

# 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  
mildura@ballarat.catholic.org.au  
www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Newsheet: Week 29

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: Veronica Grant

Anniversaries:

Saturday 6pm: Rosalind Devassy, Herb, Kelleen, Gordon & Pat Curran

Sunday 9am: Mary McFadyen, Giuseppe Martino

Sunday 5pm: Bruin Callipari, Ron Campbell,

Bianca Bachetti (30 day anniversary)

Wednesday 9.30am: Pasquale Musolino (1yr anniversary)

Friday 6pm:

## RED CLIFFS

Anniversaries: Arthur Benfield

## MERBEIN

Anniversaries: Lynette Searle, David O'Callaghan, Jim McSwain, Gwen Jessup, Bert Adolph

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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year A  
19th July 2020

## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose.

The presence of sinners in the kingdom of God is often a stumbling block to good people. There will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means that the righteous will have to live with the sinner and, even more challengingly, show them the same kind of concern that they show to others. The presence of sinners does not necessarily erode the quality of the kingdom. Rather, it provides disciples an opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.

There are two images of judgment in the readings. The one in the gospel is terrifying and decisive. The wicked are bound together into bundles and readied for burning. We must remember that this is a parable. In the first reading and in the psalm response the justice of God is said to be lenient, clement and kind. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in mercy. God is said to be 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity', and repentance is a very real possibility. This is the image that gives us hope.

### 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:** Eva Lucidi, 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

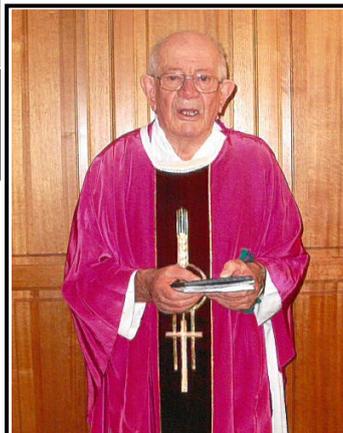
St Paul's Mildura Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

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



### FR PAT FLANAGAN (FLAGS) 60TH JUBILEE

On Friday 24th July, Fr Pat will celebrate his 60th Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood. We are very fortunate in this region to have such a dedicated, spiritual and compassionate leader within our faith community. We ask God to continue to bless him in his ministry.

# Sacred Heart Mildura

## MASS UPDATE July/August

Please register at the Sacred Heart Parish Office to attend for only one Mass each week. If there are already 20 people registered you will be offered another Mass day. The close off time will be 4pm Friday for each of the weekend Masses.



Sacred Heart Church continues to be opened for personal prayer, funerals and baptisms. Strict guidelines are still in force. Please use the hand sanitiser provided and adhere to the social distancing rules.

### Weekday Mass Times: (Subject to change)

Tuesday & Friday—6pm Mildura  
Wednesday—9.30am Mildura  
Thursday—9.15am Merbein (commencing 23 July)  
Saturday morning—9.30am Mildura

### Weekend Mass Times: (Subject to Change)

#### Commencing weekend 18th & 19th July

Saturday—6pm Mildura  
Sunday—8am Irymple  
Sunday—9am & 5pm Mildura  
Sunday—10.30am Red Cliffs  
Sunday—10.30am Merbein

## SACRED HEART PARISH MILDURA Updated First Eucharist Program 2020

With Covid19 restrictions continuing to impact on numbers able to gather for worship, a further adjustment for our young people and First Reconciliation.

Children from Sacred Heart Primary School and St Paul's School will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at their school at times to be determined by the school communities.

**First Reconciliation for children attending Government Schools will be at the Church on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July or Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 10am.**

On Wednesday there will be two sessions, the first at 5pm and the second at 6 pm. One adult to accompany each child: so that there will be no more than 20 people gathered in the church at each session.

### First Eucharist

The Parent Information Evening listed for **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July has been CANCELLED.**

Instead, Parents/caregivers are asked to come to the parish office during office hours to receive the Eucharist Pack and to select day for celebration of the Sacrament.

Friday 23rd Oct at 6pm  
Saturday 24 Oct at 9.30am  
Saturday 25 Oct at 6pm  
Sunday 26 Oct at 9am  
Sunday 26 Oct at 5.00pm

The four week program will be done at home in preparation for First Eucharist in October. There are no group sessions for this year.

**Please note: due to current COVID restrictions times of the ceremonies may change.**

## PLANNED GIVING

An online thanksgiving portal known as CDFpay is now available for Sacred Heart Parish for 1st & 2nd Collections. Please follow the link:

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

SUPPORT OUR PARISHES



## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WINTER APPEAL

Because of COVID-19 at the Sunraysia Regional Assistance Centre we have had to adapt our traditional way of providing help to those who seek our assistance to meet both the Government and St Vincent de Paul directives. But thankfully we have been able to keep open. As a result of the Coronavirus many people have found themselves in the position of having a job one day, and being unemployed the next. This will lead to an increasing number of people reaching out to us for help for the very first time. Now more than ever, the funds raised during this appeal are critical in ensuring that we can continue to be there for people when they need us most.

You can donate to our appeal via envelopes available at the Church doors. Please write your name and address on the envelope so receipts can be issued. Once completed envelopes can left at the parish office. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible

*Many thanks from all the members of the Sacred Heart Conference, Mildura*

# Our Lady Of The Sacred Heart Merbein

**Mass commences in Merbein from Sunday 19th July 10.30am and Thursday 23rd July 9.15am**

We welcome into our Parish Community **Romi Deluca** who will be baptised this weekend



**Advance notice:** The next Parish Council meeting will be held after Mass on Sunday 9th August.

# St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

**WEEKDAY & SUNDAY MASSES with restrictions**  
Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9.30 am; Tue, Thu: 5.30 pm  
SUNDAY 10.30AM—as invited by Fr Pat Flanagan

**PLEASE NOTE: Mass at Red Cliffs Church will commence at 10.30am from this Sunday 19 July.**

**ROSTERS all Churches—this weekend and next**

**This weekend 18th/19th July 2020**

### MILDURA

**Counting Team:** Team 7—Helen Kay—0429 135 053  
**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Rosemary Barnes  
Sunday 9am: Cathy McErvale  
Sunday 5pm: Sue Hermans

### MERBEIN

Reader: Frances Sabo

### RED CLIFFS

**Counting Team:** P Hunt & B Pitt  
**Church Cleaning:** Volunteer

**Next weekend—25th/26th July 2020**

### MILDURA

**Counting Team:** Team 8—Trevor Aust—5023 6597  
**Readers:** Saturday 6pm:  
Sunday 9am:  
Sunday 5pm:

### MERBEIN

Reader: ?

### RED CLIFFS

**Counting Team:** P Hunt & B Pitt  
**Church Cleaning:** Cleaner

## WE NEED VOICES WHO CAN REACH ACROSS DIVIDES

It was, from memory, a birthday celebration for Peter Goldsworthy. For me it was also one of those turning points one encounters every now and then, sometimes unexpectedly.

At the party I was able to renew what had been, before I went overseas, a budding friendship with Morag Fraser, the Editor of Eureka Street from 1991 to 2003. As we talked 'shop' about writing and columns, she asked if I would be interested in doing a monthly column for Eureka Street. My answer was an enthusiastic, immediate and grateful 'Definitely' and I've been a Eureka Street writer in one capacity or other ever since.

This has meant a close and always enjoyable and productive association over the years with the Eureka Street 'family'. It has also meant that I became, and have remained involved in, the day to day development, publications and fortunes of Eureka Street not only as one of its writers but also as a reader.

Eureka Street has many voices which means that the issues, debates, arguments and diverse political, moral, ecological, religious and other strongly, passionately or firmly held positions on any given day are afforded widely ranging and detailed treatment by writers and commentators from a stunning variety of backgrounds, educational specialties, research orientation and so on. I have always enjoyed this plurality of approaches, specialties and - on occasion and why not! - obsessions, making Eureka Street a unique publication: sui generis, as some of its readers and contributors might say.

Having begun my association with Eureka Street at a party, my only regret is that my wife and I were able to attend only two or three of the end-of-year gatherings in Richmond before 'tyrannical' distance put them, for us, out of reach.

*Brian Matthews Contributor for Eureka Street*

To continue to provide an alternative voice, we need your support.

By purchasing raffle tickets (\$5 a ticket in a book of five) or donating you can help us keep providing a place where these voices are heard, where respectful conversations and debate can take place and contributors can be paid for their work.

We understand that not everyone is able to make a financial contribution at this time. If you value what we do please keep reading and commenting on the articles and spread the word about who we are and what we do.

All support is very much appreciated.

*Eureka Street editorial team*

(You can donate online at the link below or cheques can be sent to Jesuit Communications, PO Box 553, Richmond VIC 3121 <https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/eurekastreet>)



### PLEASE NOTE

Sacred Heart Church, Mildura, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Merbein, St Joseph's Church, Red Cliffs, St Francis Xavier Church, Irymple and Our Lady of Lourdes, Werrimull are now

a Smoke Free Zone, please,

**NO SMOKING on Church grounds.**

All Churches will be fitted with automatic dispensers for hand sanitiser, please find where they are located and use as per COVID-19 health code.



### **ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans) - World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is on July 30**

COVID-19 is impacting those most vulnerable to trafficking because they often live in poverty and lack suitable housing and healthcare. Hundreds of thousands of these people will be drawn to the promise of work simply to put food on their tables - work that often turns out to be a job in slave-like conditions. Each year ACRATH asks for your support as we mark the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons on July 30. Each year, generously, you respond. And each year because of your response, ACRATH has been able to develop projects, services and resources. If you're able, your donation will be much appreciated. You can donate online at <https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/acrath> or go to Youth Social Justice page of the diocesan website at <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/services-and-agencies/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=238> for other donation options and more information.



### **THIS IS TIMELESS by Kitty O'Meara**

And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new way of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed.

## First Reading

Wis 12:13.16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom

*In the place of sin, you give repentance.*

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything,  
to whom you might have to prove that you never  
judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength,  
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.  
You show your strength when your sovereign power  
is questioned

and you expose the insolence of those who know it;  
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in  
judgement,

you govern us with great lenience,  
for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people

how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow  
men,

and you have given your sons the good hope  
that after sin you will grant repentance.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving,  
full of love to all who call.  
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer  
and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)
2. All the nations shall come to adore you  
and glorify your name, O Lord:  
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,  
you who alone are God. (R.)
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion,  
slow to anger, O Lord,  
abounding in love and truth,  
turn and take pity on me. (R.)

## Second Reading

Rom 8:26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*The Spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.*

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.



## Gospel

Mt 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Let them grow together until the harvest.*

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables  
and expound things hidden since the foundation  
of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'