



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 7th December 2008: Second Sunday of Advent Year B

THIS WEEK: 2nd Week of ADVENT

First Reading **Is 40:1-5. 9-11**

Psalm **Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8**

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading **2 Pt 3:8-14**

Gospel **Mk 1:1-8**

NEXT WEEK: 3rd Week of ADVENT

First Reading **Is 61:1-2.10-11**

Psalm **Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10**

My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading **1 Thes 5:16-24**

Gospel **Jn1:6-8.19-28**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recent Deaths: Filomena Tassone & Jim Bathgate(Ouyen).

Anniversaries: Attilio Rubega (Italy)& Eta Rubega.

Sat 6.00pm: Leanne Francic, Slavica Francic & Stjepan Francic.

Sun 10.00 a.m: Domenica Araca & Attilio Rubega.

Tues 6.00 p.m: Knights of Southern Cross (dec. members), Raffale Mammone & Ian Hunter.

Thurs 9.30 a.m: Antonio Scullino.

Fri 5.40p.m: Joseph Andrasek.

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.

We pray for the sick

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

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 -20 Beasy Crt-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

Mon: Funeral- Philomena Tassone 10.30a.m.

Tues: Please NOTE change 6.00p.m.

Wed: 9.10a.m.

Thurs: 9.30 a.m. & 5.00p.m. Tongan Mass

Fri: 5.40 p.m.

Sat: 10.00 a.m

Baptism

This Weekend we welcome into God's family and into our Parish Community Gabriella Zaccone, Lachlan Prescott, Oscar Hall & Ayva Kelly after the 6p.m. Mass, & Kane Spies, Olivia King & Sophie King after the 10.00a.m. Mass.

THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Loving God, set our hearts ablaze to follow in the steps of John the Baptist. May we bring light and love to all we meet, that the darkness of sin and fear may be overcome.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

' Advent is a time of great joy but it is stitched through sombre spiritual preparation through doing penance. A good way to prepare for the coming of Christ is to examine one's heart. Take stock of the many ways God has protected you and made his presence known in your life. Then, take stock of the ways you have fallen short of the grace of God. If there is a sinful pattern in your life, resolve to overcome it. Make a firm purpose to amend your life.'

WELCOME BACK

This weekend we welcome back Fr Tom from his overseas holiday. We hope he is refreshed and enjoyed his travels.

I returned to work this week myself and wish to thank Mary Gobbo, Margaret McDonald, Rebecca Hogan & our volunteers for their work in the Office & Parish during my absence. -Gladys Abriani.

CHURCH GROUNDS.

As many of you will have noticed there have been major works going on in the Church grounds these past few weeks.

The new meeting area has now been completely paved, the garden beds have been mulched with bark chips, and soaker irrigation systems have been installed in the garden beds to enabling watering during water restrictions.

The Church & Presbytery surrounds now look welcoming, neat & tidy and easy to maintain, and I am sure the new paved area will be utilized during our many functions held here in the coming years, and parishioners should be very proud of the works done in maintaining Sacred Heart Church and surrounds for all parishioners & visitors.

You will notice if you walk towards the Deakin Ave side of the Church that this area has now looking fantastic also, which is utilized for wedding photos on many occasions.

We wish to thank Phil Chamberlain for all his work laying the pavers and our volunteer gardeners for their work to achieve these marvellous results - *well done*.

A MESSAGE ON ADVENT FROM, POPE BENEDICT

He said that the Church also brings "good news" to the dimension of time.

Advent, which opens the new liturgical year, "invites us to reflect upon the dimension of time," Pope Benedict told pilgrims during his Angelus address on Sunday, the First Sunday in Advent, *Independent Catholic News* reports.

"Many people in our own day, complain of a lack of time, because the rhythm of daily life has become so frenetic for everyone," the Pope said.

"Yet even on this subject, the Church has 'good news' to bring. God gives us His time. We always have little time. For the Lord, especially, we do not know how, or sometimes do not want to, find it.

"And yet God has time for us. He gives us His time, because He entered history with His word and His works of salvation, opening it to eternity and making it a history of alliance.

"From this point of view time is, in itself, already a fundamental sign of God's love: a gift which man ... can either value or waste, understand its significance or superficially ignore."

The Pope then went on to identify the three cardinal moments of time which mark the history of salvation: creation, incarnation-redemption, and "parusia" which includes the final judgement.

"These three moments, however, are not to be understood in mere chronological succession", he said. "Creation is, indeed, the origin of everything but it is also continuous and operates over the entire span of cosmic development, until the end of time.

"Incarnation-redemption too, although it took place at a specific historical moment, the period of Jesus' time on earth, nonetheless extends its range of action to all time that preceded and followed.

"And in their turn the second coming and final judgement, decisively anticipated in the Cross of Christ, exercise their influence on the behaviour of mankind in all ages.

"The Lord comes continually into our lives. ... On this first Sunday we are again powerfully presented with Jesus' call to "remain vigilant" because "at a time that only God knows each will be called to account for his or her life."

"This means," he concluded, "detachment from worldly things, sincere penitence for one's errors, effective charity towards others and, above all, humble and trusting abandonment in the hands of God, our tender and merciful Father."

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - JESSE TREE-

The Christmas tree is situated in the Church. Toys for children up to 12 years of age to the value of \$10.00 would be appreciated by the members of the St Vincent de Paul society. This weekend is the final date for the appeal.

PLEASE LEAVE GIFTS AT PARISH OFFICE DURING THE WEEK FOR SECURITY REASONS THANK YOU

WHAT' S COMING UP

- **FINANCE MEETING** 12.30pm. Tues 9th Dec.
- **REGIS NURSING HOME 10th Street - ANNOINTING MASS** Tues 2.00pm.
- **CATHOLIC WOMENS SOCIAL GROUP** Meeting 2.30 pm. Tues 9th Dec Hillman Room.
- **ST PAUL'S 'CAROLS BY CHAPEL LIGHT'** *Everyone is invited* to join in St Paul's 'Carols by Chapel Light' on **Wednesday 10th December - 6.30 pm** BYO picnic tea. Carols from 7.30 pm. No candles please - glow bands available for gold coin donation. Words of Carols provided. Local identities - Matt and Nick - to lead the singing. Come and see our new Chapel windows and Stations of the Cross which will be blessed on that night also.
- **YOUTH MASS MEETING** -Tuesday 9th Dec. 7: 30pm in the Hillman Room
- **BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING** Wed 10th 7.30pm. Hillman Room.
- **GODSTART MEETING ~all welcome** Thurs 11th 4.00pm. Hillman Room.
- **THURS MASS-** A visiting Tongan Priest will celebrate Mass at Thurs 11th at 5.00pm. The Tongan Choir will be providing the music.
- **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Our Advent Parish Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance in preparation for Christmas will be held on **Tues 16th December at 7.00 p.m.**

Compass: Beyond Our Ken ABC 1, Sun Dec 7th 9.40pm.

This edition of *Compass* goes inside Kenja, an Australian cult accused of sexual and emotional abuse of its members. For 25 years Kenja has fought all the negativity the world could throw at it. Its charismatic 80-something leader Ken Dyers and his wife Jan Hamilton allowed the film crew unprecedented access to the "spiritual evolvment centre" they founded in 1982. This apparently utopian organisation has been accused of practising a hypnotic form of mind control. Through candid

interviews and verite footage, this film explores the anatomy and ambiguity of the "cult" enigma.

Vinnies Budget Grocery would like to offer new skills and experience to men and women, young and old who would be able to devote a few hours to helping out in the store during the coming school holidays. For more information contact Kevin or Bob Ph: 5023 4458.

Finance- Last Week's Collections

Presbytery Collection – (1 st Collection)	\$1403.00
Parish Collection -Envelopes (2 nd Collection)	\$2375.95
Loose Plate	\$ 390.35

An Advent Reflection

"The Lord Jesus is coming: yes, he is coming at Christmas, 2008; he is coming into our world daily in great, cosmic events, in small personal encounters; he is coming to me personally at the unknown moment of my death; he is coming in glory at "the end of time". Each and every one of these comings makes its demand on each and every person for awareness. What if he should come and I were to miss him! The need to be aware, alert, on the watch was a constant theme of the early Church." *Tom O'Hara - "Come, Lord Jesus", Terra Spiritus Volume 4, Issue 5.*

Social Justice Notes

Wednesday, 10th December is **HUMAN RIGHTS DAY**.

As **International Human Rights Day** approaches, it is a time to again reflect on the rights and obligations of each individual. The theme for this celebration is, "Dignity and Justice for all of us," and reinforces the vision of the Declaration as a commitment to universal dignity and justice and not something that should be viewed as a luxury or a wish-list.

Aboriginal activist, Lowitja O'Donohue has drawn up a Ten Point Plan for Human Rights.

We quote: Point No. 7.

TREAT EVERYONE WITH RESPECT.

Respect is more important than compassion or Sympathy, because respect is based on familiarity and understanding.

And respect Ensures that people retain dignity.

Related to Human Rights are the Ten Steps Towards Eradicating Poverty drawn up by the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council:

Point No. 6:

NOTICE THE POOR AND MARGINALISED.

In Australia, particular individuals and Groups still endure great poverty and inequality.

The challenge to us is to see the Face of the poor and oppressed in our society and stand with them, giving voice To their plight and working for change.

Prayer for International Human Rights Day

Living God, We pray for all people:

For those women who are shut off from a full life by tradition and practice. For those people who are oppressed and exploited.

For those denied their freedom and dignity by systems and authorities. For those forced to leave their homelands

because of their ideologies. For those seeking answers and meaning in their lives within their own cultures and religions. For those who labour too long and too hard only to barely feed and clothe themselves and their families. For those women and men who live lives of quiet desperation at the hands of the powerful and prestigious. For these and for all who suffer we pray: asking that the church may once again give joyful expression to our creative love which breaks down barriers and unites person to person, woman to man and community to community; which gives meaning and hope to empty lives and makes us reach out to one another in generous self-giving; which makes us more complete ourselves. So God, fulfil your promise in us for the sake of all human beings through Jesus Christ. Amen!

New (Liturgical) Year

What are your spiritual resolutions for this coming year?

I always love the beginning of a new liturgical year for the opportunity to reflect upon the past year of my life and to look forward to the future.

I'm a huge resolution-maker, likely because I have so many areas that need improvement in my life!

What resolutions can you make in your life spiritually? *Witten by Lisa Hendey in Faith.*

Parish Spirituality

"How is a (parish) community born? Certainly it is not an easy undertaking. It is not a question of a merely human community. The Christian community is a human-divine reality. Our question thus finds a precise and marvellous answer: it is not born first of all of our own efforts. It is Christ himself who gives it life. It is the proclamation of his Good News that gathers the faithful."

Excerpt from an address by Pope John Paul II in Rome, May 1986.

An expression of hope. *Archbishop Celestino Migliore, on 2 December spoke hopefully of the future:*

"Uncertainty and anxiety seem to prevail at this particular point in time. However, the virtues and principles which have led the global community out of so many crises remain; that of solidarity with our global community, just and equitable sharing in resources and opportunity, prudent use of the environment, restraint from seeking short-term financial and social gain at the expense of sustainable development, and finally, the political courage which is necessary to build a world in which human life is placed at the centre of all social and economic activities".

Unemployment in this time of economic slow-down

We begin to hear of fellow parishioners being retrenched. When a person loses their job, they lose not only their income but also their self esteem reaches a low point. Then they begin the often long and lonely task of job hunting. How do we respond when this happens to someone we know?

We can ask "May I walk with you at this time?" Meet, say, once a week – hear what happened in the past week and hear his or her plans for the coming week.

Blessing: *O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth thy blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the*

coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant
graces. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE

6.00 p.m. Sacred Heart, Mildura
7.30p.m. Our Lady of the Sacred
Heart, Merbein
8.00 p.m. Sacred Heart, Mildura
10.00p.m. Sacred Heart, Mildura

CHRISTMAS DAY

8.00a.m. Sacred Heart, Mildura
8.30 a.m. St Xavier, Irymple
10.00 a.m. Sacred Heart, Mildura
10.30a.m. Our Lady of Sacred Heart, Merbein

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Fr. Tom Brophy 50212872,
Terry Murphy 50233056,
Sr. Rosemary Graham 50231841,
Mary Gobbo 50234621,
Marita Jensen 50237208,
Fr. Matt Thomas 50212872,
Jean Rocca 50237561,
Brian Grogan 50212099,
Chris Slattery 5022 0565
Cornelia Conway-Weel 50234567,
Peter O'Donnell 0429104225,
Veronica Chong 5023 1362,
Lys Crowe 50212872/50234567

CHRISTMAS MINISTRIES REQUIRED

The following Volunteers are required for all
Christmas Mass times:

READERS,
OFFERTORY,
SPECIAL MINISTERS,
COLLECTORS,
MUSIC.

If you are able to assist please write your name on the
sheets situated in the entrance foyers at the time you
are available. Thankyou.

ROSTERS **THIS WEEKEND 6/7th December**

READERS

6.00 PM Sr Sylvia
8.00 AM A Wilkinson
10.00 AM R Op't Hoog
5.00 PM AM Laubscher

MUSIC

6.00 PM N. Armsden / Filipino Choir
10.00 AM Italian Choir
5.00 PM M Sullivan
K Loison
J Macri
A Treloar

RCIA

5.00p.m. Tony Finn

EUCCHARIST MINISTERS

6.00 PM

S Tisler
K Girke
A-M Greville
M Meredith
J Hall
P Kelleher

8.00AM

G Scopacasa
M Scopacasa
B Dolence
M Flinn
Sr Grace Rogers

10.00 AM

G Raiti
F Chiavone
T Chiavone
S Opt' Hoog
E Opie
A Chalkley
P Kerr

5.00 PM

R Antony
M Zema
J Zema
S walker
J Ribarits

Next Weekend 13/14th December

READERS please **NOTE** St Pauls Primary
School will be reading at the 5.00p.m. Mass

MUSIC

6.00 PM N. Armsden, Filipino Choir
10.00 AM Italian Choir
5.00 PM St Pauls Primary School.

RCIA

6.00p.m. David Pemberton

COUNTING TEAM

Team 2 Captain Joe De Jong Ph 0237802

