

# Sunraysia Catholic Communities



Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337  
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Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959  
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716  
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www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 45

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*

## 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A 7th & 8th November 2020

### MILDURA

Recent Death: Donald McClean, Carmela Cirillo, Sue Tassone,  
Anniversaries: Marion Sharman

### RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:  
Anniversaries: Rocco Lamattina, Venanzio Pasut, Cecilia &  
Domenico D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone, Francesco & Maria-  
Antonia Tassone, Adrianna Tassone

### MERBEIN

Anniversaries:

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

## Message from our Parish Priest

*It has been great to see people back in the church, we are hoping that restriction keep changing and more of us can get together.*

*This month we celebrate the month of remembrance where we pray for and remember those who have died. In the churches are the Books of Remembrance where you are invited to write the names of people you want to remember.*

*On Thursday we have Remembrance Day, giving thanks for all the military personnel who have died. 'Lest We Forget'*

*This weekend we commence the first Eucharist Masses so I would like to congratulate all the candidates and their families and the parish sacramental team for the preparation of the children.*

*Let us continue to support and encourage each other through these coming days.*

*Fr Matthew*

## 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: Helen ter Bogt

Merbein:

Red Cliffs: Barry Crosbie

## 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



# LOCAL NEWS

## PARISH SOUP KITCHEN

The Soup Kitchen is reopening as from Monday 26th October for takeaway only. There will be COVID Restrictions in place.

However if people are aware of families who are genuinely struggling to provide meals for their themselves or their children, please direct them to the Presbytery.



## INVITATION SCRIPTURE SHARING

Each Thursday a group gathers to reflect on the Scripture Readings for the following weekend.

All are welcome

**Time:** Thursdays at 3pm

**Place:** Monaghan Centre

**To bring:** Bible or Sunday Missal.

For further information contact Sr Helen  
0438 734 524



## SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

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 do not use the Presbytery option when using the links above).

The preferred & dedicated link for Presbytery (1st Collection) is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpaySunraysia>

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

## RED CLIFFS CEILING

All panels are in and painted with audio work to commence. Work to clean the main church and pews returned to there original spot will begin this week and by the end of the week ceiling work in the gathering area of the church will commence.

The area is still a worksite so to keep everyone safe could all parishioners refrain from entering the church or being on church grounds during the refurbishment. As of Tuesday 3rd November Parishioners can attend Mass at Irymple or Mildura while works are in progress. Please contact the Parish Office on 50212872 to make a booking keeping in mind our COVID safe rules.

**Bulletins available by the front door of Fr Pats unit.**



## FIRST EUCHARIST

We congratulate all our First Eucharist candidates who will receive the Blessed Sacrament for the first time this weekend.

We thank Sr Helen, the REL's, parents and carers who have helped them along this journey.



## BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Parish Community—Domenic Cricelli & Charlotte Zoch were Baptised this weekend.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM—UPDATE

### Mildura

Confirmation held over to 2021.

1st Eucharist 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th November. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a day and time—5021 2872. A reminder to bring your Baptism Stole on the day

### Red Cliffs

We are hoping for the weekend of the 28th / 29th of November.

**Merbein** held over to 2021.



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to Raylee and Kevin Schultz who celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary last Thursday.



## WANTING TO RENT

A Mildura parishioner is wanting to rent either a 1 or 2 bedroom unit or house close to Mildura. If you can help please contact 0488 474 948.

# LOCAL NEWS

## Sunraysia Parishes Mass Times for November

### Weekdays

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	6pm Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am Mildura
Thursday	9.30am Merbein
Friday	9.30am Mildura 6pm Mildura
Saturday	9.30am Mildura

*Please note there are no Masses at St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs while the ceiling repairs are being completed. (Please note that with the COVID Restrictions we are unable to use the school facilities)*

### Sunday Masses

Saturday	6pm—Mildura
Sunday	8am—Irymple 9am—Mildura 10.30am Merbein 5pm Mildura

All parishioners from Red Cliffs, Merbein and Mildura are reminded to ring the office and book in for mass.

### **COVID safe Rules - from 3rd November**

**Masses**—Gathering of 20 people plus one faith leader

**Funerals**—up to 20 people gathered plus those required to conduct the funeral (the celebrant and funeral directors)

**Baptisms**—Gathering of 20 people plus one faith leader

**Weddings**—Gathering of 10 people this includes the bride, groom, two witnesses and one faith leader.

Hopefully new rules will come into play with the Premiers next announcement on Sunday. Please contact the Parish Office for an update.

### **Reminder**

**Reminder if you are sick or unwell please do not attend and get tested.**

### The Ode

They shall grow not old, as we  
that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor  
the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun  
and in the morning  
We will remember them.



# DIOCESAN NEWS

## *Marist House Fitzroy University residence*

Marist House is a residential program for young adults who are studying at one of the many universities in and around Melbourne. Whether from the city or the country, Marist House provides young people with a safe, stable and supportive environment in which to engage with their tertiary studies. Hosted by a resident community of Marist Brothers, Marist House offers a communal setting for young people desiring to live together, open to exploring their Catholic / Christian faith and engaging in service to the wider community. It also serves as a hub for Young Marists in Melbourne. For more information go to <https://maristyouthministry.com/marist-house-fitzroy/>

## *Catholic Care Victoria*

Victoria's bishops have announced the merging of CatholicCare Melbourne and Gippsland, Centacare Ballarat and CatholicCare Sandhurst, to form a new entity, CatholicCare Victoria from January 1, 2021. Statements and further information is available from the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/catholic-care-victoria/>

## *Sisters of the Immaculata - Mission School 2020*

The Immaculata Mission school talks will be shown on Shalom World TV from November 2, 2020. The talks will be Monday – Friday at 7PM (AEDT). A promo video is available to watch at <https://youtu.be/Wkof4AgYPTc>.

## *Prayers and Images in the Time of Virus*

Following the success of Michael McGirr's *Trees in Solitude, Prayers and Images for Pentecost*, Garratt Publishing are pleased to present a complimentary second 'Trees' series from Michael – *Trees Without Masks*. Over the coming weeks these beautiful prayers and images will be shared. Download the prayers from the news section of the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au).

## *The Good Samaritan Study and Mentoring Leadership Program for Women*

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan are inviting Catholic women to apply for the Study and Mentoring (SAM) Leadership Program. The program offers both financial and personal support to mature-aged Catholic women as they undertake undergraduate or postgraduate theological/spiritual study at a recognised theological institution. For more information go to <https://www.goodsams.org.au/article/applications-invited-for-study-and-mentoring-sam-leadership-program/>. Applications close November 29, 2020.

## First Reading

Wis 6:12-16

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*Wisdom is found by those who look for it.*

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.  
By those who love her she is readily seen,  
and found by those who look for her.  
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes  
herself known to them.  
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;  
you will find her sitting at your gates.  
Even to think about her is understanding fully grown;  
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave  
you.  
She herself walks about looking for those who are  
worthy of her  
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,  
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)
3. So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)
4. On my bed I remember you.  
On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. (R.)

## Second Reading

1 Thes 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thesalonians

*Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.*

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with

them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mt 24:42. 44

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Be watchful and ready:  
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mt 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.*

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The early Christians thought that all their questions about death had been answered with the resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, when loyal Christians began to die, not only did their old questions come back, but also they were plagued with new and difficult ones. Was it possible that those loyal Christians had not been loyal after all? Or worse, were the promises made by Jesus empty promises? No! Paul assures us. It is all true. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again, and all the faithful will be joined with him. *How* it will happen, we do not know. *When* it will happen, we do not know. *That* it will happen, we are sure.

The wisdom that we have culled from life becomes the treasury from which we draw the prudence and insight needed to negotiate life's paradoxes. It throws light on our strengths and on our weaknesses; it enables us to discern what is important and what is not; it directs us to bring extra oil in our lamps. Life and the wisdom that we have acquired through it, have taught us that we can indeed trust the promises of God. They have been fulfilled in the past, and wisdom assures us that they will be fulfilled in the future. It is wisdom that cautions us to be vigilant, to be ready to adjust our plans. It is wisdom that prepares us for the night watches of life. It is wisdom that instructs us to be ready at all times.

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