



SACRED HEART PARISH, MILDURA

259-263 Eleventh St, Mildura P.O. Box 10037, Mildura 3502
 Ph: 5021 2872 Fax: 5023 0337
 parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au 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 matt Thomas,
 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.

SUNDAY AUGUST 24th 2008: Twenty- First Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

THIS WEEK: Sunday August 24th Year A

First Reading Is 22:19-23

Psalms Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the
 work of your hands.

Second Reading Rom 11:33-36

Gospel Mt 16:13-20



NEXT WEEK: Sunday August 31st Year A

First Reading Jer 20:7-9

Psalms Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2

Gospel Mt 16:21-27

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recent Deaths: Brian Taylor (Merbein), Nancy Davis (Melb).

Anniversaries: Peter Gregory.

Sun 10.00 a.m. Maria Cavallo, Teresa Dimasi,
 Teresa & Vincenzo Vallelonga, Daniel Ghidinelli.

Tues 7.00p.m. Pasqualina Nucara, Celeste & Ilario Cirillo.

Thurs 9.30 a.m. Joseph Grivec.

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

Tues: 7.00p.m.

Wed: 9.10a.m.

Thur: 9.30 a.m.

Fri: 5.40 p.m.

Sat: 10.00 a.m.

We pray for the sick

Peter Jones (Melb), Bob Pemberton (Adelaide), Daniel Roden, Joy Englefield, Maureen Quaine, Fr Brendan Smith, Glen Levey, Domenico Ficarra, Michael Joslyn, Peter Adair & Michael Smith.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will not take place this weekend or next weekend as we are celebrating the Sacrament of First Eucharist in the parish.

Children's Liturgy will resume on Saturday September 6 at the 6 pm Mass and continue on September 13. There will then be a break during the school holidays and Children's Liturgy will recommence in Term 4.

Celebration of First Eucharist

We congratulate our younger parishioners who are to receive their First Eucharist over this weekend and next. We thank all those who assisted in the preparation especially Mrs. Jen Ditchfield – our Parish Sacramental Co-Ordinator. May the good Lord continue to bless all involved especially the children. As we appreciate even more the Lord's presence in the Eucharist and our need to receive him frequently, so we can be Eucharist to these in need.
 Frs. Matt & Tom.

Gospel Reflection- (Matthew 16:13-19)

'Be yourself. Everybody else is taken. And no one else can do the things you do,' sings Melinda Schneider. The lyrics of this lovely song, composed for Melinda's dying father, affirm some fairly obvious truths. Each of us is graced by God and entrusted with a particular mission. Jesus was uniquely graced and uniquely entrusted with a mission to make God present among us. He was utterly true to himself and his mission and he allowed others time to discover for themselves his real identity and the nature of his God given mission. If the mission was to succeed, then 'people' needed to look beyond their preconceptions about him and accept him as God's anointed one, as son of the living God.

Even a surface reading of the gospel reveals that Jesus' identity is a key issue for Matthew's community, as it is for us. In the very first verse of the gospel, he is presented as the anointed one of God, the Messiah or Christ. Before his birth, the reader knows him as 'Emmanuel', God with us. What the narrator asserts at the outset, certain characters in the story come slowly to understand as the narrative unfolds. Jesus' fearless teaching and his healing ministry bring the crowd to recognize him as a prophet in the tradition of Elijah or Jeremiah or John the Baptist. The power of God at work in Peter leads him to a deeper understanding of Jesus' identity. No matter that Peter has faltered in the past and will falter again, even to the point of denying any knowledge of or association with Jesus. Insight is a gift, and God can work wherever there is openness and goodwill. Peter has both in abundance. Jesus declares him 'blessed' on account of his openness to God's revelation. In a characteristic play on words, he names Peter as the 'rock' on which he will establish his new community, his 'ecclesia' or 'church'. Rock is an ambiguous gospel image: rock denotes solidity and reliability and yet when seed falls on rocky ground it fails to thrive. There is a caution here.

As leader, Peter is entrusted with the very particular mission of unlocking for the new community the treasures of their tradition. In next week's gospel story, Peter the 'rock' will become a 'stumbling block' to the realization of the mission, a reminder that leadership has nothing to do with status or control and everything to do with listening and truly hearing the word of God.

-Veronica Lawson RSM

FIRST EUCHARIST

Congratulations to all those who are celebrating their final step in their Christian initiation through the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend. We share your joy on this occasion and ask God to richly bless you today and for the rest of your lives. The children receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist this weekend are:

Nicole Alicastro, Atticus Banks, Harper Banks, Mahalia Brouwers, Eliza Burge, David Calf, Maddison Caminiti, Nathan Caminiti, Lawrence Casale, Jessica Cirillo, Mark Cirillo, Imogen Collins, Keelin Darcy, Sofia Dimasi, Deneille Elstone, Michael Fox, Maddison Frankel, Tom Healy, Dane Heeps, Abbey Hogarth, Mitchell Hynoski, Joel King, Sam Lawrie, James Lempriere, Anton Marlais, Angus Marwood, Kaitlyn Marziano, Michaela McKinnon, Georgia Mihan, Shikira Mitchell, Thomas Morello, Jesse Morris, Drew Neill, Rebekah Neill, Michael Powell, Remo Ribarits, Georgia Robertson, Angus Robinson, Maggie Sheahan, Sophie Sparrow, Ben Swift, Jarrod Theunissen, Caleb Venneri and Maddison Villiva.

Congratulations to Paris Palazzo who celebrated her First Eucharist last week.

First Eucharist celebrations take place this weekend at the 6 pm Mass on Saturday, and at the 8 am, 10 am and 5 pm Masses on Sunday. The Sacrament will be celebrated at Irymple at the 8.30 am Mass. Next weekend First Eucharist celebrations will take place at the 6pm Mass on August 30 and at the 10 am and 5 pm Masses on August 31.

First Eucharist Thank You

The Parish Sacramental Team would like to thank all those who have assisted with or contributed to the First Eucharist celebrations and have helped make it a grace filled event in our parish.

Thank you to: the parents, caregivers and godparents of the First Communicants who have helped the children prepare, the staff from St Paul's and Sacred Heart schools, the Children's Liturgy leaders, the Sisters of Mercy who checked all the worksheets, the musicians, those who care for the Church and its grounds, and you, the parishioners who have supported the children in prayer. Thank you to you all. - *Mrs Jen Ditchfield.*

MEETING DATES

Wed 27th - Catechist retreat 10.00a.m.

SR Veronica leading.

-Baptism Preparation Meeting- 7.30pm.
Hillman Room.

MARK IN YOUR DIARIES.

6th NOV~ Catholic Womens Social Group – will be holding their annual OAKS DAY Luncheon.

PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL

Last Tuesday Mr Van Dillon from Bishop Peter Connors office facilitated a review of the 1st year of the Pastoral Parish Councils operations. It gave us new direction affirmation and great hope for the future.

REMINDER

Organists and Choir Leaders the new music notes are available from the organ for the Twenty-First Sunday to the 23rd of November.

PAVING

On the recommendation of the Pastoral Parish Council and support of the Parish Finance Committee the area between the Church and Presbytery verandah will be paved in near future, now that the date palm has been removed. We are looking forward to this paved area being utilized by the Parish for our outdoor gatherings.

BALLARAT CLERGY SUPPORT FUND Collection for Sick and Retired Priests – will be conducted Sunday 7th Sept.

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Annual Appeal will be held as usual on the first Sunday of September. The BCSF Committee is very grateful for the support you give each year to the promotion of this appeal, and requests your assistance again this year.

The appeal has raised over 1.2 million dollars since it began in 1991, including nearly \$90,000 last year.

This shows a tremendous generosity by the people of the diocese, for which the priests are very grateful. Envelopes and credit card facilities are available.

All contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. Receipts will be posted to those who give \$10.00 or more.

A VOCATION VIEW:

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - A

Many of us fear people in authority as authority can be used rightly or wrongly. As Christians we are called to see power as service. We shall all be judged on love.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL –

Budget Grocery Store was officially opened and blessed by Bishop Peter Connors and the Major Mr John Arnauld last Monday.

The continued success has now allowed the store to open for business 5 days a week, 9.00-5.30p.m.

Please continue to support this project..

Finance- Last Week's Collections

Priests Support –	\$ 1,388.00
Envelopes	\$ 2,684.50
Loose Plate	\$ 466.40

Thought for the Day:

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it.
 If He had a wallet, your photo would be in it.
 He sends you flowers every spring.
 He sends you a sunrise every morning Face it, friend - He is crazy about you!
 God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but he did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way.
 Read this line very slowly and let it sink in...
 If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

NOTES FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE.

Next Wednesday, 27th August, is the anniversary of the death in 1999 of DOM HELDER CAMARA

The Archbishop of Olinda and Recife, the poorest and least developed region of Brazil.

He never embraced the pomp and ceremony of his rank, wearing a plain brown cassock and a simple wooden cross. He was an outspoken champion of oppressed and indigent people, not only in Brazil, but throughout the world. During the Second Vatican Council, he worked closely with Cardinal Suenens, and was one of the most influential figures on the progressive wing of the Council.

He brought a "preferential option for the poor" to the centre of Christian social thinking.

Dom Helder said: "when I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a Communist."

PRAYERS TO END DROUGHT

Lord God, creator of the world with all its seasons, we ask that you would hear our urgent prayer for Life-giving rains for our country. Amen'."

John Paul II on Parish as Community

This reminded one reader of a talk by Pope John Paul II when in 1986 he spoke to lay people about parish as community: "Often lost and disoriented, contemporary men and women seek communion. Having frequently seen their social context shattered or dehumanised they yearn for an experience of authentic encounter and true communion. But is not this the parish's vocation, that is, to be a family home, fraternal and warmly receptive, a fraternity animated by the spirit of unity, the family of God in a concrete place. "The parish is not principally a structure, a territory, a building. The parish is first of all a community of the faithful. That is the task of the parish today: to be a community, to rediscover itself as community. One is not Christian by oneself. To be a Christian means to believe and to live one's faith together with others, to be Church, to be community."

PRESS RELEASES

20% increase in fair-trade chocolate worldwide

STOP THE TRAFFIK - Royal Verkade, a Dutch subsidiary of United Biscuits, announced last Thursday that they will be using 100% Fair Trade cocoa & sugar in their products from this Autumn onwards. This is the first A-list chocolate producer worldwide to make the transition to Fair Trade production on a large scale. With this move, the total production of Fair Trade cocoa worldwide will be boosted by 20%.

This is a landmark decision, and call all other chocolate producers to follow Verkade's bold move. Currently there are over 150,000 children working under the worst forms of child labour in the cocoa industry in the Ivory Coast alone. An estimated 12,000 of whom have been trafficked. Over the last two years, STOP THE TRAFFIK has been staging a global campaign against human trafficking in the cocoa-sector, calling on the public to let their voice be heard that we demand all manufacturers to supply Traffik-Free cocoa.

Of course more remains to be done on this issue, but these signs of progress help us to see, and to know in our hearts, that change is possible.

What draws people to the RCIA?

I suspect that many of us are not good at inviting people into the Catholic faith, mainly because we are not sure how to go about it - we don't know what attracts people to the Church. So we need to ask those in the know, i.e.: those who have entered on the RCIA journey. They are the 'experts' because they have been influenced or touched in some way which has drawn them to explore the faith. Rebecca Hogan our R.C.I.A. Co-ordinator would appreciate hearing from any parish which has enquired and recorded why people have come to their RCIA program - it would be valuable information!

The **Spring 2008** *Australian Catholics* edition will be available soon. Features include a wrap-up of World Youth Day, as well as a special feature on the issue of home-lessness in Australia.

One of *Australian Catholics* magazine's most treasured writers, Terry Monagle has passed away after a long battle with illness. You may remember the beautiful way he brought faith and humanity together in his writing by re-publishing a story he wrote for our Summer 2001 edition, '[So close to God](#)' .

This weekend	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Readers	T McNamara	A Wilkinson	S Hermans	P Hammond
Eucharistic Ministers	M & J McDonald M Roper S Tisler K & S Girke L Roden	M Mazza A Vartuli N Zudetich S Visona	M Speed L De Iesi M Haynes U Williams P & S Opie N Lewis	P Cox M Ransome F Virgona R Antony M Zema
NEXT WEEK: Music	M Hammond L Crouch M Schmidt Darren Atkinson		G & F Lane	Youth Group
RCIA				
Counting Team Next Week	24 th Aug Team 6: Peter Adair 5023 5193 31 st Aug Team 7: Alan Chalkley 5022 1746			

INFORMATION WANTED:

Researching Irish-Chinese intermarriages if you have any information on Irish-Chinese intermarriages from the 1850s to the early part of the 1900s in the Warrnambool-Ballarat region, please contact us at: woodbridgehelen@hotmail.com Jennifer Lenehan St. Thomas' Parish Office P.O. Box 25 Terang. 3264 Ph 55921195 Email: terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Pope's WYD talks Published:

As Sydney Airport announced that World Youth Day pilgrims had helped set a new daily arrivals record, Cardinal George Pell launched a book of talks by Pope Benedict during his Australian visit for WYD.

Cardinal Pell launched the publication of *Dear Young People* at the offices of St Paul's Publications yesterday.

Commending the publication, he said that the Holy Father's words to the young people who came to Sydney for World Youth Day and his words to the Australian people will serve as an enduring source of inspiration and reflection for those who read them.

More than 120,000 international pilgrims descended on Sydney for WYD.

Sydney Airport CEO Russell Balding said the new record of Sydney Airport passengers for July was 2.926 million, up six percent on last year.

Prayer Corner

Pope John Paul II reminded us of the importance of prayer: "We well know that prayer cannot be taken for granted. We have to learn to pray: as it were learning this art ever anew from the lips of the Divine Master himself, like the first disciples: "Lord, teach us to pray!" (Lk 11:1) Prayer develops that conversation with Christ which makes us his intimate friends: "Abide in me and I in You (Jn 15:4). This reciprocity is the very substance and soul of the Christian life."

MISSION AID for PERU

On Friday the entire Sacred Heart Primary School children were encouraged to dress up as an Olympic competitor or a supporter & participated in Olympic game sports.

All monies raised from a BBQ lunch will be added to their 2008 Mission Effort supporting projects Luke and Marion Guthrie are involved with in Peru.

Building Project in Lima

-Report from Marian & Luke Guthrie – website: <http://mildura2lima.blogspot.com/>

In Lima the Motupe parish has an amazing worm farm project and they use as much of the garlic peelings as possible. They mix it with the usable compost in order to build new worm beds. In turn they then sell the worm castings. Nothing gets wasted, the strong garlic seems to lessen the odour of the compost. I suppose that is not too

surprising because when you think of it garlic can tend to drive off friends!

The site also contains guinea pig sheds and an area marked for further development for fruit trees and a vegetable garden.

Work has now commenced on building the Pedregal Alto comedor.

Stage one of any building site around here is to make sure that you have an ample supply of water. That normally means that you either build a concrete lined brick tank or gather together as many empty drums that you can lay your hands on and place them on site. The builders of the Pedregal Alto comedor chose the former and constructed a brick tank approx 3 by 2 metres and 2 metres deep – that is a lot of water when full, well over ten thousand litres!

As the weather was not a really good drying day, they decided to fill their new tank anyway, you can guess what happened – it disintegrated! It strikes me that divine intervention came far too late for the first water tank! Since the completion of the

new water tank the site has changed remarkably. After the bulldozer has 'cleared' the larger boulders and rocks the digging becomes extremely hard work, and it is all done by hand. The men have built up the ground to the required level and have almost finished digging the surrounding foundation trenches. They have relocated an enormous amount of rock and earth in order to reach the level they need; remember they only use picks, shovels, huge sledge hammers and wheelbarrows! We have discovered that the actual building will be on a split level, the large community centre will be in the front and behind that, at a lower level, will be the kitchen, dining, toilets and storage areas. You can follow the progress of this project on their website.

This caught my eye:

Ever wondered what parish secretaries do when not at work? Here's one story!

A Parish Secretary from Sydney just returned from a week of R & R... where she travelled to Cobar and Nyngan to compete in sheepdog trials; taking with her a blue poncho with the WYD logo and ITALIA emblazoned across the back – it was a parting gift from our visiting pilgrims.

Whilst there, she became known as 'that girl from Sydney'. She was warmed by the interest from the country folk who gather at these events.

"One gentleman in particular, a well known and somewhat senior trailer driver, approached her and asked if he had heard correctly that she had been involved in WYD. When she answered yes, he went on proudly to announce that he's a 'tyke' (Yorkshire man) and that he thought WYD had been a wonderful event, not just for Catholics and not just for the youth, but for Christians of all ages everywhere. He also expressed his hope that the experiences shared by all would continue to spread the gifts of the Spirit for years to come. This is an awesome outcome...she felt a sense of hope and wonder at the power of the Spirit and felt privileged to have been touched by the wave of good will which has been born of this event."