



SUNDAY MASSES

Sacred Heart, Mildura
261 Eleventh Street

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9am

Sunday 5pm

St Francis Xavier's
2 Elms Street, Irymple
Sunday 8:30am

St Joseph's, Red Cliffs
8725 Calder Highway
Sunday 10am

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
20 Box Street, Merbein
Sunday 10:30am

St Mary's, Robinvale
19 Watkins Street
Saturday 6pm

St Patrick's, Manangatang
33 Pioneer Street
Sunday 9am

St Joseph's, Ouyen
94 Oke Street
Sunday 11am

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Sunday 17th August 2025 | Edition 34/2025

FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

Lord, come to my aid! is today's response to the psalm. At times we can all throw our hands in the air and say: "It is all too hard. I am alone and no one cares." But in fact God cares and we all have heaps of family and friends around who care. The Lord comes to our aid, in many different ways, prayer, service, physical action and sometimes in the depths of our hearts.

On Tuesday I was fortunate enough to celebrate my 50th birthday. It was a great few days to celebrate and reflect on the past. In reflection I was reminded of the times I felt totally alone and thought no-one cares or notices, then something happens, someone notices or someone does something kind and I am reminded how much I am loved and appreciated. When are the times you have also felt like this and when are the times you have been the person who brings God's love and light into a darkened world?

Let us light the world in which we live with the love and passion of God. Knowing that he is always there to come to our aid.

God bless,

Fr Matthew



COMMUNITY CONTACTS

St Joseph's, Ouyen: Faye Nihill, 0429 921 326

St Mary's, Robinvale: Mary Knight, 0438 627 920

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priests: Fr John Corrigan and Fr Bill Lowry

Parish Secretary: Carmel Spagnolo

LET US PRAY

FOR THE SICK: Brendan Bell, Catherine Bell, Ron Bell, Patrick Hunt, Barry Crosbie, Terese Pain, Amara Nolen, Bernadette Ryan, Tim Jess, Amelia Spataro, Mark Weir, Mary Moloney, Lyn McIntyre, Graeme Floyd, Diane Chisholm and Les Gregg.

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.

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Recent Death:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Merbein: Alice Wagner, Guiseppe Capogreco, Kathleen Nicolaou, David McCarthy

Mildura:

Sunday 5pm: Maria Demasi

Tuesday 6pm: Hugh Bowring

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

Robinvale: John Jackson, Harry Carr, Bert Knight, Marie Wright, Maureen Arentz, Francesco Costantino, Concetta Del Re, Annamma Varkey

If you have booked a memorial Mass please inform the priest of your arrival before the Mass begins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 26th August, 7.15am
Finance Meeting, Parish Office

Wednesday 27th August, 6:30pm
Baptism Information Evening, Monaghan Centre

STEWARDSHIP/PLANNED GIVING

Our new stewardship program will commence Sunday 7 September. **Your last envelope will be a generic envelope, with black writing. Please write your current Planned Giving number on it** before you place it in the basket. All Pledge Cards need to be returned to the Parish Office by Tuesday 19th August.

NUMBER.....
(if applicable)
 DATE.....

My Offering to my Church

There are 53 Sundays in this calendar year.
This envelope is the 53rd Sunday in the series.
Please use it as you would your usual Weekly envelopes.

SACRAMENTS FOR YOUTH

We will be offering an RCIY program for youth aged 11 to 17 years old who wish to be baptised, or who have not yet received Confirmation and/or made their First Holy Communion. The RCIY program commences on Tuesday 26th August in the Monaghan Centre at 4.30pm. Please contact Fr Bill at the parish office for further details and to register.

SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUP

Lunching at the home of Lyn and Colin Welsh, 16 Westside Boulevard on Sunday 24th August at Noon. Please let Lyn or Colin know your intentions on 03 5023 13546. Please bring a sweet to share.



BIBLE STUDY WITH *THE CHOSEN*

Thursdays, 6:30pm in the Monaghan Centre. This week we study Season 2, Episode 8: *Beyond Mountains*, and consider Christology. Who is Jesus?

BRIGHT SPARKS

Exciting free afterschool activities for all students in Grades 5 & 6!

Bright Sparks gives kids in Sunraysia a chance to discover Health & PE and spend a fun-filled hour within a safe, supervised environment. Have fun having a go at these exciting Health & PE activities:

Week 1: Mon 4 August
HPV & Rock Wall*
MERCY CAMPUS
Corner Riverside Avenue & Eleventh Street Mildura

Week 2: Mon 11 August
Badminton & Pickleball*
MERCY CAMPUS
Corner Riverside Avenue & Eleventh Street Mildura

Week 3: Mon 18 August
Volleyball*
MERCY CAMPUS
Corner Riverside Avenue & Eleventh Street Mildura

Week 4: Mon 25 August
Basketball & Football*
MERCY CAMPUS
Corner Riverside Avenue & Eleventh Street Mildura

WHEN
Four consecutive Mondays
3:45pm - Activity begins
4:45pm - Concludes

WHO
Students in Grades 5 & 6 from all Sunraysia schools
Capped at 25-30 participants approx.

Bookings essential.
trybooking.com/DDGUC
*Subject to availability

Have a go and have fun at Bright Sparks!
sjcnda.vic.edu.au

SCAN TO BOOK

MONDAY 18th AUGUST
Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time

5pm Soup Kitchen, Monaghan Centre, Mildura
6pm Anniversary Mass, Mildura

NB: CONFESSION IS AVAILABLE during all scheduled **Holy Hours**, and also after the 9:30am Saturday Mass in Mildura.

BULLETIN NOTICES: Please email or phone the Parish Office **by Thursday afternoon** to submit bulletin notices.

TUESDAY 19th August
Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time

4pm-5:30pm Holy Hour, Mildura
6pm Mass, Mildura
6pm Mass, Robinvale

WEDNESDAY 20th AUGUST
St Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot, Doctor

9.30am Mass, Mildura
9:30am Mass, Manangatang
3pm Holy Hour, Ouyen
5pm Soup Kitchen, Monaghan Centre, Mildura
5pm Mass, Ouyen

PALM CROSSES

Palm crosses, also known as holding crosses or comfort crosses, are small crosses carved from olive wood that fit perfectly in the palm of one's hand. These devotional objects have deep roots in Christian tradition, particularly connected to the Holy Land where olive trees have grown for millennia.



The use of olive wood is especially significant, as many of these crosses are crafted from trees growing near biblical sites in Israel and Palestine. Olive wood carries symbolic weight in Christianity, representing peace, anointing, and the Mount of Olives where Jesus prayed before his crucifixion. The wood's warm, smooth texture and distinctive grain make it ideal for tactile prayer objects.

Palm crosses serve as tools for contemplative prayer and meditation. Their size allows for discreet use during prayer, worship services, or moments of anxiety and stress. Many people find comfort in holding the cross while praying, using it as a focal point for meditation or as a tangible reminder of their faith during difficult times.

Hospital and hospice chaplains often provide palm crosses to patients and families seeking comfort. The tradition connects modern believers to ancient practices of using physical objects to enhance spiritual focus, offering a simple yet profound way to maintain connection with one's faith through touch and contemplation.

Palm crosses make simple gifts which often invoke a lot of gratitude. You might recall that at our farewell to the Sisters of Mercy last year, the parish presented to each of the Sisters a unique hand carved palm cross. Our Mildura and Red Cliffs piety shops stock palm crosses and many other small and inexpensive gifts which assist the spiritual life.

STEWARDSHIP

Presbytery - Priests Support

Cash (1st Collection); Tap & Go

\$2877.90

Parish - Mission & Maintenance

Envelopes, EFT, DD, and CC

\$2875.60

Parish - Mission & Maintenance

Loose Plate (2nd Collection)

\$1200.35

This week's Counting Team: No. 6 - B Collins

Next week's Counting Team: No. 7 - L Welsh

KERELAN FESTA

The Assumption coincides with Indian Independence Day. Our Kerala community will celebrate at 9am Mass in Mildura on Sunday. After the Mass, all are invited to share an Indian brunch in the Monaghan Centre.



OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The latest edition of *Our Diocesan Community* is now available at each of the church foyers. Please take a copy and read the articles in particular the four articles from our Sunraysia region.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish Communities

Luca Mosello
Sage Hargreaves
Rett Saunders
Anastasia Bozzi
Luca Fox
Mack Monaghan
Rana Felipe



who this weekend received the sacrament of Baptism in Mildura, Merbein and Robinvale

THURSDAY 21st AUGUST

St Pius X, Pope

9:30am Anointing Mass, Merbein

9:30am Mass, Mildura

1:30pm Anointing Mass, Regis Ontario

2pm-4:30pm Adoration, Ouyen (*Please note that there is no Confession or Benediction in this time of Adoration.*)

5:30pm Mass, Red Cliffs

6:30pm Scripture Study, Monaghan Centre, Mildura

FRIDAY 22nd AUGUST

Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary

9:30am Mass, Ouyen

10am Funeral, Mildura

4pm-5:30pm Holy Hour, Mildura

6pm Mass, Mildura

6pm Mass, Robinvale

SATURDAY 23rd AUGUST

Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time

9:30am Mass, Mildura

10am Confessions, Mildura

10am-11am Children's Catechism, Monaghan Centre, Mildura

11:30am Christian Meditation, Monaghan Centre, Mildura

6pm Mass, Mildura

6pm Mass, Robinvale

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

RESPONSORIAL

Ps 39:2-4. 18. R. v.14

(R.) Lord, come to my aid!

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. (R.)

He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. (R.)

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. (R.)

As for me, wretched and poor,
the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! (R.)

SECOND READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.

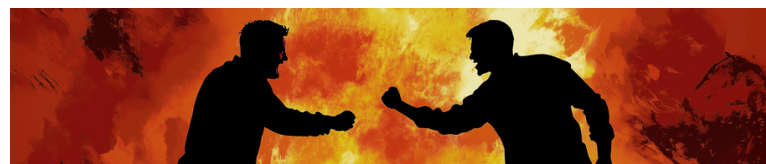
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'



SUNDAY 24 th AUGUST Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time	WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH	NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS READINGS
8:30 Mass , Irymple 9am Mass , Manangatang 9am Mass , Mildura 10am Mass , Red Cliffs 10:30am Mass , Merbein 11am Mass , Ouyen 12pm Parish Family Lunch , Lyn and Colin Welsh's 5pm Mass , Mildura 5:30pm Syro-Malabar Mass , Merbein	<p>The parish of Saints Anne and Joachim, Sunraysia is a Child Safe Parish which adheres to Victoria's eleven Child Safe Standards. Our policies are displayed in our churches and on our website.</p> <p>Parish Safety Officers: Arthur Cassidy (Robinvale) Melanie Grace (Ouyen) Noreen Morris (Manangatang) Vince Pileggi (Sunraysia)</p>	<p>TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p>First Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21</p> <p>Psalm: Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15</p> <p>Response: Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.</p> <p>Second Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13</p> <p>Gospel: Luke 13:22-30</p>