

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.

80 people - for the next month

Church size and thus density numbers at SFX & OLHC for the next month has been set at 80 parishioners. Well, that's great news until the next changes occur in the last few days of November when a normal capacity will hopefully resume.

These are special and sensitive days ahead as we move into the sacred month of November - REMEMBRANCE Month for all the Saints and sinners that have gone before us.

It is also the last month with Fr. Terry Kean amongst us for spiritual support and guidance - indeed a sad month in many ways.

Please keep him in your prayers as he moves to his 75th birthday and official retirement. The 'book' is around for your contributions!

Please use the QR Code to sign in and help us to move forward as a strong and healthy Catholic Community. If anyone would like to have Holy Communion at home because they are not yet comfortable to return to Masses at the moment, then - Jesus is available!

Please just contact us and let us know.

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All Saints Day - Nov 1st
Monday Mass is at
Our Lady Help of Christians,
Eltham at 9:30am

All Souls Day - Nov 2nd.
Tuesday Mass is at
St. Francis Xavier,
Montmorency at 9:30am

Michael

Covid-Safe Child-Friendly Parishes:



- Face masks are to be worn at all times



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



- Vaccination Status double vaccinated = 80 people in attendance unknown/single or zero vaccinated = 10 people in attendance



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



- **Natural air flow** — windows and doors open



- Please maintain **social distancing of 1 person per 4 square metres** (families not included) at all times

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For all volunteers and staff:



- **WWCC** — current working with children's check



- **Code of Conduct** — ensure you have signed the annual code of conduct

Please note:  
current Covid Regulations allow for **only 80 people** in the Churches of St. Francis Xavier & Our Lady Help of Christians.

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

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

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



## PARISH TEAM & INFORMATION

### OUR PEOPLE & OUR CONTACT DETAILS



#### **Parish Priests**

Terry Kean - Pastor in Solidum

[terry.kean@cam.org.au](mailto:terry.kean@cam.org.au)

Michael Sierakowski - Moderator

[michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au](mailto:michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au)

Barry Caldwell

#### **Parish Office**

86 Mayona Road

**9435 4742**

Mon - Fri 9am-3pm

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

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

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

Peter Williams:

Child Safety Officer

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

Website:

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

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

(pol stands for Parish OnLine)

Facebook:

[St Francis Xavier Parish Montmorency](#)

Monty & Eltham Newsletter & Facebook items:

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

#### **Schools**

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

[principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au)

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

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

[principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au)

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

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Principal: Patrick Green: 9439 7824

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

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

#### **RECONCILIATION**

available upon request

please call the Parish Office 9435 4742

#### **Collections: 24 October 2021—LOCKDOWN**

| 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>

## Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

### **Friday 29**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

### **Saturday 30**

6:00pm Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

### **Sunday 31**

8:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:00am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms - CANCELLED

Montmorency

### **Monday 1 November - All Saints Day**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

### **Tuesday 2 November - All Souls Day**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl

Eltham

### **Wednesday 3**

6:30am Meditation - 80 people

Montmorency

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

11:00am Small Church Community

Montmorency

### **Thursday 4**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC

Montmorency

7:45pm Book Club

Montmorency

### **Friday 5**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

### **Saturday 6**

6:00pm Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

### **Sunday 7**

8:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:00am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms - CANCELLED

Montmorency

### **Monday 8**

9:30am Days for Girls

Montmorency

### **Tuesday 9**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

### **Wednesday 10**

6:30am Meditation - 80 people

Montmorency

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

### **Thursday 11**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC

Montmorency

### **Friday 12**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

### **Saturday 13**

6:00pm Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

### **Sunday 14**

8:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:00am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms - CANCELLED

Montmorency

### **Tuesday 16**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl

Eltham

### **Wednesday 17**

6:30am Meditation - 80 people

Montmorency

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Eltham

11:00am Small Church Community

Montmorency

7:00pm Regional St Vincent de Paul Meeting

Montmorency

### **Thursday 18**

9:30am Mass - 80 people

Montmorency

10:30am ASRC

Montmorency

2:00pm Mass @ Garden Views

Lower Plenty



## We are Working Together to Create a Child Safe Parish

This weekend we have taken a significant step towards life in a COVID normal setting. We are still mindful of the COVID safe rules the Government has put in place for our safety. Such as: wearing Masks indoors, QR Code checking in, social distancing, washing hands regularly, etc. So, too we are equally morally and legally required to comply with Child Safeguarding requirements.

This means that everyone in the parish setting who undertakes **any Ministry or volunteer role must:**

- have a current Working with Children Check (nominating either or both OLHC or SFX parishes as the organization at which you are an employee or volunteer) and
- have signed that current years Code of Conduct Declaration.  
(A new Code of Conduct Declaration will be available in January 2022)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the valued support that you have given and continue to give to us all at Our Lady Help of Christians and St Francis Xavier parishes. Without the wonderful support you and all our other volunteers provide we would not be such a lively and inclusive parish or able to undertake such a broad range of service to the parish and the wider community.

Once again, this Advent season we will focus on Child Safety in our Parishes. This is an opportunity to refresh and recommit to safeguarding our child and vulnerable people from harm.

**Peter Williams**

Child Safeguarding Officer.



### ***Plenary Council - a different opinion by John Warhurst***

Here are some observations from John Warhurst, a participant in the first Assembly which encourage such hope. It is important to know that John is Chair of Concerned Catholics Canberra-Goulburn and a long-time critic of the PC process shortcomings before the Assembly, as well as a critical assessor of the Assembly proceedings in his daily blogs from the Assembly frontline.

In his last blog on the last day of proceedings (Saturday 9 October) John writes:

*“This has been a massive exercise of which the church should be proud...The broader impact on the sociology and dynamics of the church in Australia is incalculable. Networks and recognition of common interests have developed on all sides. We remain ‘a house divided’ in the words of one member, but some silos have been broken down”.*

John reports movement at the station but sees that much needs to be done between now and the second PC Assembly to maintain momentum and ensure that the proposals based on discussions in the first Assembly are indeed substantial and reflective of our calls for deep change. In weeks to come I will suggest some things we might do to help achieve this.

***Rowan Ireland***



## The Challenge of Church Ventilation in Covid19 Times

Dear SFX & OLHC Parishioners,

After having two meetings with Michael recently, we agreed it would be a good idea to prepare some information on ventilation to share with you all.

Here it is...

Like many of you, I am looking forward to gathering, as community, in one of our churches... hopefully soon. This possibility requires us all to understand how this can be achieved whilst creating a maximum COVID19-safe environment.

There are many requirements already established, such as masks, social distancing, QR codes, double vaccination certificates etc. The Victorian Government creates these rules on the recommendations of the Chief Health Officer.

This brings us to a point where we can ask ourselves what action we, as parishioners, can take to ensure that we are safe as we return to Liturgical Celebrations in both churches.

It has been known, for over 12 months, that aerosol transmission of Covid19 is real. Fortunately, science has been focussed on how wise ventilation choices contribute to keeping us safe.

Now, please take a look at the Info Chart (right):

We either use mechanical ventilation or natural ventilation.

By choosing natural ventilation (right hand side of diagram) there is the added advantage of no costs incurred!

So... when the Churches are in use, they can be naturally ventilated by:

- Opening every window and door regardless of the weather, ie cold and hot days. This would require individuals to dress accordingly for their own comfort.
- Not using any of the existing mechanical ventilation devices we already have installed, ie heaters, coolers and ceiling fans, as they only recirculate the air and any Covid19 aerosols the air may contain.

Finally, we must apply these practices enabling us to confidently move forward to a new normal way of attending Church Liturgical Celebrations.

Kind regards

Elizabeth Warrillow

[Oct. 20, 2021]

Further reading:

1. An Australian independent experts group: OzSAGE: <https://ozsage.org/>
2. An International Experts Group:  
<https://assets.gov.ie/137030/fb86a6e5-b213-4916-9ad9-5fcae82a6514.pdf>

# Safer Indoor Air for Workplaces

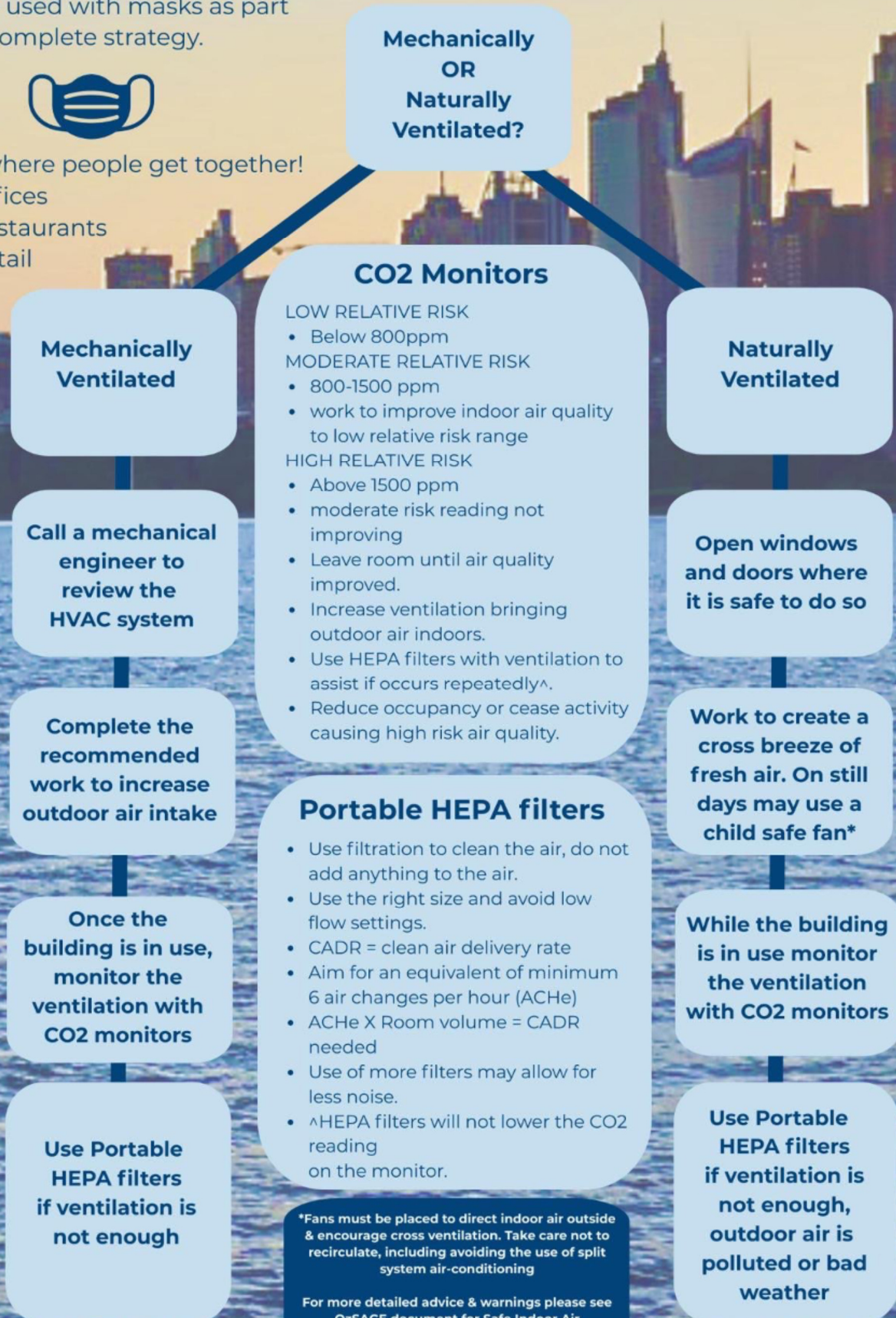


To be used with masks as part of a complete strategy.



Anywhere people get together!

- Offices
- Restaurants
- Retail





## Roster for WEEKEND 06/07 November 2021

### Montmorency

McKinna, Jane PRYR

### Eltham

Dopheide, Marlis Commentator

Dunell, Linda Altar Society

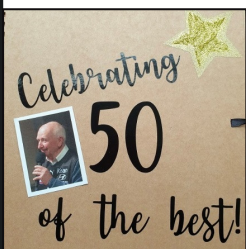
Foxley, David Reader

Saltalamacchia, Carmel Altar Society

Zavadil Family Pilgrim Rosary Statue

### Fr Terry's Book

There are still empty pages in Fr Terry's Book! We would like this not to be the case. There is still time for your contribution of gratitude and good wishes for his onward journey.



Thank you so much to those of you who have given letters and cards, they are all placed in the book with care. You might remind your friends to get around to it? Fr Terry will be so touched when he reads the loving messages there... I am sure you would like yours to be among them!

Place your contributions in the Parish Letterbox, 86 Mayona Rd, Montmorency (marked Fr Terry's book) or email [patsy\\_skipper@hotmail.com](mailto:patsy_skipper@hotmail.com) or Kathleen Nolan ([maeka@optusnet.com.au](mailto:maeka@optusnet.com.au)).

Blessings of spring and new life to all.

Thank you

Dear Parishioners,

I had cause to look for a couple of items on the library shelves this week, and unfortunately both were missing.



It's a reminder for me to ask everyone to check whether they have books at home that need to be returned.

Of course our church has been closed for such a long time, and understandably, books may well have been overlooked.

Now we are opening I'd very much appreciate it if you'd return as soon as possible.

Two that were missing: *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr and a box of 11 CDs *Life as Participation* also by the great man, R R.

Blessings, Trish Taylor (0402914817)



## St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

### SVDP Charity Christmas Cards 2021

The Montmorency conference of SVDP is pleased to advise that we expect that SVDP Charity Christmas cards will be available within the next 2 weeks. This year the cards are again in packs of 5 rather than 8 as in previous years. With just 5 cards per pack we have maintained the price at \$2.50 per packet. This is slightly cheaper per card than when we sold the cards in packs of 8. All we wish is do is to cover our costs and offer cards about the real meaning of Christmas.

We will have a table outside Weekend Masses at SFX hopefully next week to enable people to purchase cards. Alternatively you may purchase the cards from any of the following SVDP Members:-

John Ramsdale 0410 128 821  
Anthony Gioules 0431 104 642  
Mike Said 0417 221 245  
Vinka 0418 345 954



Dear friends

You are cordially invited to an online forum for parishes on Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*: On Care for our Common Home'. The purpose of the forum is to help strengthen support for taking action to care for the Earth and the Poor.

The forum will be presented by the Care for our Common Home Group of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham and St Agnes' Parish, Highett, together with the Justice and Peace Group of St Dominic's Parish, Camberwell. Two excellent speakers, Anne Boyd csb and Jacqui Remond will join us for the forum.

For more information and to register for the forum, see <https://www.trybooking.com/BUWFP>.

It would also be appreciated if you could consider sharing this invitation with members of your parish etc, with colleagues, and with others you think might be interested,

**Care for Our Common Home - A forum for parishes**



Care for our Common Home Group  
Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption,  
Cheltenham and St Agnes, Highett

With Justice and Peace Group, St Dominic's Parish, Camberwell



**CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME - A FORUM FOR PARISHES:  
INVITING A PERSONAL AND PARISH RESPONSE**

Tuesday, 16 November 2021, 7.30 - 9.00pm

Zoom forum, entry free. Register via Trybooking: [www.trybooking.com/BUWFP](https://www.trybooking.com/BUWFP)



Jacqui Remond  
Ecology Taskforce, Vatican Covid  
Commission

In *Laudato Si'*: On Care for Our Common Home, Pope Francis  
calls us to protect our Common Home, the Earth

**This Forum invites us to**  
• Reflect on the *Laudato Si'* message and developments since  
*Laudato Si'*  
• See how two parishes are responding  
• Consider how we might all respond at a personal and parish  
level

Enquiries: Adrian Foley [ad.foley@gmail.com](mailto:ad.foley@gmail.com)



Anne Boyd csb  
Former Co-ordinator, Earth  
Song Project

As one global Catholic family, we will lift our voices and advocate on behalf of the least among us for climate justice in 2021! We do have the power to change the world and as citizens of this global village, the time to act is now! We can work together to protect our common home! We can effect change by doing small little actions to conserve our environment and have a Just recovery! You can do this by using our resources to promote this petition call to action. [Resources](#). We will be sharing actions, events, and more information on other ways we can collaboratively advocate ahead of COP15, on Biodiversity and COP26 later this year.

Please join me in signing the Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition so that the political leaders participating in COP15 and COP26 take action for all members of creation this year.

We have an opportunity like no other. At the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in October, world leaders can set meaningful targets to protect creation. In November, at the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), countries will announce their plans to meet the goals of the Paris agreement. Ahead of those meetings, it is our responsibility as Catholics to lift up the voices of the most vulnerable and advocate on their behalf. We must act now.

Will you join me and take action? Click here: <https://thecatholicpetition.org/?source=email&>



Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition

## Homily

Many of us will be familiar with the musical Les Miserables. It is certainly one of my favourite musicals. It tells the story of Valjean who had stolen a loaf of bread and had spent 19 years in gaol for his crime. He was a bitter man when released, but turned his life around and became a man of mercy, bringing his compassion and love to many people in life, especially to his adopted daughter Cosette.

I could share his story in some detail but that is not really my purpose. Rather, let me quote some beautiful lines of the song he sings in his dying moments:

*‘Take my love, for love is everlasting. And remember the truth that once was spoken:  
to love another person is to see the face of God.’*

What beautiful words, especially those words, ‘to love another person is to see the face of God.’

If we hold these words and take a look at today’s Gospel we listen to the response of Jesus to the question, ‘which is the first of all the commandments?’ Jesus says:

*‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this, you must love your neighbour as yourself.’*

Jesus’ words were not new to the Jewish faith. In today’s first reading from Deuteronomy, long before the time of Jesus, we hear the words, “Listen Israel. The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge you today, be written on your hearts.”

To love. Let me share another story. The story is told of a seeker of truth approaching Rabbi Hillel, and saying: “If you can teach me your whole religion standing on one leg, I will become your disciple.” And Rabbi Hillel answered: “You shall love your God with your whole mind and your whole heart and your whole soul. Everything else is commentary.”

How do we love God in this way? Would it be fair to say that the commandment to love God and to love you neighbour as yourself are really so intertwined as to become one?

We think back to Valjean and his words ‘to love another person is to see the face of God.’ How profound.

We can think of people who show us the meaning of love. I think of some young parents in our Parish caring for their little boy who has severe epilepsy. He has frequent and at times long seizures and as his Mum said to me “I am terrified when this happens”. And there she is, holding him in her arms attentive to his every need. That’s love for her child and that’s love of God in her whether she knows it or not. In fact, she may well be angry with God and yet in a very profound way she is the face of God to her child and God’s face is also the face of her child.

Or what about people who care for someone who struggles with memory loss? It can even be that this person no longer remembers the names of family members and yet they are cared for in a beautiful way by their spouse and/or their children. Even in the face of a person with Alzheimer’s, the face of God beckons in love. And to love and care for this person is indeed loving God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

So we look to our own lives and see where love lives within us. And when we love other people we too see the face of God, and we are in a very real way, the face of God, for God is love.

**Terry**



## Gospel - Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.



### Prayers of the Faithful for 31 Oct 2021 — 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Leader:** We are challenged to love God with all our heart, with all our mind and with all our strength. Let us take heart in these petitions we offer today.

For the Church: may we be guided by a radical Spirit and embrace the need for change.

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

For our families and neighbours as we emerge from lockdown: let us remember to show respect for one another and be patient and supportive.

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

For all who are grieving: may they know God's life-giving presence with them today.

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

For all healthcare workers: may God keep them safe and restore their energy.

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

For safety: that God will protect all young people who participate in Halloween activities and help them remember the holy ones whom they are celebrating.

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

For those who have died, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Carlo Bergamot, Kevern Billings, Antonio Chincarini (jnr), David Engebretson, Philip Ferrarotto, Bill Gayfer, Rudolf Jakubik, Betty Lord, Maria Morabito, Frank Salmic (Snr) and Bill Tapley*. May they have peace with Christ in Heaven. *Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

**Leader:** We pray to you God, conscious of the need for your grace to be active and alive in our world. May we be true disciples and bring your reign closer each day. We ask this in the name of Jesus your Son.

**All:** Amen



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

To include an anniversary in the bulletin, please contact Parish Office: 9435 4742 or [eltham@cam.org.au](mailto:eltham@cam.org.au)

#### Montmorency

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

*Carlo Bergamot, Kevern Billings,  
Antonio Chincarini (jnr), David Engebretson,  
Philip Ferrarotto, Bill Gayfer, Rudolf Jakubik,  
Betty Lord, Maria Morabito, Frank Salmic (Snr),  
Bill Tapley*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Damian Brasier Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert),  
Terry Flannery (father of Elisha O'Dowd)  
Kate Lagerewskij*

#### Eltham

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Violetta, Ryan Bennett, Lucy Bibby,  
Denice Donnellan, Tom Nolan, Paul O'Dell,  
Les Robertson, Christine Scott, Rosemary Scully,  
Barbara Snopkowski, Ibyszek Wojciechowski,  
Sylvek Zyleviczcz*