

Sunraysia Catholic Communities

Parish Office: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337
 257 Eleventh Street Mildura
 P.O. Box 10037 Mildura, Vic 3502
 Presbytery Mildura: 5022 9959
 Presbytery Red Cliffs: 5024 1966
 Parish House Merbein: 5025 2716
 parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au
 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 8



Fr. Michael McKinnon PP Fr. James Kerr 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—Christine Slattery, Merbein—Kevin Aston, Red Cliffs—Bernadette Gardner*

WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed under Parish Heading

	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
MONDAY		9:30AM	
TUESDAY	6:00PM	5:30PM	
WEDNESDAY	9:15AM	9:30AM	
THURSDAY	9:15AM	5:30PM	AS ADVISED
FRIDAY	5:40PM	9:30AM	
SATURDAY	9:30AM	9:30AM	

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

	IRYMPLE	MILDURA	RED CLIFFS	MERBEIN
SATURDAY		6:00PM		
SUNDAY	8:30AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	10:30AM

WERRIMULL 11:00AM (LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH)

MILDURA

Recent Deaths: Kevin Welsh

Anniversaries: Elena Francesca Callipari

Saturday 6pm: Maria Longo (30 day Mass)

Irymple 8.30am: Angela Spadaccini

Sunday 9am: Percy Richardson (10 year anniversary)

Sunday 5pm: Vincenza Carlucci (20 year anniversary), Consuelo Appalloni

RED CLIFFS

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Rosa & Grace Lamattina, Domenico Mammone, Ivy Davies

MERBEIN

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: Feb.23rd Anthony Callahan, Victoria Candia.

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

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

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A 22nd & 23rd February 2020

Today's gospel is a continuation of the Matthean Jesus' teaching on the sort of righteousness, the right relationship and justice, to which his followers are called in their living of the Law. The Law of Moses included a law of retaliation designed to make punishment for wrongdoing to persons or property proportionate to the offence (Exodus 21:24, Leviticus 24:20 and Deuteronomy 19:21). This was quite enlightened legislation at that time. In a series of striking images, Jesus invites his followers to go far beyond the strict application of the law and to embrace a new way of thinking about and acting towards those who injured them or us.

Relinquishing your right to compensation is one thing. Giving more of your property to one who has stolen from you is quite another. Do we take this teaching literally or do we simply embrace the spirit of non-retaliation that seems to be at the heart of this teaching? A too-easy amnesty does not always bring justice. Last week's gospel reminded us that there is to be no place for uncontrolled anger or murderous thoughts in our hearts. Both that teaching and this seem to be about taking responsibility for how we live. Harboring anger can have disastrous consequences for oneself as well as for others. It tends to become a state of being and skew our capacity for right judgement. What happens to us may be beyond our control. What we do with what comes our way is for us to decide. Jesus makes it clear that we have choices in the face of life's struggles. The disciple is called to assume personal responsibility and to refuse the way of retaliation.

The final example or antithesis in the list of six that Jesus offers in the Sermon on the Mount is the most confronting of all: there are to be no limitations on love. Loving one's enemies is quite a challenge, on a personal as well as a global level. We learn the hard way that we cannot change others. We can only change our attitudes and our approaches to those who harm us in any way. Catherine McAuley, the first Sister of Mercy, wrote that her sisters "never let the sun go down on their anger". I used to wonder how they managed that. Over recent years I have found that praying quite deliberately for those who give us a hard time or cause us grief is by far the most effective way of retaining my own peace of mind and of expelling retaliatory thoughts. For me, it is a matter of gently bringing these people to mind, of breathing in the loving kindness or *chesed* of God that suffuses the universe and of breathing it out to them. Such prayer enables me to think of them in kindly ways and act towards them without rancour, even when these sentiments are not reciprocated.

Sr Veronica Lawson rsm

Love
your enemies,
Bless
them that curse you,
Do Good
to them that hate you,
Pray
for them which
persecute you.
Matthew 5:44

Sacred Heart Mildura REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

Sacramental Life & Liturgy

BAPTISM

We welcome into our faith community **Antonio Medici** whose Baptism occurs this weekend.



RCIA

The Liturgical Year & The Season of Lent
Thursday 27th February 7pm, Hillman Room.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

A new Roster is to be compiled shortly. If you would like to become a Eucharistic Minister or if you need to make any changes from the current roster, please contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office on 5021 2872 by Tuesday 18th March.



1st RECONCILIATION 2020
For children in Grade 4 and above will be held on Monday 23rd March at 7pm at Sacred Heart Church.



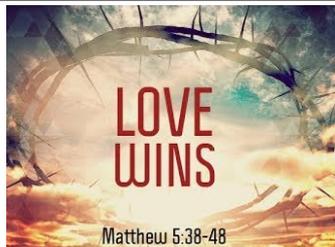
Community Life & Outreach

ST ANTHONY COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th March at 7.30pm in the KSC clubrooms. All welcome.

LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS 2020

Mildura Group 1: Leader —Janet Hill—Wednesday's 10am—11am. First session starts February 26th. For further details phone Janet Hill 0438 234 765.
Mildura Group 2: Leaders: Aileen Curran & Wilma Schmidt— Thursday's 10am, Hillman Room. First session starts Thursday 27th February.



REGIONAL NEWS & EVENTS

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS—Parish Edition Autumn 2020

Leading From The Heart: Discerning a way forward for the Church.
Copies are now available at all church entrances.

Weekly Prayer Opportunities Mildura

Prayer of the Church: Tues/ Wed/ Thurs/ Fri. 8:40am
Charismatic Prayer Meeting: Tuesday 6:30pm
Devotions and Exposition: Friday 3:00pm
Reconciliation: Saturday 10:00am—10:30am
Christian Meditation: Sat 11:30 am Prayer Room

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: Brian Weightman, Fr Denis Dennehy, Vince Alicastro, Teresita Eliquen-Dy (Manila), Melita Suppa, Celia-Dy Dela Tena, Perla Tuionisio, Lily Chung, Lorna Kearney, Dien Brown, Sandra McCarthy, Brian Ramsey, Hailey Crossan, Geraldine Brunner, Albis Dy

Merbein: Sr. Grace, Frank Chandler, Mary Avery, John Dorman

Red Cliffs: 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, Joe Cufari, Maurice O'Connor

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Tuesday 25th 6pm Mass
Wednesday 26th 9am Liturgy with St Joseph's College
10:30am Mass with SH and St Paul's
6pm Mass

RED CLIFFS CHURCH

Wednesday 26th 10am Mass with St Joseph's Primary School



REGIONAL GATHERING

The Regional Council Meeting of representatives of the Parishes of Merbein, Mildura, Ouyen and Red Cliffs will be held on **Sunday 1st March** at Merbein following the 10:30am Mass. Please bring a plate to share.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—Zimbabwe

“Rise—Take Your Mat and Walk” - is the theme for 2020 and is based on the passage from Luke 14:15-24. All are invited to join in prayer for the needs of Zimbabwe and its people, on:

Friday 6th March, 10am at Church of Christ, Mildura.
Friday 6th March, 7pm at St Joseph's Church, Red Cliffs
Friday 6th March, 7.30pm at Merbein Uniting Church Hall.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2020

Praying with Zimbabwe



FRIDAY 6TH MARCH



ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Monday 16th March, 7pm Monaghan Centre
Fr Elio Capra— topic Sacrament of Reconciliation. All welcome
- RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE**— See notice opposite

SAVE THE DATE—SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2020 SEND OFF / FAREWELL FOR FR MICHAEL

All parishioners are invited to a farewell gathering for Fr Michael which will be held at Sacred Heart Church after the 5pm Mass on Sunday 22nd March.

A plate to share would be greatly appreciated. Donations will be taken up and can be left at the Parish Office or collected on the day.

If you are able to help with any planning please contact Lyn Welsh on 0448 231 350 or the Parish Office on 5021 2872.

This Weekend's Responsorial Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

HELPING THE MILLEWA

Hello! Denise Knight from Vinnies again! You may have read in the newspaper last week that Vinnies, Rotary and Lions are organising truck runs of hay from the Warrnambool and Portland area. You can be a part of this amazing effort by buying a bale of hay or simply donating a little money...it all helps our struggling farmers in the Millewa to keep their breeding stock alive. Please give generously.

Thank you, in anticipation!

<https://vinniesvic.grassrootz.com/vinnies-drought-relief>

SACRED HEART PARISH SOUP KITCHEN

Shortly the Soup Kitchen will be offering guests access to a washing machine and clothes dryer. We are seeking people who would be happy to volunteer their time to oversee the use of the equipment on a Monday or Wednesday night from about 5.00pm to 6.30pm. If you are able to help out on either of these days please contact Paula Cox on pcox@sjcmda.vic.edu.au or 0428560663. The Soup Kitchen is also seeking people to volunteer as waiters and/chefs also for a new roster starting in April.

'NEXT GENERATION IS SET UP FOR FAILURE'

By Judith Ireland, Sydney Morning Herald

Almost 18 per cent of Australian children live in poverty, amid fears “the next generation is set up for failure”, due to rising housing costs and stagnant income support. Source: *Sydney Morning Herald*. More than 13 per cent of Australia’s overall population –



or about 3.24 million people – live below the poverty line, according to an Australian Council of Social Service and University of New South Wales report released today. About 774,000 children under 15, or 17.7 per cent of Australian children are in poverty.

“We want to support each other. It’s who we are as a nation. But our economy is leaving people behind, with persistently high poverty rates despite decades of uninterrupted economic growth,” ACOSS chief executive Cassandra Goldie said.

Dr Goldie said Australians living in poverty include young people trying to start their working lives, single parents and older people who came up against age discrimination.

The “2020 Poverty in Australia Overview” report set the poverty line at 50 per cent of the median household disposable income. It used 2017–18 data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics – the latest year for which household income information is available. It found that housing costs grew “strongly” in the decade to 2017, especially among low-income households. Between 2005 and 2017, housing costs for the lowest 20 per cent of working-age households (those under 65 years) grew by 42 per cent compared to 15 per cent growth for the middle 20 per cent of households. The report also said that the “freezing” of the dole, which has not seen a rise in real terms since 1994, together with the transfer of some single parents from the Parenting Payment to the lower Newstart Allowance, “increased poverty and the depth of poverty”.

Other welfare groups, including Mission Australia, Anglicare and the St Vincent de Paul Society used the report to call for an urgent increase in social housing, rent assistance and income support payments.

“The next generation is set up for failure,” St Vincent de Paul national council chief executive Toby O’Connor said.

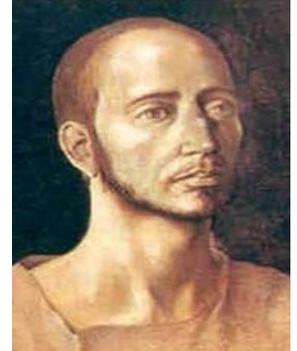
SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1476.85	\$131.45	\$237.40
2nd Collection (includes all EFT)	\$3078.60	\$ 455.00	\$409.50
Loose Plate	\$ 575.60	\$ 75.85	\$ 90.70

PARISH RETREAT

Inner Peace in Divine Love

The First Spiritual Exercises



As given by St Ignatius Loyola and adapted by Michael Hansen SJ

20 April – 16 May 2020

Guided Spiritual Conversation each week in small groups

What are the First Spiritual Exercises?

The 'First Spiritual Exercises' are a set of prayer exercises, structured in a four week program, with a particular dynamic by St Ignatius. They are built around personal prayer at home and guided spiritual conversation in a small group.

What is expected of me?

This program is over four weeks during your daily life.

The weekly commitment is to prayer on four days, Monday to Thursday. These days are chosen because family and home commitments usually increase Friday to Sunday. So, exercise over four days and break for the next three days but include the Sunday Eucharist with its small weekend exercise. This will allow the seeds of the past week's exercises to sleep in you and germinate.

Participants pray the First Exercises individually at home during the week. The Exercises are simple and easy to follow.

In addition, participants meet weekly in small groups through the period of the First Spiritual Exercises with a guide, who leads the process of prayer, listening, sharing and discernment.

How do I register to participate?

Contact the Sacred Heart Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Registrations close the end of March

Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart Merbein St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

PARISH NEWS

Lenten Program: Anyone interested in taking part in the Lenten Program will be very welcome to join the Ecumenical group which will commence on Monday 9th March at 7.30pm at the Parish House. It is one of the few opportunities we have to reflect upon and share our faith and hopefully grow in our understanding of what it means to be an active Christian in today's world. All Welcome

Regional Meeting:

The next Regional Gathering will be at Merbein on Sunday March 1st following the 10.30 Mass.

This will be the last Regional Meeting with Fr. Mick. Those attending please bring a plate to share in finger-food light lunch.

World Day of Prayer: Friday March 6th at 7.30pm at the Merbein Uniting Church Hall. Zimbabwe is the focus for this year prayer service – All Welcome.

SCHOOL NEWS: On Tuesday, February 25th, the Lenten Season begins with the celebration of Shrove Tuesday. Thanks to Mrs Torquati and her helpers, we will be enjoying pancakes for recess! These will be supplied by the school but if you would like to make a gold coin donation to Project Compassion it would be much appreciated. The following day is Ash Wednesday and the students and staff will be attending a liturgy in the church at 12.15pm. Again, all are welcome to join us for this celebration.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Merbein is a collection point for Aussie Breadtags for Wheelchairs. More than 600 wheelchairs have been supplied through the program in the past 12 years. We will also now be collecting plastic lids from milk, water, juice and soft drink bottles which will be converted into prosthetic hands for kids. The caps will go to Envision, an Australian not-for-profit group that trains disadvantaged people to use 3D printers to make mobility aids for child amputees. The lids need to be rinsed with either the recycle code 2 or code 4 on them. Containers for these items are on the crying room window ledge at the back of the church.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Mon, Thur, Fri & Sat 9.30am Tue: 5.30pm
Ash Wednesday: 10am in Church

CALENDAR

Wednesday 26 Feb: Ash Wednesday Mass 10am
Friday 6 Mar: World Day of Prayer 7pm

CUPPA & TRADING TABLE

Please join us for a CUPPA and Trading Table after Mass this Sunday. Proceeds this month go to CATHOLIC MISSION.

LENT IN RED CLIFFS

Lent is the severe time in the Church's year. Except for funerals, there are no flowers.

The altar and lectern are draped with purple. Towards the end of Lent the statues are covered with purple as well.

There are no bells. The Alleluia is neither sung nor spoken during Lent. There is no Gloria & no Creed.

In the Romano-Flanagan Rite, we have a special way of beginning Mass each Sunday.

AS WITH ADVENT, EVEN MORE WITH LENT: IT IS A SPECIAL TIME IN THE CHURCH'S YEAR, SO LET'S MAKE IT SPECIAL

We give up something we like for the week-days of Lent.

We make a greater effort with prayer.

We make a positive & generous Lent by reaching out to the third world through Project Compassion.

On Ash Wednesday And Good Friday we abstain from meat; as well, on these 2 days we have only one full meal, and 2 very light ones. No eating between meals.

The Envelopes and the Boxes for PROJECT COMPASSION are available now.

This Year, Year A, on the 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays of Lent we have the Baptism Gospels, the Samaritan Woman, the Man born blind and the death and raising of Lazarus are beautiful. We have special booklets for them, so that all of us can take part in the reading. We will show the short (4 minutes) Project Compassion films. Sometimes this will be after Communion; but other times we will show them about 5 minutes before the start of Mass. *PJF*

NEXT WEEKEND'S ROSTERS AND READINGS / 1st Sunday of Lent 29th February & 1st March 2020

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Responsorial: Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17

Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading: St Paul to the Romans 5:12-19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11



Werrimull Last Sunday of each month 11am	Sacred Heart Saturday 6pm	Sacred Heart Sunday 9am	Sacred Heart Sunday 5pm	Irymple Sunday 8:30am	Red Cliffs Sunday 10:00am	Merbein Sunday 10:30am
Leader / Reader	Mary Jackson	Peter Issanchon	Christine Slattery	M Hill	M Bell C Markham/ M Monteleone	Lorraine Olden
Music	M Sullivan Singing Group	Italian Choir M Sullivan	M Hammond J Macri / J Ljubic		Guitar	
Offertory	Baptism	Joy Morvell			Lewis Family	Besgrove Family
Children's Liturgy		Rebecca O'Callaghan Corey Barbary				
Altar Servers	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please	Volunteer Please		GROUP 6 S Morello	Volunteer Please
Eucharist Ministers	Maria Cirillo	Elina Garreffa	Wendy Finn	G Schmidt	G Brizzi	Natalie Besgrove
	Christine Carmichael	Maryanne Modica	Tony Finn		J Cameron	Felicia Cox
	Jacinda Deacon	Lyn Welsh	Bill Dolence	OASIS AGED CARE	C Cavallaro	CHAFFEY AGED CARE
	Katy Quinlan	Giuseppe Scopacasa	Jacqui Willis	M Jensen	CUPPA'S	Vi Barling Margo Farnsworth
	Vince Pileggi	Maria Scopacasa	Barbara Bunting			
	Volunteer Please	Susan Lewis	Volunteer Please	LAY LEADERS		LAY LEADERS 23 February Sr Carmel Frances Sabo
	Minda Wright				FLOWERS Volunteer	
Counting Team	TEAM 7	HELEN KAY 0429 135 053			M Adams / L Mayes	As per arrangement
Church Cleaning	As per arrangement				Volunteer	As per arrangement