the Moscow

Patriarchate said the "lengthy conversation" dealt with "current issues concerning relations between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church".

The Pope is set to be in the Kazakh capital Nur-Sultan from 13 to 15 September for the VII Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions. Patriarch Kirill of Moscow is also attending.

However, hopes that Francis will meet Patriarch Kirill in Kazakhstan were dimmed last week by Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, who, in a different tone from Parolin's, told Austria's Kathpress talks would "only make sense" if they led to "a clear joint statement that this senseless and cruel war will finally be ended".

"If the Pope first meets the Russian Orthodox patriarch before visiting Ukraine, this will be viewed as very troubling in Ukraine," the Swiss cardinal told Kathpress. "Our bilateral relations are now tainted by Patriarch Kirill's stance on the war in Ukraine ... The Holy See's position is clear - war is a false path - whereas Patriarch Kirill is convinced war is the right way."

The stakes were raised further last week as UN Secretary General António Guterres called for an end to military activity near Zaporizhzhia nuclear power complex as Moscow and Kyiv blamed each other for shelling of the area. Russia seized the plant in March.

Melbourne Catholic News:

We are a pilgrim Church, walking together on the way of Christ, who is bringing every part of our lives - indeed all of creation - to completion and wholeness. As we walk, we do so *with* Christ and *towards* Christ. This is what it means to be a synodal Church.

This week it was announced that [the Australian synthesis for the global Synod of Bishops has been released](#), drawing together themes and insights from the reports put together by dioceses from around Australia. Each country has put together their own national synthesis, and Australia's expresses a strong, widespread desire for a more missionary Church.

We [talk with Fr Andy Hamilton SJ](#) - about his lifelong love of nature, his commitment to refugees, and his work as a poet and writer, and how they have shaped his unique contribution to the mission of the Church in Melbourne over many years.

And in the wake of Vocations Awareness Week, we still have many stories to share about the joy of discerning and following God's call. [We hear from Fr Joel Peart this week](#), Assistant Priest at St Catherine of Siena parish and one of seven vocations promoters across the Archdiocese. He shares what a wonderful and blessed thing it is to be a priest and to embrace the particular calling God has for each one of us.

In a noisy and fast-paced world, learning to slow down and enter more deeply into relationship with Jesus can sometimes be tricky. So this week we begin an exploration of [the challenges the modern world might pose](#) to listening attentively to God's call, and what practically we might do to discern God's call on our lives more deeply.

www.melbournecatholic.org/news

No Looking back

The synodal way is not a journey backwards, an exercise in nostalgia: the goal of the pilgrimage of faith is ahead rather than behind us / **By Thomas O'Loughlin**

The image of “the pilgrim People of God” was intended to be a biblically rich vision to replace the vision of the Church as an “unequal hierarchical society” (*societas inaequalis hierarchica*). Yet few organisations have such hierarchically clear levels. The clue is in the name: the Church *claims* to be hierarchical (in the original sense of its having a divinely appointed government, and in the popular sense of ranks in a pyramid); other power pyramids are only “hierarchical” by analogy. The Second Vatican Council used the image of the Church as the People of God to emphasise that it is all the baptised, as one community, that witnesses, preaches, works, suffers and prays. Put another way, the basis of the Church would be centred around baptism, not ordination.

It would also be a *pilgrim* Church. It has not yet reached its goal, so cannot think of itself as a *societas perfecta*. In the older ecclesiology, the Church was the perfect beacon that not only other religious organisations but all other societies should imitate. Vatican II saw the community of the baptised as serving the larger human family, growing, learning and humbly aware of its incompleteness. After several centuries of triumphalism, taking the pilgrim image on board has been just too much for many of us. Many of the divisions within contemporary Catholicism can be seen in terms of a willingness, on the one hand, and a reluctance, on the other, to take this image of the Church as a “pilgrim people” to heart. This is the background to Pope Francis’ repeated calls for a “synodal Church”. His hope is that synodality will give flesh to Vatican II’s vision.

When we are faced with new images of the Church, our instinct is to look backwards to “the Early Church” to see if we can draw lessons or inspiration from there. This longing to recover the golden age of the first Christians is not new. Already in the early second century, when writing the Acts of the

Apostles, Luke presents us with a vision of unity, harmony, and dedication: “All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the Temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved” (Acts 2:42-47).

Luke raises some important questions. How accurate is his picture of the first Christian communities? Does looking backwards reflect a Christian vision? And while it is rhetorically powerful, is it pastorally effective? If it were not for the conflicts in the Aegean Churches, we might never have had the letters of Paul. There were disputes over religious practices and an unwillingness to welcome one another as equals (1 Corinthians) and about what was to be believed and expected (1 Thessalonians). We know of arguments between Jewish followers of Jesus and Gentile followers, about both circumcision and the sharing of resources. Abuses over hospitality and support by “Apostles and prophets” generated the first internal church regulations, and it wasn’t long before the term “Christmonger” was coined for ministers greedy for money: there were “clergy on the make” within a few decades of the Crucifixion and several centuries before “clergy” emerged. And far from holding all in common, the wealthy kept their slaves, and most did not like practices that challenged the social status quo.

In other words, the first Christians were as challenged as we are by the Word. Far from being plaster-cast saints, it was their willingness to keep trying to live the Gospel in a culture that saw them as fools and oddbods that was their claim to being “among the saints” (Ephesians 5:3). Graeco-Roman civilisation looked back to “a

golden age” since when things had been going down-hill. Christians were different. They looked to the future: to the coming of the Son of Man. At the heavenly banquet, people will be gathered from north, south, east and west. They are on a journey.

This colours our thinking about the Church, and about synodality. We do not imagine that there was a perfect time which we are seeking to recreate, but we, confident in God’s help, ask what we should *become*. “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me” (Matthew 25:34-36). We are not engaged in a restoration project.

Luke’s device of imagining a perfect past as a blueprint - a technique he borrowed from Greek history writing - engages the human propensity for nostalgia: “We shall not see their like!” But the sense that it was somehow easier for the first Christians, that they belonged to the “age of the saints”, “the spring-time”, disempowers us. Inherent in this is a lack of faith that our moment is as beloved of the Creator who holds it in being as that of those called to witness in the first days. The times have changed, but the call to follow and witness - amid the particular difficulties of our age - is always the same. Those early Aegean Churches and our Churches today are one in hearing: “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe” (John 20:29).

Something else distinguishes the pilgrim people from the *societas perfecta*: discipleship. Until the 1930s, most mainstream Churches were united in thinking of “belonging” in terms of identification and the acceptance of specific beliefs.

The matter of identification was seen in their desire to be recognised within legal frameworks: ideally, establishment, but at least giving their leaders a say in education or social policy. Likewise, individual belonging was presented as assent to certain propositions. Churches and denominations had their “truths to be accepted” (the *credenda*). There was a list of boxes to be ticked. Then came movements such as Fascism, Nazism and Communism. Identification and assent to propositions was no longer enough to “belong” - as was recognised by

theologians such as Dietrich Bonhoeffer. One had to become a disciple.

The disciple - more an “apprentice” than a “student” - knows that one does not just, as they say, talk the talk, but walk the walk. And this is the walk of the pilgrim. Discipleship costs. Or as our formal memory (Mark 10:38) presents the desire of disciples looking towards their destination: “You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptised with the baptism that I am baptised with?” The “synodal Church” is not an

exercise in nostalgia, an attempt to recreate an illusory Early Church without disagreement or dissent. Pope Francis’ dream is that synodality will bring alive Vatican II’s vision of a pilgrim Church of disciples, “among the saints” not because they are perfect but because they are disciples, humble witnesses to the Gospel of mercy.

Thomas O’Loughlin is emeritus professor of historical theology, University of Nottingham. His latest book is *Discipleship and Society in the Early Churches*.



IRELAND AND SCOTLAND / Synodal documents demand transparency and accountability

Consultation emphasises roles for LGBTQI+, laity and women

**Sarah MacDonald
and Madoc Cairns**

There are “many challenges for the handing on of the faith” in Ireland, according to the Irish bishops, responding to the national synthesis of the synodal process.

The challenges include a need for inner healing and hope, especially among those who have suffered abuse by church personnel and in church institutions, the bishops said.

In a letter accompanying the report sent to Cardinal Mario Grech, secretary general of the Synod of Bishops, the leader of the Irish Church, Archbishop Eamon Marin, said the synthesis, which is the fruit of consultations with tens of thousands of Irish Catholics, acknowledges the impact in recent decades of a major decline in the practice of the faith, and in vocations to priesthood and religious life.

The landmark document, published this week, calls for greater transparency, greater lay participation in decision-making as well as accountability within parish and diocesan church structures.

It indicates a strong desire for fresh models of leadership to recognise and



facilitate the role of women, as well as men. These include ordination to the diaconate and priesthood.

Among the 13 themes in the document is one on clergy which highlights the appreciation for priests among the faithful and a recognition that they are overworked and often feel burdened by the weight of governance and administration.

Another overarching thread evident throughout the consultation, the report notes, is that the gifts of laypeople are under-utilised by the Church. There was also “a clear,

overwhelming call for the full inclusion of LGBTQI+ people in the Church”.

The bishops’ conference of Scotland has also published the final synthesis of the synodal process. The 12-page document drew on synodal contributions from individual Catholics, parish groups and diocesan reports across Scotland’s six dioceses and two archdioceses. These reports included the Archdiocese of Edinburgh and St Andrews, which highlighted a growing generation gap between young and old within the Church, and the Diocese of Motherwell, which called for the creation of a Church where “everyone has an equal place irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, or age”.

The synodal process also drew on the results of small meetings in prisons, responses among teachers and pupils at Catholic schools, the Scottish Catholic charity Sciaf, and input from Jewish, Muslim, Baha’i, Hindu and Sikh believers. Although the pandemic was disruptive to the life of the Church, the report said, it also encouraged the faithful to experiment with “new ways of being parish” through online liturgy, social action and the new “ministry of welcome”.



St Francis Xavier
 Catholic Primary School
 Montmorency

JOIN US FOR A FIESTA TO CELEBRATE 90 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN MONTMORENCY

Fiesta Noventa

FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER
5.30PM - 8.30PM

FREE RIDES • FOOD TRUCKS • KIDS KARAOKE • DJ PHIL • FACE PAINTING • FIREWORKS
 ANNIVERSARY PHOTO WALL • LIVE MUSIC WITH GARY EASTWOOD & BAND • SPECIAL GUESTS

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TRYBOOKING.COM/CBKUY



A GATHERING OF THE SFX PAST AND PRESENT SCHOOL, COMMUNITY AND A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

THIS IS A CHILD SAFE - ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

90 YEARS OF SFX

What can you share?

Items Wanted

St Francis Xavier School is celebrating their 90th birthday.

As part of the *Fiesta Noventa* event, the staff are preparing a display showcasing the change and consistency over time.

We are hoping you may have photos (pre 1970s), uniforms, memorabilia or stories to help create the display.



Share a Story

Share a memorable SFX event, tradition or memory in 50 words or less.

We hope to weave these stories into a collection which reflects the rich history of our school.



Contact Info

For physical items, please **clearly label them (including contact details)** and drop them to the school office for '90th Display' by **Monday 29th August**.



For digital items, please email Anne Hibbert: ahibbertesfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Jobs in Waiting...

Lionel is newly arrived to our shores. He is looking to occupy his time & talents helping out with those tasks we mean to do but tend to put off, for one reason or another!

He is skilled in painting, paving, building, gardening, cleaning, clearing around the home. Lionel is genuine, thorough and honest, and his rates are reasonable.

If you feel you could use his services, give him a call on 0423 224 043 to discuss your requirements, he would appreciate your interest!

A Unit is now available at OLHC. If you would like to move into a well-established and nice sized unit close to OLHC church and Eltham shopping area, please contact Peter Rigg (0421 703 523)

St Francis of Assisi * Parish Retreat 2022

Led by Lorraine McCarthy & the Proclaim: Office for Mission Renewal of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

VITAL! VIBRANT! VIABLE!

= Growing Missionary Disciples!



Topic?
Being a Missionary Disciple
- What it means & why it matters?

'The purpose of evangelization is ... to bring people into an encounter with the person of Jesus and an ongoing relationship with him - a conversion.'

When? Saturday, 27th August, 8.15 am - 3.30 pm
Retreat begins with Morning Mass.

Where? Loyola College, 325 Grimshaw Street, Watsonia 3087

*** Cost: \$5 * Lunch - bring a plate * Tea & Coffee provided**
***Booking Essential * RSVP: Tuesday, 23rd August**

Enquiries/Booking: Contact: 9407 6700
Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

Our Retreat will be an opportunity to be drawn into a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Everyone is invited!

DON'T FORGET: MEETING NEXT WEEK AT ELTHAM 1PM

Prayers of the Faithful for 14 August 2022 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Lord of mercy and love, help us take off the old self and put on what is new as we bring these prayers before you.

For the Church: that our Church leaders embrace the voice of the people expressed through the plenary council and take action with a discerning heart, leading all into a hope filled future.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our parish community: that the Spirit will help us hear God's invitation, respond wholeheartedly to that call, and trust that God will provide what we need.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our children who are to be baptized and those celebrating the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend: that they may continually be aware of God's presence in their daily lives.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all our faith communities: no matter if we are from a Jewish, Muslim, Christian or other faith story: that we honour all that we share in common and work together to overcome the evil that ensnares the human heart.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For grace to enter through the narrow gate: that the Spirit will guide us in living lives of forgiveness, compassion, self-control, and acts of service, so that our lives may manifest the reign of God.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For refugees and those fleeing warfare: that God will open a pathway to safety, provide food and shelter for them, and help them to find acceptance in their new communities.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are sick and those who are listed in our bulletin. May they experience the healing touch of Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died recently, *Iris Huet, Ronald McCormack & Jean Smith*. We also remember *John Arundell, Paul David Goss & Wayne Robinson* whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in the peace and love of Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God of life, hear the prayers we have spoken and those held deep within our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Roster for THIS WEEKEND: 20/21 Aug 2022	
Armstrong, Miranda	E10:00
Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Costanzo, Brenda	W8:30
Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Dhanasen Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	Commentator
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Furtado, Lionel	Reader
Hall, Vali	Altar Society
Kotz, Sharron	E10:00
McAleer, Peter	ASRC
Milwain, Gianna	Altar Society
Scully, Greg	Hospitality
Scully, Helen	E10:00
Scully, Helen	Hospitality
Williams, Anne	PRYR
Williams, Peter	PRYR

Roster for NEXT WEEKEND: 27/28 Aug 2022	
Armstrong, Miranda	E10:00
Beckford, Peter	PRYR
Emslie, Maureen	W6:00
Frediani, Gabriella	Altar Society
French, Jossie	W8:30
Goss, Marion	E10:00
Jones, Marion	W6:00
Leahy Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Leahy, Colin	Hospitality
Leahy, Michelle	Hospitality
Love, Philip	W8:30
Nolan, Kathleen	Commentator
Ramsdale, John	ASRC
Ramsdale, Sue	ASRC
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Scully, Greg	E10:00
Scully, Helen	E10:00
Zylstra, Diane	Reader

E10:00 = Eucharistic Minister @ 10am Mass; W8:30 = Minister of the Word @ 8:30am Mass; W6:00 = Minister of the Word @ 6pm Mass

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our street" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'



Reflection:

The prophet Isaiah envisaged a time to come when all the peoples of the earth would learn of God's glory and come streaming to Jerusalem. Luke paints a very different picture here. The Jerusalem that Jesus is heading to will be a place of rejection and reversal. Those who counted themselves heirs of the patriarchs and the prophets will reject Jesus and be rejected in return. People will indeed come "from east and west, from north and south," but it will be to replace, not join, those who "once ate and drank" in Jesus' company.

The light only breaks through at the end of this dark reading. First there's the narrow door which many will fail to enter. Next the master of the house refuses entry to those who thought they had the right; they will turn to "weeping and grinding of teeth." Even the good news about the "feast in the kingdom of God" is not for those who are listening, but for those far distant in time and place.

This collection of sayings, dispersed in Matthew but combined here in Luke, is a corollary of the opening sentence. They spell out the implications of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Those who would follow him must be ready to be as determined as he is. It's a sobering message that needs to be delivered with seriousness. **Break Open the Word 2022**



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

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

Ronald McCormack

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

John Arundell

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Rita Bevanda, Kim Brisbane, Alana Foulds, Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert), Melanie Lam, Lita Lee, Frances McDonald, Andrew Pighin, Agnatha Spina, Melina Tenaglia

Eltham

For the recently deceased:

Iris Huet, Jean Smith

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Paul David Goss, Wayne Robinson

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Violetta, Elisabeth Edwards, Jade McAlear, Fiona Rogers, Rosemary Scully, Ian Sturman, James Sutton, Sarah Thompson

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



Congratulations to all who celebrate their sacraments this weekend:

Saturday 20 August

St Francis Xavier, 12:00 pm

Annabelle Kane

Baptism

Charlie Kane

Baptism

James Kane

Baptism

Everly Pattison

Baptism

St Francis Xavier, 6:00 pm

Harry Blackburne

First Eucharist

Joshua Gallacher-Niblett

First Eucharist

Sunday 21 August

St Francis Xavier, 8:30am

Harry Henshall

First Eucharist

Our Lady Help of Christians, 10:00am

Tiana Galgano

First Eucharist

Emelia Moate

First Eucharist

Our Lady Help of Christians, 12:00pm

Eleanor French-Williams

Baptism

Atticus Quayle

Baptism

Theodore Quayle

Baptism