



Sacred Heart Parish Mildura

257—261 Eleventh Street Mildura

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www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Sacred Heart Parish | Mildura

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP

Fr Peter Jose CMI

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

**Our Lady of Lourdes
Werrimull**

**St. Francis Xavier
Elms Street, Irymple**

**Third Sunday of Advent / Year C -
12th & 13th December 2015**

Weekend Mass Times

Sat: 6:00 pm

Sun: 9:00 am, 5:00 pm

Irymple: 8:30 am

Werrimull 11:00 am (last Sunday of each month)

Weekday Masses

If there is a Funeral Mass on Wed, Thurs, the advertised Mass will be cancelled.

Tues: 7:00 pm

Wed: 9:10 am

Thurs: 9:30 am Fri: 5:40 pm

Sat: 9.30 am



Weekly Prayer Opportunities

Rosary: Monday 5:00pm

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

Scripture Reading: Thurs 10:30 am - 20 Beasy Court

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Parish Prayer Room

Charismatic Prayer Group: Tues 7:30pm in Church

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: held 1st Friday of each month in the Church from 12—5:00pm

Devotion Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3:00pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am

RECENT DEATH: Elwynne Shaw

ANNIVERSARIES:

(30 day remembrance Mass—Vincenzo Zinghini Saturday 6pm)

Saturday 6pm: Vincenzo, Caterina & Francesco Monteleone

Sunday 9am: Francesco Ferracuti

Tuesday 7pm: Carmela Chisari (one year anniversary)

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



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

If you want a sick person prayed for, ask for their permission. Please let us know when to take their name off the list.

Joan Appleby, Ron Morello, Monica Crimmins, Daniel Ralli, Dan Rodan, John Devilee, Ethan Neyland, Georgie Manning, Dorothy Norris, Eileen Flanner, Fr Denis Dennehy, Eli Madden-Andrews, Kel Townsend, Vince Alicastro, Bishop Ron Mulkearns

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The third Sunday of Advent used to be called Gaudete (be joyful) Sunday. It provided a mid-term break within a period of austerity or penance in preparation for Christmas. Advent is no longer celebrated as a penitential period, but rather as a reflective time of expectation and hope. The invitation to rejoice nonetheless remains part of the Advent liturgy. It is certainly present in the first two readings: God is in our midst, renewing us in love (Zephaniah) and there is no need for worry (Philippians). It is also implicit in the gospel reading from Luke with its sense of expectancy and John the Baptist's announcement of the "Good News" of the one who is to come.



There are ethical demands in the time of waiting. Three times John is asked, "What must we do?" In line with Luke's emphasis on the universality of God's saving power, the responses are directed to "all the people". Those with even minimal food (something to eat) and clothing (two tunics) are told to share. Tax agents, caught up in a system notoriously open to abuse, are to be honest. Soldiers are given three directives that provide some insight into the way the military was perceived: no extortion, no blackmail, and no complaints about wages. The third directive probably derives from the fact that soldiers were better off financially than most others. It is in no sense a prohibition on demands for just wages.

John situates himself in relation to Jesus, the anointed agent of God's liberation. John's portrait presents someone more fiery than the Lukan Jesus turns out to be. It is more like a self-portrait, especially in light of the context that has John addressing the crowds who flock to him as a "brood of vipers" or "children of snakes" (Luke 3:7). In contrast with John's water-baptism "for the forgiveness of sins", Jesus will "baptise" with the Holy Spirit and fire. Fire, as we well know in this dry land of ours, is a challenging symbol, both friend and foe. In the first-century *Manual of Discipline* from the Qumran community by the Dead Sea, water, refining by fire, and "a holy Spirit" are listed together as the instruments of God's saving and purifying action. John, who may have been a member of the Qumran community, presents his own role as preparatory to that of Jesus, the Spirit-filled, powerful and enduring agent of God's refining and purifying work in the world. We know our own ongoing need for a "baptism" with the Holy Spirit and fire. We prepare the way by doing what we must: sharing our goods and treating others with dignity, justice and forgiveness.

- Veronica Lawson rsm

**MASS, WEDNESDAY, 16TH DECEMBER,
8.30AM MONAGHAN CENTRE**

SACRAMENTAL LIFE & LITURGY



BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Community Isobel Swincer, Remi Dichiera, James Driscoll, Lacey Gordon-Krake and Scarlet Marciano whose Baptism occurs this weekend.

WEDDINGS

We congratulate Marco Medici & Ashley-Ann Cordier who were married this weekend.



NATIVITY PLAY CHRISTMAS EVE 2015

All children are invited to attend and be part of our annual and traditional Nativity Play on Christmas Eve at 6:00pm. The first practice session will commence on Wednesday 17th December at 4pm in the Sacred Heart Church. The second practice session will be a dress rehearsal on Monday 22nd December at 4pm in the Sacred Heart Church. Contact Lisa Cirillo 0408337297



DISMISSAL

Sunday 13th December, 9am—Mary Jackson

Sunday 20th December, 9am—Sr Rosemary



COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 16th of December 7pm
Sacred Heart Church.



1st EUCHARIST 2016

1st Eucharist will be celebrated with children in Grade 4 in 2016. **Important Program Dates** are as follows:

Parent Information Evening Monday 8th February 6:00pm – 6:30pm Sacred Heart Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Friday 4th March 7:30pm Sacred Heart Church

Parent Formation Evenings – Wed April 27th & Wed May 4th Sacred Heart Church

1st Eucharist – 28th/29th May 4th/5th June

Program Booklets are available at the Parish Office, Tuesday – Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Even, if you are not rostered on, please volunteer your services if there are insufficient ministers.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES.
ROSTER SHEETS AT THE BACK OF CHURCH.

COMMUNITY LIFE & OUTREACH

OASIS NURSING HOME MASS

Will be held on Wednesday 16th December at 11am. All welcome.

REGIS ONTARIO NURSING HOME MASS

Will be held on Thursday 17th December at 2pm. All welcome.

YOUTH

On Friday 18th December the Youth will hold their weekly gathering from 7pm in the Monaghan Centre.

CUPPA after Mass Sunday morning.



ADVANCE NOTICE: Youth are organizing a fund-raising BBQ at Bunnings on Saturday, January 2nd 2016.

YOUTH GATHERING

Halls Gap, April 4th—7th, 2016

For young people aged 16 and over.

More information to follow



YEAR OF MERCY

Advent 2016 is underway, a time of internal preparation in order to be more fittingly joy-filled when Christmas dawns. I truly enjoy this time, and try to spend lots more of my waking hours in quiet, prayer, and gentle appreciation for all of God's marvelous gifts in my life and in the world around. And this year, I will also reflect upon and ramp up for another deeply spiritual event that will flow throughout the coming

year: The Jubilee Year of Mercy.

SOCKED IN

A policeman couldn't believe his eyes when he saw an elderly woman pull up next to him in her car, busily knitting while driving.

He quickly wound down his window and shouted: "Pull over."

"No," she replied. "Socks."

MILDURA CHRISTMAS MASSES 2015

CHRISTMAS EVE

6:00pm Mildura

8:00pm Mildura

12 Midnight Mildura

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00am Mildura

10:00am Mildura

PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

1st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)	\$1386.45
2nd Collection (includes DD, CC & EFT)	\$2842.50
Loose Plate	\$ 435.40

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Why not do something Different this Christmas?

Instead of spending time, money and worry about what to buy friends and family for Christmas—why not make a donation in their name to a worthy cause which will help others who are really in need?

There are plenty of suggestions on the notice board in the church/brochures available. Suggestions from:

Caritas Australia <http://www.caritas.org.au/globalgifts>

Mercyworks email: mercyworks@mercy.org.au

Act for peace: info@actforpeace.org.au

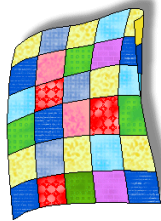
Social Justice Group

'SHARED TABLE PROJECT'-PERU

Dear Community,

Our sale of tickets has been going very well and at this stage we have sold **over 1000** tickets. This weekend, 12th-13th December, will be our finale and all prizes will be on display. The Christmas Raffle will be drawn during the week (by Fr. Mick) at the Parish Office.

The lucky ones will be notified of their win and results will be placed in the bulletin on the weekend of December: 19th-20th. Thank you all for your amazing generosity of heart. Giving so others may have dignity and life. **Marion Guthrie**



COPIES FOR SALE

The Parish Office has for sale copies of Sr Veronica Lawson's book—'The Blessing of Mercy—Bible Perspectives and Ecological Challenges' at \$12.00 each and Pope Francis—'Laudato Si' - on Care for our Common Home. An encyclical letter on Ecology and Climate for \$14 each.

HEALING PRAYER

Loving God, we pray for those who have suffered the injustice, humiliation and pain of abuse within our Churches and communities across Australia.

In your mercy, create opportunities for these men, women and children to share their pain, reveal their struggles and expose the hurtful actions of others.

We pray for wisdom and guidance in order to deal with the realities of what has happened in the past.

We pray for healing for those who have been abused. We pray for sensitivity and wisdom for all who minister to victims and survivors of abuse.

We pray that into the future children everywhere will be protected from all forms of violence.

We pray that the Church responds with love and action in order to heal injustices.

May your Spirit draw us together and strengthen us with the truth of the Gospel through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

NEW FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear School Families and Friends,

Where has the year gone? It only seems like a few months ago we were welcoming everyone back from the last Christmas holidays...However, we will go with the theory that a fast year is a good year...As we share in the joyous season of **Advent**, with the vibrant heat, spare a thought for the northerners with dreary cold and snow... however that does seem pretty inviting at this point of time...Regardless of location, with Christmas approaching fast, we need to allow time to immerse ourselves in Advent.

Thank you to the Grade 6 parents who organised the very successful and enjoyable **Grade 6 Graduation Dinner** last Monday evening. A night enjoyed by all which created some further SHPS great memories for our Grade 6 students.

We are very fortunate to have the **staff** we do at SHPS, and I thank them and express great gratitude for their dedication and commitment to the education and care of the students, and to the School Community. I would also like to pass on my **thanks** and **appreciation** to everyone who has supported and helped out in the school in 2015

I wish you all a Holy and Merry Christmas, and a safe, happy and prosperous 2016. Have a great week...

Des Lowry Principal



ST PAULS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear School Families & Friends,

Sunday evening we will be celebrating our Year 6 Graduation Mass and ceremony at 5pm at Sacred Heart church. You are all most welcome to

join us to celebrate Mass with our Parish community and to acknowledge and farewell our senior students.

Tuesday 15th December will be our final assembly for the year. We will also be announcing our new school leaders for 2016. You are all most welcome to attend. Assembly will be at 2.30pm

St Paul's would like to acknowledge and farewell families & Staff who are leaving St Paul's.

Vince Muscatello-Principal



NEWS FROM ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

Dear friends of the St Joseph's College Community,

Mercy Campus Captains for 2016

After an incredibly high calibre of candidates gave some outstanding speeches to their Year Leve and to staff, I am delighted to announce the following Leadership Positions (Year 8) for 2016:

Bronte Rix- Mercy Campus Female Captain 2016

Finley Japp- Mercy Campus Male Captain 2016

Isabella Vaughan- Mercy Campus Female Vice Captain 2016

Joshua Reck- Mercy Campus Male Vice Captain 2016

I have full confidence that these fine young people will do an outstanding job or leading the student cohort next year and that they will be supported by the students and staff of the College.

Christmas Wishes

As this is the last College Newsletter for the year, I would like to thank all members of the wonderful St Joseph's College Community for their contributions in making St Joseph's a better place for their presence.

God Bless, Anthony Banks

Our Parish Vision
“Our Parish is a Eucharistic Community united by
our faith in Jesus Christ.
We work together in the power of the Holy Spirit to
spread the good news of God’s
Kingdom.”



Our Parish Schools

Sacred Heart Primary School
 Principal: *Des Lowry* 5023 1204

St Paul’s Primary School
 Principal: *Vince Muscatello* 5023 4567

St Joseph’s Secondary College
 Principal: *Anthony Banks* 5018 8000

12th & 13th December			19th & 20th December, 2015		
NEXT WEEK’S READINGS			NEXT WEEK’S READINGS		
First Reading: Zeph 3:14-18 Resp Psalm: Isa 12:2-6. R. v. 6 Response: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. Second Reading: Phil 4:4-7 Gospel: Lk 3:10-18			First Reading: Mic 5:1-4 Resp Psalm: Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19. R. v. 4 Response: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10 Gospel: Lk 1:39-44		
EUCCHARIST MINISTERS			EUCCHARIST MINISTERS		
SATURDAY	SUNDAY		SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
6PM	9AM	5PM	6PM	9AM	5PM
6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	6 Ministers required	7 Ministers required	6 Ministers required
Margaret McDonald	Phillip Opie	Melanie Ransome	Maria Cirillo	Lily Tindall	Sandra Walker
Anita Naray	Catherine McErvale	Bill Dolence	Anne-Maree Greville	Peter O’Donnell	Mario Zema
Leo Kearney	Elvira Mazza	Jacqui Willis	Anthony Henderson	Filomena Carbone	Josie Zema
Margaret Sheahan	Jill Joslyn	Barbara Bunting	Christine Carmichael	Gina Raiti	Trish Cirillo
Linda Henderson	Lisa Cirillo	Sasha Banks	Margaret McDonald	Anna Vartuli	Jeena Jose
Irene Morello	Katalina Mafi	Katrina Groves	Anita Naray	Nada Zudetich	Joyce Ribarits
	Aloisia Mafi			Sara Visona	
MUSIC			MUSIC		
Filipino Group	Youth Group	M Guthrie	N Armsden	Tongan Community	M Sullivan
N Armsden	Leader	All welcome	B Lewis	M Guthrie	J Ljubic
	K Mafi		B Prescott		J Macri
ALTAR SERVERS			ALTAR SERVERS		
2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required	2 Servers required
Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer	Please volunteer
OFFERTORY PROCESSION			OFFERTORY PROCESSION		
2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required	2 Volunteers required
Baptism	Baptism	Laura Fisher		Jim O’Donnell	Joy Morvell
READERS			READERS		
Gary Huxtable	Talia Faingaanuku	Barb Kelly	Tricia McNamara	Nancy Fatai	Peter Hammond
COUNTING TEAM 7			COUNTING TEAM 8		
BRIAN BLEESER 5021 1828			TREVOR AUST 5023 6597		
IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM			IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM		
READER	EUCCHARIST MINISTER		READER	EUCCHARIST MINISTER	
Joe Kearney	Robin Hill		David Nichols	Margaret Hill	