



Sts Anne and Joachim
CATHOLIC PARISH OF SUNRAYSLIA

IRYMPLE, MERBEIN, MILDURA, RED CLIFFS AND WERRIMULL

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priest: Fr John Corrigan

Sunday Bulletin: Edition 49/2023

Website: www.sunraysiacatholic.org

2nd Sunday of Advent Year B / 10th December 2023

Message from our Parish Priest

We celebrate the 2nd Sunday in Advent this weekend, when we light the candle of Love. Who do I love?, how do I love them? and how do they show me love? This is easy to talk about when it is another person but what about when we talk about God.

On Sunday we farewell Sr Rosemary, after many years of dedicated service in the community. As she moves and begins a new stage in her life we wish her well and thank her for assisting so many of us in many different ways, from visits, prayer and support.

Next week the church will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday for the installation of the new TVs.

Mass and Adoration on Tuesday evening and Wednesday and Thursday Morning Mass will be celebrated in the Monaghan Center.

God Bless,
Fr Matthew.

Ordination to the Diaconate

Seminarian Cay Trinh will be ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Ballarat on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 10am. Please pray for Cay Trinh.

Parish Contact Details

Administration Officer: Ms Carmel Russo
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9am – 4pm
257 Eleventh Street Mildura
PO Box 10037, Mildura Vic 3502
Phone: 03 5021 2872 or 0417 862 082
E-mail: sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Presbytery Tap & Go Units

These Units are located at all church entrances, this enables us to support our Priests.



Second Advent Candle—Love



The second candle, or Bethlehem Candle, is also usually purple or violet. It reminds us of the Holy Family's experience in Bethlehem. The color of the second Advent candle is associated with royalty and reminds us that Christ is the "King of Kings". We await the coming of a new king from Bethlehem.

Celebrating Advent

During the Season of Advent as we prepare for Christmas, join us in prayer and reflection in **Monaghan Room** each **Thursday at 2 pm.**

Dec 14, Dec 21

For further details contact:
Sr Helen 0438 734 524.



Parish Council Meeting

Last Sunday the Parish Council meet in Red Cliffs, please find below a couple of points from the meeting.

- Bishop Paul Visit on 20/21st July 2024
- Five Year Plan for the Parish, each community is being asked to have an input into the Master Plan
- Image of Anne and Joachim (To be displayed in each church)
- Parish Gathering and Celebration Evening
- Tap and Go Machines, Piety Stall, Trading Table

Finances – last weekend's Collections

1 st Collection (supporting Priests & Presbytery)	\$2144.25
2nd Collection (includes all EFT, DD & CC)	\$1342.00
Loose Plate	\$1005.50
This Week's Counting Team	Team 3—P McDonald
Next week's Counting Team	Team 4— M Roper



St Vinnies Giving Tree

Many thanks from all the members of the Sacred Heart Conference, St Vincent de Paul Society, for all the wonderful gifts left at our Giving Tree over the last couple of weeks.

Your generosity will assist us in assisting many families this Christmas.

Trading Stalls & Cuppa Mildura & Red Cliffs

This Sunday — Cuppa and Trading stall will be held after the 9 am Mass—Mildura and 10am Mass Red Cliffs. Proceeds from the stalls this month will go to St Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

Donations of produce, preserves, seedlings, baked goods etc would be greatly appreciated and can be left on the day.



Farewell Sr Rosemary

Sr Rosemary Graham is leaving our Sunraysia Community in a couple of weeks.

After the 9am Mass this Sunday 10th December we will have a morning tea to say goodbye and give thanks for her many years of pastoral ministry within our parish and wider community.

Christmas Masses—Roster

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Masses at all Churches.

Please see Roster Sheets at the back of each church.

CHRISTMAS SEASON

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Sun 24 Dec)

Sat 23 Dec: 6pm Mildura Mass

Sun 24 Dec: 9am Mildura Mass

Please note other Sunday Masses are cancelled in lieu of Christmas Eve Mass.

Christmas Eve (Sun 24 Dec)

6pm Mildura

6pm Werrimull

8pm Red Cliffs

8pm Merbein

10pm Mildura

Midnight Mildura

Christmas Day (Monday 25 Dec)

8.30am Irymple

9am Mildura

Carols by Candlelight—Sunraysia

Saturday 9 December from 7.30pm—Nowingi Place, Mildura

Friday 15 December from 8.15pm—Barclay Square, Red Cliffs

Saturday 16 December time TBC—The Garden of Hope, Cabarita

Sacred Heart Church Nativity Play

Christmas Eve 2023

Children are invited to attend and be part of our traditional Nativity Play on Christmas Eve at 6pm.

The first practice session is on Wednesday, **December 13th at 5.30pm** and the second will be a dress rehearsal on Wednesday, **December 20th at 5.30pm**.

Please contact the Parish Office for more details on 5021 2872.



Next Weeks Readings: / 3rd Sunday of Advent Year B 17th December 2023

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2. 10-11

Psalm: Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8. 19-28



WEEKLY PRAYER & SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Sacred Heart Church Mildura

Exposition and Benediction: Tuesday 4pm

Charismatic Group: Tuesday after 6pm Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday after 9:30am Mass

Monaghan Centre

Christian Meditation: Saturday 11.30am

Children's Catechesis: Saturday 10am – 11am

PARISH SCHOOLS CONTACT

Sacred Heart Primary School, Mildura

Principal: Mr Mark Gibson. Ph: 5023 1204

St Paul's Primary School, Mildura

Principal: Mr Vince Muscatello. Ph: 5023 4567

St Joseph's Primary School, Red Cliffs

Principal: Mrs Naomi Kennedy. Ph: 5024 1654

Our Lady of Sacred Heart, Merbein

Principal: Mrs Narelle Gallagher. Ph: 5025 2258

St Joseph's Secondary College, Mildura

Principal: Mrs Marg Blythman. Ph: 5018 8000

Sts Anne and Joachim Catholic Parish of Sunraysia adheres to the Child Safe Standards of Victoria.

Our policies are on display in each church, and on our website.

Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Vince Pileggi**.

This Weekend Roster: 9th & 10th December 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	G Huxtable	M McDonald, A Naray, Volunteer please		M Sullivan Singing Group
Sun 8.30am Irymple	W Schmidt			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	T Fainga'anuku	P O'Donnell, J Cresp, T Fainga'anuku	M Gobbo	M Guthrie All welcome
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	J Lewis	N Kennedy	Russo Family	T Lewis & Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	F Cox	Vicki McCarthy	Pelasio Family	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	M Bowring	S Hermans, J Jose, T Cirillo		St Paul's School Graduation Mass

Please Pray for the Sick
 Vincent Tripodi
 Tess Kerr
 Catherine Bell
 Natalina D'Anna
 Morgan Dias-Jones

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.

Recent Deaths
 George Vukovic, Rose McIntyre,
 Zac Bow, Angela Lando (Italy)

Anniversaries
Mildura:
 Saturday 6pm:
 Agapito Tac-an, Peter, Maria, Joseph & Lucia Tran, all Souls
 Sunday 9am:
Merbein:
 Tony Dimasi, Nick Mazza, Jacob Nemtsas and Regina Dolenc.
Red Cliffs:

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.



Next Weekend Roster: 16th & 17th December 2023				
	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers	Offertory	Music
Sat 6pm Mildura	R Tongue	M Cirillo, R Tongue, Volunteer please		M Sullivan Singing Group
Sun 8.30am Irymple	D Knight			M Smith
Sun 9am Mildura	L Welsh	N Fatai, B Castilo, R O'Callaghan	Baptism Family	Tongan Community, M Guthrie
Sun 10am Red Cliffs	M Milani	S Orr	M Bell	T Lewis, Tongan Choir
Sun 10.30am Merbein	K Aston	N Prevedello	R Antony family	K East
Sun 5pm Mildura	B Bunting	M Bowring, C Carlucci, V Carlucci	Baptism Family	M Hammond, J Macri, J Ljubic

MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Tuesday	9.30am	Red Cliffs
	6pm	Mildura Mon Centre
Wednesday	9.30am	Mildura Mon Centre
Thursday	9.30am	Merbein Anointing
	9.30am	Mildura Mon Centre
	2pm	Funeral Mildura
	5.30pm	Red Cliffs Anointing
Friday	6pm	Mildura
Saturday	9.30am	Mildura
	6pm	Mildura
Sunday	8.30am	Irymple
	9am	Mildura
	10am	Red Cliffs
	10.30am	Merbein
	5pm	Mildura

What's Happening **December 2023**

Sun 10 Dec: Trading Table, Mildura after 9am Mass
Sun 10 Dec: Farewell Sr Rosemary—morning tea after 9am mass
Sun 10 Dec: Trading Table, Red Cliffs after 10am Mass
Tue 12 Dec: Princes Court Aged Care Service 1pm
Thu 14 Dec: Anointing Mass, Merbein 9.30am
Thu 14 Dec: Anointing Mass, Red Cliffs 5.30pm
Tue 19 Dec: BUPA Aged Care Service 1pm
Wed 20 Dec: Jacaranda Village Aged Care Service 2pm
Wed 20 Dec: Anointing Mass, Mildura 2pm

"Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals."
 Mark 1:7

Copies of ODC Magazine are now available for you to collect.
 Great reading.

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

'Console my people, console them'
says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.

Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.

Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'

Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us
your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never
forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thou-
sand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The
Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as
anybody else might be called slow; but he is being
patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and
everybody to be brought to change his ways. The
Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with
a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch
fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains
will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you
should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait
and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky
will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the
heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised:
the new heavens and new earth, the place where
righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends,
while you are waiting, do your best to live lives
without spot or stain so that he will find you at
peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 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

Mark 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus
Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of
the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before
you;

he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the
wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for
the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the peo-
ple of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as
they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they
confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel
-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the
course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is fol-
lowing me, someone who is more powerful than I
am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the
strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with wa-
ter, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'