



Sacred Heart Parish Mildura

257—261 Eleventh Street Mildura

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Sacred Heart Parish | Mildura

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP

Fr Damian Styles

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Werrimull**

**St. Francis Xavier
Elms Street, Irymple**

**1st Sunday of Lent/ Year C -
13th & 14th February 2016**

Weekend Mass Times

Sat: 6:00 pm

Sun: 9:00 am, 5:00 pm

Irymple: 8:30 am

Werrimull 11:00 am (last Sunday of each month)



Weekday Masses

*If there is a Funeral Mass on Wed, Thurs,
the advertised Mass will be cancelled.*

Tues: 7:00 pm Wed: 9:10 am

Thurs: 9:30 am Fri: 5:40 pm

Sat: 9.30 am

Weekly Prayer Opportunities

Rosary: Monday 5:00pm followed by Stations of the Cross

Prayer of the Church: Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri. 8:40 am

Scripture Reading: Thurs 10:30 am - 20 Beasy Court

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Parish Prayer Room

Charismatic Prayer Group: Tues 7:30pm in Church

Devotion Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3:00pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am

RECENT DEATH: Hugh Lane (grandson of Felicity & Greg)

John Gothorp Mass will be held on Tuesday 7pm.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Saturday 6pm: Peter & Maria Tran, David Porter

Tuesday 7pm: Mavis Sullivan

Wednesday 9.10am: Fr Sajan

Friday 5.40pm: Josephine Calvi (ten year anniversary)

(Only members of the deceased's immediate family are permitted to arrange anniversary Masses.)



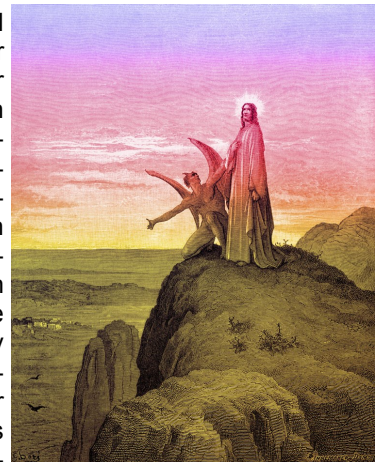
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

If you want a sick person prayed for, ask for their permission. Please let us know when to take their name off the list.

Joan Appleby, Ron Morello, Monica Crimmins, Daniel Ralli, Dan Rodan, John Devilee, Ethan Neyland, Georgie Manning, Dorothy Norris, Eileen Flanner, Fr Denis Dennehy, Eli Mad-den-Andrews, Kel Townsend, Vince Alicastro, Bishop Ron Mulkearns, Betty Krake, Sid Robinson, Teresa Panuccio, Geraldine Brunner, Judy Hunt

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Lent is a time for personal as well as group reflection, a time for entering into the "wilderness" or "desert place" and grappling with the mysteries of life. While deserts are often depicted as uninhabited or desolate regions, anyone who has spent time in such places knows that the desert supports a rich diversity of other-than-human life. Human retreat to the wilderness can be an opportunity to encounter God in the unfamiliar and self in relation to the other-than human. It can reveal to us our capacities for right relationship with God, with each other, and with the Earth. Right relationship resides in "power-with" rather than "power-over".



In Israel's story, the wilderness is the place of testing for God's people: "Remember the long way that your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness... testing you to know what was in your heart" (Deut 8:2). Jesus is "filled with the Holy Spirit" and, like so many human beings before and since, is "led by the Spirit" into the wilderness to be "tested" there. ["Tested" is a more accurate translation of the Greek *peirazein* than the usual "tempted"].

The three-fold testing of Jesus in the wilderness is about the proper exercise of power and about trust in a loving God. In refusing to turn the stones of the wilderness into bread in order to satisfy his own hunger, Jesus demonstrates that he is not prepared to exercise power over the other-than-human Earth, even if he had the capacity to work such magic. By refusing to accept the "glory of all the kingdoms of the world", he shows that power over the human communities of the Earth is not "of God" and that worship belongs to God alone. Finally, in refusing to cast himself from the parapet of Israel's holiest shrine, the Jerusalem Temple, he makes it clear that he is not prepared to test the power of God to rescue him from a self-inflicted death or to use God's holy place to such ends. The Lukan Jesus passes the tests that the people Israel failed in the wilderness of Sinai.

Adelaide priest, Michael Trainor, in a wonderfully sensitive reading of Luke's gospel, detects three ecological ethical principles in today's gospel reading: 1) Earth is to be cared for and treated respectfully, not ravaged through greed; 2) All ecological and environmental engagement is grounded in and enhanced by one's communion with God; and 3) Earth's resources are to be respected by all and not usurped as a means of power and control by one over another (*About Earth's Child* 2012, pp.107-109). These principles derive from the story as a whole with its three-fold testing and from Jesus' three-fold response to these tests.

- Veronica Lawson rsm

SACRAMENTAL LIFE & LITURGY

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Community, Henry Thompson whose Baptism occurs this weekend.



RCIA— The Eucharist - Fr Mick

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 18th February, 7pm in the Hillman Room.

MUSICIANS

The Summit Information sheets are now available. Please collect your copy near the organ cupboard. *Marion*



THE SEASON OF LENT 2016

MAKING THE MOST OF LENT

Project Compassion—envelope packs at church entrances

Stations of the Cross

Will be held every Friday in the Church after the 5.40pm Mass. All welcome.

Community celebration of Reconciliation—Friday, 18th March, 7pm.

PARISH MISSION 2016

I extend an invitation to all Parishioners to participate in our forthcoming Parish Mission. Please try to keep the following dates free. You may not be able to attend all of the days or evenings, but *I would highly recommend that you try to participate in some of the sessions as a means of some personal renewal during the Season of Lent.* All sessions will take place in the Church. Morning Sessions will be 10:15am – 12:15pm. Evening Sessions will be 7:00pm – 9:00pm.

Session 1 Sunday 28th February
Jesus – who is he really?

Session 2 Monday 29th February
Jesus, Law and Conscience

Session 3 Tuesday 1st March
Human Growth & Faith Growth

Session 4 Thursday 3rd March
Jesus, Church & Community

Session 5 Friday 4th March
Jesus, Forgiveness & Reconciliation

The final session will include a **Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation**. Visiting priests will be available.
Fr. Michael



COMMUNITY LIFE & OUTREACH

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP

The Passionist Family Group will start the year with Breakfast at the workers. Sunday 14th February after 9.00 am Mass. Please let Denise and Gerry know intentions for bookings 50211918. All welcome.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 16th February, 7.30pm in the Hillman Room.

SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL

Will celebrate their Beginning of the School Year Mass on Thursday 18th February 9.30am. All welcome.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Will be held at St Margaret's Anglican Church, Mildura on Friday 4th March from 10am. All welcome. Please see notice at the church entrances.

CATECHISM CLASSES

The Sisters of Charity—Dareton will host Catechism Classes in the Hillman Room every Saturday from 10.30am—11.30am 2 Groups: Scripture Classes for children aged 3-8 and Catechism Classes for children preparing for Confirmation & First Eucharist. Government school children are most welcome.

MEETING FR SAJAN EZHUNNOOTIL

Fr Sajan Ezhunnootil recently arrived in Australia from India to commence ministry in the Diocese of Ballarat. He will be a part-time Chaplain to the Syro-Malabar Indian community in the diocese as well as being part-time assistant priest in a parish. As part of his induction, he will be visiting our Parish, Sacred Heart & in particular the Syro-Malabar community on 16th February 2016. Contact Fr Sajan (0416194825)

MISERICORDIAE VULTUS – THE FACE OF MERCY

In section 6 of the *Bull of Indiction*, announcing the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis declares that the “mercy of God is not an abstract idea.” He describes it as “a concrete reality through which He reveals his love as that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child.” He also quotes several extracts from the Psalms, which focus on the quality of mercy. We will share them during the next three weeks.

“He secures justice for the oppressed; he gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free.” (Psalm 146:7-9)



YOUTH



LENTEN PROGRAM FOR YOUTH

(run by Fr Damian)

Will be held in the Hillman Room Fridays following the 5.40pm Mass. All youth of the Parish welcome.

PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

1st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)	\$1205.20
2nd Collection (includes DD, CC & EFT)	\$2298.75
Loose Plate	\$ 420.60

NEWS FROM ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

A very busy start to 2016; with last week our Year 9, 11 and 12 students all having Seminar Days that focused on building positive relationships and unifying the Year level groups. Mr Chris Doyle facilitated the Year 9 and 11 students while Dr Tony Finn lead the Year 12 days.

This week started with our Year 7 students having their first Community Day at the Mercy Campus and Swimming Pool, to foster collegiately as a Year level during a variety of extra curricula activities. Congratulation to the College staff for a very successful day. This week the College started the Season of Lent with the traditional Shrove Tuesday pancake stalls to raise funds for Project Compassion and Ash Wednesday Liturgies at both the Mercy and Enright Campuses. A special thank you to both Fr Mick and Fr Damien for leading our Ash Wednesday services. *Paula Cox—Mercy Ethos & Mission Co-ordinator*

GOSPEL BRUTALITY REBORN IN OUR HARROWING OF REFUGEE CHILDREN

Andrew Hamilton

The High Court decision on detention in Nauru was brought down just before the Christian season of Lent. It left the government free and determined to deport many young mothers and children to Nauru.

For the mothers and children deportation will bring new trauma with renewed threat to their already precarious mental health.

For the Australian public it again makes us ask what brutality, even to children, we are ready to tolerate.

The pain of the children and the savagery of their treatment are suitable subjects for Lenten reflection.

Religious feasts, like Lent and Ash Wednesday which introduces it, are often linked to significant public events, particularly those which are catastrophic, violent or shameful. We speak, for example, of the Tet offensive, of the Easter Uprising and Bloody Sunday in Ireland, of the Yom Kippur War, of the Ash Wednesday bushfires.

Such seasons of reflection also encourage us to be more sensitive to the large public events which form their context. This year violence in the Middle East and the vast number of people forced from their own nations to seek protection where they can find it are a sombre background to Lent.

They also fit: Lent begins with the ashes of illusory hopes, leads to the cynical torture and execution of Jesus and the apparent failure of his movement, and ends in the new hope of Easter day.

Australia's harrowing of refugees and their children fits uncomfortably well with Lent's universal evocation of suffering and torment.

Their flight from persecution and violence in their own nations, their incarceration on Nauru and Christmas Island, their brief hope when brought to Australia to bear and rear their children, and the snuffing out of that hope with a return to Nauru where their children will find no flourishing of life, echo the journey of Jesus in Passion Week when, too, the crowd applauded each new humiliation.

We might hope with powerless sympathy that those brutally treated will find in their experience and their own religious traditions intimations of the hope and strength associated with the Christian Easter.

The association between public life and the foundational religious stories is not merely descriptive. The stories and their characters also map an ethical framework for interpreting public events.

Brutal Herod, doubting Thomas, vacillating Pilate, treacherous Judas, scheming Caiaphas and enduring Mary enshrine for Christians ways in which people should and should not act.

They are images that help us evaluate what is done in our times and also assess our own prejudices, actions or failure to act. They represent a call to personal judgment.

But the naming of events can also shape the capacity of a society to respond to new challenges. The events of Bloody Sunday, for example, made it difficult to promote just and harmonious relationships between Protestant and Catholic communities in Northern Ireland. Naming it Bloody Sunday, with its religious reference and ethical weight, made it even more difficult.

For the deportation of children and their mothers to Nauru, the story with most resonance is that of Herod's murder of the children around Bethlehem for dynastic, and so security, reasons. The story gave rise to a feast remembering the children killed — the Holy Innocents. Story and feast stand as an assertion of the dignity of each human being, especially the smallest and most vulnerable, and as a condemnation of political brutality.

The story also warns the government of unintended consequences. If public outrage at the brutality involved in the deportation of children to Nauru leads government leaders and ministers to be identified with King Herod or similar monsters, they may lose the moral authority and respect they will need to carry through difficult decisions.

In times favourable to them this may not be a disaster. But at a time when the challenges facing Australia demand strong leadership and policies that will inevitably anger powerful interests, government leaders will need strong moral capital and support from across society.

The obloquy that may follow from pursuing mothers and children to despair and diminishment could strip the government of its moral authority and so of its capacity to lead change. On the other hand, of course, government leaders may be right in their judgment that no one will care.

Either way Lent invites reflection, even on what is in the government's self-interest. But for those who enter Lent on its own terms it invites us to hold in our hearts and cry out for the people, particularly children, who are dragged along the way of the cross.

Andrew Hamilton is consulting editor of *Eureka Street*.

NEW FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear School Families and Friends,

Well done everyone on the fantastic start to the year! It is as though there was never a break...Please let us know if we can better support you in any way during the year and we look forward to a great year of learning and achievements.

On a much sadder note, we pass our **deepest sympathy** to Greg & Felicity Lane and their family on the sudden passing of their grandson Hugh Lane as the result of an accident. Greg and Felicity and their family have been and are an integral part of the SHPS community and journey for many years. We pray for the family during this very sad and difficult time.

The 2016 SHPS WES & Fete will be on **Saturday 3rd of September**. This will be the **40th WES** so we are planning and hoping for a big one...More to come in the near future. Have a great week.

Des Lowry—Principal

ST PAULS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear School Families & Friends,

The new Foundation children have settled in well and the rest days are certainly helping them to transition successfully into school life. They are certainly very excited to see me as I walk into their rooms. I just have to keep reminding some of them I am "Mr M" not "Mrs M". Only time will tell!

Monday is our School Photo day. Hoping to see lots of beautiful smiles.

Wednesday we celebrated Ash Wednesday with the Sacred Heart Parish and Primary school community. It is one of a few times throughout the year that we are able to connect with our church, in a physical sense and gather as a faith filled community. It begins the season of Lent in preparation for Easter.

On Friday we celebrated our beginning of the year with a Mass in the hall. Family and friends joined us to celebrate. As always, keep the faith. **Vince Muscatello—Principal**

Our Parish Vision
“Our Parish is a Eucharistic Community united by
our faith in Jesus Christ.
We work together in the power of the Holy Spirit to
spread the good news of God’s
Kingdom.”



Our Parish Schools

Sacred Heart Primary School
 Principal: *Des Lowry* 5023 1204

St Paul’s Primary School
 Principal: *Vince Muscatello* 5023 4567

St Joseph’s Secondary College
 Principal: *Marg Blythman* 5018 8000

13th & 14th February, 2016			20th & 21st February, 2016		
THIS WEEK’S READINGS			NEXT WEEK’S READINGS		
First Reading: Deut 26:4-10 Resp Psalm: Ps 90:1-2, 10-15. R. v. 15 Response: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble. Second Reading: Rom 10:8-13 Gospel: Lk 4:1-13			First Reading: Gen 15:5-12, 17-18 Resp Psalm: Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14. R. v. 1 Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation. Second Reading: Phil 3:20-4:1 Gospel: Lk 9:28-36		
EUCHARIST MINISTERS			EUCHARIST MINISTERS		
SATURDAY	SUNDAY		SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
6PM	9AM	5PM	6PM	9AM	5PM
6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required
Maria Cirillo	Sheryl Pettinau	Jacqui Willis	Leo Kearney	Rini Op’t Hoog	Sue Hermans
Anne-Maree Greville	Giuseppe Scopacasa	Barbara Bunting	Margaret Sheahan	Cora Howell	Danielle Mazzini
Anthony Henderson	Maria Scopacasa	Katrina Groves	Linda Henderson	Narie Lewis	Nisa Abraham
Christine Carmichael	Susan Lewis	Judy Hall	Irene Morello	Renata Byra	Greg Johnson
Margaret McDonald	Minda Wright	Myrna Rodi	Katy Quinlan	Sonia Opie	Clem Carlucci
Anita Naray	Johanna Bagacay	Volunteer Please	Taiana Fatai	Phillip Opie	Vittorio Carlucci
	Rose Op’t Hoog			Catherine McErvale	
MUSIC			MUSIC		
Filipino Group	Youth Group	Singing Group	School Community	Tongan Community	M Hammond
N Armsden	Leader	M Sullivan	Commissioning Mass		J Ljubic
	K Mafi				J Macri
ALTAR SERVERS			ALTAR SERVERS		
2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required
Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer
OFFERTORY PROCESSION			OFFERTORY PROCESSION		
2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required
Baptism	Catherine McErvale	Laura Fisher		Louise Belej	
READERS			READERS		
Irene Morello	Jill Joslyn	Vince Muscatello	Rosemary Barnes	Nicholas Mataele	Melanie Ransome
COUNTING TEAM 6			COUNTING TEAM 7		
JIM O’DONNELL 5021 4939			BRIAN BLEESER 5021 1828		
IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM			IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM		
READER	EUCHARIST MINISTER		READER	EUCHARIST MINISTER	
Marty Smith	Wendy Smith		Joe Kearney	Robin Hill	