

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
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes



Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priest Fr. Shaiju Mathew

Newsheet: Week 12

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 of Lent / Year B 20th & 21st March 2021

RECENT DEATHS

ANNIVERSARIES

Sr Grace Rogers (1st year anniversary),
Brian Weightman (1st year anniversary)

Mildura

Saturday 6pm: Milton Lowe

Sunday 9.00am: Francesco & Tommaso Scandale,
Andrea Parente

Sunday 5pm: Daisy, Alfred & Vincent Camenzuli, Herbert &
Eleanor McBean, Domenico Ficarro

Friday 4pm: Giuseppe Vallelonga (1st year Memorial Mass)

Friday 6pm: Eugenio Timpano

Red Cliffs

Anniversaries: Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna, Domenico & Caterina
D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna, Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna, Vincenza
Tassone

Merbein

Anniversaries: Carlo Longeri

*(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

We are now moving towards having the parish phone number reinstated. I ask that you please use the new parish mobile for the time being, until the land line is operational again.

On Tuesday 23rd March we have a Second Rite of Reconciliation for the parish commencing at 7pm at Sacred Heart Church. This celebration of Reconciliation flows on from this weekends psalm to create a new heart in me (psalm 50).

Next weekend is Palm Sunday, this year with the COVID Restriction we are unable to have the processions into the church so you will be asked to collect your palm when you enter.

Can I just remind families that if you have a anniversary mass for a loved one you need to see the priest prior to mass to remind them.

*God bless!
Fr Matthew Thomas*

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



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



5th Sunday of Lent—21st March 2021

Halima is raising two children in a Bangladeshi refugee camp while caring for her mother, who has a disability. A Caritas Australia-supported program helped her with a shelter, cooking equipment and hygiene training. Halima now earns a small income as a trainer, helping to maintain the health and cleanliness of her community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to so this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting 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)

Baptisms

We welcome to our Sunraysia Parish family— **Isabella Burns, Lauren Mobilio, Joseph Winton, Florence Zappia and Violet Maricano** whose baptisms occur this weekend.



Sr Marion McDonald



Our prayers are with Sr Marion as she is recovering well at home after a short illness.

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 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			
TUESDAY	6:00PM	9:30AM	
WEDNESDAY	9:30AM	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	9:30AM	5:30PM	9:30AM
FRIDAY	4.00PM & 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, Rosina Gallace

Merbein:

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



Confirmation Pentecost Weekend 2021

Enrolments have begun for the 4 week Confirmation Program for children in Grade 5 and 6. Parent Information Evening to be held at the Sacred Heart Church on Wednesday 21 April 7pm.

Parents/Carers to attend this evening

Retreat Day for enrolled children to be held on Friday 21 May. For further information please contact Parish Office mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Please note: No enrolments will be accepted after 4pm Wednesday 21st April.

Confirmation Dates for 2021
(limit 30 children per mass)

Fri 21st May 6pm
Sat 22nd May 9.30am or 6pm
Sun 23rd May 9am or 5pm

REMINDER

IMPORTANT DATES—MARCH 2021

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 — 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 Mor ello

Church Cleaning: Volunteers

Next weekend - 27th March 2021

Mildura

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Rosemary Barnes

Sunday 9am: Peter Issanchon

Sunday 5pm: Jill Joslyn

Eucharistic Ministers: 2

Saturday 6pm: M Cirillo, V Pileggi

Sunday 9am: T & M Faingaanuku

Sunday 5pm: K Groves, M Irvin

Music: Sat 6pm: Mary Issanchon

Sun 9am: Sacred Heart School, St Pauls School

Sun 5pm: M Hammond, J Macri

Counting Team: Team 3— Peter McDonald

Irymple Reader: M Hill

Merbein

Reader: Josephine O'Connor

Red Cliffs

Readers: M Bell, J Lewis, M Monteleone

Altar Servers: L Dowling, S & J Foster

Music: Tongan Choir

Counting Team: M Adams, L Mayes

Eucharistic Minister: B Pitt,

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
1st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1001.25	\$ 61.75	\$158.05
2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$ 727.00	\$140.00	\$192.00
Loose Plate	\$ 125.30	\$ 5.00	\$ 28.80
Project Compassion to date	\$1859.05		\$230.00
Trading Table	\$205.00		

First Reading

Jer 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

Second Reading

Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Jn 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this

request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth,

I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

I can observe a baby, but the parents ‘see’ their baby very differently. They gaze with total fascination, trying to perceive what this little bundle of flesh is really all about, trying to get an insight into its personality, visualising a possible future, hoping for a response.

This Gospel passage begins with a request from some Greeks ‘to see Jesus’, surely in all the ways parents see their baby. They were trying to perceive what this Jesus was really all about, trying to get an insight into his personality, imagining a possible future, hoping for a response.

And there was a response full of allusions to the future.

Jesus was as a grain of wheat. He died and was buried in the earth and that death was fruitful for the whole of humankind. He foresaw being nailed to the cross which would be dropped upright into a hole in the ground.

Our Lord says of that scene: ‘When I am lifted up I will draw all people to myself.’ How were people drawn to this scene?

People saw the length to which Jesus was prepared to go in order to persevere in his mission to live out the message that his Heavenly Father was full of mercy and wanted all people to share in Divine Life. This led to his being lifted up on the cross, being buried in the ground like a grain of wheat, only to rise to new life.

We could take a moment to pray that we will shortly see all this with the eyes of faith as we participate in the rituals of Good Friday and Easter.

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