



*Sts Anne and Joachim*  
CATHOLIC PARISH OF SUNRAYSIA

IRYMPLE, MERBEIN, MILDURA, RED CLIFFS AND WERRIMULL

**Parish Priest:** Fr Matthew Thomas

**Assistant Priest:** Fr John Corrigan

**Visiting Priest:** Fr Shaiju Mathew

**Sunday Bulletin:** Edition 1/2024

**Website:** [www.sunraysiacatholic.org](http://www.sunraysiacatholic.org)

**The Epiphany Year B / 7th January 2024**

**Message from our Parish Priest**

We have now begun 2024, I hope that this year is a year full of adventures, blessing and time spent not only with friends and family but also devoting extra time to God.

This weekend we welcome the arrival of the three kings. This points us of the Kingship of Jesus, as he reminds us of the kingdom of God that we all belong to.

The Shepherds and the Kings all followed the star to arrive at Bethlehem to pay respect to Jesus. When we follow the star what attracts us to Jesus and apart from our lives what do we bring forward to God?

God Bless,  
*Fr Matthew.*

**Parish Office Hours January 2024**

From **2nd January till 25th January** the operating hours for the Parish Office will be from **9am till 12noon only. Friday 26th January Office closed Public Holiday.**

The Office will reopen to normal operating hours from Tuesday 30th January 2024.

**Parish Contact Details**

*Administration Officer:* Ms Carmel Russo  
*Office Hours:* Tuesday to Friday, 9am – 4pm  
257 Eleventh Street Mildura  
PO Box 10037, Mildura Vic 3502  
*Phone:* 03 5021 2872 or 0417 862 082  
*E-mail:* [sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Presbytery Tap & Go Units**

These Units are located at all church entrances, this enables us to support our Priests.



**New Mass Structure for 2024.**

We have been asked to work with Fr Shaiju (Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes) and re-create a rotating roster for the priests. So Fr John and myself will be travelling to Robinvale and Ouyen once a month each. This will commence the second week of February.

We are also having a couple of small changes here in the Sunraysia Region. This will commence first week in Feb.

**Tuesday evening Mildura**

4-5.15pm Adoration and confession  
5.15pm Benediction  
5.30-5.45pm Rosary  
6pm Mass

**Thursday Evening Red Cliffs**

4.30pm-5pm Adoration and confession  
5pm Benediction  
5.30 Mass

**Public Rosary**

When the Rosary is prayed publicly in the church then the Rosary will be prayed half an hour prior to mass and then we will have at least 15 mins of silent prayer prior the commencement of mass.

Having at least 15 minutes prior to mass in silence allows all of us to be prepared to celebrate the mass with a stillness in our hearts.



**Baptisms**

We welcome into our Parish Faith Communities:

**Ilir Gashi**

whose baptism occurs this weekend.

**Finances – last weekend's Collections**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$1328.40</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	<b>\$883.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$1275.35</b>
<b>This week's Counting Team</b>	<b>Team 7—W Carmichael</b>
<b>Next week's Counting Team</b>	<b>Team 8—B Collins</b>

**Advance Notice**  
**Sunraysia Catholic Communities**  
**Sacramental Dates for 2024**

Parent meeting & celebration dates for the following sacraments will take place on:



**Confirmation (Grade 3 and above)**

Parent meeting 27th March 7pm, Sacred Heart Church. The celebration dates are as follows:

Friday 17th, Saturday 18th, Sunday 19th May.

**First Holy Communion (Grade 4 and above)**

Parent meeting 28th August 7pm, Sacred Heart Church. The celebration dates are as follows:

Friday 25th, Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October.



**Penance (Grade 2 and above)**

Parent meeting 16th October 7pm, Sacred Heart Church. The celebration date: Wednesday 27th November 7pm, Sacred heart Church.



**Reminder**

If your personal details have changed eg: change of phone number, email address, residential or postal address please contact the Parish Office so the database can be updated.

**Notices for the Bulletin**

All requests for notices for the weekend bulletin need to be in by 12noon each Thursday. You can either email: [sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au) or call 5021 2872.

**WEEKLY PRAYER & SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

*Sacred Heart Church Mildura*

**Exposition and Benediction:** Tuesday 4pm  
**Charismatic Group:** Tuesday after 6pm Mass  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday after 9:30am Mass

*Monaghan Centre*

**Christian Meditation:** Saturday 11.30am  
**Children's Catechesis:** Saturday 10am – 11am

20+C+M+B+24

**EPIPHANY BLESSING  
CHALKING THE DOOR**



Marking one's front door with blessed chalk is an ancient Christmas custom which bestows a New Year blessing over the family home. The letters C, M and B refer to the names Sacred Tradition gives to the Three Wise Men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. The letters also represent the Latin prayer, *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (Christ Bless this Home).

At the end of today's Mass you are invited to collect your piece of chalk and follow the instruction provided. After "chalking the door," feel free to pass your chalk on to any neighbour who wishes to bless their home too.

Be Our Daily Star (An Epiphany Prayer)

God of all heaven and earth,

From the breath of your love came the creation of the world.

We are amazed at the vast beauty of the night sky and at the intimate nature of the love you have for us your children.

Be our daily star, Guiding our lives to search for kingdom love.

May we always follow your light of truth in all that we do, Forever trusting, hoping and believing in your word.

Lift our eyes tonight to see your eternal life shining brightly, Leading us home.

Amen



**Anniversary Masses**

Anniversary Masses are celebrated during Weekend Masses or during any normal Week-day Mass especially Tuesday and Friday at 6pm.

Please contact the Parish Office to register your Mass Intention and a reminder to notify the priest prior to Mass.

**PARISH SCHOOLS CONTACT**

**Sacred Heart Primary School, Mildura**  
*Principal: Mr Mark Gibson. Ph: 5023 1204*

**St Paul's Primary School, Mildura**  
*Principal: Mr Vince Muscatello. Ph: 5023 4567*

**St Joseph's Primary School, Red Cliffs**  
*Principal: Mrs Naomi Kennedy. Ph: 5024 1654*

**Our Lady of Sacred Heart, Merbein**  
*Principal: Mrs Narelle Gallagher. Ph: 5025 2258*

**St Joseph's Secondary College, Mildura**  
*Principal: Mrs Marg Blythman. Ph: 5018 8000*

Sts Anne and Joachim Catholic Parish of Sunraysia adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria.

Our policies are on display in each church, and on our website.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Vince Pileggi**.

This Weekend Roster: 6th & 7th 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	M Bowring	K Byrnes, M Cirillo, A Greville		M Guthrie M Bowring
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G Schmidt			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	R Op't Hoog	L Belej, R Byra, B Castillo	L Belej	Italian Choir
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	J Cameron	M Dominelli	N Orr	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	K Aston	K McCarthy	R Antony & family	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	J Thomas	J Boord, M Bowring B Bunting		S Fatai K Mapapalangi
Next Weekend Roster: 13th & 14th January 2024				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	A Naray	P Kerr, M McDonald, A Naray		M Hammond, J Ljubic, J Macri
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G McCracken			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	R Tam	J Cresp, T Fainga'anuku, N Fatai	M Gobbo	T Fainga'anuku Group
Sun 10am	D Eagle	D Eagle	M Bell	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	N Prevedello	K McCarthy	Baptism Family	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	N Trimboli	C Carlucci, V Carlucci, T Cirillo		M Guthrie, J Ljubic

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Catherine Bell  
Natalina D'Anna  
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**  
Vincent Tripodi, Carmela Gilbert,  
Tiziano Parente (Italy)  
Billy McClelland (Sea Lake)

**Anniversaries**  
Maria Raboteg (1 year anniversary)

**Mildura:**  
Irymple 8.30am: Vincenzo & Grazia DeMaria  
Tuesday 6pm: Frank Roccisano (30 day Mass)

**Merbein:**  
Allan Bell, Eileen McCoy, Teresa Gadzinski,  
Emma Sedgman, Bob Berriman and  
Rita Tellefson

**Red Cliffs:**

*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 SCHEDULE THIS WEEK**

Tuesday	9.30am	Red Cliffs
	6pm	Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am	Mildura
Thursday	9.30am	Merbein
	10am	Funeral Mildura
	5.30pm	Red Cliffs Anointing
Friday	10am	Funeral Mildura
	11am	Funeral Sea Lake
	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**

**January 2024**

**Sat 6 Jan:** Marian Mass—Mother of the Saviour 9.30am  
**Sun 7 Jan:** The Epiphany of the Lord  
**Thu 11 Jan:** Anointing Mass, Red Cliffs 5.30pm  
**Thu 18 Jan:** Anointing Mass, Merbein 9.30am  
**Wed 24 Jan:** Anointing Mass, Mildura Church 2pm  
**Wed 24 Jan:** Baptism Preparation Evening 7pm, Monaghan Centre  
**Fri 26 Jan:** Australia Day, Mass 6pm

*"Go and find out all about the child." Matthew 2:8*



## First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. (R.)
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth's bounds. (R.)
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him. (R.)
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. (R.)



## Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

## Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!  
We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of  
Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Next Weeks Readings: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B / 13th & 14th January 2024

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19

Psalm: 39: 2, 4 7-10. R. vv. 8, 9

Response: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20

Gospel: John 1: 35-42

