

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.



Image: "The Madonna of the Lilies" (1899) by William Adolphe Bouguereau

(1825-1905).

A Mother's Day Prayer

(www.dow.org.au/a-mothers-day-prayer/)

Mother's Day has been celebrated in Australia on the second Sunday of May since 1924. But, Catholics have been celebrating a sort of mother's day since the first few centuries of the Church. The fourth Sunday of Lent, or Laetare Sunday, traditionally was a time to return to your mother church (home parish) and leave an offering.

Those who practiced this custom were said to have gone "a-mothering", and soon it became known as "Mothering Sunday". As the popularity of "Mothering Sunday" grew, it became a day when domestic servants were given leave to be with their families. The day became one of the few times a year where a grown family could gather, as working families often had conflicting schedules. Once the tradition became a day for family reunion, with a reference to mothers in the name, it naturally evolved to include all mothers within the celebration. For children, the long walk back home became a time for picking flowers for mum, and this would grow to the tradition of giving gifts of all sorts to mothers.

In Catholic tradition, the month of May is dedicated to Mary. Chosen by God above all other women, Mary's faith and obedience paved the way for the Incarnation. Her example teaches us faith, obedience, humility and most of all, how to love. As St Thomas of Villanova said, "If in this world any creature ever loved God with whole heart, with whole soul, and with whole mind, she was the creature."

"From Mary we learn to surrender to God's will in all things.

From Mary we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone.

From Mary we learn to love Christ her Son and the Son of God."

St Pope John Paul II

At the foot of the cross, her heart broke for Jesus, yet she accepted God's will not only for her Son, but for herself in her new role as mother to us all (cf. John 19:25-27). As we honour today our earthly mothers and mother figures - including stepmothers, relatives, guardians, close family friends and those who would be mothers - let us honour our heavenly mother as well. Those devoted to her are always led to her Son. For her wise counsel tells us, "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).

And so, we invite you to pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, You chose to put yourself - tiny, needy and helpless - into the nurturing and watchful hands of a human mother. Since then, every act of mothering, both physical and spiritual, in every time and every corner of the world recalls Mary's. Inspired by this example, we, too, honour our mothers and mother figures today. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers and nurturers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, honour them always with a spirit of profound respect. We ask this in your holy name. Amen.

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

all correspondence to:

86 Mayona Road,
Montmorency Vic 3094
9435 4742

eltham@cam.org.au

montmorency@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler:

Parish Secretary

Tue-Fri 9am-3pm

Peter Williams:

Child Safety Officer

SFX&OLHC.ChildSafety@cam.org.au

Kerry Mash:

Volunteer

Wed & Fri 10am-3pm

Websites:

www.pol.org.au/montmorency

www.pol.org.au/eltham

Facebook:

[St Francis Xavier Parish Montmorency](#)

Monty & Eltham Newsletter & Facebook items:

eltham@cam.org.au

Schools

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Acting Principal: Mark Pinkerton: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Friday 12

9:30am Mass

Eltham

10:30am Funeral: Pat O'Connor

Montmorency

Saturday 13

11:00am Funeral: Lita Lee

Montmorency

6:00pm Mass

Montmorency

Sunday 14

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Tuesday 16

9:30am Mass (& SFX Yr 1)

Montmorency

10:00am Craft Group

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

1:00pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

7:30pm Rosary for Our Lady's Month of May

Eltham

Thursday 18

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

Friday 19

9:30am Mass

Eltham

2:00pm Wedding

Eltham

Saturday 20

12:00pm Baptisms: Harper, Georgia

Montmorency

6:00pm Mass

Montmorency

Sunday 21

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

12:00pm Baptisms: Oscar & Theodore

Eltham

Tuesday 23

9:30am Mass (& SFX Preps & Yr 6)

Montmorency

7:30pm Small Church Community

Montmorency

Wednesday 24 - Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

10:30am ASRC Food Collection

Montmorency

7:30pm Rosary for Our Lady's Month of May

Eltham

Thursday 25

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

Friday 26

9:30am Mass (& OLHC School) OLHC Feast Day Eltham

Saturday 27

6:00pm Mass

Montmorency

Sunday 28

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

10:00am Mass

Eltham

Tuesday 30

9:30am Mass (& SFX Yr 5)

Montmorency

Wednesday 31

6:30am Meditation

Montmorency

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Eltham

7:30pm Rosary for Our Lady's Month of May

Eltham

Thursday 1 June

9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

2:00pm Mass

St Vincent's Care Eltham

Friday 2

9:30am Mass

Eltham

Saturday 3 - St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

12:00pm Baptisms: Ilara

Montmorency

6:00pm Mass

Montmorency

Sunday 4 - Holy Trinity Feast Day

8:30am Mass

Montmorency

RECONCILIATION

available half an hour before
any weekday or weekend Parish Mass.

Collections: 23 & 30 April 2023

	OLHC	SFX
Thanksgiving		
Cash	\$1,357.00	\$1,320.00
Credit	\$1,583.96	\$5,022.00
Presbytery		
Cash	\$817.75	\$798.75
Credit	\$550.00	\$680.00

Stewardship Offering

Month	OLHC	SFX	Total
February	\$5,345.56	\$8,405.00	\$13,750.56
March	\$5,590.48	\$10,815.00	\$16,405.48
April	\$6,822.52	\$10,517.00	\$17,339.52



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

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

Lita Lee & Pat O'Connor

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Warren Beaton, Patricia Longton, Angelina Spiller

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Gay, Gayle, Helen, Maurice, Edwinda Bacani, Perly Bacani, Rita Bevanda, Maria Bredle, Kim Brisbane, Feliksa Chwasta, Pat Collins, Debbie Edgley (nee Vanderwert), Ysabelle Fanlo, Alana Foulds, Bob Fraser, Melanie Lam, Lita Lee, Cindy Morrissey, Andrew Pighin, Aquatha Spina

Eltham

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Violetta, Bill Boyce, David Campbell, Shannon Donahoo, Jade McAlear, Beth Morganti, 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.

A Mother's Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

*Please watch over
and support all mothers
on earth and in heaven . . .*

*and help them to know how much
they are loved and appreciated
on Mother's Day and every day.*



Doreen Virtue
EarthAngel.com



Marion Month of May

Rosary for Our Lady's Month of May
will be at
Our Lady Help of Christians
at 7:30pm every Wednesday during May.

For further information,
please contact Parish Office 9435 4742.

Roster for THIS WEEKEND: 13/14 May

Azzopardi, Michael	E10:00
Cotter, Anne	W8:30
Davidson, John	W8:30
Dopheide, Marlis	E10:00
Haines, Geoff	C10:00
Kulkens, Mark	W6:00
Leahy, Colin	H10:00
Leahy, Michelle	H10:00
McEwen, Christopher	R10:00
Nolan, Kathleen	PRYR
Reardon, Kathy	ASE
Reardon, Kathy	E10:00
Reardon, Peter	E10:00
Said, Marie	ASRC
Said, Mike	ASRC
Scully, Helen	ASE
Smith, Neil	E10:00
Stewart Family	PRSE
Wallace, Kathryn	W6:00

Roster for NEXT WEEKEND: 20/21 May

Armstrong, Miranda	H10:00
Capuana, Marisa	PRYR
Donnellan, Denice	E10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	C10:00
Dopheide, Marlis	H10:00
Dunell, Linda	ASE
Dunell, Linda	E10:00
Foxley, David	R10:00
French, Jossie	W8:30
Haines, Geoff	E10:00
Haines, Jan-Marie	E10:00
Love, Philip	W8:30
Maynes, Phil	W6:00
McAlear, Peter	ASRC
Northrop, Greg	E10:00
Williams, Peter	W6:00
Zavadi Family	PRSE

ASE = Altar Society @ Eltham; C = Commentator; E = Euch. Minister;
H = Hospitality; PRSE = Pilgrim Rosary Statue @ Eltham;
W = Minister of the Word; R = Reader



Six hundred and fifty years since Julian of Norwich composed *Revelations of Divine Love*, a novelist dwells on her life as an anchoress / By Victoria MacKenzie

A tale of two lockdowns

I don't remember the first time I came across Julian of Norwich, perhaps because she's such a beloved figure and surfaces in so many different contexts. Her phrase "All Shall Be Well" has certainly entered public consciousness. But I do know that it was her experience as an anchoress that drew me to her as a subject for a novel. I'd been nurturing the seed of writing about her for a year or so and during lockdown in 2020 I started writing it. Inevitably, my own experience of lockdown - both good and bad - found its way into my imagining of Julian's life.

An anchoress (the female form of "anchorite") is usually enclosed in a single room and cannot leave the room on pain of excommunication. Anchoresses were expected to die in their cells and some were even buried in them. Julian's cell was attached to the church of St Julian in Norwich, from which she took her name. She was probably about 40 when she entered it, and she died 30 or so years later.

Thirty years in one room! It struck me as incredibly radical and counter-intuitive to choose a life of such denial and restriction. As a writer, I wanted to imagine how it would feel to be in a single room for so many years. What was it like physically? I tried to imagine the cold, and the inability to stretch her legs and get fresh air. I wondered what it was like mentally - how would it change her ideas about the world, and maybe even her sense of self?

Julian's book, *Revelations of Divine Love*, describes a series of 16 visions (or "shewings") that she experienced aged 30, in 1373. At the time, she was suffering from a fever and was so close to



Julian of Norwich is portrayed in a stained-glass window of the city's Anglican cathedral.

death that she was given the Last Rites by her priest. In her visions she sees Christ dying on the cross and she actually shares in his bodily pain. But she doesn't understand why God has given her these shewings, and it's possible that she became an anchoress in order to have time to reflect on them.

She did not share her visions with many people for fear of being accused of heresy. This was a very real fear, since the

punishment for heresy at the time was to be burnt at the stake. Instead, she wrote about her shewings and in her book she reflects on their meaning. I was immediately struck by Julian's calm, contemplative voice, and the literary qualities of her writing. She uses many rhetorical devices such as the rule of three, alliteration, repetition and metaphor; *Revelations of Divine*

Love is a book of fine literature as well as sophisticated theology. When creating a voice for her in my novel, I tried to emulate some of Julian's literary techniques as well as her calm tone. It's not known if Julian showed her book to anyone in her lifetime, nor how it left her cell, so I imagined a scenario in which her book entered the world.

Julian seemed like someone who would be observant of her surroundings, and it was here that my own lockdown experience influenced my writing. Julian's world was much reduced, but what she could see and hear and smell would have been all the more vivid and significant. During lockdown, with less need for paying attention to "clock time", I became more aware of how the passing of time was marked by the natural world. So I imagined Julian in her cell, looking out of her window and tracing the passing of the days and months through the unfurling of leaves on a tree outside her window, the arrival of swallows, and the scent of freshly cut hay on the breeze.

For me, there's something a little misty and ethereal about the term "mystic", so I wanted to create an earthly, flesh-and-blood character for Julian. There's precious little autobiographical detail in her own book - we don't even know her real name - so I had a blank canvas to fill. But although I was writing fiction, I wanted to create a life story for her that was plausible within the limits of what we know about medieval women and society at that time. In Julian's lifetime, Norwich was struck by successive waves of the plague (known then as the "pestilence"). An estimated 40 per cent of the population was killed, so it seemed likely that Julian's life was touched by grief - which is why in my novel she loses many people who are close to her. Writing at a time when so many people were affected by Covid-19 was a sobering experience and something of that atmosphere of collective fear and

anxiety no doubt found its way into my writing too.

Once Julian has entered her cell, I didn't shy away from thinking about her as someone with bodily needs, as well as emotional frailties. I wanted that calm, contemplative voice that shines through in *Revelations of Divine Love* to be hard won, so in the early months of her life as an anchoress I show her experiencing feelings of frustration and restlessness, and an inability to concentrate - feelings that many of us experienced in lockdown too. It's only over time that she gains control over her thoughts, through prayer and contemplation, through writing her book, and by participating (through another small window in her cell) in church services.

I don't have any religious faith myself, but there are a number of people I'm very close to who do. It was important to me to be empathetic to Julian's faith, and to accept her shewings on her own terms rather than trying to give them a modern interpretation. And despite not having religious faith, I nonetheless found enormous comfort in Julian's words. Researching and writing my novel kept my mind steady during the long weeks and months of the pandemic, at a time when it was easy to submit to doom-scrolling and compulsively reading the news. I was also struck by the extent to which Julian's theology is one of love and inclusivity. It's a theology of kindness, one that seeks to reassure rather than threaten. It seemed clear to me that she would be very compassionate to the visitors who came to her cell, who wanted to pray with her or ask for her advice about their life and spiritual journeys.

Although the best-known part of *Revelations* is the phrase "All shall be well, and all shall be well and all manner of thing shall be well", I found that Julian's message of reassurance wasn't glib or blind to the difficulties and sorrows of life. One of the

quotations I use in my novel, and which I suggest Julian returns to in order to comfort herself, is: "Christ did not say, 'You shall not be perturbed, you shall not be troubled, you shall not be distressed,' but he said, 'You shall not be overcome.'" She doesn't try to pretend that life is easy, but believes we can endure its sorrows and find lasting peace by accepting God's love.

My novel culminates in the meeting between Julian and Margery Kempe, a contemporary who also experienced visions of Christ. We know this meeting occurred because Margery describes it in her autobiographical work, *The Book of Margery Kempe*. Margery is a very different character from Julian - she's loud, boastful and far from serene, and part of the enjoyment of writing my book was in contrasting the voices of these two remarkable women.

It was important to me that Julian was sympathetic to Margery, despite Margery's somewhat difficult personality, and I use the meeting between them as an opportunity to share with the reader some of what I felt were Julian's most important theological ideas, including that God loves us all, regardless of what we do, because sin is not as important to God as love. Julian tells Margery that God is a mother as well as a father, and that as God's children we should turn to Him when we fall (or sin), as we turned to our mothers when we were children, for comfort rather than punishment. She exhorts Margery to pray and to love her own children, and tells her that God does not require her to mortify her own flesh. Instead, Margery should marvel at the world God has given us, and be humble, but above all, be compassionate. These still feel like wise words, and are as relevant and necessary as ever.

Victoria MacKenzie is a fiction writer and poet who lives in Scotland. For Thy Great Pain Have Mercy On My Little Pain is published by Bloomsbury.



Happy Mother's Day

Happy Mother's day to all mothers in our parish community and thank you for all the work you do for your family and the community.

The Montmorency conference of SVDP have some booklets that may be of interest to parishioners that will assist in celebrating Mother's day. Pamphlets are in the front foyer near the entrance doors. Some of the pamphlets include:

- Celebrate Mothers
- Prayers of A Catholic Mother
- Prayers for a new Mother
- Praying for Grandparents
- Celebrate Grandparents

We hope that you enjoy the selection. Please feel free to browse all the pamphlets. A gold coin donation in the poor boxes located at the front and side entrances will help defray costs.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer with St Vincent de Paul through our conference? If so, please contact John on 0410 128 821 or the Parish Office.

If you need assistance call 1800 305 330 Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm.



Vinnies Eltham have been experiencing a high demand from people with very limited cooking facilities. We are requesting help with provision of the following items:

- ◆ Full Cream Long Life Milk
- ◆ Sugar Sticks
- ◆ Coffee and Tea (small)
- ◆ Cup Noodles
- ◆ Vegetable Soup
- ◆ Porridge in Pouches
- ◆ Small Weetbix
- ◆ Fruit in Plastic Pots
- ◆ Biscuits, Sweet and Savoury
- ◆ Packets of Biscuits & Cheese
- ◆ Tin Fish
- ◆ Toilet Rolls



Thank you



Beanies! Scarves! Socks!

Now the cold nights and days begin to bite we are drawn more than ever to think of those who live on the streets. We feel overwhelmed by the crisis going on around us. We are not able to help everyone but something is better than nothing. If you can spare any clean beanies, scarves or socks for adults or children, please place them in the basket provided in the Church porch. They will be handed out to those in need by volunteers who work on the nightly soup kitchens. Thank you.

'whenever you did it to one of these, you did it to me'

Patsy Skipper: 0429 439 675



Let us give thanks for the gift of God's mothering love:

- For all women who care for the very young, the sick, aged and those with special needs.
- For women who teach and nurture the faith.
- For all women awaiting the birth of a child.
- For grandmothers who rejoice in their grandchildren.
- For women who mourn the loss of their mum or the absence of their mum or the absence of a child.
- May the Risen Christ be our hope and joy and May Almighty God bless each of you. **Amen.**

Blessing

Go forth from this place with joy; go forth with hope.

Go forth from this place with remembering hearts, grateful for all that we have shared.

Go forth with arms held wide, open to what God sends to us for merciful embrace.

Go forth from this place with feet that itch to continue the dance and to walk the roads of mercy.

Go forth from this place with enthusiastic faith in God and in one another until we meet again.

May God the Trinity of love - Creator, Word and Wisdom - bless each one on her way.

Mary Wickham rsm; Souvenirs of Spirit - Poems and Prayers



Where would we be without our mothers?

This week, in the lead-up to Mother's Day, we are delighted to share the stories of some inspiring mums — as well as a grandmother and great grandmother — women whose gifts, faithfulness, prayers and loving perseverance are a blessing to their families, their communities and the Church.



Carolina Cetenaeski is a Brazilian mother, a recent immigrant to Australia and a member of Mothers who Pray for their Children, a 70,000-strong movement that began in the Portuguese-speaking world but that — thanks to Carolina's attentiveness to God's call — is branching out into English-speaking communities, including right here in Australia. Carolina tells us about this exciting development.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/mothers-who-pray-for-their-children-restoring-families-by-the-power-of-prayer>



Associate Professor Natasha Michael is a leading palliative care physician and Director of Palliative Care at Cabrini Health, as well as a wife, mother and woman of deep faith. Dr Michael gave a moving address at the recent Melbourne Catholic Professionals luncheon, which was attended by more than 200 people. Drawing on her fascinating life story, she shared her insights on how we might live out our faith in our own lives and workplaces, including a reminder to 'always listen to your mother!'

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/work-as-a-mode-of-prayer-reflections-of-a-palliative-care-physician>
<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/surround-yourself-with-greatness-over-200-attend-professionals-luncheon>



We also meet Guiditta Marson, a parishioner at St Mary's in Thornbury. St Mary's might be celebrating its 100-year anniversary this year — a tremendous milestone — but it is yet to catch up to its oldest parishioner, Guiditta, who at 102 is still embracing life with the spirit and energy of a much younger woman. Originally from Italy, Giuditta shares the inspiring story of how she found a rich and fulfilling life in a new land.

<https://melbournecatholic.org/news/giuditta-marson-102-years-young-and-going-strong>

As always, there is plenty going on in the life of our Archdiocese and beyond—signs of grace and life are all around us. Make sure you check out the rest of our news, stories and events below.

And don't forget to offer a prayer for mothers everywhere this Mother's Day.



Aid to the Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

The Catholic Charity *Aid to the Church in Need* has launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign.

Did you know that in 2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria?

These were not Nigerians who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death.

This is a Church being crucified with Christ.

To watch testimonies and to make an offering visit www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal or scan the QR code



SENDING LOVE TO ALL OF YOU

@rachgarrett



those yearning to be mothers



those who are mothers



those who have never had a mother



mothers who have lost children



those who have lost their mother



mothers and children with love-filled relationships



mothers and children with strained relationships



those who have chosen not to be mothers



those who love children that are not their own

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'



Reflection:

Apart from a couple of intervening verses, today's gospel picks up from where last Sunday's left off. It continues Jesus' intimate imparting of wisdom to his inner circle. The whole discourse can be seen as an elaboration of the last verse of the prologue to John's gospel: "no one has ever seen God; it is the Son, who is nearest the Father's heart, who has made him known" (1:18).

In the process of making God known to his disciples, Jesus now talks of another who will reveal the mystery of divine love to the disciples. The Paraclete (known by this name only in John) is presented at different times as defence lawyer, counsellor, helper and comforter, all of which have their import. This Spirit of Truth (another unique title in John) will help them understand the meaning of Jesus' departure and the paradox of his continuing presence. He will dwell in them and they in him.

Jesus' words are simple yet profound. Those who minister them to the assembly have the privilege of ushering their hearers into the holy of holies that is the communion of love between Father, Son and Spirit. This is a reading that calls for a relatively slow and meditative delivery that is also strongly affirmative. We will return to the gospel of John for a final passage on Pentecost Sunday.

Break Open the Word 2023

Prayers of the Faithful for 14 May 2023 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Leader: Lord God, in the peace of your presence, we come to you to offer our prayers today.

For lay people who have positions of responsibility in the Church: that they employ their charisms to give witness to the Gospel and to support the community of faith.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who work in government: that they listen to the people and work to bring about a more just society.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those Christians in places where they are persecuted for their faith: that they never lose hope in the Risen Christ.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all mothers: as we honour Mary in the month of May, may we also pay tribute today to mothers throughout the world. May they be blessed and supported in their role as nurturers and first teachers of their children.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the young: that they strive to protect the environment and the planet.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those in need of healing, in mind, body or spirit: that they will receive the blessings of God and will be supported by our prayers and assistance.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who have died recently especially: *Lita Lee & Pat O'Connor*, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, *Warren Beaton, Patricia Longton & Angelina Spiller*. May they dwell in the Lord's own house for ever and ever.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, Christ promised his apostles that he would pray to you on our behalf, so we offer these prayers today through Jesus your Son.

All: Amen