

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
 Presbytery Red Cliffs: 5024 1966
 Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
 parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au
 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 2



Fr. Michael McKinnon PP Fr. James Kerr Fr. Pat Flanagan

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo
 Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9:00am—4:00pm

Sacred Heart
Mildura

Our Lady of Lourdes
Werrimull

St. Francis Xavier
Irymple

St. Joseph's
Red Cliffs

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
Merbein

*The Sunraysia Catholic Communities are committed to ensure the safety of all children and vulnerable people in our care.
 Child Safety Officers:- Mildura—Christine Slattery, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed under Parish Heading

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY		9:30AM	
TUESDAY	6:00PM	5:30PM	
WEDNESDAY	9:15AM	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	9:15AM	5:30PM	AS ADVISED
FRIDAY	5:40PM	9:30AM	
SATURDAY	9:30AM	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 (LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)

MILDURA

Recent Deaths: Concetta (Connie) Russo

Anniversaries:

Saturday 6pm: Mario Venneri

Sunday 9am: Giuseppe Cavallo

RED CLIFFS

Anniversaries: Una Jean Paramanathan (Barry),
 Rocco, Rosa & Grace Lamattina, Cecilia &
 Domenico D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone, Francesco &
 Maria-Antonia Tassone, Adrianna Tassone



MERBEIN

Anniversaries: 13th Jan. Emma Sedgmen, Bob Berriman, Rita
 Tellefson; 18th Jessie Barnes, Katie Cohrs.

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

Our Parish Schools

Sacred Heart Mildura Principal: Des Lowry 5023 1204

St Paul's Mildura Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

OLSH Merbein Principal: Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

St. Joseph's Red Cliffs Principal: Mark Gibson 5024 1654

St. Joseph's Secondary College Mildura

Principal: Marg Blythman 5018 8000

The Baptism of the Lord / Year A 11th & 12th January 2020

According to the Church calendar, today's celebration of the Baptism of Jesus marks the end of the Christmas season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. In many cultures, this feast coincides with the end of the Christmas break, the return to work and to the regular patterns of life. Some of us have been fortunate enough to get some "down time" since Christmas, precious time to reflect on the past year, alone or with loved ones, to set goals for the year ahead and to move into Ordinary Time with renewed life and vigour. For those affected by the prolonged and increasingly devastating bush fires in this land and on the west coast of the United States, Ordinary Time this year will be anything but ordinary. Their struggle to rebuild their lives and their homes invites us in the first place to open our hearts and to share our resources. It invites us to open our eyes to the changes we can expect as our planet warms. It also alerts us to our particular personal and collective responsibility to change the way we live so that life on this planet might actually have a future.

The baptism story is an initiation or commissioning story. We hear it against the backdrop of the first reading from Isaiah 42. Jesus is God's chosen one on whom God's Spirit rests. The voice of God commissions God's chosen to bring forth justice, sensitively and without fanfare: to be a light to the peoples; to open the eyes of the blind and to set the captives free. A Spirit-filled life consists in fulfilling such a mission.

In Matthew's account of the baptism, "the heavens are opened" and Jesus sees God's Spirit descending on him "like a dove". While the image of the heavens opening presents an ancient three-tiered understanding of the structure of the cosmos, we might nonetheless appreciate the sense it evokes of the all-encompassing cosmic nature of this commissioning event. God's words are addressed to all who listen to the gospel: "This is my Son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Jesus' mission is to be understood in terms of "righteousness" or right relationship. Jesus' insistence that John baptise him despite John's reluctance points to the reversal of values that will characterise his mission. There is no pursuit of status or personal aggrandizement in a gospel way of life. Right relationship lies rather in respecting as God's creation the entire Earth community, in bringing forth justice and setting the captives free. Each one of us can make a difference to the "ordinary time" of those with whom we share life on this planet. The image of "the heavens" opening might serve as a reminder of the destructive effects of human-introduced space debris and of our responsibility to promote global legislation that might inhibit further devastation of this kind. Sr

Veronica Lawson rsm



Sacred Heart Mildura REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Sacramental Life & Liturgy



BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community Lexie Fitzpatrick whose Baptism occurs this weekend.

ADVANCE NOTICE RECONCILIATION & FIRST EUCHARIST 2020

Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 12th February 7pm
Sacred Heart Church

All families of children in Grade 4 and above due to celebrate First Eucharist in June this year need to attend this Parent Information Evening. Further information regarding the programs for **Reconciliation & First Eucharist** including Registration Forms can be obtained by contacting the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872.



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: Brian Weightman, Mary Flinn, Fr Denis Dennehy, Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuoniso, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Dien Brown, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Vince Alicastro, Hailey Crossan, Geraldine Brunner, Albis Dy

Merbein: Sr. Grace, Martin Rogers, Frank Chandler, Mary Avery, John Dorman

Red Cliffs: Maureen Lee, Edna Chua, Lily Flanagan, Barry Crosbie, Brendan Bell, Caterina Brizzi, Marie Adams, Reynaldo Chan, Albis Dy, Roman & Joe Dy, Robert & Elizabeth Young, Joe Cufari, Maurice O'Connor, Joe Mammone

A FRIENDLY GUIDE TO MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

By Dorothy A Lee

Limited copies of the A Friendly Guide to Matthew's Gospel is now available at the Sacred Heart Parish Office for sale at \$30.00 each. Please call in.

Community Life & Outreach

THE KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Monthly meeting will be held Monday 13th January in the KSC Club rooms at 7.30pm. Executive members will meet prior to the monthly meeting at 6.30pm.

PLANNED GIVING

If you have Planned Giving envelopes numbered 146 please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872 as soon as possible.

*And a voice from heaven said,
'This is my Son, the Beloved,
with whom I am well pleased.'*

LENTEN PROGRAM 2020

If you would like to order a book/s for Lent, please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872 by Friday 25th January.

If you are wanting to organise/host or be part of a group please contact the Parish Office.



SHARED TABLE STALL & CUPPA after 9am Mass Sunday

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

Weekly Prayer Opportunities Mildura

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

Charismatic Prayer Meeting: Tuesday 6:30pm

Devotions and Exposition: Friday 3:00pm

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

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Prayer Room

PLENARY COUNCIL THEMES FOR DISCERNMENT

Copies of each Theme are still available at the Sacred Heart Parish Office for those who attended the meetings and for those who wish to be a part of the discerning group.

ADVANCE NOTICE 2020

REGIONAL MISSION

- March 8th to March 13—Fr Ray Sanchez will again visit our Parish for a Mission.

RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE

- April 20—May 16 CLC/Jesuit Tertian First Spiritual Exercises Retreat are organising an online/home Retreat for Mildura. They will be offering the first retreat Inner Peace in Divine Love. The retreats are usually co-guided with a CLC member.

ADULT EDUCATION

- Fr Elio Capra will once again visit us in May/June for our Sacramental Program.

BULLETIN NOTICES

Please make any requests for the Bulletin to the Parish Office by 12noon each Thursday.

Email: parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au or call 5021 2872 during office hours .

UPDATING THE PARISH DATABASE

Red Cliffs, Merbein and Mildura

If your circumstances have changed: you have moved addresses, changed your postal address, have a new mobile phone number or updated your email address, please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872 so that we can update our Databases.

PRAYER FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY BUSH-FIRE AND DROUGHT:

(An adaption of the prayer for rain during the month of November)

Eternal God,
In wisdom and love
you created our earth
to sustain us and give us life.

We turn to you now
in faith, hope and love,
asking you to look with favour
on our fire ravaged and drought-stricken land,
on our starving and displaced
animals,
on our failing crops and burning
farms, towns and forests.

Strengthen, sustain and give new heart
to our farmers
and to all who are affected by drought;
be with those who support them.

Strengthen and comfort the victims of the fires,
those who have lost family, friends, property and
stock.

Protect our volunteer firefighters and all members
of essential services.

In your loving providence,
send abundant rain to quench the fires
and to restore our parched earth.

Father of all compassion,
hear our prayer
through Jesus Christ your Son,
in whom the promise of new life
has dawned, and
through the power
of the Holy Spirit,
the Lord the giver of life:
Renew your faithful people;
Renew the face of the earth.

Our Lady of the Southern Cross,
Mary, help of Christians –
Pray for us.
St Mary of the Cross MacKillop –
Pray for us.



Jesus' Baptism by John, the Cross and Resurrection, and our Baptism in Jesus

The Baptism of Jesus is spoken of as a moment of Epiphany. Just as the star in the heavens led the Magi to recognise Jesus as the One sent by God, the voice that comes from heaven reveals Jesus for who he truly is, the Beloved Son. Jesus' very act of descending into the waters of repentance also reveals something further about his mission; he comes ready to be immersed even into the depths of our weakness, our frailty and our sin. He is Emmanuel, God-with-us, and the 'with-us' is not just a show. In this way Jesus' Baptism points ahead to what he will accomplish through his Cross and Resurrection, a Mystery we share in through our own baptism in him.

By immersing himself, "Jesus loaded the burden of all humankind's guilt upon his shoulders; he bore it down into the depths of the Jordan. He inaugurated his public activity by stepping into the place of sinners. ...

Jesus' Baptism anticipated his death on the Cross, and the heavenly voice proclaimed an anticipation of the Resurrection. These anticipations have now become reality. John's baptism with water has received its full meaning through the Baptism of Jesus' own life and death. To accept the invitation to be baptised now means to go to the place of Jesus' Baptism. It is to go where he identifies himself with us and to receive there our identification with him. The point where he anticipates death has now become the point where we anticipate rising again with him."

(Josef Ratzinger *Jesus of Nazareth I* pg. 18)

SEEKING ACCOMMODATION

A mature, single Christian female will be arriving in Mildura to start a new job the week of 11th January having spent the past 2 years working with Aboriginal children, families and community in the Darwin diocese and the Catholic school on Tiwi Island NT (reference available from sister Anne Gardiner-2017 Senior Australian of the Year).

She is seeking accommodation with a Christian household such as house share/rent a room/self contained granny flat/country cottage/pickers quarters/assisting elderly in their home with chores, cooking, shopping etc. If anyone can help please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office 5021 2872 for further information.

DROUGHT COMMUNITY SUPPORT INITIATIVE

The Australian Government have awarded the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia \$15 million dollars in drought relief funding under the Drought Community Support Initiative – Round 2 (DCSI) The project ends on 30 June 2020. Eligible applicants to the DCSI can receive a one-off cash payment of \$3,000. Farming community members can apply by going to the online application form, which can be found at www.vinnies.org.au/droughtrelief

Assistance with the application form can be obtained by phoning 1300 846 643.

Or direct donations to: **Millewa-Carwarp Farmers Fund.** Funds that go direct to the farmer - BSB – 063520 Account – 10078126. Please put FD at the start of the reference.

SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1443.45	\$ 164.20	\$250.10
2nd Collection (includes all EFT)	\$1012.00	\$1325.00	\$158.00
Loose Plate	\$ 688.50	\$ 69.00	\$ 58.95

Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart Merbein St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

PARISH NEWS

'Our Parish' Newsletter

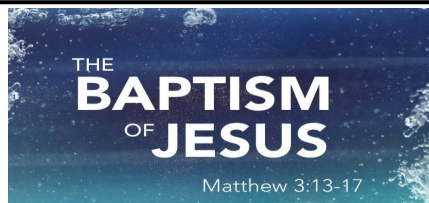
Hopefully everyone has taken their copy of 'OUR PARISH' Newsletter which Bernadette Wells so capably and generously produces for us each year - Many, many thanks Bernadette!

Plenary Council: Just a reminder to anyone who would like to add anything to the Plenary Council Statement (which is in Our Parish Newsletter) before it is sent in before Easter. Please let Nancy Prevadello or Sr. Carmel know of your wishes.

Lenten Program: We need to order the books for anyone who would like to take part in the Lenten Program. It is one of the few opportunities we have to reflect upon and share our faith and hopefully grow in our understanding of what it means to be an active Christian in today's world. The program would be for 1 hour a week for the 6 weeks of Lent - either afternoon or evening sessions. Please let Sr. Carmel know ASAP if you are interested in taking part.

PARISH BLESSING

May this coming year be a year of blessings for our faith community and may it be a year that brings each one of us much joy and personal fulfilment.



WEEKDAY MASSES

Unit 9—Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9.30am Tue, Thu: 5.30pm

CALENDAR

Sunday 12 Jan: The Baptism of the Lord

END OF CHRISTMAS-TIME

The Coming of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus at the River Jordan completes another Christmas-time. After Mass this morning, all hands on deck to put away carefully the accoutrements of Advent-Christmas.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Community **Antonio Medici** whose baptism occurs today.



AUSTRALIA DAY

Each year on the Sunday nearest we celebrate Australia Day. As it happens, this year Australia day, January 26 is a Sunday.



STOLEN SCOOTER

It was brought to our attention that a scooter was stolen from a young boy while he was at the Skate Park in Red Cliffs a couple of weeks back. As it has been reported to the police, anyone who witnessed the incident or knows the whereabouts of the scooter please contact Red Cliffs Police station.

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS / 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th & 19th January 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
 Responsorial: Ps 39:2, 4, 7-10
 Response: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.
 Second Reading: St Paul to the Corinthians 1:1-3
 Gospel: John 1:29-34



Werrimull Last Sunday of each month 11am	Sacred Heart Saturday 6pm	Sacred Heart Sunday 9am	Sacred Heart Sunday 5pm	Irymple Sunday 8:30am	Red Cliffs Sunday 10:00am	Merbein Sunday 10:30am
Leader / Reader	Mary Jackson	Lyn Welsh	Rosemarie Zalec	K Moodoo	D Eagle J Vines / L Grivec	Josephine O'Connor
Music	M Sullivan	Tongan Choir M Guthrie	NO MUSIC		Guitar	
Offertory		Jim O'Donnell			M Bell	Prevadello Family
Children's Liturgy		To start March 2020				
Altar Servers	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please		GROUP 8 T Dowling	Volunteer Please
Eucharist Ministers	Maria Cirillo	Greg Johnston	Mario Zema	G Schmidt	T Gardiner	Vi Barling
	Christine Carmichael	Gina Raiti	Josie Zema		M Gibson	Margo Farnsworth
	Jacinda Deacon	Anna Vartuli	Bernadette Avery	OASIS AGED CARE	A Higham	CHAFFEY AGED CARE
	Katy Quinlan	Sara Visona	Trish Cirillo	M Jensen	CUPPA'S	Pat Sylvia
	Vince Pileggi	Juliet Cresp	Jeena Jose		To commence	
	Volunteer Please	Louise Belej	Christine Slattery	LAY LEADERS	January 26th—2020	LAY LEADERS
	Nancy Leonardis		M & R Hill	FLOWERS Volunteer	B Wells K Wagner	
Counting Team	TEAM 1	GERRY LAVERY 5021 1918			G & S WARMAN	As per arrangement
Church Cleaning	As per arrangement				Volunteers	As per arrangement