

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.

Terry's Homily from Last Sunday: 15th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 2022

Isn't it a great story, the parable of the Good Samaritan? Jesus was such a brilliant storyteller. It is the story of the Good Samaritan coming to the aid of a beaten-up traveler. We can tell the story and delight in the compassion of the Good Samaritan. That's one part of it all, but Jesus asks us to do more than remember the story. He asks to find ourselves in the story. Who are we in the story? So let's name the characters in the story and see who we are most like.

Are we most like the Good Samaritan in our own way of life, coming to the aid of someone in acute need, even though a stranger? Are our hearts moved with compassion when we see someone who is beaten up in life?

Or are we most like the priest or the Levite? Yes, we see someone in need but we don't want to get involved, particularly if they are a stranger. We have other things to do.

Or are we most like the brigands or the robbers? We would probably say an immediate 'no' but think again. Would any of us say, 'Yes, I have beaten up someone in life, not necessarily with physical violence, but with words and even actions that have left them in deep and underserved pain?'

And then there's another side thinking about the robbers. As Sr Mary O'Shannassy, Good Samaritan Sister, good friend of mine, reminded me some years ago. She said, 'these are the people I visit in jail, people who are the perpetrators of violence in life. It is my ministry to care for them & try to help them build a new life.'

Or are we most like the beaten-up traveler himself? We may not be lying on the side of the road half dead, but we are carrying deep wounds of the heart, or perhaps even violent wounds physically and mentally. Sadly many people are victims of abuse, sexual abuse, domestic violence, bullying. I'm sure there are some people in our Church here today who will say, 'I am most like that beaten up traveler.'

Or are we most like the innkeeper? He could have said 'no' to taking in the man half dead, even though he was paid for doing this. The Good Samaritan gave him money and promised any extra expense on his return the next day. We don't know much about the innkeeper. He is a more distant figure in the parable, but maybe he stands for any of us who will respond to a need, provided we are paid.

Are we most like the lawyer, who was setting a trap for Jesus in asking him a question? The lawyer already knew the answer to his own question 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He knew the answer in his head but seemingly not his heart.

So where are we in the story? Who are we most like? We may say we are several of these people, depending on what has happened at various times in our lives.

Where are we now? What is happening right now that tells us where we are in the story? Many of us, most of us, probably want to be most like the Good Samaritan. He is certainly an extraordinary character, so generous with his time and money. He was of a very different faith belief to the lawyer who asked Jesus a question, and perhaps also of the man lying on the side of the road. Samaritans and Jews did not get along at all, but that didn't stop him.

What seems to be at the heart of the Good Samaritan's response to the beaten-up traveler, is that as soon as he saw the man, he was moved with compassion, even though the man was a total stranger. It could have been just natural for him to do this or perhaps he had learnt to be compassionate in coming to the aid of other people before this. We would surely think this was not the first time he had helped someone in desperate need.

So who are we in the story?

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

For more information visit pol.org.au/eltham or pol.org.au/montmorency.

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



PARISH TEAM & INFORMATION

OUR PEOPLE & OUR CONTACT DETAILS



Parish Priest

Michael Sierakowski - Moderator

michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au

Parish Office

86 Mayona Road

9435 4742

Tue - Fri 9am-3pm

montmorency@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

eltham@cam.org.au

Peter Williams:

Child Safety Officer

SFX&OLHC.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Website:

www.pol.org.au/montmorency

www.pol.org.au/eltham

(pol stands for Parish OnLine)

Facebook:

[St Francis Xavier Parish Montmorency](#)

Monty & Eltham Newsletter & Facebook items:

eltham@cam.org.au

Schools

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Principal: Patrick Green: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

RECONCILIATION

available upon request

please call the Parish Office 9435 4742

Collections: 10 July 2022

	OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	\$142.00	\$1,224.00
Presbytery	\$751.45	\$698.30

Stewardship Offering

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

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Saturday 16

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 17

8:30am Mass & First Eucharist

Montmorency

10:00am Mass & First Eucharists

Eltham

Tuesday 19

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Eltham

Wednesday 20

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thursday 21

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

Friday 22

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

Saturday 23

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 24

8:30am Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Tuesday 26

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 27

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

Thursday 28

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

Friday 29

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

Saturday 30

6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists

Montmorency

Sunday 31

8:30am Mass & First Eucharist

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Tuesday 2 August

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

Montmorency

11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Eltham

Wednesday 3

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

1:00pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

Thursday 4

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Montmorency

Support

Montmorency Parish
by giving with CDFpay

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

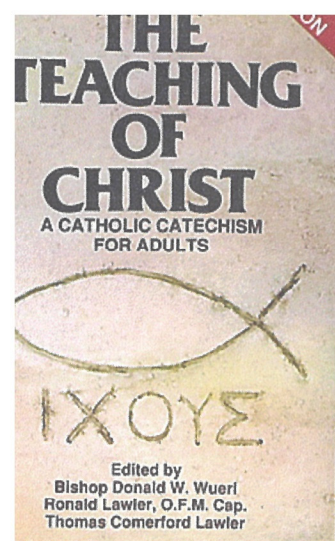


Support

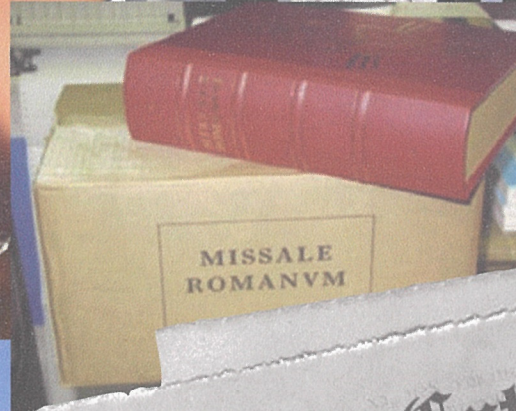
Eltham Parish
by giving with CDFpay

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





"What is your Experience of Being Catholic today – both light and dark?"



The Catholic
Sunday, August 30, 2006
Confront sexual abuse, don't manage it
By Geoffrey Robinson
As long as the Church seeks to manage rather than confront, the devastating effect the scandal has had on the Church, it will continue and will cripple other activities. Of what use is it.



Montmorency
Sunday 14 August @ 1pm
Eltham
Sunday 28 August @ 1pm

Plenary Council concludes with united vote

Christopher Lamb

The Church in Australia has agreed a series of landmark reforms on the role of women, a new translation of the Roman Missal and on the wider use of the “third rite” of confession.

These were voted through on a final day of voting on Friday last week at the week-long plenary assembly in Sydney and come at the end of a four-year discernment process that included 222,000 participating Catholics from across the country.

Bishops and members of the Plenary Council agreed that the Church in Australia would “implement” female deacons, should the universal law of the Church allow it, and that women will be part of “decision making structures” of governance. Each diocese would commit to finding “new opportunities for women to participate in ministries.”

A plenary council is the highest form of gathering for a local Church. Final decisions need to be signed off by the Pope.

The agreement on the role of women marked a dramatic turnaround in the council process. Some members had threatened to abandon the assembly gathering earlier in the week, when motions on women failed to reach a two-thirds majority.

Following this vote, on 6 July, some members held a silent protest inside the hall.

After crisis talks were held by the bishops, the council drew up new motions on the topic of “witnessing to the equal dignity of women and men”, which obtained a two-thirds majority on 8 July. For any motion to be successful at the plenary council, it must receive both a two-thirds majority both among the members and the bishops.

During the last day of voting, the council also passed a motion calling for a new English translation of the Roman Missal in Australia, to ensure it is “sensitive to the call for language that communicates clearly and includes all in the assembly”.

PHOTO: CNS/THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY, GIOVANNI PORTELLI



The current translation of the English Mass texts, which came into force in 2011, has been criticised for a lack of inclusive language. Pope Francis, however, has reformed the process for liturgical translations, giving greater freedom to local bishops, which opens the path for the Australian Church to progress a revision.

Another significant vote came in the request for a wider use of the “Third Form of the Rite of Penance”, known as “general absolution”. This is a way to offer reconciliation to groups rather than individuals.

In the years after the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) the “third rite” grew popular in Australia, particularly in rural dioceses with severe shortages of priests. However, the Holy See cracked down on the practice during the pontificate of John Paul II in the late 1990s, stressing the need for individual confession.

The Plenary Council has agreed to petition the Pope to “consider whether the Third Form of the Rite of Penance might have wider use on occasions when it is particularly appropriate, granted an understanding among the faithful of its distinctive nature and requirements”.

The council has agreed motions on a range of topics, including a “national framework for formation in Catholic Social Teaching” and a commitment for every parish and church body to take action on the environment through Laudato’ si’s action plans.

The council has also pledged to tackle a “culture of clericalism” by including lay people in major decisions and to ensure governance is carried out in a “synodal manner” through structures such as pastoral councils.

The plenary process is a response to the devastating revelations of clerical sexual abuse in the Church which have led to calls for deep reform. A liturgy of lament for abuse and the passing of safeguarding motions were held on the assembly’s first day.

View from Melbourne

Christopher Lamb

The Yarra Valley, situated east of Melbourne, is one of Australia's thriving wine-growing regions. Nestled between the vineyards is Tarrawarra Abbey, a Cistercian monastery founded in 1954, and known as a powerhouse of prayer for the local church.

It is home to a community of 13 monks, including the renowned spiritual writer and retreat giver Fr Michael Casey OCSO, who rises each morning at 4am for the first of six periods of prayer during the day. Like everyone who arrives in Tarrawarra, I was immediately struck by the peace and simplicity that radiates through the place. After the intensity and turbulence of the Plenary Council assembly in Sydney, my visit was a moment to take stock about what had taken place and a reminder that the synod process Pope Francis has begun is fundamentally a spiritual exercise.

The liturgy at Tarrawarra embodies the reforms of the Second Vatican Council and expressed some of the key themes in Francis' recent letter on liturgical formation, *Desiderio Desideravi*. In the simple chapel, built by the monks, the liturgy is not a search for a "ritual aesthetic" or preoccupied by the "scrupulous observance of the rubrics", but a celebration that draws the community deeper into the paschal mystery. The celebrant gave an incisive homily on the gospel reading and there were periods of silence, punctuated by the chirping of soft-breasted cockatoos that sounded alien to a foreigner like me.

What struck me about the plenary assembly week in Sydney was that it, too, reflected the vision of the Church outlined by Vatican II. The People of God and the bishops sat together at round tables in a large hall to discern the future of the Church in Australia. There was a sense of shared responsibility. It was not a political exercise. "Synodality is Vatican II in a nutshell," Professor Ormond Rush, an adviser to the council and a foremost interpreter of Vatican II, told me.

The synodal journey is similar to the life of prayer. There are struggles, doubts, uncertainties. It's often easier not to bother. Yet, what the plenary assembly shows is that a synodal Church is one where fear is being slowly replaced by trust in the Holy Spirit. The final destination may not always be known, but we are sure we are moving in the right direction.

When I returned to Melbourne, I visited the "pilgrim's path" at St Patrick's Cathedral, where water cascades down a path leading to the church. At the start is an inscription from a poem by James McAuley: "Incarnate Word, in whom all nature lives / Cast flames upon the earth: raise up contemplatives / Among us, men who walk within the fire / Of ceaseless prayer, impetuous desire. / Set pools of silence in this thirsty land" (from "A Letter to John Dryden").



It felt to me that that pool of silence which opens people to the Spirit and can be found in Tarrawarra was, in a very different way, also present at the Sydney plenary gathering.

While Synodality may fundamentally be a spiritual process, that does not mean that everything is going to be calm and easy. Halfway through the plenary assembly, a walkout almost took place when a motion that included a welcome for female deacons "should Pope Francis authorise such ministry" failed to get a two-thirds majority from among the bishops. It meant that the council could have ended up having nothing to say about the role of women in the Church. After the result of the vote had been declared, a group of women, men, priests, Religious and bishops stood at the back of the hall and refused to take their seats. It was a crisis point.

Speaking to me afterwards, Archbishop Mark Coleridge of Brisbane, a key mover in organising the Plenary Council, said "the atmosphere in the hall was electric" and there was "a maelstrom of emotion". The plenary organisers, including the bishops, held crisis talks and the motions were redrafted. A second vote was held and a series of significant agreements - including on welcoming the possibility of female deacons - were agreed.

"All our very, very carefully considered plans had to be thrown up in the air and we had to improvise," Coleridge told me. "And I think that is the work of the Holy Spirit." He added: "the crisis became a real grace and a blessing. It was the turning point of the assembly."

New Leaders often emerge during a synod process, and Australia was no different. The plenary assembly included a number of outstanding women such as Madeline Forde, 26, who works in campus ministry at the Australian Catholic University; and Elissa Roper, a mother of four who has recently completed a doctorate in synodality at Yarra Theological Union, who worked on the drafting committee. Meanwhile, Bishop Shane Mackinlay, the vice president of the Plenary Council, was widely praised for the way he steered the ship after stepping in when the plenary president, Archbishop Tim Costelloe, was taken ill. When things got tense, Bishop Mackinlay's interventions and mediation proved decisive.

The task now is to implement the letter and spirit of the Plenary Council resolutions. I have learned that the Church in Australia is not short of people with the sensitivity and determination to make this happen.



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

Montmorency

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Lino Zini

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Rita Bevanda, Kim Brisbane, Alana Foulds,
Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert), Melanie Lam,
Frances McDonald, Andrew Pighin, Aquatha Spina,
Melina Tenaglia, John Tobin*

Eltham

For the recently deceased:

*Anne Davie (Tamworth)
sister of Bill Boyce*

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

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

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

Roster for THIS WEEKEND: 16/17 July 2022

Armstrong, Miranda	Hospitality OLHC
Davidson, John	PRYR
Dopheide, Marlis	Hospitality OLHC
Dunell, Linda	Altar Society
Furtado, Denzil	Reader
Haines, Geoff	Commentator
Rough Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Said, Mike & Marie	ASRC
Saltalamacchia, Carmel	Altar Society
Scully, Greg	Eucharistic Minister
Scully, Helen	Eucharistic Minister
Sullivan, Frances	W8:30
Wallace, Kathryn	W6:00
Williams, Peter	W6:00
Wood, Marie	W8:30

Roster for NEXT WEEKEND: 23/24 July 2022

Bacani, Brian	W6:00
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00
Costanzo, Brenda	W8:30
Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Haines, Geoff	Eucharistic Minister
Haines, Jan-Marie	Eucharistic Minister
Hall, Vali	Altar Society
McAleer, Peter & Denise	ASRC
Milwain, Gianna	Altar Society
Nolan, Kathleen	PRYR
Nolan, Kathleen	Reader
Nolan, Kathleen & Mike	Hospitality OLHC
Ryan Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue
Taylor, Trish	Commentator



**Congratulations to all who celebrate
their sacraments this weekend:**

Saturday 16 July

St Francis Xavier, 6:00pm

Archie Celotti
Malina Grzinic
Domenic Lavery
Adam Lukic
Liam Marriott

First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist

Sunday 17 July

St Francis Xavier, 8:30am

Nate Morcom

First Eucharist

Our Lady Help of Christians, 10:00am

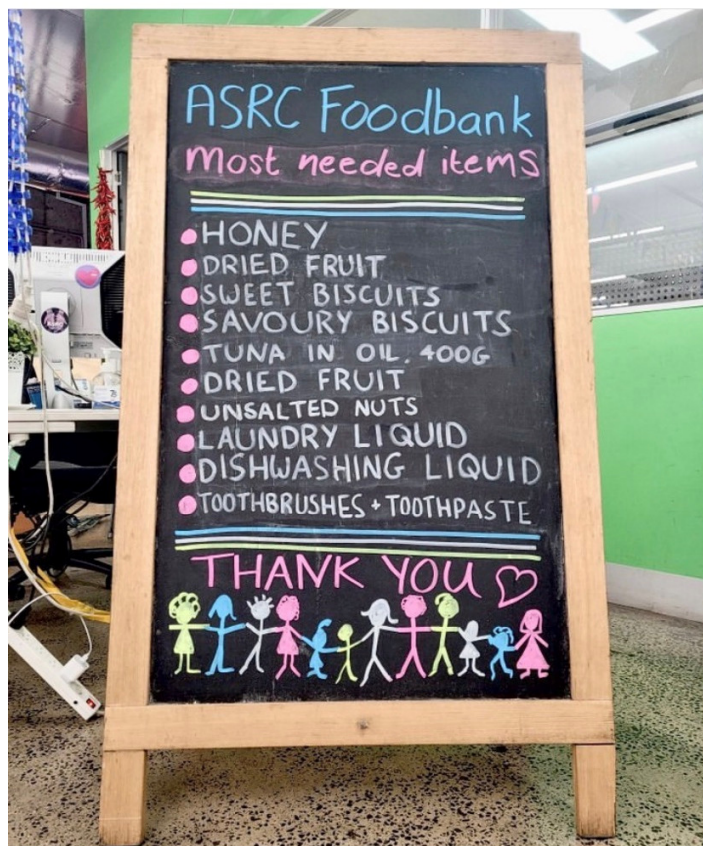
Zoe Dario
Natalie Musarra
Alana Varsavsky

First Eucharist
First Eucharist
First Eucharist



asrc1

...



134 likes

asrc1 These are the @asrc_foodbank's most needed items this week. Simply adding a few extra items to your Sat/Sun shopping to donate makes a difference to 1,000+ people seeking asylum accessing our Foodbank every fortnight 🙏

Prayers of the Faithful for 17 July 2022 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Let us bring to the Lord all our needs and cares.

For our country Australia - that we will be hospitable and welcome the stranger, and those seeking refuge.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For leaders of nations - that they recognise the uneven distribution of wealth among countries and strive to meet the needs of the poorest people, in the poorest nations.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those preparing for first Eucharist - may the example and prayers of this community inspire them to grow in their knowledge and love of God.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our Church leaders - may they be faithful to the call of Jesus to bring the Word of God and the richness of the mystery of God to all peoples.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who provide care for the poor, the vulnerable, the abused, the sick or the dying - that their work will be fruitful, bringing forth compassion, tenderness and justice.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the recognition and empowerment of the position of women in our church - that God will help all to appreciate and affirm their gifts.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all the sick and especially those mentioned in our bulletin, may they know the presence of Jesus in their lives and the grace of his healing.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died, including *Anne Davie*, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Lino Zini*, may they experience the certainty of Jesus' resurrection.
Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: God our Father through the Eucharist you give us a share in your abundant life. Look with favour on this community and lead us closer to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus your Son.

All: **Amen**

DIAKO AGHEE'S "BAGEL CAFE" IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

at 46 Jacksons Court, Doncaster.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Vinnies Briar Hill is seeking volunteers for a few hours once a week to support our shop at 23 Sherbourne Road, Briar Hill.

If you want to join a friendly team and support your local community, please speak to the Manager on [9432 6797](tel:94326797). Thank you!



Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'



Reflection:

For a seemingly simple snapshot of domestic life, the story of Martha and Mary has generated an uncommon amount of commentary and interpretation. If only Luke had explained it to us more clearly! Was Mary dodging the duties of hospitality? What were the "many things" that bothered Martha? What was the one and only thing that was needed? Above all, what was "the better part" that Mary had chosen?

No light can be shed on the story from the other gospels because it is Luke's alone. So the questions continue. Was Mary boldly assuming the male status of a rabbi's pupil? Is Jesus commending her for this? Is he striking a blow for the right of women to learn and thus to teach? On the other hand, does he implicitly relegate Martha (and other women) to the kitchen?

Perhaps it is best to start by taking the story at face value and see it in the light of other sayings of Jesus. On the face of it, Mary is approved for listening attentively to the words of Jesus. A little later in the gospel, Jesus lauds such behavior: "Still happier those who hear the word of God and keep it!" (11:28). For her part, Martha is reprimanded for her anxiety and the excess of her hospitality. In the very next episode Jesus will teach his disciples to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread" (11:3) - bread for today, no more, no less.

Whatever deeper meanings this story may yield, it already interrogates us about the quality of our listening to God's word and about our contentedness with what we have.

Break Open the Word 2022

- Parish Finance Meeting - Open to All -

Dear Parishioners and Friends of

St. Francis Xavier MONTMORENCY and Our Lady Help of Christians ELTHAM,

You are cordially invited to join our parish finance team at our next meeting on:

Thursday Night - 18th. August at 7pm - OLHC Church, Eltham. (2 Henry Street)

Naturally this time together will not be our normal meeting but rather an opportunity to visit any financial questions or concerns or areas of interest that parishioners might have as we move forward, beyond the 2 years of Covid-19 lockdowns.

The finance team include: Peter Rigg, Darrell Cain, Graeme Price, Chris Mullins, Vincent Cain, Brian Wordsworth & Michael Sierakowski.

Kate Kogler will also be present to answer your questions if required, as she shares in the daily operations of our parish finances and is always available to help.

Please see this invitation as an occasion to be involved in all financial areas in the promotion and running of our two parish communities,

Warmest thanks, *Michael*