

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
 parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au
 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 40

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP Fr. James Kerr 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—Christine Slattery, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed under Parish Heading

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY		9:30AM	
TUESDAY	6:00PM	5:30PM	
WEDNESDAY	9:15AM	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	9:15AM	5:30PM	AS ADVISED
FRIDAY	5:40PM	9:30AM	
SATURAY	9:30AM	9:30AM	

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

	IRYMPLE	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
SATURDAY		6:00PM		
SUNDAY	8:30AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	10:30AM
		5:00PM		
WERRIMULL 11:00AM (LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)				

MILDURA

Recent Deaths: Jan Murnane, Betty Martin

Anniversaries:

Saturday 6pm: Perce Lunn

Sunday 9am: Quintino Matrippolito

Sunday 5pm: Antonio Callipari

RED CLIFFS

Anniversaries:

MERBEIN

Anniversaries: Oct.6th Alf Sylvia; 7th Mark McKee; 8th Fred Edwards, Daniel Radcliffe; 10th Vincenzo Tagliereni, Margaret O'Connor; 12th Bill Walsh.

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

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year C 5th & 6th October 2019

The strength to remain faithful in the face of adversity, the capacity to forgive, and the courage to do what we ought to do without seeking recognition or reward are perennial challenges for most people. According to the Lukan Jesus, it takes faith to meet such challenges. The devastating fires in the Amazon forests and in north-eastern Australia are testing the faith of those who have devoted much of their energy, even their whole lives, to speaking truth to power about the need for action to offset the effects of global warming. And yet these people remain faithful, finding the strength to forgive and the courage to do what must be done for the sake of our common home.

Today's gospel reading brings to closure the central section of the long journey narrative that recounts the teaching of the Lukan Jesus on his way from Samaria to the final events of his life in Jerusalem. The "apostles" ask Jesus to increase their faith. Their request is in itself an act of faith. He has been telling them to be on their guard. He has been emphasising the importance of endless and unconditional forgiveness. These disciples are well aware that to keep on forgiving those who offend repeatedly is not easy. It is in this context that they ask him to increase the faith. Jesus responds by insisting that even the smallest amount of faith can work wonders. His metaphorical language stretches the imagination. Even transplanting a mulberry tree from land to sea becomes possible through the power of a faith-infused word! They have no answer to this.

Luke seems to be invoking "faith" in much the same way as does Habakkuk in today's first reading which closes with a comparison between the proud whose "spirit is not right" and the just who "live by faith" (Hab. 2:4). The Hebrew word for faith in this passage is probably better translated as "fidelity" or "faithfulness". For the Lukan Jesus, a little fidelity or faithfulness goes a long way. Among other things, it enables us to keep on forgiving even wilful ignorance and to keep on acting for justice.

Finally, Jesus puts a number of questions to his disciples, questions that align their status with that of slaves in the service of a master. His questions provide a stark contrast with an example he has offered earlier in the gospel where the slave master serves the faithful slaves (12:37). These questions are consistent, however, with his insistence that true disciples do not seek the reward of honour or recompense for their service. Jesus' followers must admit that their service is "unprofitable" in that it is no more than is required of them. Power, status, wealth acquired at the expense of others, refusal to forgive, all run counter to the path of gospel fidelity. To live by faith in our times is to be humble, forgiving, just and unremittingly attentive to the cry of the earth.

Veronica Lawson rsm



Sacred Heart Mildura REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Sacramental Life & Liturgy



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2019

The Parent Information Evening will be held at Sacred Heart Church **this Wednesday 9th of October at 7pm.**

Parents must attend this evening

All families should have received the Registration Form and relevant information pertaining to Confirmation. Should you require further information please contact the Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 9am – 4pm on 5021 2872.

Confirmation Dates for 2019: limit 20 candidates per mass

**Sat 9th Nov 6pm; Sun 10th Nov 9am;
Sat 16th Nov 6pm; Sun 17th Nov 9am**

RCIA 2019 –2020

Our next program officially begins on the 24th October 7pm in the Hillman Room.

We currently have 5 people enrolled to begin. If parishioners are aware of any adults interested in becoming Catholics could you please direct them to the Parish Office before this date.



Community Life & Outreach

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 8th October 7.30am, Sacred Heart Parish Office.

SACRED HEART LADIES SOCIAL GROUP

Monthly meeting Tuesday 8th October, 2pm, Hillman room, all welcome.

SACRED HEART PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 8th October after the 6pm Mass in the Hillman room.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION GROUP

Meet weekly every Thursday at 10am in the Hillman room, Sacred Heart Presbytery. All welcome.



MONTH OF OCTOBER MISSION MONTH Lets make a special effort next Sunday



SHARED TABLE STALL & CUPPA next Sunday after 9am Mass

All money collected goes directly to the Projects of The Shared Table in Lima, Peru.

Cuppa in the Monaghan Centre. All welcome.

Weekly Prayer Opportunities Mildura

Prayer of the Church: Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri. 8:40am

Charismatic Prayer Meeting: Tuesday 6:30pm

Devotions and Exposition: Friday 3:00pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am–10:30am

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Prayer Room

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: Peter Speed, Theresita Vy (Manila), Lorna Kearney, Tess Kerr, Dien Brown, Clair Lang, Sandra McCarthy, Albis Dy, Brian Ramsey, Vince Alicastro, Geraldine Brunner, Hailey Crossan

Merbein: Martin Rogers, Maria Pyatt, Ted Verryt, Frank Chandler, Fr Frank Smith CSSR

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

STEWARDSHIP—(Sacred Heart Parish only - please check boxed envelope number)



We still have a number of envelope boxes that need to be collected from the Sacred Heart Parish Office. Could the following parishioners who have the actual envelope numbers: **36, 56, 65, 140 and 141** and parishioners who have an envelope box with their name on it with the following numbers: **45, 51, 52, 68, 145** please call into the Sacred Heart Parish Office as soon as possible as there has been a mix up of envelopes and funds need to be allocated appropriately. Apologies for this error.

ADVENT BOOK PRAYER & REFLECTION THE WAY

If you would like to have a copy please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872 by Thursday 31st October so that an order can be placed.



PLENARY COUNCIL THEMES FOR DISCERNMENT

Missionary & Evangelising
Humble, Healing and Merciful Church
Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal
Prayerful and Eucharistic
Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform
Joyful, Hope-filled and Servant Community

Copies of each Theme are now available at the Sacred Heart Parish Office for those who attended the meetings so that groups can chose which Theme they will be discerning for the process to begin.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS:

While the Season of Creation comes to its formal conclusion on Friday, 4th October, you are invited to join the Sisters of Mercy in their commitment to stand with the displaced people of our world and model a world of welcome and inclusion. And to actively engage in the protection of our Common Home and witness to the sacredness of all creation.

This Weekend's Responsorial Response: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

CONTROVERSY MIXES WITH CONSENSUS AS BISHOPS GATHER FOR AMAZON SYNOD

Catholic clergy from around the world are arriving in Rome this week for the Synod of Bishops for the Pan-Amazon Region, which begins Oct. 6. At the synod, 185 bishops will discuss the 3 million-square-mile area that is the home of marginalized indigenous people, a resource-rich territory heavily exploited for its bounty and the location of rainforests essential for recycling carbon dioxide that causes global warming.

While there will be some disagreements in the synod over how to adapt Catholicism to indigenous cultures, the bishops will be united with Francis on other topics that he holds dear: the environment and justice for indigenous peoples.

The overwhelming majority of the bishops called to the synod are from the Amazon region but some come from other parts of the world, including three from the United States: Bishop Robert McElroy of San Diego and Cardinals Sean O'Malley of Boston and Kevin Farrell, prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life.

O'Malley and Farrell are no surprise. O'Malley has been a close adviser of the pope and a member of the Council of Cardinals that the pope brings together periodically to give him advice. As the head of a Vatican dicastery, Farrell was a predictable appointee to the synod.

McElroy, on first blush, appears to be a simple bishop from San Diego, and some were curious as to why he was summoned. But McElroy is one of the smartest members of the American hierarchy. He has two doctorates, one from the Gregorian University in theology and another from Stanford University in political science. In addition, he is a strong supporter of Pope Francis and rumored to be under consideration for appointment to Boston, Philadelphia or some other major archdiocese.

Besides the bishops, another 80 people, including 53 lay and religious women, will be able to participate but will not be able to vote. Not allowing religious sisters to vote has been controversial since recent synods have had a religious brother with a vote.

The bishops will agree on the importance of protecting the Amazon rainforests but will also ask why the Amazonians should bear the burden of global warming while Europeans and Americans continue to pollute the Earth to preserve their lifestyles. Justice for the indigenous means not only freeing them from exploitation and murderous attacks but also giving them the tools to improve their lives while preserving the environment.

Here, the opposition will come mostly from outside the synod hall, from governments and economic interests who put their short-term financial interests ahead of the environment and indigenous peoples. Mining, logging and agribusiness continue to destroy huge patches of the Amazon with little restraint from government regulators. The presidents of Brazil and the United States believe that exploiting the Amazon, no matter the environmental costs, is essential to economic growth.

The few bishops who support these interests will argue that the bishops should focus on spiritual matters and leave politics and economics to others. But most bishops agree with Francis that the struggles for justice and the protection of the environment are integral parts of the gospel message.

More controversy will surround the topic of evangelization: how the gospel message should be expressed in indigenous cultures. Here the bishops will have a variety of views.

Too many bishops were trained to see the European expression of Catholicism as the ideal. While the days of imposing the Latin language on all Catholics are gone, conservatives still insist on imposing theologies based on Greek philosophy. They oppose any changes in the liturgy other than mere translation of texts. Ecclesial structures are based on those of medieval Europe. And indigenous religions are seen as superstitions that need to be suppressed.



In short, the old-style evangelization is premised on Europeanizing the indigenous peoples rather than looking for what is good in their cultures. Today, theologians recognize that the Spirit can be active outside the church in inspiring people to do good.

While this does not mean accepting everything in a culture, it does require approaching cultures with an open mind and listening heart. Rather than emphasizing what is wrong, the first focus should be on what is positive.

John Paul II wrote brilliantly on the need to inculturate Christianity in different cultural settings, but his teaching remained abstract while the Vatican bureaucracy suppressed any attempts to carry it out. Part of the difficulty is that inculturation is an art, not a science. It requires creativity, experimentation and the willingness to make mistakes. Bureaucrats are uncomfortable with experimentation.

One key aspect of adapting Catholicism to Amazonian cultures concerns ordaining married men.

Everyone agrees that the Eucharist is essential to Catholic life, but if you cannot have the Eucharist without priests, how can you have a Catholic community in the Amazon, where there are too few celibate priests to serve the people?

In addition, in cultures where women play an important leadership role, how can you have a worshipping community with all male leaders?

These are some of the tough questions that the bishops must face during their three-week meeting in Rome. We should not expect definitive answers to all these questions. What is great about the Francis papacy is that these issues are finally out in the open for discussion. The synod is part of a process, not a concluding — or even an initiating — event.

Many bishops think open discussion will scandalize the faithful. They still see the laity as uneducated children who will be frightened by disagreements among the bishops. Rather, the church needs to model to the world how important and controversial issues can be discussed in an atmosphere of openness and friendship.

[Jesuit Fr. Thomas Reese is a columnist for Religion News Service and author of *Inside the Vatican: The Politics and Organization of the Catholic Church*.]

SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1525.15	\$ 71.30	\$279.15
2 nd Collection (includes all EFT)	\$2036.50	\$214.00	\$521.60
Loose Plate	\$ 665.15	\$ 25.00	\$129.25

MOVE-IT PROGRAM FOR OVER 65s

COME AND TRY DAY

Monday November 11

10 am- 1PM

MODIFIED GOLF

EXERCISE

WALKING TOUR

CART TOUR

HISTORY TOUR IN CART

FLORA AND FAUNA TOUR

BBQ

CHAT

FUN



For further information contact:
David Gardiner 50234255 or
Pat Riordan 0429437663

Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart Merbein St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

PARISH NEWS:

Welcome back to the school community as they launch into the final term for 2019. We pray that this school term will be of great fulfilment for both teachers and students.

As we begin October which is traditionally known as Mission Month let us take to heart the words of Pope Francis *"In this extraordinary missionary month, let us pray that the Holy Spirit engender new missionary spring in the Church"*. You are also invited to take a copy of 'Mission in Pakistan' by Fr. Father Robert McMulloch, who recently visited Sunraysia. It may give you inspiration to 'keep on keeping on!'

The next stage of discernment for the Plenary Council will be presented to you on Sunday 20th October and the sharing of inspiration and ideas will take place at the reflection time at our Lay-led assembly on October 27th. We all need to take part in this Plenary Council to discern what the Spirit is asking of us here in Merbein.

SCHOOL NEWS:

In Term four we will be working on many different aspects about Catholic Missions. At school we are going to be immersed in some activities to experience what poverty is like. Mission Week will run from the 11th - 15th of November. Students will be given the opportunity to feel what it is like to have no footwear, wear clothing that is not their choice and doesn't fit correctly and even what it is like to live on rations in a refugee camp. As a school we have decided that we need to go beyond just raising money for Catholic Missions but also give the students some understanding of why. More information will come out in Term Three in regards to these immersion experiences.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Unit 9—Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9.30am, Tues, Thur:5.30pm

CALENDAR

Tuesday 8 October: Jacaranda Village Aged Care Prayer Service 10.30am, High Care—Manor. All welcome.

Sunday 13 October: Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Monday 14 October: Jacaranda Village Aged Care Prayer Service 11am Low Care—Cottages. All welcome.

Sunday 3 November: Remembrance Day Mass

Sunday 24th November: First Eucharist

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY FESTA, RED CLIFFS, SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER

Fr Adriano Pittarello, (Scalabrinian priest) will be celebrating the week commencing with nightly missions from tomorrow Monday 7th October through to Saturday 12th October at 7pm.

SUNDAY'S FEAST DAY WILL START WITH MASS AT 10AM, followed by a procession, plenty of food and local entertainment. There will also be pignates, tug-of-war, games and a jumping castle for the kids, finishing the festivities with the drawing of the raffle at 4.30pm. Raffle tickets are available for \$2each. If anyone would like to take a raffle book to sell, please contact either Marianna on 0419860247 or Chris on 0488377844.



MEETINGS

Due to the Mission this coming week the Parish Council will meet on Wednesday 16th October, 7pm Gathering area of Church.

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12th & 13th October 2019

First Reading: Book of Kings 5:14-17

Responsorial: Ps 97:1-4

Response: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading: St Paul to Timothy 2:8-13

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19



	Werrimull Last Sunday of each month 11am	Sacred Heart Saturday 6pm	Sacred Heart Sunday 9am	Sacred Heart Sunday 5pm	Irymple Sunday 8:30am	Red Cliffs Sunday 10:00am	Merbein Sunday 10:30am
Leader / Reader		Mary Jackson	Nicholas Matael	Volunteer Please	G McCracken	FESTA	Jeanette Ellis
Music		Filipino Group M Issanchon	M Guthrie, B Lewis J O'Bryan / B Prescott	M Hammond J Macri / J Ljubic		FESTA Italian Choir	
Offertory			Jim O'Donnell			FESTA	Vicki McCarthy Family
Altar Servers		Volunteer please	Volunteer please	Volunteer please		GROUP 6 T Dowling	Volunteer please
Eucharist Ministers		Maria Cirillo	Elena Garreffa	Wendy Finn	R Barbary	FESTA	Vicki McCarthy
		Christine Carmichael	Maryanne Modica	Tony Finn		FESTA	Val McCarthy
		Ellen Frauenfelder	Lyn Welsh	Bill Dolence	OASIS AGED CARE	FESTA	LAY-LED LEADERS October 27th Sr Carmel Setford Frances Sabo
		Jacinda Deacon	Giuseppe Scopacasa	Jacqui Willis	M Hoy	CUPPA'S	
		Katy Quinlan	Maria Scopacasa	Barbara Bunting			CHAFFEY AGED CARE Sr Carmel Setford
		Vince Pileggi	Susan Lewis	Volunteer please	LAY LITURGY LEADERS	FLOWERS T Pileggi	
Counting Team		TEAM 6	JIM O'DONNELL 5021 4939			B Gardner/S Williams	As per arrangement
Church Cleaning		As per arrangement				Volunteers	As per arrangement