

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

Newsheet: Week 6

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*

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year B 6th & 7th February 2021

RECENT DEATHS

Mary Blagus, Antonio Tassone, Gaetano Musico, James Nixon

ANNIVERSARIES

Patrick & John Donnellon

Mildura

Saturday 6pm: Mary Natale

Sunday 9.00am:

Sunday 5pm:

Red Cliffs

Anniversaries: Giuseppe Mammone (1yr anniversary)

Giuseppe D'Anna

Merbein

Anniversaries: Vera Fletcher, Antonio Palamara, Adele & Peter Mazza, Rita Bowring, Maurice Wilson

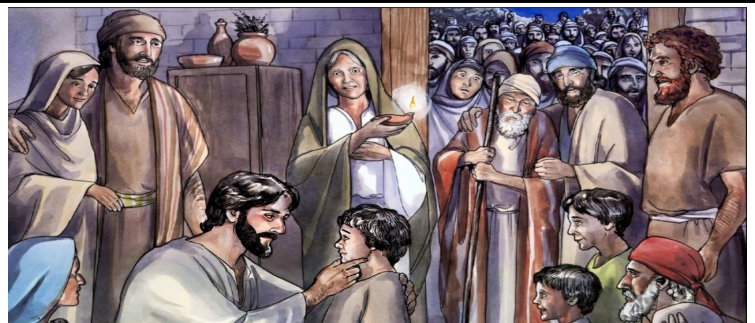
(Only immediate family members of the deceased are permitted to arrange anniversary Masses.)

Message from our Parish Priest

The psalm is "Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted" this psalm response I feel is so relevant to all of us. At times in our lives we all have had a loss of something or someone. Often a broken heart can be mended or repaired. It takes time and reflection or replacement of that memory or experience of a person to fill the gap. In the case of a person we never forget them but others can fill the gap they leave.

Let us be open in prayer to God to speak to us and engage him to help with our broken heart.

God bless!
Fr Matthew Thomas



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

Visit from our Plenary delegate Sunday 7th Feb.

Marie Shaddock, one of our two Diocesan delegates will be at the 9:00am Mass in Mildura and available to speak to in the Monaghan Centre after Mass.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments about the Plenary, want to know what is going on, or just want to say "Hi!" feel free to do so after the 9:00am Mass in the Monaghan Centre.

Please Note

**The Parish Office will be closed on
Tuesday 9th February.**

We do apologise for this inconvenience.

LOCAL NEWS



Sacred Heart Shared Table Market Stall & Cuppa

Next Sunday after 9am Mass

Our monthly Market Stall and Cuppa will commence the second Sunday of each month after the 9am Mass.

Our first Market Stall & Cuppa for 2021 will be held next Sunday 14th February.

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

If you have surplus produce, crafts and preserves please bring them for the stall. All welcome

Lenten discussion groups

Group 1: Thursdays, 3pm, Monaghan Centre commencing Thursday 18th February. For further information contact Sr Helen 0438 734 524

Group 2: Aileen Curran—Thursdays, 10.30am commencing Thursday 18th February. For further information contact the Parish Office 5021 2872.



Reconciliation

Sacrament of Reconciliation Program—Sacred Heart

Will begin in February for children in Year 4 and above .

Parent Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 16 February at

Sacred Heart Church, 7pm.

Enrolment forms to be completed and passed back to the Parish Office before Parent Meeting.

For further information please contact the Parish Office Tuesday - Friday 9am—4pm

Sacred Heart Parish Eucharistic Ministers Roster

A new roster is to be compiled shortly, if you would like to make any changes—change your Mass time or be taken off the roster or you would like to become a Eucharistic Minister please contact the Parish Office asap. The new roster should be available from 26th February.



Pray for Vanuatu World Day of Prayer Service 2021

Date: Friday 5th March

Time: 10:00am

Location: St Margaret's Anglican Church, Cnr Deakin Avenue & 11th Street, Mildura

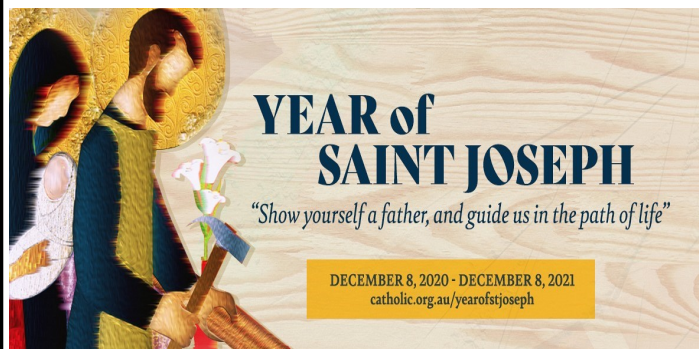
Contact: Isabel: 0409 310 542 or Gill 0419 567 650. Please bring a

mask. There will not be morning tea. Please RSVP by Tuesday 2nd March.



2021 the year of St Joseph

Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde (With a Father's Heart)*, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.



A Message from Fr Pat Flanagan

To parishioners at Merbein, Mildura and Red Cliffs

A complaint is heard often enough that priests only ever talk about money; this is heard often enough for many priests to be unwilling to say anything about money ever. It will, then, come as a surprise to most parishioners to learn that, for years now, what you contribute together to providing for your priests has fallen short of doing this.

How does a parish provide financially for its priests? First of all through the first collection each Sunday. Add to this Christmas dues & Easter dues. Regarding the fees for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, most of the fee goes to the Parish, but a portion goes to the support of the priests. What does this support have to provide? It provides the priests' salary, their food, electricity and gas, their vehicles and travel costs.

How come what parishioners contribute is no longer adequate? The answer to that is really very simple. Costs have been increasing, but parishioners contributions have not kept pace with this; and no one told you.

How can this be remedied? Money doesn't go as far as it used to. Think about this. I suggest that if you have been used to putting a coin onto the first collection plate, make that a note instead. And if you regularly put a note on the plate, perhaps it is time to put a bigger note.

Why am I telling you this? I figure that it is better for me, as I prepare to leave Sunraysia, to put you in the picture, than for Frs Matthew Shaiju to be having to do this. Otherwise we may be hearing, "All they ever talk about is money."

Bequests

Most of the parishes I have been in benefit sometimes from parishioners leaving money to the parish in their wills. Maryborough, to where I'm heading, has a magnificent church, which would never have been possible but for bequests to the parish.

Bequests to parishes do not seem to be customary in Sunraysia. Parishes' future could be much better assured if they did become the custom.

Fr Pat Flanagan

53 Burke Street, Maryborough, Vic 3465
flags.flanagan@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0480 161 817

LOCAL NEWS

WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed below

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY			
TUESDAY	6:00PM	9:30AM	
WEDNESDAY	10:30AM FUNERAL	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	10:30AM FUNERAL	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	10:30AM
		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:

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

REMINDER

IMPORTANT DATES—FEBRUARY 2021

Monday 8th February: KSC AGM 7.30pm, Clubroom

Tuesday 9th February:

Mildura Finance meeting, Parish Office 7.30am,

Mildura Parish Council meeting, Monaghan Centre 7pm

Thursday 11th February:

St Anthony Com. meeting, Monaghan Centre 7.30pm

Sunday 14th February:

Red Cliffs Parish Council meeting, Gathering area after 10.30am mass.

Tuesday 16th February:

Reconciliation Parent night, Sacred Heart Church 7pm

Wednesday 17th February:

Ash Wednesday times—Vigil Tuesday 6pm—Mildura

- 9.30am Mildura & Red Cliffs

- 12.45pm—Merbein

- 6pm—Mildura

Thursday 18th February:

Regis Ontario Aged Care Service, 2pm

Friday 19th February: Indian Community, Stations of the Cross 7pm, Sacred Heart Church

Sunday 21st February:

Merbein Parish Council meeting, after 10.30am mass.

Wednesday 24th February:

Baptism Preparation Evening, Monaghan Centre 7.30pm

ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

This weekend — 6th & 7th February 2021

Mildura

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Mary Jackson

Sunday 9am: Lyn Welsh

Sunday 5pm: Christine Slattery

Eucharistic Ministers: 2 volunteers at each Mass.

Music: Sat 6pm: M Guthrie—all welcome

Sun 9am: Italian Choir

Sun 5pm: S Faita, K Mapapalangi, L Duy

Counting Team: Team 6—Jim O'Donnell

Irymple Reader: G Schmidt

Merbein

Reader: Nancy Prevedello

Red Cliffs

Readers: J Cameron, J Lewis, M Monteleone,

Altar Servers: L Dowling, S Foster, J Foster

Music: Guitar

Counting Team: F & M Dominelli

Eucharistic Minister: 2 volunteers

Flowers: Volunteers

(If you are rostered on please contact Office to book in for Mass)

Next weekend - 13th & 14th February 2021

Mildura

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Rosemary Barnes

Sunday 9am: Maria Munro

Sunday 5pm: Greg Johnston

Eucharistic Ministers: 2 volunteers at each Mass.

Music: Sat 6pm: M Issanchon, Filipino Group

Sun 9am: M Guthrie, B Lewis, B Prescott

Sun 5pm: M Sullivan, J Ljubic

Counting Team: Team 7—Helen Kay

Irymple Reader: K Modoo

Merbein

Reader: Kevin Aston

Red Cliffs

Readers: D Eagle, M Slater, J Vines

Altar Servers: S & G Mapapalangi, L & L Cochrane

Music: Guitar

Counting Team: F & M Dominelli

Eucharistic Minister: 2 volunteers

Flowers: Volunteers

(If you are rostered on please contact Office to book in for Mass)

Number of People Attending Mass

Approximate people to church size:

Mildura: 450 people

Merbein: 150 people

Irymple: 50 people

Red Cliffs: 250 people

St Vinnies 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.

SUNRAYSA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1112.20	\$ 61.90	\$128.10
2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$1055.00	\$1645.00	\$121.00
Loose Plate	\$ 297.10	\$ 27.70	\$ 46.70

First Reading

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

A reading from the book of Job

I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than
pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?
Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.
Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?'
Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'
Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.
Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have
passed,
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.
Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due. (R.)
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name. (R.)
3. Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

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

Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at

myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia!
He bore our sickness,
and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 1:29-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Divine Touch

The mother-in-law of Simon (Peter) was sick in bed with a raging fever. When Jesus learned about her distressed state, he 'took her by the hand and helped her up'. He broke the taboo about physical contact with a woman not his relative because he wanted to holistically heal her disease.

Simon's mother-in-law didn't need an aspirin and a cup of tea. She felt quarantined, isolated, and needed a hand reassuring her of sociable relationships. Jesus overcame her fever and her dis-ease with the world.

At every Mass we exchange a physical gesture at the greeting of Peace. This quite often overcomes being ill-at-ease with a family member or just with the neighbour in the pew. We need to take that symbolic action into the world. For somebody, it may be the most touching thing we ever do.

We could pause for a moment to identify that person who needs us to reach out, to take their hand and help them up.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com