

SACRED HEART PARISH, MILDURA

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P.O. Box 5048, Mildura 3502
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www.milduracatholicchurch.org.au

Office Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9.00am to 5.00pm
St Francis Xavier Church, Elms Street, Irymple

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:

Fr Tom Brophy, Fr John Monaghan,
Gladys Abriani, Jen Ditchfield, Rebecca Hogan
Fr. Frank Monaghan P.E.



Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 5.00 pm and Irymple 8.30 am

Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday 11.00 am or by appointment

16th December 2007 Third Sunday of Advent - Year A

THIS WEEK: Third Sunday of Advent - Year A

First Reading **Is 35:1-6, 10**

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading **Jas 5:7-10**

Gospel **Mt 11:2-11**



NEXT WEEK: Fourth Sunday of Advent -Year A

First Reading **Is 7:10-14**

Psalm **Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10**

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Second Reading **Rom 1:1-7**

Gospel **Mt 1:18-24**

Recent Deaths: Giuseppe Pisconeri (Merbein),
Baby Joseph Mapapalangi (Red Cliffs)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sat 6.00pm. Maria Friscic (30 day Mass)

Sun 10.00am. Marianna Macri.

5.00p.m. Ivan Ban.

Fri 21st Dec 5.40pm. Jim Byrne

Anniversaries: Deceased members of the
Friscic & Matulin families.

Note to Families requesting special Masses:

Please let celebrant know you are present before Mass.

Weekly Prayer Opportunities

Monday Prayer Group: 2-4 p.m.

Rosary: Monday 6.00 p.m.

Prayer of the Church: Tues/Wed/Fri. 8.40 a.m.

Meditation: Thursday 7 a.m. Church prayer room

Charismatic Prayer Group: Tues. 7.30 p.m.

Scripture Readings: Thurs 2/177 12st -10.30a.m.

Devotional Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3.00 p.m.

Weekday Mass Times

*If there is a Funeral Mass the advertised Mass
will be cancelled*

Tue: 7.00 p.m.

Wed: 9.10 a.m.

Thu: 9.30 a.m.

Fri: 5.40 p.m.

Sat: 10.00 a.m.

We pray for the sick

Leonie Prentice, Pat Donnellan (brother of Maureen Nolan)

Sr. Kathleen (Ireland), Vonnie Bennett (Nudgee Qld)

Mollie Curran and Frs. Denis Ryan and Gerry Prunty, John

Burton (Bundaberg Qld), Lisa Burton (Brisbane), Elaine Barr.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

SELECT YOUR FAVOURITE TREE,
SHRUB OR PLANT IN THE CHURCH
GARDEN AND SAVE IT!

Buckets can be found on the front
veranda of the presbytery near a tap.

Please ensure you replace the bucket after
use and the tap is turned off.



ADVENT: Third Candle is lit

Colour: Pink

Theme: The Shepherd's Candle.

The third candle reminds us of how the shepherd's
responded- they listened and followed the angel's
instructions, they saw Jesus and believed, and they told all
what had happened to them. We too should consider how
we can tell others about Jesus.



Christmas-New Year Office Closures:

Closure dates for Parish Office:

Tues 25th Dec reopening Thurs 3rd Jan.

Our Parish Blessing

May the Lord, Mighty God,
Bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace, perfect peace,
Courage in every endeavour.
Lift up your eyes and see God's face
And God's grace forever.
May the Lord, Mighty God,
Bless and keep you forever.



EUCCHARIST MINISTERS

PLEASE NOTE

New Rosters now available for collection at the back of
the Church. This commences Sat. 29th December.

ALTAR SERVERS

If you are able to help serve at any of the Christmas Masses
please contact:

Margaret McDonald Ph: 50221531

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Monday 17th Dec. 7.00 p.m. Sacred Heart church

Communal Penitential Service --- 2nd Rite.

Five priests will be in attendance to administer the Sacrament during this Penitential Service.

Thursday 20th Dec. 10.00 --- 11.00 a.m.

Friday 21st Dec. 5.00 – 5.30 p.m. 6.15 --- 7.00 p.m.

Saturday Dec. 22nd 11.00 a.m. – 12.noon

SUNRAYSA CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

MILDURA

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24th)

6.00 p.m. Children's Mass

8.00 p.m. Youth Mass 10.00 p.m. Mass

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th)

8.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.

(N.B. no evening Mass on Christmas Day)

IRYMPLE

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th)

8.30a.m.

MERBEIN

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24th)

7.00 p.m.

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th)

10.30 a.m.

REDCLIFFS

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24th)

6.00 p.m.- Werrimull. 8.30 p.m.- Red Cliffs

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th)

8.30 a.m. Red Cliffs

ROBINVALE

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24th)

9.00 p.m. Robinvale

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th)

9.00 a.m. Robinvale

WENTWORTH

Christmas Eve (Monday December 24th)

6.00 p.m. Wentworth 8.00 p.m. Buronga

Christmas Day (Tuesday December 25th)

8.00 a.m. Dareton 10.00 a.m. Buronga

What's Coming Up

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS ANOINTING MASSES

will be held at

Princes Court Home

Tues.18th Dec 11.00a.m.

Oasis Aged Care- Irymple

Thurs 20th Dec 1.30p.m.

All family and friends are invited to attend.

Tues 18th Dec. Finance Meeting 12.00 noon.

Sun 23rd Final practice for the Nativity Play at 2pm.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS

Will be celebrated at 6.00pm

on Christmas Eve, Monday, 24th Dec.

NOTICES

Amazing Grace will be available on DVD from December 21st. This special two-disc edition features the film along with a great array of special features including a featurette called 'How Sweet The Sound' plus a Chris Tomlin music video.



Finance- Last Week's Collections

Priests' & Diocese Support	\$ 1275.00
Direct Debit and Credit Cards:	\$ 577.53
Envelopes	\$ 1572.00
Loose Plate	\$ 386.55
Total Parish Support:	\$ 2590.53

Gift vouchers to help young people attend WYD

World Youth Day organisers are providing everyone with the opportunity to make a Christmas contribution to their young relatives or friends aspirations to attend WYD in Sydney. The WYD Vouchers can fund all or part of the pilgrim registration fee to attend the events to be held on 15 – 20 July 2008.



With more than 125,000 international pilgrims expected to come to Sydney and up to 500,000 people expected to attend the final Mass, WYD will also mark Pope Benedict's first visit to Australia.

Open to all young people, WYD hopes to mark a spiritual rejuvenation of many young Catholics and Christians as well as the Australian Catholic Church. The Gift Vouchers are available via the WYD08 website www.wyd2008.org

Next Weeks - GOSPEL

Gospel Mt 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David. This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfill the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

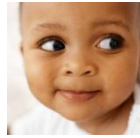
If you would like more envelopes or have not received any, please write your name on the sheet in the front foyer or contact the Office.



This photo showing the Cross travelling around the Mildura Show Grounds appeared in the Diocese Bulletin recently.

Through a Child's Eyes

Dear God,
Thank you for the baby brother
but I prayed for a puppy
Joyce.



SOCIAL JUSTICE CONCERN

Father Frank has a DVD which is titled
“Unjust Genes –Life & Death For Sale”.

This DVD was purchased by the Columbians to alert people to the dangers posed to consumers and farmers from Genetic Engineering. It includes interviews with scientists, farmers and missionaries.

Fr. Frank is keen to have Parish Groups and Parishioners view this to educate ourselves on the possible dangers we face from Genetic Engineering. The DVD and Booklet may be borrowed from the Parish Office.

So that as many people as possible may have the opportunity to view this excellent, yet disturbing production, and be informed of the dangers inherent in this technology, please return the DVD the next day.

Golden Jubilee Celebration: The Golden Jubilee of Fr Kevin Murphy's ordination to the priesthood on December 21, 1957 will be celebrated with a gathering at Our Lady Help of Christians parish Wendouree after the 11.00a.m. Mass, on Saturday, January 19, 2008. BYO picnic lunch.

Christmas is a time of joy, of love and of giving. Often it can become a time of stress and isolation. Try one of the suggestions below for a stress-free and Christ-centred Christmas.

Points for a stress free and Gospel based Christmas.

1. Do keep Christ in Christmas. Have a Christmas crib set with or even instead of your Christmas tree.
Place your gifts before the crib, like the three Kings.
2. Do remember that it is a time of giving not receiving.
3. Do teach your children and one another that it is not a time for expensive presents but for symbolic gifts. Perhaps save the expensive presents for more personal occasions such as birthdays.
4. Do remember that the gift tradition grew out of the activities of generous people wishing to share at this time.
5. Except for food provisions, do try to avoid shops for the week before and the week after Christmas.
6. Do plan ahead for the purchase of gifts and food.
This avoids the stress of last minute shopping and allows you to budget your spending.
7. Do send Christmas cards and contact family and friends.
8. Do spend some time in both personal and family prayer over the Christmas period. As well as acknowledging God's presence, prayer gives us peace and reassurance of God with us.
9. Do have a happy Christmas.



ROSTERS 15-16th Dec.	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Readers	L Crouch	J Hill	C/P McErvale	R Zalec
Counting Team	Team10:	Brian Grogan	50212099	
Eucharistic Ministers	M Roper S Tisler K Girke S Girke L Roden J & H De Jong	E Frauenfelder L Belej T Panuccio D Brown P O'Donnell	N Lewis N Pardo S Hermans R & I Barbary T McNamara R Byra M Grevic	W & T Finn P Cox M Ransome F Virgona R Antony
22nd-23rd December	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Music	N Armsden J Macri A Treloar		M Sullivan L Lynch	M Guthrie
Counting Team	Team 1	Gerry Lavery	50211918	



Christmas Appeal 2007

I thank you for the manner in which you assist me to carry out a tradition that is so faithful to the message of the Birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. With our people, we celebrate the mystery that He has come to bring salvation to the whole human family.

Our Christmas Appeal is one way by which the Diocese can respond to the many people and communities around the world who turn to us for assistance. In many cases, these requests come from priests and religious who have bonds with the Diocese of Ballarat or who are in regions that are linked with our country. Our response is an indication of our solidarity and of generosity.

So once again, I recommend the Christmas Appeal to you and to your people for generous support. I am aware that there are many times throughout the year that you are invited to respond to appeals for very worthy causes. World Youth Day will also require financial support throughout the Diocese in 2008.

I ask you to convey to your people my appreciation for the manner in which they supported the Christmas Appeal in 2006, which allowed the Diocese of Ballarat to make the following distributions:

Loreto-Vietnam Australia Programme (Sr. Trish Franklin IBVM)	2000
Columban Fathers work in Peru	14,000
Diocese of Aitape through Franciscan Missionary Union	12,000
Sisters of Nazareth in Fiji	1,000
Archdiocese of Honiara – Solomon Islands	2,000
Diocese of Tonga – Marist Missions	2,000
Diocese of Rarotonga – Marist Missions	2,000
Diocese of Auki – Solomon Islands	2,000
Sr. Lourdes - East Timor	1,000
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council	2,600
Diocese of Bereina, PNG	1,000
Parish to Parish Partnership – Redan/Beaufort with East Timor Parish	3,000
	\$44,600

I am in receipt of letters of appreciation from many of the recipients together with an assurance of prayers in gratitude. They also wish us to know that the funds made available would be well used.

In anticipation I thank you for your co-operation in recommending the 2007 Christmas Appeal to the generosity of your parishioners and giving them the opportunity to make their contribution on or about Christmas Day.

With every best wish.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Ballarat

- The second collection at all Masses on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day will be given to this Appeal.

Your generosity is appreciated.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Terry Murphy 50233056 Fr. Tom Brophy 50212872, Chris Slattery 5022 0565, Mary Gobbo 50234621, Marita Jensen 50237208, Fr. John Monaghan 50212872, Jean Rocca 50237561, Brian Grogan 50211209, Cornelia Conway-Weel 50234567, Sr. Rosemary Graham 50231841, Peter O'Donnell 0429104225, Veronica Chong 5023 1362