

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.

Good News & Bad News

- *theft from Eltham - the Sunday collections stolen*

On Monday morning, the 2 parishioners designated to bank the parish collection found the 'safe' empty! The 'safe' key was in its special place and all security seemed normal. The only oddity's that we found was that the sacristy door was closed and not locked, and the door next to the church organ was also closed and not locked.

Thus, after a thorough investigation and conversation with a team of locals rostered on over the weekend from the parish community, police have been informed and a report written. The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne has been notified and the Church insurance branch, CCI, has been contacted. Because of our normal procedures and practices we know the exact amount taken and cheque's that have not been presented. The amount involved in this robbery was \$1,284.55. Sad but true!

It will not surprise anyone, that new security measures will now be put in place to protect our weekly contributions from further disruptions, and that these measures will be designed with a minimum of fuss to our Catholic community.

Naturally, I ask you to pray for people who commit such crimes and ask your forgiveness for their actions.

- *the good news, is that no damage or breakages were sustained in this illegal activity and therefore no repair works need to be undertaken in our church*
- *should anyone know of any suspicious activity on Sunday afternoon or evening by a person known or unknown - please don't hesitate to contact us at the parish office.*



Four large funerals were held in our Parishes over the past week:

Joan Stanhope, Joan Nikl (Caddy), Bernie Laymas & Bill Hogan, each had a uniqueness and strength with amazing families, relatives and friends. The prayers, music, stories and photos directed to these four wonderful people included their strong faith life, and their passing will affect our parishes too. It was a privilege to know these people shared their gifts and talents to build healthy communities.

Three Opening School masses were also held in this past week, which involved new staff, students & families in our parishes of Eltham & Montmorency. I certainly enjoyed this energy too - as it's a great way to begin the new school year with prayer and hope for all that can be achieved in modern educational environments.

What might be install for us all next week?

Michael

Baptisms

This weekend we welcome to our Montmorency Parish Community on Sun at 12 noon:

Lachlan Freddie Dawson, son of Ben & Karen; and
Lucas Mark Coppola, son of Mark & Rochelle

Baptism Welcomes

This weekend we welcome to our Montmorency Parish Community on Sun at 9:30am Mass:

Evie Grace Porter, daughter of Sean & Drew
We pray for *Evie, Lachlan & Lucas*, their parents & Godparents.
May God keep them always in His love.

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

For more information visit www.sfxmonty.org

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



PARISH TEAMS & INFORMATION

OUR PEOPLE & OUR CONTACT DETAILS



Parish Priests

Terry Kean - Pastor in Solidum
terry.kean@cam.org.au

Michael Sierakowski - Moderator
michael.sierakowski@cam.org.au

Barry Caldwell

Parish Office

86 Mayona Road

9435 2178

Mon - Fri 9am-3pm

montmorency@cam.org.au

Gina Ang

Pastoral Worker & Caring Group Co-Ord

gina.ang@cam.org.au

Beth Krolkowski: Secretary

montmorency@cam.org.au

Kate Kogler: Secretary & Bulletin

eltham@cam.org.au

Peter Williams: Child Safety Officer

montmorency.childsafety@cam.org.au

Website: www.sfxmonty.org

www.olhc.info

Facebook:

[St Francis Xavier Parish Montmorency](#)

Monty & Eltham Newsletter & Facebook items:

eltham@cam.org.au

Schools

St Francis Xavier Primary School

Principal: Mr Philip Cachia: 9435 8474

principal@sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

www.sfxmontmorency.catholic.edu.au

Holy Trinity Primary School

Principal: Mr Vince Bumpstead: 9431 0888

principal@htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

www.htelthamnth.catholic.edu.au

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

Principal: Mr Chris Ray: 9439 7824

school@olhceltham.catholic.edu.au

www.olhceltham.edu.au



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

Montmorency

For the recently deceased:

Joan Nikl (Caddy), Bernie Laymas

For those whose anniversaries are at this time:

Marika Deylen, Ellen Fagan, Eileen Frawley, Eileen Hart, Verna Maloney, Mariano Dalla Riva, Grace Catherine Vincent, Richard Zann, Eileen Zann & Eva Zann

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Baby Kylie, Sriyani Algama, Nikki Attwood, Justine Best, Kristina Brazaitis, Daniel Brewis, Jan Collins, Desmond Deehan, Renee Eastwood, Debbie Edgley, Marilyn Fairbank, Julian Forrester, Danielle Gray, Gennie Hannon, Samuel Hauser (Kyabram), Colleen Hussin, Jim Hussin, Tina Inserra, Adrian Jones, Patsy Leed, Pat Longton, Hasti Momeni, Therese Moore, Patricia Mulholland, Montagna Mustica, Graham Neal, Geoffrey Nyssen, Mercy Ocson, Ron Pfeil, Susan Phelan, Andrew Pighin, Terry Said, Anthony Salvatore, Mary Salvatore, Maria Schroeders, Jeanette Steward, John Tobin, Remi Vulich, Sheryn Zurzolo

Eltham

For the recently deceased;

For those whose anniversaries are at this time;

For those in need of healing, remembering especially:

Baby Harriet Banks, Ak Callaghan, Jon D'Cruz, Ruth Decker, Fay Dobson, Simone Owen, Paul Rushbrook, Rosemary Scully

To include an anniversary please contact Parish House 9435 2178

RECENTLY DECEASED

St Francis Xavier Community offers its sincere condolences to the family and friends of:

Joan Nikl (Caddy)

and

Bernie Laymas

husband of Gerry

father/in-law of Christine (dec.), Peter, Debbie & Geoff (dec.)

Natalie & Laura

our thoughts & prayers are with you at this time.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 10:30am Monty ~ Terry
1/2 hr prior to any mass said by Michael

Collections last weekend: 1 & 2 Feb 2020

Community	Thanksgiving	Presbytery
Eltham	0	0
Montmorency	\$1,245.00	\$1,322.05

Please note the above figures are monies banked & do not include visa/mastercard or direct debits.
Thank you so much for your contributions.



Images were projected on the sails of the Sydney Opera House on Saturday in tribute to the work of firefighters

Hellfires up the ante down under

An army medical doctor, my grandfather Gordon Brodie, survived Japan's bombing of the Australian city of Darwin in February 1942. I often heard Grampy talking of this traumatic event, and he was delighted when I used his experience as a narrative device for telling the story of Australia during the Second World War in my first commercially successful book, *Kin*. He kept his copy bookmarked to his own section, so that he could point out to visitors his place in Australia's history.

As Christmas 2019 approached, 105-year-old Grampy lived in a nursing home in Wollondilly Shire, a little south-west of greater Sydney. I had hoped to visit him over Christmas. But there were major bush fires in the area, so I knew that access might be difficult. The 2019 fire season had already been one of Australia's worst, with multiple blazes raging since September. But the unprecedented seriousness of the crisis struck me when I noticed an alert had been issued for the large Green Wattle Creek fire, burning not far from Grampy. Dry and windy conditions were blasting it towards population centres, including his nursing home.

While Grampy and other vulnerable residents were being evacuated, prime minister Scott Morrison was in Hawaii on holiday. Because of a series of misjudged obfuscations, Morrison's trip had already become a public relations disaster. The prime minister who had infamously brought a lump of coal into Australia's federal parliament was strikingly absent during a disaster that most scientists - and fire chiefs - recognise is significantly driven by the effects of human-induced climate change. Only after two firefighters had been killed during operations in Grampy's shire did the prime minister opt to return to Australia.

A few days later I too was flying home, heading to the inland city of Wagga Wagga from Tasmania via Sydney. As my planes flew over a significant portion of

Australia's east coast I could witness the scale of the crisis - because I was unable to see very much at all. Though I

could easily make out the edge of the fires in Victoria, after that all I could see was a thick blanket of smoke. Only the snow-covered peaks of Mount Kosciuszko and its surrounds broke through the haze.

Landing at Wagga I switched on my mobile phone. I had missed a call from Dad. Grampy had died during my journey. I spent Christmas with family in nearby Junee, a railway town at the halfway point between Sydney and Melbourne. For the better part of a week, the region was clouded in the sort of thick smoke that suggested a nearby blaze, but which had in fact been blown from several hundred kilometres distant. It was the same massive blanket of smoke that was helping Canberra break international records for having the worst air quality in the world.

A few days after Christmas another fire started in a pine plantation some 60 kilometres (37 miles) away. This, the Dunns Road fire, spread by hundreds of hectares each day in the drought-afflicted landscape. As I borrowed a care and drove five hours up the highway to attend Grampy's funeral I was heading towards one major fire with another one developing behind me. At each rest on the drive I would assess the "Fires Near Me" phone app, navigating between various infernos with the help of this high-tech astrolabe.

The long drives up and back were apocalyptic. Thick smoke kept the holiday traffic unusually light, but visibility low. Only after the funeral did I drive through some of the most fire-ravaged areas, where charred sections of bushy suburbia bore witness to the conflagration. The day after the funeral, New Year's Eve, proved catastrophic. Ferocious fires were now striking popular holiday spots along the south-east coast of New South Wales and Victoria. Mallacoota's deep red skies rightly attracted the world's press attention, and

instigated a belated naval evacuation, but I was most interested in what was happening at Rosedale, near Batemans Bay, on the coast to the east of Canberra.

This is the bushy little village where our family holiday shack - Grampy's, in fact - sat atop a cliff overlooking a beach. One of the big fires was heading in that direction. Were it not for Grampy's funeral, some of my cousins would have still been there. That afternoon, the flames struck. Residents and holiday-makers fled to Rosedale's main beach, their backs to Tranquil Bay. They pointed phones at the cliffs and posted videos and images on social media of dunes aflame, trees burning, and houses exploding. Having often prepared for fires there in the past, it was like seeing a childhood nightmare come to life.

In one video, I could see Grampy's old boatshed burning at the beach's far end. I have been among the luck ones this season, never in real personal danger, but like everyone else, I am feeling the national trauma. More than two dozen people have been killed since October, more than two thousand homes destroyed, millions of acres lie devastated, roughly a billion animals have died, and the economic and emotional costs are practically unquantifiable.

Australia is still enduring a terrible bush fire crisis, afflicting every state and territory. Because of the fires, but also because of a Hawaiian holiday, an expensive and ill-timed campaign advertising Australia as a tourist destination, and a grossly insensitive campaign-style video issued by the prime minister's office belatedly spruiking the federal response, people have little confidence in the federal leadership. It is widely felt that state governments and the emergency services have performed admirably and even heroically, while charitable agencies and local communities and parishes have selflessly and sometimes courageously tended the suffering.

But the bush fires have put pressure on some of the bishops, whose enthusiasm for *Laudato Si'* has been decidedly mixed. While the bishops' conference president, Archbishop Mark Coleridge of Brisbane, announced that the Church is coordinating a national response to the crisis, other bishops have been notable for ignoring the unequivocal call in Pope Francis's encyclical for an urgent response to the crisis of climate change.

That the voluminous smoke from Australia is reportedly now affecting the skies over Argentina should give them cause to revisit Papa Bergoglio's prophetic words.

Nick Brodie is an Australian writer and historian. From The Table, 18 Jan 2020

Eltham News & Events



One of our parish dads, Duncan and his son Dom, spent some time in Tanzania late last year visiting a school that their family have been supporting since 2004 – one of the most amazing schools / communities on the planet – The School of St Jude.

The spirit of the school and the international community around it is inspiring and beautiful - come and experience it for yourself.

Come and hear St Jude's Australian founder, **Gemma Sisia** talk about her journey and **St Judes**.

Supper provided afterwards.

Date: Monday 16 March 2020 at 7:00pm

Venue: Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Eltham
2 Henry St, Eltham, Vic 3095

Please use the trybooking link to book we have limited space.

www.trybooking.com/BIDFM

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**Mansour**, Our Lady's barista extraordinaire, has many other talents as well. Having moved from Adelaide, he is currently looking for work. He has extensive experience in the hospitality industry as well as a van to use for moving / delivering/garden maintenance etc. No job is too small!

Please contact Mansour: 0450 308 482, or  
Marlis: 9439 7210



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Claire Dakkour, being an asylum seeker, receives no funding from the government. She would like to work in our community rather than rely on handouts from charitable organisations. Her people skills are excellent and her English is improving daily. She is using this to translate for other residents at Vincent Care. If anyone has one-off, part-time or casual work, please contact Claire: 0484 263 974, or
Marlis: 9439 7210

BookSwap



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On the lower shelf of the Children's Book Library, a space has been made for you to bring in your books and **swap** them with books for you to read and return at your leisure. Plenty of wanted and unwanted books.

There will be no sign in or sign out sheets required, simply a love of books and reading. This is an initiative of the Prayer Shawl Ministry for all to enjoy at **Eltham** as well as **Montmorency**.



## Montmorency News & Events

Words can't adequately express the deep gratitude we feel for the outpouring of love and respect, shown for our Mum/Grandma/Great Grandma - Joan Stanhope, over the past 3 weeks.

We would like, particularly, to thank the enormous effort put in by Frances and her catering group, who provided an amazing luncheon after the Funeral.

We are very humbled by everyone's generosity.

Thank you, from all the Stanhope Family.



Last Monday the *St Francis Xavier Community* farewelled our beloved **Joan Stanhope**. Joan's immense contribution to parish life over the last seven decades has made a deep impression, judging by the number of people who came forward to contribute to the hospitality in the hall following the Rosary and Requiem Mass.

The very generous efforts of those involved in preparing and serving food as well as setting up and cleaning up made for a beautiful "whole of parish" celebration.

A special thank you for the abundant and delicious plates of food which arrived all morning in the kitchen. It was such an obvious labour of love.

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Liturgy of the Word with Communion will commence in St Francis Xavier Parish on **Wednesday 5th February**.



Come along and join in this meaningful way of sharing our Faith journey together.

It is upon us to strengthen our Community always, but particularly in these times of change and uncertainty in our Church and world.

You are also invited to consider joining the team of those who facilitate these Liturgies.

Please give it some prayerful thought, we all have gifts to offer.
Contact Patsy Skipper (0429 439 675) or
Parish Office (9435 2178).



Sat 08 Feb 2020

Please pray *Art from Inside 2020* to have many entrants this year as prisons begin organising their schedules. We are already receiving interest from prison programs staff and we want this year to be a big one in regards to the number of artworks received. The theme is *Peace – Leave your anxiety with God*.

Sun 09 Feb 2020

Please pray for *Biscuit Bake 2020* to run smoothly and for our target for 86,000 biscuits to be achieved. This could not happen without the support of churches across Victoria.

Combined Parish News & Events

Sacraments for non Catholic school children

We, the parishes of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Francis Xavier, are starting sacrament sessions for *First Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation*.

If you, or someone you know, have a child or children in Grade 4 and above who may be interested, please fill in the form and return to our Parish Office before the due date. For further information, please contact Gina Ang on 9435 2178 or gina.ang@cam.org.au

Enrolment forms for sacraments are on the table in the gathering area.



Baptism preparation for children 5 and above

We are starting *Baptism Preparation* for children 5 and above from **Thursday, 27th February @ 4.15 pm**. It will be a 5 week session, preparing for baptism at Easter or later.

If you are interested, please contact Gina Ang, 9435 2178 or gina.ang@cam.org.au

OPEN DAY

16 Feb 2020

10am - 2pm Bundoora

10am - 2pm Preston

Click here to register



Catholic Mission

invites you to attend **St Valentine's Day High Tea**, to raise money for the war-ravaged people of **Cambodia**, assist the Eden Garden Home in Nagaland, **India** for 275 children, and investing in women's education programs in **Ethiopia**.

You are invited to join us for the



St Valentine's Day High Tea

Friday 14th February 2020 at Sofitel on Collins
Intense love does not measure. It just gives. - Mother Teresa

Friday 14th February, 4:30 to 7:00pm
Fitzroy Ballroom, Sofitel Melbourne on Collins
\$50/ticket, bingo & raffles tickets available to purchase on the day

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/BHEDP, by 10 Feb 2020

Contact: Catholic Mission 9412 8412 or catholicmission@cam.org.au

PHILIP NEW LIFE COURSE PRESENTED BY THE MELBOURNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF EVANGELISATION

6 Tuesday evenings, 8-9.30pm commencing 18th February at Loyola College (Youth Ministry Lounge), Watsonia.

This course offers participants an opportunity to deepen their relationship with God and a desire to share that with others. \$30.00 (for 6 sessions), \$25.00 Concession.

Register by **14th February**.

Bookings and enquiries: Sr Nelia Llanto, sjbp on 0411 361 081 or Email: llanto@loyola.vic.edu.au

Rose Rendina 0411 650 339

Catholic Ladies' College

A new decade

A new approach



BOOK IN FOR
OUR UPCOMING TOUR
**TUESDAY 18
FEBRUARY**
www.clc.vic.edu.au



OLHC FETE 2020

JOIN US!

FEBRUARY 23, 12-4PM
4 HENRY ST, ELTHAM

RIDES, FACE PAINT, CRAFT, FOOD, MYSTERY BOTTLES,
SPORTS CORNER, CHUCK FOR A CHOCIE CHILDREN'S ART,
STALL HOLDERS AND LOTS OF FAMILY FUN!
ALL WELCOME!

Volunteer Roster Co-Ordinator

Eltham Parish is in *desperate* need of a volunteer roster co-ordinator to manage the rosters and be a point of contact for updates and changes.

Please call the Parish Office (9435 2178) if you would be willing to help out.

Assistance will most definitely be provided to you, we just need a little help!

Montmorency & Eltham Google Calendar!

If you would like to keep up to date with *all* the happenings, events and special occasions in the *Montmorency & Eltham* parishes, please subscribe to our Google Calendar. <https://bit.ly/37K1nuM>

Eltham & Monty Rosters

If you need to make changes, please arrange a swap. Thank you.

<i>Eltham</i>	
Saturday 8 February - 6:00pm	
Commentator	Lorraine Furtado
Lector	Lionel Furtado
Eucharistic Ministers	John Gaspersz
	Karen Gaspersz
	Natisha Gaspersz
Sacristan	Ramos Furtado
Sunday 9 February - 9:30am	
Commentator	Greg Scully
Lector	Tanya Murugan
Eucharistic Ministers	Denice Donnellan
	Joan Gilbert
	Marian Goss
	Greg Northrop
	Sharyn Northrop
Sacristan	Jane Medeira
Altar Society	Gianna Milwain Vali Hall
Morning Tea	Gartland Family
Pilgrim Rosary Statue	Ryan Family
Counters	Rick Dunell Trish & Roger Daw
Saturday 15 February - 6:00pm	
Commentator	Jennie O'Dell
Lector	Elisabeth Edwards
Eucharistic Ministers	May Foong
	Vicki Jordan
	John Stuyfbergen
Sacristan	Carmel Saltalamacchia
Sunday 16 February - 9:30am	
Commentator	Anne Stevens
Lector	Claire Walker
Eucharistic Ministers	Miranda Armstrong
	Marlis Dopheide
	Linda Dunell
	Peter Rigg
	Trish Taylor
Sacristan	Denise Donnellan
Altar Society	Gabriella Frediani
Morning Tea	Audry John
Pilgrim Rosary Statue	Scannell Family
Counters	Maurice Brosnan, Peta Garriga, Colin Leahy

<i>Montmorency 15 & 16 February</i>	
Ashworth, Margaret	E10:30
Boyd, Ros	E8:30
Bredle, Maria	E8:30
Brewer, Jenny	E10:30
Cain, Helen	E10:30
Capuana, Marisa	BPTZ
Davidson, John	PRYR
Dean, Mary	E10:30
Egan, Clem	E6:00
Egan, Tess	E6:00
Emslie, Maureen	E6:00
Enright, Jim	W10:30
Enright, Jim	CNTR
Farrell, Sue	E6:00
Giddens, Matt	GRDN
Kitch, Loretta	E6:00
Kulkens, Mark	W8:30
Kuppe, Andy	W6:00
Longton, Pat	E8:30
Love, Philip	W10:30
Lucas, Maree	CLNR
McKinna, Jane	W6:00
McShane, Jill	E8:30
Muller, Joan	CLNR
Prowse, Kieren	W10:30
Ramsdale, John	W8:30
Skipper, Patsy	E8:30
Stanton, Marcelle	CNTR
Toscano, Frances	E10:30
Warrillow, Elizabeth	E8:30
Watson, Maureen	E8:30
Williams, Anne	E10:30
Williams, Peter	E10:30
Witten, Janine	E6:00
Zerjal, Frida	E6:00



Sacred Heart Mission
[Meals Program](#)

9th Feb Pat Fitzgerald, Margaret Fitzgerald,
Ron Turner, Jenny Turner

16th Feb Pat Fitzgerald, Margaret Fitzgerald,
Ron Turner, Jenny Turner

Monty & Eltham Calendar of Events

Saturday 8th

6:00pm Mass Eltham
6:00pm Mass Montmorency

Sunday 9th

8:30am Mass Montmorency
9:30am Mass Eltham
10:30am Mass & Baptism Welcomes Montmorency
12:00pm Baptisms Montmorency

Monday 10th

7:30pm Parish Finance Meeting Montmorency

Tuesday 11th

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham
(Elisabeth)
9:30am Mass Montmorency

Wednesday 12th

9:15am Mass Eltham
9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency
7:45pm St Vincent de Paul Meeting (Rec Room) Eltham

Thursday 13th

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham
(Peter)
9:30am Mass Montmorency
7:30pm Prayer Shawl Eltham

Friday 14th

9:15am Mass Eltham
9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

Saturday 15th

6:00pm Mass Eltham
6:00pm Mass & Baptism Welcome Montmorency

Sunday 16th

8:30am Mass & Baptism Welcome Montmorency
9:30am Mass Eltham
10:30am Mass & Children's Liturgy Montmorency

Tuesday 18th

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham
(Trish)
9:30am Mass Montmorency
9:45am Craft Group Montmorency
11:00am Prayer Shawl Eltham

Wednesday 19th

9:15am Mass Eltham
9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency
1:00pm Small Church Community Meeting Montmorency
8:00pm Baptism Preparation Meeting Montmorency

Thursday 20th

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Eltham
(Barbara)
9:30am Mass Montmorency

Friday 21st

9:15am Mass Eltham
9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Communion Montmorency

General News & Events

Social Justice News

Important Information:

This summer's dramatic weather events & bushfires are highlighting the absolutely critical need for all individuals, businesses & levels of government to take urgent action to reduce carbon emissions.

All are invited to attend a presentation on
WAYS TO REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS.

First speaker, *Ralf Thesing*, formerly President of the Alternative Technology Association and currently on the boards of Environment Victoria & the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group, will speak on **RESIDENTIAL SOLAR PANELS** and on types of **ELECTRIC VEHICLES**.

Second speaker, environmental activist *Alan Cuthbertson*, will explain **FIVE FURTHER WAYS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS IN THE HOME**.

A PANEL/DISCUSSION SESSION WILL CONSIDER
QUESTIONS & ACTIONS.

Bryce Gatton, from the Australian Electric Vehicles Association, will be a panel member and will bring display material.

TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2020, 7.30 – 9.30pm
St Francis Xavier's Catholic Parish hall,
86 Mayona Rd, Montmorency.

FREE ENTRY

Enquiries: Gloria Lappin: 6lappin@gmail.com

Presented by the St Francis Xavier's Social Justice Group

'STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS' DAY OF PRAYER SATURDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY 2020.

The Community of the Risen Lord, a Member of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (Melbourne & Sale) under the patronage and guidance of Most Rev. Christopher Prowse, Archbishop of Canberra-Goulburn, is organizing a National Day of Prayer titled '**Strength in Weakness**' to be held on Saturday, 15th February, 2020 from 9am to 6:30pm at the Planetshakers Centre, Southbank, Melbourne.

The event will be addressed by Most Rev. Christopher Prowse, Archbishop of Canberra, Most Rev. Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne, Rev. Fr. Augustine Vallooran, Director Divine Retreat Centre, India, Rev. Fr. Ken Barker MGL, Moderator of the Missionaries of God's Love, Ms. Lenyce Willason, Director CCR and Mr. Lalith Perera, Director and Founder of the Community of the Risen Lord.

The Day of Prayer and Renewal will include deep meaningful liturgy, vibrant praise and worship and will culminate with an anointing service invoking the Holy Spirit to make real the miracle of turning our weaknesses to strength and holiness.

We echo the words of St Paul, who had great strengths and skills, yet was also struggling with weaknesses just as we do. In his failures and frustrations in dealing with them, he turned to the Lord in prayer and received a revelation that holds good for all humanity for all times. "But he said to me, my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

2 Corinthians 12:9-10



Gospel: Mt 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.’



Reflection

Jesus tells his disciples they are “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world”.

Modern listeners can readily grasp the latter image; an unexpected power failure swiftly brings home our dependence on artificial light. But in this age of extraordinary technology we can well become fascinated with spectacular displays of light. In that case Jesus has a timely teaching for us. The light that shines in our lives - are not to draw attention to themselves. They are to prompt those who see them to “give the praise to your Father in heaven”. No room for self-importance here.

The image of salt may resonate less directly with us, especially if we are salt-averse for health reasons. It is useful to know that salt was a precious commodity in ancient times. Not only was it a preservative in an age without refrigeration; it was also valuable enough to be used as currency. Jesus’ point is clear: the disciples’ lives are to bring flavour and zest to the human enterprise.

Break Open the Word 2020

Visit of Bethlehem University Vice Chancellor: Come and hear Brother Peter Bray speak about life in Bethlehem and the amazing ministry of the only Catholic University in Palestine and its challenge to educate a new generation of Christian and Muslim leaders in a land ravaged by injustice, occupation and oppression.

Sunday 23rd February, 6.00pm at The Cunningham Centre
(opposite St. Bernadette’s School) 53 Stanley St, Ivanhoe.

Please RSVP to Parish Office 9499 1515 or Ivanhoe@cam.org.au. All Welcome!

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:

New Positions

- [Parish Secretary - Part Time, St Marks Fawkner](#)
- [Volunteer Emergency Relief Workers, Catholic Care](#)

Still Accepting Applications

- [Senior Pastoral Associate - Part Time, Holy Trinity Parish](#)
- [Director of Music, St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane](#)

For positions currently available at Catholic Education Office, Melbourne please click CEM

Further details can be found on the Archdiocese website at:
<http://www.cam.org.au/Jobs.aspx>



**CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE**