

 **ST FRANCIS XAVIER**
2 Elms Street, Irymple

 **OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART**
20 Box Street, Merbein

 **SACRED HEART**
261 Eleventh Street, Mildura

 **ST JOSEPH'S**
8726 Calder Highway, Red Cliffs

 **OUR LADY OF LOURDES**
47 Werrimull South Road, Werrimull



Sts Anne and Joachim

CATHOLIC PARISH OF SUNRAYSIA

Parish Office: 257 Eleventh Street, Mildura. **Office Hours:** 9am - 4pm, Tue to Fri.

Postal Address: PO Box 10037, MILDURA VIC AUSTRALIA 3502

Office Phone: 03 5021 2872 **Presbytery:** 0417 862 082

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28th April 2024 | Edition 17/2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

MASS TIMES

Monday

No Mass

Tuesday

9:30am Red Cliffs
1pm Princes Court
6pm Mildura

Wednesday - St Joseph the Worker

9.30am Mildura

Thursday - St Athanasius

9.30am Mildura
9.30am Merbein
5.30pm Red Cliffs

Friday - Sts Philip and James

6pm Mildura

Saturday

9.30am Mildura
6pm Mildura

Sunday - 6th Sunday of Easter

8.30am Irymple Lay-Led
9am Mildura
10am Red Cliffs Lay-Led
10.30am Merbein
5pm Mildura

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 4.30pm, Mildura
Saturday 10am, Mildura

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Tuesday 4pm, Mildura

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS

Saturday 10am, Mildura

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Saturday 11:30am, Mildura

CHOSEN YOUTH

Sunday 6pm, Mildura



LET US PRAY

FOR THE SICK:

Sr Rosemary Graham
Fr Tom Brophy
Fr Vittorio Basso
Catherine Bell
Natalina D'Anna
Morgan Diaz-Jones
Mary Mazza
Don Marciano
Terry Murphy
Rodrico Rodriquez
Rebecca Scown

Please obtain permission if you are submitting someone else's name. Intentions are printed for one month only, but these can be renewed each month.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mildura 6pm:

Peter, Maria & Joseph Tran
Maria Nguyen & All Souls

Mildura 9am:

Francesco Caia
Vincenzo Dichiera

Mildura 5pm:

Vincenzo Pileggi
Anna Tassone

Merbein:

Teresa Dichiera

Red Cliffs:

Giuseppe Mammone
Domenico Mammone

If you have booked a memorial Mass please speak to the priest prior to the Mass to let him know you are there.

FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRIEST

This weekend, Fr Matt is taking a short but well-earned break. So we welcome and thank Fr Peter Hudson for celebrating Saturday Vigil Mass in Mildura and Sunday Mass at Irymple and Red Cliffs.

This weekend's Gospel is one of the most significant scriptures in the Bible, because Jesus reveals the core of our Christian religion.

Many people mistakenly think Christian living is about following the commandments. This is an easy mistake to make, because following rules is at the heart of most religions. But Christianity is very different, and totally unique. In today's Gospel, Jesus makes an astonishing request: *"Make your home in me, as I make mine in you."*

The parable of the vine and the branches teaches us to draw life from Christ. But Jesus is not external to us. He is in us. Nonetheless, he also respects our freedom. So how much authority do we give him? It's a bit like letting Jesus into our car. We can seat him in the back, or in the front passenger seat – or even in the boot! The most fruitful option is to invite Jesus into the driver's seat. Ask him to take the wheel.

Godspeed,

Fr John

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 28 April – Tongan Festa
FEAST OF ST PETER CHANEL, PRIEST & MARTYR
9am Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Mildura

Tuesday 30 April – Anointing Mass
1pm, Princes Court Aged Care

Wednesday 1 May – Bereavement Team
1pm Meeting, Parish Office

Sunday 12 May – Ascension of the Lord
All Masses will also celebrate Mothers Day

Sunday 12 May
Trading Table at Mildura after 9am Mass
Cuppa at Red Cliffs after 10am Mass

Monday 13 May – Knights of the Southern Cross
7:30pm Monthly meeting in KOSC Clubrooms

Fri 17, Sat 18, Sun 19 May – Confirmations
SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST
Confirmations celebrated at all Masses

Tuesday 21 May – Northern Zone Meeting
NB: No 9:30am Mass in Red Cliffs

Wednesday 22 May – Anointing Mass
2pm, Sacred Heart Mildura

Wednesday 22 May – Baptism Preparation
7pm, Monaghan Centre

Friday 24 May – National Patronal Feast
SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS
6pm Mass, Sacred Heart Mildura

Sunday 28 May – Filipino Festa
FLORES DE MAYO
9am Mass, Sacred Heart Mildura

Sunday 28 May – Merbein Patronal Feast
OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART

MASS COUNTS

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over the next 4 weekends in May.



TONGAN KOMUNIO/ COMMUNITY

FEAST OF PETER CHANEL

The Tongan community will celebrate the Feast of St Peter Chanel this Sunday at 9am. Light refreshments will follow after Mass. All welcome.

2024 SACRAMENTAL DATES

First Holy Communion (Grade 4 and above)



Parent meeting: 28th August 7pm, Sacred Heart Church.

First Communion Masses: Friday 25th, Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October.

First Reconciliation (Grade 2 and above)



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

Celebration date: Wednesday 27th Nov 6pm or 7pm, Sacred Heart Church.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DIOCESE OF BALLARAT

Bishop Paul invites all parishes to acknowledge the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat at Masses on the weekend of **27-28 April 2024**. He has invited schools to mark the anniversary during the week of 29th April to 3rd May, coinciding with Catholic Education Week which was brought forward for the occasion. Resources are being provided to parishes for inclusion in Masses on this weekend.

FR PADDY'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

All are welcome to Mass celebrating Fr Paddy Mugavin's 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood.

10:30am, **Sunday 19th May 2024**, at St Mary's Church, Hamilton.

Morning tea and light lunch will be provided.

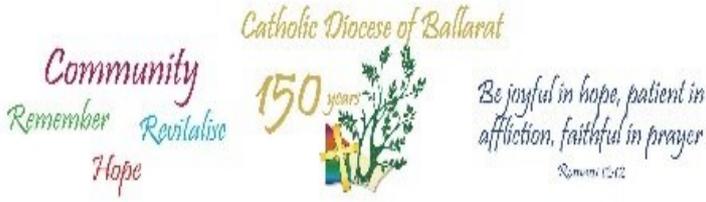


SR ROSEMARY GRAHAM RSM

Please keep Sr Rosemary in your thoughts and prayers as she is currently in hospital.

PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE WORKER—MAY 1

God our Father, in every age you call us to use and develop our gifts for the good of others. With St Joseph as our guide, help us to do the work you have asked and come to the rewards you have promised. Please grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

Blessed are you, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have received all the gifts we enjoy.

As we mark the 150th anniversary of our Diocese of Ballarat, we give thanks for the blessings bestowed upon us. We recognise the communities who have lived on this land from ancient times. We honour the Aboriginal peoples, here for tens of thousands of years. We honour those who came from overseas and settled here before our diocese began. Yet our anniversary shines a special light on our years as the Diocese of Ballarat, a community of communities from the Murray to the sea.

We remember those who have gone before us, those who laid the foundations of our parish and school communities and our social services and health care.

We acknowledge the strengths and weaknesses of our history. We celebrate the achievements and we ask pardon for the failures to live our Christian faith to the full.

May this anniversary year be a season of renewal for our diocese. Inspired by the Gospel and nourished by the Eucharist, may we follow the example of Jesus and the guidance of your Holy Spirit.

May we reach out in humble service, welcoming all and caring for all creation. May we grow in love day by day. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help. Pray for us.
 Saint Patrick. Pray for us.
 Saint Mary MacKillop. Pray for us.

TODAY'S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY THE TONGAN COMMUNITY AND COMMITTEE OF PETER CHANEL.

SUNRAYZIA PIETY SHOPS

The parish office in Mildura and St Joseph's Church in Red Cliffs both feature well-stocked piety shops. Mildura's "pop-up" piety table will operate on all weekends until Confirmation and then operate on the **third weekend of each month**. If you wish to purchase something we don't have in stock, please inform the parish office. We can acquire items at discounts not available if you shop directly online. The Mildura and Red Cliffs piety shops are not-for-profit services equipped for cash and card. (Card transactions attract a 1.6% surcharge.)



ANOINTING MASSES

- 5.30pm, Thursday 9 May Red Cliffs
- 9.30am, Thursday 16 May Merbein
- 2pm, Wednesday 22 May Mildura



STEWARDSHIP

Priest Support (Presbytery) Cash (1 st Collection); Tap & Go	\$1850.00
Mission, Admin & Maintenance Envelopes, EFT, DD and CC	\$2255.60
Mission, Admin & Maintenance Cash (2 nd Collection Loose Plate)	\$1662.35

This week's Counting Team:
No. 3 – P McDonald

Next week's Counting Team:
No. 4 – M Roper

FIRST READING

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R) I will praise you, Lord,
in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! (R)
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. (R)
3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' (R)

SECOND READING

1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'



It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.

John 15:8

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35. 44-48

Psalm: Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

Response: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest
Fr Matthew Thomas
Assistant Priest
Fr John Corrigan
Visiting Priest
Fr Shaiju Mathew
Parish Secretary
Carmel Russo

CHILD SAFE PARISH

Sts Anne and Joachim Catholic Parish of Sunraysia adheres to Victoria's eleven Child Safe Standards.

Policies are on display in each church and on our website.

Parish Safety Officer
Vince Pileggi