



 **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](mailto:sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au) **Website:** [www.sunraysiacatholic.org](http://www.sunraysiacatholic.org)

16th March 2025 | Edition 11/2025

## Second Sunday of Lent (Year C)

### MASS TIMES

#### Monday

No Mass

#### Tuesday

6pm Mildura

#### Wednesday

9.30am Mildura

#### Thursday

9.30am Merbein

9.30am Mildura

1.30pm Funeral 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

Saturday 10am, Monaghan Centre

#### 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:

Robert Mellino (Shepparton)

Bob Burgess (Seymour)

Caterina Fleri

#### ANNIVERSARIES:

Brian Weightman

#### Mildura – Sunday 9am:

Henry Berton

Enzo Boscalia

Lawrence Naray

Mary O'Bryan

#### Sunday 5pm:

Domenico Ficarra

#### Tuesday 6pm:

Ilario Dichiera

#### Merbein:

Gilia Dichiera, Cassie Weinert

Frank Lowry, Eva Matotek

Laurie Waddell

#### Red Cliffs:

Tom Smith

Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna

Domenico & Caterina D'Anna

Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna

Giuseppe D'Anna

Vincenza 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

*'The Lord is my light and my salvation' is today's response to the psalm. Having the light of Jesus to guide our lives gives us a good example of seeing humanity in all its glory and to challenge others to think about how we treat others.*

*On Monday being St Patrick's day I celebrate 19 Years of Priesthood.*

*I am very blessed to be able to serve in many communities and to journey with you in our faith life.*

*On Tuesday Fr John and myself will be in Swan Hill for the Zone Meeting with this occurring there will be no Adoration or Confession just Mass at 6pm.*

*Fr Shaiju's farewell will be on Sunday evening 30th March, we invite all parishioners to come to the 5pm mass and then stay on for a bite to eat and thank Fr Shaiju for four and a half years of dedicated priestly service to all in the Sunraysia and greater region.*

God Bless.

*Fr Matthew*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 3:00pm**  
Altar Servers training, SH Mildura

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 7.15am**  
Finance Meeting, Parish Office

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm**  
Baptism Preparation, Monaghan Centre

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 5pm**  
Youth Mass

## ANOINTING MASSES



20 Mar 9.30am, OLSH Merbein  
25 Mar 11am, Jacaranda Aged Care  
25 Mar 2pm, BUPA Aged Care, Mildura  
26 Mar 2pm, SH Mildura

## EASTER TRIDUUM

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Mass of the Lord's Supper*

5pm Merbein  
6pm Robinvale  
7pm Mildura, Red Cliffs, Ouyen



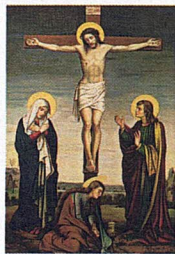
### GOOD FRIDAY

*Stations of the Cross*

9:30am Mildura

### *Celebration of the Lord's Passion*

3pm Merbein, Robinvale,  
Mildura, Red Cliffs,  
Ouyen, Manangatang



### HOLY SATURDAY

*Easter Vigil in the Holy Night*

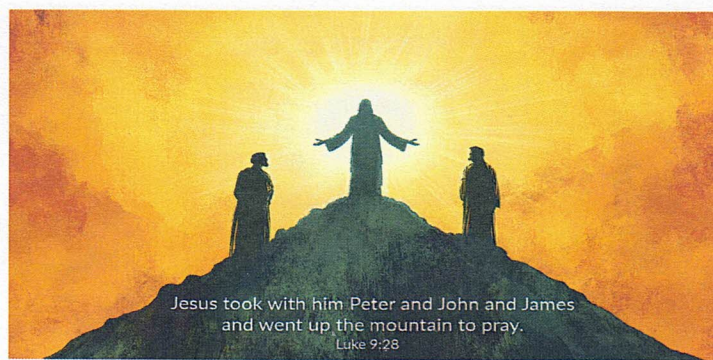
5pm Manangatang  
6pm Red Cliffs  
7pm Mildura, Ouyen, Robinvale



### EASTER SUNDAY

*Mass of the Lord's Resurrection*

8:30am Irymple  
9am Mildura  
10am Ouyen (TBC)  
10:30am Merbein  
11am Werrimull  
**5pm No Mass**



## 2025 SACRAMENTAL DATES

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



### Confirmation (Gr. 3 and above)

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June.



### First Communion (Gr. 4 and above)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

## ALTAR SERVERS' GUILD

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



**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 3pm to 5pm**

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

## BAPTISMS

We welcome into the Church:

✎ **Lessio Costa**  
✎ **Myles Colbert**



## ADVANCE NOTICE

**Lay Led Liturgy: Irymple and Red Cliffs**

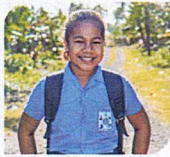
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April, Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September

**Lay Led Liturgy: Mildura and Merbein**

Sunday 29 June, Merbein only  
Mildura: Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July & Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 9am  
Merbein: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July

## Second Sunday of Lent

**Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.



PLEASE DONATE TODAY

You can support Project Compassion through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

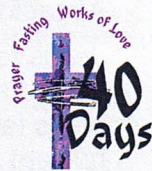
## MAKING THE MOST OF LENT

**Praying, Fasting, Volunteering, Almsgiving.**

**Project Compassion Envelopes** are now available from all church entrances.

**Way of the Cross:**

Commencing Friday 7<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

## COMMUNION PRACTICES

Thank you to all our volunteers who attended our recent training sessions for Extraordinary Ministers of Communion. Our Diocese has a number of standards which all parishioners are asked to observe at Communion time:

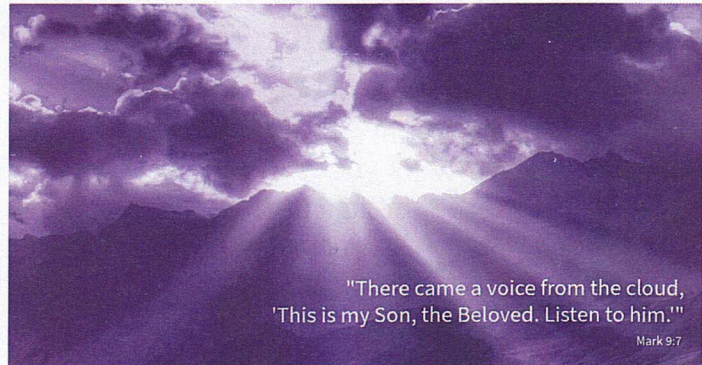
### COMMUNION FOR THE MOBILITY IMPAIRED.

Parishioners who wish to receive Communion at their place are encouraged to sit in the designated areas. If you are seated elsewhere, the Minister may miss you.

**RECEIVING IN THE HAND.** Please consume the host immediately. If someone is observed walking away with the host, a Minister will follow and ask that you consume the host promptly.

**RECEIVING ON THE TONGUE.** Please go to the priest to receive Communion.

**NO SELF-INTINCTION.** "Intincting the host" – that is, dipping the host into the chalice – is not accepted Catholic practice. There is a danger that the Precious Blood is spilled. Please consume the host before receiving the chalice.



## STEWARDSHIP

<b>Priest Support (Presbytery)</b> Cash (1 <sup>st</sup> Collection); Tap & Go	\$2106.60
<b>Mission, Admin &amp; Maintenance</b> Envelopes, EFT, DD and CC	\$2812.40
<b>Mission, Admin &amp; Maintenance</b> Cash (2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection Loose Plate)	\$ 757.25
<b>Project Compassion</b>	\$ 245.00

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

**Next week's Counting Team:**  
No. 4—M Roper

# FIRST READING

Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

# RESPONSORIAL

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

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face.  
Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.  
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

# SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

# GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YR C

**First Reading:** Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

**Psalms:** Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8

**Response:** The Lord is kind and merciful

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

**Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9

## 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