

Sunraysia Catholic Communities



Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337
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Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959
Presbytery Red Cliffs: 5024 1966
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 30

Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

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—Peter Issanchon, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

MILDURA

Recent Death:

Eva Lucidi (Melbourne—sister of Vittorio Carlucci),
Laurie McGrath (Queensland—former Mildura policeman and
husband of Lyn, father of Nadine & Joanne)

Anniversaries:

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Arthur Benfield, Domenico & Giuseppe
Mammone

MERBEIN

Recent Death

Anniversaries: John Lamshed, Margaret Kelly, Margaret Smith,
Frank Baric

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

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A
25th & 26th July 2020

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

The twin parables of today's gospel – the treasure in the field and the pearl of great value – reveal a paradoxical truth about the kingdom of Heaven. Throughout the gospels, Jesus presents the kingdom as 'now but not yet'; as 'present but future'. This paradox is captured in these twin parables. In both cases, the kingdom is likened to something of great value that is discovered but cannot be immediately grasped. In both parables, the finder must go away and sell everything so that they can eventually come to possess the treasure they have discovered.

By comparing this experience with the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus suggests that most of us can only ever catch glimpses of what it means to live in the kingdom. For most of us, only in the future reality of heaven will we ever fully come to understand the kingdom. However, those glimpses that we catch – those moments of inspiration and connection with God and with one another – are like the treasures of the parables. They are enough to inspire us to do what it takes to make sure that we will one day enter into that kingdom reality.

The third parable of this gospel passage reveals yet another truth about the kingdom. The dragnet thrown into the sea is like the message of Jesus – it is flung far and wide and does not discriminate about where it falls or on whom it falls. This parable rounds out the chapter that began with the parable of the sower and the image of casting the net is a neat parallel to the indiscriminate casting of seed. It is not up to the one who casts the net, the seed or the Word. Rather it is up to each individual to determine how they will respond to receiving the Word.



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 Chumg, 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, Albis Dy, 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

Sacred Heart Mildura

MASS UPDATE July/August

Please register at the Sacred Heart Parish Office to attend for only one Mass each week. If there are already 20 people registered you will be offered another Mass day. The close off time will be 4pm Friday for each of the weekend Masses.



Sacred Heart Church continues to be opened for personal prayer, funerals and baptisms. Strict guidelines are still in force. Please use the hand sanitiser provided and adhere to the social distancing rules.

Weekday Mass Times: (Subject to change)

Tuesday & Friday—6pm Mildura

Wednesday—9.30am Mildura

Thursday—9.15am Merbein

Saturday morning—9.30am Mildura

Weekend Mass Times: (Subject to Change)

Commencing weekend 18th & 19th July

Saturday—6pm Mildura

Sunday—8am Irymple

Sunday—9am & 5pm Mildura

Sunday—10.30am Red Cliffs

Sunday—10.30am Merbein

SACRED HEART PARISH MILDURA Updated First Eucharist Program 2020

First Reconciliation

Children from Sacred Heart Primary School and St Paul's School will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at their school at times to be determined by the school communities.

First Reconciliation for children attending Government Schools will be at the Church on Wednesday 29th July or Saturday 1st August at 10am.

On Wednesday there will be two sessions, the first at 5pm and the second at 6 pm. One adult to accompany each child: so that there will be no more than 20 people gathered in the church at each session.

First Eucharist

Government school Parents/caregivers will be given the Eucharist Pack on the Reconciliation evening and will need to contact the Parish Office to select day for celebration of the Sacrament.

Friday 23rd Oct at 6pm

Saturday 24 Oct at 9.30am

Saturday 24 Oct at 6pm

Sunday 25 Oct at 9am

Sunday 25 Oct at 5.00pm

The four week program will be done at home in preparation for First Eucharist in October. There are no group sessions for this year.

Please note: due to COVID restrictions times of the ceremonies may change.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WINTER APPEAL

Because of COVID-19 at the Sunraysia Regional Assistance Centre we have had to adapt our traditional way of providing help to those who seek our assistance to meet both the Government and St Vincent de Paul directives. But thankfully we have been able to keep open. As a result of the Coronavirus many people have found themselves in the position of having a job one day, and being unemployed the next. This will lead to an increasing number of people reaching out to us for help for the very first time. Now more than ever, the funds raised during this appeal are critical in ensuring that we can continue to be there for people when they need us most.

You can donate to our appeal via envelopes available at the Church doors. Please write your name and address on the envelope so receipts can be issued. Once completed envelopes can left at the parish office. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible

Many thanks from all the members of the Sacred Heart Conference, Mildura

BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community

Roman Scullino whose Baptism occurs this weekend.



Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart Merbein

Mass Times: Thu: 9.15am

Sun: 10.30am

Advance notice: The next Parish Council meeting will be held after Mass on Sunday 16th August.

St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

WEEKDAY & SUNDAY MASSES with restrictions
Mond, Wed, Fri Sat: 9.30am Tue, Thu: 5.30pm
SUNDAY 10.30AM—as invited by Fr Pat Flanagan

ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES this weekend and next weekend

This weekend 25th/26th July 2020

MILDURA

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Anita Naray

Sunday 9am: Jill Joslyn

Sunday 5pm: Tony Finn

MERBEIN

Reader:

RED CLIFFS

Counting Team: P Hunt & B Pitt

Church Cleaning: Cleaner

Next weekend—1st/2nd August 2020

MILDURA

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Christine Carmichael

Sunday 9am: Jim O'Brien

Sunday 5pm: Vince Muscatello

MERBEIN

Reader:

RED CLIFFS

Counting Team: B Gardner & S Williams

Church Cleaning: Volunteers

STEWARDSHIP

SUPPORT OUR PARISHES



An online thanksgiving portal known as CDFpay is now available for all Parishes—Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs for 1st & 2nd Collections and Special Collections. Please follow the link:

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

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

and Red Cliffs: <https://bit.ly/CDFpayRedCliffs> or all:

<https://ballarat.cdfpay.org.au/>

**NEW PARISH MASS TIMES FROM 1ST AUGUST
(Fr Pat away during August)**

Weekday

Monday— No Mass

Tuesday: 9.30am Red Cliffs, 6pm Mildura

Wednesday: 9.30am Mildura

Thursday: 9.15am Merbein, 5.30pm Red Cliffs

Friday: 6pm Mildura

Saturday: 9.30am Mildura (Confessions 10am)

Sunday Masses

Mildura: Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9am and 5pm

Irymple: Sunday 8am (Mass 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)
(Lay led 2nd and 4th Sundays)

Red Cliffs: Sunday 10.30am (Mass 2nd and 4th Sunday)
(Lay Led 1st and 3rd Sundays)

Merbein: Sunday 10.30am (Mass 1st and 3rd Sundays)
(Lay Led 2nd and 4th Sundays)

Please note on that on the 5th Sunday the 10.30am masses will be lay led as Mass will be at Werrimull at 11am.

*** Please note that for all Masses you need to contact the Parish Office to register as we still can only have 20 people at a service. Thankyou



**FR PAT FLANAGAN (FLAGS)
60TH DIAMOND JUBILEE**

On Friday 24th July, Fr Pat celebrated his 60th Diamond Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood.

Message from Fr Pat

I have already celebrated a Diamond Jubilee Mass, and this Mass will be streamed on Youtube from midday on Sunday July 26. I want to thank Robert Klarich, a professional photographer who offered to put this Mass together, Marion Guthrie who provided the singing, and Sr Helen Nolan RSM who is the reader.

As with my Golden Jubilee, instead of a homily, I give an address. The address this time has a lot to do with Pope Francis. It is quite long, and would have been even longer had I not left out the first part, which is about the state of the world. I hope you will find it worth listening to. If you can't access the Mass via the stream below, ask your kids. I can't do it. Flags the priest.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpujOBwu7YYULzihmqE_VQ

SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

Due to the second wave of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Sacred Heart Parish Office will remain closed until further notice.

You can however, still contact the Parish Office either by email: mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au or phone 5021 2872 where appointments can be made.

Please note: no cash for any payments as the safety of staff, volunteers and parishioners is our utmost concern.

Carmel is only too happy to help out over the phone for any payments via EFT and now with the new CDFpay online portals for all Parishes: Mildura, Red Cliffs and Merbein.

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) - World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is on July 30

COVID-19 is impacting those most vulnerable to trafficking because they often live in poverty and lack suitable housing and healthcare. Hundreds of thousands of these people will be drawn to the promise of work simply to put food on their tables - work that often turns out to be a job in slave-like conditions. Each year ACRATH asks for your support as we mark the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons on July 30. Each year, generously, you respond. And each year because of your response, ACRATH has been able to develop projects, services and resources. If you're able, your donation will be much appreciated. You can donate online at <https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/acrath> or go to Youth Social Justice page of the diocesan website at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=238> for other donation options and more information.



First Reading

1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. (R.)
3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. (R.)
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.



Gospel Acclamation

See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of
heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the
kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

