

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
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newssheet: Week 38

Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas
Retired Priest Fr. Pat Flanagan

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*

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A 20th September 2020

MILDURA

Recent Death: Frances Smith (Melbourne), Philip Smith
Anniversaries: Giovanni Gallace (5yr anniversary)

RED CLIFFS

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

MERBEIN

Anniversaries: Mervyn Farnsworth

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

Message from our Parish Priest

With some of the COVID restrictions changing this brings us all hope that some sort of normality might be on the horizon.

We do need to continue to pray for each other and support one another in many different ways.

Please note that I will be away from Sunday to Thursday as I am heading home to see my family.

Fr Matthew

Sunday Mass now 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, 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

COVID-19 Step 3—Easing of Restrictions

What it means for churches and religious ceremonies?

Private Prayer/Church Visit—As from Monday the 21st of September the churches will be opened (9am-6pm) for private prayer and devotions. Please note: people cannot gather in larger groups.

You must sit in your family group or with a person in your social bubble and only one family group or social bubble group can be in the church at any time.

Masses—the current provisions do not allow us to gather in our churches to celebrate mass.

Funerals—will be able to have up to 20 people gathered plus those required to conduct the funeral (the celebrant and funeral directors)

Baptisms—at this stage we are unable to celebrate baptisms.

Weddings—will be able to have up to 10 people gathered (this includes the couple, two witnesses and the Celebrant).

You will need to sign in and out of the church as per COVID regulations.

LOCAL NEWS

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS Adore Daily Reflections 2020

Advent and Christmas reflection preparation is going to look a little different this year and we would like to put forward a suggestion that we have 6—8 online groups from around the Parishes of Mildura, Merbein, Ouyen, Red Cliffs and Robinvale as well as face to face if allowed.

These online groups will be at different times through

the week which will allow us to join together with others from around the region to prepare for the birth of Christ.

The first week of Advent commences on the 29th November. In preparation for this please contact the Parish Office by Tuesday 9th October if you would like a booklet. Cost for the booklet will be \$4.00



SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 22nd & Wednesday 23rd September and Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th September.

New CDFpay online payment portals are now available for Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs. Please 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)**.

If you are contributing to the 2nd Collection please include your Planned Giving number in the comments section. Carmel will gladly help with any enquiries.

NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN

All requests for notices for the weekend bulletin need to be in by 12noon each Thursday. You can either email: mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au or call 5021 2872 during office hours.



So the LAST
will be
FIRST
and the FIRST
LAST.

Matthew 20:1-16

The Lord
is near to
all who
call him.

DIOCESAN NEWS

St Vincent de Paul Drought Community Support Initiative

St Vincent de Paul are available to assist those who are eligible for round 2 of the Drought Community Support Initiative funding. Funding of \$3,000 per application is available for farming households who meet the following eligibility criteria:

- over 18 years of age;
- live/work in an eligible drought declared LGA: Benalla, Buloke, East Gippsland, Gannawarra, Greater Shepparton, Latrobe, Mildura, Moira, Pyrenees, Strathbogie, Swan Hill, Wangaratta, Wellington, Yarriambiack;
- be permanent residents/citizen of Australia;
- be primarily employed in farming related activity, ie: farmer, farm worker, farm supplier/contractor.

COVID-19 has impacted the Society's ability to move around local communities and so they are reaching out to networks to assist in promoting this funding. Staff in the National Office are available to assist applicants who need help completing the questions for eligibility or who may not have internet connection or experience navigating online. There are many families that have not yet been reached. For more information call the Drought Team 1300 846 643 or go to www.vinnies.org.au/drougthelp.

Engaging Your Catholic Faith

Engaging Your Catholic Faith is a series of short sessions offered online by Catholic Theological College lecturers on a range of topics including theology, scripture, pastoral studies and spirituality. Sessions will be held from September 14 - October 31 and will cost \$20 per session. The sessions will be held via Zoom and will run for approximately 90 minutes. More information and enrolment details are available from www.ctc.edu.au.

Catholic Earthcare Convocation is digital during September

Catholic Earthcare is a place and platform where the many, diverse voices within our church community come together, in dialogue, to help and co-create our shared future. Come join us digitally during September, so together we can all celebrate and *Care for our Common Home*. View the program and register for sessions at <http://catholicearthcare.org.au/2020-convocation/>

Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission Mental Health Webinar

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission is hosting a zoom webinar for anyone who wants to know more about mental health in Australia and to empower participants to understand mental health, the supports available here in Australia and provide an opportunity to reach out, encourage hope and bring fullness of life to those we love and care for. The Zoom webinar will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2020 from 2.00pm – 3.00pm. For more information, registration details and to download the flyers, go to the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/>

RED CLIFFS CEILING

With the Ceiling works under way here are a couple of photos of the removal of the old ceiling.



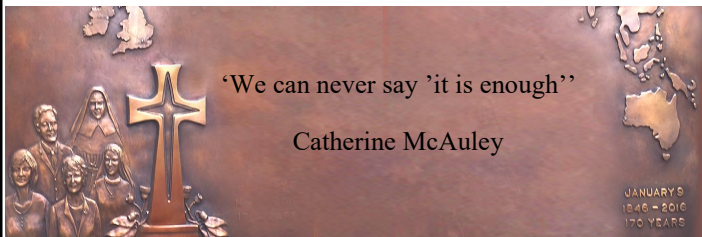
Work is expected to be completed in approximately eight to ten weeks, which means we are hopeful to have the church reopened and ready to use for the Feast of Christ the King (November 22nd). To make this worksite safe could all parishioners refrain from entering the church or being on church grounds during the refurbishment. Once COVID restrictions are adjusted Masses will be in a different location keeping in mind we are unable to use the school due to the COVID Restrictions for Education. Further information in coming weeks.

A PRAYER-CATH FRY 29/6/44-19/9/13

A beautiful gentle kind modest lady who devoted her life to her family faith friends flowers animals and birds. Lord let us live our lives as Cath lived hers. Cath loved without condition; she talked without intention; Cath listened without judgement and gave without reason. Cath cared without expectations and remembered without regret. Lord help us to live that way.

Feast of Our Lady of Mercy

Thursday the 24th of September is the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, Patroness of Sisters of Mercy. In 1827 on this day the House of Mercy, Baggot St, Dublin was opened We pay tribute to our Mercy Sisters; Carmel, Helen, Patricia and Rosemary.



Catherine McAuley's—Thirty Days Prayer

It was Catherine McAuley's custom to pray two Thirty Days' Prayers in times of need, for benefactors and co-workers and at the establishment of a new foundation. The following is an adaptation of the prayers.



Merciful Jesus, you inspired in Catherine McAuley a lively conviction of your enduring love. In times of need she and her companions faithfully entreated your help, and they were never disappointed. In this same confident spirit we come to you now.

Because you walked among us, you know our human experience. You have shared our joys and sorrows. You have healed and comforted us, sustained and renewed us. Be with us now in this time of need. Let us experience your loving presence as you grant us this favor we ask of you:

We also ask your blessing on our living and deceased family members, our sisters in community, our associates, companions and benefactors. Show them your loving kindness.

Encouraged by your care for us, we will with lively fidelity devote ourselves to the works of mercy. Through our good works, may your people experience your unceasing care for them. We ask all this through the intercession of Mary, your mother and the mother of Mercy.

Amen.

**Never regret
a day in your life.**

Good days give you
happiness, bad days
give you **experience**,
worst days give you
lessons, and best days
give you **memories**.

COPIES OF AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS AND THE MARCH EDITION OF OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH FOYER.

First Reading

Is 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on
him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18

(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.

1. I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

Second Reading

Phil 1:20-24. 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

For me to live is Christ.

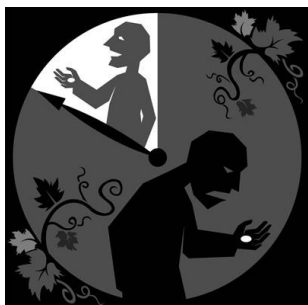
Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life
or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but
then death would bring me something more; but then
again, if living in this body means doing work which is
having good results – I do not know what I should
choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be
gone and be with Christ, which would be very much
the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a
more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be
unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

See Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your
Son.
Alleluia!



Gospel

Mt 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Why are you jealous because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven
is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire
workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement
with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent
them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third
hour he saw others standing idle in the market place
and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I
will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about
the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he
went out and did the same. Then at about the elev-
enth hour he went out and found more men standing
round, and he said to them, "Why have you been
standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has
hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go
into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of
the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and
pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals
and ending with the first." So those who were hired
at about the eleventh hour came forward and re-
ceived one denarius each. When the first came, they
expected to get more, but they too received one de-
narius each. They took it, but grumbled at the land-
owner. "The men who came last" they said "have
done only one hour, and you have treated them the
same as us, though we have done a heavy day's
work in all the heat." He answered one of them and
said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we
not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and
go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay
you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own?
Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the
last will be first, and the first, last.'

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Our attention shifts slightly in these last Sundays of Ordi-
nary Time. We turn from concentration on the character
and responsibilities of discipleship to reflection on the im-
port of the end of time. As we move toward the close of
the liturgical year, we are invited to consider the final
coming of Christ and the last judgment.

The thought of judgment is enough to strike fear in the
hearts of many. We sometimes experience tension between
the idea of divine justice, which requires that the good be
adequately rewarded and the evil be appropriately pun-
ished, and that of the mercy of God, which we hope will
be generously extended to us. As seen in the readings for
this Sunday, the justice of God does not conform to the
standards of human justice. It is incomprehensible, be-
cause its foundation is mercy. While we might find conso-
lation in this view of divine judgment when it is directed
toward us, our hearts do not always seem to be generous
enough to rejoice in the mercy extended to others. It is al-
most as if we feel that we have been cheated in some way,
if God is merciful to others. However, divine mercy can
work in us to abolish our pettiness and indignation and
replace it with generosity of heart. We are called to con-
duct ourselves with this kind of generosity, this kind of
love, this kind of mercy.