

Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337
257 Eleventh Street Mildura
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Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959
Presbytery Red Cliffs: 5024 1966
Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 24

Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

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—Peter Issanchon, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

MILDURA

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Maria Kondratow

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna, Domenico & Caterina D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna, Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone

MERBEIN

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: June 14th: Michael Mc Gowan, Vin McKee, Lucy Duncan; 16th Stephen Piscioneri; 17th Katerina Canidi, Edward Stanbrook, Fred Eldridge; 18th Jack Hamence, Paul McCarthy.

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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ / Year A 14th June 2020

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading - DT 8:2-3, 14-16

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.

Responsorial Psalm— Ps 147:12-15. 19-20. R. v.12

(R.) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you. (R.)
2. He has established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.
He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command. (R.)
3. He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees. (R.)



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: Fr Paul Jackson SJ (India), Janelle Carney, Bill Antonie, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuionisio, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Hailey Crossan, Geraldine Brunner, Albis Dy

Merbein: Mary Avery, John Dorman

Red Cliffs: Bill Antonie, 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, Maurice O'Connor

Bulletins are available outside all main Church doors.

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

Sacred Heart Mildura

ACCESS TO THE CHURCH FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

Sacred Heart Church will normally be open each day for personal prayer.
Please use the hand sanitizer provided upon entering.
These are directives we are compelled to follow if we open the Church to the public.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

A huge thank you to those able to continue contributing - to our 1st & 2nd Collection for Mildura, Merbein & Red Cliffs churches, your support is greatly appreciated.

SUPPORT OUR PARISHES

Have you heard the Good News?



Our CDF (Catholic Development Fund – Ballarat) together with CDF Pay have developed an online thanksgiving portal known as CDF Pay for Parishes.

During this period of time where Masses in the diocese are suspended or reduced, parishes need the financial support of parishioners more than ever. As the vast majority of our parishioners give physically to our parish in the first and second collection plates, we are encouraging all parishioners to use our new electronic parish thanksgiving program.

You can now use this portal to support our parish in both/either the first and second collections. Electronic thanksgiving offerings can be made as one off payments or you can set up a regular payment.

You will receive an electronic receipt for any payments made. Payment link can be found by scrolling down on our webpage or using the below link.

This has only been setup for Mildura at the moment but Merbein & Red Cliffs will be on board very soon.

<https://ballarat.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=9>

SACRED HEART PARISH OFFICE

Will open its doors to the general public from next Tuesday—however, please follow the Social Distancing Rules keeping 1.5 metres distance between you and any other visiting members and please use the hand sanitiser provided, keeping us all safe.



STREAMING from 5:30pm Saturdays continues

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpujOBwu7YYU-LzjhmqE_VQ

Or go to the Parish Website: Sacred Heart Parish Mildura
Please pass on this information to family and friends.

We continue to make available via streaming our Masses to those who are able access them via internet. We are very grateful to Rob Klarich for this initiative. **For those without internet or Foxtel, there is a Mass telecast each Sunday morning on channel 10 at 6:00am**, although it is not necessarily the Mass of the particular Sunday that its telecast.

GOSPEL REFLECTION—Sr. Veronica Lawson rsm

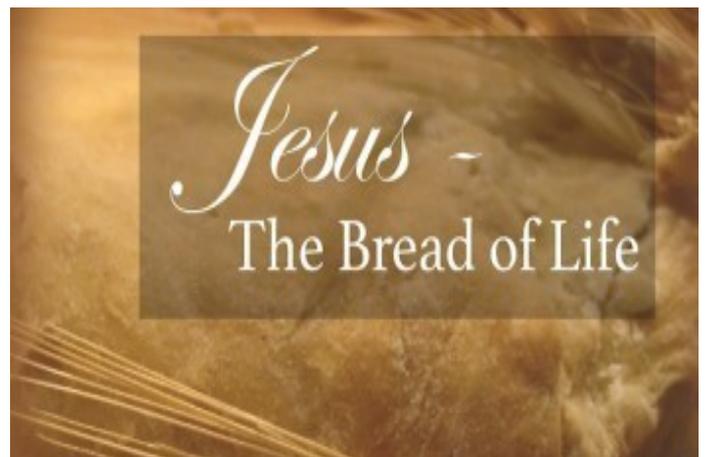
Bread is staple food for much of the world's population. It is also a metaphor for the food that sustains the life of the human community. Being able to "put bread on the table" is the most basic of desires. Witness the haunting images of starving "migrant workers" walking away from cities locked down for fear of pandemic, walking to their homes in rural India where they may find life-restoring "roti"!

Bread means life. Jesus' claim to be "the living bread" is a unique expression paralleled by his earlier claim to be "living water". It teases the reader with the possibility of multiple meanings. It refers, at one level, to bread sustains "ordinary" life. At another level, it is the gift of God's life (zoē), the life that never ends. As we reflect on the symbolism of bread, we attend also to the plight of those without bread. While there is sufficient "bread" to satisfy the hunger of everyone on the planet, over two billion people are desperately hungry, including the desperate "migrant workers" of India.

Today's gospel passage belongs within a section of John's gospel generally called the Bread of Life Discourse. Some scholars suggest that the discourse as a whole is cast in the form of a synagogue homily. In this view, it is a rabbinic type exposition of Exodus 16:4 and Psalm 78:4-5 on the manna/bread that God rains from heaven. In John 6:51-58, there are allusions to Eucharist as both meal and sacrifice. Jesus is the manna or bread from heaven. Life comes from eating his flesh/body. It also comes from drinking his blood. For the ancient Israelites, the life was in the blood. Blood poured out is life poured out. To drink the wine/blood is to participate in the life of Christ poured out.

A simple analogy from my own context might help us to grasp something of the mystery that we call Eucharist. My home town, Ballarat, is the site of the Eureka rebellion. The Eureka flag is housed in a place of honour in the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka. At one level, this flag is fabric and thread. At another, it far transcends the materials from which it is crafted. These materials were transformed, possibly by women from my own parish, into a symbol of freedom for the Eureka rebels. In the process, they changed their purpose and meaning; so too with the bread and wine of our Eucharistic celebrations. They have become, in a very real though mysterious sense, the body and blood of Christ.

This Sunday, very few of us can actually participate in a Eucharistic celebration. We can take time to pray, to reflect on the Word and on the meaning of Eucharist. While we reflect on this mystery, we ground our faith in action designed to address the issue of global hunger and the circumstances that inhibit access to "bread" for all. The feast of the Body and Blood of Christ invites us to careful consumption of the world's resources so that all God's people and all God's creatures may have life.



FEAST DAY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Friday 19th June, is the Feast Day of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Here are five interesting facts that you may not know about this important feast of Our Lord.

1. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus took centuries to become a universal celebration

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus goes back to the 11th century. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque had multiple visions of the Sacred Heart between 1673 and 1675. However, it wasn't until 90 years later in 1765, that the feast was officially celebrated in France. In 1856, Pope Pius IX made the feast of the Sacred Heart into a universal celebration.

2. The first feast of the Sacred Heart was actually celebrated in 1670

Even before St. Margaret Mary Alacoque had her visions of the Sacred Heart there was a recorded celebration of this feast. St. Jean Eudes composed the first Office and Mass of the Sacred Heart. The first feast of the Sacred Heart was celebrated on Aug. 31, 1670 in Rennes, France.

3. The feast takes place on the 19th day after Pentecost

The feast of the Sacred Heart is scheduled to be celebrated on the Friday after the octave (eighth day) of the feast of Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi is traditionally the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. However, in the United States, Corpus Christi is instead celebrated on the following Sunday. Despite this, the feast of the Sacred Heart still takes place 19 days after Pentecost.

4. Jesus made 12 promises to those who honor the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque:

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state in life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. I will comfort them in their trials.
4. I will be their secure refuge during life, and, above all, in death.
5. I will shed abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
6. Sinners will find in My Heart an infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls will become fervent.
8. Fervent souls will rapidly grow in holiness and perfection.
9. I will bless every place where an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. The names of those who promote this devotion will be written in My Heart, never to be blotted out.
12. I promise thee, in the excessive mercy of My Heart, that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence; they shall not die in My disgrace nor without receiving their Sacraments; My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in this last moment.

5. Congregations, states, and groups are consecrated to the Sacred Heart

In 1873, President Gabriel Garcia Moreno issued a petition that led to Ecuador becoming the first country consecrated to the Sacred Heart.

The Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O most holy Heart of Jesus,
fountain of every blessing,
I adore you, I love you and will a
lively sorrow for my sins.
I offer you this poor heart of
mine.

Make me humble, patient, pure,
and wholly obedient to your will.

Grant, good Jesus, that I may
live in you and for you.

Protect me in the midst of
danger; comfort me in my
afflictions;

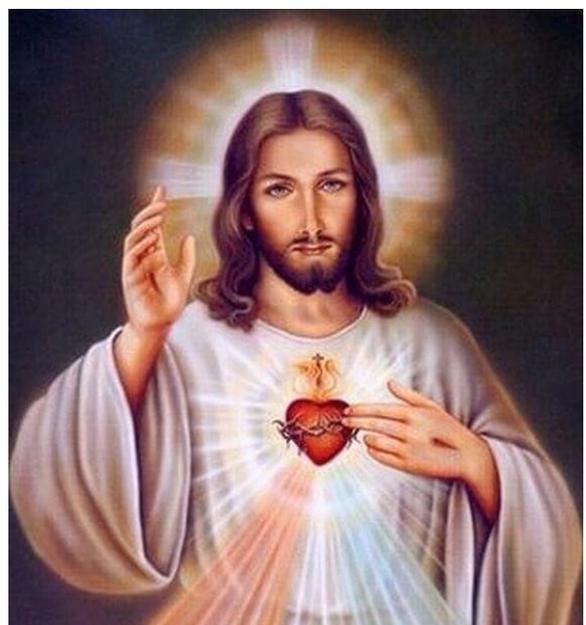
give me health of body,
assistance in my temporal
needs,

your blessings on all that I do,
and the grace of a holy death.

Within your heart I place my
every care.

In every need let me come to
you with humble trust saying,
Heart of Jesus, help me.

Amen.



Second Reading— 1 Cor 10:16-17

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

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

Gospel Acclamation— Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Gospel - Jn 6:51-58

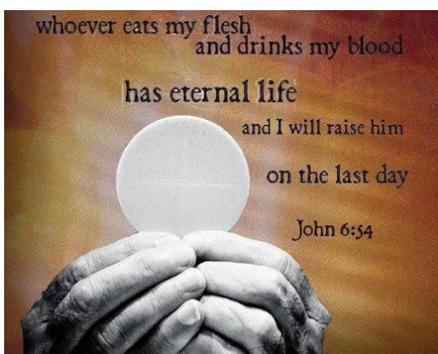
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the Jews:

‘I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;
and the bread that I shall give
is my flesh, for the life of the world.’

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ they said. Jesus replied:

‘I tell you most solemnly,
if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man
and drink his blood,
you will not have life in you.
Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood
has eternal life,
and I shall raise him up on the last day.
For my flesh is real food
and my blood is real drink.
He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood
lives in me
and I live in him.
As I, who am sent by the living Father,
myself draw life from the Father,
so whoever eats me will draw life from me.
This is the bread come down from heaven;
not like the bread our ancestors ate:
they are dead,
but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.’



DIOCESAN NEWS

Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited

A new DOBCEL video has been launched introducing Board directors and outlining the functions and responsibilities of the DOBCEL Board. View the video at the DOBCEL website <https://www.dobcel.org.au/introducing-dobcel/>

Ballarat Diocese Lay Pastoral Ministry Program – Registrations now open

Low-cost online study and formation for lay workers in parish and other ministries; employed or volunteers. Sacraments, Scripture, Youth Ministry, Liturgy, Leadership and more. The next cycle begins July 12. Study is 5 weeks. Registrations open now until July 8. More information at www.ballarat.catholic.org.au or email kim.butler@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 0407 523 424.

Plenary Council Discernment Papers released

Six Discernment and Writing Groups, one each for the six national themes for discernment that emerged from the Council’s *Listening and Dialogue* phase, were tasked with writing papers to bring some major themes and issues into focus. The papers were released on Pentecost Sunday and are available to read at the Plenary Council website <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/continuing-the-journey-of-discernment/>

PRAYER during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Mary, Help of Christians, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of God’s holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son,
Jesus. Amen

(Adapted from the USCCB)