

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.

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Francis Xavier and
Our Lady Help of Christians,

Yes, it is very sad and deeply frustrating times in which we live! This Coronavirus and its variants are continuing to play havoc with daily life and any normal planning for family events / special occasions and sport! Another Lockdown, and nobody is happy with this announcement.

Please be gentle with yourself and others during these sensitive days - a week is a long time doing very little! Our Melbourne circumstances need to be put into perspective with the bigger picture of this terrible World pandemic.

Nearly every other country and certainly billions of people would prefer our situation to their own! We are still extremely fortunate with our experience of Covid19 to others around the world. Yet, small businesses and families are suffering in our local area because of an outbreak with this Coronavirus.



From such a wonderful weekend (last weekend) at Monty & Eltham, to a total lockdown - Pentecost Sunday Masses, the confirmations and celebrations to mark Terry's 50th Anniversary of Priesthood and the lovely function at our local RSL. Thus, so many people enjoyed so much love in the air, and none more so than Terry himself! Thank you, Thank you to everyone who contributed in so many ways to mark this very special weekend!

The Feast of the Holy Trinity, this weekend marks the celebration of God as Mystery.

We had planned to link our faith journey this coming weekend to National Reconciliation Week (27th. May - 3rd. June) and like our understanding of God as: Father Son and Holy Spirit - a God of involvement and action, so too Reconciliation takes 'action' to bring about renewal and lasting peace!

Thus National Reconciliation Week and Trinity Sunday work in well together.

Sorry for this LOCKDOWN - keep well and stay safe!

Warmest Love, 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



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

Michael Sierakowski - Moderator

michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au

Barry Caldwell

Parish Office

86 Mayona Road

9435 2178

Mon - 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

Acting Principal: Therese Stewart: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

Collections: 23 May 2021

Community	Thanksgiving	Presbytery
OLHC	\$ 331.00	\$ 818.90
SFX	\$ 2,391.00	\$ 1,138.65



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>

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

Leonie Guneratne (Qld) cousin of Jeanne Vanderwert

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Sebastiano Cartisano, Stephen Curry (50 years), John Moylan, Cath Ramsdale

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:

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Violetta, Denice Donnellan, Geoff Haines, Lidia Marazzato, Tom Nolan, Christine Scott, Ibszyek Wojciechowski, Sylvek Zyleviczcz

To include an anniversary please contact Parish House 9435 2178 or eltham@cam.org.au.

RECONCILIATION

available upon request

please call the Parish Office 9435 2178

LOST and FOUND

Last week, outside the St Francis Xavier Church, near the front garden wall outside the front doors of the Church, a silver earring has been found. If you have lost such a piece of jewellery, you may like to ring 0429 439 675 to reclaim it.



Prayers of the Faithful for 30 May 2021

The Most Holy Trinity

Celebrant: Sisters and brother, God has made us a holy people; let us intercede for those who are in need:

God of love and justice, we pray that our political, religious and community leaders act in the interests of all the people in this land: that they seek true reconciliation in the spirit of **justice with love**.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love and justice, we pray for those who still suffer sadness because of government policies of the past: may they be healed through our faithful following of the Gospel command to love one another as Jesus loves us.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love and justice, we pray for those who feel ostracised because of their work for reconciliation. May all Australians support those who work for peace within our nation.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love and justice, in the words of St John Paul II: 'peace involves mutual respect'. We pray that all people who work for the cause of reconciliation will approach each other with mutual respect, that they will listen to each other, that they will seek what is best for our nation.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love and justice, we pray that we will answer the call of Pope Francis 'to go out and interact with our brothers and sisters', to become your Word in body as well as spirit.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love, we pray for those who are to be baptised in our parish today and for those recently confirmed, that they will grow in the knowledge of God's love for them and will become true disciples of Jesus.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love, we pray for those in our community who have died recently, *Leonie Guneratne*, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Sebastiano Cartisano, Stephen Curry, John Moylan and Cath Ramsdale*. May they rest in peace in the love of the Lord.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

God of love, heal those within our midst who suffer illness of any kind: mental, physical or spiritual. May they find strength through God's love and gentle presence in their lives.

Lord, hear us. Lord, be with us as we walk towards true peace and reconciliation.

Celebrant: Most high God, in Christ you have made us your sons and daughters. Hear our prayers and help us to become more effective witnesses by the power of your Holy Spirit. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.





National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2021

MORE THAN A WORD. RECONCILIATION TAKES ACTION

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021, *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action*, urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action.

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.

2021 marks twenty years of Reconciliation Australia and almost three decades of Australia's formal reconciliation process.

Reconciliation Website: nrw.reconciliation.org.au

CREED FOR AUSTRALIA

We believe
That this ancient land,
With all its unique creatures, is a precious gift
From a loving God,
Who's mercy is over all his works.

We believe
In God's care
For aboriginal people who treasure it
Through unnumbered generations:
The one who grieves in their suffering
And rejoices in every noble aspiration.

We believe
In God's compassion
For the patchwork of refugees
Who for two hundred years
Have come to this continent
Looking for a place to call their home.

We believe
In God's steadfast love
this nation and all its children,
That God is creating a new people
From many races, colours and gifts,
To fulfil a high destiny.

We believe
That the best way forward
Is the way revealed by Jesus,
Of faith, hope and love,
Where no needy person is neglected
And no bidding of the spirit ignored.

Bruce Prewer

From *The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry of Victoria's Website:*
www.cam1.org.au/acmv



ROSTERS:	
<i>week ending 6 June</i>	
Montmorency	
Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Hannon, Kevin & Genni	ASRC
Kulkens, Mark	W8:30
Lucas, Maree	CLNR
Muller, Joan	CLNR
Ramsdale, John	PRYR
Eltham	
Frediani, Gabriella	Altar Society
Iliffe, Yvonne	Eucharistic Minister
Leahy Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Reardon, Kathy	Eucharist Minister
Scully, Greg	Commentator
Taylor, Trish	Reader

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Saturday 29

6:00pm Mass - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

Sunday 30 - Trinity Sunday

8:30am Mass - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

10:00am Mass - **CANCELLED** Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

Tuesday 1 June

9:30am Mass - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl - **CANCELLED** Eltham

Wednesday 2

6:30am Meditation - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

9:30am Mass - **CANCELLED** Eltham

11:00am Small Church - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

Thursday 3

9:30am Mass - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

10:30am ASRC - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

7:45pm Book Club - **CANCELLED** Montmorency

Friday 4

9:30am Mass (160 people) Eltham

11:30am Holy Trinity Feast Day School Mass Holy Trinity

Saturday 5

11:00am Baptisms: Isabel Eltham

6:00pm Mass (160 people) & First Eucharist Montmorency

Sunday 6

8:30am Mass (160 people) & First Eucharist Montmorency

10:00am Mass (160 people) & First Eucharist Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Flynn, Lennox, Will, Owen, Gordon Eltham

Monday 7

9:30am Days for Girls Montmorency

Tuesday 8

9:30am Mass (160 people) Montmorency

Wednesday 9

6:30am Meditation Montmorency

9:30am Mass (160 people) Eltham

Thursday 10

9:30am Mass (160 people) Montmorency

10:30am ASRC food collection & delivery Montmorency

Gospel - Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'



Reflection

The gospel text consists of the last five verses of Matthew's gospel. The report Jesus' final appearance to his disciples and his commission to them to "make disciples of all nations" and to baptise "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". This Trinitarian formula is exceptional in the New Testament; its inclusion here may reflect the baptismal practice of Matthew's own community. Baptism, as the Church will come to understand, is our induction into the divine wellspring of life and love.

As is the case with many of the stories of Jesus' appearances after his resurrection, there is a tantalising degree of obscurity and ambiguity. Why did Jesus direct them to Galilee (28:10)? On what mountain are they meeting and what significance might this have? Why were some overcome with awe while others hesitated?

There is mystery: the enigmatic figure of the Son of Man in the prophet Daniel (7:13-14) is evoked by Jesus' claim to "all authority in heaven and on earth". There is paradox too: Jesus is to become absent even as he promises his disciples to be "with you always' yes, to the end of time".

Nonetheless, Jesus' commission to the Eleven is crystal clear. They are sent on a universal mission, with a mandate to teach and to baptise. The whole gospel concludes as it began: with the absolute assurance of the enduring presence of Emmanuel, God with us.

Break Open the Word 2021

Feast of Trinity 2021

What a joy this past week has been for me personally, in my celebrations of golden anniversary as priest. I cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity in celebrating with me.

In a very real way I have experienced what the Feast of today is all about in the feast of the Trinity, in God as a communion of love, Father, Son and Spirit. I have certainly known the love of God through you.

No doubt you will hear me talk and reflect on this past week anytime you ask me a question about the celebrations. I will be delighted to do this. But on this feast of Trinity, let me focus not on my celebrations, but on a story that will be familiar to many of you.

It's a story of a little boy who was looking in a shop window at all the shoes on display. He was barefoot and it was winter time; his feet were cold.

A passer by, a woman noticed the little boy and she said to him, 'would you like to go into the shop and try on a pair of those shoes'. The little boy agreed and so she took him to the salesperson and she bought shoes for him, along with two pairs of socks.

The little boy looked up at the woman and then asked a most interesting question, 'Are you God's wife?'

We might say, that's a strange question. God doesn't have a wife, God isn't married so what on earth did he mean?

And that's where I think the little boy has understood something that many of us don't understand, even us adults. We don't know anything about the little boy's background, whether he had a family, whether he was living in a war zone like in Syria and whether he had lost contact with his family. We don't know. But we do know that he thought of God as kind and caring about him.

When that lady, that woman treated him with such kindness, he thought of God and he thought of God as looking after him by sending this woman to him. He may have been a very poor boy but he didn't think God had forgotten about him.

And you know that's how people in poor countries think about God. Even when cyclones or tsunamis destroy their homes and livelihoods, even when war or famine forces them to leave their country, they still have a deep sense of God caring about them. They thank God for another day of life. If you or I go to the Philippines, where so many people are very poor, the Churches are full and the people have such a wonderful faith even and especially when they face terrible sadness and crisis in their lives. That little boy really believed in God of kindness and love, and that's what today's Feast of Trinity is all about. God as a God of love.

And there's something more to the story. What about that woman? In a kind of way she is God's wife. Not really, but she was bringing the love of God to that little boy, partnering God in being a person of love and we are all called to do the same.

When you and I notice somebody who has no shoes or has little or nothing to eat, or no home to live in and we do something about it in kindness, we are all bringing the love of God to that person. It's like we are messengers of God's love and that's what I think that Gospel is about today, sending us out as disciples of Jesus to be witnesses of God's love and kindness in this world.

Jesus in that Gospel commissioned his followers to make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. They did this well and we are the people who inherit the fruits of their labours. In Baptism we are the disciples of today. As for us making disciples of all nations and baptising them, perhaps today's Gospel is more about asking us today to live the story of Jesus and witness to God's communion of love ever present in our world.

Terry

For we **CANNOT** KEEP FROM **SPEAKING** about what we have **SEEN & HEARD** ACTS 4:20

In two weeks, Catholic Mission will share with us the powerful story of Churai*, a mother who found her way to the Mother and Babies Home, run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand, during a desperate time in her life.

The Good Shepherd Sisters' mission is to promote the dignity and human rights of all, especially women and children; but they can only do that with support from people like you.

Please come with an open and generous heart.

*Name and images altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/thailand



50 Years a Priest — THANK YOU

How can I ever thank you enough for a wonderful week of celebrations for my 50th Anniversary as a priest of the Archdiocese of Melbourne?

To the committee: Patsy Skipper, Noel Vincent, Vinka Heagerty, Mary O'Connor, Barbara Bibby and Fr Michael for planning and organising the celebrations; and to Kate as well, our Parish secretary. You have been so insightful and generous. Thank you.

To everyone who came to the Masses in both Parishes and for the fantastic music of the liturgies.

To the parishes for covering the costs of the Sunday night celebration.

For the extraordinary generous gifts, of \$1,000 travel voucher, \$1,000 ticketek voucher, \$1,000 cricket accommodation voucher and for my wonderful Carlton Jumper from your collection, and to so many of you who have also given me personal gifts and cards. And can I also include those of you who have texted me, phoned me, emailed me with your congratulations and lovely messages.



It looks like the Friday celebration at the RSL, because of Covid-19 restrictions, will be cancelled but haven't I been so fortunate to be able to celebrate what has already happened. Thank you to everyone who came to the Sunday night and Tuesday afternoon occasions.

I've had a fantastic week and I feel so honoured and appreciated.

Terry

Celebrations



50 years an Outstanding Priest

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU, to everyone who came together in so many beautiful ways offering their talents, their gifts and their presence to help Fr Terry celebrate 50 years of priesthood and what a celebration we have all had! A celebration that was so welcome while we are still trying to emerge from flattening 'covid times'. Now with sudden lockdown, THANKFULLY we were able to manage two out of three events!

We will continue to circulate around our Churches and groups, a book for messages, poems, photos and a key to be signed if you have not yet had a chance yet to do this. We have until Terry leaves at the end of the year to get our messages to him.

Thank you from the organizing team, Noel, Vinka, Mary, Barbara, Fr Michael (who has been helpful and very generous) and Patsy.

