

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priest: Fr John Corrigan

Visiting Priest: Fr Shaiju Mathew

Sunday Bulletin: Edition 52/2023

Website: [www.sunraysiacatholic.org](http://www.sunraysiacatholic.org)

#### Message from our Parish Priest

This weekend we celebrate the Holy Family, its lovely to honor Mary the mother of God and the Church, Joseph as protector and provider and Jesus as our brother and savior.

How do we relate to our own family, who are those members we are close to and to others how can we work on mending relationships and building a harmonious bond bringing us together?

We are also at the end of the year, what a year we have had: what am I grateful for? What would I like to change for 2024? How do I make these goals possible and achievable?

Thanks for the year and look forward to journeying with you all in 2024 and lets see what God is asking of each of us.

God Bless,  
Fr Matthew.

#### Parish Office Hours January 2024

From **2nd January till 25th January** the operating hours for the Parish Office will be from **9am till 12noon only. Friday 26th January Office closed Public Holiday.** The Office will reopen to normal operating hours from Tuesday 30th January 2024.

#### Parish Contact Details

Administration Officer: Ms Carmel Russo

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9am – 4pm  
257 Eleventh Street Mildura

PO Box 10037, Mildura Vic 3502

Phone: 03 5021 2872 or 0417 862 082

E-mail: [sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

#### Presbytery Tap & Go Units

These Units are located at all church entrances, this enables us to support our Priests.



#### New Mass Structure for 2024.

We have been asked to work with Fr Shaiju (Robinvale and Ouyen Parishes) and re-create a rotating roster for the priests. So Fr John and myself will be travelling to Robinvale and Ouyen once a month each. This will commence the second week of February.

We are also having a couple of small changes here in the Sunraysia Region. This will commence first week in Feb.

#### Tuesday evening Mildura

4-5.15pm Adoration and confession

5.15pm Benediction

5.30-5.45pm Rosary

6pm Mass

#### Thursday Evening Red Cliffs

4.30pm-5pm Adoration and confession

5pm Benediction

5.30 Mass

#### Public Rosary

When the Rosary is prayed publicly in the church then the Rosary will be prayed half an hour prior to mass and then we will have at least 15 mins of silent prayer prior the commencement of mass.

Having at least 15 minutes prior to mass in silence allows all of us to be prepared to celebrate the mass with a stillness in our hearts.



#### Baptisms

We welcome into our Parish Faith Communities:

**Lucas Njegovan,**

whose baptism occurs this weekend.

#### Finances – last weekend's Collections

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1032.00
2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$668.00
Loose Plate	\$ 418.90
Christmas Eve / Day	\$6472.00
Next week's Counting Team	Team 5—H Kay



### Food for thought

What was Mary's initial reaction to the appearance of the angel?

Why do you think Mary accepted God's will so readily?

Who do you know who has tried to live their life in response to God?

In what ways does God communicate a call or challenge to people today?



### Reminder

If your personal details have changed eg: change of phone number, email address, residential or postal address please contact the Parish Office so the database can be updated.

### Notices for the Bulletin

All requests for notices for the weekend bulletin need to be in by 12noon each Thursday. You can either email:

[sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

or call 5021 2872.

### Bulletin Rosters 2024

The rosters for Sacred Heart Church—Counting Teams, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers were sent out via email.

If you would like a printed copy please call into the Parish Office.

## WEEKLY PRAYER & SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

### *Sacred Heart Church Mildura*

**Exposition and Benediction:** Tuesday 4pm

**Charismatic Group:** Tuesday after 6pm Mass

**Reconciliation:** Saturday after 9:30am Mass

### *Monaghan Centre*

**Christian Meditation:** Saturday 11.30am

**Children's Catechesis:** Saturday 10am – 11am

### Advance Notice

### Sunraysia Catholic Communities

### Sacramental Dates for 2024

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



### **Confirmation (Grade 3 and above)**

Parent meeting 27th March 7pm, Sacred Heart Church. The celebration dates are as follows:

Friday 17th, Saturday 18th, Sunday 19th May.

### **First Holy Communion (Grade 4 and above)**

Parent meeting 28th August 7pm, Sacred Heart Church. The celebration dates are as follows:

Friday 25th, Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October.



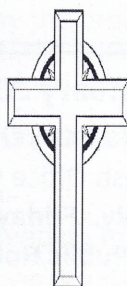
### **Penance (Grade 2 and above)**

Parent meeting 16th October 7pm, Sacred Heart Church.

The celebration date:

Wednesday 27th November 7pm, Sacred heart Church.

### **Anniversary Masses**



Anniversary Masses are celebrated during Weekend Masses or during any normal Weekday Mass.

Please contact the Parish Office to register your Mass Intention and a reminder to notify the priest prior to Mass.

### **PARISH SCHOOLS CONTACT**

**Sacred Heart Primary School, Mildura**  
Principal: Mr Mark Gibson. Ph: 5023 1204

**St Paul's Primary School, Mildura**  
Principal: Mr Vince Muscatello. Ph: 5023 4567

**St Joseph's Primary School, Red Cliffs**  
Principal: Mrs Naomi Kennedy. Ph: 5024 1654

**Our Lady of Sacred Heart, Merbein**  
Principal: Mrs Narelle Gallagher. Ph: 5025 2258

**St Joseph's Secondary College, Mildura**  
Principal: Mrs Marg Blythman. Ph: 5018 8000

Sts Anne and Joachim Catholic Parish of Sunraysia adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria.

Our policies are on display in each church, and on our website.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Vince Pileggi.



This Weekend Roster: 30th & 31st December 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	G Huxtable	M Cirillo, R Tongue, A Naray		M Hammond, J Ljubic
Sun 8.30am Irymple	M Hill			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	T Fainga'anuku	L Belej, E Garreffa, C Howell	L Belej	T Fainga'anuku Group
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	M Slater	V Pileggi	Baptism	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	N Prevedello	Val McCarthy	C Knight, Val McCarthy	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	G Johnston	G Johnston, P Cox, J Boord		S Fatai, K Mapapalangi
Next Weekend Roster: 6th & 7th January 2024				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	M Bowring	K Byrnes, M Cirillo, A-M Greville		M Guthrie M Bowring
Sun 8.30am Irymple	G Schmidt			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	R Op't Hoog	L Belej, R Byra, B Castillo		Italian Choir
Sun 10am Red Cliffs				
Sun 10.30am Merbein				
Sun 5pm Mildura	J Thomas	J Boord, M Bowring B Bunting		S Fatai Khadeja M

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Vincent Tripodi  
Catherine Bell  
Natalina D'Anna  
Morgan Dias-Jones

*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**

Colleen Farrell

**Anniversaries**

Pietro Marziano

**Mildura:**

Saturday 6pm:  
Peter, Maria, Joseph & Lucia Tran,  
Maria Nguyen and all souls,


**Merbein:**

Robert & Nancy McCarthy

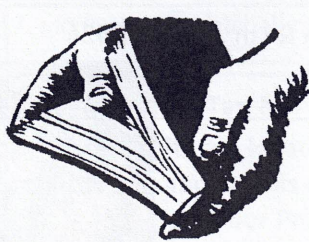
**Red Cliffs:**

Giuseppe & Domenico Mammone

*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.*



MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK		
Tuesday	9.30am	Red Cliffs
	6pm	Mildura
Wednesday	9.30am	Mildura
Thursday	9.30am	Merbein
	9.30am	Mildura
	5.30pm	Red Cliffs
Friday	6pm	Mildura
Saturday	9.30am	Mildura
	6pm	Mildura
Sunday	8.30am	Irymple
	9am	Mildura
	10am	Red Cliffs
	10.30am	Merbein
	5pm	Mildura





**December 2023**

Sun 31 Dec: Feast Day of the Holy Family

**January 2024**

Mon 1st Jan: Mary Mother of God 9.30am

Sat 6 Jan: Marian Mass—Mother of the Saviour 9.30am

Sun 7 Jan: The Epiphany of the Lord

Thu 11 Jan: Anointing Mass, Red Cliffs 5.30pm

Thu 18 Jan: Anointing Mass, Merbein 9.30am

Wed 24 Jan: Anointing Mass, Mildura Church 2pm

Wed 24 Jan: Baptism Preparation Evening 7pm, Monaghan Centre

Fri 26 Jan: Australia Day, Mass 6pm



## First Reading

**Sirach 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.

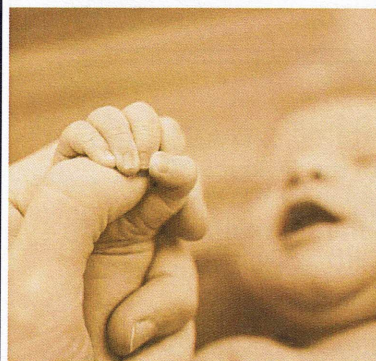
My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life. Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy, do not despise him in your health and strength; for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten but will serve as reparation for your sins.

## 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.)**



"The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him."

Luke 2:40

## Second Reading

**Colossians 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 another; 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 together 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 gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

## Gospel Acclamation

**Colossians 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

**Luke 2:22. 39-40**

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.

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.

**Next Weeks Readings: The Epiphany of the Lord Year B / 6th & 7th January 2024**

**First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

**Psalm: Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11**

**Response: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

**Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6**

**Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12**

