



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 Damian Styles

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

Office Hours: Tues—Fri 9am—4pm

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Werrimull**

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

The Nativity of the Lord / Year A - 24th & 25th December 2016

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

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Parish Prayer Room

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am

RECENT DEATH: Domenico Ficarra

ANNIVERSARIES: Sergio Malcotti

Saturday 6pm: Kylie Davis

Saturday 8pm:

Sunday 9am:

Tuesday 7pm: Leonard Code, Stephen Muir

Friday 5.40pm: Pietro Marziano

*(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. Names will be included
for the duration of one month after which family or friends can request more time.*

Yvonne Ash, Don Lewis, Moataane Vatuvei, Brian Ramsay,
Graeme Lewis, Joan Appleby, Ron Morello, Monica
Crimmins, Daniel Ralli, Dan Rodan, John Devilee, Ethan
Neyland, Georgie Manning, Dorothy Norris, Eileen Flanner,
Fr Denis Dennehy, Eli Madden-Andrews, Kel Townsend,
Vince Alicastro, Judy Hunt, Hailey Crossan,
Teresa Panuccio, Geraldine Brunner, Siliako Lolesio

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The readings for the Christmas liturgies vary from celebration to celebration. The prologue to Matthew's gospel provides the first part of the gospel for the Christmas Vigil Mass. The first two words of the gospel (*biblos geneseōs*) evoke the first words of the Book of Genesis and thus locate the child to be born within the broad sweep of the birth of the cosmos. At the same time, the child Jesus is identified as Messiah or *Christos* (the anointed of God) and descendant of Israel's ancestors, Abraham and David. His name is symbolic of the salvation or liberation he will bring for "his people". At this time of Earth's distress, we are conscious of our need to be saved from our "sins" which include our capacity to destroy God's world for selfish gain.



The gospel for Midnight Mass (Lk 2:1-14) comes from the great story-teller, Luke, as does the gospel for the early morning Mass (Lk 2:15-20). Luke tells us that Jesus was born into the world of the Roman Empire during the reign of Caesar Augustus. In his lifetime, Augustus was acclaimed by the people as saviour of the world, son of God, and bringer of peace, albeit by violent means. Luke's communities at the end of the first century would have known the achievements and reputation of Caesar Augustus. These early Christians would have recognised in Luke's story of the birth of Jesus a very deliberate attempt to proclaim Jesus, rather than Caesar Augustus, as the face of God, as saviour of the world, and as bringer of the good news of peace. Luke is a master story-teller. He weaves, from Israel's sacred history and from what he knows about Jesus' origins, a wonderful tapestry of life and hope for the world, a tapestry that unites the heavenly, the human, and the animal world in one great act of praise. The violence that brought "peace" to the Roman Empire has no place in this scene. The peace of Christ is the deep peace of non-violence and reconciliation. It is the peace that satisfies the longing of our hearts.

On Christmas morning, we hear the words of John's prologue. Once more, Earth's genealogy in Genesis 1 is evoked: "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.*" The gospel then asserts that "all things came into being through him" and that "what has come into being in him was life and the life was the light of the people". These assertions prepare the way for the extraordinary statement that the Word was enfleshed and tented among us. John brings home to us the momentous nature of the birth of the child whom Matthew has named Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Veronica Lawson rsm



**SACRED HEART PARISH
MISSION 2017**

Presented by Fr Ray Sanchez CP

THE FAMILY AND HOW WE COMMUNICATE

**GRIEF, LOSS & THE MYSTERY OF HUMAN
SUFFERING**

**PRAYER, SOLITUDE & EVERYDAY
SPIRITUALITY**

RECONCILIATION & EUCHARIST

Sunday March 12th 2017

to

Friday March 17th 2017

**SACRAMENTS OF
RECONCILIATION &
EUCHARIST FOR
CHILDREN 2017**



All information pertaining to the reception of these Sacraments in 2017 is now available at the Parish Office - 50 212872

**Reconciliation: Friday 17th
March**

First Eucharist: Weekend 17th & 18th June



Romans 15:13

PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

1st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)	\$1126.40
2nd Collection (includes DD, CC & EFT)	\$3571.00
Loose Plate	\$ 533.50



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE from Fr Michael

A very happy and peace filled Christmas to all who have come to celebrate with us this weekend.

Welcome—to those who gather here regularly; to those who have come especially to celebrate this feast day of the birth of Christ; to those who are visitors to Mildura and the Parish of Sacred Heart; to those who have come home to be with family and friends this Christmas.

May we be open to the marvellous grace of God which abounds in so many ways, but which is so more readily perceived where kindness abounds and the warmth of compassion is freely bestowed.

May this Mass we celebrate together open us to the mystery of the presence of Christ among us, and strengthen us in our faith as well as our desire to be His instruments of peace, joy, and goodwill.

Thanks to all of you who contribute to the life and development of our Parish throughout the year. Your contribution is greatly appreciated. May God bless us all at this time, and may our holiday be safe.

Fr Michael McKinnon

**OFFICE HOURS FOR THE NEXT 3
WEEKS**

CLOSED FROM 23rd—30th December

OPEN: 3rd—6th January: 9am—12.30pm
OPEN: 10th—13th January: 9am—12.30pm

**FOR ALL AFTER HOURS ENQUIRIES
PLEASE CALL— 5022 9959**

SACRED HEART SOUP KITCHEN

Thanks to all who have volunteered their assistance at the Soup Kitchen throughout the year, especially Paula Cox and her coordinating Team. The Soup Kitchen will be closed now until the end of the school holidays.

GUILT EDGED SMARTPHONES MAKE AN UNHAPPY CHRISTMAS GIFT

A few years ago I woke up on Christmas morning to see a small, neatly wrapped gift under the tree. The size and shape of the present were familiar and I was so excited to see my name on the gift tag. I'd wanted a new phone all year—not that I didn't have one that was perfectly functional. I just really wanted one of those touch screens everyone else seemed to have.

A few months later I could no longer feel pride for my phone, instead just guilt. I'd sat down and watched a documentary about how phones just like mine were manufactured. I had discovered the minerals used in the manufacturing of my prized device were also responsible for funding the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Despite this, millions of people this Christmas will purchase phones, laptops and cameras as gifts. All these devices have one thing in common: coltan. Coltan is the shortened name for columbite-tantalite, a dark mineral, resembling tar. The Congo is home to the largest amount of this precious mineral, with the nation having over 80% of the world's coltan stores. These little rocks aren't just shoved into the back of your iPhone, instead, they are refined to create a high grade, heat resistant powder. It's an important component in modern technology because it allows for a high electric charge.

The United Nations has been aware of the dark side of coltan mining in the DRC for some time. The 2001 UN report on *The Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources in the Congo* found there are two major consequences of coltan mining. First, there has been an increase in money funding the Rwandan Patriotic Army, as well as many Ugandan military commanders and civilians profiting individually.

The second problem is the emergence of large networks of these top military and business men who rely on the slavery of civilians in their mines. In other words, when we buy a new phone we are indirectly helping warmongers in Congo exploit civilians and continue funding the war.

The minerals, once out of the ground, are sold to companies who then make the devices, which are then sold to manufacturers such as Apple and Samsung. This lengthy supply chain provides ethical protection to companies like Apple; they just buy the parts and don't ask what child has to climb into a dangerous and dusty mineshaft to make it happen. The lack of transparency in these supply chains is why consumers are in the dark about the relationship between technology manufacturing and blood minerals.

The problem consumers face is not knowing the depth of a company's supply chain. The United Nations report does not place blame on large multi-national corporations for the conflict in DRC, but says these companies are providing the engine of the conflict!

In the 2010 film *Blood in the Mobile*, Danish filmmaker Frank Piasecki Poulsen investigates the supply chain of the Finnish phone manufacturer Nokia. He goes to extreme lengths to find out the answer to the question "Is there blood in my mobile?"

The average consumer, unlike Poulsen, can't jump on a flight to Congo before deciding whether or not to purchase a new iPhone. Instead, we put our trust every day in the little 'ethical standards' section on the Apple website. We put our trust in big brands and expect they are operating in fair and ethical ways all over the world. Coltan mining is just one of the many ways people in the developing world are exploited for Western luxuries. Consumers have the right to find out the true cost of the technology being bought.

This Christmas, it really is the thought that counts when giving gifts.

Francine Crimmins—Eureka Street, 18 December 2016

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: *Marg Blythman* 5018 8000

24th & 25th December, 2016

31st December 2016 / 1st January, 2017

THIS WEEK’S READINGS

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

First Reading: Isa 9:1-7
Resp Psalm: Ps 95:1-3, 11-13
Response: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.
Second Reading: Tit 2:11-14
Gospel: Lk 2:1-14

First Reading: Num 6:22-27
Resp Psalm: Ps 66:2-3, 5, 6, 8. R. v. 2
Response: May God bless us in his mercy.
Second Reading: Gal 4:4-7
Gospel: Lk 2: 16-21

EUCCHARIST MINISTERS

EUCCHARIST MINISTERS

SATURDAY			SUNDAY		
8PM	MIDNIGHT	9AM	6PM	9AM	5PM
6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	10 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required
Margaret McDonald	Louise Belej	Lyn Welsh	Maria Cirillo	Katalina Mafi	Jeena Jose
Ellen Frauenfelder	Mary Gobbo	Ross Tongue	Christine Carmichael	Aloisia Mafi	Joyce Ribarits
Christine Carmichael	Vittorio Carlucci	8 volunteers please	Ellen Frauenfelder	Jean Rocca	Clem Carlucci
Morris Henderson	Clem Carlucci		Jacinda Deacon	Bobby Castello	Vittorio Carlucci
Paula Cox	Elina Garreffa		Katy Quinlan	Ross Tongue	Christine Slattery
Carmel Muscatello	Bobby Castillo		Margaret Sheahan	Talia Faingaanuku	Jacinta Macri
Narie Lewis	Terresa Parente			Michael Faingannuku	

MUSIC

MUSIC

N Arsmden 6pm	Meg Sullivan	M Guthrie	Sacred Heart Group	Italian Choir	Youth Group
K Mafi 8pm		All Welcome	Leader	N Arsmden	K Mafi
			M Faingaanuku		

ALTAR SERVERS

ALTAR SERVERS

Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required
AS PER ROSTER	AS PER ROSTER	AS PER ROSTER		Jim O’Donnell	

READERS

READERS

Mary Jackson	Gary Huxtable	Maureen Speed	Anita Naray	Ross Tongue	Greg Johnston
Vince Muscatello					

COUNTING TEAM 1

COUNTING TEAM 2

GERRY LAVERY 5021 1918

JOE DEJONG 5023 7802

IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM

IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM

READER	EUCCHARIST MINISTER	READER	EUCCHARIST MINISTER
P Riordan	R Hill	M Smith	M Hill