

# 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 11



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	
SATURDAY	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: Antonio Carrazza,  
Mary Aremata (Solomon Islands)

### Anniversaries:

Saturday 6pm: Lawrence Naray (10 year anniversary), Doug,  
Colleen & Kevin Curran, Mona Richardson  
 Sunday 9am: Mary O'Bryan, Joseph Scopelliti  
 Friday 5.40pm: Ilario Dichiera

### RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:  
Anniversaries:

### MERBEIN

Anniversaries: March 15<sup>th</sup> Ilario Mazza, Keith Flenley;  
 17<sup>th</sup> Cassie Weinert; 18<sup>th</sup> Frank Lowry, Eva Matotek

(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

## 3rd Sunday of Lent / Year A 14th & 15th March 2020

Those privileged to act as catechists in the RCIA program over the Lenten period will be introducing candidates to some of our most treasured gospel stories. In 1963, Vatican II's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* called for the restoration of certain early Church practices. The two main features of Lent, baptism and penance, were to be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. More use was to be made of the baptismal elements proper to the Lenten liturgy. Some features that were part of an earlier tradition were to be restored. In response to this call, John's stories of the Samaritan woman, the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus were moved from the weekday to the Sunday liturgy. Thus, three weeks into Lent, the liturgy invites us to take a faith journey in the company of a courageous outsider, an unnamed woman from a despised religious group.

A woman of Samaria comes to draw water from the well of Jacob, Israel's great ancestor in faith. She belongs in a long line of women whose lot as women is to undertake the burdensome, often dangerous, daily toil of carrying water so that their families might simply survive. Jesus asks the woman for a drink and elicits a bewildered response. She responds, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" This response provides the opportunity for Jesus to move into an extended and constantly deepening exchange in which the woman proves herself a knowledgeable and worthy dialogue partner. The pursuit of water, a key baptismal symbol in the gospel tradition, provides the catalyst for her journey to faith in Jesus as the Messiah/the Christos and her engagement in the mission of proclaiming the good news to her people.

Commentators tend to focus on the woman's marital status, usually in negative terms. Because she is said to have had five husbands, many presume that she is a sinner: there is nothing in the text to support this position. Successive husbands may have died. Financial, religious or societal constraints may have functioned in her decision to remarry. The "husbands" may refer to the strange gods that claimed the allegiance of the Samaritans. There is no consensus on this among scholars.

At the outset, the woman views Jesus simply as a Jew who breaks with established custom by asking her for water. She comes to accept him as the provider of living water. Jesus understands her life story and opens up the way for her to accept him as a prophet. She takes the risk of sharing her own convictions about the locus of worship and is gifted with new understanding and with Jesus' further self-disclosure. She leaves her water jar behind and brings others to faith in Jesus as Messiah and saviour of the world. She becomes both disciple and missionary prophet.



Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

# Sacred Heart Mildura REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

## Sacramental Life & Liturgy

### BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community **Fleur Marciano** whose Baptism occurs this weekend.



### RCIA

The Creed—Our Core beliefs

Thursday 19th March 7pm, Hillman Room.

### 1st RECONCILIATION 2020

For children in Grade 4 and above will be held on Monday 23rd March at 7pm at Sacred Heart Church.



**THERE WILL BE NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH**

## Community Life & Outreach



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
15th March 2020



Barry grew up in a tough environment. With the support of a program from Caritas Australia's partner, Red Dust Healing, Barry has overcome many of life's challenges. He is now an Inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.



### MAKING THE MOST OF LENT

**Project Compassion**—envelope packs at church entrances

### Stations of the Cross

Sacred Hear Church Friday from 6.30pm  
Tongan Community. All welcome.

**SAVE THE DATE—SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2020**  
**SEND OFF / FAREWELL FOR FR MICHAEL**

All parishioners are invited to a farewell gathering for Fr Michael which will be held at Sacred Heart Church after the 5pm Mass on Sunday 22nd March.

A plate to share would be greatly appreciated. Donations will be taken up and can be left at the Parish Office or collected on the day.

If you are able to help with any planning please contact Lyn Welsh on 0448 231 350 or the Parish Office on 5021 2872.

### 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.*

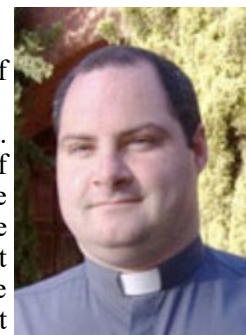
**Mildura:** Vincenzo Pileggi, Brian Weightman, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuionisio, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Hailey Crossan, Geraldine Brunner, Albis Dy

**Merbein:** Sr. Grace, Frank Chandler, Mary Avery, John Dorman

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

### NEW APPOINTMENT TO MILDURA

During the week Bishop Paul Bird announced the appointment of Fr Matthew Thomas as Parish Priest of Mildura, Merbein and Red Cliffs effective from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Matthew is presently Parish Priest of Swan Hill. He comes to us with some prior knowledge and experience of the Parish of Mildura as he was Assistant Priest to Fr Tom Brophy. We welcome Matthew's appointment and pray that his ministry may be fruitful and blessed.

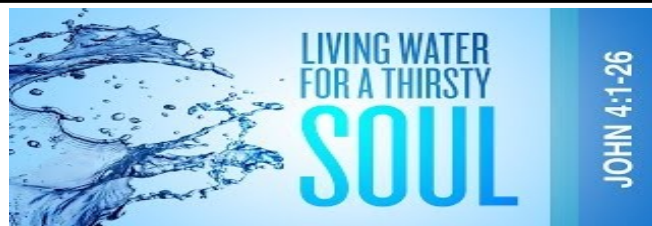


Fr Anthony Nagothu has been appointed Administrator of the Parishes of Robinvale and Ouyen, and will also maintain a close working relationship with the other Parishes of Sunraysia. We ask God's blessing upon Anthony and the communities with whom he works.

### FR ELIO CAPRA

Will be with us once again this Monday evening 16<sup>th</sup> of March to lead us in a deeper understanding of the origin and present day practice of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please feel welcome to come along and extend your knowledge and appreciation of this sacramental tradition of our Church.

**MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 7:00pm**  
**MONAGHAN CENTRE**



### WERRIMULL MASS BUS TRIP

Our first Werrimull Bus trip for 2020, will be held on Sunday 29th March. If you would like to attend Mass followed by lunch at the pub please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872.





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

**PALM SUNDAY**

**4th & 5th April:** All parishioners are encouraged to wear a **SPLASH of red** for all our Palm Sunday Masses.

**HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES**

**Holy Thursday:**

Mildura 7pm  
Red Cliffs: 7pm

**Good Friday:**

Way of the Cross 10.30am  
Mildura: Ceremony 3pm

Red Cliffs: Stations of the Cross 3pm



**EASTER VIGIL SATURDAY**

**Red Cliffs:** 6.30pm  
**Mildura:** 7.00pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**Mildura:** 8am and 10am  
**(No 5pm Mass)**  
**Red Cliffs:** 10am  
**Werrimull:** 12 noon

**Irymple:** 8.30am  
**Merbein:** 10.30am

**STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM 2020**

*"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again"*  
**JOHN 4:13**

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us for lon. When we build our lives around material possessions we always want more. True Joy and Peace only comes when we follow Jesus; when we become more "God-centred" and less "self-centred".

As once again we acknowledge the generous ongoing support of all who participate in the Parish Stewardship Program (Planned Giving), parishioners are reminded that preparations for our renewal program are due to commence mid-May with the actual Program taking place in July – August. **A Parish Team Meeting will be held Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April.**

There will be more information about the Program over the next couple of months.

**CORONAVIRUS & LITURGICAL PRACTICES**

According to Diocesan Directives, until further notice **communion is not to be received on the tongue and receiving from the chalice will cease.**

**SUSTAINABILITY NEWS Did you know?**

Every tonne of recycled paper saves about 13 trees, 2.5 barrels of oil, 4100 kwh of electricity, four cubic meters of landfill and 31,780 litres of water.

**SUNRAYSA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE**

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$1432.25</b>	<b>\$ 94.60</b>	<b>\$223.45</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes all EFT)	<b>\$1655.00</b>	<b>\$140.00</b>	<b>\$235.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 498.90</b>	<b>\$ 19.70</b>	<b>\$ 54.15</b>
<b>The Shared Table</b>	<b>\$ 124.00</b>		
<b>Project Compassion</b>	<b>\$ 359.00</b>	<b>\$ 63.50</b>	

**COVID-19 SHOPPING PANIC HARMS SENIORS**

Since the potential pandemic warning, Australian shoppers have raided supermarkets in preparation for indefinite quarantine. The stockpiling has left many facing empty aisles and lacking basic necessities. But this doomsday practice extends beyond not being able to buy pasta shells or running out of toilet paper — it also leaves vulnerable populations at risk.



Older people are particularly suffering at the expense of quick-handed customers. Overfilled trolleys have a ripple effect on senior citizens' routines, health and safety. Both physical limitations such as mobility, vision and hearing, as well as cognitive conditions like dementia or mental health can make day-to-day chores challenging enough.

So when the elderly are confronted by bare shelves in wake of COVID-19, they are faced with a difficult choice: find alternatives within their means if supplies are available at all, or go without. Seniors without driver licenses already only shop fortnightly or monthly, so they lack the opportunity to travel further away to buy goods sold out near them.

IGA St Ives, for example, is located near a retirement village and estimates nearly half its customer base are senior citizens. Retail manager Sasha Vallaydam says this demographic is overwhelmed by the speed and ferocity of groceries being wiped out.

Items on special can be vital for pensioner budgets, however, these yellow-docket products have been the first to go. When his toilet paper supply began to dwindle, Sasha saw some elderly customers calculating the difference in pricier brands to assess if they could afford it.

Alternatives to buying in store are also limited. The stock levels have incapacitated the franchisor's ability to fulfil necessary home delivery services, and scrounging the net for stock is a privilege, as older people are **less likely** to have a connection to the internet or to know how to use online shopping for orders.

As a result, elderly shoppers 'must rely on family, friends or services to help them when goods are sold out,' says Lila Rhodes, an aged care worker. 'This is not always possible, especially for those who don't have family close by, a strong friendship base or their connections are in the same position as them.'

Lila works with clients through the Federal Home Care Package scheme, which allocates benefits depending on the receivers' level of need. The funding is distributed at behest of a third-party carer organisation to provide a range of services for eligible clients.

'If [the immobile] miss out on food because there's none left in store, they might have to wait another fortnight to go shopping again with their aged care worker,' she says.

Eddy from the eastern suburbs, 75, is generally prepared. As a habitual bulk buyer, he is equipped with sturdy toilet paper reserves since pre-coronavirus hysteria. However, when running an errand this week, he was shocked when security turned him away from the chemist, citing a lack of over-the-counter and prescription goods for the denied entry. 'What can you do?' he asks defeatedly.

It's a sentiment shared by community workers who fear a lack of medical supplies for the infirm. Home visitation nurses rely on masks and hand sanitiser to ensure germ-free treatment, but agencies are struggling to provide these supplies due to new consumer demand. The risk of preventable side effects when handling the bedridden skyrockets when medical gear is siphoned elsewhere.

The panic buying around coronavirus is seriously disadvantaging the elderly's daily functioning, on top of the fact that the virus, if not contained, will claim more fatalities from this demographic than any other age bracket.

Stockpiling is an added grievance to a looming health scare for older people, and it's a luxury not all can afford or accommodate. The high demand for certain groceries is causing unnecessary stress for our aging population's wellbeing. Their genuine and complex needs must be prioritised over the average Australian's misinformed and selfish behaviour. Panic shopping is going too fast in a race where not everyone is young enough to keep up.

*Millie Roberts is a writer from Sydney covering minorities, culture and lifestyle.*

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

## PARISH NEWS

We welcome Charlotte Capogreco and Noah Piscioneri who will be Baptised into our faith community today.

**Parish Council Meeting** will take place immediately after Mass today



**Many Thanks to the Theresians** for organising the gathering with Fr. Mick to share what he will be doing in Peru and ways in which the Parish and Theresians can support him in his work. It was wonderful to welcome our Uniting Church friends to join us and together enjoy a light meal. A reminder that a 'send off' to Fr. Mick will take place at the 5pm Mass next Sunday (see notice in general notices).

**Lenten Program:** The Lenten program will continue on Monday 16th March (tomorrow) at 7.30pm at the Parish House. It is one of the few opportunities we have to reflect upon and share our faith and hopefully grow in our understanding of what it means to be an active Christian in today's world. All Welcome

**Project Compassion Envelopes: Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help: End Poverty, Promote Justice, Uphold dignity. Let's Go Further, Together.** You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413. This week we focus on Barry who grew up in a tough environment. With the support of Caritas Australia's partner, Red Dust Healing, Barry has overcome many of life's challenges. He is now an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

**St Joseph's Church Nullawil Final Mass** All are welcome to attend the Final Mass at St. Joseph's Church Nullawil on Sunday, April 5, 2020 at 12.30pm. A light luncheon will follow. For further information please contact Kaylene James, ph. 0428 935270.

**Easter Raffle Books** are available at the back of the church. Please support our school in this important fund-raiser.

## SCHOOL NEWS

Last Friday, our school was fortunate to have a visit and sessions with Gen Bryant, who has been a composer, singer and performer of music in schools, churches and communities for over 15 years. Gen worked with all of our students over the day, and finished her visit with a mini concert of songs they had all learned with her. The students were extremely enthusiastic and engaged, which was great to see! I'm sure we'll be using some of Gen's music at our masses and liturgies in the future!

## WEEKDAY MASSES

**Mon: 9.30am Tue, Sat: 9.30am Scriptures**  
Because I will be away on March 17, we'll anticipate our St Patrick's Day Mass on Monday, March 16.

## CALENDAR

**Friday April 17th:** St Joseph's Primary School Official opening of the refurbished learning space and new administration building at 11.45am. All welcome.

## PLENARY COUNCIL

On Sunday 15th March after Mass we will be conducting our Discernment session. Please bring a small plate to share. For further information contact Di Eagle 5024 2667.

**Sunday, March 22: Youth Mass and Parish BBQ.**  
Please fill in the attendance sheet located in the Gathering Area of the church for the BBQ

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

1. Stations for adults. These will be held on Friday, March 20 at 7.00 pm  
2. Stations for young people. For the last 2 years, due to lack of interest, these have not been held. They will be on Friday, March 27 at 7.00 pm. Being 83 years young, I will lead them myself. Hopefully, other young people will join me. *PJF*

## ROSTERS FOR HOLY WEEK

There is a form at the back of the Church for volunteers to sign, regarding Readers and Lay Ministers. We need many readers, most with only a few lines, for the reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday. We - if the ban on Communion from the Cup is lifted by then - will need 11 Lay Ministers to help with Communion at the Easter Vigil.

## AN EASTER BAPTISM AT RED CLIFFS

The Easter Vigil at Red Cliffs is generally rated the best in Victoria. Because of the infirmity of the Celebrant, Fr Patrick J Flanagan, it is held early, at 6.30 pm. Our Easter Vigil is even better when we have a baby, or someone older, to baptise during the Vigil. This year, so far, we have no one. *PJF*

## NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS / 4th Sunday of Lent 21st 22nd March 2020

**First Reading: Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13**

**Responsorial: Ps 22**

**Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

**Second Reading: St Paul to the Ephesians 5:8-14**

**Gospel: John 9:1-41**



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	Christine Carmichael	Rose Op't Hoog	Inez Sullivan	J Kearney	Youth Mass	Josephine O'Connor
Music	Filipino Group M Issanchon	M Sullivan	M Guthrie All welcome		Youth Mass	
Offertory	Baptism	C & P McErvale			Youth Mass	Dannatt Family
Children's Liturgy		Jodie Richmond Cheryl-Anne Courtney				
Altar Servers	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please		GROUP B Williams	Volunteer Please
Eucharist Ministers	Anne-Maree Greville	Jean Rocca	Clem Carlucci	Mal Hoy	Youth Mass	Natalie Besgrove
	Taiana Fatai	Bobby Castillo	Vittorio Carlucci		Youth Mass	Felicia Cox
	Margaret McDonald	Talia Faingaanuku	Jacnta Macri	OASIS AGED CARE	Youth Mass	CHAFFEY AGED CARE
	Paul Kerr	Michael Faingaanuku	Paula Cox	K Knight	CUPPA'S	Kay Wagner Val McCarthy
	Anita Naray	Nacy Fatai	Jennifer Boord		March 29th D Eagle	
	Ryan O'Callaghan	Peter O'Donnell	Volunteer please	LAY LEADERS	M Matotek	LAY LEADERS 29th March Nancy Prevedello Kevin Aston
		Volunteer please	P Riordan M Petrolo	FLOWERS Volunteer		
Counting Team	TEAM 10	BRIAN GROGAN 5021 2099			M Adams / L Mayes	As per arrangement
Church Cleaning	As per arrangement			As per arrangement	Volunteer	As per arrangement