


 **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 St, Mildura **Opening:** 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

9th March 2025 | Edition 10/2025

First Sunday of Lent (Year C)

MASS TIMES

Monday
No Mass

Tuesday
6pm Mildura

Wednesday
9.30am Mildura

Thursday
9.30am Merbein
9.30am Mildura
5.30pm Red Cliffs

Friday
6pm Mildura

Saturday
9.30am Mildura
6pm Mildura

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

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 4:30pm - 5:45pm
Friday 4:30pm - 5:45pm
Saturday 10am

ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Tuesday 4pm, Mildura
Friday 4pm, Mildura

CHILDREN'S CATECHESIS

Recommences 15 March 2025

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Saturday 11:30am, Mildura



LET US PRAY

FOR THE SICK:

Barry Crosbie
Julia Lewis
Rocco Fotia

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:

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mildura — Sunday 5pm:
Natale & Leo Mammone

Tuesday 6pm:

Emma De Luca (10 yr anniversary)
Franc Strubelj,
Knights of the Southern Cross
(for the intention of Christian life
in Australia)

Friday 6pm:

Maria Vanni (30 day mass)

Merbein:

Larry Dichiera
Rosalind McDonald
Gilia Dichiera
Colleen Piscioneri
Ilario Mazza
Keith Flenly

Red Cliffs:

Cecilia & Domenico D'Anna
Vincenza Tassone
Francesco Tassone
Maria-Antonia Tassone

If you have booked a memorial Mass please speak to the priest prior to the Mass to let him know you are there.

FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

We are back in the Mildura Church, though there are still limitations on the access and use of the Marian Chapel end.

We have now commenced our Lenten Journey. For the next 40 days we are asked to find time for prayer, to fast / give up / limit something in our lives.

There are copies of the Stations of the cross booklets in the foyers of the churches please take them home if you would like to pray them privately.

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble. Is today's psalm response. Who do I turn to? How do I seek assistance? Sometimes it is hard to say that I am in trouble and need help but we all find ourselves at different times needing to ask, or allow others to help. God is always there!

Fr John is in Ballarat at diocesan meetings for the first half of this week. On Wednesday I am attending a meeting with Robinvale, Ouyen and Mangantang parishioners on about the new-look Sunraysia Region. Those arrangements will commence in May. After Wednesday everything is back to normal!

God Bless.

Fr Matthew

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 10th March, 7.30pm

KSC meeting, Clubrooms

Wednesday 12th March, 1pm

Bereavement Team meeting, Parish Office

Thursday 13th March 8.30am

Communion Minister training, SH Mildura

Friday 14th March 6:30pm

Communion Minister training, SH Mildura

Sunday 16th March 3:00pm

Altar Servers training, SH Mildura

Wednesday 26th March 6.30pm

Baptism Preparation, Monaghan Centre

Sunday 30th March 5pm

Youth Mass

ANOINTING MASSES



13 Mar 5.30pm, St Joseph's Red Cliffs

20 Mar 9.30am, OLSH Merbein

25 Mar 11am, Jacaranda Aged Care

25 Mar 2pm, BUPA Aged Care, Mildura

26 Mar 2pm, SH Mildura

WEDDING



Congratulations to:

Nathan Argiro and Lauren O'Brien

who were married this weekend at Sacred Heart Church.

TRADING STALL & CUPPA



This Sunday the cuppa and trading stall will be held after the 9am Mass in Mildura, and cuppa only after 10am Mass in Red Cliffs. Proceeds from the stall will go to The Soup Kitchen.

2025 SACRAMENTAL DATES

Combined Parent meeting for Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be held on Wednesday 2nd April, 7pm at Sacred Heart Church.



Confirmation (Gr. 3 and above)

Friday 30th May

Saturday 31st May

Sunday 1st June.



First Communion (Gr. 4 and above)

Friday 20th June

Saturday 21st June

Sunday 22nd June

MAKING THE MOST OF LENT

Praying, Fasting, Volunteering, Almsgiving.

Project Compassion Envelopes are now available from all church entrances.

Way of the Cross:

Commencing Friday 7th March at Sacred Heart Church Mildura:

- Friday 5.15pm, followed by 6pm Mass.
- Friday 6.30pm Indian Community-led.
- Friday 7.30pm Tongan Community-led.



Communal celebration of Reconciliation:

Wednesday 9th April 6pm at Sacred Heart Church Mildura. All welcome.

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUPS

Our 2025 Lenten Program is *Metanoia*, produced by the Diocese of Wollongong. Booklets cost \$5 and are available from the Parish Office. They are suitable for private reading, and for study groups:

Group 1: Red Cliffs (Monday, 10am). For details, call Janine Cameron: 0438 730 976.

Group 2: Mildura (Thursday 10am - 11am)
Sacred Heart Church. Led by Fr John Corrigan.

Group 3: Mildura (Friday 6.30pm to 7.30pm)
Sacred Heart Church. Led by Fr John Corrigan.

SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUP

We'll be lunching at the Red Cliffs Club on Sunday 16th March at 12 Noon. Jim & Kit are the hosts. Please let your intentions be known on 03 5602 1918 or 0429 436 722.

First Sunday of Lent
9th of March 2025

Project Compassion shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



Please donate today: You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation envelopes.
Or online: scan the QR code or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion **Or call:** 1800 024 413

EASTER TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper

- 5pm Merbein
- 7pm Red Cliffs
- 7pm Mildura



Good Friday – Celebration of the Lord's Passion

- 9.30am Mildura Way of the Cross
- 3pm Merbein
- 3pm Red Cliffs (Lay Led)
- 3pm Mildura



Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

- 6pm Red Cliffs
- 7pm Mildura

Easter Sunday – Mass of the Lord's Resurrection

- 8:30am Irymple
- 9am Mildura
- 10:30am Merbein
- 11am Werrimull
- 5pm No Mass**



COMMUNION MINISTERS

Existing and aspiring Ministers of Communion are invited to attend one of two formation sessions at Sacred Heart Church:

Thursday 13th March, 8.30am to 9:15am

Friday 14th March, after 6pm Mass

These sessions are suitable for *all* communion ministries – whether at Mass, or at aged care residences, or visiting people at home.

ALTAR SERVERS' GUILD

Existing and aspiring Altar Servers are invited to a meeting at Sacred Heart Church:

Sunday 16th March, 3pm to 5pm



Altar servers need to have received the Sacrament of Confirmation and made their First Communion. They will attend a two hour guild meeting every month, but their Sunday Mass roster will be negotiable. See registration forms in church for more detail.

MOVIE NIGHT

The Bible Society, Sunraysia Branch is organising a Movie Night, "Miracles from Heaven" Saturday, 15th March 6.30pm at Mildura Church of Christ, Cnr Tenth St & Deakin Avenue. Free event. Kids most welcomed. Popcorn and cordial provided.

Please see flyer at all churches and Parish Office.

All welcome.

STEWARDSHIP

Priest Support (Presbytery)
Cash (1st Collection); Tap & Go

\$1051.50

Mission, Admin & Maintenance
Envelopes, EFT, DD and CC

\$1965.45

Mission, Admin & Maintenance
Cash (2nd Collection Loose Plate)

\$ 558.45

This week's Counting Team:
No. 2—R Tongue

Next week's Counting Team:
No. 3—P McDonald

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

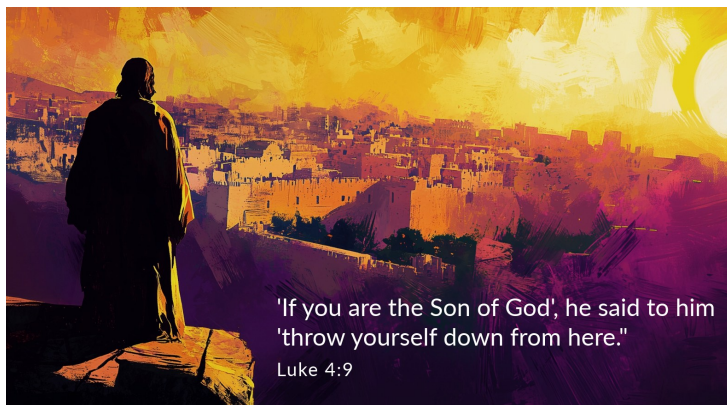
"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

RESPONSORIAL

Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' (R.)
2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. (R.)
3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. (R.)
4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory. (R.)



'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here.'

Luke 4:9

SECOND READING

Romans 10:8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: *Man does not live on bread alone.*'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

Psalms: Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest:
Fr Matthew Thomas

Assistant Priest:
Fr John Corrigan

Visiting Priest:
Fr Shaiju Mathew

Parish Secretary:
Carmel Spagnolo

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

St Anne & St Joachim Catholic Parish of Sunraysia is a Child Safe Parish which adheres to Victoria's eleven Child Safe Standards.

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

Parish Safety Officer:
Vince Pileggi