

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.

THE TABLET

THE INTERNATIONAL
CATHOLIC WEEKLY
FOUNDED IN 1840

FRANCIS IN CANADA

EVERY CULTURE DESERVES RESPECT

The encounters between Pope Francis and First Nation representatives in Canada were among the most moving of his papacy. He clearly felt deeply and personally the violations of human dignity inflicted on the Indigenous tribes of North America by white colonial settlers. At the behest of the Canadian authorities, many children had been taken away from their families, separated from their culture and language and converted - that is to say, coerced - into Christianity. Some of them were abused, psychologically, physically and sexually.

Something similar was happening the length and breadth of the American continent, north and south, reflecting an unthinking consensus among European colonialists that already existing customs and beliefs had no value, and could and should be overwritten by their cultures and prejudices. Jesuit missionaries were among the few who rejected this approach. That automatic assumption of cultural superiority was untenable, Francis said last week, and the Church repented of it and asked forgiveness.

The Pope's remarks should trigger a wider reflection. It is as easy in the age of the internet and social media as it was in the era of colonial expansion for Westerners to assume their civilisations are normative - that by which others, past and present, should be judged. The only criteria valid for such judgements are those explicit or implicit in the gospels, the Sermon on the Mount in particular. It is from such motives that the Governor General of India, a devout Evangelical Christian, banned the burning of widows, *sati* or *suttee*, in the 1830s; similar motives led other colonial rulers to strive to wipe out slavery, cannibalism or execution of prisoners by torture, wherever they encountered such practices. Needless to say, with hindsight their moral outrage has to be regarded as highly selective. Christians often colluded in offences committed by white settlers - as in the case of Canadian Indigenous tribes. It did not seem to be barbaric to stop a child using his native language on pain of corporal punishment, but it was.

Wherever the gospel seed is newly planted, the human community already exists and has learned to express itself. Those expressions deserve deep respect, and should not be superseded in the name of Christianity, except where Christianity itself seems clearly to demand it, and then with prudence and caution. The Gospel is offered as a gift, not imposed by conquest. And "Christianity" should not be confused with the culture of Western Christians, or with assumptions over-confidently drawn from Scripture, such as the criminalization of homosexuality.

The key phrase is "critical distance", critical in the sense of "just right, not too far and not too near", but also in the sense of a willingness to criticize cultural assumptions; and distance, that is to say from a position outside the ruling establishment or dominant culture, but close enough to scrutinize it and free enough to speak against it. That is a formidable task for church leaders, ordained and lay. It requires a great effort of discernment, a skill not readily acquired. Yet if those leaders do not already live by the Gospel, their interventions will be easily dismissed. That is why Pope Francis' apology in Canada was so telling.

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: 24 July 2022

	OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving	\$446.00	\$2,131.00
Presbytery	\$784.65	\$973.20

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 6

12:00pm Baptisms: Hope, Eva, Lily, Sascha, BlairMontmorency
 1:00pm Baptisms: Sloane, Alessi, Artis Montmorency
 6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 7

8:30am Mass Montmorency
 10:00am Mass & First Eucharist Eltham
 12:00pm Baptisms: Harrison, Maxwell, Mila, Emilia, Macie, Eliza Eltham

Monday 8

7:00pm Confirmation Formation Evening Montmorency

Tuesday 9

9:30am Mass (SFX Y6 class) Montmorency
 7:30pm Small Church Community Montmorency

Wednesday 10

6:30am Meditation Montmorency
 9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham
 10:30am ASRC Food Collection Montmorency

Thursday 11

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency
 2:30pm Mass Calvary Lower Plenty Garden Views

Friday 12

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 13

12:00pm Baptisms: Emma, Lily Montmorency
 6:00pm Mass & First Eucharists Montmorency

Sunday 14

8:30am Mass Montmorency
 10:00am Mass Eltham

Monday 15 - Feast of the Assumption

Tuesday 16

9:30am Mass (SFX Y4 class) Montmorency
 11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry Eltham

Wednesday 17

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 18

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency
 7:00pm Parish Open Finance Meeting Eltham

Friday 19

9:30am Mass Eltham

Saturday 20

12:00pm Baptisms: Annabelle, Charlie, James, Angus, Everly Montmorency
 6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 21

8:30am Mass Montmorency
 10:00am Mass & First Eucharists Eltham
 12:00pm Baptisms: Eleanor, Atticus, Theodore Eltham

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.



All Welcome

Parish Meeting One

St Francis Xavier, Parish Hall
1pm, Sunday 14th August

Parish Meeting Two

Our Lady Help of Christians, Gathering Area
1pm, Sunday 28th August

It is intended that these meetings will go for about an hour and a half and be co-ordinated by Chris Pearson. The reason for this important time together is so that you might explore the following:

- your experience of being a Catholic - both light and dark areas (good & bad); and
- Your hopes for the future - what might a new active Faith Community look like (hopes & dreams)



Congratulations to all who celebrate their sacraments this weekend:



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

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

Denise McAleer, John Tobin

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

*Vincenza Croce (1 year anniversary)
Saverio Croce, Antonino Dai,
Caterina Greco, Elvie Taylor*

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*

Eltham

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Elaine Bunton, Joseph Scott, Marie Zavadil

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

*Violetta, Elisabeth Edwards, Jade McAleer,
Fiona Rogers, Rosemary Scully, Ian Sturman,
James Sutton, Sarah Thompson*

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

Saturday 6 August

St Francis Xavier, 12:00 pm

Blair Bethune

Baptism

Sascha Bethune

Baptism

Hope Brewer

Baptism

Eva Schillaci-Ros

Baptism

Lily Zoroje

Baptism

St Francis Xavier, 1:00 pm

Alessi Kirley

Baptism

Artis Kirley

Baptism

Sloane Redfern

Baptism

Sunday 7 August

Our Lady Help of Christians, 10:00 am

Olivia Carey

First Eucharist

Our Lady Help of Christians, 12:00 pm

Harrison Betts

Baptism

Maxwell Betts

Baptism

Mila Betts

Baptism

Emilia Dean

Baptism

Macie Dinale

Baptism

Eliza Mercer

Baptism



Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2022-23 RESPECT: CONFRONTING VIOLENCE AND ABUSE SUMMARY

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse points out that the roots of domestic and family violence “lie in the abuse of power to control and dominate others” and that “this stands in contrast to the relationships to which God calls us”.

Our relationships should be “marked by equality and reciprocity rather than domination and violence, respect and freedom rather than coercion and control”.

We know that most often those who suffer violence and abuse in homes and families, in workplaces, and in communities, are women and children while the perpetrators are most often men. We support women in calling for respect in relationships; their lives and those of their children are sacred.

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse focuses in a special way on the problem of spiritual violence and abuse. It discusses how religious teachings – including our own - may be manipulated by perpetrators to excuse violence or to exert control over others.

Cultural factors in the Church and in society often also play an important role in the violence and abuse suffered in families, households, communities, and workplaces. This behaviour is sinful.

We believe that respect, dignity and justice, transformation and hope are possible.

The Statement affirms the work being done by faith communities and organisations to support those who experience domestic and family violence and abuse, and to address the drivers and enablers of violence. It points to further ways in which we can all respond to spiritual violence.

Finally, it calls for faith communities to support and believe those going through domestic and family violence and abuse, to hold perpetrators to account and work towards individual and social transformation.

Resources such as the full statement, liturgy notes, videos, and promotional material are now available at
www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE OFFICE FOR JUSTICE, ECOLOGY AND PEACE

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"Men can have a positive role by having tough conversations about family violence with friends and relatives."

Australian Catholic Bishops,
Social Justice Statement 2022-23, p. 10



SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2022-23

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse

STATEMENT & RESOURCES AVAILABLE:
bit.ly/SJS22-23

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse
SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2022-23

Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse
SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2022-23

Action

How Church Communities Can Confront Violence and Abuse

-  • **Listen to, support, and believe** those who are experiencing violence and abuse.
-  • **Speak out** about the sinfulness of family and domestic violence and the responsibility of perpetrators to change.
-  • **Publicise the support** available in your area for victim-survivors and for perpetrators who want to change their behaviour.
-  • **Reflect together** on how we might be caught up in structural and cultural violence.
-  • **Reject spiritual abuse** by debunking the misuse of faith sources to justify violence, abusive behaviour or to coerce women to stay in unsafe situations.
-  • **Connect with programs**, ensuring our responses are evidence-based and trauma-informed.
-  • **Promote resources** on responding to family and domestic violence produced by dioceses e.g. Perth, Broken Bay and Parramatta.

Prayer

Loving God, you made each of us in your image and likeness.

Open our eyes to recognise one another as equals, replacing domination and control, violence, and abuse, with mutuality, reciprocity, respect, and freedom. Help us to love like you.

Jesus Christ, you rejected the use of religious traditions to justify violence.

Teach us to unmask manipulations of our faith used to justify violent, abusive, or coercive behaviour. Teach us to be people who show tenderness, respect and care for others as you did.

Holy Spirit, you are with us always, showing us the way. Move us to assist those who experience violence and abuse, and support their call for justice.

Empower us to hold perpetrators of violence and abuse responsible, encouraging them to change their behaviour.

AMEN



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Terry mentioned the wonderful Mary Oliver in last week's Bulletin.

I thought it would be appropriate to publish one of magnificent, and yet simple, poems as a follow up.
Trish Taylor

Wild Geese

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your
body
Love what it loves.
Mary Oliver



ST MARY'S PARISH
GREENSBOROUGH
PRESENTS AN AFTERNOON OF
OPERA FEATURING

MICHELLE
FRANCIS
COOK

RENOWNED SPINTO SOPRANO
SATURDAY 20 AUGUST 2022 AT 2PM
AND LIGHT AFTERNOON TEA

TICKETS \$20 AVAILABLE SOON

Electric vehicle bulk buy Show and Shine event

Clean Energy Nillumbik,
through the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub
are excited to be working with
The Good Car Company to bring to our community,
an Electric Vehicle Bulk Buy offering.

Find out more and try out the cars at
the Show and Shine day.

Date: Saturday 13 August

Where: Healesville

To find out more and register,
visit www.goodcar.co/healesville-o



St Francis Xavier
Catholic Primary School
Montmorency

JOIN US FOR A FIESTA TO CELEBRATE 90 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN MONTMORENCY

Fiesta Noventa

FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER
5.30PM - 8.30PM

FREE RIDES • FOOD TRUCKS • KIDS KARAOKE • DJ PHIL • FACE PAINTING • FIREWORKS
ANNIVERSARY PHOTO WALL • LIVE MUSIC WITH GARY EASTWOOD & BAND • SPECIAL GUESTS

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT TRYBOOKING.COM/CBKUY



A GATHERING OF THE SFX PAST AND PRESENT SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

THIS IS A CHILD SAFE - ALCOHOL FREE EVENT

Expert Eco Chats

Brought to you by *Clean Energy Nillumbik* and the Yarra Valley Community Power Hub

What: Book two free 20 minute appointments with the sustainability experts of your choice. Ask your questions about solar, energy efficiency, sustainable home design and building, EVs and much more.



Where: On Zoom

Time and date: Sunday 27 August 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Registrations open Friday 29 July

<https://www.cleanenergynillumbik.org.au/eec>

Free to a good home...

An electric chair that
moves gently from
reclined position to
standing. For further
information, or if you are
interested, please chat to
Duncan (0427 003 423)



A Unit is now available at OLHC.

If you would like to move into a well-established and nice sized unit close to OLHC church and Eltham shopping area, please contact Peter Rigg (0421 703 523)

Prayers of the Faithful for 7 August 2022 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Leader: Loving Father, you who rewarded Abraham for his faithfulness, hear the prayers we faithfully offer today.

For all who follow the Catholic faith: that we will hear what God asks of us - to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with Him.

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

For all those who are in positions of power or leadership: that they will always **see, judge and act** in the best interests of **all people**.

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

For those who struggle with family or financial difficulties, for those who feel neglected or forgotten: that they will find strength and guidance through the Gospel message.

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

For all young people: that they will continue to be inspired, through following Christ's teaching, to seek ways to make their community and the world a better place.

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

For those receiving the Eucharist for the first time, that they will welcome Jesus into their lives and continue in their faith journey.

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

For those who are ill, especially those listed in the Bulletin, and for all in our community who may be suffering from physical or mental illness. May they experience the healing power of God's love.

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

For those who have died recently, especially *Denise McAleer & John Tobin*, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, *Elaine Bunton, Saverio Croce, Vincenza Croce, Antonino Dai, Caterina Greco, Joseph Scott, Elvie Taylor & Marie Zavadil*. May they rest peacefully in Jesus' loving arms.

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

Leader: God our Father, we place our hope in you that our prayers will be answered. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

Roster for THIS WEEKEND: 6/7 Aug 2022	
Agius, Suzanne	M6:00
Croft, Pat & Mike	Hospitality OLHC
Donnellan, Denise	Eucharistic Minister
Dopheide, Marlis	Eucharistic Minister
Furtado, Denzil	Reader
Furtado, Lorraine	Commentator
Hannon, Kevin & Genni	ASRC
Kenny, Michael	W6:00
Kulkens, Mark	W6:00
McKinley, Michael	W8:30
Nolan, Kathleen	PRYR
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Reardon, Kathy	Altar Society
Scully, Helen	Altar Society
Stewart Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue

Roster for NEXT WEEKEND: 13/14 Aug 2022	
Beckford, Peter	Commentator
Dunell, Linda	Altar Society
Goss, Marian	Eucharistic Minister
Leahy, Michelle	Reader
Maynes, Phil	W6:00
Ramsdale, John	PRYR
Reardon, Kathy	Eucharistic Minister
Said, Mike & Marie	ASRC
Saltalamacchia, Carmel	Altar Society
Sullivan, Frances	W8:30
Taylor, Colin	Hospitality OLHC
Williams, Peter	W6:00
Wood, Marie	W8:30
Zavadil Family	Pilgrim Rosary Statue

Gospel: Luke 12:32-48

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

‘Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

‘See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

Peter said, ‘Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?’ The Lord replied, ‘What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master’s arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, “My master is taking his time coming”, and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

‘The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.’



Reflection:

Luke places a good deal of Jesus’ teaching in the context of his journey to Jerusalem, but today he extends the horizon to the end-times when the “master,” the Son of Man, will return. First, however, in the longer version, there’s a brief passage that echoes last Sunday’s parable of the foolish rich man. The disciples are advised to “sell your possessions and give alms... For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” If this section is not read, the Sunday faithful will never hear the wisdom of this latter saying, as its counterpart in Matthew 6:21 never appears.

With Jesus’ story of the master and his servants, Luke seems to be striking a balance between expectations for an imminent parousia and the need to live in constant preparedness. The story itself is more encouraging than threatening. The servants who are ready and waiting for their master will find him reverse roles and wait on them. This appealing image might trigger associations with the washing of the feet in John.

The rest of the longer option is darker in tone. There is reference to violent and dissolute servants being cut off and sent to their fate and to lazy servants who will be whipped. Is Luke already aware of community leaders who have abused their positions of responsibility?

A judicious choice needs to be made between the longer and the shorter versions. The balance would certainly tip in favour of the shorter if the full second reading is read. One consideration may be that the critical warning - “the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect” - forms the climax of the shorter text.

Break Open the Word 2022