



Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Irymple, Merbein, Mildura, Red Cliffs and Werrimull

Parish Priest Fr Matthew Thomas
Assistant Priest Fr John Corrigan

Edition: 21/2023
Visiting Priest: Fr Shajju Mathew

The Ascension of the Lord Year A / 21st May 2023

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART

“Our Lady of the Sacred Heart” is a title of the Blessed Virgin Mary which goes back to Fr Jules Chevalier, the founder of the MSC Fathers and OLSH



Sisters (Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart). At the age of 30, Fr Chevalier – an assistant priest in a run-down parish 200km south of Paris – prayed a nine day novena to Our Lady, asking her to intercede with her Son. Chevalier wanted a sign that God approved of his dream to found a group dedicated to the Heart of Jesus who would bring a message of love and hope. For Fr Chevalier, the Heart of Christ was a true image of God’s love, as well as a call for Christians to ‘have heart’ for one another.

The day after the novena concluded, an anonymous benefactor donated 20,000 francs to the diocese for a house of missionaries to be established.

Fr Chevalier’s prayers were answered, and in gratitude he spread devotion to “Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.” This title focuses on the relationship of love between Jesus and Mary – the same relationship of love we are invited to participate in and have with each other.

The devotion spread rapidly. In 1927, the Catholic faithful in Merbein opened a church-school under the patronage of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. In 2016, a silver chalice, inscribed with the words “Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Merbein 1920” was located in Bendigo at St Vinnie’s and subsequently returned to the parish. With no local knowledge of this chalice, which predates the opening of the church-school by seven years, its origins are a mystery!

Parish Contact Details

Administration Officer Mrs Carmel Russo
Office Hours Tuesday – Friday 9am – 4pm
257 Eleventh Street Mildura
Po Box 10037 Mildura Vic 3502
Phone 03 50212872
0417 862 082 (After Hours)
Email: mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Message from the Parish Priest

This weekend we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord. Jesus reminds us that God is with us until the end of time.

I have placed in the foyer of the churches nomination forms for the new parish council. I am asking for you, the parishioners, to think about nominating someone who could serve in this role. We all have many gifts and talents given to us from God. The completed forms need to be left at the office or given to one the priests.

These forms need to be completed and submitted by Monday 5th June 2023. Then on the weekend 17th and 18th June each faith community will be asked to vote for their nominees to represent their faith community.

God Bless

Fr Matthew

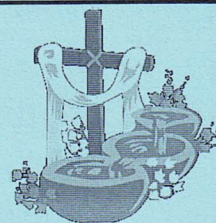
Tap & Go Presbytery 1st Collection



The Sacred Heart Parish has purchased a Tap & Go unit to trial at the Sacred Heart Church for the Presbytery—1st Collection during the next few months. Should the trial be successful units will then be installed at all churches for 1st Collection. The unit is currently located on the bench near the Baptismal font.

Baptisms

We welcome into our Parish communities **Francesco Cavallo, Romeo Frasca, Isaac Kennedy, Harrison Lewis, Eve Palazzo, Goldie Pratt and Leo Zoch** whose baptisms occur this weekend.



Finances

Last week’s collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1819.45	\$122.40	\$206.90
2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$	\$220.00	\$292.75
Loose Plate	\$	\$ 71.90	\$ 72.30
Next weeks Counting Team	Team 5—H Kay		



Flores de Mayo

The Filipino Community of Sunraysia will celebrate their annual Flores de Mayo (Flowers of May) with Mass this Sunday, May 21st at the

9am. All welcome.

Morning tea will be provided after Mass.

Confirmation

Next weekend all Parishes will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Friday 26th, Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th May.



Anointing Mass - May 2023

Mildura Wednesday 24th May 9.30am

Sacred Heart Family Group

Will be having lunch at the Gol Gol Hotel on Sunday 21st May at noon. Please let Denise or Gerry know your intentions on 03 50211918. All welcome to join us.

Mass Count for May

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count have begun and will take place over the week-ends in May: 20th & 21st & 27th & 28th.

Keys Found

Handed into the Parish Office three sets of keys.

If these belong to you, please

contact the Parish Office and collect.



About Flores de Mayo

In the late 18th century, the Catholic church has reserved the month of May to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary. The religious feast is called *Flores de Mayo*, which alludes to the wildflowers that bloom at this time of the year. A series of procession is held during this event, parading different images of the Blessed Virgin Mary and with children offering flowers as a culmination to their May Flower Catechism lessons.

The feast, which runs a whole month long, is celebrated differently depending on one's location. The Bicolanos, for example begin their ritual with the recitation of the holy rosary. People here also recite the traditional "Maria" after the Salve Regina (Hail Holy Queen) prayer.

After the ceremony, the townspeople are invited to feast on simple snacks given to those who attended the devotion.

Santacruzán

Santacruzán is the most-awaited parade that honours the finding of the True Cross by Queen Helena of Constantinople (known in the Philippines as "Reyna Elena") and her son Constantine the Great, who would later be emperor of the Roman Empire.

It is said that Constantine sent Helena on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in search of the Holy Sepulchre and the True Cross. The Holy Sepulchre is the place where Jesus was entombed. In her search, Helena "followed in the footsteps of Jesus," by providing money, food, and clothing to the poor.

Her tireless pursuit finally ended when one day, she smelled "dust and a flash of lighting" in an unfamiliar place. Finally, she uncovered the three crosses, one thought to belong to Jesus Christ.

People celebrate this event through a religious pageant held on the last day of Flores de Mayo. At this celebration, women donning

colourful gowns are seen walking around the town with symbolic items on hand that signify the characters they portray. They are often escorted by men carrying their arches or as their consort, except for Reyna Elena who walks with a child boy as a portrayal of Emperor Constantine.

Weekly Prayer and Spiritual Opportunities

Sacred Heart Church Mildura

Charismatic Group Tuesday after 6pm Mass

Exposition and Benediction Friday 4pm

Reconciliation Saturday 10am-10.30am

Monaghan Centre

Christian Meditation Saturday 11.30am

Scripture Reflection Thurs 2pm -3pm.

Children's Catechesis Sat 10am -11am

Parish Schools Contact

Sacred Heart Primary School Mildura

Principal Mr Mark Gibson 5023 1204

St Paul's Primary School Mildura

Principal Mr Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

St Joseph's Primary School Red Cliffs

Principal Mrs Naomi Kennedy 5024 1654

Our Lady of Sacred Heart Merbein

Principal Mrs Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

St Joseph's Secondary College Mildura

Principal Mrs Marg Blythman 5018 8000

This weekend Roster : 20th & 21st May 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	A Naray	M McDonald, A Naray, R Tongue	Baptism family	M Hammond, B Prescott, B Lewis
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G Schmidt			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	Flores de Mayo	K Mapapalangi, R O'Callaghan, J Cresp	Flores de Mayo	M Issanchon Filipino Choir
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	M Milani	P Hill	Baptism family	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	N Prevedello	K Wagner	Baptism family	K East
Sun 5pm	M Bowring	M Rodi, M Irvin, S Hermans	Baptism family	S Fatai, K Mapapalangi

Next Weekend Roster: 27th & 28th May 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	G Huxtable	M Cirillo, M McDonald, P Kerr	Confirmation	Confirmation
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G McCracken			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	R Tam	R Byra, E Mazza, V Mammone	Confirmation	Confirmation
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	M Slater	P Hunt	Confirmation	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	E Piscioneri	K Aston	Confirmation	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	J Thomas	C Carlucci, J Jose, T Cirillo	Confirmation	Confirmation

Please Pray for the Sick

Natalina D'Anna
Denis Pasut
Morgan Dias-Jones

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.

Recent Deaths



Anniversaries

Mildura:

Sunday 9am:
Jim Bowring

Sunday 5pm:
Maria Giuseppa Pascale, Antonio Carlucci
Vincenzo Dimasi (10 yr anniversary)

Tuesday 6pm:
Francesco Caia (30 day Mass)

Merbein:
Vince Matotek, Angelo Grande, Warwick Cook, Gert Farrell, Frank Matotek, Antonia & Giuseppe Mammone

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

Please note that if you have booked a memorial mass you are reminded to speak to the priest prior to the mass to let him know you are there.

Mass Time Table this Week

Tuesday	9.30am	No Mass
	6pm	Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am	Mildura Anoint
Thursday	9.30am	No Mass
	9.30am	Merbein
	5.30pm	Red Cliffs
Friday	4pm	Expo/Bened
	6pm	Mildura
Saturday	9.30am	Mildura
	6pm	Mildura
Sunday	8.30am	Irymple
	9am	Mildura
	10am	Red Cliffs
	10.30am	Merbein
	5pm	Mildura



What's Happening **May 2023**

Sun 21: OLSH Parish Council meeting after 10.30am Mass

Tue 23: Sacred Heart Finance Meeting 7.15am Parish Office

Tue 23: Sacred Heart Parish Council meeting after 6pm Mass, Monaghan Centre

Wed 24: Anointing Mass Mildura 9.30am

Wed 24: Baptism Preparation evening 7pm Monaghan Centre

Sun 21: Red Cliffs Parish Council meeting after 10am Mass

Tue 30: BUPA Aged Care Service 1pm

Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Please note that we will be changing the day from Friday evening to Tuesday evening commencing Tuesday 6th June 4pm.



ROALD DAHL
THE TWITS

6.30PM, WEDNESDAY 31 MAY
MILDURA ARTS CENTRE | MILDURAARTSCENTRE.COM.AU

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. (R.)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
3. God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

Second Reading

Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel

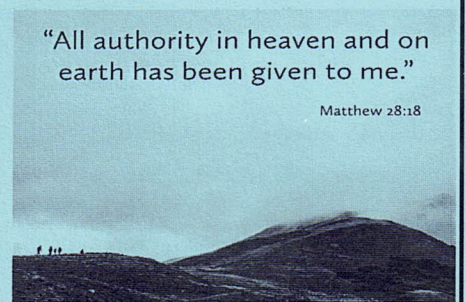
Mt 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Matthew 28:18



Next Weeks Readings: Pentecost / 28th May 2023

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11

Psalm: Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34

Response: Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

Second Reading: Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23