

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 52

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*

Holy Family / Year B 26th & 27th December 2020

MILDURA

Recent Death: Leonie Jamieson, Margaret Belsham,
Bill Antonie, Robert Walder

Anniversaries: Pietro Marziano

Saturday 6pm:

Sunday 9am: Iolanda Dimasi, Antonio Esposito,

Sunday 5pm: Vincenzo Pileggi, Paulo Scopelliti,
Ilario Simonetta

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death: Vernon Markham

Anniversaries:

MERBEIN

Anniversaries: Noreen Jenkins, Mary Barling, Charlie Cook,
Rodney Nokes, Robert McCarthy

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

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, Lou Grivec, Kaye Grivec, 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

Message from our Parish Priest

We welcome everyone here to the parish masses, to visitors I hope you all enjoy your stay while here in the Sunraysia.

Well the Christmas Season is now in full swing with family and friends gathering together to celebrate the Birth of Christ. I hope that the last couple of days have brought you all blessings from God.

Now as we prepare for the new year which we celebrate on Friday we look forward to new adventures, new people to meet, new opportunities to grow as a person and for any challenges or disappointments we face we do it with strength from God, who is always with us.

This weekend we have the feast of the Holy Family, what a great time of the year to honour the role of the Holy Family in our lives, may Joseph be a guide to all Fathers, Mary an example to all Mothers and Jesus to all of us a sign of the love of God in our lives. Looking forward to joining with you in faith as we move towards 2021 and as we begin the year dedicated to St Joseph.

*God Bless
Fr Matthew*

NEW YEAR DAY Mass Times 2020

New Years Day

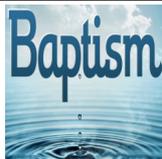
Friday 1st January 2021: 9am Sacred Heart Mildura
10am St Joseph's Red Cliffs



LOCAL NEWS

Baptisms

We welcome to our Parish family— Mabel Kerr, Ehra Inot, Johann Doza, Seth Townsend, Florence Lando and Roaxelle Vergara whose baptisms occur this weekend.



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.

BISHOPS SPECIAL COLLECTION

A reminder that this weekend we will have a Special collection for the Bishop's Christmas Appeal.

This appeal supports organisations and groups in and connected to the Diocese.

This collection will be a leaving collection.

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.

Accommodation WANTED

Small house or unit to rent—2 people.

Please contact Claudine on 0455 369 219

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING MASS

Approximate people to church size:

Mildura: 450 people

Merbein: 150 people

Irymple: 50 people

Red Cliffs: 250 people

ADVANCE NOTICE

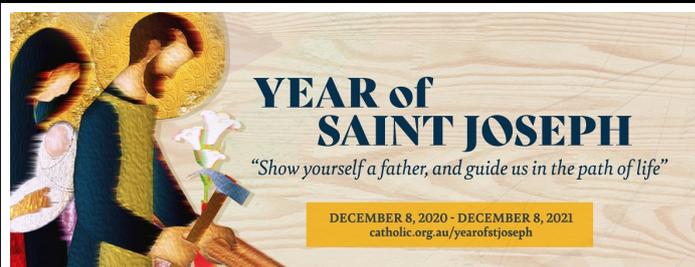
Parish Office Hours Christmas through to end of January 2021

Please note the Parish Office will be closed from Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December 12noon until Tuesday 5th January at 9am.

Please note that from 5th to 22nd of January the Parish Office will be opened from 9am till 12noon only.

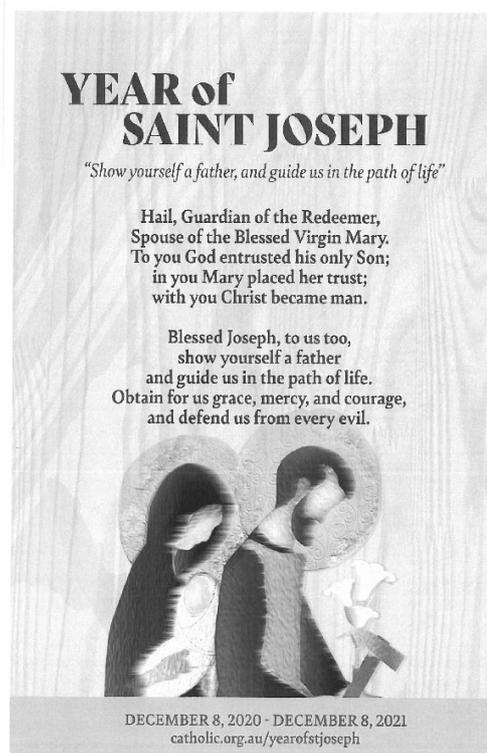
FR PAT'S FAREWELL MASS

Will be held 10.30am on Sunday, January 24, 2021, when we celebrate our Mass for Australia Day. A luncheon will follow. Further details in coming weeks.



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	No Mass
Wednesday	No Mass
Thursday	No Mass
Friday	9am Mildura, 10am Red Cliffs
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.

Please note there will be no MASSES from Tuesday 29th December to Thursday 31st December.

QR CODE

All churches have been registered with a QR (Quick Response) code and will be in place for use at all Masses until further notice.

Using a QR code requires people to scan the code using their smart phone camera. The QR code takes the person to a website where they enter their details. Please install a QR Code reader/scanner app on your phone prior to scanning this code. Make sure the app is for free.

For parishioners who don't have a mobile phone, a parish volunteer with an IPAD will help you register and please arrive at least 15-20 minutes prior to mass starting to avoid congestion.

COVIDSafe requirements continue to apply and if you are sick or unwell please do not attend Mass and get tested.

Registering for masses

You no longer need contact the office to register for mass, please just come and register with QR on your arrival at Church. Please just social distance from others.

SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$ 969.25	\$ 120.45	\$ 341.60
2 nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$1237.00	\$115.00	\$1000.00
Loose Plate	\$ 132.75	\$ 18.50	\$ 89.65

ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

This weekend — 26th & 27th December 2020

MILDURA

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Mary Jackson
Sunday 9am: Laurie Fry
Sunday 5pm: Rose-Marie Zalec
Eucharistic Ministers: 2 volunteers at each Mass.
Music: Sat 6pm: Sr Helen Holen
Sun 9am: M Hammond, J Macri
Sun 5pm: Soane Fatai, Lam Duy
Counting Team:
Irymple Reader: G McCracken

MERBEIN

Reader: Frances Sabo

RED CLIFFS

Readers: K Hawkes, M Bell, J Cameron
Music: Guitar
Counting Team: C Russo, T Gardiner
Eucharistic Minister: 1 volunteer
Flowers: J Cameron
 (If you are rostered on please contact Office to book in for Mass)

Next weekend — 2nd & 3rd January 2021

MILDURA

Readers: Saturday 6pm: Rosemary Barnes
Sunday 9am: Cathy or Paul McErvale
Sunday 5pm: Sue Hermans
Eucharistic Ministers: 2 volunteers at each Mass.
Music: Sat 6pm: M Hammond, B Lewis
Sun 9am: Italian Choir
Sun 5pm: NO MUSIC
Counting Team: G Lavery 5021 1918
Irymple Reader: M Hill

MERBEIN

Reader: Elvira Piscioneri

RED CLIFFS

Readers: To be notified
Music: Guitar
Counting Team: To be notified
Eucharistic Minister: 1 volunteer
Flowers: Volunteers
 (If you are rostered on please contact Office to book in for Mass)

REFLECTION by Lisa-Marie Calderone– Stewart

No doubt Mary and Joseph were surprised and pleased, and perhaps even a bit spooked, when these complete strangers approached them at the Temple to praise their baby.

Have your parents (step-parent, grandparent, guardian) ever been surprised and pleased, or even spooked, when someone else came and told them some wonderful thing about you? What was it? What do you do that your parents are proud of?

Just as parents love to hear good things about their sons and daughters, they also love to hear good things *from* their sons and daughters.

In what way can you affirm your parents (step-parent, grandparent, guardian) about their role in your life? Besides Mother's Day or Father's Day or a birthday, when do you take time to really express your love and appreciation for your parents as people, and for their sacrifices and their parenting? How might you improve in this area?

First Reading Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

The Lord honours the father in his children,
and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.
Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,
he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a
fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of
his own,

he shall be heard on the day when he prays.
Long life comes to him who honours his father,
he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to
the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age,
do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,
do not despise him in your health and strength;
for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten
but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 104:1-6. 8-9. R.vv.7.8

(R.) The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

1. Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;
tell all his wonderful works! (R.)
2. Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.
Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. (R.)
3. Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.
O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. (R.)
4. He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:12-21

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and
you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness
and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one an-
other; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The
Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over
all these clothes, to keep them together and complete
them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in
your hearts, because it is for this that you were called to-
gether as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home
with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all
wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and
hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do
anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving
thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the
Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gen-
tleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, be-
cause that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never
drive your children to resentment or you will make them
feel frustrated.

Gospel Acclamation Col 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.
Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
When the day came for them to be purified as laid
down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took
him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – ob-
serving what stands written in the Law of the Lord:
Every first-born male must be consecrated to the
Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance
with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of tur-
tledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem
there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright
and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's com-
forting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been
revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not
see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the
Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple;
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to
do for him what the Law required, he took him into
his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master,
you can let your servant go in peace,
just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations to
see,
a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wonder-
ing at the things that were being said about him, Sim-
eon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You
see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the
rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is
rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too
– so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid
bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of
Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in
years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been mar-
ried for seven years before becoming a widow. She
was now eighty-four years old and never left the
Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and
prayer. She came by just at that moment and began
to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who
looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord
required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town
of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity,
and he was filled with wisdom;
and God's favour was with him.

