



Sts. Anne and Joachim Catholic Parish, Sunraysia

Irymple, Merbein, Mildura, Red Cliffs and Werrimull

Parish Priest Fr Matthew Thomas
Assistant Priest Fr John Corrigan

Edition: 29/2023
Visiting Priest: Fr Shaiju Mathew

15th Sunday in OT Year A / 15th & 16th July 2023

Message from the Parish Priest

The gospel today talks to us about the sower of the seeds on different ground, and how they grow or die. How does this relate to our lives and our situations in life. In some situations we have a great foundation and the seed planted blossoms and grows and flourishes. When we have great support around us this is possible without any sort of complications or challenges. When our life situation gives us challenges and we don't grow then its often because of the support we have around us or can be caused by other people making decisions which can impact us. We need at times to support each other and sometimes to prune the rough edges off each other, like a plant or hedge once pruned new life can being to grow.

This week we have a few changes in for weekday masses as we are still covering Robinvale.
Reminder: St Joseph's Red Cliffs have a Lay Led Liturgy on Sunday 30th July at 10am.

*God Bless
Fr Matthew*

Sts Anne and Joachim Parish Launch

The Feast Day of Sts Anne and Joachim is on Wednesday 26th July.
To commemorate the Feast we will have mass at 11am followed by a lunch in the Monaghan Centre.
For catering purposes we ask that you please contact the parish office by Friday 21st July to register.



Catholic Mission Timor-Leste Adult Immersion

Catholic Mission invites you to learn more about the grassroots projects supported by Catholic Mission in Timor-Leste from November 4-12, 2023. This immersion will give you the opportunity to see the world through a different lens, you will witness the life-changing work taking place at the St Maria Mazzarello vocational School and the Maria Auxiliadora Medical Clinic in Venilale. Be prepared to come home changed and challenged. Cost is \$3990.00 per person (ex. Darwin to Dili, Timor-Leste). Register your interest at <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/get-involved/immersions>



Baptisms

We welcome into our Parish Communities **Isla Burford, Marielle Cabiles and Ryan Roccisano** whose baptism occurs this weekend.

Parish Contact Details

Administration Officer Mrs Carmel Russo
Office Hours Tuesday – Friday 9am – 4pm
257 Eleventh Street Mildura
Po Box 10037 Mildura Vic 3502
Phone 03 50212872
0417 862 082 (After Hours)
Email: sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Finances

	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
Last week's collections			
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1458.25	\$142.10	\$172.45
2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$2025.00	\$138.00	\$293.60
Loose Plate	\$ 607.35	\$ 45.55	\$ 54.45
Special Collections Popes Coll.	\$ 132.00		
Next week's Counting Team	Team 3—P McDonald		

Sacramental Dates for 2023

Celebrations and parent meeting dates for the following Sacraments will take place later this year:



First Holy Communion (Grade 4 and above)
Friday 20th, Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd
October

Parent meeting: 6th September 7pm, SH Church

Penance (Grade 2 and above)
Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm

Parent meeting: 4th October 7pm, SH Church **RECONCILIATION**



Werrimull Mass Bus Trip

The next Werrimull Bus trip will be held on Sunday 30th July.

To make a booking, please contact the Parish Office on 5021 872.



REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for this Sunday call us to self-examination. The gospel describes various levels of receptivity, the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by another, perhaps even to be transformed. The more independent we are, the less likely we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas. By definition disciples are receptive to the one they follow. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinise ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open. To what should we be receptive? To the words of Scripture, the words of the liturgy, the words of the sacraments, the living tradition of the community. God's word is sown in many forms and under many guises. It makes little difference who sows the seed. How will we receive it?

Besides the word of God, the readings speak of the world of God. The people of biblical times were aware of the revelation of God in and through the natural world. Isaiah teaches about the effectiveness of the word of God through the metaphor of rain. The psalmist uses the natural world to describe God's work of salvation. Paul claims that eschatological fulfilment will include all of creation. Finally, Jesus' parables are rooted in stories about nature. We cannot afford to close our eyes to the needs of the natural world, or stop our ears to the cries of the earth, or harden our hearts to the world of which we are a part, for the word of God will accomplish the end for which God sent it.

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Family Group

The Sacred Heart Family Group will lunch at the Mildura RSL on Sunday 16th July at Noon. Please let Helen or Gary know your intentions on 0350235035. All welcome to join us.

St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms are available at <https://pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship>. Closing date is August 4, 2023.



Tap & Go Presbytery — 1st Collection

The Sacred Heart Parish has purchased 4 new Tap & Go units with set amounts of \$5, \$10, \$20 & \$50 for the Presbytery — 1st Collection. A unit will be placed at each Church entrance for Sacred Heart Church and a unit will be available at each main entrance of Irymple, Merbein & Red Cliffs churches.

Piety Stall—Sacred Heart Church

A small pop out stall will be opened before and after the 9am Mass at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday 16th July. Please come and check our piety items and if we don't have what you would like, happy to take your name and contact number and we will endeavour to see if we are able to order it in or please contact the Sunraysia Parish Office on 5021 2872 for any enquiries.

Weekly Prayer and Spiritual Opportunities

Sacred Heart Church Mildura

Exposition and Benediction Tuesday 4pm

Charismatic Group Tuesday after 6pm Mass

Reconciliation Saturday 10am-10.30am

Monaghan Centre

Christian Meditation Saturday 11.30am

Scripture Reflection Thurs 2pm -3pm.

Children's Catechesis Sat 10am -11am

Parish Schools Contact

Sacred Heart Primary School Mildura

Principal Mr Mark Gibson 5023 1204

St Paul's Primary School Mildura

Principal Mr Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

St Joseph's Primary School Red Cliffs

Principal Mrs Naomi Kennedy 5024 1654

Our Lady of Sacred Heart Merbein

Principal Mrs Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

St Joseph's Secondary College Mildura

Principal Mrs Marg Blythman 5018 8000

Sunraysia Catholic Communities adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria. Our policies are on display in each Church, and on our website.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Sunraysia, Vince Pileggi**

This Weekend Roster: 15th & 16th July 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	R Tongue	M McDonald, A Greville, R Tongue	Baptism Family	M Sullivan M Bowring
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G Schmidt			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	T Fainga'anuku	V Mammone, L Welsh, C Howell	Baptism Family	Tongan Community M Guthrie
Sun 10am	P Hunt	J Cameron	Lewis Family	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	N Gallagher	K Aston	F Cox & Val McCarthy	K East
Sun 5pm	G Johnston	P Cox, G Johnston, M Bowring		S Fatai, K Mapapalangi

Please Pray for the Sick

Barry Crosbie, Kerry-Anne Crosbie,
Christian Mira, Dolly Ridings
Nada Zudetich
Catherine Bell
Natalina D'Anna
Morgan Dias-Jones

If you want a sick person prayed for, ask their permission. Names will be included for the duration of one month after which family or friends can request more time.

Recent Deaths
Helen Coslovich, Matthew Avery,
Varghese Mampilly,
Leandro Zema (Italy)



Anniversaries
Veronica Grant

Mildura:
Sat 6pm: Bruin Michael Callipari,
Sun 9am: Ron Campbell, deceased members of the Healy Family,
Sun 5pm: Bruno Pelle, Mary McFadyen, Giuseppe Martino, Grazia & Pasquale Mammone, Natalizia Monteleone,

Merbein:
Kathleen McAllister, Tom McCarthy and Lynette Searle

Red Cliffs:
Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna, Domenico & Caterina D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna, Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone

Please note that if you have booked a memorial mass you are reminded to speak to the priest prior to the mass to let him know you are there.

Next Weekend Roster: 22nd & 23rd July 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	Volunteer	P Kerr, A Naray, Volunteer		M Guthrie, All welcome
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G McCracken			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	L Welsh	P O'Donnell, J Rocca, K Mapapalangi	M Gobbo	M Sullivan, B Lewis J O'Bryan, B Prescott
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	J Lewis	C Cavallaro	Volunteer	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	M Bowring	K McCarthy	J & A O'Connor	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	J Thomas	T Finn, B Dolence, J Boord		M Hammond, J Ljubic, J Macri

Mass Time Table this Week

Tuesday	9.30am Red Cliffs
	10.30am Funeral Chapel Service
	4pm Expo/Benediction
	6pm Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am Mildura
Thursday	9.30am Merbein
	9.30am Mildura No Mass
	10.30am funeral Robinvale
	5.30pm Red Cliffs
Friday	2pm Funeral Graveside
	6pm Mildura
Saturday	9.30am Mildura
	6pm Mildura
Sunday	8.30am Irymple
	9am Mildura
	10am Red Cliffs
	10.30am Merbein
	5pm Mildura



What's Happening **July 2023**

Wed 19: Oasis Aged Care Service 1pm
Thu 20: Anointing Mass, Merbein 9.30am
Tue 25: BUPA Aged Care Service 1pm
Wed 26: Anointing Mass, Mildura—cancelled for this month
Wed 26: Mass celebrating the Feast of St Anne & St Joachim 11am. Sacred Heart Church Mildura, luncheon to follow.
Wed 26: Baptism Preparation evening, Monaghan Centre 7pm
Thu 27: St Anthony Committee meeting, 7.30pm KSC Clubrooms



First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 64:10-14 R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive.
For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

Next Weeks Readings: / 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 23rd July 2023

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Psalm: Ps 85:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans 8:26-27

Response: Lord, you are good and forgiving

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43