



# Sacred Heart Parish Mildura

257—261 Eleventh Street Mildura

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337

Presbytery: 5022 9959

P.O. Box 10037 Mildura, Vic 3502

parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Sacred Heart Parish | Mildura

**Fr. Michael McKinnon PP**

**Fr Damian Styles**

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo

Office Hours: Tues—Fri 9am—4pm

**Our Lady of Lourdes  
Werrimull**

**St. Francis Xavier  
Elms Street, Irymple**

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God / Year A  
31st December 2016 & 1st January 2017**

## Weekend Mass Times

Sat: 6:00 pm

Sun: 9:00 am, 5:00 pm

Irymple: 8:30 am

Werrimull 11:00 am (last Sunday of each month)

## Weekday Masses

Tues: 7:00 pm

Wed: 9:10 am

Thurs: 9:30 am

Fri: 5:40 pm

Sat: 9.30 am

*If there is a Funeral Mass on  
Wednesday or Thursday the  
advertised Mass will be cancelled.*

## Weekly Prayer Opportunities

**Prayer of the Church:** Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri. 8:40 am

**Christian Meditation:** Sat 11:30 am

Parish Prayer Room

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10:00am



**RECENT DEATHS:** Paulo Scopelliti, Bette Hancock

### ANNIVERSARIES:

**Sunday 9am:** Paulo & Rosa Panuccio

**Sunday 5pm:** Bob McKenzie

**Tuesday 7pm:** Peter Mazza

*Only immediate members of the deceased's family are permitted to arrange anniversary Masses.*



## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

*If you want a sick person prayed for, ask for their permission. Names will be included for the duration of one month after which family or friends can request more time.*

Yvonne Ash, Don Lewis, Moataane Vatuvei, Brian Ramsay, Graeme Lewis, Joan Appleby, Ron Morello, Monica Crimmins, Daniel Ralli, Dan Rodan, John Devilee, Ethan Neyland, Georgie Manning, Dorothy Norris, Eileen Flanner, Fr Denis Dennehy, Eli Madden-Andrews, Kel Townsend, Vince Alicastro, Judy Hunt, Hailey Crossan, Teresa Panuccio, Geraldine Brunner, Siliako Lolesio

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

**T**he celebration of Mary as Mother of God has very ancient roots. Mary was venerated in the East from the early third Christian century as *theotokos*, a Greek term that means God-Bearer. This designation for Mary was affirmed by the Council of Ephesus in 431 CE. The subsequent Council of Chalcedon in 451 CE, in the face of arguments to the contrary, declared that Jesus was both fully human and fully divine, and that Mary could rightly be called *theotokos*. The title Mother of God is a loose equivalent of the more ancient designation, *theotokos*. It affirms the Christological affirmations of Chalcedon and reminds us of the fullness of the humanity and the divinity of Jesus. It also reminds us of the extraordinary role of Miriam of Nazareth in the mystery of the incarnation.



**A**t Christmas, the liturgy invites us to focus on Luke's story of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth and John's reflection on the Word made Flesh. Today's liturgy shifts the focus ever so slightly to Mary, through whose "yes" the mystery of the incarnation is realized. Today's gospel takes up the Lukan account of the birth of Jesus. Mary has given birth to her son, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, a feeding place for animals. An angel has announced the good news to shepherds who are tending their flocks in the fields. The shepherds have listened to the proclamation of the angel and the heavenly host that joined the angel and set out in search of the child. They find Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger, just as the angel had told them. The shepherds, outcasts in their society, have become the agents and proclaimers of the good news of salvation.

**T**he all-knowing narrator tells us that Mary treasured or carefully preserved all these happenings and pondered them in her heart. A little later, we hear the story of the twelve year old Jesus going up to Jerusalem with his parents for Passover and staying behind in the temple, teaching the teachers. Mary and Joseph listen to his explanation about remaining "in his Father's house" or "being about his Father's business" though they fail to understand. The narrator tells us that "his mother treasured all these things in her heart." While a different Greek verb is used for "treasured" in this passage, the meaning is the same as in today's gospel passage. Mary has to struggle to comprehend the ways of God in her life. She is presented as a grace-filled woman forever pondering the mysterious ways of God. We too are called to treasure "all these things" in our hearts and trust that their power will transform our lives even if we do not always understand.

**Veronica Lawson rsm**

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE & LITURGY



### WEDDINGS

We congratulate Paul Brown & Ler-ree Judd Also Adrian Zappia & Amy Cain who were married this weekend.

## COMMUNITY LIFE & OUTREACH



### Happy Birthday and Congratulations

to Noreen Armsden who recently celebrated her 90th Birthday.

May you look back with pleasure and happiness on ninety years of memories you have gathered on life's way.

### Hospital Visitation with Communion



Father Michael is seeking volunteers to provide communion to patients at the Base hospital on a Sunday morning after the 9am Mass. An adequate amount of volunteers would ensure a monthly roster necessitating a commitment of one weekend per month. Please contact the Parish Office after the weekend of January 21st & 22nd 2017.

### Thank you and Farewell Fr. Damian

Father Damian leaves the Parish after Masses this weekend. Once again we thank him for the wonderful contribution he has made during 2016 to Our Parish. We wish you all the best Damian and may God bless your future ministry.



### OFFICE HOURS FOR THE NEXT 2 WEEKS

OPEN: 3rd—6th January: 9am—12.30pm

OPEN: 10th—13th January: 9am—12.30pm

For all after hours enquiries please call— 5022 9959

RETURN TO NORMAL OFFICE HOURS  
TUESDAY 17TH JANUARY 2017

Invitation from College Principal, Marg Blythman

'A Pleasant Sunday Afternoon'

St. Joseph's College Mildura requests your company at the Launch of our Heritage Book

*Some Journeys Continue...*

Sunday February 19, 2017

5:00pm – 8:00pm

Mass and Blessing

at 5:00pm in the Sacred Heart Church

Followed by

Concert in the Convent Courtyard

Cup of tea and finger food provided



### Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



## PARISH FINANCE

Last week's collections

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Collection</b> (support of Priests & Presbytery)	<b>\$2898.00</b>
<b>2nd Collection</b> (does not include DD, CC & EFT)	<b>\$1677.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate</b>	<b>\$ 2302.30</b>
<b>Bishops Appeal</b>	<b>\$2097.85</b>

We are not human beings  
having a spiritual experience.  
We are spiritual beings having  
a human experience.

[www.trueactivist.com](http://www.trueactivist.com)

[www.yesmail.com](http://www.yesmail.com)

## Christmas encounter with an unremembered student

Teachers, good, bad or indifferent, can never know where their influence ends. Many people teach for 40 or more years: my grandfather, who was 15 and thus a very junior teacher when he started his career, was a record breaker.

After retiring at the age of 65, he became a part-time school librarian, and did not retire again until he was 70. It is obviously quite impossible to estimate how many young lives he influenced for better or for worse.

My father, also a teacher, died at 89, and my brother and I were touched to see the number of former students who came to his funeral.

I now have no idea how many students I've taught in two countries: I don't think I ever really tried to count them. I remember some, usually the high achievers and their troublesome and often troubled opposites, but most are unfortunately a blur: the human memory has its limits.

But I think I can name all the teachers I ever had: this, of course, is much easier to do. And there was more evidence of this ease today. I was in the Kalamata post office, waiting my turn and clutching a fistful of cards and letters bound for Australia, when a bearded young man asked me a question of a practical nature.

I answered, and was surprised, to say the least, when he beamed, and said in English, 'I knew it! I knew you immediately, but I wanted to check your accent in order to be absolutely sure. You taught me 20 years ago, and you haven't changed at all.' (Gallantry is not dead in the Peloponnese, it seems.)

There was no point in pretending: I had no idea who he was, so I used the passage of time and his beard as excuses, and went on to ask his name. 'Andrew. Andreas,' he said, and in that moment I saw the boy he had been. A nice teenager he was way back then, and now he is a nice man.

I wanted a brief summary of his life to date, and he obliged. He is now a lawyer, following in parental footsteps, and had spent some time studying in Essex. 'How was England?' I asked. He laughed and replied that life is quiet there (it always strikes Greeks that way), but that he had had only a 40 minute train ride to London, and that had been great.

But when I asked about work, Andreas' effervescence subsided. 'It's not going too well, to be frank,' he said. 'These are troubled times, and people are reluctant to consult lawyers because of the expense.' As I had once accompanied a friend to the Kalamata Court, and had decided that once was quite enough, I murmured about recourse to law involving a significant ordeal. He sighed then about too much tangled bureaucracy and not enough efficiency and organisation. And sighed again when I asked in true Greek style whether he was married. 'I don't think I can afford it,' he replied. He's probably right; in any case Greeks have never believed in the myth of two living as cheaply as one.

He brightened again, and recalled classroom days. 'You were strict,' he announced, 'but that did us good. We appreciated it.' Perhaps in the long run, I thought, but said nothing. He then ensured that I had a better place in the queue and disappeared on his own business. A few minutes later he returned, and proffered a couple of stamps. 'These should do for Australia,' he said. 'I am very grateful to you, so please take them.' Of course I did, while feeling quite overcome by this spontaneous thoughtfulness.

We said our goodbyes, exchanged wishes for a happy festive season, and parted. At this stage of life my mind resembles nothing so much as a layer-cake composed of fragments of text, and so I recalled the Wordsworth quotation first taught me by my father: it concerns that best portion of a good man's life: his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love.

But I will not soon forget Andreas' act of kindness, one that made me feel, even after all these years, that my efforts had been valued. I had received, all unexpectedly, a charming Christmas present.

***Gillian Bouras is an expatriate Australian writer who has written several books, stories and articles, many of them dealing with her experiences as an Australian woman in Greece.***



**Our Parish Vision**  
*“Our Parish is a Eucharistic Community  
 united by our faith in Jesus Christ.  
 We work together in the power of the Holy  
 Spirit to spread the good news of God’s  
 Kingdom.”*



**Our Parish Schools**

**Sacred Heart Primary School**  
 Principal: *Des Lowry* 5023 1204

**St Paul’s Primary School**  
 Principal: *Vince Muscatello* 5023 4567

**St Joseph’s Secondary College**  
 Principal: *Marg Blythman* 5018 8000

31st December 2016 / 1st January, 2017

7th & 8th January 2017

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**

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**First Reading: Num 6:22-27**  
**Resp Psalm: Ps 66:2-3, 5, 6, 8. R. v. 2**  
**Response: May God Bless us in his mercy.**  
**Second Reading: Gal 4:4-7**  
**Gospel: Lk 2: 16-21**

**First Reading: Isa 60:1-6**  
**Resp Psalm: Ps 71:1-2, 7-13 R. v. 11**  
**Response: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**  
**Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6**  
**Gospel: Mt 2:1-12**

**EUCHARIST MINISTERS**

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**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

**6PM**

**9AM**

**5PM**

**6PM**

**9AM**

**5PM**

6 Ministers required

7 Ministers required

6 Ministers required

6 Ministers required

7 Ministers required

6 Ministers required

Maria Cirillo

Katalina Mafi

Jeena Jose

Irene Morello

Maureen Speed

Petelo Mafi

Christine Carmichael

Aloisia Mafi

Joyce Ribarits

Anne-Maree Greville

Alcia Tindall

Paula Cox

Ellen Frauenfelder

Jean Rocco

Clem Carlucci

Taiana Fatai

Lily Tindall

Jennifer Boord

Jacinda Deacon

Bobby Castello

Vittorio Carlucci

Margaret McDonald

Peter O'Donnell

Reni Cheriyan

Katy Quinlan

Ross Tongue

Christine Slattery

Trish McNamara

Filomena Carbone

Wendy Finn

Margaret Sheahan

Talia Faingaanuku

Jacinta Maci

Morris Henderson

Gina Raiti

Tony Finn

Michael Faingaanuku

Anna Vartuli

**MUSIC**

**MUSIC**

Sacred Heart Group

Italian Choir

Youth Group

Filipino Group

M Guthrie

NO MUSIC

Leader

N Armsden

K Mafi

N Armsden

B Lewis / B Prescott

M Faingaanuku

J O'Bryan

**ALTAR SERVERS**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

Please volunteer

**OFFERTORY PROCESSION**

**OFFERTORY PROCESSION**

2 Volunteers required

Jim O'Donnell

Baptism

Baptism

**READERS**

**READERS**

Anita Naray

Ross Tongue

Greg Johnston

Katy Quinlan

Sonia Opie

Clare Sheahan

**COUNTING TEAM 2**

**COUNTING TEAM 2**

JOE DEJONG 5023 7802

PETER MCDONALD 5022 1531

**IRYMPLE - SUNDAY - 8.30AM**

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READER

EUCHARIST MINISTER

READER

EUCHARIST MINISTER

M Smith

M Hill

J Kearney

Malcolm Hoy