

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 6



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: Cecilia Barich, Leonard Krause, Mary Flinn, Margherita Lizza (Melbourne mother of Maria-Teresa Petrolo), Frances Bourdon,

Anniversaries: Patrick & John Donnellon

Sunday 9am: Antonio Palamara (30 year anniversary)

Friday 5.40pm: Nicola Alicastro (one year anniversary)

Saturday 10am: Mary Flinn

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death: Giuseppe (Joe) Mammone

Anniversaries: Vittoria Pezzaniti, Tom McGlashan, Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna, Domenico & Caterina D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna, Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone

MERBEIN

Anniversaries: Feb.9th Antonio Palamara, Betty Fenna, Adele & Peter Mazza; 12th Rita Bowring; 13th Maurice Wilson; 15th Christopher Matotek

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

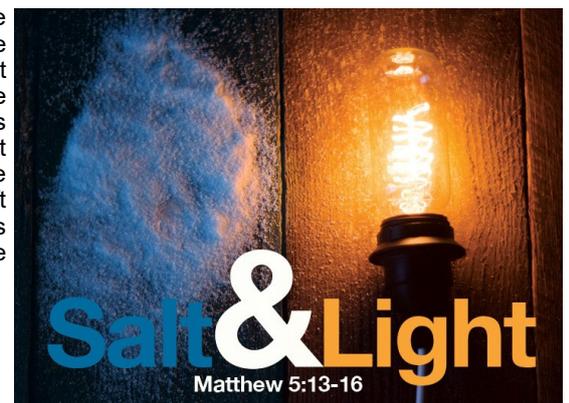
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A 8th & 9th February 2020

In today's gospel, Jesus addresses two short parables to his disciples in the presence of the crowds. The crowds as well as the disciples hear what he has to say. Parables were intended to tease their hearers, inviting them to see things differently or from a new perspective, to see themselves in a new light. One of the difficulties for us is that Jesus told these parables in early first century Palestine with its particular symbol system, while we hear them through the multiple layers of our own twenty-first century contexts and symbol systems. "Salt" and "light" have slightly different resonances in different contexts, as do "earth" and "world". Exploring those resonances or nuances can bring us to a deeper appreciation of the text.

This short reflection allows for a focus only on "the salt of the earth" parable or metaphor. For Jesus' Palestinian audience, salt was used to preserve and to season food. It also functioned as a cleansing or purifying agent. It could only lose its savour if contaminated by additives. We can resonate with all of that. For some of the Jewish rabbis, salt signified wisdom: a "salted" disciple was a "wise" disciple. In some parts of the ancient world, as in Pakistan today, salt was used in dyeing processes as a way of intensifying as well as preserving the colour of fabrics. Many Westerners are not aware of this practice. These days we are rightly concerned about high levels of salinity in overworked soil. That was certainly not so for first-century Palestinians.

When we declare someone to be "the salt of the earth", we are generally referring to the sheer goodness of the person in question, her/his down to earth reliability, lack of pretentiousness and practical wisdom. To be salt of the earth is to season the earth community, to intensify its beauty, to be wise in one's judgments, to be just and compassionate in all of one's dealings. This parable, with its multi-layered symbolism, certainly teases the mind. In the original Greek, the emphasis is on the first word in the sentence. Jesus is telling his hearers, disciples and crowds, that *they* are the salt of the earth. They do not have to *become* the salt of the earth; they *are* the salt of the earth. In short, he is affirming their worth. In its literary context, that assertion contrasts Jesus' followers with those who might persecute them. It affirms their capacity to stand strong in the face of opposition, "for the sake of justice". If they allow themselves to be overwhelmed or allow their commitment to be shaken, then the "salt" will be contaminated and the "earth" cannot be seasoned. As we reflect on the diverse metaphorical applications of salt and earth, we might take a moment to give thanks to God for the gift of the material realities that underlie these powerful metaphors.

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm



Sacred Heart Mildura Community Life & Outreach cont.

Sacramental Life & Liturgy



BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community Evelyn Mangan and Rory Beer whose Baptism occurs this weekend.

RECONCILIATION & FIRST EUCHARIST 2020



Parent Information Evening
Wednesday 12th February 7pm
Sacred Heart Church

All families of children in Grade 4 and above due to celebrate First Eucharist in June this year need to attend this Parent Information Evening. Further information regarding the programs for **Reconciliation & First Eucharist** including Registration Forms can be obtained by contacting the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872.



RCIA

Models of Church

Thursday 13th February 7pm, Hillman Room.

MEMORIAL MASS—MARY FLINN

Will be held on Saturday 15th February at 10am followed by a cuppa in the Monaghan Centre. A plate to share would be appreciated. Please note change of time for the Saturday morning Mass from 9.30am to **10am**.

Community Life & Outreach

SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUP

Will begin their year with brunch at the Mildura Workers Club on Sunday the 9th February at 10.00 am. Please let Denise or Gerry know your intentions on 50211918. All welcome and join us.

KNIGHTS OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS MEETING

Monthly meeting will be held at the KSC Clubrooms on Monday Feb 10th at 7.30pm. Executive members are asked to meet 6.30pm this same evening.

SACRED HEART LADIES SOCIAL GROUP

Will meet in the Hillman Room on Tuesday from 2pm. All welcome.

SACRED HEART PARISH COUNCIL

Will be held after the 6pm Mass on Tuesday 11th February, in the Hillman Room.

ST ANTHONY COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Tuesday 11th February from 7.30pm at the KSC Clubrooms. All welcome.

ANOINTING MASS

Will be held on Thursday 13th February 9.15am. All welcome.

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



SHARED TABLE MARKET STALL & CUPPA
after 9am Mass this Sunday
All money collected goes directly to the Projects of The Shared Table in Lima, Peru. Cuppa in the Monaghan Centre. All welcome.

EUCHARISTIC 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.



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.

Mildura: Brian Weightman, Fr Denis Dennehy,

Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuionisio, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Dien Brown, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Vince Alicastro, 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

PLENARY COUNCIL THEMES FOR DISCERNMENT

Copies of each Theme are still available at the Sacred Heart Parish Office for those who attended the meetings and for those who wish to be a part of the discerning group.

ADULT EDUCATION

- Monday 16th March, 7pm Sacred Heart Church
Fr Elio Capra— topic Sacrament of Reconciliation. All welcome

RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE

- April 20—May 16 CLC/Jesuit Tertian First Spiritual Exercises Retreat are organising an online/home Retreat for Mildura.
They will be offering the first retreat Inner Peace in Divine Love. The retreats are usually co-guided with a CLC member.

PLANNED GIVING STATEMENTS

From 26/08/2019 to 31/12/2019 are now available for collection. There is still quite a number of statements that need to be collected, please collect yours and that of family and friends this will save on postage. If you find any discrepancies contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872.

This Weekend's Responsorial Response: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

ANNIVERSARY OF APOLOGY

The Apology of then Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to the Stolen Generations on 13 February 2008 is a landmark in Australian history. Once inconceivable, it is now set in stone forever. It is also a measuring stick by which to judge the present treatment of Indigenous Australians as well as Parliamentary conduct today.

Apologies are significant because they are expressions of respect. They also acknowledge a moral code shared by both parties, and a common acceptance that it has unjustifiably been disregarded. They also imply a pledge to act differently in the future. The respect embodied in the apology is based in the common humanity shared by both parties, which lies deeper than differences based on religion, race and wealth.

In the Apology the Australian Government spoke on behalf of all Australians in recognising that it acted wrongly in removing Indigenous children from their parents. The removal was dictated by the disrespectful claim that its targets were defined, not by their shared humanity, but by their race. This disrespect caused lasting damage to the children and families.

It was of great significance that the Prime Minister made the Apology in person to representatives of the Stolen Generations. In doing so he emphasised that all Australians are equally entitled to respect, and that the Government and all Australians are responsible to ensure treat all Australians are treated equally, regardless of race and history.

The Apology made strong statements about the way we Australians commit ourselves to treat one another. They can never be unsaid. They can, however, be disregarded. For that reason the Apology continues to be important. It is a measuring stick by which both Parliamentary behaviour and the treatment of Indigenous Australians can be judged.

The dignity, seriousness and non-partisan spirit of the Apology stands in judgment on the rancorous disregard of Parliamentary conventions, lack of seriousness and courtesy displayed and so widely criticised in subsequent years. It also, of course, contrasted with much Parliamentary conduct in preceding years.

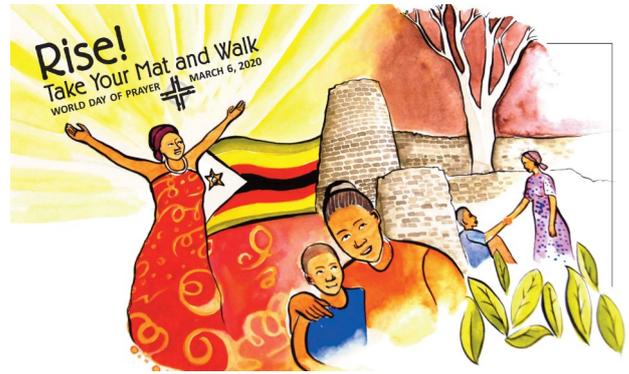
The Apology has also set a standard by which we can measure the treatment of Indigenous Australians today. In particular it highlights the disrespect underlying the election-driven Intervention that preceded the Apology and the subsequent humiliating and disempowering measures directed against Indigenous communities. Though not driven directly by racially biased ideology, too, the disproportionate rate at which Indigenous children are removed from their mothers, Indigenous children are incarcerated and decisions are made without proper consultation about Indigenous communities, indicate a serious institutional lack of respect.

Finally, the Apology is something to build on. In the Australian community it has become increasingly common

to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Land. Indigenous Australians called on to speak at these events no longer come as guests but as hosts. A significant number of Indigenous Australians are entering the professions and the arts, and lead programs in such Community Organisations as Jesuit Social Services.

These things do not make up for the Institutional disrespect suffered by Indigenous Australians. They do offer hope, however, that the spirit of the Apology may engender respect in the relationship between settler and Indigenous Australians.

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.**



The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. It is run under the motto **“Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action,”** and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together people of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” MATTHEW 5:16

The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and it is contagious! Good works encourages more good works. Let your light shine! Be careful to recognize that God is working through you and don't put yourself above the people you have been called to help.

DROUGHT COMMUNITY SUPPORT INITIATIVE

The Australian Government have awarded the St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia \$15 million dollars in drought relief funding under the Drought Community Support Initiative – Round 2 (DSCI) The project ends on 30 June 2020. Eligible applicants to the DCSI can receive a one-off cash payment of \$3,000. Farming community members can apply by going to the online application form, which can be found at www.vinnies.org.au/droughtrelief

Assistance with the application form can be obtained by phoning 1300 846 643. Or direct donations to: **Millewaa-Carwarp Farmers Fund.** Funds that go direct to the farmer - BSB – 063520 Account – 10078126. Please put FD at the start of the reference.

SUNRAYSA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1489.45	\$ 67.95	\$260.90
2nd Collection (includes all EFT)	\$2791.50	\$190.00	\$489.50
Loose Plate	\$ 635.90	\$ 39.00	\$ 46.00

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

PARISH NEWS

Parish Council: Our first Parish Council Meeting for 2020 will take place today immediately after Mass. All members and those interested in joining the Parish Council are asked to come along as we commence some serious discussion as to the future of the Parish.

Lenten Program: Anyone interested in taking part in the Lenten Program will be very welcome to join an Ecumenical group which will commence (on a day and time to be decided) during the week prior to the First Sunday in Lent which is the 1st March 2020. 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. The program would be for 1 hour a week for the 6 weeks of Lent - either afternoon or evening sessions. Please give your name to Sr. Carmel if you are interested in taking part.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DURING TERM 1

February 9th – Staff Commissioning Mass, 10.30am Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church

February 26th – Shrove Tuesday.

February 26th – Ash Wednesday Liturgy, 12.15pm, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church

March 27th - Easter Liturgy, 12.30 - Multi Purpose Room

2020 Parent Information Evening will be held on Thursday 13th February commencing at 6pm in the Multi Purpose Room. A Sausage Sizzle will be cooking and fruit will be available for all families to enjoy. This is a great way to relax and have dinner while meeting other members of our school and parish community. All Welcome

WEEKDAY MASSES

Scriptures Mon—Thur: 9.30am

Friday: 1st year anniversary Vittoria Pezzaniti 7pm

Saturday Mass: 9.30am

CALENDAR

Wednesday 12 Feb: Finance & Parish Council meeting 7pm, St Joseph's School Hall.

Wednesday 26 Feb: Ash Wednesday

Friday 6 March: World Day of Prayer 7pm

RED CLIFFS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2020

The meeting of parents to launch our program will be held on Wednesday 19th February at 7pm in the school Library. The classes will commence at 9.00 am on Sunday, February 23.

As I need to order books for the program, if any of you know of children at State Schools, Year 4 or above, please have them get in touch with me as soon as possible on 5024-1966. If I don't answer, ask them to leave a clear message for me. *Fr Patrick J Flanagan*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

St Joseph's Church Red Cliffs will be hosting the WDP for 2020 on Friday 6th March at 7pm. All welcome.

Any enquiries please contact Di Eagle 50242667. Please bring a plate to share. This year's theme is: Zimbabwe—Rise—Take Your Mat and Walk!

LENTEN GROUP 2020

The first session will take place on Monday 24th February at 10am at Janine Cameron's place. All welcome. Further enquiries to Janine on 0438 730 976.

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS / 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time 15th & 16th February 2020

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

Responsorial: Ps 118:102, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

Response: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Second Reading: St Paul to the Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37



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	Gary Huxtable	Narie Lewis	Barb Kelly	G Schmidt	J Vines A Higham / P Hunt	Frances Sabo
Music	Teachers' Commissioning Mass	Tongan Choir M Guthrie	M Hammond J Macri / J Ljubic		Guitar	
Offertory	Staff Commissioning Mass	Cathy/Paul McErvale			C Cavallaro	Ellis Family
Children's Liturgy		To start March 2020				
Altar Servers	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please		GROUP 4 J Monteleone	Volunteer Please
Eucharist Ministers	Maria Cirillo	Jean Rocca	Mario Zema	R Barbary	J Strangio	Kay Wagner
	Christine Carmichael	Bobby Castillo	Josie Zema		M Suppa	Narelle Gallagher
	Jacinda Deacon	Talia Fainganuku	Bernadette Avery	OASIS AGED CARE	J Tassone	CHAFFEY AGED CARE Pat Sylvia
	Katy Quinlan	Michael Fainigaanuku	Trish Cirillo	W Schmidt	CUPPA'S 23rd February	
	Vince Pileggi	Nancy Fatai	Jeena Jose			LAY LEADERS
	Volunteer please	Peter O'Donnell	Christine Slattery	LAY LEADERS 16th February M & W Smith	FLOWERS Volunteer	
Counting Team	TEAM 5	JIM FARRELLY 0477 140 759			F & M Dominelli	As per arrangement
Church Cleaning	As per arrangement				Volunteers	As per arrangement