

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.

Marlis & Miranda

Eighteen months ago, we applauded Marlis Dopheide and Miranda Armstrong for the honour bestowed upon them by Nillumbik Shire, who awarded them **Citizens of the Year 2022**.

No-one doubted their contribution to the community; especially to those who struggle, and refugees and asylum seekers. In her acceptance of the award, Miranda thanked our parish for opening our hearts to refugees and asylum seekers. She drew upon Pope Francis' appeal to *welcome the stranger*. She spoke of the deep faith she and Marlis share, and the admiration she has for Pope Francis: *a modern-day prophet*.

Marlis made the point that it isn't a one-way relationship, and that the love, appreciation and wisdom they receive back from those they help is one hundredfold.

Now, it warms our hearts to hear that their selflessness and generosity, which seems to be bottomless, is again rewarded with an *OAM -order of Australia* bestowed upon them.

Truly, how honoured we are to rub shoulders with these fabulous and gracious women.

Trish Taylor



MEDAL (OAM) OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA IN THE GENERAL DIVISION

Mrs Miranda Armstrong, Eltham VIC 3095; &
Mrs Maria Elisabeth Dopheide, VIC 3095

For service to the community through social welfare organisations.

Refugee Services

- * Co-Founder, Victorian Branch, Sanctuary Australia Foundation, since 2011.
- * Community Host, Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project, 10 years.
- * Volunteer, Hotham Mission, 12 years.
- * Volunteer, CatholicCare Victoria, 4 years.

Other

- * Member, Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Eltham, 40 years.

Awards and Recognition include:

- * Co-Recipient, Citizen of the Year, Shire of Nillumbik, 2022.
- * Co-Recipient, Volunteer of the Year, Shire of Nillumbik, 2022.

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

all correspondence to:

86 Mayona Road,
Montmorency Vic 3094
9435 4742

eltham@cam.org.au

montmorency@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

Tue-Fri 9am-3pm

Peter Williams:

Child Safety Officer

SFX&OLHC.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Kerry Mash:

Volunteer

Wed & Fri 10am-3pm

Websites:

www.pol.org.au/montmorency

www.pol.org.au/eltham

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

Acting Principal: Mark Pinkerton: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

RECONCILIATION

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

Collections: 11 June 2023

	OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving		
Cash	\$341.00	\$616.00
Credit	\$xx	\$xx
Presbytery		
Cash	\$415.50	\$306.90
Credit	\$xxx	\$xxx

Stewardship Offering

Month	OLHC	SFX	Total
March	\$5,590.48	\$10,815.00	\$16,405.48
April	\$6,822.52	\$10,517.00	\$17,339.52
May	\$6,620.26	\$8,507.00	\$15,127.26

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Saturday 17

12:00pm Baptisms: Chloe, Luka & Lana Montmorency

6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 18

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & Baptism (Amelia) Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Ariana, Saskia, Ayla, Spencer Eltham

Tuesday 20

9:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

Wednesday 21

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

1:00pm Small Church Community Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community Montmorency

Thursday 22

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

2:30pm Mass Calvary Lower Plenty Garden Views

Friday 23

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 24

12:00pm Baptisms: Makai, Bennett Montmorency

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharist Montmorency

Sunday 25

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Lucas, Bailee, Emilia Eltham

Tuesday 27

9:30am Mass Montmorency

2:30pm Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 28

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Thursday 29

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

Friday 30

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Saturday 1 July

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 2

8:30am Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham

Tuesday 4

10:00am Craft Group Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

Wednesday 5

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

1:00pm Small Church Community Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community Montmorency

Thursday 6

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

Friday 7

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham

Saturday 8

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 9

8:30am Mass Montmorency

10:00am Mass Eltham

Tuesday 11

2:30pm Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 12

6:30am Meditation Montmorency



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

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

*Hendrina Bouten
Ainsley Jansz
(cousin of Anton Vanderwert)*

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

*Moira Anderson, Rhys Philip Branston (8th ann.)
Margaret Moylan, Fr James Murtagh, Andrea Skender*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Gay, Gayle, Helen, Maurice, Edwinda Bacani, Perly Bacani,
Rita Bevanda, Maria Bredle, Kim Brisbane, Feliksa Chwasta,
Pat Collins, Allan Dooley, Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert),
Ysabelle Fanlo, Alana Foulds, Bob Fraser, Melanie Lam,
Cindy Morrissey, Andrew Pighin,
Garry Pollard, Agnatha Spina*

Eltham

For the recently deceased:

*Kevin Patrick Landy
(brother of Michelle Leahy)*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Violetta, Michael Bonicci, Shannon Donahoo, Peter Gaffney,
Jade McAlear, Beth Morganti, 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 17 June 2023

St Francis Xavier, Montmorency, 12:00pm

Lana May Capan Baptism
Chloe Ana Lucev Baptism
Luka Alexander Lucev Baptism

Sunday 11 June 2023

Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham, 10:00am

Amelia May Baker Baptism

Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham, 12:00pm

Ayla Jurowicz Baptism
Spencer Jurowicz Baptism
Ariana Novak Baptism
Saskia Brooke Moca Baptism



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Tax Receipts

Thank you to all parishioners who have donated to this year's appeal. If you requested a tax receipt they have now been sent to parishioners who donated by cash, cheque or direct credit. Receipts will be sent within 10 business days for all parishioners who donated by credit card. Receipts for On-line donations should have been generated at the time of making the donation. If you have not received your receipt in the timeline above, please contact Mike on 0417 221 245 or msaid@netspace.net.au.

If you missed our appeal earlier this month you may be able to donate as indicated below.

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, at the Parish Office, give to an SVDP member or to Mike on 0417 221 245. Receipts can be issued by simply completing name and address on the envelope.

On Line: vinnies.org.au. In terms of directing funds back to the Montmorency or Eltham Conferences, we request that you state **Montmorency** or **Eltham** in the **"Comments/Conference Name box"** which is just after the postal address box.

By Phone: please call 13 18 12 and again state your donation is for the **Montmorency or Eltham conference**.

Direct Credit: BSB 063003 Account 10081787 **with a reference Montmorency 916**. In this way monies will be credited to the Montmorency Conference account and stay within our community. Note: this is a different account number to previous years.

If you are donating **online, by phone or direct credit**, please send an email to msaid@netspace.net.au with your full name, address, amount and date of deposit so that the conference can acknowledge your generosity and ensure these moneys are allocated to the **Montmorency or Eltham Conferences**.

majellan.media
family



While the Australian Redemptorists have supported marriage and family life for 71 years through the Majellan Magazine, now printed 4 times per year and available by subscription, there's a Majellan media app available with a host of excellent features to continue to support you in your life, at whatever stage you're up to.

There's everything from podcasts on current topics, Mass reflections, prayers, bookstore and more. The free Majellan weekly online newsletter comes out each Wednesday. Subscribe: <https://majellan.media/join-the-family/>

Why not give yourself a helpful boost by downloading the app or subscribing to the Majellan magazine today.

URGENT NEED TEMPORARY USE OF CAR

An heroic lady who is a recent widow with significant health issues requiring ongoing medical treatment, and who is caring for 2 adult children with disabilities, is in urgent need of a reliable vehicle in good order - if possible as a loan of 2 to 3 months.

Her own car has "died" and is not worth repairing, and her story, if it was told, is an extraordinary mix of courage and heartbreak.

Do you know someone who might help?

Any additional insurance required will be covered.

For further information, contact Fr. Kevin Dillon on 0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au.



The survivors' empty palace

The crisis at the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, which advises the Pope on issues of sexual abuse and its cover-up by senior Church figures, appears to be coming to a head / **By Christopher Lamb**

PHOTO: LALUPA, WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



The Palazzo Maffei Marescotti in Rome, new home to the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors

As Pope Francis recovers from abdominal surgery, he has a number of pressing items in his tray. None is more significant than what is becoming a crisis of leadership at the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, the body he set up to lead efforts to tackle sexual abuse in the Church. If the Vatican is unable to address the issue of safeguarding with credibility and competence it will risk undermining the synodal reforms that are at the heart of this papacy.

At the end of last year, I reported in *The Tablet* various concerns raised by former members of the commission, survivors and other Church sources who have been asking whether the body is heading in the right direction. They included Baroness (Sheila) Hollins, a former member of the commission, an expert in child psychiatry and psychotherapy, and one-time president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

The problems they raised revolved around a lack of clarity about the commission's purpose, a leadership that has not been sufficiently collaborative, and whether the commission - which is part of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the

Faith - is sufficiently independent. In March, Fr Hans Zollner SJ, one of the Church's leading authorities on child protection, said that shortcomings in "responsibility, compliance, accountability and transparency" in the commission made him feel he had to "disassociate" from it. His departure was the most severe blow to the commission since it was set up in 2014 to advise the Pope on safeguarding and pastoral support to survivors. The resignation set Fr Zollner against Cardinal Seán O'Malley, the Archbishop of Boston and president of the commission, who a few days later took issue publicly with Fr Zollner's concerns. Fr Zollner and Cardinal O'Malley are perhaps the two most credible figures in the struggle to tackle clerical sexual abuse and the scandal of its cover-up by senior Church figures.

The commission secretariat has modest resources and a small staff. It is led by Fr Andrew Small. Born in Liverpool, the 55-year-old is a Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate. He is a former national director of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, and served as a foreign policy adviser to the US bishops' conference from 2004 to 2009. He holds law degrees from Sheffield University and

Georgetown and is a talented fundraiser, which may have influenced the decision to appoint him the commission's secretary *pro tempore* in June 2021. Fr Small told me last year that when it came to fundraising the commission had not had "a lot of success".

Is he the right man for this role? He does not have qualifications or extensive experience in safeguarding. "I have to say I was not impressed", is how Lady Hollins put it to the BBC in May, when asked about her impressions after meeting Fr Small. Many of the issues in Fr Zollner's sharply worded resignation letter appear to centre on Fr Small's leadership.

During his time in post, the commission has moved from tiny offices in the Vatican to rooms in a sixteenth-century palazzo in Rome, overhauled its membership, signed agreements with two Vatican departments and entered a partnership with the Italian bishops' conference, whereby the Italian Church will fund and exchange information and skills with safeguarding centres in the Global South.

Critics say these initiatives are more about the externals than the core anti-abuse work. *The New York Times* was given an exclusive invitation to inspect the new headquarters, located near the Pantheon. Fr Small told its correspondent, Jason Horowitz, that he had been forced to find new premises because his staff had had to use borrowed office space around the Holy See "like Bedouins". The palazzo, with its gold-leafed cornices, painted friezes and ornate plasterwork, could become the "palace of survivors", Fr Small said. The article went down badly in Rome, and one survivors' group told the *National Catholic Reporter* that the article on the office move was a

“distraction”.

More questions have now emerged. Nicole Winfield, of the Associated Press, recently reported that Fr Small had overseen the transfers of at least \$17 million (£13.6m) from the Pontifical Mission Societies in the US during his time as its director to an impact investment fund he created and still oversees. The funds were transferred to Missio Corp and Missio Invest, entities which provide low-interest loans for Church-run initiatives in Africa. The transfers were approved by the then board of the mission societies in the US and are entirely legal. Fr Small told AP they had been in the best interests of the Church and he provided letters from grateful beneficiaries of the loans.

But the new leadership of the Pontifical Mission Societies US views things very differently. It asked for \$10.2 million transferred to Missio Invest to be returned. Its request was turned down, and it has now written off the sum as a loss. The Pontifical Mission Societies US has since overhauled its board, staffing and its rules and statutes to prevent this from happening again. *The Tablet* can report that the Missio Invest board met this week for a regular meeting and the question of the transfers was due to be discussed. Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said in a statement to AP: “The Holy See is aware of the situation and is currently looking into the details of the events.”

More significantly, Francis is not happy with what has happened. He appeared to refer to the AP reports when he met the national directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies on 3 June in the Vatican. “Please do not reduce the societies to money! They certainly need money, which is a means, but do not reduce them to that, for they are bigger than money,” he said in remarks that were not in his prepared text. “Yet if spirituality is missing and they become merely a business, then immediately corruption arises.”

“Indeed, even in these days, we have seen newspaper reports of alleged corruption having occurred in the name of the Church’s missionary work,” Francis said. They were strong words, and his warning against allowing the work of the missionary societies to become nothing more than a business appear to apply

PHOTOS: ALAMY/AP, ANDREW MEDICINI, ALESSANDRA TARANTINO



Fr Hans Zollner SJ, above, and Father Andrew Small, below

So is the need for accountability.

What might happen next? On Wednesday last week, the Secretariat of State met diplomats to discuss Francis’ centerpiece legislation on tackling abuse and holding bishops accountable, *Vos Estis Lux Mundi*. Among those speaking was Fr Zollner, who played a crucial role at the 2019 Vatican abuse summit, where the outline of this legislation was agreed upon.

In March, the Pope wrote in a message to a safeguarding gathering in Paraguay that he had asked the commission to oversee the implementation of *Vos Estis*, and Fr Small has said in the past that this is part of the commission’s role. But neither Fr Small nor any other current representative from the commission was present at the meeting. A number of sources have told me the Secretariat of State is concerned with Fr Small’s leadership of the commission.

When the Pope addressed the commission during its annual gathering in May, he did not mention its involvement in the implementation of *Vos Estis*. He said he was glad the commission was “addressing inequalities within the Church through training programmes and assistance to victims, in Africa, Asia and Latin America”. He asked its members to keep him informed about “guidelines and standards for the conduct of clergy and religious” and repeated the request he made in April last year, that the commission compile an annual report of safeguarding efforts across the global Church. Fr Small has said this report is unlikely to be ready until 2024.

Cardinal O’Malley is a Franciscan friar who took over as Archbishop of Boston in 2003 at the height of the global abuse scandals. He had already established himself as a credible and respected figure with a track record of tackling abuse cases and accompanying victims and survivors. But, as he approaches the age of 80 next year, his legacy is now at risk. The commission is something he has spear-headed and led. Now it is attracting attention for all the wrong reasons. The credibility of the Church’s attempts to tackle all forms of abuse hinges on how well it responds at the centre. Francis has some decisions to make.

directly to the Missio Invest case.

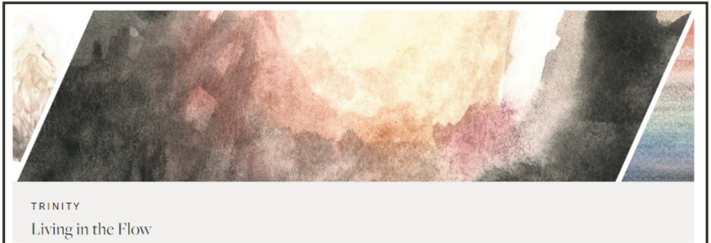
Fr Small continues to be listed as the chief executive of Missio Invest on its website, a role he holds alongside his work as secretary of the child protection commission. Last year, he told *The Tablet* that funding for safeguarding reporting systems in the Global South could come through Missio Invest.

But in Rome, some are asking how a member of a religious congregation whose members take a vow of poverty can be responsible for such a significant investment vehicle. It is also unclear how Fr Small can combine his role as head of a financial management firm with his safeguarding commission duties and whether his continuing in his role as chief executive of Missio Invest had been approved. The offices of Cardinal O’Malley and of Fr Small did not reply to requests for comment.

“I think it’s time for new leadership of the commission,” Baroness Hollins told me following the latest revelations. “It’s hard to know who has been making the decisions and if the expertise of the commission members is being utilized. It was worrying to see the non-renewal of members in the commission who were making an extraordinary contribution.”

One Church Source said the story about Missio Invest should also raise alarm bells regarding safeguarding. The transfers may have been legal but they have reduced the mission societies’ quasi-endowment significantly. In safeguarding, a mentality that evaluates an action solely by the criteria of whether it is legal has been part of the problem. A higher ethical standard is required.

Roster for THIS WEEKEND: 17/18 June	
Ballenger, Nima	R10:00
Beckford, Peter	PRYR
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Love, Philip	W8:30
Maynes, Phil	W6:00
McAleer, Peter	ASRC
Northrop, Greg	E10:00
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Reardon, Peter	E10:00
Rough Family	PRSE
Scully, Greg	H10:00
Scully, Helen	H10:00
Taylor, Trish	C10:00
Williams, Peter	W6:00
	ASE
Roster for NEXT WEEKEND: 24/25 June	
Armstrong, Miranda	C10:00
Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Beckford, Peter	R10:00
Bowyer, Darrell	ASRC
Bowyer, Rosemary	ASRC
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Castellanos, Rodrigo	E10:00
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Edwards, Elisabeth	E10:00
Haines, Geoff	H10:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	H10:00
Hall, Vali	ASE
McKinley, Michael	W8:30
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Ryan Family	PRSE
Scully, Greg	E10:00
Scully, Helen	E10:00
Williams, Anne	PRYR
Williams, Peter	PRYR
ASE = Altar Society @ Eltham; C = Commentator; E = Euch. Minister; H = Hospitality; PRSE = Pilgrim Rosary Statue @ Eltham; W = Minister of the Word; R = Reader	



Father Richard uses the language of “flow” to further our experiential understanding of what it means to live in a Trinitarian cosmos:

The Trinity can only be understood with the contemplative mind. It is only God in you that understands; your small mind cannot. This is participative knowledge. The Trinity can't be proved rationally. You must experience its flow in your life on different levels: You must have moments where you know that a Big Life is happening in you (Holy Spirit), yet beyond you (Father), and also *as* you (Christ)!

Unfortunately, Christians mostly gave up even trying to understand the Trinity. But, if we're resolved that we want to go into the mystery, then I think we must seek to understand the Trinity experientially and contemplatively. To approach the Trinity in this way is not to understand at all, but to “stand under” a waterfall of infinite and loving Flow.

If the Trinitarian life flows between us, then every aspect of our lives is something that we can allow, enjoy, and steward. Trinitarian theology offers us the understanding that we are being guided and we are participating in the Great Mystery. And it has very little to do with us individually, except, like Mary in Nazareth, our “yes” seems to be crucial. It matters. God does not operate uninvited or undesired.

You are a part of the flow. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and you too - to the degree you say “yes” - are also a giving and a receiving, constituted by the same relationships of love that are the Trinity. (Enjoy that for the rest of your life!) You dare not stop this flow without losing your essential self. Each person of the Trinity welcomes one hundred percent of what is offered, which is entire and unrestricted, and then pays it forward one hundred percent. This flow is the origin of our notions of grace and an abundant universe. There is Divine Generosity at the centre of everything.

Can live this Trinitarian mystery yourself. Trust love, trust communion, trust vulnerability, and trust mutuality. Always seek to be in relationship, finding little ways to serve others, to serve people who are sick or poor and cannot pay anything back. Know that our hearts have been given to us so that they may be handed on, just like the Trinity. And we'll begin to know ourselves inside this mystery called Love. There is actually nothing more to say. We could end our discussion right here.

Don't try to work this out too much with your head. Just trust the flow of the most natural, dynamic, and positive energy that's already flowing through you. It will always feel like Love.

<https://cac.org/daily-meditations/living-in-the-flow-2023-06-07/>



COALITION FAILS TO LAUNCH INQUIRY INTO TAKEOVER OF CALVARY HOSPITAL

The Coalition has failed in a bid to establish a Senate inquiry into the ACT Government's forced takeover of Calvary Public Hospital, Bruce.

Source: Canberra Times.



EDUCATION FUNDING DEBATE DERAILED BY 'ELITE SCHOOLS' STEREOTYPES

If you thought we would see the end of the school funding wars with the introduction of a fairer, needs-based funding model, think again, writes National Catholic Education Commission executive director Jacinta Collins.

Source: The Age.



SUSPICIOUS PACKAGES SENT TO CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, HOMES AND BUSINESSES

At least 20 packages containing a white substance have been sent to North Queensland Catholic churches and schools, private homes and businesses in the past four weeks.

Source: Townsville Bulletin.



'BUSINESS AS USUAL' AS ORDINARIATE CHANGES LEADERSHIP

After more than a decade, the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross will experience a major change in its leadership - and its retiring ordinary has given it his blessing.

Source: The Catholic Weekly.



RECOVERING POPE VISITS CHILDREN'S CANCER WARD AHEAD OF EXPECTED RELEASE

Pope Francis yesterday visited the children's cancer ward of Rome's Gemelli Hospital on the eve of his expected discharge following abdominal surgery, the Vatican said.

Source: NCR Online.



PRAYING FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS 'A NATURAL PART OF BEING CATHOLIC'

Praying for persecuted and oppressed Christians around the world should be a natural part of being Catholic, according to Tasmanian Mary-Anne Johnson.

Source: Hobart Archdiocese.



JESUITS EXPEL PRIEST ACCUSED OF ABUSE

The Superior General of the Jesuits has expelled Fr Marko Rupnik from the order, citing his "stubborn refusal" to obey measures imposed following credible accusations that he spiritually, psychologically or sexually abused some two dozen women and at least one man.

Source: OSV News.



'I am the bread of life'

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells us, 'Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood dwells in me and I dwell in that person' (John 6:56). To be a disciple is to abide within God's own life, and in the gift of the Eucharist, we have been given the best way to do this.



On Sunday, for the feast of Corpus Christi, a beautiful procession wound through the street of Carlton, bearing witness to this mystery of the faith, and Abbot Paul Gunter OSB of Douai Abbey gave a rousing homily at Sacred Heart Church, reminding us that

'without the Eucharist, there is no Church'.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/bringing-christ-to-the-streets>



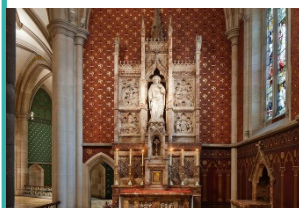
Abbot Paul - in Melbourne for the Archdiocese's annual Clergy Conference - also joined us for an enlightening conversation about how we might recover a sense of astonishment at the beauty of the liturgy, and what this has to do with the Church's mission;

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/astonished-by-the-liturgy-a-conversation-with-abbot-paul-gunter>



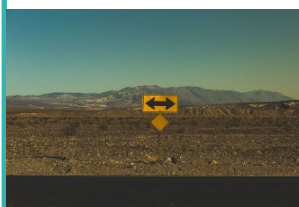
we hear the moving story of how Ukrainian refugee Nataliia Babii and her family have been sustained by their faith;

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/fleeing-from-ukraine-not-from-hope-the-babii-family-story>



and we explore the Sacred Heart Chapel at St Patrick's Cathedral.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/drawing-us-to-the-heart-of-christ-the-sacred-heart-chapel-at-st-patricks-cathedral>



In the lead-up to World Youth Day, we also continue our exploration of what pilgrimage means by offering a brief history of this ancient Christian practice.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/pilgrimage-a-very-brief-history>



Listening top of agenda for new Syro-Malabar bishop. The new chief shepherd of the Syro-Malabar Eparchy in Australia, New Zealand and Oceania says his first priority is to meet with and listen to the faithful, before working together to formulate a pastoral plan for the

region.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/listening-top-of-agenda-for-new-syro-malabar-bishop>

For more information: www.melbournecatholic.org

Gospel: Matthew 9:36-10:8

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast our devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

Reflection:

The lectionary leapfrogs over a few stories that Matthew has in common with Mark and Luke. This means that last Sunday's call of Matthew is followed today by a focus on mission. The reading falls into four parts.

First reports on Jesus' own call to mission. It is said that Jesus "felt sorry" (JB) or "felt compassion" (NRSV) for the crowds but neither translation does justice to the gut-wrenching power of Jesus' emotion. He is driven to reverse the centuries of false shepherding that failed the people of God, and he wants others to share his passion.

Next, and oddly before naming the Twelve, he charges them with the ministry of spiritual and bodily healing that was so central to his own mission. The choice of twelve underscores Jesus' missionary purpose: to gather together the scattered children of God, once united as the twelve tribes of Israel.

Part three lists the names of the apostles. No two lists have the same names in the same order, and some of those named scarcely reappear in the gospel story.

In the fourth and final part Jesus provides the Twelve with a more expansive mandate, though still narrowly directed at the "house of Israel". In sum, they are to proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven has come near". It would be of service to the congregation if each of these four parts was given its own distinct identity by judicious pausing.

Break Open the Word 2023



Prayers of the Faithful for 18 June 2023 - Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Lord God, we come before you confident that you will listen to our prayers.

For the Church: Lord give strength of body, mind and soul to our leaders and teachers to maintain your covenant, just as you guided and sustained Moses and the people in their journey through the wilderness. We pray for your servants imprisoned for speaking your word in the face of oppression.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our parish community: that this parish will go forward in unity and amity, as the flock of the risen Jesus.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the world: we pray for the safety and recovery of all those who suffer as a consequence of war, social and religious persecutions, and for victims of natural disasters. We pray too for anyone experiencing the loss of loved ones through violence, accident, illness or any misfortune, at home and around the world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the faithful: we pray for a sense of the close presence of Jesus in all our lives: as close as touching, as close as breathing. Let him be the Shepherd calling each of us in all our wanderings.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who are sick and whose names are listed in the bulletin this week. May God bless and enfold them in their time of trouble.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died recently, including *Hendrina Bouten, Ainsley Jansz & Kevin Patrick Landy* and for *Moira Anderson, Rhys Philip Branston, Margaret Moylan, Fr James Murtagh & Andrea Skender* whose anniversaries occur at this time. Let them rest in quiet pastures of eternal peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, eternal is your merciful love. Grant these prayers offered through your Son Jesus Christ.

All: Amen