



Sacred Heart Parish Mildura

257—261 Eleventh Street Mildura

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337

Presbytery: 5022 9959

P.O. Box 10037 Mildura, Vic 3502

parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Sacred Heart Parish | Mildura

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP

Fr Peter Jose CMI

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Werrimull**

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent / Year C - 19th & 20th December 2015

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

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

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am

RECENT DEATH: Regina Doleneć

ANNIVERSARIES:

Sunday 9am: Jim Byrne (ten year anniversary), Bruno Pisci-
cioni. Lucia Ghidinelli

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



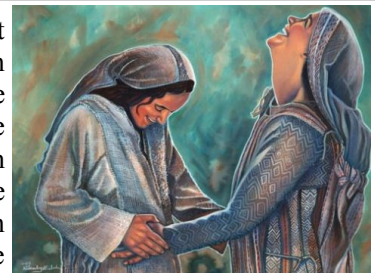
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

*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

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The final Sunday of Advent draws us closer to the celebration of the Christmas mysteries. The gospel offers the story of the young pregnant woman, Miriam of Nazareth, travelling in haste from her home town of Nazareth to the hill country of Judea, some 130 kilometres to the south, to be



with an older woman who is also pregnant, her cousin Elizabeth. Mary enters "the house of Zechariah" who remains silent and in the background throughout. While Zechariah is the householder according to Jewish law, his earlier reluctance to believe renders him silent and powerless to offer hospitality. Elizabeth's contrasting openness to recognise and affirm the living presence of God in their midst makes her the true householder and foreshadows the reversal that is to characterise the new order. The two women embrace and, in their loving embrace, the Spirit-filled life gestating within Mary encounters and physically affects the life that is coming to birth in Elizabeth.

Elizabeth's words resound throughout the ages in the prayer we know as the Hail Mary: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb...." These are the words of one woman prophet to another. Elizabeth recognises that Mary is blessed by God because she believed that God's promise to her would be fulfilled. As God's prophet, Elizabeth gives expression to the faith that is to be embraced by all those who accept that Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Miriam of Nazareth, is the Holy One of God (Luke 1:35). The lives of both women have been transformed through the power of God's Spirit. The birth of their children will bring to birth an unprecedented event in human history. Elizabeth's proclamation of the blessing of God on Mary is found daily on the lips of countless faith-filled Christians across the globe. It echoes the blessing prayer of Moses to the Israelites (Deut 28: 2-4): "May you be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. Blessed is the fruit of your womb, the produce of your soil and the offspring of your livestock...." In our times, God's blessing on the whole Earth community can only become a reality when we stop playing politics in the interests of short-term gains or personal greed, when we read the signs of the times, and work together to address the underlying causes of global warming and its effects. Advent is not a time of passive waiting. It is a time to ponder the various ways that God sustains life in its diverse forms and to become householders, like Elizabeth, who clear the paths and open our doors for the God of life to enter in.

- Veronica Lawson rsm

SACRAMENTAL LIFE & LITURGY



DISMISSAL

Sunday 20th December, 9am—Sr
Rosemary

NATIVITY PLAY CHRISTMAS EVE 2015

All children are invited to attend and be part of our annual and traditional Nativity Play on Christmas Eve at 6:00pm. The second practice session will be a dress rehearsal on Monday 21st December at 4pm in the Sacred Heart Church. Contact Lisa Cirillo 0408337297.



1st EUCHARIST 2016

1st Eucharist will be celebrated with children in Grade 4 in 2016. **Important Program Dates are as follows:**

Parent Information Evening Monday 8th February 6:00pm – 6:30pm Sacred Heart Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Friday 4th March 7:30pm Sacred Heart Church

Parent Formation Evenings – Wed April 27th & Wed May 4th Sacred Heart Church

1st Eucharist – 28th/29th May 4th/5th June

Program Booklets are available at the Parish Office, Tuesday – Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES. ROSTER SHEETS AT THE BACK OF CHURCH.

MILDURA CHRISTMAS MASSES 2015

CHRISTMAS EVE

6:00pm Mildura
8:00pm Mildura
12 Midnight Mildura

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00am Mildura
10:00am Mildura



EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Even, if you are not rostered on, please volunteer your services if there are insufficient ministers.

PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

1st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)	\$1460.30
2nd Collection (includes DD, CC & EFT)	\$2876.50
Loose Plate	\$ 672.90

COMMUNITY LIFE & OUTREACH

BUPA NURSING HOME MASS

Will be held on Tuesday, 22nd December at 10.30am.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM THURSDAY 24TH DECEMBER AND REOPEN ON 5TH JANUARY ALL CALLS & ENQUIRIES PRESBYTERY 5022 9959

A farewell cuppa for Fr Peter will be held after all Masses on the weekend of January 9th & 10th. Any donations towards a farewell gift can be left with Carmel at the Parish Office.



YEAR OF MERCY

Advent 2015 is underway, a time of internal preparation in order to be more fittingly joy-filled when Christmas dawns. I truly enjoy this time, and try to spend lots more of my waking hours in quiet, prayer, and gentle appreciation for all of God's marvelous gifts in my life and in the world around. And this year, I will also reflect upon and ramp up for another deeply spiritual event that will flow throughout the coming year: The Jubilee Year of Mercy.

'SHARED TABLE PROJECT'-PERU—CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Dear Community,
Congratulations to all the winners in our 'Shared Table' raffle. What an amazing effort and a lot of fun too!
I am pleased to announce that we have raised \$1,500 for the 'Shared Table' in Motupe/Montenegro Parish, Peru.
I know that the money will be well received and well used by the community in providing healthy meals and a safe, secure environment for children and families. There were 28 lucky winners and they are listed below. The prizes are available for collection this weekend, from the Monaghan Centre. Thank you to everyone who got into the spirit of giving and supported this Christmas Raffle. The winners were (in order):- Nada Zudetich, Maria Vanni, Shirley, Lisa Roden, Lucy Doering, Brian Bleeser, Andrea Welsh, Maria Mammone, Don Pedulla, Marj Pragt, Paul McErvale, Peter Maloney, Eric Kondratow, Kevin Schultz, Mary Jackson, Jim McDougal, Jill Joslyn, Katalina Mafi, Kath Callahan, Yem Tran Lucie, Bernadette, Denise Knight, Barb Ormesher, Laurie Fry, A Sestok, Jen Ditchfield, Terry Murphy and Nada Zudetich.
May the peace and love of Jesus be with you and your families this Christmas. **Marion Guthrie**
PS: If you are unable to collect your prize this weekend, please collect from the Parish Office by Wednesday.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Why not do something Different this Christmas?

Instead of spending time, money and worry about what to buy friends and family for Christmas—why not make a donation in their name to a worthy cause which will help others who are really in need?

There are plenty of suggestions on the notice board in the church/brochures available. Suggestions from:

Caritas Australia <http://www.caritas.org.au/globalgifts>

Mercyworks email: mercyworks@mercy.org.au

Act for peace: info@actforpeace.org.au

Social Justice Group

YOUTH

ADVANCE NOTICE: Youth are organizing a fundraising BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday, January 2nd 2016.

YOUTH GATHERING

Halls Gap, April 4th—7th, 2016

For young people aged 16 and over.

More information to follow



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER



VULNERABLE COUNTRIES LEAVE MARK ON PARIS AGREEMENT

Fatima Measham

It has been an exercise in managing optimism and reality in the week after the Paris Agreement on climate change. When we have had such a rough time getting our act together, merely sorting out a plan feels like an achievement. We protect ourselves at the same time by attaching all sorts of caveats. We have wanted this breakthrough for so long, yet doubt our capacity to meet its demands. We assure ourselves that doing nothing is surely worse than not doing enough, soon enough. We fret that our plan may yet be sabotaged.

One thing that can be certain is that COP21 is pivotal, not just because of what it signals, but in terms of the model it offers for solutions to global problems. The Paris summit departed from a top-down approach, facilitating differentiated, voluntary pledges from governments based on their unique situation. This blunted some of the adversarial positions that skewed the 2009 Copenhagen conference. The conditions enabled the 43-member Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), led by current country-chair the Philippines, to work persuasively. 'We were more united,' says Tony La Viña, dean of the Ateneo School of Government in Manila and veteran negotiator. Events such as Typhoon Haiyan, which devastated the Philippines in 2013, likely provided impetus to assertions long made by island states and small developing nations. La Viña adds that trust was critical to resolving intricate issues. It is the foundation of indaba, a Xhosa/Zulu discussion format first adopted at COP17 in Durban in 2011. This streamlined process enabled each participant to speak personally about their 'red lines' (hard limits) and propose common ground solutions. It reportedly broke a deadlock at the Paris summit within half an hour. The imprints of less powerful countries are thus all over the Paris text. The CVF had pressed for the 1.5 Celsius cap above pre-industrial levels (previously abandoned at Copenhagen), financing for technology transfers in clean energy and adaptation, as well as a human rights framework that accounts for indigenous peoples, women and intergenerational equity.

The CVF had also sought a binding mechanism to deepen emission cuts. Current pledges are fundamentally patchy and projected to keep the planet on track for a temperature rise of 3 degrees Celsius at the end of this century. A climate pledge audit every five years from 2020 concretises the mutual expectation that emissions reduction goals should become ever more stringent. It is a compelling investment signal for decarbonisation and renewables; even if businesses aren't sold on climate ethics, it is not in their interest to stay idle.

This is far from saying that the Paris outcomes are adequate. A liability mechanism for 'loss and damage', attributable to developed high-polluting countries, did not make it to the final agreement. It means that locked-in climate change effects — for example the loss in revenue for tourism-reliant, inundated island states — would not meet reparations.

There are in fact parallel discourses asserting that the wealth of the developed world was built at the expense of its former colonies. Jason Hickel, anthropologist at the London School of Economics, points out: 'The reparations debate is threatening because it completely upends the usual narrative of development. It suggests that poverty in the global south is not a natural phenomenon, but has been actively created. And it casts western countries in the role not of benefactors, but of plunderers.' It is something that may well feature in future negotiations. If nothing else, the Paris summit demonstrates that possibilities are opened when all countries get to sit at the table, and the most vulnerable ones taken seriously as self-agents. That is something worth hoping for.

Fatima Measham is a Eureka Street consulting editor.

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: *Anthony Banks* 5018 8000

19th & 20th December, 2015

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading: Mic 5:1-4
Resp Psalm: Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19. R. v. 4
Response: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.
Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10
Gospel: Lk 1:39-44

EUCHARIST MINISTERS

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

6PM

9AM

5PM

6 Ministers required

7 Ministers required

6 Ministers required

Maria Cirillo

Lily Tindall

Sandra Walker

Anne-Maree Greville

Peter O'Donnell

Mario Zema

Anthony Henderson

Filomena Carbone

Josie Zema

Christine Carmichael

Gina Raiti

Trish Cirillo

Margaret McDonald

Anna Vartuli

Jeena Jose

Anita Naray

Nada Zudetich

Joyce Ribarits

Sara Visona

MUSIC

N Armsden

Tongan Community

M Sullivan

B Lewis

M Guthrie

J Ljubic

B Prescott

J Macri

ALTAR SERVERS

2 Servers required

2 Servers required

2 Servers required

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

2 Volunteers required

2 Volunteers required

2 Volunteers required

Jim O'Donnell

Laura Fisher

READERS

Tricia McNamara

Nancy Fatai

Peter Hammond

COUNTING TEAM 8

TREVOR AUST 5023 6597

IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM

READER

EUCHARIST MINISTER

David Nichols

Margaret Hill

26th & 27th December, 2015

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading: Sam 1:20-22, 24-28
Resp Psalm: Ps 83:2-3, 5-6, 9-10. R. v. 5
Response: How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.
Second Reading: I Jn3:1-2, 21-24
Gospel: Lk 2:41-52

EUCHARIST MINISTERS

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

6PM

9AM

5PM

6 Ministers required

7 Ministers required

6 Ministers required

Leo Kearney

Juliet Cresp

Clem Carlucci

Margaret Sheahan

Robert Tindall

Vittorio Carlucci

Linda Henderson

Louise Belej

Christine Slattery

Irene Morello

Nancy Leonardis

Jacinta Macri

Katy Quinlan

Elena Garreffa

Petelo Mafi

Taiana Fatai

Maryanne Modica

Anthony Banks

Maria Page

MUSIC

Sacred Heart Group

M Guthrie

Youth Group

Leader

All welcome

Leader

M Fainga'anuku

K Mafi

ALTAR SERVERS

2 Servers required

2 Servers required

2 Servers required

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

2 Volunteers required

2 Volunteers required

2 Volunteers required

Baptism

Baptism

Joy Movell

READERS

Chris Carmichael

Sr Rosemary

Rosemarie Zalec

COUNTING TEAM 9

GEORGE DOLENCE 5023 7993

IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM

READER

EUCHARIST MINISTER

Grace McCracken

Ray Barbary