

# 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  
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716  
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 3

**Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas**  
**Assistant Priest Fr. Shaiju Mathew**  
**Retired Priest Fr. Pat Flanagan**

**Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo**  
**Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9:00am—4:00pm**

**Sacred Heart Mildura    Our Lady of Lourdes Werrimull    Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Merbein    St. Francis Xavier Irymple    St. Joseph's Red Cliffs**

*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*

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year B 16th & 17th January 2021

### MILDURA

Recent Death: Phillip Harding  
Anniversaries:  
Sunday 5pm: Antonio Domenico Timpano (Italy—30 day Mass)

### RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:  
Anniversaries: Rocco, Rosa & Grace Lamattina,  
Una Jean Paramanathan, Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna, Domenico  
& Caterina D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna, Cecilia & Domenica  
D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone

### MERBEIN

Anniversaries:

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

## Message from our Assistant Priest

A running theme of the Scripture readings for the second Sunday of the Ordinary Time is Divine vocation: God calls everyone to bear witness for Christ. Such a call implies recognizing each other as standing in the same stream of divine love and doing everything possible for others using one's unique gifts and blessings. Responding to this call implies, first of all, a right disposition, as we see in the case of Samuel in the first reading. He responded to God's call, saying, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3: 10). He expressed his readiness to listen and obey the will of God. The Psalmist sings accurately: "Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will" (Psalm 40). In the second reading from Corinthians, we see St Paul elaborating on this as our being called to holiness. The Gospel describes how Jesus calls the first disciples. Divine vocation implies both an initiative from God's part and human response. It is an invitation to which each person has to respond with absolute freedom. The call intends at a personal encounter with the Divine Master, which eventually transforms the whole person and sets him/her on a new mission. Jesus' naming Simon as Cephas (which means rock) shows this transformation. However, we shall not lose sight of Andrew, who plays a significant role here: after knowing Christ, he immediately paved the way for his brother to Jesus. As Christians, let us listen to God's call, respond to it by our conscious efforts at holiness, and share the inner joy and happiness that we experience with everyone. Let us be living examples of the Gospel of attraction.

God bless!  
Fr Shaiju Mathew

## 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:** Maria Sapuppo

**Merbein:**

**Red Cliffs:** Lily Flanagan, E Mammone, Barry Crosbie,  
Maurice O'Connor, Faye Rhook, Frank Mammone

## Our Parish Schools

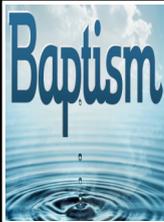
**Sacred Heart Mildura** Principal: Des Lowry 5023 1204  
**St Paul's Mildura** Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567  
**OLSH Merbein** Principal: Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258  
**St. Joseph's Red Cliffs** Principal: Mark Gibson 5024 1654  
**St. Joseph's Secondary College Mildura**  
Principal: Marg Blythman 5018 8000

## IMPORTANT DATES—FEBRUARY 2021



**Tuesday 2nd February:** Bereavement Team meeting  
**Tuesday 9th February:** Mildura Finance meeting, 7.30am  
Mildura Parish Council meeting 7pm  
**Sunday 14th February:** Red Cliffs Parish Council meeting 11.30am  
**Tuesday 16th February:** Reconciliation Parent night 7pm  
**Wednesday 17th February—**Ash Wednesday times TBC  
**Sunday 21st February:** Merbein Parish Council meeting 11.30am  
**Wednesday 24th February:** Baptism Preparation Evening 7.30pm

# LOCAL NEWS



## BAPTISMS

We welcome to our Parish family—Antonio Santos, Theodore Kilaris, Aston Piscioneri, Charlotte Roccisano and Concetta Rizzica whose baptisms occur this weekend.

## THURSDAY SCRIPTURE GROUP

Scripture Sharing in preparation for Sunday Readings

Day: Thursdays

Time: 3-4 pm

Venue: Monaghan Centre

All welcome

Please bring Sunday Missal or Bible

Further information contact Sr Helen 0438 734 524



Reconciliation

## ADVANCE NOTICE

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Program for children in Year 4 and above will begin in February.

Parent Information Evening will be held pm Tuesday 16 February at

Sacred Heart Church.

Enrolment forms to be completed and passed back to the Parish Office before Parent Meeting.

For further information please contact the Parish Office Tuesday - Friday 9am—4pm

## LENTEN PROGRAM 2021



If you would like to order a book/s for Lent, or if you are able to organise/host or would like to be part of a group please contact the Parish Office on 5021 2872 by Wednesday 27th January.



Do you like getting involved—an hour can make a difference.

Do you like using your skills and talents for good.

Do you like meeting people within our Parish community.

Do you like working for a cause you believe in helping others.

All of our Sunraysia Churches are looking for helpers with: Reading, Communion to the Sick, Music, Singers, Counting team, Stewardship Program, Baptism Preparation and Eucharistic Ministers

If you believe you can make a difference using your skills, talents and meeting new people please contact the Parish Office 50212872.

**A new roster for Eucharistic Ministers will be available shortly, if you need to make any changes please contact the Parish Office by Friday 29th January.**

## Parish Office Hours

### Changes to opening hours for January 2021

Please note the Sacred Heart Parish Office opening hours will be from **9am till 12noon** from Tuesday 5th January till Friday 22nd January.

## FR PAT'S FAREWELL MASS

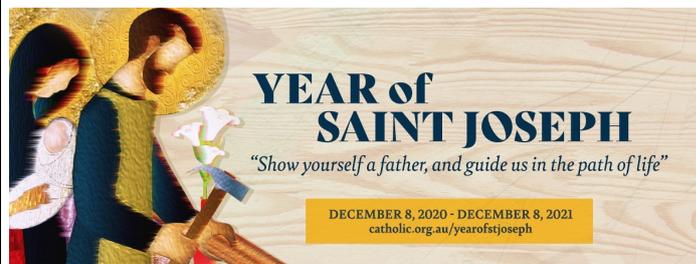
Will be held 10.30am on Sunday, January 24, 2021 at St Joseph's Red Cliffs, with a luncheon to follow.

An opportunity will be provided for you to sign in for the farewell at each of the churches or you can phone the Parish Office on 5021 2872.

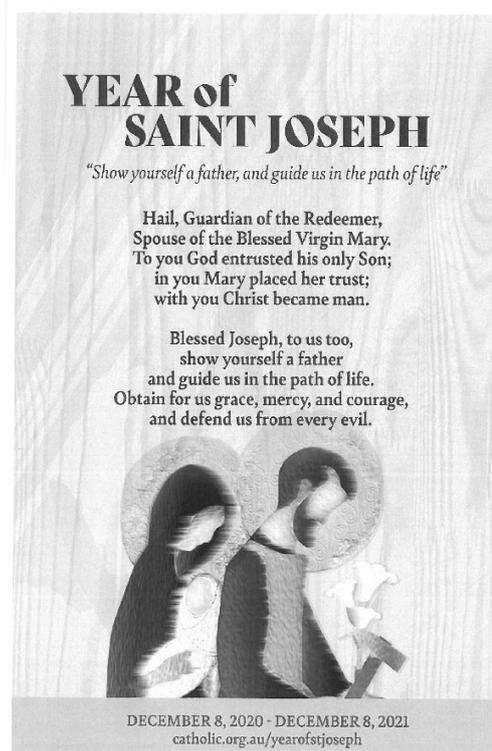
Donations towards a gift for Fr Pat can be left at the Parish Office or with Sylvia Orr at Red Cliffs.



## 2021 the year of St Joseph



Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde (With a Father's Heart)*, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.



# LOCAL NEWS

## Sunraysia Parishes Mass Times this week

### Weekdays

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	9.30am Red Cliffs 6pm Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am Red Cliffs 9.30am Mildura
Thursday	9.30am Merbein 9.30am Mildura 5.30pm Red Cliffs
Friday	6pm Mildura
Saturday	9.30am Mildura

### Sunday Masses

Saturday	6pm—Mildura
Sunday	8.30am—Irymple 9am—Mildura 10.30am—Red Cliffs 10.30am Merbein 5pm Mildura

Parishioners from all Parishes are encouraged to use the QR Code displayed in all churches.

## SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

New CDFpay online payment portals are now available for Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs. Please follow the links below:

**Mildura:** <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMildura> )  
**Merbein:** <https://bit.ly/CDFpayMerbein> )  
**Red Cliffs:** <https://bit.ly/CDFpayRedCliffs> )

If you are contributing to the 2nd Collection please include your Planned Giving number in the comments section. (Please do not use the Presbytery option when using the links above).

The preferred & dedicated link for Presbytery (1st Collection) is: <https://bit.ly/CDFpaySunraysia>

Carmel will gladly help with any enquiries.

## MASS COLLECTIONS— COVID rules

**Mildura:** Two collection baskets clearly labelled 1st Collection and 2nd Collection are available for your use on either side of the sanctuary.

**Irymple:** Baskets left on offertory table

**Merbein:** Baskets left on offertory table.

**Red Cliffs:** Baskets left on offertory table.

Opportunities will be available before, during and after Mass for you to contribute.



## NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING MASS

Approximate people to church size:

**Mildura:** 450 people

**Merbein:** 150 people

**Irymple:** 50 people

**Red Cliffs:** 250 people

## ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

This weekend — 16th & 17th January 2021

### MILDURA

**Readers: Saturday 6pm:** Gary Huxtable

**Sunday 9am:** Jim O'Brien

**Sunday 5pm:** Vince Muscatello

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 2 volunteers at each Mass.

**Music: Sat 6pm:** M Hammond, J Macri

**Sun 9am:** Tongan Choir

**Sun 5pm:** No Music

**Counting Team: Team 3 Peter McDonald**

**Irymple Reader:** M Hill

### MERBEIN

**Reader:** Jeanette Ellis

### RED CLIFFS

**Readers:** J Vines, D Eagle, T Gardiner

**Altar Servers:** G Strangio, R & D Carmichael, A Ban

**Music:** Guitar

**Counting Team:** G & S Warman

**Eucharistic Minister:** 1 volunteer

**Flowers:** Volunteers

(If you are rostered on please contact Office to book in for Mass)

Next weekend - 23rd & 24th January 2021

### MILDURA

**Readers: Saturday 6pm:** Christine Carmichael

**Sunday 9am:** Rebecca Tam

**Sunday 5pm:** Bill Dolence

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 2 volunteers at each Mass.

**Music: Sat 6pm:** M Sullivan, J Macri

**Sun 9am:** M Issanchon

**Sun 5pm:** No music

**Counting Team: Team 4—Maria Roper**

**Irymple Reader:** M Smith

### MERBEIN

**Reader:** Frances Sabo

### RED CLIFFS

**Readers:** T Hawkes, T Gardiner, A Higham

**Altar Servers:** Jessica, Tenzin & Kaleb Bertoli, M Taylor

**Music:** Tongan Choir / Guitar

**Counting Team:** G & S Warman

**Eucharistic Minister:** 2 volunteers

**Flowers:** Volunteers

(If you are rostered on please contact Office to book in for Mass)



## SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$941.30	\$ 34.00	\$249.30
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection</b> (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$630.50	\$ 80.00	\$130.00
<b>Loose Plate</b>	\$561.40	\$ 17.90	\$ 96.55

## First Reading

1 Sm 3:3-10.19

A reading from the first book of Samuel

*Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening.*

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am'. Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv. 8.9

(R.) Here am I, Lord;  
I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord.  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God. (R.)
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. (R.)
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart. (R.)
4. Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord. (R.)

## Second Reading

1 Cor 6:13-15. 17-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*Your bodies are members of the body of Christ.*

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to

fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is in you since you have received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

## Gospel Acclamation

Jn 1:41. 17

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have found the Messiah:

Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Jn 1:35-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*They saw where Jesus lived and they stayed with him.*

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we consider the call to discipleship. The readings outline the various stages of this call and provide a sketch of some of the characteristics of each stage: the invitation, the discerning process and the resulting transformation.

The call is an invitation from God. It might come to us as inner sensitivity, a kind of a dream or inspiration. Our interest might be captured by a person or an event that first attracts us and then beckons us to investigate further. It can come in the innocence and naivete of childhood, in the vigour of young adulthood, or in the wisdom of years. It comes when God calls.

The second stage involves discernment. Most of us need help recognising moments of religious importance and so we seek out women and men who are practiced in the ways of God, who can help us test the spirit. They might be recognised religious leaders or prophetic guides, or they could be friends or loved ones who know us well and who are also attuned to the workings of God in their own lives.

Finally, when we respond to the call, we discover that we no longer belong solely to ourselves; as disciples, we belong to the body of Christ. We belong to the reign of God; we are now part of the mission of Christ. As disciples, we are called to proclaim to the world the justice of God.

What a glorious honour this is!