

The Catholic Parish of Sacred Heart & St Columba

Our Parish is a Christian community which welcomes all to walk together in a spirit of compassion, justice and hope.



PARISH NEWSLETTER 13 / 14 June 2020 Body and Blood of Christ

St Columba Church

cnr Glenhuntly & Normandy Rds
Elwood 3184

Sacred Heart Church

83 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182

St Columba Primary School

24 Glenhuntly Road Elwood 3184
9531 6120;
www.stcolumbasprimary.org

Sacred Heart Mission

87 Grey Street, St Kilda West 3182
9537 1166;
www.sacredheartmission.org

PARISH HOUSE

2 Normandy Road, Elwood 3184
03 9531 6120; shsc@shscparish.org.au
www.shscparish.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr John Petrus
john@shscparish.org.au

Pastoral Associate: Christine Mitchell
christine@shscparish.org.au

Youth Minister: India Mitchell-Fletcher
indiashsc@hotmail.com

Parish Administrator: Jane Hearn
jane@shscparish.org.au

SHM Pastoral Care Workers: Belle Hann
bhann@sacredheartmission.org

St Columba Principal:
Daniella Maddalena
dmaddalena@scelwood.catholic.edu.au

Deputy Principal: Bern Bradley
bernb@scelwood.catholic.edu.au

REC: Natalie Cromie
ncromie@scelwood.catholic.edu.au

Parish Safeguarding Committee:
Fr John Petrus, Christine Mitchell,
Daniella Maddalena, India Mitchell-
Fletcher and Jane Hearn

Parish Visiting Team: Lay Pastoral Care
Group; Legion of Mary Groups
Call or email the Parish Office.

A Message from our Leadership Group, the PLDT to Fellow Parishioners.

This Sunday's feast of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi takes us to the heart of the Eucharist. In the fifth century, St Augustine described the Eucharist as being about three things: goodness, unity and charity. Augustine said that if we did not work for unity and love each other away from the Eucharist, then it has failed to achieve its purpose...whenever and wherever our lives are broken and poured out in love, we will discover that Corpus Christi is... being sent by Christ to serve our sisters and brothers as generously as we can with sacrificial love..."

St Augustine's description provides context for the situation we have found ourselves in since March where every aspect of our lives as we have lived it has more or less, either ground to a halt or at the very least, we have been forced to dramatically alter how we live, work and study. As a parish, we experienced our first anguish when we had to stop our masses in our churches, in our classrooms and in our hostel. The symbol of the closed doors of the church is a powerful reminder of our loss. We lost physical access to our priest, to our Eucharist, to our prayer groups, to our committees, to our social activities, to one another. Three months later we find ourselves slowly and tentatively emerging out into the physical world still with a lack of clarity and a cloud of the unknown hanging above us.

At a recent meeting of our leadership group, the Parish Leadership and Development Team (PLDT) spent some time discussing how we have walked with one another at this time. How have we travelled as a parish? What reflections of that journey can we share our parishioners? For those who read former parishioner, Kelley's comments on her experience of joining our online social activity, Mingle on Monday, Kelley spoke of the church closest to where she now lives in Ireland that has a big sign outside, stating: "Closed. Keep Out". Our leadership group felt that this is not a description that would fit our response to our parish during this time. There was talk that we can liken this journey to being on a pilgrimage rather than an enduring journey. To be on a pilgrimage is acknowledging that you are sharing it with God and others, rather than functionally surviving it. How we make our way in pilgrimage makes a difference.

Members of the PLDT realised that one of the key messages or points we have found is that the pandemic has forced us to think a lot more creatively and differently about how we engage. We are a dynamic parish that has taken up the challenges of this time and adapted to overcome these challenges. We have moulded ourselves into different forms of communication.

Even though parishioners can't see us face-to-face and we can't see many of them, we are still here, visible and still working together, doing our best to keep people connected through this time via technology. We have embraced the zoom app through our smart phones and iPads to hold meetings, to give our parish groups the ability to maintain their gatherings. We have continued to provide faith formation to those waiting enter our Catholic tradition. We have utilised our website to take our masses into all our homes, to provide health and well-being information, prayers to sustain and online social activities which keeps us connected and joyful.

(cont.)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP GROUP, THE PLDT TO FELLOW PARISHIONERS (CONT.)

It's never been truer than now that church is about community, it's not about buildings or the physical structure. This situation has been a real test for our resilience and how we are able to band together as a church community and we have really sought to do this over this time regardless of the fact that buildings have been closed. We are fortunate so many stepped forward offering to make or deliver meals or shopping, or offering to guide others in learning how to use technology. We remembered that many only have telephones with which to communicate so we formed the branches of a telephone tree to ensure that our community members did not languish in isolation. Vine and branches....

As always, when something is taken away from you, you realise how much you took it for granted, and hopefully when we get it all back, we will appreciate so much more of what we had. However, there will be learnings of this that we would like to take forward. It has presented opportunities as well to come at things differently and we need to make sure that those advantages stay.

To be a pilgrim people in the world is to journey with others and to learn from one another. For us, as a leadership team, as a church, we are in the world as a sign of the heart of Jesus walking with others.

Our lives have been broken and we have responded with an outpouring of love, seeking to serve one another as generously as we can in goodness, unity and charity.

PRAYER BY FIONA LYNCH

One of our PLDT members has penned the following poem to describe our call as the Body of Christ to one another.

Onus

Our onus—to build a church
without stonemason, pail,
scaffolding or nail.
To dismantle oak
so that sinew, yours and mine
become the nave, and set her spine.
To name you friend
and not leave you alone,
warms her blood, shapes her bones.

A spirit level calibrates
a brickless church
with a single measure—
it is on us
to be around you
until we all remember—
there is just one of us. 11 June 2020

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today we stand in footsteps millennia old. May we acknowledge the Elders, families and forebears of the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri tribes of the Kulin Nations, who are the traditional custodians of our parish land, whose cultures and customs have nurtured, and continue to nurture, this land since men and women awoke from the great dream. We honour the presence of these ancestors who reside in the imagination of this land and whose irrepressible spirituality flow through all creation.

WONDERFUL TO HAVE MASSES AGAIN

"There was so much excitement when we opened our doors for Mass for the first time in months. Before and after Mass, people were busy catching up on news from one another, there was lots of chatter, laughter and joy as people gathered in the church.

There were some difficult moments, one parishioner said that in her fifty-five years of coming to the church, she never thought that we would be under such restrictions as sitting in allocated seating areas and asked not to sing. It was even more difficult when people who had not registered came and we had to say sadly, we were full and they left. In turn, there were about a third of people in one church and almost half in another who had registered and didn't turn up which made it even more sad when we realised we had turned some away who could have come in. A couple of people contacted the Pastoral Associate to say they were ill and could not make it, thank you for that.

As we try to tweak this system:

- We remind everyone that to attend one of our five masses you need to register by ringing the office or via the website and we will contact you to let you know that your place is confirmed or a space has been allocated to you for the following week.
- If you have a confirmed spot and know that you will not be attending, please call us. We understand that sometimes things come up at the last moment.
- Please be on time as once Mass begins we are under direction to shut the doors and not re-open them.
- If we are about to shut the door and cannot see anyone who has registered close-by, then anyone waiting outside will be offered a place.

We are trying to be fair to all and we ask for your patience and support during this time.



shutterstock.com • 486894838

REFUGEE WEEK: 14 JUNE - 20 JUNE

Theme: celebrating the year of *welcome*. The team from Justice for People Seeking Asylum reminds us that a more welcoming country doesn't start with politicians, it starts with us. They have provided us with the following prayer for the week.

*Loving God,
We pray for the world's refugees,
They have experienced trauma beyond our imagining.
God of healing, bring them healing.
They endure the most trying of circumstances.
God of strength, bring them strength.
They face an uncertain future.
God of hope, bring them hope.*

*We pray for the countries from which refugees come,
They are experiencing conflict.
God of healing, bring them healing.
Their people are torn apart by violence & other types of persecution.
God of strength, bring them strength.
They face a difficult future.
God of hope, bring them hope.*

*We pray for refugees who have resettled in Australia.
They have experienced great loss.
God of healing, bring them healing.
They are building new lives in a foreign land.
God of strength, bring them strength.
They are courageously carving out a future.
God of hope, bring them hope.*

*We pray for asylum seekers living in Australia.
They have experienced great loss.
God of healing, bring them healing.
They may never see their families again.
God of strength, bring them strength.
They have no certainty about their future.
God of hope, bring them hope.*

*We pray for asylum seekers detained on Manus Island & Nauru
They are experiencing great pain
God of healing, bring them healing.
They live in harsh and difficult conditions
God of strength, bring them strength.
They are losing hope.
God of hope, bring them hope.*

*We pray for our nation
We have hardened our hearts against refugees
God of healing, bring us healing
We have grown weary of caring
God of strength, give us strength
We need to find a better way forward,
God of hope, bring us hope.*

ST COLUMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Columba's scoops up 2 awards at prestigious ResourceSmart School Awards!

Our fabulous Steph Young was the well deserving winner of the Teacher of the Year (Primary) and our wonderful Green Team were crowned School Community Volunteer of the Year.

The Awards recognise and reward the outstanding sustainability efforts of Victorian primary and secondary schools that contribute to a better place - and we are incredibly proud of Steph and the Green Team for their amazing efforts.

To read more visit the school website:

<https://www.stcolumbasprimary.org/st-columbas-scoops-up-2-awards-at-prestigious-resourcesmart-school-awards/>

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

"Prayer is what keeps the faith, without it, faith wavers"

Pope Francis

All Recently Deceased: Kerry Clancy (Meg Taylor's father)

1st Anniversaries: Alan Reed 2.6, Russell Mogg, Elizabeth Rodgers, Tom Bucks, Maria Newbigin, Rahman Ymer, Brian Stewart, Michael Nardella

Anniversaries: Rory Kelly, Kerry Bryant, Stephen Niva, Adriana Sicalece, Maria di Muzio, (Gerald) Gem Buckley, Margaret Selleck, Andrew Williams, Dr John McNamara David Porteous, Patrick Morgan, Talia Johnson, Fr Frank Jones, Paula Williams, Kate Clarke Gabrialla Pozo Jane Flannery, Betty Makeham, Louise Mason, Lorna Feeney, Michele & Maria Pescatore, Nicola & Maria Duca, John (Giovanni) I Lacona, Sally Dilena Anniversaries: Rosemary Hayes, William Wilson, Gail Arnold, Patrick O'Shaughnessy, Patrick Corr, John Stalker 8.6, Judith Smith 25.6, Stanley Wilson 27.6, David Barry, Lucia Scott Di Minico 20.6.13, Joyce Fletcher 11.6.13, Norma Morton 6.6.13, Heinz Koepke, Francesco De Cicco 26.6, Rita Tyley 9.6, Bob Coburn 12.6.11, Jimmy Collins 22.6.11, Marie Butt, Christopher Rodgers, Patricia James, Max Pitman 17.6.10, Pat Barry 6.6.09, Michael Cooper 24.6.59, Bryse Allinson 21.6.07, Ross Cooney 8.6.08, Bob Killops 17.6.07, Emmanuel Pace 21.6.07, Francisca Dos Santos 11.6.95, Marichie Cardenas 26.6.99, Jock Lyburn 20.6.06, James Madigan, Guiseppe Presti 13.6.96

Sick: Rikki, Maggie McEwan, Marjorie Younger, Jan Robertson.

Please contact Jane at the parish office if you would like a family member or friend added to the prayer lists.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14-16

Responsorial Psalm:

Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel: John 6: 51-58

OUR LITURGICAL CALENDAR

MONDAY 15 June - SUNDAY 21 June

We are restricted to 20 people at each mass. Please register your interest in attending ASAP via our website or email / phone the parish office. Thank you.

THURSDAY 11am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

FRIDAY 9am Mass at St Columba Church

SATURDAY 6pm MASS at St Columba Church

SUNDAY 9am MASS at St Columba Church

11am MASS at Sacred Heart Church

Gospel: Matthew 10: 26-33

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP PETER: THURSDAY 11 JUNE 2020, ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

In his latest video message to the faithful, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli reflects on the upcoming Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) and our spiritual hunger for Jesus, especially during this time of COVID-19. He also contemplates the different ways we hunger for the Body of Christ to manifest in our own lives and in wider society: "I'm particularly mindful of the hunger our First Peoples have for their identity in the land ... whether we're First Peoples or settlers or migrants - we hunger for the good of each of our people and that this land might be a sign and witness of how to live well with one another."

Visit <https://youtu.be/VYLMT-2Qcbs> to hear Archbishop Peter's message

SERVICE AND SUPPORT

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported Fr John and the parish financially during these difficult times. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have dropped envelopes off, made direct debit payments and to those who have swapped from envelopes to our great online support app tithe.ly. [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) is a great way to set up a regular giving system and can easily be downloaded via the App Store - just search for 'Catholic Parish of Sacred Heart and St Columba'. Below are some tables showing the usage of tithe.ly prior to masses ceasing and during the Covid19 mass restrictions. As you will notice many of the donations are recurring which is such a blessing for our Parish.

01/10/2019 - 31/12/2020

01/01/2020 - 04/02/2020

1st Collection	\$299.15	\$288.50
2nd Collection	\$63.00	\$42.00
Donation	\$92.35	\$0
Fees	-\$15.20	-\$10.45
TOTAL	\$439.60	-\$320.05



01/04/2020 - 30/04/2020	Amount	Total Gifts	Total Donors	No. new donors	% recurring
1st Collection	\$735.58	42	16	7	74%
2nd Collection	\$1,008.27	54	23	13	65%
Donation	\$128.33	3	3	2	0%
Fees	-\$65.16				
TOTAL	\$1,807.02				

01/05/2020 - 31/05/2020	Amount	Total Gifts	Total Donors	No. new donors	% recurring
1st Collection	\$818.04	50	15	2	92%
2nd Collection	\$1,216.85	60	20	3	85%
Donation	\$72.27	3	3	0	0%
Fees	-\$77.88				
TOTAL	\$2,029.28				

