

Sunraysia Catholic Communities



Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337
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Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 39

Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas
Retired Priest Fr. Pat Flanagan

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*

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A
27th September 2020**

MILDURA

Recent Death: Harold Robinson
Anniversaries: Libero Bachetti, Perc Lunn, Teresa Panuccio,
Leo Odal, Carmelo Taverna, Leo Timpano, Vince Mammone,

RED CLIFFS

Anniversaries: Giuseppe & Domenico Mammone

MERBEIN

Anniversaries:

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

Message from our Parish Priest

This weekend we celebrate Migrant and Refugee Sunday. We are blessed as a community to have many parishioners who have travelled to and now call Australia home. They have introduced us to many different customs, foods and traditions, that we now experience and appreciate in our daily lives.

We need to pray for those in Detention Camps that they are released soon so they can enjoy making Australia home for them and their families.

Fr Matthew

Sunday Mass now live streamed from 5pm each Saturday via Youtube.

Bulletins are available for collection outside all main Church doors.

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: Janelle Carney, Bill Antonie, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuionisio, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Hailey Crossan, Geraldine Brunner, Albis Dy

Merbein: Mary Avery, John Dorman

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

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

COVID-19 Step 3—Easing of Restrictions

What is means for churches and religious ceremonies?

Private Prayer/Church Visit—As from Monday 21st September the churches will be opened (9am-6pm) for private prayer and devotion please note people cannot be in larger groups.

You must sit in your family group or with a person in your social bubble and only one family group or social bubble group to be in the church at any time.

Masses—The current provisions do not allow us to gather in our churches to celebrate mass.

Funerals—will be able to have up to 20 people gathered plus those required to conduct the funeral (the celebrant and funeral directors)

Baptisms—At this stage we are unable to celebrate baptisms.

Weddings—will be able to have up to 10 people gathered (this is to include the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant.

You will need to sign in and out of the church as per COVID regulations.

LOCAL NEWS

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS Adore Daily Reflections 2020

Advent and Christmas reflection preparation is going to look a little different this year and we would like to put forward a suggestion that we have 6—8 online groups from around the Parishes of Mildura, Merbein, Ouyen, Red Cliffs and Robinvale as well as face to face if allowed.

These online groups will be at different times through

the week which will allow us to join together with others from around the region to prepare for the birth of Christ.

The first week of Advent commences on the 29th November. In preparation for this please contact the Parish Office by Tuesday 29th September if you would like a booklet. Cost for the booklet will be \$4.00



SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th September.

New CDFpay online payment portals are now available for Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs. Please follow the links below:

Mildura: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMildura>

Merbein: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMerbein>

Red Cliffs: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayRedCliffs>

Presbytery: <https://bit.ly/CDFpaySunraysia>

Please note: There is now the option to directly support the **Priests (1st Collection)**.

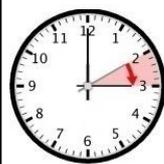
If you are contributing to the 2nd Collection please include your Planned Giving number in the comments section. Carmel will gladly help with any enquiries.

FEASTS DAYS OF THE WEEK

29th September: Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Archangels



1st October: St Therese of the Child Jesus



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS

Next Sunday 4th October

Please forward clocks 1 hour

NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN

All requests for notices for the weekend bulletin need to be in by 12noon each Thursday. You can either email: mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au or call 5021 2872 during office hours.

RED CLIFFS CEILING

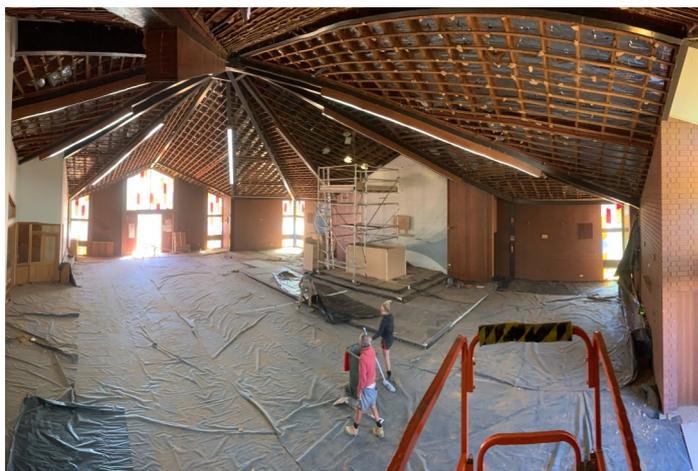
Ceiling works are well under way.

Work is expected to be completed in approximately eight to ten weeks, which means we are hopeful to have the church reopened and ready to use for the Feast of Christ the King (November 22nd).

To make this worksite safe could all parishioners refrain from entering the church or being on church grounds during the refurbishment.

Once COVID restrictions are adjusted Masses will be in a different location keeping in mind we are unable to use the school due to the COVID Restrictions for Education. Further information in coming weeks.

Bulletins available by the front door of Fr Pats unit.

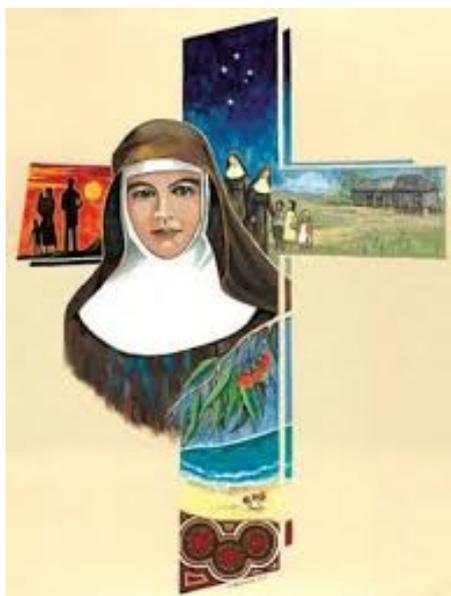


It's St Mary MacKillop's 10th Anniversary and you're invited!

To mark the 10th anniversary of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop, Australia's first Saint, the Sisters of Saint Joseph invite you to celebrate the wonderful life and inspirational legacy of Saint Mary of the Cross.

The Sisters have created commemorative prayers, videos and a global vigil in of honour Mary throughout September and October <https://www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary>

www.sosj.org.au/10th-anniversary



DIOCESAN NEWS

106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees – this Sunday, September 27, 2020

- The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office has prepared a Migrant and Refugee Kit, which includes stories from local communities, reflections and prayers https://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/resources/migrant-refugee-kit?fbclid=IwAR00HRtrkYbmKFV4Tjyo9SqFOMYS EeUVn3dUN-aWote00KR2-JArGmZS8_8
- Catholic Social Services Victoria would like to draw particular focus, especially in the light of COVID-19, to remember, pray for and commit to working to change the horrible reality of many migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum ‘in our own backyard’:

Remembering, working and praying for migrants and refugees: On this 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, we remember, pray for, and commit to working to change the horrible reality of many in ‘our own backyard’. We acknowledge and give thanks for the many parish communities across the state, along with those working within our Catholic social services and other organisations and community groups, who are making considerable efforts to assist people seeking asylum, refugees, and other migrants who hold temporary visas—many remain in harsh circumstances in detention centres, and the majority of the 115,000 living in the Australian community have been deemed ineligible for any federal government support payments during COVID-19, making many at risk of homelessness and despair. In his message for World Day for Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis tells us, “You have to know in order to understand” and, “It is necessary to be close, in order to serve”. Only when different elements of the community work together — individuals, parishes, schools, universities and organisations — can we effectively advocate for systemic change and provide for people’s immediate necessities and other spiritual and social needs. We encourage you to read more at <http://www.css.org.au/Article-View/Article/23727/Remembering-working-and-praying-for-migrants-and-refugees#.X2qkIGzaCh>

106th
WORLD DAY OF
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

SUNDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2020

LIKE JESUS CHRIST,
FORCED TO FLEE

WELCOMING, PROTECTING,
PROMOTING AND INTEGRATING
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS.



Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission Mental Health Webinar

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission is hosting a zoom webinar for anyone who wants to know more about mental health in Australia and to empower participants to understand mental health, the supports available here in Australia and provide an opportunity to reach out, encourage hope and bring fullness of life to those we love and care for. The Zoom webinar will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2020 from 2.00pm – 3.00pm. For more information, registration details and to download the flyers, go to the diocesan website

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-agencies-2/welfare/social-justice/>



We are excited to extend an invitation to you for our upcoming conference, **REGROWTH**.

REGROWTH is a conference for anyone in the Catholic Church who would like to see **new growth in the Church after such challenging times**. We will be discussing

Alpha in a Catholic Context as a tool to facilitate new life in our parishes.

Topics will focus on how we can use Alpha in a Catholic Context to connect people who have lost connection in our parishes, as well as to rebuild and transform the face of our parishes by becoming more invitational and welcoming.

Daniel Ang, Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation - ?Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, our keynote speaker, will be calling us to "mission" and "evangelisation" which is more important in these times than ever before.

We look forward to hosting you and your team. Please feel free to invite anyone else you know who is excited about parish renewal.

REGROWTH is a free, online event
Thursday, October 1st
7.15pm-9.00pm
[Register for REGROWTH today](#)

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Bishop Paul Bird CSsR has issued information regarding gatherings in places of worship now that restrictions have eased in regional Victoria. All updates are on the diocesan website “news” section www.ballarat.catholic.org.au.

First Reading

Ez 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 21:28-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'



REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

'No, no, no, no ... Y-yes!'

Jesus tells a little story about two brothers. One said 'Yes', but never did anything. The other said 'No', but then had a change of heart and did what was required. Jesus loved the brother who came around. He was very hard on the one who said 'Yes' but did not 'walk the talk'.

That is why he loved those tax collectors who gathered the revenue for the Roman authorities, and the prostitutes who serviced the Roman occupying army, but who switched allegiance from the Empire of Caesar to the Kingdom of God. This signalled a profound change of heart.

We may have said 'No' to God at various times with various intensity in our lives. But God is wonderfully patient and prepared to hear 'No' many times in the hope of hearing 'Yes'. God's patience never runs out. But our time to say 'Yes' does run out. We only have a relatively short life span!

At the end of Mass, I will say 'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.' As St Francis of Assisi put it, 'Preach the Gospel, and occasionally use words.' Walk the talk.