24 July 2022

# 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.



**Our Forward Journey Together** 

There are two important Meetings to be held in August. Parishioners and Friends of St. Francis Xavier, Montmorency and Our Lady Help of Christians, Eltham are invited.

The dates and times for these Meetings are:

# St Francis Xavier, Parish Hall 1pm, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August. Our Lady Help of Christians, Gathering Area 1pm, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

The Transition Leadership Community (TLC) warmly invites, and strongly encourages, you to attend one or other of these two Meetings. There is no question we are living in changing times, which of course includes the Church. It is fairly obvious with the diminishing number of available active priests, the closure of some Parishes and the joining together of others that the time for action is now.

The TLC is not about a few people making decisions for everyone. We are about discernment and support for each other during this development phase, drawing on the shared wisdom, valued experience, views and visions of each one of you. No one person holds the whole story. Each person's response matters, is necessary, important and valuable as we look to build stronger Faith Communities moving forward. Let us come together in a spirit of optimism and hope, to LISTEN to each other, with open hearts and minds. The path ahead will become more clear if we walk together as one, in the Spirit.

Let us be grateful for this opportunity to speak and to be heard. Let us be grateful for this opportunity to have our say in the future shaping of our two Parish Communities and our future together.

There are two questions we will be asking of each other at these meetings and we would like you to ponder your response before you come to the Meeting:

- \* What is your experience of being a Catholic now, today? both the light and dark areas (good and bad); and
- \* What is your vision for the future what may a new active Faith Community look like? What are your hopes and dreams?

Please understand if you are unable to attend the meeting of your own Parish, you are welcome to attend at the other Parish meeting. Meetings will run for around one and a half hours.

We look forward to meeting and greeting you at one or other of these two meetings. A future contemporary Catholic Community with your active participation and ministry to all is hopefully what our hearts desire.

*We need each* other. Together we make up the whole Body of Christ, the family of God.

This parish has a commitment to ensuring the safety of children and vulnerable people in our community. For more information visit <u>pol.org.au/eltham</u> or <u>pol.org.au/montmorency</u>. We support the recommendations of the Royal Commission into institutional abuse and pray for all the survivo

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

# PARISH TEAM & INFORMATION



**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 **Child Safety Officer** Peter Williams: 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: <u>eltham@cam.org.au</u>

#### **Schools**

<u>St Francis Xavier Primary School</u> <u>Principal:</u> Philip Cachia: 9435 8474 <u>principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au</u> <u>www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au</u>

<u>Holy Trinity Primary School</u> <u>Principal:</u> Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888 <u>principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au</u> <u>www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au</u>

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**

Saturda	-		
-	Mass & First Eucharist	Montmorency	
Sunday	-		
-	Mass & First Eucharists	Montmorency	
10:00am		Eltham	
Tuesday			
9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion		
7:30pm	Small Church Community	Montmorency	
Wednese	day 27		
6:30am		Montmorency	
	Liturgy of the Word with Communion	Eltham	
10:30am	ASRC Food Collection	Montmorency	
Thursda	y 28		
9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion	Montmorency	
Friday 2	9		
9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion	Eltham	
Saturda	y 30		
6:00pm	Mass & First Eucharists	Montmorency	
Sunday ,	31		
8:30am	Mass & First Eucharist	Montmorency	
10:00am		Eltham	
Tuesday	2 August		
9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion	Montmorency	
10:00am	Craft Group	Montmorency	
11:00am	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Eltham	
Wednese	day 3		
6:30am	Meditation	Montmorency	
	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	
Thursda	y 4		
9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion	Montmorency	
2:00pm	Mass St Vincent	's Care, Eltham	
Friday 5	1		
9:30am	Mass	Eltham	
Saturda	у б		
12:00pm	Baptisms: Hope, Eva, Lily, Sascha, Bla	irMontmorency	
1:00pm	Baptisms: Sloane, Alessi, Artis	Montmorency	
6:00pm	Mass	Montmorency	
Sunday 7			
8:30am	Mass	Montmorency	
	Mass & First Eucharist	Eltham	
	Baptisms: Harrison, Maxwell, Mila, Emilia, Macie, Eliza	Eltham	
Tuesday	9		
9:30am	Mass	Montmorency	
7:30pm	Small Church Community	Montmorency	
Wednesday 10			
6:30am	Meditation	Montmorency	
9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion	Eltham	

 Support
 Support
 Support

 Montmorency Parish
 Eltham Parish

 by giving with CDFpay
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Support

 aay steps you can quickly and securely give to your parksh
 Simply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Simply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your mobile phone and ina
 Eltham Parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your parish
 Imply scan the OR code with your parish

 Imply scan the OR code with your parish
 Imply scan the OR code with your parish

 Imply scan the OR

# Terry's Homily from Last Week: 16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 2022

The call to listen... so much the theme of today's Gospel in the Martha/Mary story.

Reminds me of a listening story told by author Philip Newell in his book 'The Rebirthing of God'. Philip's father had dementia that took away his memory very rapidly. He was a beautiful man of great feeling and compassion.

Before he went into a nursing home, there was the need to sell the family car which Philip's father was still trying to drive, illegally. So Philip called a local car salesman and set up an appointment for the salesman to meet with the father and himself the next day. Philip said to the salesman: "You will notice that my father seems confused about all sorts of things. But please honor him by speaking to him and not to me. This is his car and I'll be there with him."

The salesman did really well. He talked to the father and they shared some banter even though there were some pretty absurd moments in the conversation. The father said to the salesman "how much money do I owe you for this car?" The salesman replied, "No, no, we want to give you some money for the car." To which the father replied looking at his son Philip, "This is very generous of them."

Then as the cheque was being handed over, Philip said to the salesman, "Whenever I part from my father, or whenever we finish a telephone conversation, he gives me a blessing. And I think he'd like to bless you now."

Philip's Dad took the salesman's hand, looked straight into his eyes and said: "The Lord bless you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

Tears were streaming down the young car salesman's face. He will never forget that moment and as Philip Newell says: "Do we know that we carry within us for one another the blessing of God?"

Lovely story and a beautiful listening story. The father had made his own those words of blessing through his deep listening to the word of God. Philip, the son in the difficult time of his Dad's dementia, did not take over. He treated his Dad with such dignity, insight and respect, and the salesman listened well and received the blessing. It was a God moment, a sacred moment of listening and care.

We turn to the Gospel to Martha and Mary. Many people don't really like this Gospel and are very sympathetic with Martha and rightly so. Of course Martha has a point when she is doing all the work of preparing and serving the meal and Mary, her sister, is just sitting there listening to their guest, Jesus. There's work to be done and she complains that Mary is not pulling her weight. But then again, if Mary had gotten up and helped, presumedly Jesus would have been left on his own for a time.

What was Jesus talking about with Mary, we don't know. Perhaps he was teaching her something of the word of God. Perhaps he was debriefing after a heavy day and he just needed to talk. We don't know. But we do know that Mary listened. She cared about him.

Think back on Philip Newell's story of the sale of the family car. Many a son would have simply sold the car and hoped his father had forgotten about it. Many a car salesman would simply want to get the transaction over and done with and not take the time to talk with a man who had serious dementia and wanted to give him a blessing.

To listen and care? The Gospel today is asking us to listen and care first of all. To listen to the heartbeat of God all around us, in the interactions we have with people no matter how absurd they might be; to make time to listen even when there's so much else to do; to sense the sacred in life, not only in people but also in the earth story and to care for our earth; to listen for the sacred in the ordinary; to realize that we too carry the blessing of God and we too can give a blessing to one another.





1Cor1.23

15 July 2022

# To all of Christ's Faithful in the Archdiocese of Melbourne

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,

Last week, the second and final Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia took place. A week-long gathering of nearly three hundred faithful - laity, religious, clergy and bishops, it was the culmination of a nation-wide process of listening, discernment and dialogue that began over twenty years ago when the Australian Bishops first considered how to take up the call of St John Paul II to "put out into the deep" (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*). Closer to our own time, our Holy Father Pope Francis has also urged us to live more radically the Christian life of closeness with the Lord, the poor and each other, drawing on his call for a more synodal Church.

The Assembly was the fruit of these many years of prayer, reflection, conversation and consideration which took place in small groups and large, among the diverse members of the Church in Australia. At the Second Assembly, members of the Plenary Council were presented with a summary of this discernment - in the form of eight themes and 37 motions to consider. The process of the Assembly followed a very specific format, involving two forms of voting on motions: a vote taken by consultative members and a deliberative vote by the Bishop-members. Motions were passed after achieving at least a two-thirds majority.

I write these words only a short time after the conclusion of the Assembly. My experiences are still very fresh, and they are still very much centred on the week itself. Nevertheless, I wish to share with you some initial and personal thoughts on the Plenary Council.

The first thing I want to share is that the Assembly was not like a sitting week of the Australian Parliament. Rather, it was a week where the Catholic Church in Australia sought to put aside agendas, to strive for unity of purpose, where a representative group of the Body of Christ grappled to find a shared vision, and where a determined effort was made to speak to the Church in Australia.

A recurring word of Scripture was spoken throughout much of the week: "*Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together.*" (Ephesians 4:3). And a single question was repeatedly posed to the members: *How does this help the Church in Australia to be more missionary and Christ-centred?* While each member will remember certain things heard during the week, these common words, perhaps more than any others, were the collective words we all grappled with, and by which we were shaped. May they shape us all!

Perhaps you have heard of news from within the Assembly of what occurred on the third day. This was when the motions around the theme on witnessing to the equal dignity of women and men did not initially reach a two-third's majority. The reasons for this were manifold, but it is fair to say that it was a moment of serious and confronting contention, and for many, a moment of great pain and distress. But it was never a moment bereft of hope. The Holy Spirit accompanied us, and grace abounded. As a result, reform - our ecclesial word for conversion - was able to emerge as a revised and improved text was commonly discerned and approved.

It should be remembered that what happens within the confines of a gathering of this kind is not necessarily what is spoken of outside of the gathering. Some of the various commentaries and media opinions that have been circulating are not of the Plenary Council itself. The process of discernment is best seen as a whole, and not reduced to selective interpretations.

So, what did happen? Might I encourage you to read and reflect on two documents. Firstly, there are the Decrees that set out all the motions that were passed with a two-third's majority. You can find them here as a combined document: <u>www.bit.ly/PlenaryCouncilDecrees</u>. This is the work that we now take forward in the life of our local Church, the fruits of these past several years and a pathway for the years to come.

Secondly, please see the final summary statement from the Assembly of what occurred during the week. This is a document that those present agreed to as a final summation of the Assembly and can be found at: <u>www.bit.ly/PlenaryCouncilSummary</u>. These two documents, as distinct from anything else you may have heard about, contain the fruits of the second and final Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia.

You may ask, where to from here? May I encourage you to read the documents, not just on your own, but together as Christ's faithful in your local settings: parish forums, faith communities, clergy gatherings, religious houses, lay organisations, leadership groups, family settings, and anywhere where our local Church in Melbourne gathers. They are not the 'be all and end all' of all that is to be said and done in Melbourne, but they set a direction for us all. These are some of the fruits of the Assembly.

Did the Assembly say all that is needed? No. Is it a perfect outcome? No. Is there more to say and do? Certainly. But the second Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia has given to us all a grace upon which we can step forward in confidence in Christ Jesus. This will unfold over an extended period of time, commencing with the regathering of the Bishops of Australia in November this year to confirm what is to be presented to Pope Francis for his recognition and approval. Then begins the work of 'embodying' the fruits of the Council into the life of our local Church. I think especially of how the work of the Council is placed into our own changing COVID realities, and how it might best inform our missionary initiatives in Take the Way of the Gospel.

These are my initial, personal thoughts. Much is still to be absorbed, considered and acted upon. And I was but one member among 17 other members from Melbourne, and 277 members in total bishops, priests, religious and laity. Gradually, may its fruits be something for all of us. As St. Paul said to the church in Rome, so may we hear for our local Church in Melbourne: "Just as we have many members in one body, and the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, form one body in Christ, each individually members one of another, having different gifts according to the grace given to us." (Romans 12:4-6)

Please be assured of my prayers for you all, Christ's faithful in Melbourne.

And may I humbly ask for your prayers for each other, and for the ongoing g flourishing of our communities of faith.

With every grace and blessing I remain, Yours in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne

### World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

A Blessing Prayer for Grandparents (by Greg Sunter) God of all the generations

Your gift of faith and gift of love have been handed down to us through parents, grandparents and great-grandparents for all of time.

Look with favour on all our grandparents and bless them.

Bless their eyes that look on us with love and affection.

Bless their ears that listen to our questions and our stories. Bless their knees and laps we sit on.

Bless their arms that hold us and their hands that help us.

Bless their legs that walk beside us.

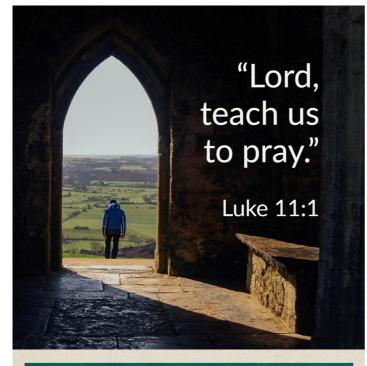
Bless their hearts that swell with pride for us.

And bless their faces that bring us joy.

Bless them and keep them as they bless and keep us.

We make this prayer through Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

#### Amen



Take a break from Melbourne's cold winter and gather together with young people from across Melbourne for a night of prayer, live music, food and fun.



& LAUNCH OF WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

# OF MELAOURNE

#### DIAKO'S "BAGEL CAFE" 46 Jacksons Court, Doncaster

Diako is eager to employ a café worker in Doncaster. Experience NOT essential. Training given on the job. Age NOT an issue, but must be able to be on your feet on the job. Must have GOOD understanding of English. Duties include assembling bagels, preparing fresh fruit juice, serving customers and cleaning up. For more information contact Diako: 0450 308 482



#### TICKETS \$20 AVAILABLE SOON

## St Francis of Assisi \* Parish Retreat 2022

Led by Lorraine McCarthy & the Proclaim: Office for Mission Renewal of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

# *VITAL! VIBRANT! VIABLE! - Growing Missionary Disciples!*



#### Topic?

Being a Missionary Disciple - What it means & why it matters?

'The purpose of evangelization is ... to bring people into an encounter with the person of Jesus and an ongoing relationship with him – a conversion'.

When? Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 8.30 am - 3.30 pm Retreat begins with Morning Mass.

Where? Loyola College, 325 Grimshaw Street, Watsonia 3087

Cost: \$5 \* Lunch - bring a plate \*Tea & Coffee provided
\*Booking Essential \* RSVP: Tuesday, 23<sup>∞</sup> August

Enquiries/Booking: Contact: 9407 6700 Email: Ruth.Lees@cam.org.au

Our Retreat will be an opportunity to be drawn into a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Everyone is invited!

# **Prayers of the Faithful for 24 July 2022 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Leader: Loving Father, hear the prayers we offer you today.

We pray for the whole Church - that we will follow Christ's teaching faithfully and bear witness, through our actions, to the power of God's love to heal our broken world. We pray that in the words of the 'Our Father', God's Kingdom will come.

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

We pray that the people of God will discern prayerfully how the Church is to go forward - that we recognise the need for constant renewal to keep the faith alive in our hearts and in our community. *Let us pray to the Lord.* **Lord, hear our prayer.** 

We pray that we will be prepared to forgive others for wrongs or hurts done to us - that we will forgive them as our heavenly Father forgives us.

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

We pray for those who work within our community to help the poor and the disadvantaged - that they will be supported by our prayers and financial help to give witness to the Gospel. Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those receiving the Eucharist for the first time - that they will grow in their understanding of the wonderful gift of the real presence of Jesus in their lives.

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

We pray for those who are in need of healing, those who are listed I the Bulletin and those in our families or community who suffer physical or mental illness. May they find strength in the belief in the love and healing presence of Jesus in their lives.

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

We pray for those who have died recently, especially *Brian Jupp & Brad Said*; and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including *Stan Gioules, Glenn McCormack & Catherine Nelson*. May they rest in the peace of our Lord. Let us pray to the Lord.

# Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader:** God our Father, grant us the faith always to trust that our prayers will be answered. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## All: Amen

Roster for THIS WEEKEND: 23/24 July 2022		Roster for NEXT WEEKEND: 30/31 July 2022	
Bacani, Brian	W6:00	Armstrong, Miranda	Commentator
Capuana, Marisa	W6:00	Bylsma, Zvonka & John	Hospitality OLHC
Costanzo, Brenda	W8:30	Dopheide, Marlis	Reader
Cotter, Anne	W8:30	Dunell, Linda	Eucharistic Minister
Haines, Geoff	Eucharistic Minister	Emslie, Maureen	W6:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	Eucharistic Minister	Frediani, Gabriella	Altar Society
Hall, Vali	Altar Society	French, Jossie	W8:30
McAleer, Peter & Denise	ASRC		
Milwain, Gianna	Altar Society	Iliffe, Yvonne	Eucharistic Minister
Nolan, Kathleen	PRYR	Jones, Marion	W6:00
Nolan, Kathleen	Reader	Love, Philip	W8:30
Nolan, Kathleen & Mike	Hospitality OLHC	Nolan, Mike	PRYR
Ryan Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue	Ramsdale, Sue & John	ASRC
Taylor, Trish	Commentator	Scannell Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue

#### Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray:

"Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom com; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will fiend; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you the, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'



### **Reflection:**

Many may lament the fact that a century or more of ecumenical endeavor has not born fruit in an agreed English translation of the Lord's Prayer. Some might say in reply that there never was one form of the prayer. Luke's version is shorter and simpler than Matthew's. Much has been written to compare the two. One example will have to suffice. In Matthew, Jesus says "pray like this" (6:9), suggesting that the Lord's prayer is a model, not a fixed set of words, whereas in Luke, Jesus' advice is "Say this when you pray.".

The prayer formula is complemented by two instances of teaching. The first is a homely example of persistence in prayer, a virtue already displayed by Abraham in his bargaining with God. The second offers grounds for confidence in the efficacy of prayer, also illustrated in down-to-earth terms, but finishing on a heavenly note. For Luke there is no better prize than the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This is a lengthy text and much of it will be very familiar to the assembly. It will be a measure of the proclaimer's art to deliver it with a freshness and sympathy that captures the assembly's full attention. Break Open the Word 2022

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

#### **Montmorency**

For the recently deceased: Brian Jupp (UK), Brad Said

For those whose anniversaries are at this time: Stan Gioules, Glenn McCormack, Catherine Nelson

For those in need of healing, remembering especially: Rita Bevanda, Kim Brisbane, Alana Foulds, Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert), Melanie Lam, Lita Lee, Frances McDonald, Andrew Pighin, Aguatha Spina, Melina Tenaglia, John Tobin

#### <u>Eltham</u>

For those in need of healing, remembering especially: Violetta, Elisabeth Edwards, Jade McAlear, Fiona Rogers, Rosemary Scully, Ian Sturman, James Sutton, Sarah Thompson

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



Congratulations to all who celebrate their sacraments this weekend:

### Saturday 23 July

*St Francis Xavier, 6:00pm* Sol O'Keeffe

First Eucharist

### Sunday 24 July

*St Francis Xavier, 8:30am* Lachlan van Campfort Renae Lister

First Eucharist First Eucharist

