



# Sacred Heart Parish Mildura

257—261 Eleventh Street Mildura

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Presbytery: 5022 9959

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parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Sacred Heart Parish | Mildura

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP

Fr James Kerr—Assistant Priest

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

Office Hours: Tues—Fri 9am—4pm

Our Lady of Lourdes  
Werrimull

St. Francis Xavier  
Elms Street, Irymple

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A -  
7th & 8th October 2017

## Weekend Mass Times

Sat: 6:00 pm

Sun: 9:00 am, 5:00 pm

Irymple: 8:30 am

Werrimull 11:00 am (last Sunday of each month)

## Weekday Masses

If there is a Funeral Mass on **Wednesday** or **Thursday**, the advertised Mass will be cancelled.

Tues: 6:00 pm

Wed: 9:15 am

Thurs: 9.15 am

Fri: 5:40 pm

Sat: 9.30 am



## Weekly Prayer Opportunities

**Rosary:** Monday 5:00pm

**Prayer of the Church:** Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri. 8:40 am

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting:** Tuesday 6.30pm

**Christian Meditation:** Sat 11:30 am Parish Prayer Room

**Devotion Prayer and Exposition:** Fri 3:00pm

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10:00am

### RECENT DEATH:

### ANNIVERSARIES:

**Sunday 5pm:** Leo Timpano, Vincenzo Mamnone

**Friday 5.40pm:** Lucia Carmela Fiorenza, Michael Lewis

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



### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

*If you want a sick person prayed for, ask for their permission. Names will be included for the duration of one month after which family or friends can request more time.*

Kevin Curran, Nada Zudetich, Dorothy Mullane, Yvonne Ash, Brian Ramsay, Graeme Lewis, Joan Appleby, Hailey Crossan, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Geraldine Brunner,

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

While the international community has long since outlawed slavery, we have become increasingly aware of the persistence of a lucrative global industry structured around the sexual and labour enslavement of vulnerable people. Groups such as MGA (Mercy Global Action) and ACRATH



(Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking of Humans) are taking action on behalf of those enslaved. Today's gospel features a parable about an absentee landowner with slaves to do his bidding. Commentators focus on almost every aspect of this parable: the landowner, the tenants, the fate of the "servants" and of the landowner's son, the interpretive comments that Jesus offers the chief priests and elders to whom the parable is addressed, the prophetic inter-texts and the allegorical elements in the text. Few consider the role or the fate of the slaves as slaves in the parable. Our contemporary sensibilities in relation to slavery invite a new reading of such texts, a reading that at the very least critiques the power that some in the Earth community exercise over others.

The frequent translation of the Greek *doulos* as "servant" rather than as "slave" masks the underlying reality that some members of the community, even within the circle of believers gathered at the Eucharistic table, were actually the property of others in the community. The fact is that nobody in the ancient world, not even Jesus of Nazareth, questioned this situation. It is not surprising, therefore, that the slaves in today's parable are considered by the "tenants" to be dispensable. Their role is to collect the produce from the harvest on behalf of the absentee landowner.

We can surmise that the "tenants" have legitimate grievances against the landowner. They clearly have no intention of parting with any portion of the produce, presumably the tax imposed on them as a condition of their tenancy. They react violently when confronted by the three slaves who are the landowner's emissaries. They beat one slave, kill another and stone yet another. Their treatment of the slaves is an implicit acknowledgement that the slaves represent the landowner whose demands they refuse to meet. The landowner risks the lives of other slaves by sending yet another and bigger delegation. This second group of emissaries meets the same fate as their predecessors. Finally, the landowner sends his own son in the expectation that the tenants will show him the respect they have denied the slaves, his property. In fact, the son receives the same treatment as the slaves. He too is dispensable from the perspective of those wanting to seize "the inheritance", those wishing to take control of the vineyard for their own purposes. As we reflect on gospel stories that take slavery for granted, we might commit ourselves to eliminating all exercise of power over others or over any "vineyard" entrusted to our care.

Veronica Lawson rsm

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE & LITURGY



### BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Community, Levi Cook, Jack Gaylard, Zhaimon Robles, Darcy Allan, Olivia Petrie & Alice Vernon whose Baptism occurs this weekend.

### WEDDINGS

We congratulate Matthew Morello & Jessie-Lee Cordwell who were married this weekend.



## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PARENT EVENING

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 7:00pm Sacred Heart Church



All parents of children who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this November need to be present at this evening.

We currently have seven people enrolled in our RCIA Program for this year, with the possibility of an eighth.

Our first **Inquiry Evening** will be held on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of October** in the **Hillman Room**. Team Members are asked to be present also.



## PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (support of Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$1396.45</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes DD, CC & EFT)	<b>\$1981.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 511.60</b>

Finance Committee meeting Tuesday 10th October 7.30am, Parish Office.

## COMMUNITY LIFE & OUTREACH

### THE SHARED TABLE MARKET – TODAY

We forgot to advertise the Market on last Sunday's Bulletin. This Market will be held on the second Sunday of the month after the 9:00am Mass. People are invited to bring along any goods or bits and pieces they'd like to donate for sale. All proceeds go to Fr. Mick's Mission in Peru.



### FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY RED CLIFFS

**Sunday 8 Oct 1pm**—Solemn Mass of Our Lady of the Rosary, followed by the procession and Traditional Feast with entertainment and stalls and fireworks.  
**All welcome.**

## COMMUNITY LIFE & OUTREACH

### KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS MEETING

Will be held on Monday 9th October 7.30pm at the KSC Clubrooms.

### SACRED HEART LADIES SOCIAL GROUP

Monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th October from 2pm in the Hillman Room. All welcome.

### SACRED HEART PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday 10th October (following the 6pm Mass)

### SUNRAYSIA PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 5:15pm Parish Office

### SACRED HEART PASSIONIST GROUP

The Sacred Heart Passionist Family Group are lunching at Lyn & Colin Welsh's 16 West Side Blv on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Intensions to Lyn or Colin 50231356. Please bring along a sweet or similar to share.

### FUNERAL FR. PAUL MERCOVICH

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 10:30am

Immaculate Conception Church St. Arnaud

Burial following at Ararat

### WERRIMULL BUS TRIP 29<sup>th</sup> October

The last Sunday of this month we are due run our Bus Trip to Werrimull for Mass followed by a meal at the Pub. Numbers at the monthly Mass at Werrimull have reached a point where we will have to seriously consider the prospect of keeping the Church open. It would be good if we could at least keep the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Bus Trip with Mass and lunch going for a while. On the last occasion we had to cancel the trip due to lack of numbers. Please consider the trip this month so that we might be able to keep the Church operating for a while longer.



### 120 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN CHARLTON

On October 20 & 21 21, 2017 we will be celebrating 120 years of Catholic Education in Charlton – this is also Charlton Show weekend. We invite any past pupils and staff to attend our celebrations. Please contact Anne, ph. 0408 547 973 for further details.

### CAMINO 2018

There are currently a couple of places left for anyone interested in doing 2 weeks of the Camino next year in Spain. Once again I stress that health and fitness are of the utmost priority.

The ability to pack light, sleep occasionally in dormitory accommodation and enjoy the odd glass of wine will also be among the demands placed upon those who wish to participate.

The date will be the third term holidays of next year: **last week of September & first week of October**. Interested people can contact

the Parish Office  
Tuesday to

Friday 9am – 4pm.



# PLEASE TREASURE MARRIAGE

Michael McVeigh

Getting married last year was one of the most significant things I have done in my life. I had found someone who I loved, and who loved me, and who I wanted to start a family with.

It could have ended with that — an agreement to live our lives together. But when we exchanged vows, in church, in front of our family and friends, it felt like we were giving birth to something that had been slowly growing inside us since we'd first found a partner in the other. The marriage gave life to the deep loving connection that we had — one we both understood as a blessing from God.

Australians are now being asked whether marriage should be made available to same sex couples who want to make the same, in name if not in belief, deep commitment that my wife and I made.

There are many people in our society for whom marriage is extremely important, whether we come from Christian, Muslim, Jewish, or other religious or non-religious backgrounds. One of the main issues with the current politicising of marriage is that it risks devaluing deeply-held understandings of marriage in the same way that other understandings have already been devalued in the modern world.

Our modern, secularised society has a tendency to take institutions that have a deep, spiritual meaning to religious people, and transform them into things that — stripped of much of their meaning — are more acceptable to the masses.

For example, Christmas — once a celebration centred around religious ceremonies — has become for many a day where they gather with family and share gifts. Easter sees stores filled with chocolate eggs and Easter bunnies, but few images reminding people of Christ's death and resurrection.

In a Christian sense, marriage has been about bringing a couple together for life according to the teachings of Jesus. While there might be ups and downs, and even break-downs, there's still a Christian ideal to aspire to. Similar ideals exist in other religions, and as noted, even people without a particular religious belief can still find beauty and purpose in the idea of a life-long loving commitment to another person.

However, that ideal is often far from evident in today's society. Shows like *Married at First Sight*, *Wife Swap* and *The Bachelor(ette)* turn married relationships into a form of entertainment. Gossip magazines turn relationships into sports — sharing updates each month about which celebrities are getting together or breaking up. Apps like Tinder and OKCupid sell themselves on the chance to experience *more* relationships, rather than deeper ones. TV shows focus on the dysfunctional, and find little drama in couples getting along. As we look around us, there are few examples of people seeking, let alone finding, relationships that they can see themselves in for the rest of their lives.

On the one hand, one could look at the campaign for marriage equality and feel that it's refreshing that a section of society wants marriage to be affirmed and made more available. But what are people really going to be voting on when they make their decision in the postal survey?

My hope is that those who are voting 'yes' see marriage as more than a commodity which same sex attracted people

trust same sex couples when they tell them that the love they feel for each other is just as deep, just as enriching and life-giving, as any love that men and women who get married can feel for each other. Their vote says that calling that bond anything but 'marriage' would be a lie.



In the same way, my hope is that those voting 'no' to same sex marriage are doing so out of a deep love for humanity, and only after listening to the experiences of same sex attracted people. If Christians choose to exclude same sex couples from even a secular, non-religious understanding of marriage, it should only be after the sort of passionate engagement with human experience that Jesus modelled in his own life. This is a question of love, and our loving hearts need to be fully engaged in answering it.

Marriage is more than a political and social battleground. One real danger of politicising the definition of marriage isn't so much that people with different belief systems might embrace the beautiful institution of marriage, but that the institution might be further taken away from those who most value it, stripped of its beauty, and sold back to our children as something smaller and less significant.

That would be a tragedy for anyone who treasures the institution of marriage.

**Michael McVeigh is the editor of Australian Catholics magazine and senior editor at Jesuit Communications.**

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

### COMMUNITY FORUM – MODERN SLAVERY IN AUSTRALIA

Currently the Australian Government is holding a Federal Inquiry into Modern Slavery and the Committee will be visiting Mildura on Monday 30 October with the purpose *“to further investigate the issue of wage exploitation and slavery-like practices in the agricultural sector, particularly for migrants and backpackers.”*

By way of background the Salvation Army has independently run Australia's only safe-house for victims of human trafficking for the past 10 years and has been bringing together community and faith based organisations to raise awareness about modern slavery.

An invitation is extended to be part of:

### A Community Forum – Modern Slavery in Australia

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October

2pm for 2:30pm start – 4pm finish

The Salvation Army 699-705 Fourteenth St, Mildura VIC

Afternoon tea provided

For catering and resource printing purposes please RSVP here:

For further information please contact Alison Rahill The Salvation Army - The Freedom Partnership to end modern slavery mob 0427 517 157

[Alison.rahill@ae.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Alison.rahill@ae.salvationarmy.org)



*Our Parish Vision*  
*“Our Parish is a Eucharistic Community*  
*united by our faith in Jesus Christ.*  
*We work together in the power of the Holy*  
*Spirit to spread the good news of God’s*  
*Kingdom.”*

**The Parish of Sacred Heart is committed to the obligation to ensure the safety of all children in our care.**

**Our Parish Schools**

Sacred Heart Primary School  
 Principal: *Des Lowry* 5023 1204

St Paul’s Primary School  
 Principal: *Vince Muscatello* 5023 4567

St Joseph’s Secondary College  
 Principal: *Marg Blythman* 5018 8000

7th & 8th October 2017			14th & 15th October 2017		
THIS WEEK’S READINGS			NEXT WEEK’S READINGS		
<b>First Reading: Isa 5:1-7</b> <b>Resp Psalm: Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20. R. Isa 5:7</b> <b>Response: The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.</b> <b>Second Reading: Phil 4:6-9</b> <b>Gospel: Mt 21:33-43</b>			<b>First Reading: Isa 25:6-10</b> <b>Resp Psalm: Ps 22. R. v. 6</b> <b>Response: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.</b> <b>Second Reading: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20</b> <b>Gospel: Mt 22:1-14</b>		
EUCCHARIST MINISTERS			EUCCHARIST MINISTERS		
SATURDAY	SUNDAY		SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY
6PM	9AM	5PM	6PM	9AM	5PM
6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required
Anne-Maree Greville	Philip Opie	Tony Finn	Maria Cirillo	Jean Rocca	Judy Hall
Taiana Fatai	Catherine McErvale	Melanie Ransome	Christine Carmichael	Bobby Castillo	Myrna Rodi
Margaret McDonald	Elvira Mazza	Bill Dolence	Ellen Frauenfelder	Ross Tongue	Maree Irvin
Trish McNamara	Jill Joslyn	Jacqui Willis	Jacinda Deacon	Talia Faingaanuku	Sue Hermans
Morris Henderson	Lisa Cirillo	Barbara Bunting	Katy Quinlan	Michael Faingaanuku	Danielle Mazzini
Anita Naray	Laurie Fry	Barbara Bunting	Katelin Anesbury	Maureen Speed	Clem Carlucci
	Judy Webster	Katrina Groves		Peter O’Donnell	
MUSIC			MUSIC		
M Guthrie	M Guthrie	No Music	Filipino Choir	Tongan Choir	M Sullivan
	B Lewis, B Prescottt		N Armsden	M Guthrie	J Macri
	J O’Bryan				J Ljubic
ALTAR SERVERS			ALTAR SERVERS		
Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer
OFFERTORY PROCESSION			OFFERTORY PROCESSION		
2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required
Baptism	Baptism			Cathy & Paul	
				McErvale	
READERS			READERS		
Katy Quinlan	Nicholas Mataele	Inez Sullivan	Jen Ditchfield	Rose Op’t Hoog	Jim Graham
COUNTING TEAM 2			COUNTING TEAM 3		
JOE DEJONG 5023 7802			PTER MCDONALD 5022 1531		
IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM			IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM		
READER	EUCCHARIST MINISTER		READER	EUCCHARIST MINISTER	
G Schmidt	M Hill		G McCracken	Malcolm Hoy	