

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.

Victorian Lockdown Number 6 – Gold Medal Performance

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham & St. Francis Xavier, Montmorency - these are sad days indeed when it becomes impossible to plan anything or do normal activities on a limited scale. From Thursday evening 5th. August for another week Victorians move unfortunately back into lockdown, our sixth in 18 months.

Special prayers to our parents and students from Holy Trinity, SFX & OLHC and our affiliate Secondary Catholic Colleges during these uncertain times. It is very hard.

In the final few days of the Tokyo Olympics 2020, the Gold Medal performance should go to all Victorians for these extraordinary efforts to combat and control this Coronavirus in our community. Around the world, people and Governments are watching Australia - and in particular, Victoria as we continue to fight this Covid19 virus down to Donut Days. Please get vaccinated if you can!!! It is so important!!!

I would love to award every Parishioner and Parent from our wonderful Parishes in this Diamond Valley a 'Gold Medal' - for your love and support and prayers, and importantly your endurance during these difficult years. Certainly a Gold Medal performance for turning



up on Sundays (in limited numbers) and celebrating your Catholic Faith.

Baptisms, Confirmations and First Eucharists will be available each Saturday Night and Sunday Morning Masses - when we are able to safely do so. We will do what we can, when we can, being mindful of Government, Church and Health requirements.

Obviously, there is no need to panic regarding closing dates and limited times as these Covid months call for flexibility. As best we can - given 4 students and thus a maximum of 10 family members at each Mass/Baptism. Sorry to all those wonderful families who have been regularly inconvenienced by these regular changes.

2021 - this years in many ways is proving more difficult than last year - if that is possible, given the uncertainties and unpredictability of this Virus and our irregular lockdowns. Constantly having to press the 'RESET' button back to the lowest common denominator - numbers at Mass and moving slowly out of each lockdown.

This state of affairs is not easy! Please look after yourself and your families!

Truly a GOLD MEDAL Performance!

Thoughts & Prayers, *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 4742

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: 1 August 2021

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>

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Brian Lappin, Elvie Taylor

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert), Kate Lagerewskij, Estelle Levy

Eltham

For the recently deceased:

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Elaine Bunton, Marie Zavadil

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Violetta, Lucy Bibby, Denice Donnellan, Geoff Haines, Lidia Marazzato, Tom Nolan, Les Robertson, Christine Scott, Barbara Snopkowski, Ibszyk Wojciechowski, Sylvek Zyleviczcz

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

RECONCILIATION

available upon request

please call the Parish Office 9435 4742

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Saturday 7

6:00pm Mass - CANCELLED

Montmorency

Sunday 8

8:30am Mass - CANCELLED

Montmorency

10:00am Mass - CANCELLED

Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms - CANCELLED

Montmorency

Monday 9

9:30am Days for Girls - CANCELLED

Montmorency

Tuesday 10

9:30am Mass - CANCELLED

Montmorency

Wednesday 11

6:30am Meditation - CANCELLED

Montmorency

9:30am Mass - CANCELLED

Eltham

Thursday 12

6:00pm Mass - CANCELLED

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC Collection

Montmorency

Friday 13

9:30am Mass (to be advised)

Eltham

Saturday 14

6:00pm Mass (to be advised)

Montmorency

Sunday 15

8:30am Mass (to be advised)

Montmorency

10:00am Mass (to be advised)

Eltham

Tuesday 17

9:30am Mass (to be advised)

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group (to be advised)

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl (to be advised)

Eltham

Wednesday 18

6:30am Meditation (to be advised)

Montmorency

19th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 2021

The Olympics in Tokyo are all but over. Have we enjoyed them, have we found tears in our eyes, have we rejoiced in the wonderful performances of the competitors?

Or do we have a view that the Games should have been cancelled. The risks and the costs were too great, and Covid 19 in Japan and around the world should surely have meant the cancellation of the Olympic Games this year?

Whatever our view something very profound has happened in our world. It has something to do with face masks and isolation to protect people from the virus. And yet there has been tremendous connection between people. I don't know about you but I have been so touched by the spontaneity and sportsmanship of the competitors. I will always remember Cate Campbell's delight in Emma McKeon's gold medal swim in the 100 metres, even though she had finished 7th in the event.

Let me quote a few lines from an article in last Saturday's Age, written by Malcolm Knox. He writes about the isolation and yet connection of the Games.

"This duality of isolation and connection is the paradox and in a sense the miracle of Tokyo 2020. Whilst these Olympics have been all about insulating people from each other, they have also bound people together... The people of the world are more in sync because they are all suffering from this pandemic."

He writes:

"Ups and downs have transported us out of our bubbles, out of where we are and transported us to the inner lives of others. As a result millions have been hit with a good dose of compassion that sport, spontaneous and unscripted has a unique capacity to produce."

It's been a fascinating two weeks of television for many of us, as we have watched the joy and the pain, the disappointment, the excitement and the camaraderie, the appreciation of the competitors in thanking their coaches, and their team. We have seen the love and delight of their families even though they are watching from afar. And let me also add word of thanks to the commentators and broadcasters who have been so positive in their comments, even when a competitor is not amongst the medals.

And the compassion of the world for Simone Biles, an absolute star in gymnastics and she just couldn't do what she has always done. She withdrew from most of her events, the pressure just too much and we all felt for her. And how courageous of her to take her place in the Beam event, with the eyes of the world on her and she did so well: a bronze medal.

Yes, the Olympics are over and we will gather in Paris in 3 years time, hopefully.

Many of us will be talking about the Tokyo Olympics for a long time. Perhaps the Games have been a tonic to brighten up our world.

Maybe there is a connection in all this with today's Readings. We look at that First Reading. Elijah exhausted and lying under a bush wishing he was dead. And an angel of the Lord came to him and touched him, telling him to eat and drink. Elijah did this, but back to the bush again he went in his misery. The angel of the Lord touched him a second time telling him to eat and drink for the journey ahead. Elijah ate and drank and felt the strength and the resolve to walk and reach his destination.

Maybe an angel of the Lord has touched our world with the wonderful gift of the young and at times not so young people of the Olympics. And maybe many of us feel a strength, a belief, a compassion, a hope that gives us heart in continuing the journey of life in these difficult times.

Terry





Warm greetings all, we are really into winter now although we do see the sun peek through occasionally.

Below is an update on some of our wonderful programs.

Community Pantry: Emely contacted us as she was very concerned about the number of families in need of food. Community Pantries are popping up in many places throughout the Philippines. The Good Shepherd Sisters have some in a range of areas. They have been operating for approximately 6 months. The idea is that the community members bring along whatever they have a little extra of and place it on the table then they can take food that they would like that they don't have.

Fr Gerry and the kind parishioners of St Kevin's Lower Templestowe gave seed funding for this and Emely purchased noodles, sardines and eggs which were very popular. The first Pantry was held in the Patupat community. Each person was registered, had to hand wash and wear a mask. 102 families took part in this initial day and everybody enjoyed the offerings. Emely will run Pantries in other KAID barangays.

Our KAID Barili community was extremely pleased to receive a donation of salt and brown sugar towards the Pantry from the rice vendor at Barili market who KAID purchases rice from very regularly. What a wonderful way for communities to work together and assist each other in these very difficult times. The Philippines is still in full pandemic mode with COVID.

Livelihood programs: Emely and our staff did some investigations into a mung bean/bean sprout growing project several months ago. There are certainly some health benefits from these so, following their project submission, the KAID committee gave funding for several members in a number of barangays to set up their project. This has been a good and ongoing project although the returns are small but important. It has enabled some community members to work together to achieve their goals. It has been assessed that this project is worth continuing. The piglet, goat and chicken livelihood programs are going along well and assisting a number of families. For information about the livelihood programs please contact: Glenys Gayfer – 0411 196 395 – papel-imports@bigpond.com.

Sponsorship program: We are so happy that our sponsorship program is going well. Certainly there are many challenges as our students are not at school but at home doing modules which is proving quite difficult for students as many of the subjects they haven't studied. KAID staff and senior students continue to conduct classes on some weekends to assist children who may be struggling as part of our Child Development sessions. We are extremely grateful to all involved in this assistance program. If you would like information about sponsoring please contact our Sponsorship Co-ordinator: Fay Sinclair – 0425 732 992 – fayasinclair@gmail.com

Kadasig Aid & Development Inc Website: We are so grateful and happy to have Breanna Fitton offering to take over the management and updating of our website. As with many organisations where volunteers make it all happen, we have been very fortunate to have had Tom Francis and Amy Sinclair maintain our website for many years. We thank them so very much for their time and expertise that they have given to KAID.

Breanna travelled to the Philippines a couple of years ago as a final year Occupational Therapy student along with two fellow final year students, Jessica and Rana. They spent a month within our communities – spending time at schools and with many of our children to learn of the needs. They are all hoping to return when COVID allows.

Thank you so much Breanna for giving your time, support and friendship to our wonderful families who you know. To contact Bre about website issues/stories: breanna1803@gmail.com

Friendship Schools: What a wonderful program this is! Our caring school communities in Australia really are 'caring friends' to their student friends in their Friendship Schools in Cebu. What a difference they are making for their Filipino student friends. The provision of basic school items donated is a tremendous help. Photocopiers are vital for each Friendship school and recently one was delivered to Buhisan Elementary given by their Australian Friendship school, St Francis Xavier Primary, Montmorency. What a difference they make!

Parishioners and students of St Kevin's, Lower Templestowe, along with Fr Gerry McKernan, have been able to raise funds to construct a shelter for the students and parents at Luyo Elementary school, there was nothing to protect them when out of classrooms. They were also able to provide a water tank as the school is at the top of a hill and water wasn't pumped up so the water tank really made a great difference for students and teachers.

Books are sent for all ages which the children enjoy very much. Libraries have been established in all schools and our Day Care Centres which is exciting and very popular. Sometimes the older children will assist younger children struggling with reading, which is a great help.

If you know a school that may like to join this special program or would like further information about this program please contact: Anni Miers – Friendship School Co-ordinator - annim52@gmail.com, 0402 203 291.



Save the date for our major fundraiser!!!

Like so many organizations our fundraising has been halted because of COVID. We are extremely grateful to those who have supported us and our families over recent times.

We are inviting you to *'Save The Date'* – SUNDAY OCTOBER 17th from 2-4.30pm. We are planning an afternoon where you can enjoy an amazing Grazing Table and catch up with friends along with committee members. We will connect with Emely and our staff via Zoom. Further information to follow - we will keep you up to date on this exciting event. Emely, Marwen, Cesar, Eusebio and Arnold assure us that they will get a connection in Barili for this special event. For further information contact Glenys Gayfer: papel-imports@bigpond.com, 0411 196 395.



Some amazing and exciting news! After many months of discussions and investigations, the Committee in Australia are so delighted and very excited to let all our friends and supporters know that the purchase of 3070sq metres of land was finalised and signed off on July 1. The land is in Bolocboloc, a barangay where we have sponsor children and livelihood programs. It has been a difficult time over a number of months sorting this out. We are so very, very proud and thankful to Emely, our staff and friends of KAID in Cebu for all their work, time and commitment.

We are extremely fortunate to have donors who have made this purchase possible. The purchase of this piece of land will enable many families who are squatters find security and safety for their family. Oh how important this is! There will also be enough land for the development and maintenance of livelihood projects – one family already has a carabao which will be catered for!

Thank you to all who support KAID and our wonderful families and staff in Cebu. Your kindness makes such a difference in so many lives.

If you have any questions please contact Glenys Gayfer – 0411 196 395, papel-imports@bigpond.com

Keep warm,

KAID Australia Committee, July 2021



Crisis Contemplation and Joy

Theme: Crisis Contemplation

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Barbara Holmes

In my Franciscan tradition, joy comes from an inner realisation of true experiential union with God (or Reality, Consciousness, and Life itself!). This realisation descends upon us at ever deeper levels as we walk our faith journey. Authentic joy, however, takes pace through our pain - not under it, to the right, left, or over it. There is much covering up, escaping, or denying our suffering in unhealthy religion. God calls us, instead, to the whole paschal mystery - passion, death, and resurrection. CAC teacher Barbara Holmes knows that such joy is for both the individual and the community, providing sustaining, life-giving power for marginalised people.

Our current circumstances require resilience and the steadfast belief that joy is a healing inner event and a spiritual practice... BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour) folks who remember the ways of the elders have seen it in action. Performance of joy while the wounds are still being inflicted is not a display of otherworldly strength. It is an act of faith that God will not give us more than we can bear...

Personal and communal joy require authenticity. We have to stop performing the blackness that whiteness created, the stereotypes and secret-keeping. We have to sing ourselves sane and dance ourselves free. Each act of public joy is one step closer to that risky leap toward transcendence...

Performing joy offers healing from our addictive engagement with domination systems. We are not required to fight for our reality; we can just live it... We are being invited to awaken to our true nature as spirit beings, energy sharers, and prophets of potential. The joy spoken of in Holy Scripture is accessible, but also has a certain "beyondness" to it: The world didn't give it and the world can't take it away. As we hear from Jesus in John 16:22: "So you have pain now; but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you."

Sikh human rights activist and write Valarie Kaur understands the healing power of joy, even amidst what she describes as the necessary "labours" of life:

Joy is possible even amid great labours - the labour of dying, the labour of birthing, and the labours between. We cannot force it. But when we create moments to breathe between labour pains, and surrender our senses to the present moment, notice the colours and light and feeling of being alive, here, together, joy comes more easily. It is a felt sense in our bodies. In the face of horrors visited upon our world daily, in the struggle to protect our loved ones, choosing to let in joy is a revolutionary act. Joy returns us to everything good and beautiful and worth fighting for. It gives us energy for the long labour... *Joy is the gift of love:* it makes the labour an end in itself. I believe labouring in joy is the meaning of life.

<https://cac.org/crisis-contemplation-and-joy-2021-07-29/>

Prayers of the Faithful for 8 August 2021 - Saint Mary of the Cross

Celebrant: Lord, out of love you gave up everything, show us how to lose ourselves and find ourselves in you. So, we bring these prayers before you.

For the Church: inspired by the lives of Mary MacKillop and the other saints, that we will be open to the Spirit in these times of change and uncertainty.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our parish community: that the Holy Spirit will free us from all bitterness and anger that we may hold on to and guide us in living as children of God each day.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For a new vision of our life journey: that we may be open to the vision God holds for us and that we may be free to rely upon God as we encounter changes, trials, struggles and doubts.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For our sisters and brothers in isolated communities around the world: that we can find a way of reaching out to them with urgently needed food and medical supplies. May God's loving hand be visible to them at this time.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For relief from the Covid virus: that God will guide researchers to a better understanding of the virus so that we may be protected and that the sick may be restored to wholeness.

Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who are struggling with mental health issues: that God will heal their hearts and renew their spirits, freeing them to live life fully. We are especially mindful of our children, who are dealing with the uncertainty created by the Covid initiated lockdowns.

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. We also remember *Elaine Bunton, Brian Lappin, Elvie Taylor & Marie Zavadil* 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.

Celebrant: Father help us to grow and nourish us with your grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Roster for WEEKEND 14/15 August 2021

Montmorency

Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Boyd, Mary	PRYR
Lucas, Maree	CLNR
Muller, Joan	CLNR
Said, Mike & Marie	ASRC
Stanton, Mark	W6:00
Sullivan, Frances	W8:30
Wood, Marie	W8:30

Eltham

Armstrong, Miranda	Eucharistic Minister
Dopheide, Marlis	Commentator
Dunell, Linda	Altar Society
Furtado, Lionel	Reader
Haines, Jan-Marie	Eucharistic Minister
Rough Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Saltalamacchia, Carmel	Altar Society

Fr Terry's Friday Lunch Update Third Time Lucky!

Yes, here we go again! Lunch with Fr Terry has now been rescheduled for **Friday 20th August at 12 midday**. If you have missed lunch with Fr Terry due to lockdowns, or any other reason, here is a further opportunity.

Mind the invitation is open to anyone who wishes to join in. God knows we all need a little relief from these trying Covid times. So do not hesitate to book in by ringing the **Monty/Eltham RSL** direct on **(03) 9434 2085** and mention 'Lunch with Fr Terry'.

Spring and new life approaches, so let us together make it a happy Community Celebration!

For any enquiries call or speak to:
Patsy Skipper: 0429 439 675 or
Barbara Bibby: (03) 9439 8594





CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE



INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. **COME & SEE!** Due to Covid restrictions the information session date has been moved into September. No longer on Saturday 14 August, the Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on Saturday 4 September, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne. For further information contact Deacon Kevin Pattison: Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au.

For more information:

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

Position Vacant - Part-time General Office Assistant

Mondays 9am-3pm, with potential for Tuesdays also, at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, located at Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern.

To assist with social media, Zoom support, administrative and general duties.

Job description and applications (by 28 August 2021): contact the Secretary, email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne, or tel 9890 1101.



Welcome to the fifth biennial Mission: one heart many voices conference (<https://2021.mohmv.com.au/>).

The conference will be online and you can register now (<https://eventfrog.eventsair.com/catholic-mission/mohmv/Site/Register>)

Join us from Wednesday 1 to Friday 3 September 2021

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Virtual Weekend

10-12 September 2021

Live out weekend Gippsland.

16-17th October 2021



live your best life in love

This Virtual weekend is conducted by Zoom allowing you to attend from the comfort of your own home

What's required to attend virtually?

- A computer or laptop/tablet with video (camera and microphone)
- A good internet connection (Wifi)

The live out weekend allows you to participate and then go home/ Motel in the evenings.

Lunches and Saturday Dinner are provided and all materials needed.

Book online www.wwme.org.au

Select Victoria and nominate the weekend of your choice then follow the booking information.

For more information contact- Leo & Helen 0419 393 281
Email- vicbookings@wwme.org.au

The Opening the Doors Foundation

IS CELEBRATING
20 AMAZING YEARS OF CHANGING THE LIVES OF
FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN EDUCATED IN VICTORIA

YOU HAVE BEEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR JOURNEY,
AND WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN OUR
ONLINE CELEBRATION AT:

9:30 AM • August 4

OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION IS AN INSPIRATIONAL BLACK
AND WHITE SUCCESS STORY OF RECONCILIATION IN ACTION

Please join us to hear the stories of our success,
to reflect on this milestone
and step with us into our reconciled future

PH. 0401 487 414
www.openingthedoors.org.au

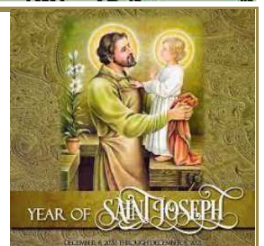
Invitation to Day Retreat on the Year of St Joseph

All parishioners and friends are invited to the St Francis of Assisi Parish Retreat to be held on Saturday, 21st August, 9.00 am – 4.30 pm, at Loyola College. The Retreat will be presented by the Sapienza Team on the Year of St Joseph. *'Come apart for a day to spend with the Lord'*

* Cost: \$10 * Lunch - bring your own lunch * Tea & Coffee provided *

Bookings Essential – RSVP: Tuesday, 17th August.

Bookings: Contact: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au



Gospel - Matthew 6:25-34

Jesus said to his disciples: I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields; they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?" It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.



Reflection

We might not be surprised that the gospel text for the feast of Mary MacKillop comes from the Sermon on the Mount. But the passage chosen, like Mary's life, poses a question we'd rather avoid. In what do we place our trust? Is it material things (money, food, clothing) or is it the God who unfailingly cares for all? Where does our heart lie? Is our heart set on what we possess or on the reign of God?

The passage as a whole is framed by two statements of Jesus. The first is: "You cannot be the slave both of God and of money." The second is: "Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these other things will be given you as well." In between, Jesus offers engaging images and speaks in conversational terms.

Readers have a two-fold challenge on their hands with this text. The first is to hold the congregation's attention throughout a reading that may be all too familiar. The second is to deliver it with enough appeal to be able to bypass the entrenched defences of people for whom material cares are the stuff of daily living. Not an easy task!

The final verse should not be given much emphasis; it seems to be an independent saying that has become attached here by word association.

Break Open the Word 2021

CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal.

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria delivers counselling and mental health services, specialised support for children and teens, refugee and asylum seeker help, support for separating families, homelessness support and pastoral care. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities, to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your support and generosity will help the vulnerable and marginalised in our community and empower everyone to reach their full potential. You can donate using the appeal envelope available or online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513.



A message from *Aid to the Church in Need Australia*. Especially in remote and non-Christian areas, the faith is often nurtured via faith-based TV and radio programs. For over thirty years ACN has supported the *Catholic Radio and Television Network* which provides programming to networks in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. These programs are seen and heard by about 36 million people worldwide every day. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/media

