

# 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 34

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	9.15AM
FRIDAY	5:40PM	9:30AM	
SATURAY	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: Kathleen Fletcher

Sunday 9am: Ilario Dimasi, Ilario & Celestina Cirillo, Joseph Grivec, Tony Habjan  
 Sunday 5pm:

### RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Lance Davis

### MERBEIN

Recent Death: Betty Green

Anniversaries:

*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

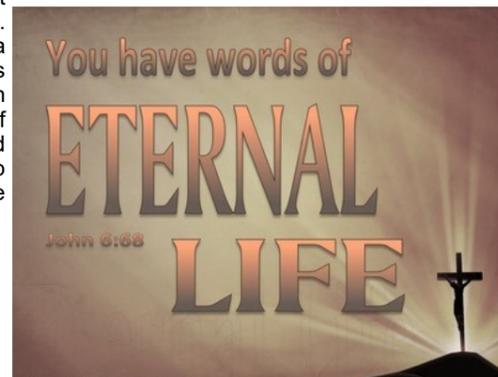
## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year B 25th & 26th August 2018

If we have trouble understanding and coming to terms with the teachings of Jesus in the gospel, then we can take some comfort from the reaction of the disciples in John's community some decades after the death of Jesus. It seems that it was not only the members of the Jewish synagogue who were offended by his teaching, but also those Jews who had accepted Jesus as Messiah or Christ and had joined the community of believers. "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" they complain. They are referring to his teaching on the "bread" that he will give them. Once again, Jesus' response introduces new teaching, teaching that can only raise more questions in their minds. He links "spirit" with "life". Having used the term "flesh" of his body and of the life that he offers to those who eat of his flesh, he now introduces an element of doubt: flesh is now "useless"! We must be careful not to interpret this literally. It is typical of John to use the same word in a variety of ways. Here "flesh" is used negatively and metaphorically to refer to human weakness and sinfulness in contrast with "spirit" which evokes the creative spirit of God that moved over the waters at creation and the spirit of God that informed the word of the prophets.

The Johannine Jesus lays the ground for offering progressively deeper insights into his identity and destiny and into the meaning of the Christian life. The reference to his "ascending" recalls the earlier part to the gospel where he is presented as the pre-existent one, the one who comes from God and has already ascended to God (John 3:13). Once again, we are confronted with an ancient cosmology that places God in the heavens above. After his death, Jesus will tell Mary Magdalene that he has not yet ascended and instructs her to tell the disciples that he is ascending to God (20:17). It seems that John wants to keep emphasising the origins of Jesus as the eternal Word and the Wisdom of God.

There are many who refuse to grapple with the complexities and implications of his teaching and they turn away. Jesus asks his closest followers if they too will desert. Peter speaks for himself and his companions when he declares their undying allegiance: "To whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life." Eternal life is the Johannine equivalent of the "kingdom of God" or "of the heavens" of the other gospels. Most of us have wanted to abandon our commitment at some time or another. Peter's declaration is a sobering one for us in times of doubt and an encouragement for those of us who seek to understand more deeply and to keep believing despite the challenges.

Veronica Lawson rsm



# Sacred Heart Mildura REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS



## 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.*

**Marian Calf, Albis Dy, Jill Antonie, Ron Russell, Brian Ramsey, Graeme Lewis, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Geraldine, Brunner, Hailey Crossan**

## Sacramental Life & Liturgy

### BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Community Hugo Blagus & Atticus Carter whose Baptism occurs this weekend.



### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2018

Parents of children in Grade 5 who celebrated First Eucharist last year are reminded that the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated this year on the weekends of the **Saturday 3rd November 6pm and Saturday 10th November 6pm and Sunday 11th November 9am.**

The **Parent Information Evening** will be held at Sacred Heart Church **Wednesday 10th of October 7:00pm – 8:00pm.**

**Parents must attend this evening**

All families should have received the Registration Form and relevant information pertaining to Confirmation. Should you require further information please contact the Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 9am – 4pm on 5021 2872.

## Community Life & Outreach

### KERALA FLOOD APPEAL

As you have heard, the Indian state of Kerala is suffering catastrophic floods. Some 340 people have died and millions have been left homeless.

We join with our local Malayalam Community in praying for the people of their home state.

Please consider whether you might also be in a position to join them in contributing to a collection to be sent to India to help give relief. If so, you can contribute to the leaving collection this weekend or otherwise pass on a donation through the Parish Office.

### PROJECT COMPASSION

Together the Catholic Communities of Australia raised over \$10.8million for vulnerable communities around the world! Thank you for supporting this year's theme of "For a Just Future", empowering young people to build a better future for themselves, their families and their communities worldwide.

### WANTED

Sewing machines in good working order to go to Hospitaller Sisters of mercy in Maucatar, East Timor.

Please contact Sister Helen on 0438 734 524.



### 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

### CATHOLIC IDENTITY

An invitation is extended to all who desire to educate their children within a Catholic-Christian context.

Gina Bernasconi is an Education Officer—Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI). To be held on Thursday 30th August at 6pm in the Monaghan Centre. A light meal will be provided.

Please RSVP to Parish Office on 5021 2872 by 27th August.



**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS –SPRING EDITION** is available today. Please take your copy for some interesting reading in this special 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition. Eg "Women Pioneer New Models of Church"! You may get some ideas for our Plenary Council discussions!

### RETREAT ON EUCHARIST, THE WORD OF GOD & THE PASSION OF OUR LORD FOR HEALING

Sacred Heart Church

Sat. 15th September— Wed. 19th September

With Fr Gilbert Carlo, Divine Word Missionaries

Sept 15/16—Homily at weekend masses

Sept 17—7pm—9pm

Sept 18—7pm—9pm

Sept 19—6pm-6.45pm Confession, 7pm—

Concluding Mass with Reflection.

Please see flyers on notice boards for further information.



### SUNRAYSIA PLANNED GIVING

A friendly reminder to collect your new Planned Giving Envelopes. If you can, please collect those for family, friends and neighbours as it will save on postage.

Your statement of receipt is for the period 3/9/2017 to 12/8/2018 and the new Planned Giving year commences on the weekend 1st & 2nd September.

If you notice any inconsistencies with your statement or if you would like to be part of the Planned Giving program please contact Carmel at the Parish Office 5021 2872.



### BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick and Retired Priests next weekend

Creating a secure retirement future for the priests of the diocese is a duty and care in which we can all participate. Fifteen retired priests are currently supported by this Fund.

Some live privately, some are retired in units in Ballarat or elsewhere, others live in supported accommodation.

The funding required for these commitments is ongoing. Thanks to your generosity, this collection has raised nearly 1.8 million dollars since its inception in 1991, including nearly \$48,000 last year. Along with the priests' own contribution of approximately \$37,000 per year, this annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy.

**A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.**

### MILDURA PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (support of Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$1333.40</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes DD, CC & EFT)	<b>\$2879.25</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 422.55</b>
<b>Monaghan Centre</b>	<b>\$1027.00</b>

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



## 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.*

**Tim Lewis, Brendan Bell, Caterina Brizzi, Marie Adams, Raymondo Chan, Albis, Roman & Joe Dy, Graeme Lewis, Robert & Elizabeth Young, Joe Cufari, Maurice O' Connor, Joe Mammone**



## 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.*

**Anne-Maree Whitechurch, Kit Coogan, Maria Pyatt, Ted Verryt, Frank Chandler, Fr Frank Smith CSSR**

### WHILE FR PAT IS AWAY

Scriptures: Monday—Friday 9.30am

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, Aug 26:** Parish AGM, after 10am Mass.  
**Sunday Sep 2:** Father's Day  
**Monday Sep 10:** Jacaranda Village Aged Care Service 2pm. All welcome.  
**Sunday Sep 16:** Lay Led Assembly  
**Sunday Oct 7:** Our Lady of the Rosary, 10am.  
**Sunday Oct 21:** Prep & Grade 1 Mass.  
**Sunday Oct 28:** Youth Mass & Parish BBQ

### PARISH AGM TODAY

Our Parish AGM will be held after Mass today. A CUPPA and light snacks after the meeting.

### TRADING TABLE

There will be no Trading Table this month. The proceeds from the September Trading Table will go towards the Ballarat Clergy Support Fund.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

**Red Cliffs will have a Lay Led Assembly on Sunday September 16th.**

**You are the HOLY ONE of God.**

### PREP—GRADE 1 CLASS MASS

On Sunday October 21, St Joseph's Preps-Grade 1s will join us in celebrating Mission Sunday. After Mass we will have the cuppa and trading table. Proceeds from the trading table will go towards Catholic Mission.



### RED CLIFFS PARISH YOUTH AND THE PLENARY COUNCIL

Our next Youth Mass will be held on Sunday, October 28. After the Mass there will be a parish barbecue. And after that, I'm hoping that our youth will settle down in the School Hall to discuss where the Catholic Church in Australia needs to be heading. *PJF*

The Executive Officer of the Committee preparing for the Plenary Council, Ms Lana Turvey Collins will be in our Diocese in October, and will be visiting Mildura on Friday 12th October. Further details in coming weeks.



### RED CLIFFS PARISH FINANCE

#### Last week's collections

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (support of Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$335.35</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes DD, CC & EFT)	<b>\$375.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$101.70</b>

### Vision & Mission Statement

*We are a welcoming Catholic Community committed to following Jesus Christ in our daily life. We do this by:*

- Coming together regularly to worship God;
- Witnessing to Gospel values in our daily lives;
- Nurturing the growth & development of our faith;
- Caring for all in our Community;
- Taking responsibility for our Parish.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation has begun and will continue each Thursday night at 7pm in the school library and on Sunday morning at 10.30am Mass

### SCHOOL NEWS

The most exciting news from the school community this week is that Mrs Narelle Gallagher who has been action Principal for this year, has been appointed Principal of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Merbein. We congratulate Narelle and look forward to building a stronger relationship with the school and the wider faith community. Congratulation also to Grades 1&4 who led us in our Eucharistic Celebration last Thursday. We look forward to Grades 3 & 5F who will be leading us this week.

### YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED

Merbein District Historical Society has partnered with Lower Murray Water to develop the Merbein Community Art Trail as part of the Pick My Project Fund.

We have been successful in having our project, **MERBEIN COMMUNITY ART TRAIL** costed at almost \$200,000, approved and progress to the public voting stage.

Ultimately, securing the funding depends on the amount of public support our project receives from you all. Voting is online or by phone for those with no email address.

**How to vote:** Voting opened closes on 17th September 2018 - Voters must be Victorian & Over 16 years and vote for 3 projects. <https://www.lmw.vic.gov.au/about-lower-murray-water/our-> For more information see the notice board or contact Bernadette Wells.

### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

It was decided that every effort be made to involve as many parishioners as possible in giving their ideas to the Australian Plenary Council which will be held in 2020. It may seem a long time off but the final day for input of ideas is Ash Wednesday March 6, 2019 which is not very far away. On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October Lana Turvey-Collins, who is the Plenary Council Facilitator, will be visiting Sunraysia to inform, encourage and inspire us to take part. All Parish Councillors and other interested parishioners, are urged to attend her session in order to be well equipped to pass on correct information to others. Fr. Mick will have more details in general news closer to the date. It was also suggested that we use our Lay-led Assemblies as a time to discuss our ideas.

### MERBEIN PARISH FINANCE

#### Last week's collections

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (support of Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$106.00</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes DD, CC & EFT)	<b>\$234.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 41.50</b>

## TIME TO REFLECT ON FRANCIS' CALL FOR 'SHARED RESPONSE'

Published: 22 August 2018

Our leaders' approach to migrants and refugees has been far from welcoming (ACMRO)

During Migrant and Refugee Week, Catholics are asked to reflect on Pope Francis' 2017 call to "welcome, protect, promote and integrate" migrants and refugees, write Carolina Gottardo and Nishadh Rego. Source: *Eureka Street*.

As part of such a reflection it is important to consider how our society is heeding this call and putting it into action, and where we can do better. There are key things to be positive about.

The Australian government has increased the number of visas granted to UNHCR-recognised refugees from 16,250 to 18,750 in 2018–2019. Multiple state and territory governments have provided study and travel concessions to people seeking asylum who would otherwise not be able to afford and therefore avail of these basic rights. More than 140 local government areas and councils around the country have declared themselves Refugee Welcome Zones. Thankfully, there has been vocal bipartisan opposition to Senator Fraser Anning's performance in parliament last week, although such a response is something we should expect and not have to congratulate.

Nonetheless, on the whole, our leaders' approach to migrants and refugees has been far from welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating.

For the first time in decades, an Australian government is actively challenging the multicultural consensus that has dominated the public and policy discourse on migration since the 1980s. In the international sphere, Mr Dutton's recent threat to pull out of the Global Compact for Migration is the clearest indicator of the government's current approach to migration.

Domestically, a new bill making it more difficult for migrants to become citizens is once again on the table. Moreover, specific migrant and refugee communities continue to be damagingly singled out for spikes in crime as has been the case with the poisonous rhetoric on the South Sudanese community in Victoria.

Many recognised refugees arriving by boat do not receive permanent protection visas. They have to restate their claims every three to five years, living in a situation of limbo and separated from their families, as if memories of persecution in chronically fragile states such as Afghanistan and Myanmar dissipate after these time periods. There is ample evidence to show that temporary protection visas do not deter future arrivals, but in fact worsen long-term settlement outcomes.

*Carolina Gottardo and Nishadh Rego are Director and Policy and Advocacy Coordinator respectively for Jesuit Refugee Service Australia.*



**104TH**  
**WORLD DAY OF**  
**MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**  
**WELCOMING, PROTECTING,**  
**PROMOTING AND INTEGRATING**  
**MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**

Migrant & Refugee Week 20th - 26th August 2018

### NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS

#### 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year 1st & 2nd September 2018

**First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8**  
**Responsorial: Ps 14:2-5**  
**Response: The just will live in the presence of the Lord**  
**Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27**  
**Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**



Werrimull Last Sunday of each month 11:00am	Sacred Heart Saturday 6.00pm	Sacred Heart Sunday 9:00am	Sacred Heart Sunday 5.00pm	Irymple Sunday 8:30am	Red Cliffs Sunday 10:00am	Merbein Sunday 10:30am	Merbein Lay Led Assembly Last Sunday of the month
Leader / Reader	Christine Carmichael	Nicholas Mataele	Barb Kelly	M Duck	M Bell M Cavallaro / M Duck	Sr Carmel Setford	<b>September 30th</b> Bernadette Wells Kay Wagner
Music	Father's Day St Pauls school	Italian Choir N Armsden	M Guthrie All welcome		Guitar		
Offertory	St Pauls School	Joy Morvell			Cameron Family	Lemon Family	
Altar Servers	Volunteer please	Volunteer please	Volunteer please		Thomas Dowling	Volunteer please	<b>October 28th</b> Sr Carmel Annette Lemon
Eucharist Ministers	Vince Pileggi	Lyn Welsh	Melanie Ransome	Malcolm Hoy	Liam Dowling	Kay Wagner	
	Anne-Maree Greville	Loretta Thompson	Bill Dolence		Amber Foster	Leon Wagner	
	Taiana Fatai	Giuseppe Scopacasa	Jacqui Willis		Sumah Foster		<b>November 25th</b> Vernon Knight Elvira Iamarino
	Margaret McDonald	Maria Scopacasa	Barbara Bunting		J Tassone		<b>December 30th</b> Nancy Prevedello Kevin Aston
	Trish McNamara	Susan Lewis	Katrina groves		J Vines	<b>CHAFFEY AGED CARE</b>	
	Volunteer please	Minda Wright	Judy Hall		Volunteer please	Vi Barling Margo Farnsworth	
	Rose Op't Hoog				<b>FLOWERS</b> Volunteer please		
Counting Team	<b>TEAM 9</b>	<b>GEORGE DOLENCE 5023 7993</b>			G Brizzi & C Russo		
Church Cleaning	As per arrangement			As per arrangement	<b>Volunteer</b>	As per arrangement	