



# Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Irymple, Merbein, Mildura, Red Cliffs and Werrimull

Parish Priest Fr Matthew Thomas

Edition: 10/2023

Assistant Priest Fr Shaiju Mathew Visiting Priest Fr Anthony Nagothu (Robinvale)

2nd Sunday in Lent (A) 5th March 2023

## Sunraysia Easter Services

### Holy Thursday

6pm Merbein

7pm Red Cliffs

8pm Mildura

### Good Friday

9am Stations of the Cross Mildura

3pm Red Cliffs

3pm Mildura

3pm Merbein

### Holy Saturday

6pm Red Cliffs

7pm Mildura

### Easter Sunday

8.30am Irymple

9am Mildura

10.30am Merbein

No 5pm Mass

## Message from the Parish Priest

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

When we place our trust in God we are open to God being present in all aspects of our lives and having total trust reminds us of the unconditional love he has for us. We need to remember that sometimes it's a tough love that we experience not just a gentle loving experience.

Peter, James and John were trusted by Jesus to have a vision of his future transfiguration and to treasure this moment in their heart until his resurrection.

Thursday St Joseph's College opening school mass so no mass at 9.30am Mildura

God Bless *Fr Matthew*

## Baptism

We welcome to our Sunraysia Parish Community — **Ollie Birch and Orlando Pileggi** whose baptism occurs this weekend.



## Anointing Masses - March 2023

**Red Cliffs** Thursday 9th March 5.30pm

**Merbein** Thursday 16th March 9.30am

**Mildura** Wednesday 22nd March 2pm

## Tap & Go

### Presbytery 1st Collection



The Sacred Heart Parish has purchased a Tap & Go unit to trial at the Sacred Heart Church for the Presbytery— 1st Collection during the next few months. Should the trial be successful units will then be installed at all churches for 1st Collection.

The unit is currently located on the bench near the Baptismal font.

## 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)

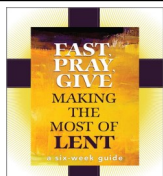
**Email:** mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au

## Finances

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1631.85	\$ 134.30	\$176.35
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$2616.25	\$175.00	\$219.00
<b>Loose Plate</b>	\$ 637.45	\$ 52.00	\$ 90.60
<b>Special Collections</b> Trading Table Irymple—The Shared Table	\$ 700.50	\$	\$
<b>Next weeks Counting Team</b>	Team 4—M Roper		

### Making the Most of Lent through Prayer, Fasting and Giving

- Join a Lenten group
- Give up something you enjoy and/or love doing.
- Project Compassion envelopes packs are now available
- Giving of your time—visit a family member or friend
- Indian Community Stations of the cross Friday's 6.45pm, Sacred Heart Church.
- Tongan Community Stations of the cross Friday's 7.30pm, Sacred Heart Church.



### St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs

Will be celebrating the Feast of St Joseph on Sunday 19th March with a cuppa and nibbles after the 10am Mass. All welcome. If you would like to attend please put your name down on the form provided in the church or contact the Parish Office on 5021 2872.

### Ritchies Card Loyalty Program and App

Is a community minded program and is based around nominating a Club, School or Charity to receive a donation based on purchases at Ritchies Supermarkets and Liquor stores. The Sacred Heart Parish is registering and any proceeds received will go to the Soup Kitchen.

### Sacramental Dates for 2023

Parent meeting & celebration dates for the following  
Sacraments will take place on:

#### Penance (Grade 3 and above)

Celebration 5th April, 7pm SH Church



**RECONCILIATION**

#### Confirmation (Grade 3 and above)

Parent meeting 22nd March 7pm, SH Church  
Friday 26th, Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th May.



#### First Eucharist (Grade 4 and above)

Parent meeting 6th September 7pm, SH Church  
Friday 20th, Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd October



#### Penance (Grade 2 and above)

Parent meeting 4th October 7pm, SH Church  
Celebration Wednesday 22nd November 7pm



**RECONCILIATION**

### Trading Stalls

#### Mildura & Red Cliffs 12th March 2023

Next Sunday, a Cuppa and Trading stalls will be held in Mildura after the 9am Mass & Red Cliffs after the 10am Mass.

Proceeds from the Mildura Trading Stall and Red Cliffs Trading Stalls will go to Project Compassion.



### Second Sunday of Lent 4th & 5th March



Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Through the Baabayn Young Mums and Bubs Group, Tereesa was able to reconnect with her culture and create a better future for her children.



#### Please donate to Project Compassion 2023

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.

### Weekly Prayer and Spiritual Opportunities

#### Sacred Heart Church Mildura

Charismatic Group Tuesday after 6pm Mass

Exposition and Benediction Friday 4pm

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 : 4th & 5th March 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	G Huxtable	K Quinlan, A Naray, M McDonald		M Guthrie All welcome
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G McCracken			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	L Welsh	L Belej, E Garreffa, T Faingaanuku	Baptism	Italian Choir M Sullivan
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	J Lewis	G Brizzi	Cameron Family	T Lewis
Sun 10.30am Merbein	F Sabo	Val McCarthy	C Knight, F Sabo	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	M Bowring	V & C Carlucci, T Cirillo		S Fatia K Mapapalangi

Next Weekend Roster: 11th & 12th March 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	R Tongue	V Pileggi, R Tongue, A Greville		Singing Group M Sullivan
Sun 8.30am Irymple	M Duck			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	P Issanchon	M Modica, L Welsh, R O'Callaghan	M Gobbo	Filipino Choir M Issanchon
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	M Milani	J Cameron	C Cavallaro	T Lewis
Sun 10.30am Merbein	K Wagner	J Dannatt	N & B Prevedello	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	J Thomas	M Bowring, P Cox, G Johnston		M Hammond, J Macri

### Please Pray for the Sick



Vince Addamo,  
Lindsay Willding,  
Teresa Camarotto,  
James Bowring,  
Rosemary Byrne, Jenny Boyd,  
Catherine Bell, Faye Cufari,  
Marie Adams, Barry Crosbie

*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.*

### Recent Deaths

Mary Curran, Helen Love

### Anniversaries



### Mildura:

Saturday 6pm:

Maria Cua (1 yr)

Sunday 8.30am:

George Gerstenmayer

Sunday 9am:

Joseph & Helen Grivec, Elvie McGlynn, Una Khan

Friday 6pm:

Emma Deluca

### Merbein:

### Red Cliffs:

*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.*



Second  
SUNDAY  
IN  
LENT

### Mass Time Table this Week

Tuesday	9.30am	Red Cliffs
	6pm	Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am	Mildura
Thursday	9.30am	No Mildura
	9.30am	Merbein
	5.30pm	Anoint Red Cliffs
Friday	10am	Funeral Mildura
	4pm	Expo/Bened
	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

### March 2023

Wed 8: Jacaranda Aged Care service 2pm.

Thu 9: Anointing Mass Red Cliffs

Sun 12: Cuppa & Trading Table 9am Mildura, 10am Red Cliffs

Mon 13: Knights of the Southern Cross meeting 7.30pm KSC clubrooms.

Tues 14: Princes Court Aged Care Service 1pm

Wed 15: Oasis Aged Care Service 1pm

Thu 16: Anointing Mass, Merbein

Tue 21: Northern Zone Meeting—Mildura

Wed 22: Anointing Mass, Mildura

Wed 22: Baptism Preparation Evening, Monaghan Centre 7pm

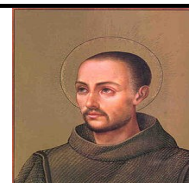
Tue 28: Sacred Heart Parish Finance meeting 7.15am, Parish Office

Tue 28: BUPA Aged Care Service 1pm

### Feast Days this coming week

Tuesday 7 March: Sts Perpetua & Felicity

Wednesday 8 March: St John of God



St John of God

## First Reading

Gen 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

*The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.*

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:  
I will curse those who slight you.  
All the tribes of the earth  
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

1. The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. (R.)
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

## Second Reading

2 Tm 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

*God has saved us, and called us to be holy.*

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

## Gospel Acclamation

Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

## Gospel

Mt 17:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*His face shone like the sun.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

We have to get rid of the idea that the soul is a dot of energy in some hidden core of our body. In fact, the body is in the soul. There is no part of my body which is not immersed in my soul. It is my whole person, bodysoul, which needs to be saved. As Thomas Aquinas says: 'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.'

Today's Gospel does not portray an out-of-body experience of religious ecstasy. Jesus' body was translucent, totally radiant with Divine Light. Further, this transfiguration was not a solitary experience for Jesus. Peter, James and John witnessed it precisely because it told them what our Heavenly Father desired as their destiny beyond martyrdom, if only they would listen to Jesus.

Heavenly salvation will involve my whole person, bodysoul, being transformed. But could a person, during their earthly existence, share in the transfiguration experience of Christ?

We could pause for a moment to 'Google' or otherwise get hold of my favourite story of a saint – St Seraphim of Sarov – and pray that we may share with his disciple the bodily experience of 'immeasurable wellbeing' – 'infinite joy in our hearts'.

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### Next Weeks Readings:

2nd Sunday in Lent Year A / 12th March 2023

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42