



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, Rebecca Hogan, Lys Crowe,
 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 DECEMBER 21st 2008: Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B

<p>THIS WEEK: 4th Week of ADVENT First Reading 2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12.14.16 Psalm Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2 Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. Second Reading Rom16:25-27 Gospel Lk 1:26-38</p>		<p>NEXT WEEK: 5TH Week of Advent First Reading <u>Sir 3:2-6. 12-14</u> or <u>Gen 15:1-6. 21:1-3</u> Psalm <u>Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1</u> or <u>Ps 104:1-6. 8-9. R.vv.7.8</u> Second Reading <u>Col 3:12-21</u> or <u>Heb 11:8. 11-12. 17-19</u> Gospel <u>Lk 2:22-40</u> or <u>Lk 2:22. 39-40</u></p>
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PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recent Death: **Braidie Monaghan (Turriff).**
 Anniversaries: Frs. Michael Glennon & Patrick Bushell,
 Nell Vivian & Marcel Meredith.
 Sat 6.00 p.m: Ivan Ban
 Sun 8.30 a.m. Michael O'Connor and deceased family members, Don Wilson
 Sun 10.00 am: Jim Byrne.
 Sun 5.00 p.m: Kylie Davis.
 Tues 7.00 p.m: Francesco Nesci, Alessandro Piscioneri, Vincenzo & Teresa Piscioneri. Caterina & Frank Cirillo.
 Wed 8 p.m: Ann Cox
 Fri 5.40pm: Leonard Code.

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 - 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:	Christmas Eve	
Thurs:	Christmas Day	
Fri:		5.40 p.m.
Sat:		10.00 a.m.

We pray for the sick

Catherine Mary Kerlin, Peter Adair, June Harper,
 James (son-in-law of Joan Marshall) & Mary Dorman.

Baptism

This Sunday we welcome into God's family, Liam Thornton and Mietta Sharman into our Parish Community who will be baptised at 5.00 p.m. the Mass.

THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT The SUNRAYSIA CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

MILDURA

Christmas Eve (Wed December 24th)
 6.00 p.m. Children's Mass
 8.00 p.m. Youth Mass 10.00 p.m. Mass
Christmas Day (Thursday December 25th)
 8.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.
 (N.B. no evening Mass on Christmas Day)

IRYMPLE

Christmas Day (Thursday December 25th)
 8.30 a.m.

MERBEIN

Christmas Eve (Wednesday December 24th)
 7.30 p.m.
Christmas Day (Thursday December 25th)
 10.30 a.m.

WERRIMULL.

Christmas Eve (Wednesday 24th) 6.00 p.m.

REDCLIFFS

Christmas Eve (Wednesday December 24th)
 Carols at 8.00p.m. Mass 8.30 p.m.
Christmas Day (Thursday December 25th)
 9.00 a.m.

ROBINVALE

Christmas Eve (Wednesday December 24th)
 9.00 p.m. Robinvale
Christmas Day (Thursday December 25th)
 9.00 a.m. Robinvale

MANANGATANG- Christmas Eve - 6.30p.m

WENTWORTH

Christmas Eve (Wednesday December 24th)
 9.00 p.m. Wentworth

BURONGA - Midnight Mass

DARETON **Christmas Day** (Thurs December 25th)
 8.00 a.m.

MANY THANKS:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our many valued volunteers for all your dedication and tireless hard work during the year to the Parish. Without your efforts our Parish would not be able to offer and provide the many services to the parish.

We wish you and your families a happy & holy Christmas and God's blessings thought out the New Year..

BISHOPS APPEAL

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Bishop Connors once again launches the **Annual Christmas Appeal** - one way by which the Diocese can respond to the many people and communities around the world who turn to us for assistance.

All monies from the **Second collection** Christmas Eve & Day will go towards the Bishop's Appeal. See the Bishops letter on page 4.

PRAYER

Loving God, we approach the time when Your coming as man is renewed in our hearts. Give us peace and Allow us to celebrate Your presence with joy, that we may someday share Your glory.

We ask this of You, who live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, as One God, now and forever. *Amen.*

REFLECTION

Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness. The Sheppard's were the first to hear the joyful announcement of Christ's birth – the good news of great joy for all the people. Upon seeing the baby Jesus, the Sheppard's spread the word about this child, and all who heard it were amazed we have also heard this wonderful news. We welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. Though we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and though we do not see him now, we believe in him.

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.

2nd January – 12 Midday-5.00 p.m.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be held in the Church during the day..

The Maestro and the Diva –

Sergio de Pieri (organist) in concert with emerging opera star, Sioban Stagg will perform on Wed 21st January in the Sacred Heart Church at 8.00 p. m.

Tickets \$15. Book Now at Mildura Arts Centre 50188330, Visitor Information Centre 50188376 or Online bookings go to www.artsmildura.com.au.

Finance- Last Week's

Presbytery Collection – (1 st Collection)	\$ 1,497.00
Parish Collection -Envelopes (2 nd Collection)	\$ 2,715.00
Loose Plate	\$ 478.75

SUPPORT OF MISSION IN LIMA.

Mention has been made last week of our parish connection & support of projects in the parish of Fr. Michael McKinnon in Lima. That support has come from our parish schools & some parishioners. No particular money has gone from the parish. Donations have been made by individuals & indirectly in the Bishop's Annual Christmas Appeal. The people in Lima thank parishioners for their support. - *Fr Tom.*

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Meeting Notes:

At the last Parish Council meeting resignations were received from Veronica Chong, Christine Slattery and Marita Jensen.

We wish to sincerely thank them for their contribution to the Pastoral Council and wish them well for the future. Replacements will be made by nominations to provide a better representation of groups within the Parish ie: Ethnic groups and the younger people.

A decision backed by the Finance Committee to install a new audio visual system in the church was given backing by the Parish Pastoral Council. This step is being taken after much reflection and discussion.

The Parish will take out a loan to enable this work to be go ahead next year.

Members of the Pastoral Council will have a reflection time with Fr Elio Capra when he visits the Parish at the end of February.

During the coming year the Parish Pastoral Council will be working on the formulation of a Pastoral Plan for the Parish.

Christmas-New Year Office Closures:

The Parish Office will be closed from Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th Dec Reopening Monday 5th Jan 2009.

Memory Awakens Hope. . . Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, *Seek That Which Is Above*, 1986

"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope...."

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

ROSTERS

THIS WEEKEND 20th 21st December

READERS: 6.00 PM C Sheahan
8.00 AM H Curran
10.00 AM S/E Opie
5.00 PM A Englefield

MUSIC: 6.00 PM G & F Lane
10.00 AM Pacific Islanders
5.00 PM N Armsden, J Ljubic,
K Loison.

RCIA: 8.00AM. Isobel Russell

EUCHARIST MINISTERS:

6.00 PM

8.00AM

M. McDonald E. Panetta
K. Quinlan D. Pemberton
M.Roper L. Welsh
E.
S.Tisler Frauenfelder
K.Girke L. Belej
S.Girke
M. McDonald

10.00 AM

5.00PM

M. Modica W. Finn
L. De lesi T. Finn
M. Haynes P. Cox
U. Williams M. Ransome
P. Opie F. Virgona
S. Opie
N. Lewis

COUNTING TEAM:

Team 3 Captain Vince Fundak 50245774

CHRISTMAS MUSIC Roster:

Christmas Eve: 6.00 PM. Noreen Armsden &
Filipino Choir
8.00 PM Youth Choir
10.00 PM. Pacific Islanders

Christmas Day: 10.00AM Virginia Crouch,
Meg Sullivan & U3A Recorder Group.

Christmas Eve & Day Roster

Volunteers are needed for all Masses as Readers, Bearers of the Offerty of Gifts, Special Ministers of the Eucharist and Collectors. Please place your name on the list provided in the main foyer.

Next Weekend 27th /28th December

MUSIC: 6.00 PM J Hammond, J Macri,
A Treloar
10.00 AM M.Sullivan, B Lewis, L Crouch,
J O'Bryan
5.00 PM

Baptism Parish sponsor

10.00 AM. Mass – Renata Byra

CHRISTMAS ROSTERS

We thank all those volunteers that have offered their services for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

WEEK DAY MASS TIME CHANGE

From next Sunday 28th December until February, Masses of a Wednesday & Thursday will be at 9.00a.m. until the end of January unless there is a funeral Mass.

Learning to wait

Advent is a bulwark against a consumer Christmas.

This traditional time of fasting and prayer makes it a time of waiting, of expectation.

We rejoice that we are waiting, celebrating the virtue of patience as we await the gift of God's own Goodness and His Peace. Advent teaches us how to enjoy the delight that comes from waiting. Learning to wait, built on the virtue of temperance, is a simple antidote to greed and a road to joy.

Like at Christmas, temperance is often neglected in environmental conversations. Temperance moderates our use of resources and seeks to develop technologies that enable us to use them more efficiently. The current financial crisis is but the latest manifestation of agreed that has plunged the world into rapid climate-change and the disasters it will bring. It could well be that they both act as a prophetic summons to rediscover what makes humans genuinely happy. It is more than feeling good and consuming to keep feeling good.

Advent is a time to identify happiness in knowing the good and doing the good; a happiness that does not demand endless pleasure and endless consumption. Advent cultivates temperance as one of the forgotten cardinal virtues. They operative as a team - fortitude and justice, temperance and prudence - each helping to define the other. To these can be added the theological virtues of faith, hope and love to generate a comprehensive picture of human action. This package constitutes the Church's unique contribution in helping us restructure our lives in the face of both the financial meltdown and climate threats. The virtues practiced in Advent can help make for a happy Christmas.

Fr Charles Rue - Coordinator of Columban Justice Peace Integrity and Creation (JPIC)

Worth Reading

In the Age newspaper Thursday 18th Dec there is an interesting article in Focus page 15, well worth reading on Mrs Antonia Cirottola's life as a migrant settling in Mildura. Antonia describes Loneliness being a great hardship facing Australians today as well as the language adding to their burden.