

Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337
 257 Eleventh Street Mildura
 P.O. Box 10037 Mildura, Vic 3502
 Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959
 Presbytery Red Cliffs: 5024 1966
 Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
 parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au
 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 9



Fr. Michael McKinnon PP Fr. James Kerr 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—Christine Slattery, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed under Parish Heading

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY		9:30AM	
TUESDAY	6:00PM	5:30PM	
WEDNESDAY	9:15AM	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	9:15AM	5:30PM	AS ADVISED
FRIDAY	5:40PM	9:30AM	
SATURDAY	9:30AM	9:30AM	

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

	IRYMPLE	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
SATURDAY		6:00PM		
SUNDAY	8:30AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	10:30AM
		5:00PM		

WERRIMULL 11:00AM (LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)

MILDURA

Recent Deaths: Carmelo Scopelliti, Lola Warburton, Pat Nolan

Anniversaries:

Saturday 6pm: Joseph Grivec (Birthday remembrance),

Sunday 9am:

Sunday 5pm:

(Birthday Prayers: Ilario (Larry) DeLuca

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:

Anniversaries:

MERBEIN

Recent Death: Lola Warburton

Anniversaries: March 2nd Helen McCarthy, Cosimo Piscioneri, 3rd John Jessup, Frank Sylvia; 4th Cosimo Ierace

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

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

1st Sunday of Lent / Year A 29th February & 1st March 2020

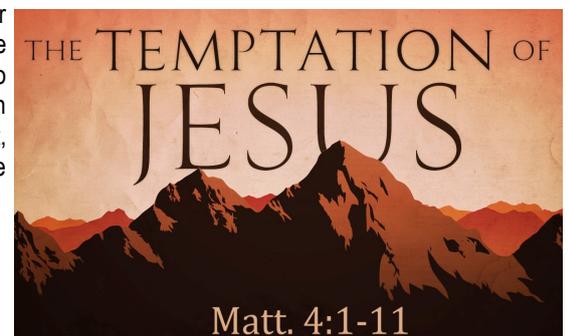
Lent is a time of preparation for Easter. It is also a time to enter into the "wilderness" and grapple with the mysteries of life in Christ. It presents us with a challenge to take stock of our lives, to see more clearly what is in our hearts and to discover what might be calling us out of our comfort zones. Today's liturgy invites us to reflect on Jesus' forty-day experience in the wilderness. Jesus is "filled with the Holy Spirit" and, like so many humans before and since, is "led by the Spirit" into the wilderness of life to be "tested" there. ["Tested" is a more accurate translation of the Greek than is "tempted"].

Forty is a significant number in Israel's story: the great flood lasts forty days and forty nights; Moses spends forty days and forty nights on the mountain of God; Israel wanders for forty years in the wilderness; King David reigns for forty years; the prophet Elijah travels forty days and forty nights in the wilderness on his way to the mountain of God. Explanations of its significance vary: a round number suggesting a long period of time; a time of testing or trial; totality or fullness.

In Israel's story, the wilderness is the place of testing for God's people: "Remember the long way that your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness... testing you to know what was in your heart" (Deut 8:2). In Matthew's account, the "devil" is the "tester" or "tempter", the instrument of God's testing. In each instance, the test is expressed in terms of Jesus' relationship to God: "If you are the son of God..." The Matthean Jesus passes the tests that the people of Israel have failed in the wilderness of Sinai. He refuses the way of special favour from God, the way of status or self-aggrandisement. He is prepared to suffer whatever it takes to bring healing and wholeness to a broken world. In other words, he chooses the way of God's empire or the empire "of the heavens" rather than the brutality of the Roman Empire. Jesus demonstrates that he is indeed "of God". This testing in the wilderness foreshadows later events in the gospel such as Peter's attempt at Caesarea Philippi to deflect Jesus from his mission and the bystanders' challenge in 27:40 to prove he is "son of God" by coming down from the cross.

Most people of faith would agree that being "of God" right now has more than a little to do with the way we relate to all of Earth's human and other-than-human inhabitants, the value we ascribe to Earth's precious resources, and the respect we show for life through our responsible use of those resources. Lent calls us to reject the path of domination or greed or status so that, like Jesus, we may truly be "of God".

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm



Sacred Heart Mildura REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Sacramental Life & Liturgy

BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community **Riley Palazzo** whose Baptism occurs this weekend.



RCIA



The Structure of the Mass
Thursday 5th March 7pm, Hillman Room.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

A new Roster is to be compiled shortly. If you would like to become a Eucharistic Minister or if you need to make any changes from the current roster, please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872 by Tuesday 18th March.



1st RECONCILIATION 2020
For children in Grade 4 and above will be held on Monday 23rd March at 7pm at Sacred Heart Church.



Community Life & Outreach

BEREAVEMENT TEAM MEETING

Tuesday 3rd March 9am, Sacred Heart Parish Office.

ANOINTING MASS

Thursday 5th March 9.15am. All welcome.

ST ANTHONY COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th March at 7.30pm in the KSC clubrooms. All welcome.

LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS 2020

Mildura Group 1: Leader —Janet Hill— Wednesday's 10am—11am. First session starts February 26th. For further details phone Janet Hill 0438 234 765.

Mildura Group 2: Leaders: Aileen Curran & Wilma Schmidt— Thursday's 10am, Hillman Room. First session starts Thursday 27th February.



REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS cont.

HYMN SINGING AFTERNOON

at

Mildura Church of Christ

On Sunday 8th March from 1.30pm

Come along and enjoy an afternoon singing some of the old hymns and listening to some special guest artists. The afternoon will conclude at 3.15pm with afternoon tea and fellowship.

Weekly Prayer Opportunities Mildura

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

Charismatic Prayer Meeting: Tuesday 6:30pm

Devotions and Exposition: Friday 3:00pm

Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am—10:30am

Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Prayer Room

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: Brian Weightman, 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: Sr. Grace, Frank Chandler, Mary Avery, John Dorman

Red Cliffs: 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, Joe Cufari, Maurice O'Connor

REGIONAL GATHERING

The Regional Council Meeting of representatives of the Parishes of Merbein, Mildura, Ouyen and Red Cliffs will be held on **Sunday 1st March** at Merbein following the 10:30am Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—Zimbabwe
“Rise—Take Your Mat and Walk” - is the theme for 2020 and is based on the passage from Luke 14:15-24. All are invited to join in prayer for the needs of Zimbabwe and its people, on:

Friday 6th March, 10am at Church of Christ, Mildura.
Friday 6th March, 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Red Cliffs

Friday 6th March, 7.30pm at Merbein Uniting Church Hall.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

Praying with Zimbabwe



FRIDAY 6TH MARCH



ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Monday 16th March, 7pm Monaghan Centre
Fr Elio Capra— topic Sacrament of Reconciliation. All welcome
- RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE**— See notice opposite

SAVE THE DATE—SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2020 SEND OFF / FAREWELL FOR FR MICHAEL

All parishioners are invited to a farewell gathering for Fr Michael which will be held at Sacred Heart Church after the 5pm Mass on Sunday 22nd March.

A plate to share would be greatly appreciated. Donations will be taken up and can be left at the Parish Office or collected on the day.

If you are able to help with any planning please contact Lyn Welsh on 0448 231 350 or the Parish Office on 5021 2872.

WERRIMULL MASS BUS TRIP

Our first Werrimull Bus trip for 2020, will be held on Sunday 29th March. If you would like to attend Mass followed by lunch at the pub please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872.



This Weekend's Responsorial Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Reach Beyond: Become Simply Rich....

All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. [Palms Australia](http://www.palms.org.au) will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au



Aid to the Church in Need

ACN AUSTRALIA

During the season of Lent *Aid to the Church in Need* would like to invite you to "Journey with the Martyrs" through an online Lent calendar. The Lent calendar features 47 true stories of modern martyrs, witnesses of love, who heroically offered their lives for God and their communities. Visit: www.aidtochurch.org/lent2020

BREADTAG FUNDRAISER

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Merbein is a collection point for Aussie Breadtags for Wheelchairs. More than 600 wheelchairs have been supplied through the program in the past 12 years. We will also now be collecting plastic lids from milk, water, juice and soft drink bottles which will be converted into prosthetic hands for kids. The caps will go to Envision, an Australian not-for-profit group that trains disadvantaged people to use 3D printers to make mobility aids for child amputees. The lids need to be rinsed with either the recycle code 2 or code 4 on them. Containers for these items are on the crying room window ledge at the back of the church.

CALLING ALL YOUTH TO JAM WITH GEN

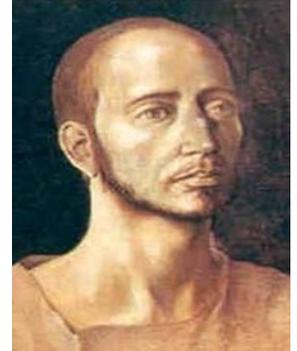
Last year we were lucky enough to have Gen Bryant visit. This week she returns to Sunraysia. Gen will be working with some of our schools and helping some of our young parishioners in leading the music for the Sat 6pm Mass on March 7th. There will be some more music and snacks to share after Mass. It will be a great opportunity for some of our local young talent to shine. If you would like to take part, just arrive a bit earlier for Mass.



PARISH RETREAT

Inner Peace in Divine Love

The First Spiritual Exercises



As given by St Ignatius Loyola and adapted by Michael Hansen SJ

20 April – 16 May 2020

Guided Spiritual Conversation each week in small groups

What are the First Spiritual Exercises?

The 'First Spiritual Exercises' are a set of prayer exercises, structured in a four week program, with a particular dynamic by St Ignatius. They are built around personal prayer at home and guided spiritual conversation in a small group.

What is expected of me?

This program is over four weeks during your daily life.

The weekly commitment is to prayer on four days, Monday to Thursday. These days are chosen because family and home commitments usually increase Friday to Sunday. So, exercise over four days and break for the next three days but include the Sunday Eucharist with its small week-end exercise. This will allow the seeds of the past week's exercises to sleep in you and germinate.

Participants pray the First Exercises individually at home during the week. The Exercises are simple and easy to follow.

In addition, participants meet weekly in small groups through the period of the First Spiritual Exercises with a guide, who leads the process of prayer, listening, sharing and discernment.

How do I register to participate?

Contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Registrations close the end of March

SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1430.00	\$ 75.10	\$210.20
2 nd Collection (includes all EFT)	\$2631.50	\$155.00	\$170.00
Loose Plate	\$ 634.00	\$ 48.35	\$ 53.05

Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart Merbein St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

PARISH NEWS

Lenten Program: The Lenten program will commence on Monday 2nd March (tomorrow) at 7.30pm at the Parish House. It is one of the few opportunities we have to reflect upon and share our faith and hopefully grow in our understanding of what it means to be an active Christian in today's world. All Welcome

Regional Meeting:

The Regional Gathering will take place immediately after the 10.30 am Mass today at Merbein.

This will be the last Regional Meeting with Fr. Mick. Those attending please bring a plate to share in finger-food light lunch.

World Day of Prayer: Friday March 6th at 7.30pm at the Merbein Uniting Church Hall. Zimbabwe is the focus for this year prayer service – All Welcome

Project Compassion Envelopes: Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help: End Poverty, Promote Justice, Uphold dignity Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Theresians March Meeting will be held on Thursday March 12th at 7.00pm. Fr Mick will be sharing what he will be doing in Peru and ways in which the Parish and Theresians can support him in his work. All welcome to come and join in a shared tea bringing a shared plate.

SCHOOL NEWS:

Chaffey Aged Care Visits: This year the Year 3 and Year 4 students will be interacting with the residents of Chaffey Aged Care. On Wednesday mornings 4 students from Mrs Phelan and Mrs Ryan's class will go with either Mr Canavan or Mrs Gallagher to assist the residents in their exercise program.

Congratulations to the school community on a prayerful and meaningful Ash Wednesday ceremony. Well done!

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat: 9.30am Thur: 5.30pm
Tues: 30 day Mass for Joe Mammone at 7pm

CALENDAR

Friday 6th March: World Day of Prayer—Zimbabwe—7pm. Please bring a plate to share. All welcome.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Community **Gemma Njegovan** whose baptism occurs today.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

1. Stations for adults. These will be held on Friday, March 20 at 7.00 pm
2. Stations for young people. For the last 2 years, due to lack of interest, these have not been held. They will be on Friday, March 27 at 7.00 pm. Being 83 years young, I will lead them myself. Hopefully, other young people will join me. *PJF*

PALM CROSSES FOR PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday is only 5 weeks away. Time to start deciding where you will find palms to make these crosses.

PLENARY COUNCIL

On Sunday 15th March after Mass we will be conducting our Discernment session. Please bring a small plate to share. For further information contact Di Eagle 5024 2667.

LENTEN GROUP

The LLL'L group have started the Lenten sessions. They will be held 10am Monday at Janine Cameron's place. For further information please contact Janine on 0438 730 976.

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS / 2nd Sunday of Lent 7th & 8th March 2020

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

Responsorial: Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22

Response: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading: St Paul to Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



Werrimull Last Sunday of each month 11am	Sacred Heart Saturday 6pm	Sacred Heart Sunday 9am	Sacred Heart Sunday 5pm	Irymple Sunday 8:30am	Red Cliffs Sunday 10:00am	Merbein Sunday 10:30am
Leader / Reader	Rosemary Barnes	Peter Maloney	Greg Johnston	P Riordan	J Cameron J Vines / M Slater	Elvira Iamarino
Music	Gen Bryant Youth Group	Filipino Group M Issanchon	Lam Duy J Ljubic		Guitar	
Offertory	Baptism	Baptism			N Orr	Iamarino Family
Children's Liturgy		Ronica Vergara Gavin Alexander				
Altar Servers	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please		GROUP 7 E Papanicolaou	Volunteer Please
Eucharist Ministers	Anne-Maree Greville	Rose Op't Hoog	Katrina Groves	D Knight	M Cavallaro	Kay Wagner
	Taiana Fatai	Rini Op't Hoog	Judy Hall		M Dominelli	Melissa Sullivan
	Margaret McDonald	Cora Howell	Myrna Rodi	OASIS AGED CARE	D Eagle	CHAFFEY AGED CARE
	Paul Kerr	Narie Lewis	Maree Irvin	G Schmidt	CUPPA'S	Sr Carmel Setford
	Anita Naray	Renata Byra	Sue Hermans			
	Ryan O'Callaghan	Kapeli Mapapalangi	Naomi Kennedy	LAY LEADERS		LAY LEADERS 29th March Nancy Prevedello Kevin Aston
		Catherine McErvale			FLOWERS Volunteer	
Counting Team	TEAM 8	TREVOR AUST 5023 6597			M Adams / L Mayes	As per arrangement
Church Cleaning	As per arrangement			As per arrangement	Volunteer	As per arrangement