



Sts Anne and Joachim

CATHOLIC PARISH OF SUNRAYSIA

Office Phone: (03) 5021 2872 | **Presbytery:** 0417 862 082

Parish Office: 257 Eleventh Street, MILDURA VIC 3500

Office Hours: 9:00am to 4:00pm, Tuesday to Friday

E-mail: sunraysia@ballarat.catholic.org.au



SUNDAY MASSES

Sacred Heart, Mildura
261 Eleventh Street

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9am

Sunday 5pm

St Francis Xavier's
2 Elms Street, Irymple
Sunday 8:30am

St Joseph's, Red Cliffs
8725 Calder Highway
Sunday 10am

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
20 Box Street, Merbein
Sunday 10:30am

St Mary's, Robinvale
19 Watkins Street
Saturday 6pm

St Patrick's, Manangatang
33 Pioneer Street
Sunday 9am

St Joseph's, Ouyen
94 Oke Street
Sunday 11am

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Sunday 20th September 2026 | Edition 38/2026

MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRIEST

Artificial Intelligence has been back in the news this week, when does it ever leave? Last weekend Dario Amodei the CEO of Anthropic wrote an essay posted to his website (darioamodei.com) on why the AI industry should slow down.

He voiced his concerns after the OpenAI-Hugging face incident, that a swarm of out of control AI agents could be capable of overtaking the whole internet rather than one single company and potentially cause hundreds of billions of dollars in damage. This intervention came on the back of a statement by a former AI model trainer at Anthropic who claimed that "the people building AI earnestly believe that it could kill us all by the end of the decade".

AI like nuclear technologies has much destructive potential, but one must ponder in light of Christian hope, and humanities want to prophesy doom throughout the ages, whether a cynical pessimism is the outlook to take toward future technological development and the fate of humanity? A Christian need not be an optimist when it comes to emerging technologies, but we must at least have hope. Hope not in *techne* itself, but in Christ!

The philosopher Peter Geach speaks of hope as the virtue that preserves us from a "fatuous presumption" which blinds us to "the difficulties and dangers of the path" and yet also "from despair that would make us give up, lie down, and miserably perish". As emerging technologies develop at an ever accelerating pace, let us not succumb to despair, but rather find a renewed focus on prioritising what's enduring: *crux dum volvitur orbis*, 'the cross is steady while the world turns'.

God Bless,

Fr Bill

PARISH TEAM

Assistant Priests: Fr Bill Lowry and Fr Francis Kureeckal mst
Parish Secretary: Carmel Spagnolo

LET US PRAY

FOR THE SICK:

Josie (Pina) Gallace, Brendan Bell,
Patrick Hunt, Marian Keam, Rosemarie Zalec,
Barry Crosbie

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.

FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Dora Mastrippolito, Catherine Bell,
Vittoria Dichiera (Italy) Francesca Pileggi's-sister

ANNIVERSARIES:

Merbein: Roy Fellows, Ida Pearson,
Koke Matheson, Margaret Cook, Peg McCarthy,
Teresa Panuccio, Vince Manno

Mildura:

Friday 6pm: Carmela Fotia

Red Cliffs: Giuseppe & Maria D'Anna,
Domenico & Caterina D'Anna, Giuseppe D'Anna,
Cecilia & Domenica D'Anna, Vincenza Tassone

Robinvale: Millie Grant, Fernanda Cardin
Peter Corcoran (Senior), Carmela Fotia

If you have booked a memorial Mass please inform the priest of your arrival before the Mass begins.

WELCOME FR VUONG

We welcome and thank Fr Vuong who will be celebrating Masses this weekend in the Sunraysia.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 22nd September, 7:15am
Finance Committee meeting, Parish Office

Tuesday 22nd September, 6:30pm
Baptism Preparation meeting, Monaghan Centre

FESTA OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

The Annual Festa of Our Lady of the Rosary will be celebrated once again this October at St Joseph the Worker Church Red Cliffs. Mission week begins on Monday the 5th of October with the Rosary, Confessions and Mass from 6pm each evening through the week.

Thursday evening Mass will be offered for the families of our Parish, all families are welcome to attend, with hospitality to be enjoyed afterwards. Friday evening Mass will be offered for the Faithful Departed. Parishioners are invited to bring an image of their departed loved ones to be placed in the sanctuary during Mass. Saturday evening Mass will include the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for the Elderly and Infirm.

Sunday the 11th of October will be the culmination of the week with the Celebration of Mass at 10am in honour of our Lady, followed by the procession and then the feast with entertainment and stalls. Pictures for the colouring in competition for children aged +3 and up are available at Mildura & Red Cliffs Churches. Please bring your child's completed artworks on the day to enter into the competition.

OUR DIOCESAN COMMUNITY

The second edition of ODC for 2026 has been published. Feel free to take copies to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals, etc., to spread the good news of the diocese.

FUEL RAFFLE

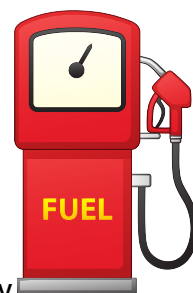
One more week left until the draw of our Fuel Raffle. Kindly return your tickets and money returned to the Parish Office by Thursday 24th September. Tickets can also be purchased up until the draw.

Tickets are just \$2 each:

1st Prize: \$1,000 fuel

2nd Prize: \$500 fuel

3rd Prize: \$100 fuel



The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 27th September following the 5pm Mass. Light refreshments will be provided. For catering purposes please contact the Parish Office.

RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION

All envelopes now need to be returned to the Parish Office.



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.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday 25th September due to the AFL Public Holiday

PLANNED GIVING

A number of parishioners are still using their old (purple) envelopes, making it difficult to allocate your giving to the appropriate giver. Please throw away your old envelopes and use your new **blue** envelopes.

MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER
St Matthew, apostle

10:30am Requiem Mass, Mildura
5pm Soup Kitchen, Mildura

NB: CONFESSION IS AVAILABLE during all scheduled **Holy Hours**, and also after the 9:30am Saturday Mass in Mildura.

BULLETIN NOTICES: Please email or phone the Parish Office **by Thursday afternoon** to submit bulletin notices.

TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER
Twenty-fifth Week in Ordinary Time Yr A

10:30am Requiem Mass, Mildura
4pm-5:30pm Holy Hour, Mildura
6pm Mass, Mildura
6pm Mass, Robinvale

WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER
St Pius of Pietrelcina

9:30am Mass, Mildura
9:30am Mass, Manangatang
3pm - 4:30pm Holy Hour, Ouyen
5pm Mass, Ouyen
5:30pm - 6:30pm Soup Kitchen, Monaghan Centre

RETREAT: EATING WITH JESUS

This Ignatian Retreat will invite participants to prayerfully experience selected Gospel meal stories where Jesus gathered with friends and strangers alike. Led by Spiritual Director Anna Schlooz, meals and materials are provided. BYO journal and bible. The retreat is funded by the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Foundation - no cost for participants. For more information and to register, please contact Anna Schlooz: ecomyriad@gmail.com
The retreat will be held in the Monaghan Centre on October 10th at Mildura, from 10.00am – 5.00pm. Please RSVP by October 5th.

ADMISSION TO CANDIDACY FOR ORDINATION AS DEACONS AND PRIESTS

Diocesan Seminarians Simon Zakari and Channa Tilikarathna, will be admitted as candidates for ordination to the diaconate and later to the priesthood. Bishop Mark Freeman will celebrate Mass on Sunday, September 27, 2026 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 5.00pm and during this Mass, Channa and Simon will publicly express their intention to receive ordination as a deacon and priest. All welcome to attend.

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Parish communities:

Remi Alderton, Mollie Motlop, Jericho & Jaden Santo, Gia Bozzi, Kip Challis, Luca Piscioneri and Leo Vartuli



whose Baptism occurs this weekend in Mildura.

A PRAYER FOR CATH FRY

A beautiful, gentle, kind and modest lady who devoted her life to her family, faith, friends, flowers, animals and birds. Lord, let us live our lives as Cath lived hers. Cath loved without condition; talked without intention; listened without judgement, gave without reason, cared without expectations and remembered without regret. Lord help us to live that way.

STEWARDSHIP

Presbytery - Priests Support

Cash (1st Collection); Tap & Go

\$2708.75

Parish - Mission & Maintenance

Envelopes, EFT, DD, and CC

\$3234.75

Parish - Mission & Maintenance

Loose Plate (2nd Collection)

\$1213.05

Ballarat Clergy Support Fund

\$1338.50

This week's Counting Team: No. 6 - B Collins

Next week's Counting Team: No. 7 - L Welsh

SACRED HEART FAMILY GROUP

Will be lunching at the Merbein Club on Sunday 20th September at 12 noon.

Please let your intentions be known to Helen or John 0427441466 or 0419563055

2026 SACRAMENTAL DATES

First Reconciliation (Grade 2 and above)

Parent meeting: 14th October 7pm, Sacred Heart Church.

The celebration dates are as follows:
Wednesday 25th November, Mildura



THURSDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

Twenty-Fifth Week in ordinary Time Yr A

9:30am Mass, Merbein

9:30am Mass, Mildura

10:30am BUPA Aged Care, Mildura

2pm-4:30pm Adoration, Ouyen

5:30pm Mass, Red Cliffs

FRIDAY 25th SEPTEMBER

Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time Yr A

9:30am Mass, Underbool

4pm-5:30pm Holy Hour, Mildura

5pm Confessions, Mildura

6pm Mass, Mildura

SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER

Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time Tr A

9:30am Mass, Mildura

10am Confessions, Mildura

11:30am Christian Meditation,
Monaghan Centre, Mildura

6pm Mass, Mildura

6pm Mass, Robinvale

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) *The Lord is near to all who call him.* Ps144:2-3, 8-9, 17-182

I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured. (R)

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. (R)

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts. (R)



“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard.”

Matthew 20:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf Act 16:144

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

SUNDAY 27th SEPTEMBER Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A	WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH	NEXT SUNDAY'S MASS READINGS
8:30 Mass, Irymple 9am Mass, Manangatang 9am Mass, Mildura 10am Mass, Red Cliffs 10:30am Mass, Merbein 11am Mass, Ouyen 5pm Mass, Mildura	The parish of Saints Anne and Joachim, Sunraysia is a Child Safe Parish which adheres to Victoria’s eleven Child Safe Standards. Our policies are displayed in our churches and on our website. Parish Safety Officers: Arthur Cassidy (Robinvale) Melanie Grace (Ouyen) Noreen Morris (Manangatang) Vince Pileggi (Sunraysia)	Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28 Psalm: Ps 24:4-9 Response: Remember your mercies, O Lord Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11 Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32