



Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Irymple, Merbein, Mildura, Red Cliffs and Werrimull

Parish Priest Fr Matthew Thomas
Assistant Priest Fr John Corrigan

Edition: 26/2023

Visiting Priest: Fr Shaiju Mathew

12th Sunday in OT Year A / 24th & 25th June 2023

Message from the Assistant Priest

As much as we've shivered through this week, spare a thought for Fr Matt and the staff and students of St Joseph's College who spent the week in chilly Anglesea! Let's pray the spiritual fruits of the retreat sustain the Year 12s through their final year of school and beyond.



We have past the winter solstice, which means longer (and warmer) days are imminent. Similarly, the new parish of Sts Anne and Joachim is rapidly approaching. This weekend occasions the last of our elections to the new parish council, whose final composition will be announced shortly. The Council of Priests meets in Ballarat this Tuesday, after which Bishop Paul will formally erect the new parish of Sunraysia, effective 1st July.

As we embark on this new chapter in our parish history, "let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection." (Heb 12:2)

Godspeed.

Fr John

Message from our prospective nominees for Parish Council

Alix Mack

My name is Alix, I work as an occupational therapist at Lime Therapy. I love my job and helping people within the community. The parish is important to me because it's a place to worship and celebrate our shared love of God, Jesus.

Clem Carlucci

Hi my name is Clem Carlucci. I work at Chemist Warehouse in Mildura as a lead store person & Safety Officer. I am also the current Branch Chairman & District Rural Chairman of the Knights of the Southern Cross. To me the Church is a place where like-minded people come to pray, chat, socialize. The thing I would like to get behind is more church social gathering events, more youth engagement and reformation of the youth group

Rebecca Tam

My name is Rebecca Tam and I am mother to a two year old with another child due early August. I am a secondary school teacher at St Joseph's College, teaching Maths, Science and Religious Education. The parish is important to me as since joining through the RCIA program in 2019 I have felt welcomed, supported and an immense sense of peace and belonging.

Vittorio Carlucci

Hi my name is Vittorio Carlucci. I am a retired Railway worker. I represent the Italian Patronato on a voluntary basis to help hold the Italian pension. I am also a member of the Knights of the Southern Cross. To me the Church is a place of worship where hopefully more young people come back.

WINTER APPEAL 2023

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The Vinnies 2023 Fundraising Winter Appeal plays a vital role in enabling the good works of the Society. Envelopes for your kind donations will be available from this weekend at each of the Parish Churches concluding 24th and 25th June. With your support, this appeal will help us to continue to serve the community.



WINTER APPEAL

Annual Collection for the Pope

Will be held next weekend—1st & 2nd July 2023. This annual collection for the Holy Father is taken up throughout the world on a weekend near the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. This will support the Pope's pastoral care for people around the world.

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

Tap & Go Presbytery — 1st Collection

The Sacred Heart Parish has purchased 4 new Tap & Go units with set amounts of \$5, \$10, \$20 & \$50 for the Presbytery — 1st Collection. A unit will be placed at each Church entrance for Sacred Heart Church and a unit will be available at each main entrance of Irymple, Merbein & Red Cliffs churches.



TAP&GO

Finances

| Last week's collections | Mildura | Merbein | Red Cliffs |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery) | \$1856.75 | \$113.75 | \$185.35 |
| 2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC) | \$2091.25 | \$230.00 | \$319.50 |
| Loose Plate | \$1686.95 | \$ 11.35 | \$ 45.10 |
| Next week's Counting Team | Team 10-H Kay | | |



Feast of St Anthony

The Italian Community will be celebrating the Feast of St Anthony with Mass this Sunday 25th June at 9am. All are invited to stay for a light luncheon.

Raffle tickets will be sold & drawn on the day only. All welcome

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Sunday Resources: July 2, 2023

"A new life in Christ..." Every year, on the first Sunday in July, Catholics come together across Australia to acknowledge and celebrate the gifts of Australia's First Peoples in the Catholic Church. Resources available at <https://www.natsicc.org.au/2023-atsi-sunday.html>

Sacramental Dates for 2023

Celebrations and parent meeting dates for the following Sacraments will take place later this year:



First Holy Communion (Grade 4 and above)

Friday 20th, Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd October

Parent meeting: 6th September 7pm, SH Church

Penance (Grade 2 and above)
Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm



Parent meeting: 4th October 7pm, SH Church

MATT. 10:31

SO DON'T BE AFRAID;
you are worth more than many sparrows.

Catholic Mission Timor-Leste Adult Immersion

Catholic Mission invites you to learn more about the grassroots projects supported by Catholic Mission in Timor-Leste from November 4-12, 2023. This immersion will give you the opportunity to see the world through a different lens, you will witness the life-changing work taking place at the St Maria Mazzarello vocational School and the Maria Auxiliadora Medical Clinic in Venilale. Be prepared to come home changed and challenged. Cost is \$3990.00 per person (ex. Darwin to Dili, Timor-Leste). Register your interest at <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/get-involved/immersions>

In the footsteps of Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage: October 17-28, 2023

This unique Australian Pilgrimage will take you on a journey to places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales. The pilgrimage is operated by the Sisters of Saint Joseph and Mary MacKillop Place. It will be led by Sr Anne Bond rsj, a Sister from the Sisters of Saint Joseph, and Mr Garry McLean, the inaugural Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre. The pilgrimage will begin in East Melbourne on October 17 and conclude at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney on October 28. Along the way pilgrims will visit historic sites and towns including Portland, Penola, Robe and the Mary MacKillop Chapel in North Sydney. Register at <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/retreats-spirituality/australian-national-pilgrimage/>

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Our Gospel reads: '... not one [sparrow] falls to the ground without your Father knowing.'

But that is a bad translation. The Greek simply says 'not one [sparrow] will fall to the ground without your Father.' Full stop! Our Heavenly Father accompanies a dying sparrow as it dies! That is the measure of the Creator's love for all creatures. God wants to – does – enter into the moment of death, *our* moment of death.

Now, that *would* be consoling if I were facing what Jesus was foreseeing for his disciples in the first century.

One of the first Christian groups to hear this Gospel was that set around the Tigris River running through Baghdad in modern day Iraq. Now they face terrible persecution from fanatical Muslims. We can barely imagine hearing today's Gospel amongst the remnant, left in Baghdad today. How does 'Do not be afraid' really sound to them?

So, we could pause for a moment to pray for those for whom today's Gospel is a challenge beyond our imagining.

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Weekly Prayer and Spiritual Opportunities

Sacred Heart Church Mildura

Exposition and Benediction Tuesday 4pm

Charismatic Group Tuesday after 6pm Mass

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

Sunraysia Catholic Communities adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria. Our policies are on display in each Church, and on our website. Parish Safeguarding Officers:

Mildura

Mr Peter Issanchon

Red Cliffs

Mrs Bernadette Gardner

Merbein

Mr Kevin Aston

| This Weekend Roster: 1st & 2nd July 2023 | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Readers | Eucharistic Ministers | Offertory | Music |
| Sat 6pm Mildura | R Tongue | A Greville, K Quinlan, M McDonald | Volunteer | M Hammond M Bowring |
| Sun 8.30am Irymple | G Schmidt | | Volunteer | M Smith |
| Sun 9am Mildura | T Fainga'anuku | P O'Donnell, J Cresp T Fainga'anuku | M Gobbo | Filipino Choir |
| Sun 10am | D Eagle | C Russo | Baptism Family | T Lewis Tongan Choir |
| Sun 10.30am Merbein | K Wagner | N Prevedello | K McCarthy V McCarthy | K East |
| Sun 5pm Mildura | M Bowring | K Groves, M Rodi, J Hall | Volunteer | S Fatai K Mapapalangi |

Please Pray for the Sick
Christian Mira, Dolly Ridings
Nada Zudetich
Catherine Bell
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.

| Next Weekend Roster: 1st & 2nd July 2023 | | | | |
|--|--------------|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Readers | Eucharistic Ministers | Offertory | Music |
| Sat 6pm Mildura | A Naray | A Naray, R Tongue, Volunteer please | Baptism Family | M Guthrie All welcome |
| Sun 8.30am Irymple | D Knight | | | M Smith |
| Sun 9am Mildura | L Welsh | N Fatai, B Castillo, M Modica | Baptism Family | Italian Choir M Sullivan |
| Sun 10am Red Cliffs | T Gardiner | C Tassone | C Cavallaro | T Lewis & Tongan Choir |
| Sun 10.30am Merbein | N Prevedello | Karen McCarthy | P Sylvia J Rogers | K East |
| Sun 5pm Mildura | B Bunting | S Hermans, J Jose, M Irvin | | M Sullivan, J Macri, J Ljubic |

Recent Deaths
 Josephine Baldwin,
 Evelyn Keeley

Anniversaries

Mildura:
Sat 6pm:
 Maria De Palma

Sun 5pm:
 Ada Filippi (1st year anniversary)
 Michele & Bruno Mammone,
 Annunziata De Maria

Fri 6pm:
 Paul Sheahan

Merbein:
 Flo Bell, Bill Chandler, Brian Ashdown,
 Jim McSwain, Florence Matheson, Joan
 Edwards, Josephine Murphy, Alice Avery
 and Charlie Sanford

Red Cliffs:
 Giuseppe & Domenico Mammone

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 |
| | 4pm | Expo/Benediction |
| | 6pm | No Mass |
| Wednesday | 10.30am | Mildura Funeral |
| | 2.30pm | Mild Anoint Mass |
| Thursday | 9.30am | Mildura |
| | 9.30am | Merbein |
| | 5.30pm | Red Cliffs |
| Friday | 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

June & July 2023

June

Wed 28: Anointing Mass Mildura 2.30pm
Wed 28: Baptism Preparation Evening, Monaghan Centre 7pm

July

Tue 4: Jacaranda Village Aged Care Service 2pm
Mon 10: Knight of the Southern Cross monthly meeting 7pm, Clubrooms
Tue 11: Princes Court Aged Care Service 1pm
Thu 13: Anointing Mass, Red Cliffs 5.30pm
Wed 19: Oasis Aged Care Service 1pm
Thu 20: Anointing Mass, Merbein 9.30am
Tue 25: BUPA Aged Care Service 1pm
Wed 26: Anointing Mass, Mildura 2pm
Wed 26: Mass celebrating the Feast of St Anne & St Joachim 6pm. Sacred Heart Church Mildura
Wed 26: Baptism Preparation evening, Monaghan Centre 7pm

First Reading

Jer 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me,
"Terror from every side!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,
"Perhaps he will be seduced into error.
Then we will master him
and take our revenge!"
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;
my opponents will stumble, mastered,
confounded by their failure;
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,
who scrutinise the loins and heart,
let me see the vengeance you will take on them,
for I have committed my cause to you.
Sing to the Lord,
praise the Lord,
for he has delivered the soul of the needy
from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14

(R.) Lord, in your great love, answer me.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. (R.)
2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. (R.)
3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy
and does not spurn his servants in
their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give
him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures.
(R.)



Second Reading

Rom 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Do not fear those who can kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

Next Weeks Readings: / 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2nd July 2023

First Reading: 2nd Book of Kings 4:8-11, 14-16

Psalm: Ps 88:2-3, 16-19

Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Response: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42