

# Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337  
257 Eleventh Street Mildura  
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Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959  
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716  
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 8

Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas  
Assistant Priest Fr. Shaiju Mathew

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo  
Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9:00am—4:00pm



Sacred Heart  
Mildura

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Werrimull

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart  
Merbein

St. Francis Xavier  
Irymple

St. Joseph's  
Red Cliffs

*The Sunraysia Catholic Communities are committed to ensure the safety of all children and vulnerable people in our care.  
Child Safety Officers:- Mildura—Peter Issanchon, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

## 1st Sunday of Lent / Year B 20th & 21st February 2021

### RECENT DEATHS

### ANNIVERSARIES

Elena Francesca Callipari

#### Mildura

Saturday 6pm:

Irymple 8.30am: Kevin Welsh (1yr ann.) Margaret Lunn (100th Birthday remembrance)

Sunday 9.00am:

Sunday 5pm: Giuseppe Simonetta (30 day Mass), Carmelo Scopelliti (1yr ann.), Vincenza Appollini Carlucci

#### Red Cliffs

Anniversaries: Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna, Domenica & Caterina D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna, Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone

#### Merbein

Anniversaries: Betty Hudson, Alice Mc Cleary, Steve McCarthy, Anthony Callahan, Victoria Candia and Lola Warburton.

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

## Message from our Parish Priest

*This week we have commenced Lent, the time for preparation for Easter. We have many different aids to help us prepare. We have project compassion to assist with Almsgiving. We can give up something or less the amount we do something which helps with fasting. We have the stations of cross, Lenten reflection groups which assists with prayer.*

*Now that the churches are re-opened we thanks everyone for there assists last week. Lets hope we do not have too many more of these snap lock downs.*

*Fr Shaiju and I will be on retreat next week (Monday—Friday) in Halls Gap with the other priests of the Diocese, please prayer for us as we pray for you.*

*God bless!  
Fr Matthew Thomas*

## Weekly Prayer Opportunities Mildura

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting:** Tuesday 6:30pm

**Devotions and Exposition:** Friday 4:00pm  
commencing 19th February.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10:00am—10:30am

**Christian Meditation:** Sat 11:30 am in the Church

## Our Parish Schools

**Sacred Heart Mildura** Principal: Mark Gibson 5023 1204

**St Paul's Mildura** Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

**OLSH Merbein** Principal: Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

**St. Joseph's Red Cliffs** Principal: Naomi Kennedy 5024 1654

**St. Joseph's Secondary College Mildura**

Principal: Marg Blythman 5018 8000



**Please note that you must wear a face mask when in the church while still abiding by COVID Staying Safe Rules**



February 21, 2021  
**First Sunday of Lent**

**TEMPTATION  
OF CHRIST**

Mark 1: 12-15

**Sunday Gospel Reflection**

# LOCAL NEWS



## Sacrament of Reconciliation Program—Sacred Heart

Due to the cancellation of the Parent Evening meeting last Tuesday, the meeting will now be held on Tuesday 23rd February at Sacred Heart

Church, 7pm.

Enrolment forms to be completed and returned to the Parish Office before Parent Meeting.

For further information please contact the Parish Office Tuesday - Friday 9am—4pm

## Ideas for Making the Most of Lent

### Praying:

It helps us to grow in the love of God.  
Reading scriptures.  
Join a Lenten Group.

### Fasting:

Limit yourself to one meal a day.  
No meat on Fridays.

### Volunteer:

Soup Kitchen –giving of your time to help others

### Almsgiving:

**Project Compassion Envelopes / Boxes**  
Available at church entrances

### Stations of the Cross:

Fridays from 7pm-8pm Indian Community  
Friday from 8pm-9pm Tongan Community  
All welcome.

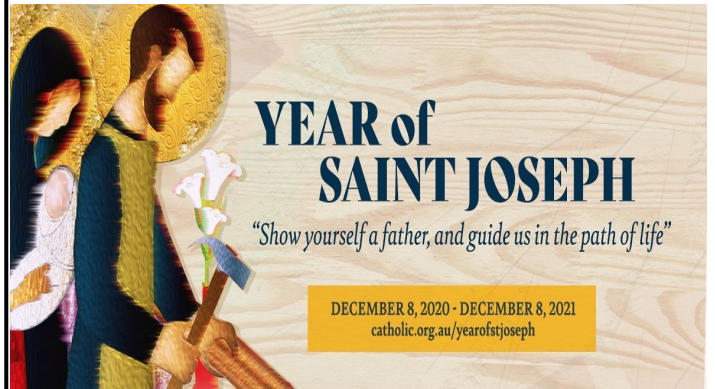
### Communal celebration of Reconciliation

will be announced next week.  
All welcome.



## 2021 the year of St Joseph

Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde (With a Father's Heart)*, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of St Joseph”, running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.



## Piety Stall

Please note that the Piety Stall at St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs will be opened from 10am—12 noon each Sunday and each Monday by appointment only between the hours of 2.30pm—3.15pm.  
For further information contact Janine 0438 730 976.

## Pray for Vanuatu World Day of Prayer Service 2021

**Date:** Friday 5th March

**Time:** 10:00am

**Location:** St Margaret's Anglican Church, Cnr Deakin Avenue & 11th Street, Mildura

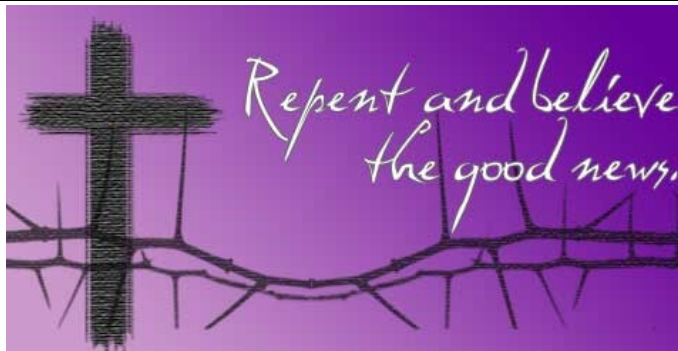
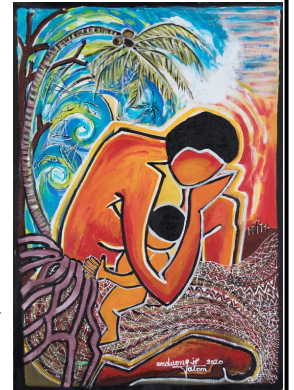
**Contact:** Isabel: 0409 310 542

or Gill 0419 567 650.

**Please bring a mask.**

**There will not be morning tea.**

Please RSVP by Tuesday 2nd March.



## Lenten discussion groups

**Group 1:** Thursdays, 3pm, Monaghan Centre.

For further information contact Sr Helen 0438 734 524

**Group 2:** Aileen Curran—Thursdays, 10.30am.

For further information contact the Parish Office 5021 2872.

**Group 3:** Red Cliffs LLL & L Lenten Group, Mondays 10am. For further information contact Janine Cameron 0438 730 976.



1st Sunday of Lent—21<sup>st</sup> February 2021

Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



# LOCAL NEWS

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed below

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY	NO MASS	FUNERAL 11 AM	
TUESDAY	NO MASS	NO MASS	
WEDNESDAY	NO MASS	NO MASS	
THURSDAY	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS
FRIDAY	6PM	Clergy Retreat Halls Gap no weekday masses until Friday 6pm	
SATURDAY	9:30AM		

## WEEKEND MASS TIMES

IRYMPLE MILDURA RED CLIFFS MERBEIN

SATURDAY	6:00PM			
SUNDAY	8:30AM	9:00AM	10:30AM	10:30AM
	5:00PM			
WERRIMULL	11:00AM (5TH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)			

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

*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.*

**Mildura:** Maria Sapuppo

**Merbein:**

**Red Cliffs:** Lily Flanagan, E Mammone, Barry Crosbie, Maurice O'Connor, Faye Rhook, Frank Mammone

## Baptisms

We welcome to our Parish family—Joseph Caminiti, Francesca Dichiera, Veronica Marwood, Angel Nkurikiye, Max Sellens whose baptisms occur this weekend.



## Weddings

We congratulate **Adam Gregus & Jodie Graham** who were married this weekend.



*TRIALS in the WILDERNESS*

**REMINDER**

## IMPORTANT DATES—FEBRUARY 2021

**Sunday 21st February:**

Merbein Parish Council meeting, after 10.30am mass.

**Tuesday 23rd February:** Reconciliation Parent Information evening, Sacred Heart Church 7pm.

**Wednesday 24th February:**

# ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

## This weekend — 20th & 21st February 2021

### Mildura

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Anita Naray

Sunday 9am: Mary Jackson

Sunday 5pm: Barb Bunting

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 2

Saturday 6pm: C Carmichael, M Cirillo

Sunday 9am: E Garreffa, L Welsh

Sunday 5pm: C Carlucci, V Carlucci

**Music:** Sat 6pm: M Sullivan, J Macri

Sun 9am: Tongan Choir

Sun 5pm: S Faota, K Mapapalangi, Duy

**Counting Team:** Team 8— Trevor Aust

**Irymple Reader:** D Knight

### Merbein

**Reader:** Josephine O'Connor

### Red Cliffs

**Readers:** K Hawkes, M Bell, M Bowering

**Altar Servers:** I & J & E Manno, G Cory

**Music:** Guitar

**Counting Team:** F & M Dominelli

**Eucharistic Minister:** G Brizzi

**Flowers:** Volunteers

**Church Cleaning:** Volunteers

## Next weekend - 27th & 28th February 2021

### Mildura

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Christine Carmichael

Sunday 9am: Lyn Welsh

Sunday 5pm: Inez Sullivan

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 2

Saturday 6pm: Taiana Fatai, Jacinda Deacon

Sunday 9am: Rini & Rose Op't Hoog

Sunday 5pm: Wendy & Tony Finn

**Music:** Sat 6pm: M Guthrie—All welcome

Sun 9am: M Issanchon

Sun 5pm: M Sullivan, J Macri

**Counting Team:** Team 9—George Dolence

**Irymple Reader:** M Hoy

### Merbein

**Reader:** Kevin Aston

### Red Cliffs

**Readers:** T Lewis, J Cameron, Volunteer please

**Altar Servers:** E Briggs, K Hawkes, H McCarthy, G Zaccane, S Morello

**Music:** Tongan Choir

**Counting Team:** M Adams & L Mayes

**Eucharistic Minister:** M Dominelli, D Eagle

**Flowers:** Volunteers

## Number of People Attending Mass

Approximate people to church size:

**Mildura:** 450 people

**Merbein:** 150 people

**Irymple:** 50 people

**Red Cliffs:** 250 people

## SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
<b>1st Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$	\$	\$
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$	\$	\$
<b>Loose Plate</b>	\$	\$	\$

## First Reading

Gen 9:8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

*I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.*

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

## Second Reading

1 Pt 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.*

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has

has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

## Gospel

Mk 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.*

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### The Rainbow

The Rainbow is God's signature to a treaty with humankind. On God's part, material forces will never be sent to annihilate human beings as a punishment for wrongdoing. On our part, as humans made in the likeness of God, we are to image God's rainbow relationship to nature.

This is the Divine Treaty basis of our responsibility for the environment. We undertake not to engage in practices or support policies which could severely damage the fragile ecology which supports life on our planet. The deforestation of the slopes of the Himalayas, leading to floods which kill thousands, is a catastrophic example.

And, gazing at the rainbow, we can pray for our planet, for the human beings and all other creatures who inhabit it, and quite often for ourselves at a deep personal level. For we know that, just as after a storm and dark clouds, light penetrates the misty sky and the beautiful bow of colour appears, the same phenomenon can occur in our own lives.

We could take a moment to pray that the rainbow will appear, perhaps for ourselves, perhaps for others we know who are going through a stormy time.

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