



# 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: 37/2023

23rd Sunday Year A OT 9th & 10th September 2023

## Message from our Parish Priest

Our Gospel reading talks about forgiveness and trying to mend conflicts before they escalate into something bigger. Often easier said than done but there is our personal challenge can I mend a rift before it becomes a problem.

Safeguarding Sunday is a prime time for all of us to be aware of the importance of protection not only for our young people but also those vulnerable adults in our community as well.

I will be away from Monday 11th September until Thursday 21st on school camp with the year 9 students from St Joseph's College in Central Australia.

This weekend we are also doing our annual collection for sick and retired priests this is a good way for us to assist those who have assisted other through their ministry of service.

*God bless you all,*

*Fr Matthew*

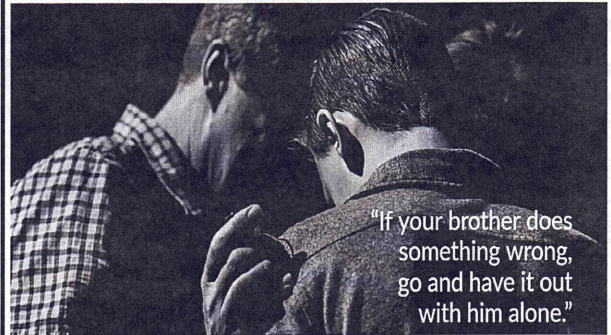
**Catholicism 10-part TV documentary, by Bishop Robert Barron.** Screened at St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs every Wednesday afternoon at 5.30pm. One hour viewing, followed by informal discussion. All welcome.  
**This week: "The ineffable mystery of God."**

## Parish Contact Details

Administration Officer: Ms Carmel Russo  
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9am – 4pm  
257 Eleventh Street Mildura  
PO Box 10037, Mildura Vic 3502  
Phone: 03 5021 2872 or 0417 862 082  
E-mail: sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au

## New Planned Giving Envelopes

Don't forget to use your new Planned Giving envelopes. If you have any old envelopes around your home please discard them. Should there be any discrepancies to your statement please contact the Parish Office on 50212872. If you would like to contribute via Direct Debit or change your contribution or any personal details like residential address or contact number please contact the Parish office.



"If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone."

## Weddings

We congratulate **Nicholas Alicastro & Holly Jones** who were married this weekend.



## Tap & Go Presbytery

The parish has 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 the main entrance of Irymple, Merbein & Red Cliffs churches.



**TAP & GO**

## Finances

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$1818.10</b>		
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	<b>\$1047.00</b>	<b>\$ 82.50</b>	<b>\$138.25</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 693.00</b>	<b>\$ 74.20</b>	<b>\$112.00</b>
<b>Special Collection</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Next week's Counting Team</b>	<b>Team 1 — G Lavery</b>		

## Sacramental Dates for 2023

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



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

(Gr 4 and above)

**Friday 20th, Saturday 21st  
& Sunday 22nd October**

**PENANCE** (Gr 2 and above)

**Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm**

*Parent meeting: 4th October 7pm,*

Sacred Heart Church



**RECONCILIATION**

## Sacred Heart Church Piety Stall Opening Hours

The Sacred Heart Church Piety Stall will now be available on the 3rd Sunday before and after all masses.

All are most welcome to come look and see what is available or we are happy to help out if you require something different or special. For further information please contact the Parish Office on 5021 2872.

## Trading Stalls & Cuppa Mildura & Red Cliffs



This Sunday — Cuppa and Trading stall will be held after the 9am Mass Mildura and 10am Mass Red Cliffs. Proceeds from Mildura and Red Cliffs will go towards the BCSF Retired Priests Fund.

Donations of produce, preserves, seedlings, baked goods etc would be greatly appreciated and can be left on the day.

## Sacred Heart Family Group

We'll be lunching at the Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at noon. Please let Helen know your intentions on 0427 441 466. All welcome to join us.



## BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

### Collection for Sick and Retired Priests

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Seventeen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund. Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation. Envelopes will be available from this weekend.



**Contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.**

*CARING FOR THOSE WHO  
CARED FOR US.*

## Safeguarding Sunday—September 10, 2023

The Parish of Sts Anne and Joachim and the Diocese of Ballarat are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, may we work to build and support safe communities for all people.

You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023](http://www.catholic.au/s/article/safeguardingsunday2023)

## Migrant & Refugee Sunday – September 24, 2023

The Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office have provided materials for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, which will be held on September 24. Resources are available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/109th-world-day-of-migrants-refugees-sunday-september-24-2023/>

"I tell you solemnly once again,  
if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all,  
it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven."



Matthew 18:19

## WEEKLY PRAYER & SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

### *Sacred Heart Church Mildura*

**Exposition and Benediction:** Tuesday 4pm

**Charismatic Group:** Tuesday after 6pm Mass

**Reconciliation:** Saturday after 9:30am Mass

### *Monaghan Centre*

**Christian Meditation:** Saturday 11.30am

**Scripture Reflection:** Thursday 2pm – 3pm

**Children's Catechesis:** Saturday 10am – 11am

## PARISH SCHOOLS CONTACT

**Sacred Heart Primary School, Mildura**

*Principal: Mr Mark Gibson. Ph: 5023 1204*

**St Paul's Primary School, Mildura**

*Principal: Mr Vince Muscatello. Ph: 5023 4567*

**St Joseph's Primary School, Red Cliffs**

*Principal: Mrs Naomi Kennedy. Ph: 5024 1654*

**Our Lady of Sacred Heart, Merbein**

*Principal: Mrs Narelle Gallagher. Ph: 5025 2258*

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

*Principal: Mrs Marg Blythman. Ph: 5018 8000*

Sts Anne and Joachim Catholic Parish of Sunraysia adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria.

Our policies are on display in each church, and on our website.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Vince Pileggi.**

This Weekend Roster: 9th & 10th September 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	G Huxtable	A Greville, A Naray Volunteer please		M Guthrie All welcome
Sun 8.30am Irymple	M Duck			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	R Op't Hoog	M Modica, L Welsh, R Byra	L Belej	M Sulliva, J Macri, B Lewis, B Prescott
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	T Gardiner	N Kennedy	C Cavallaro	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	K Aston	M Bowring	R Antony Family	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	F Carlin	B Bunting, K Groves, J Hall	Baptism	S Fatai, K Mapapalangi
Next Weekend Roster: 16th & 17th September 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	R Tongue	R Tongue, P Kerr, Volunteer please		M Sullivan, J Macri, J Ljubic
Sun 8.30am Irymple	W Schmidt			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	T Fainga'anuku	R & R Op't Hoog, E Mazza	M Gobbo	Tongan Community M Guthrie
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	A Higham	S Orr	C Cavallaro	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	N Prevedello	K McCarthy	F Cox, Val McCarthy	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	M Bowring	M Rodi, M Irvin, S Hermans	Baptism Family	S Fatai, K Mapapalangi

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Christian Mira, Dolly Ridings  
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**

Tom Cavallaro

**Anniversaries**

Teresa Scopacasa (30 yr anniversary next Saturday 16th September 6pm)

**Mildura:**

**Saturday 6pm:**

Vince and Anna-Maria Tripodi

**Sunday 9am:**

**Friday 6pm:**

Domenico De Angelis

**Merbein:**

Irene Byrne, John Klaric, Mavis Murphy, Joan Marshall and Maureen Aston

**Red Cliffs:**

Cecelia & Domenico D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone, Francesco & Maria-Antonia Tassone

**Thursday 5.30pm:**

Angelo Resta (10 yr anniversary), Luigi Resta (50 yr anniversary), Domenico De Angelis

*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.*



**MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

Tuesday	9.30am	Red Cliffs NO MASS
	1pm	Princes Court Mass
	4pm	Expo/Benediction
	6pm	Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am	Mildura
Thursday	9.30am	Merbein
	9.30am	Mildura NO MASS
	5.30pm	Red Cliffs
Friday	10am	Funeral Mass, Mildura
	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**

**September 2023**

- Mon 11 Sep:** Knights of the Southern Cross monthly meeting – 7.30pm, KOSC Clubrooms
- Tue 12 Sep:** Princes Court Aged Care Service – 1pm
- Thu 14 Sep:** *Catholicism*, ep. 3: *The Ineffable Mystery of God* – 5.30pm, Red Cliffs
- Wed 20 Sep:** Oasis Aged Care Service – 1pm
- Thu 21 Sep:** Anointing Mass, Merbein – 9.30am
- Thu 21 Sep:** *Catholicism*, ep. 4: *Mary, the Mother of God* – 5.30pm, Red Cliffs
- Tue 26 Sep:** Parish Finance – 7.15am, Parish Office
- Tue 26 Sep:** BUPA Aged Care Service – 1pm
- Wed 27 Sep:** Anointing Mass, Mildura – 2pm
- Wed 27 Sep:** Baptism Preparation Evening, Monaghan Centre – 7pm



## First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2,6-9. R. v.8

(R.) O that today you would listen to his voice!  
Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my  
work.' (R.)

## Second Reading

Romans 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

## Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;  
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

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Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Our Lord acknowledged that the community he was establishing had to set boundaries. Who is to decide who is within or outside those boundaries?

In today's Gospel, Our Lord teaches that a nuanced step by step process should be invoked. First, there is private conversation, then slightly extended to bring in two or three others, then a sort of church community jury before a person is put beyond the pale. Our Lord promises to be with them to help guide their decision.

We all know of marriages which are fractured and where one partner has found intimacy and security in a second (civil) marriage.

Pope Francis has not suggested that the second marriage be regarded as valid. But he has suggested a process of discernment to allow a divorced person to receive 'the Eucharist . . . a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.'

Could a jury of ordinary Catholic lay people help make that discerning judgement, and then advise the Bishop as to the next step? We could pause for a moment to ponder the promise: 'Where two or three are gathered into my name, I am there with them.'

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Next Weeks Readings: / 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 17th September 2023

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:30–28:7

Psalm: Ps 102:1-4, 9-12

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35