

# Sunraysia Catholic Communities



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Newsheet: Week 48

**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 Irymple    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*

## 2nd Sunday of Advent / Year C 4th & 5th December 2021

### RECENT DEATHS

Roger Westgarth

### Mildura

Anniversaries: Kevin Curran, Valda Kerr

Saturday 6pm: Vittoria Cua (recent death in Italy)

Irymple 8.30am: Maria Alligritti

Sunday 9am: Tony Modica, Rosa & Francesco Modica

Tuesday 6pm: Knights of the Southern Cross deceased members  
 Mass BBQ to follow.

### Red Cliffs

Anniversaries:

### Merbein

Anniversaries: Frank Callahan, Angela & Giuseppe Gentile,  
 Ilario Cavallo, Joe Piscioneri, Joe Hunyadi

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

### Message from our Parish Priest

As we celebrate the second week of Advent we light the candle of Faith. This week is a great week to focus on our faith and what are the important things that we value and hold dear to us. Faith is a life long gift.

We would like to thank Sr. Helen who has concluded her role as Sacramental Co-Ordinator for the parish. We are grateful for all the work she has done in this role over the past couple of years.

God bless you all.  
 Fr Matthew Thomas

### COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION WEDNESDAY 22nd DECEMBER at 6pm



Let us prepare to celebrate the gift of Christ's Peace at Christmas by acknowledging our need for healing and forgiveness.

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.

### Christmas Masses 2021

#### Christmas Eve

6pm Mildura  
 6pm Werrimull  
 8pm Merbein  
 8pm Red Cliffs  
 10pm Mildura  
 12am Midnight Mildura

We will look at having Christmas Carols half an hour before at each mass

#### Christmas Day

8.30am Irymple  
 9am Mildura

### St Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2021

As there will be no Vinnies Christmas Tree with gift tags this year, Vinnies Christmas Appeal Envelopes will be left at **all** church entrances.



**The 2nd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

### Remember abide by the COVID Staying Safe Rules

- Use the QR Check in App when entering church
- Use the hand sanitizer
- If you are feeling unwell please stay home

# LOCAL NEWS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### December Meetings 2021

**Tuesday 7 Dec:** Sacred Heart Parish Finance, 7am.

**Tuesday 7 Dec:** Regis 10th Aged Care Service 2pm.

**Monday 13 Dec:** KSC meeting 7.30pm at the Clubrooms.

**Tuesday 14 Dec:** Princes Court Aged Care Mass 10am.

**Tuesday 14 Dec:** Sacred Heart Parish Council meeting after 6pm Mass, in the Monaghan Centre.

**Wednesday 15 Dec:** Oasis Aged Care Service 10.30am.

**Thursday 16 Dec:** Regis Ontario Aged Care Service 2pm.

**Sunday 19 Dec:** Merbein Parish Council after 10.30am mass.

**Tuesday 21 Dec:** BUPA Aged Care Service 10.30am.

**Wednesday 22 Dec:** Baptism Preparation evening 7.30pm in the Monaghan Centre.

### Baptism

We welcome to our Sunraysia Parish Community — **Ava Njegovan** whose baptism occurs this weekend.



### BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

#### Collection for Sick and Retired Priests This weekend



The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others, and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement. The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement, and will also need to be supported by the fund.

This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our sick and retired clergy. Please give as generously as you can, and help us continue *'caring for those who cared for us'*. Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up today. You may also return your envelope next week.

A credit card facility is available for your convenience, and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible.

### Our Parish Schools

**Sacred Heart Mildura** Principal: Mark Gibson 5023 1204

**St Paul's Mildura** Principal: Vince Muscatello 5023 4567

**OLSH Merbein** Principal: Narelle Gallagher 5025 2258

**St. Joseph's Red Cliffs** Principal: Naomi Kennedy 5024 1654

**St. Joseph's Secondary College Mildura**

Principal: Marg Blythman 5018 8000

### Weekly Prayer Opportunities

#### Sacred Heart Mildura

**Scripture Group:** Thursday 3:00pm – Monaghan Centre

**Devotions and Exposition:** Friday 4:00pm

**Reconciliation:** Saturday 10:00am—10:30am

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

### Ordination to the Diaconate

Last Friday, Seminarians Matthew Restall and William (Bill) Lowry were ordained Deacons at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Bill over the last two years had spent time in our Parish.

This is a joyful occasion for the whole Diocese - our first ordinations in 8 years.

We pray for Matt and Bill as they prepare to serve God's Church.



#### Topic: *Jesus & Mary*

Thursday 9th December, 7pm in the Monaghan Centre.

Please remember in your prayers our three RCIA candidates and their sponsors whom we welcomed into the Catechumenate last Sunday.

**Ceylan Furuncu** sponsor Teresa Ward

**Liz George** sponsor Raylee Schultz

**Melvyn Southee** sponsor Peter Issanchon

### A note of thanksgiving

We are at the beginning of a new liturgical year. Advent is a time of waiting; it is a time of expectation; it is a time of preparation. All these to allow Jesus to be born in our hearts and lives. As we prepare for the jubilant celebration of another Christmas, let me thank you all for the good friendship and support that you have extended to me during this last year. I complete the first year of my priestly ministry in this Mildura community with great satisfaction, contentment, and joy. We were all travelling together with faith, hope, and charity. I thank you most sincerely for your cooperation and understanding. Please continue to pray for me and I wish you all an effective time of preparation for Christmas. Let joy, peace, and prosperity make abode among us.

Fr Shaiju Mathew

### Trading Stalls

#### Mildura & Red Cliffs 12th December

Next weekend, a Cuppa and Trading stalls will be held in Mildura after the 9am Mass & Red Cliffs after the 10am Mass.

**Seeking donations of produce:** fruit, vegetables, plants, seedlings, **conserves:** jams, chutneys, relish, **baked goods:** cakes, biscuits, slices, bread etc. If these can be brought in on the day of the stall it would be greatly appreciated.



Proceeds from the Mildura Trading Stall goes to The Shared Table and proceeds from the Red Cliffs Trading Stall this month will go to St Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

### Gardening Working Bee Red Cliffs Church

Will be held on Monday 13th December from 9am. If you can help please contact Parish Office 5021 2872.

Many hands will make for light work.



# LOCAL NEWS

## WEEKDAY MASSES

Changes to Weekday Mass times will be listed below

|           | MILDURA | RED CLIFFS | MERBEIN |
|-----------|---------|------------|---------|
| MONDAY    |         |            |         |
| TUESDAY   | 6PM     | 9.30AM     |         |
| WEDNESDAY | NO MASS |            |         |
| THURSDAY  | 9:30AM  | 5:30PM     | 9:30AM  |
| FRIDAY    | 6PM     |            |         |
| SATURDAY  | 9:30AM  |            |         |

## WEEKEND MASS TIMES

|           | IRYMPLE                            | MILDURA | RED CLIFFS | MERBEIN |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| SATURDAY  |                                    | 6PM     |            |         |
| SUNDAY    | 8:30AM                             | 9:00AM  | 10AM       | 10:30AM |
|           |                                    | 5PM     |            |         |
| WERRIMULL | 11:00AM (5TH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH) |         |            |         |

## 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:** Rosemary Byrne, Nancy Panuccio,

**Merbein:**

**Red Cliffs:** Barry Crosbie

## SUNRAYSIA CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES FINANCE

| Last week's collections   | Mildura   | Merbein  | Red Cliffs |
|---|-----------|----------|------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Collection<br>(supporting Priests & Presbytery) | \$1088.25 | \$118.30 | \$128.85   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection<br>(includes all EFT, DD & CC)       | \$1105.00 | \$200.00 | \$254.50   |
| Loose Plate   | \$ 310.45 | \$ 31.50 | \$ 28.40   |



## ROSTERS ALL CHURCHES

This weekend - 4th & 5th December 2021

**Werrimull 5th Sunday of each month 11am**

### Mildura

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: C Carmichael  
 Sunday 9am: M Kamara  
 Sunday 5pm: I Sullivan

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 3

**Saturday 6pm:** A Greville, T Fatai, K Quinlan  
**Sunday 9am:** B Castillo, N Fatai, P O'Donnell  
**Sunday 5pm:** J Willis, B Dolence, W Finn

**Music:** Sat 6pm: M Guthrie, All welcome  
 Sun 9am: Italian Choir, M Sullivan  
 Sun 5pm: M Hammond, J Macri

**Counting Team:** Team 9—G Dolence

### Irymple

**Reader:** M Hoy

### Merbein

**Reader:** N Prevedello  
**Offertory:** Ellis Family

### Red Cliffs

**Readers:** J Cameron, T Hawkes

**Music:** Guitar

**Offertory Procession:** L Bugno

**Altar Servers:** Group 4

**Eucharistic Minister:** B Pitt

**Church Cleaning:** Volunteer

**Flowers:** J Cameron



Next weekend - 11th & 12th December 2021

**Werrimull 5th Sunday of each month 11am**

### Mildura

**Readers:** Saturday 6pm: Gary Huxtable  
 Sunday 9am: Peter Issanchon  
 Sunday 5pm: St Paul's Graduation Mass

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 3

**Saturday 6pm:** M Cirillo, J Deacon, V Pileggi  
**Sunday 9am:** G Johnston, J Cresp, G Raiti  
**Sunday 5pm:** S Hermans, N Kennedy, M Irvin

**Music:** Sat 6pm: M Sullivan, J Macri  
 Sun 9am: Filipino Choir, M Issanchon  
 Sun 5pm: St Paul's Graduation Mass

**Counting Team:** Team 10 — W Carmichael

### Irymple

**Reader:** G McCracken

### Merbein

**Reader:** K Wagner  
**Offertory:** K Wagner & K McCarthy

### Red Cliffs

**Readers:** M Duck, M Monteleone

**Music:** Guitar

**Offertory Procession:** Cameron Family

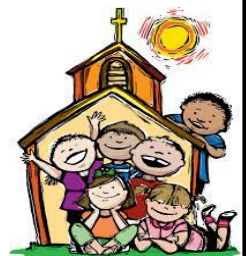
**Altar Servers:** Group 6

**Eucharistic Minister:** B Pitt

**Church Cleaning:** M Dominelli,

A Duck, J Njegovan

**Flowers:** J Cameron



**Next Weekends Readings: — 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C — 11th & 12th December 2021**

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Responsorial Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

Response: Cry out with you and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

2nd Reading: St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18





## First Reading

Bar 5:1-9

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,

put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:

since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,

since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.

Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east:

see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them.

Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory.

For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.

And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade

for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)
2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

ALL FLESH SHALL SEE  
THE SALVATION OF GOD.

-Luke 3:6

## Second Reading

Phil 1:3-6. 8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

## Gospel Acclamation

Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

Lk 3:1-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;  
Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley will be filled in,  
every mountain and hill be laid low,  
winding ways will be straightened  
and rough roads made smooth.  
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

PREPARE THE WAY OF  
**THE LORD**  
MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS *Luke 3:4*

A VOICE OF ONE  
CALLING IN THE  
WILDERNESS