

# Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337  
257 Eleventh Street Mildura  
P.O. Box 10037 Mildura, Vic 3502  
Presbytery Mildura: 0417 862 082  
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716  
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 11

**Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas**  
**Assistant Priest Fr. Shaiju Mathew**

**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*

## 4th Sunday of Lent / Year B 13th & 14th March 2021

### RECENT DEATHS

Maria Strangio, George Gerstenmeyer

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Mildura

Saturday 6pm: Emma Deluca, Gilia Dichiera

Sunday 9.00am: Lawrence Naray, Rosamma Thomas, Joseph Joseph

Sunday 5pm: Leo Timpano, Natale Mammone, Lucia, Ilija & Josip Tolo, Ljubica & Mato Bosnjak

Tuesday 6pm: Milton Lowe

#### Red Cliffs

Anniversaries: Tom Smith

#### Merbein

Anniversaries: Colleen Piscioneri, Illario Mazza, Keith Flenley, Cassie Weinert, Frank Lowry, Eva Matotek

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

## Weekly Prayer Opportunities Mildura

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting:** Tuesday 6:30pm

**Devotions and Exposition:** Friday 4:00pm  
commencing 19th February.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10:00am—10:30am

**Christian Meditation:** Sat 11:30 am in the Church

## Our Parish Schools

**Sacred Heart Mildura** Principal: Mark Gibson 5023 1204

**St Paul's Mildura** Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

**OLSH Merbein** Principal: Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

**St. Joseph's Red Cliffs** Principal: Naomi Kennedy 5024 1654

**St. Joseph's Secondary College Mildura**

Principal: Marg Blythman 5018 8000

## Message from our Parish Priest

*This week I celebrate my 15th Anniversary of being ordained as a priest. I have been blessed to serve and work in many communities around the diocese. Every community that I have been involved in has been a learning curve and I have become a better person from these experiences.*

*The day to day role of the priest and journeying with people through the challenges and celebrations of life is a blessing. Every Baptism, Wedding and Funeral are different and this allows me to be involved in special celebrations with couples and families at that particular time of their lives.*

*Being a teacher also opens different avenues to open the Word of God, through action, prayer and work not only to the students but also to staff which enable me to be a visible sign of God's love in the world.*

*I ask that you pray for me, as I do for you. I was ordained on St Patrick's Day so to finish off I will use St Patrick's Breast Plate, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ above me, Christ below me, Christ all around me.*

God bless!

Fr Matthew Thomas

**REMEMBER**  
**to still abide by the**  
**COVID Staying Safe Rules**  
**whilst on church grounds**

*John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

# LOCAL NEWS

## Sacred Heart Church Car Park Permits

Permits will only be granted to those who use the car park weekdays during office hours. **You do not need a permit for evening or weekend use.**

For a permit to be issued you need to call into the parish office and supply your vehicle registration and current contact details.

**Failure to present this permit will result in the possibility of your vehicle being towed away.**

## Ideas for Making the Most of Lent

**Praying**

**Fasting**

**Volunteering**

**Almsgiving**

Project Compassion Envelopes

**Stations of the Cross:**

Fridays from 7pm-8pm Indian Community

Friday from 8pm-9pm Tongan Community

All welcome.

**Communal celebration of Reconciliation**

Tuesday 23rd March 7pm Sacred Heart Church Mildura. All welcome.



## Lenten discussion groups

**Group 1:** Thursdays, 3pm, Monaghan Centre.

For further information contact Sr Helen 0438 734 524

**Group 2:** Aileen Curran—Thursdays, 10.30am.

For further information contact the Parish Office

5021 2872.

**Group 3:** Red Cliffs LLL & L Lenten Group, Mondays 10am. For further information contact Janine



4th Sunday of Lent—14th March 2021

Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet at home and was often sick due to the practice of open defecation.

Through Caritas Australia's support, Arsad and his community improved hygiene and sanitation, and funded their own toilets.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and help improve health and wellbeing of communities in Indonesia so they can work towards eradicating poverty, providing a better future for all.**

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.



## Easter Ceremonies

### Palm Sunday

27th and 28th March (Masses at normal times)

### Holy Thursday (1st April)

6pm Our Lady's Merbein  
6.30pm St Joseph's Red Cliffs  
7pm Sacred Heart Mildura

### Good Friday (2nd April)

(No Ecumenical Way of the Cross this year)

3pm Our Lady's Merbein  
3pm St Joseph's Red Cliffs  
3pm Sacred Heart Mildura

### Easter Vigil (3rd April)

6pm Our Lady's Merbein  
6.30pm St Joseph's Red Cliffs  
7pm Sacred Heart Mildura

### Easter Sunday (4th April)

8.30am St Francis Xavier Irymple  
9am Sacred Heart Mildura  
10am St Joseph's Red Cliffs  
10.30am Our Lady's Merbein  
11am Our Lady of Lourdes Werrimull  
(please note that there will be no 5pm Mass)

## Piety Stall

Please note that the Piety Stall at St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs will be opened from 10am—12 noon each Sunday and each Monday by appointment only between the hours of 2.30pm—3.15pm.

For further information contact Janine 0438 730 976.

## Baptisms

We welcome to our Parish family—**Connor Knights, Zara Morello and Penelope Sinclair** whose baptisms occur this weekend.



## Palm Sunday & Holy Week Roster

Volunteers are needed for Palm Sunday and Holy Week Masses at Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs churches: readers, Eucharistic ministers; altar servers etc.

**Please place your names on the roster sheets provided at the back of the church.**



## Sacred Heart Presbytery Contact Number

Due to the disconnection of the Parish and Presbytery phone lines the past two weeks, the **Presbytery** now has new mobile phone (0417 862 082) which replaces the old landline (5022 9959). This number is to be used if a priest is needed urgently—please all other general enquiries to be directed to the Parish Office 5021 2872 which hopefully we will be reconnected soon. For the time being you can contact the Parish Office by email: [mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or come and visit Carmel at the office.

# LOCAL NEWS

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed below

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY	FUNERAL 10AM		
TUESDAY	6:00PM	9:30AM	
WEDNESDAY	9:30AM	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	9:30AM	5:30PM	9:30AM
FRIDAY	6:00PM		
SATURDAY	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 (5TH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)			

## 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:** Maria Sapuppo

**Merbein:** Mary Avery

**Red Cliffs:** Lily Flanagan, E Mammone, Barry Crosbie, Maurice O'Connor, Faye Rhook, Frank Mammone

## Sacred Heart Shared Table Market Stall

Will be held this Sunday 14th March after the 9am Mass. All money collected goes directly to the Projects of The Shared Table in Lima, Peru. All welcome. Please note **no** Cuppa this weekend.



## REMINDER

### IMPORTANT DATES—MARCH 2021

**Red Cliffs Parish Council:** Sunday 14th March after 10.30am Mass—Gathering Area.  
**St Anthony Committee Meeting:** Tuesday 16th March 7.30pm Monaghan Centre.  
**Oasis Aged Care Mass:** Wednesday 17th March 10.30am.  
**Merbein Parish Council:** Sunday 21st March after 10.30am Mass.  
**BUPA Aged Care Mass:** Tuesday 23rd March 10.30am.  
**Baptism Preparation Evening:** Wednesday 24th March 7.30pm Monaghan Centre.

# ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

## This weekend — 13th & 14th March 2021

### Mildura

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Gary Huxtable  
 Sunday 9am: Nicholas Matae  
 Sunday 5pm: Peter Hammond

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 2

Saturday 6pm: M Cirillo, J Deacon  
 Sunday 9am: Rini & Rose Op't Hoog  
 Sunday 5pm: Clem & Vittorio Carlucci

**Music:** Sat 6pm: M Guthrie - All welcome  
 Sun 9am: Mary Issanchon & Choir  
 Sun 5pm: M Hammond, J Macri

**Counting Team:** Team 1—Gerry Lavery  
**Irymple Reader:** M Duck

### Merbein

**Reader:** Kay Wagner

### Red Cliffs

**Readers:** J Vines, T Gardiner, A Higham  
**Altar Servers:** Gabriella, Ruben, Darcy & Aidan  
**Music:** Guitar  
**Counting Team:** M Adams, L Mayes  
**Eucharistic Minister:** P Hunt, N Kennedy  
**Flowers:** Volunteers  
**Church Cleaning:** Group 3 C Russo team

## Next weekend - 20th & 21st March 2021

### Mildura

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Mary Jackson  
 Sunday 9am: Martha Kamara  
 Sunday 5pm: Rosemarie Zalec

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 2

Saturday 6pm: M McDonald, A Naray  
 Sunday 9am: E Mazza, L Fry  
 Sunday 5pm: B Dolence, B Bunting

**Music:** Sat 6pm: M Sullivan, B Lewis, B Prescott  
 Sun 9am: Tongan Choir  
 Sun 5pm: S Faita, K Mapapalangi, L Duy

**Counting Team:** Team 2—Joe De Jong  
**Irymple Reader:** W Schmidt

### Merbein

**Reader:** Elvira Piscioneri

### Red Cliffs

**Readers:** C Russo, P Hunt, M Lee  
**Altar Servers:** M Taylor, Jessica, Tenzin & Kaleb Bertoli  
**Music:** Guitar  
**Counting Team:** M Adams, L Mayes  
**Eucharistic Minister:** M Monteleone, N Morello  
**Flowers:** Volunteers  
**Church Cleaning:** Volunteers

## Number of People Attending Mass

Approximate people to church size:

**Mildura:** 450 people  
**Merbein:** 150 people  
**Irymple:** 50 people  
**Red Cliffs:** 250 people

## SUNRAYSA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$ 1087.10	\$ 55.10	\$143.80
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$ 664.00	\$105.00	\$117.00
Loose Plate	\$ 340.05	\$ 8.00	\$ 33.40

## First Reading

2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

1. By the rivers of Babylon  
there we sat and wept,  
remembering Zion;  
on the poplars that grew there  
we hung our harps. (R.)
2. For it was there that they asked us,  
our captors, for songs,  
our oppressors, for joy.  
'Sing to us,' they said,  
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
3. O how could we sing  
the song of the Lord  
on alien soil?  
If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
let my right hand wither! (R.)
4. O let my tongue  
cleave to my mouth  
if I remember you not,  
if I prize not Jerusalem  
above all my joys! (R.)

## Second Reading

Eph 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

## Gospel Acclamation

Jn 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,  
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up  
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,  
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in  
him.

Yes, God loved the world so much  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost  
but may have eternal life.  
For God sent his Son into the world  
not to condemn the world,  
but so that through him the world might be saved.  
No one who believes in him will be condemned;  
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,  
because he has refused to believe  
in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced:  
that though the light has come into the world  
men have shown they prefer  
darkness to the light  
because their deeds were evil.  
And indeed, everybody who does wrong  
hates the light and avoids it,  
for fear his actions should be exposed;  
but the man who lives by the truth  
comes out into the light,  
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done  
in God.'

FOURTH  
SUNDAY  
OF LENT

