

# Sunraysia Catholic Communities



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Newsheet: Week 29

Parish Priest Fr. Matthew Thomas  
 Assistant Priest Fr. Shaiju Mathew

Parish Secretary: Carmel Russo  
 Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9:00am—4:00pm

Sacred Heart Mildura    Our Lady of Lourdes Werrimull    Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Merbein    St. Francis Xavier Trymple    St. Joseph's Red Cliffs

*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*

## 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time / Year B 17th & 18th July 2021

### RECENT DEATHS

Ailene Hickey

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Mildura

Saturday 6pm: Kevin (Sid) Robinson, Eduarda Alcansado

Sunday 9am: Mary McFadyen (25th anniversary)

Sunday 5pm: Bruin Michael Callipari, Maria Nguyen

#### Red Cliffs

Anniversaries: Grazia Morello, Libera Santo Pietro  
 (Melbourne—one month Mass)

#### Merbein

Anniversaries: Tom McCarthy, Lynette Searle, Jim McSwain

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

## Message from our Parish Priest

We are now in COVID19 Lock down no.5 here in Victoria. What does this mean for our faith and parish community?

The churches are closed as from Thursday 15th July at Midnight until Wednesday 21st July at this stage no masses or prayer services will be conducted during this period.

We need to pray for each other and be hopeful that the restrictions lift on Wednesday and we can gather again in the churches.

*God bless all  
 Fr Matthew Thomas*

## SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

Last week's collections	Mildura	Merbein	Red Cliffs
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$1293.30	\$36.30	\$206.45
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$1548.00	\$72.00	\$102.00
Loose Plate	\$ 361.00	\$15.60	\$ 72.40

## Next Weekends Readings: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time— 24th & 25th July 2021

1st Reading: Book of Kings 4:42-44

Responsorial: PS 144:10-11, 15-18

Response: The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

2nd Reading: St Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel: John 6:1-15

Please note that if you have booked a memorial mass you are reminded to speak to the priest prior to the mass to let him know you are there.

## Update on COVID Restrictions as of Friday 15th July 2021

- All churches closed until Tuesday mid-night.
- Funerals - no more than 10 people plus those necessary to conduct the funeral
- Weddings not permitted.
- Hopefully a more positive update will be available for next weekend's bulletin.
- Schools go to online learning

REST FOR A WHILE

Mark 6:30-34



## First Reading—Jer 23:1-6

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks –  
when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.'

## Responsorial Psalm—Ps 22. R. v.2

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff,  
with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. (R.)

## Second Reading—Eph 2:13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

## Gospel Acclamation—Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

## Gospel—Mk 6:30-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.



## REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus chose disciples to continue his work; he instructed them and empowered them. He sent them out on a mission, and they returned. People followed them, because they wanted to hear what Jesus and the disciples had to say; they wanted to be released from the sickness and the demons that possessed them.

There are so many searching people in the world today, people hungering for instruction, good people looking for direction. They may be parents who are sick with grief over the future of a troubled child; a man stripped of his dignity through unemployment; a woman facing a pregnancy alone; elderly people feeling the surge of life leave their declining bodies; people who are angry and confused because they believe that the church is no longer dependable. They are people who are looking for answers and for meaning. They are like sheep without a shepherd, and Jesus looks to us to shepherd them.

In the midst of this confusion, there are reliable shepherds who walk with us in the dark valleys. They are willing to share the dangers through which we pass, even at the risk of their own safety. They do not pit one segment of the community or one theological perspective against another, scattering the sheep and driving them away. Instead, they work to dismantle the walls that divide us. They speak the word that gathers us together. They reconcile us with God and with each other. They may not give us easy answers, but their primary concern is to lead us to Jesus, the one who is our peace.

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