

# Sunraysia Catholic Communities



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Newsheet: Week 46

Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas  
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*

## 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A 14th & 15th November 2020

### MILDURA

Recent Death:  
Anniversaries: Antonio Cirillo (10 year anniversary),  
Ilario Vallelonga (1yr anniversary)

### RED CLIFFS

Recent Death: Peter Hackwell, Laurie Erwin, Gerard Joyce  
Anniversaries: Sam Romeo (1 year anniversary), 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.)*

**Bulletins are available for collection  
outside all main Church doors.**

### 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:** Helen ter Bogt

**Merbein:**

**Red Cliffs:** Barry Crosbie, Maurice O'Connor, Lou Grivec,  
Kaye Grivec

## 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

## Message from our Parish Priest

*We have been celebrating First Communion this week at Mildura with small groups of 3-4 children at each mass which has been great to see our families at Mass, we have a number of children this weekend as well.*

*For the children at Red Cliffs we are hoping for the end of the month depending on the church renovations, to be able to celebrate the sacraments with them.*

*With the numbers being lifted for masses on Monday 23rd this will allow us to increase attendance to 100 people, this is exciting times to welcome more parishioners to pray together and join in the celebration of the Eucharist.*

*We farewell Bill Lowry this weekend as he returns to the seminary for his 30 day retreat. We wish him well and pray for him during this important time of his formation.*

*God Bless  
Fr Matthew*



**First  
Eucharist  
children from  
last weekend's  
celebration**

# LOCAL NEWS

## ADVENT—ADORE

Advent and Christmas reflection Adore booklets have arrived. A suggestion was put forward that we have a few online groups from around the Parishes of Mildura, Merbein, Ouyen, Red Cliffs and Robinvale as well as face to face.



All groups will be at different times through the week which will allow us to join together with others from around the region to prepare for the birth of Christ. The first week of Advent commences on the 29th November, so please contact the Office to book in.

## INVITATION SCRIPTURE SHARING

Each Thursday a group gathers to reflect on the Scripture Readings for the following weekend.

All are welcome

**Time:** Thursdays at 3pm

**Place:** Monaghan Centre

**To bring:** Bible or Sunday Missal.

For further information contact Sr Helen  
0438 734 524



## 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> )

(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>

If you are contributing to the 2nd Collection please include your Planned Giving number in the comments section. Carmel will gladly help with any enquiries.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM—UPDATE

### Mildura

Confirmation held over to 2021.

1st Eucharist 14th & 15th November. A reminder to bring your Baptism Stole on the day

### Red Cliffs

We are hoping for the weekend of the 28th / 29th of November.

**Merbein** held over to 2021.



## RED CLIFFS CEILING

Work to clean the main church and pews returned to their original spot hopefully be completed by the begin of this week and ceiling work in the gathering area of the church will commence from Wednesday. The area is still a worksite so to keep everyone safe could all parishioners refrain from entering the church or being on church grounds during the refurbishment. As of Tuesday 3rd November Parishioners can attend Mass at Irymple or Mildura while works are in progress. Please contact the Parish Office on 50212872 to make a booking keeping in mind our COVID safe rules.

**Bulletins available by the front door of Fr Pats unit.**

## CONGRATULATIONS



Red Cliffs parishioners milestones this month: Shirley Warman has got over the 80 line. Peter Romeo & Maria Strangio have reached 90. and Margaret Hunt reached 99 on All

Saints' Day. Congratulations to each of them and belated congratulations to Margaret Murphy, who reached 90 on July 26.

## FIRST EUCHARIST

We congratulate all our First Eucharist candidates who will receive the Blessed Sacrament for the first time this weekend.

We thank Sr Helen, the REL's, parents and carers who have helped them along this journey.



## BAPTISMS

We welcome into the Sacred Heart Parish Community—Matthew Simonetta and Alexis & Ava Jones who were Baptised this weekend.



3 piece burgundy leather lounge suite, to give away. Phone 5021 4953



# LOCAL NEWS

## Sunraysia Parishes Mass Times for November

### Weekdays

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

*Please note there are no Masses at St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs while the ceiling repairs are being completed. (Please note that with the COVID Restrictions we are unable to use the school facilities)*

### Sunday Masses

Saturday	6pm—Mildura
Sunday	8am—Irymple 9am—Mildura 9.30am—Irymple (Red Cliffs Community until further notice) 10.30am Merbein 5pm Mildura

**All parishioners from Red Cliffs, Merbein and Mildura are reminded to ring the office and book in for mass.**

### COVID safe Rules - from 3rd November

**Masses**—Gathering of 20 people plus one faith leader

**Funerals**—up to 20 people gathered plus those required to conduct the funeral (the celebrant and funeral directors)

**Baptisms**—Gathering of 20 people plus one faith leader

**Weddings**—Gathering of 10 people this includes the bride, groom, two witnesses and one faith leader.

Unfortunately the figures remain as above and hopefully an update will be favourable on November 22.

Please contact the Parish Office for an update.

### Reminder

**Reminder if you are sick or unwell please do not attend and get tested.**

### Meetings this week

**Red Cliffs Parish Council:** Wednesday November 18th, 7pm, School Hall meeting room.

### SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$ 397.85	\$	\$130.00
<b>2nd Collection</b> (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$ 1271.00	\$	\$
<b>Loose Plate</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>Catholic Missions</b>			\$ 24.00

## ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

### This weekend — 14th & 15th November 2020

#### MILDURA

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: 1st Eucharist  
Sunday 9am: 1st Eucharist  
Sunday 5pm: 1st Eucharist

**Counting Team:**

#### MERBEIN

Reader:

#### RED CLIFFS (Irymple Church 9.30am)

**Counting Team:** B Gardner & S Williams

### Next weekend — 21st & 22nd November 2020

#### MILDURA

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Rosemary Barnes  
Sunday 9am: Talia Fainga'anuku  
Sunday 5pm: Greg Johnston

**Counting Team:** Team 5 Jim Farrelly 0477 140 759

**Irymple Reader:** M Duck

#### MERBEIN

Reader:

#### RED CLIFFS (Irymple Church 9.30am)

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

**Counting Team:** C Russo & T Gardiner

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

### REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is a very familiar parable and one that is often used with students and young people. It is generally used as an encouragement to make the most of the gifts and skills that the listeners possess. It is rarely, however, placed in its context as part of the full Chapter 25 lesson about the time of waiting and preparation for the coming of the Lord and the Christian life.

Again, the story is presented as a parable of the Kingdom – a glimpse into the right order of things in the realised Kingdom. A very wealthy master entrusts his considerable assets to his servants to manage in his absence. The three servants were allocated money, 'each in proportion to his ability'. The emphasis of the parable is on what each servant did with the funds they were allotted. They were charged with managing the money in the place of their master; acting in their master's place to further develop his wealth.

Like all of Jesus' parables, this one has a sting in the tail. Although the third servant has done nothing illegal or corrupt, he is very harshly dealt with. His crime is laziness! He was given a great opportunity to demonstrate his abilities and yet he shied away and returned to his master exactly what had been entrusted to him, unimproved. The author of Matthew's gospel uses this parable to shock the audience out of complacency. They cannot rely solely on the promised return of the Lord, they must continue to act on Jesus' message and work to bring about the Kingdom in their own lives. Those who fail to act, leaving everything to the work of God, are as bad as the lazy servant who failed to grasp an extraordinary opportunity.

## First Reading

Prv 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs

*Give her a share in what she has worked for.*

A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,  
from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and not hurt she brings him  
all the days of her life.  
She is always busy with wool and with flax,  
she does her work with eager hands.  
She sets her hands to the distaff,  
her fingers grasp the spindle.  
She holds out her hand to the poor,  
she opens her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;  
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.  
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,  
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. (R.)
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
in a happy Jerusalem  
all the days of your life. (R.)

## Second Reading

1 Thes 5:1-6

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

*The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

## Gospel Acclamation

Jn 15:4. 5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;  
my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Mt 25:14-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

