

Sunraysia Catholic Communities



Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337

257 Eleventh Street Mildura

P.O. Box 10037 Mildura, Vic 3502

Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959

Presbytery Red Cliffs: 5024 1966

Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716

mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 34

Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

Fr. Pat Flanagan

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9:00am—4:00pm

Sacred Heart
Mildura

Our Lady of Lourdes
Werrimull

St. Francis Xavier
Irymple

St. Joseph's
Red Cliffs

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
Merbein

*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*

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A 23rd August 2020

MILDURA

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Ilario Dimasi, Cathy Fotia (1yr anniversary)

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death: Sue Sherman

Anniversaries: Lance Davis

MERBEIN

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Dominic Pezzaniti

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

Sunday Mass live streamed from 5pm each Saturday via Youtube.

Bulletins are available for collection outside all main Church doors.

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: Janelle Carney, Bill Antonie, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuionisio, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Hailey Crossan, Geraldine Brunner, Albis Dy

Merbein: Mary Avery, John Dorman

Red Cliffs: Bill Antonie, Martin Cameron, Maureen Lee, Edna Chua, Lily Flanagan, Barry Crosbie, Brendan Bell, Caterina Brizzi, Marie Adams, Reynaldo Chan, Albis Dy, Roman & Joe Dy, Robert & Elizabeth Young, Maurice O'Connor

Our Parish Schools

Sacred Heart Mildura Principal: Des Lowry 5023 1204

St Paul's Mildura Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

OLSH Merbein Principal: Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

St. Joseph's Red Cliffs Principal: Mark Gibson 5024 1654

St. Joseph's Secondary College Mildura

Principal: Marg Blythman 5018 8000

Message from our Parish Priest

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sr Carmel for all her work and most of all her presence in our community. We have all been richly blessed by journeying with her in faith and daily life and ask God to continue to bless her in her ministry.

With Sr Carmel leaving Merbein there will be some slight admin changes. Parishioners are asked to contact the Parish Office for all bulletin notices including anniversaries.

All notices for the bulletin must be placed by Thursday 4pm.

Fr Matthew Thomas

SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

Office is closed due to Stage 3 COVID-19 restrictions. You can contact the Parish Office by phone 5021 2872 or email mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au. **No mask NO ENTRY.**

Preferably NO CASH for any payments as the safety of staff, volunteers and parishioners is our utmost concern.

Carmel is happy to help with over the phone payments via EFT and now with the new CDFpay online portals for all Parishes: Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs or you can follow the links below:

Mildura: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMildura>

Merbein: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMerbein>

Red Cliffs: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayRedCliffs>

Please note: All links have the option to select **Priest Support Presbytery (1st Collection)**

NEW PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Mildura, Merbein and Red Cliffs parishioners who contribute to Planned Giving via envelopes would realise that Sunday 30th August is their last giving envelope in their current pack. We are in the process of organising new envelope packs and in light of our current circumstances, if you wish to contribute via a different means and no longer wish to receive the envelopes please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office asap to discuss different options available. New packs will be delivered within the next two weeks.

First Reading

Is 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet
Isaiah

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8

- (R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.
1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
 2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
 3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor?

Who could ever give him
anything or lend him anything?
All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.



"WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?"

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

What's in a Name?

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros.

Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build *my* church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus).

Notice that Jesus only makes promises about '*my* church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Euro-centric mindset.

Fortunately, we have a successor of St Peter responding to our Risen Lord's command to St Francis of Assisi, 'Rebuild *my* church'.

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the 265th successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com
Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93, being Federal Minister for Justice from 1987-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then. He is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.