



 **ST FRANCIS XAVIER**
2 Elms Street, Irymple

 **OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART**
20 Box Street, Merbein

 **SACRED HEART**
261 Eleventh Street, Mildura

 **ST JOSEPH'S**
8726 Calder Highway, Red Cliffs

 **OUR LADY OF LOURDES**
47 Werrimull South Road, Werrimull



Sts Anne and Joachim

CATHOLIC PARISH OF SUNRAYSIA

Parish Office: 257 Eleventh Street, Mildura. **Office Hours:** 9am - 4pm, Tue to Fri.

Postal Address: PO Box 10037, MILDURA VIC AUSTRALIA 3502

Office Phone: 03 5021 2872 **Presbytery:** 0417 862 082

E-mail: sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au **Website:** www.sunraysiacatholic.org

Sunday 16th June 2024 | Edition 24/2024

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

MASS TIMES

Monday

10am Funeral Service, Merbein

Tuesday

~~9:30am Red Cliffs~~

10am Funeral Mass, Mildura
6pm Mildura

Wednesday

9:30am Mildura
12noon Graveside Red Cliffs

Thursday

9.30am Merbein
9.30am Mildura
5.30pm Red Cliffs

Friday

9:30am SHPS School Mass
2pm Funeral Mass, Mildura
6pm Mildura

Saturday

~~9:30am Mildura~~
10am Funeral Mass, Mildura
6pm Mildura

Sunday

8.30am Irymple
9am Mildura
10am Red Cliffs
10.30am Merbein
5pm Mildura

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 4.30-5pm, Mildura
Friday, 5-5:45pm, Mildura
~~Saturday 10-11am, Mildura~~

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Tuesday 4pm, Mildura

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS

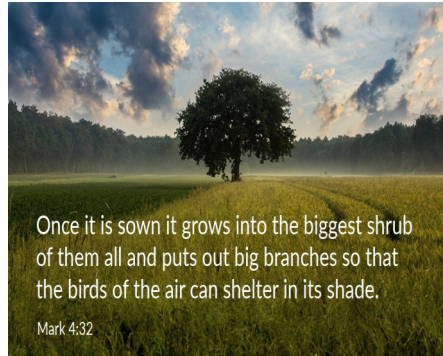
~~Saturday 10am, Mildura~~

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Saturday 11:30am, Mildura

CHOSEN YOUTH

Sunday 6pm, Mildura



Once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.

Mark 4:32

LET US PRAY

FOR THE SICK:

Mary Mazza
Don Marciano

Please obtain permission if you are submitting someone else's name. Intentions are printed for one month only, but these can be renewed each month.

RECENT DEATHS:

Natale Tassone
Rosaria Visona
William Ackland

ANNIVERSARIES:

Irymple 8.30am:

Jan Piscioneri

Mildura 9am:

Maria Kondratow
Betty Day (1 yr anniversary)

Merbein:

Stephen Piscioneri
Frederick Eldridge
Jack Hamence
Peter McKee
Franciska Klarich
Alvina Mary

Red Cliffs:

Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna
Domenico & Caterina D'Anna
Giuseppe D'Anna
Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna
Vincenza Tassone

If you have booked a memorial Mass please speak to the priest prior to the Mass.

FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRIEST

The welcome rain we're receiving at present complements this weekend's Gospel. In practical terms seeds are as mysterious to us as they were to the people Jesus was addressing. The growth from seeds is a natural force outside of human control. God's ways are also like that: outside human control. That becomes clear to anyone who looks at Church history. Things are born small, grow to an amazing size, and then they disappear. It's a constant cycle of beginnings and endings.

Without these lessons from history, it is very easy to become proud of achievements which really belong to God. We like think to that we are indispensable, when often we are actually spanners in God's works. Once pride comes in, God runs away!

We are much more like little children, and sometimes little children are a nuisance – except that their parents invite them to 'help,' and allow the children to feel they've accomplished something.

It's not that we should devalue our work, or consider ourselves a nuisance. But I think Jesus does want us to remember that God is in control, not us. In the words of Pope Francis, "God is always the God of surprises. The Lord always surprises us. [This Gospel] is an invitation to open ourselves more generously to God's plans."

Fr John

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday 16 June – Italian Festa
ST ANTHONY OF PADUA**
9am Mass, Sacred Heart Mildura

Tuesday 25 June – Council of Priests, Ballarat
Please note: no Masses in Sunraysia

Wednesday 26 June – Baptism Preparation
7pm Meeting, Sacred Heart Mildura

Wednesday 3 July – Bereavement Team
1pm Meeting in the Parish Office

Monday 9 July – Knights of the Southern Cross
7.30pm Meeting in the KSC Clubrooms

Wednesday 24 July – Baptism Preparation
7pm Meeting, Sacred Heart Mildura

**Friday 26 July – Parish Patronal Feast
ST ANNE AND ST JOACHIM**
6pm Mass and Refreshments, Mildura

ANOINTING MASSES



Thursday 20 June, 9:30am Merbein
Thursday 20 June, 1:30pm Regis Ontario
Wednesday 26 June, 2pm Mildura
Tuesday 2 July, 10.30am, Jacaranda
Thursday 11 July, 5.30pm, Red Cliffs
Tuesday 23 July, 1pm, BUPA Mildura

BAPTISM



We welcome into our parish community
William Harradine
whose baptism is celebrated this weekend.

READERS ROSTER

A new Readers' Roster will need to be prepared for the first weekend of July for the rest of 2024.

New readers are most welcome and for any variations current readers may wish to make like days not available or change of Mass time etc please contact the Parish Office on 5021 2872 by Tuesday 25th June.

2024 SACRAMENTAL DATES

First Holy Communion (Grade 4 and above)



*Parent meeting: 28th August 7pm,
Sacred Heart Church.*

*First Communion Masses: Friday 25th
Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th October.*

First Reconciliation (Grade 2 and above)



*Parent meeting: 16th October 7pm,
Sacred Heart Church.*

*Celebration date: Wednesday 27th
November 6pm or 7pm, at Sacred
Heart Church.*

FEAST OF ST ANTHONY

The Italian Community will be celebrating their annual Feast of St Anthony this morning at the 9am Mass.



A raffle will be drawn after Mass and tickets will be sold only on the day. All are invited to stay for light refreshments in the Monaghan Centre.

SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUP

Our Family group will lunch at the Merbein Social Club this Sunday 16 June at 12 midday.



SUNRAYSIA PIETY SHOPS

Mildura's "pop-up" piety table will operate on the **third weekend of each month**. Red Cliffs piety operates every Sunday after 10am Mass. The Mildura and Red Cliffs piety shops are not-for-profit services equipped for cash and card. (Card transactions attract a 1.6% surcharge.)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL



In these hard economic times help support those of us volunteering in the St Vincent de Paul Society by donating to our Winter Appeal, held next weekend: 22-23 June.

Your donation this winter will help us continue to create short-term and long-term change for many in Sunraysia experiencing poverty and hardship. Envelopes will be provided at all the Church entrances. Many thanks.

PETITION TO RETAIN THE LORD'S PRAYER IN PARLIAMENT

The Lord's Prayer has introduced proceedings at Victorian Parliament since 1857. In recent years, secularists have argued that the prayer is inappropriate for a multicultural society, and it should be replaced by a minute of silence. However, the petition to retain the Lord's Prayer is signed not just by the Catholic and Anglican dioceses in Victoria, but also the Islamic Board of Imams, the Hindu Council, and the Jewish Affairs Council. The secularist campaign to remove the Lord's Prayer is opposed by all of Victoria's multi-faith communities. If 10,000 regular citizens sign this petition, the Government is obliged to debate the motion before making its decision. Please sign the petition at tinyurl.com/vic-par-our-father



Refugee Week

Coordinated by
Refugee Council of Australia

NATIONAL REFUGEE WEEK

In a world marked by displacement and the search for refuge, this year's Refugee Week theme "Finding Freedom" – with a focus on family – encapsulates the profound journey of resilience, strength, and unity that defines the refugee experience. This Refugee Week, we aim to shed light on the transformative power of familial bonds as well as chosen bonds in the face of adversity and emphasise the crucial role families play in providing solace, support, and a sense of belonging to those forced to flee their homelands. More information is available from the diocesan website: tinyurl.com/2024-refugee-week

PRAYER FOR REFUGEE WEEK

*Lord, no one is a stranger to you
and no one is ever far from your loving care.
In your kindness watch over refugees and asylum
seekers,
those separated from their loved ones, those who
are lost,
and those who have been exiled from their homes.
Bring them safely to the place where they long to be,
and help us always to show your kindness to
strangers and those in need.*

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council



ONLINE STUDY IN LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY



The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere, online. This low-cost (\$50usd) online study and formation for employed or volunteer lay workers in parishes is available through our partner, Dayton University. Cycle 5 begins July 15. There are 41 subjects to choose from – find one that interests you! Registrations are open now. Scan the QR code for more information or email djurdja.klaric@ballarat.catholic.org.au or ph. 5337 7121

ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and application forms are available at www.palottine.org.au/svpscholarship. Closing date is July 31, 2024.

STEWARDSHIP

Priest Support (Presbytery) Cash (1 st Collection); Tap & Go	\$2,039.60
Mission, Admin & Maintenance Envelopes, EFT, DD and CC	\$2,318.60
Mission, Admin & Maintenance Cash (2 nd Collection Loose Plate)	\$ 803.85

This week's Counting Team:
No. 1 – G Lavery

Next week's Counting Team:
No. 2 – R Tongue

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very high mountain.
I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.
It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of
its branches.
And every tree of the field will learn that I,
the Lord, am the one
who stunts tall trees and makes the low
ones grow,
who withers green trees and makes the
withered green.
I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

RESPONSORIAL

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. see v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*Whether we are living in the body or exiled
from it, we are intent on pleasing the Lord.*

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make

our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*The mustard seed, the smallest of all the
seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.



It is like a mustard seed that,
when it is sown in the ground,
is the smallest of all the
seeds on the earth.

Mark 4:31

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Job 38:1, 8-11

Psalm: Ps 106:23-26, 28-31

Response: Give thanks to the Lord,
his love is everlasting.

Second Reading: 2 Cor 5:14-17

Gospel: Mk 4:35-41

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest
Fr Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priest
Fr John Corrigan

Visiting Priest
Fr Shaiju Mathew

Parish Secretary
Carmel Russo

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Sts Anne and Joachim
Catholic Parish of Sunraysia
adheres to Victoria's eleven
Child Safe Standards.

Policies are on display in each
church and on our website.

Parish Safety Officer
Vince Pileggi