



SACRED HEART PARISH, MILDURA

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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.

3rd February 2008 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year A



Project Compassion Sunday

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of envelopes and give generously to the appeal this Lent. Your donations will allow Caritas Australia to reduce poverty and hunger in more than 35 countries around the world.



THIS WEEK: SUNDAY 3rd Feb 2008

First Reading **Zep 2:3; 3:12-13**

Psalms **Ps 145:7-10. R. Mt 5:3**

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Second Reading **1 Cor 1:26-31**

Gospel **Mt 5:1-12**



NEXT WEEK: First Sunday of Lent 10th Feb

First Reading **Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7**

Psalms **Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R.** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading **Rom 5:12-19** or **Rom 5:12, 17-19**

Gospel **Mt 4:1-11**

Recent Deaths: Cosimo Pileggi, Bill Beyen, Margaret Maloney (Fr Kevin Maloney's mother.)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sun 10.00a.m. Miss Norma Murphy, Maria Federenko (1st Anniv)

Tues 7.00p.m. Monica & Len Setford

Anniversaries: Matteo Zema, John Sapuppo, Norma Window, Jim Murray, Frs. John Kelly, Gordon Gebbie.

Anniversaries: 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:	Ash Wednesday Vigil	7.00 p.m.
Wed:	Ash Wednesday	9.30 a.m.
Wed:	Ash Wednesday	5.40pm
Thu:		9.30 a.m.
Fri:		5.40 p.m.
Sat:		10.00 a.m.

BAPTISMS

Peri Saunders, Nicholas Filippi.

Happy Anniversary

Congratulations Frank and Margot Zsiga celebrating their **60th** Wedding Anniversary this weekend.

Notice Board

Catechists

We have a team of catechists at Sacred Heart Parish who provide religious education to Catholic children in a number of ministry schools in and around Mildura. The team urgently need new members in order to continue their great work. If you are able to help, please contact Rebecca Hogan at the Parish Office on 5021 2872. The time commitment is minimal (1/2hr lesson per week) and the work is both rewarding and very much appreciated. Sr Veronica Quinn will be conducting an information and training session on 19th Feb. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Baptismal Team

We need more people to join our Baptismal Team. The team assists with baptisms in two ways. Firstly we help parents prepare for their child's baptism and this involves a monthly meeting at the presbytery. Secondly, we introduce the child, their parents and sponsors to the congregation during Mass and then support the priest at the baptisms after Mass. We are looking for people to help on both these teams. These are both Roster based. Please contact Rebecca Hogan at the Parish Office if you can help us.

News from Fr Damian Styles

Damian Styles who was in our Parish a few years, for twelve months studying from Corpus Christ Seminary and who is now a priest as Chaplain in the Australian Army. Since Damian was ordained he has been in Goulburn Parish. Earlier this month he moved to Townsville, where he is Chaplain to the Army and this Friday he leaves for East Timor. Fr. Damian will be in East Timor until April. Please keep Fr. Damian and our troops in your prayers, and pray that they return home safely.

WORLD YOUTH DAY- July 2008 Sydney.

The Mildura branch of the Knights of the Southern Cross(KSC), invite intending attendees to apply for consideration regarding a possible subsidy, to assist in funding costs.

All Requests are to be mailed to:-

KSC
P.O. Box 2236
Mildura 3502



Applications close March 1st 2008.

Further Enquires:

Gary Huxtable 50235035 Sam Iamarino 50221181

Coming Events

❖ **Children’s Liturgy Sat 2nd Feb.**

Children’s Liturgy will recommence -6pm Mass on Saturday 2nd February. We welcome all children of school age to join us as we discuss the Gospel and complete activities relevant to the week’s Liturgy.

❖ **Sant’ Antonio Meeting -- Tues 8th Feb 8.00pm.**

All members of the Committee and any interested parishioners are invited to the meeting for 2008. We wish to further acknowledge and develop our understanding of the Italian Religious traditions & culture of our Italian parishioners.

We need your support & interest.

Meetings are held in the Fleming Room.

❖ **Baptism Preparation Team meeting Wed 6th Feb**

at 7.30pm in the Hillman Room. New members are welcome and required as some members of our team have left the district etc...

❖ **Social Justice Meeting Wed 6th Feb.**

- Fleming Room 6.30 p.m. start.

❖ **RCIA** recommences this week after a holiday break. RCIA meetings are held in the Hillman Room at 7.30pm on **Thursdays**. Our RCIA candidates are continuing to prepare for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their faith journey with the RCIA team.

❖ 7th Feb **RCIA** gathering 7.30pm.**every Thursday** of Lent. As a lead up to Easter celebrations.

❖ **Sat 9th Feb** there will be a **Commissioning Ceremony of Staff** from Sacred Heart, St Paul’s Primary Schools and St Joseph’s College during the 6.00pm. Mass.

❖ **Catholic Women’s Social Group** – Hillman Room **Annual General Meeting** Tues 12th Feb 2pm.
Reminder: Subs are Due.

❖ Year 6 **First Rite of Reconciliation** on March 12th students will celebrate the First Rite of Reconciliation.

Parents are invited to attend an information meeting in Sacred Heart Church on **Wednesday 13th February OR Thursday 14th February at 7.15pm.**

- ❖ Tue, 18th March 2008, 9:30AM - 3:00PM
Women’s Retreat - - Sr Veronica Quinn
- ❖ **Catechist Meeting** 9.30 to 11.30 19th Feb with Sr Veronica talking about our new program for 2008 – Walking with Jesus

WOMEN’S DAY OF REFLECTION–An Open Invitation
Tues 18th March

Facilitated by Sr. Veronica Quinn- Ballarat Diocese.
RSVP: 11th March. Parish Office 03 50212872.

Women of all ages coming together for prayer, quiet time and faith sharing.

A quiet place something one doesn’t find often enough in today’s world. Yet, it’s vital to those seeking to deepen their awareness of God to explore Christian spirituality and to investigate their own lives. In responding to God’s presence, one finds a joy and peace that only solace can bring. Come and join us.

Name.....

Phone.....

RSVP: 11th March. Parish Office 03 50212872



LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS

Gathered for Giving is the title of 2008’s **Lenten Discussion Program**, based on the Sunday gospels from Lent to Pentecost. The focus of the 2008 program is a particularly apt one for groups of Christians – to reflect on the words and deeds of Jesus and the many ways we are members of the Body of Christ in our everyday lives. There will be one 90 minute meeting per week for 6 weeks, commencing Ash Wednesday week in February. There is your choice of days/times - at home or in the Hillman Room, or elsewhere. (The cost is \$10 for your 80-page booklet – money will be collected at meetings). *This program is something to ‘take on’ for Lent and provides each participant with the opportunity to pray, meditate and deepen their personal relationship with Jesus.*

Name.....

Phone.....

Preferred days

.....

Time(s).....

Place(home/Hillman Room-elsewhere).....

(optional) I am willing to: (a) be a leader or (b) have the meetings at my home.

Project Compassion Sunday 3 February

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12

The values of integrity, humility and truthfulness are at the heart of today's reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Those who seek the Lord live justly and find in him their shelter and refuge. Matthew in the gospel reminds us of the inner peace that comes from seeking the Lord. Living with blameless, gentle and merciful hearts is about making present God's kingdom in the here and now!

The Season of Lent is about to begin. Today's scripture readings invite us to walk this sacred journey with the Lord in joy and hope. We trust that our daily sufferings, and subtle forms of calumny and persecution will one day be rewarded.

Project Compassion Sunday offers us the opportunity to renew our faith commitment in seeking the Lord with all our hearts. Our Lenten theme this year calls us to action. The theme, *just want justice – a call to action* together with the gospel passage from 1 John 3: 18 *Our love is not to be just words or mere talk but something real and active* sets forth a challenge for us.

Whilst seeking the Lord with all our hearts, what does God ask us to do this Lent and beyond, to ensure that justice is achieved for those who need it most?

Take the Long View

from Archbishop Oscar Romero

It helps now and then to step back and take the long view.

The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No program accomplishes the church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted.

Knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects

Far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it well, It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning.

A step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, But that is the difference between the master builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders, ministers not Messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.



LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of Fasting and Abstinence from meat. On all other Fridays the law of the common practise of penance is

fulfilled through any one of the following:

- (a) **Prayer** -for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.
- (b) **Self Denial** - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or deserts; embargo on the T.V. for a night or two during the week; limiting food and drink and giving cash equivalent to, say, Project Compassion.
- (c) **Helping Others** - for example, taking the family to visit the elderly in a aged care home or in the parish; visiting the sick or someone who is lonely.

All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. (Canon 1252).

All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday (6th February) to the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive (21st March).

On Good Friday and , if possible , also on Holy Saturday until Easter vigil, the Easter Fast is observed.

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday 6th February 2008 and Trinity Sunday 18th May 2008 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year.

All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

REFLECTION

Faith does not mean certainty.

It means the courage to live with uncertainty.

It does not mean having answers, it means having the courage to ask the questions and not let go of God, as he does not let go of us. It means realising that God creates divine justice but only we, acting in accord with his word, can create human justice – and our very existence means that this is what God wants us to do.

For one who sets a hard challenge does not do so to punish, but because he believes in the one to whom he sets to challenge.

At the heart of his call to responsibility.....is God's unshakeable faith in humankind.

Jonathan Sacks.

"To heal a fractured world" Continuum 2005

Give to others says Pope

Being slaves to material goods and wealth can be conquered by giving to the poor, Pope Benedict said in this year's Lenten message.



The Holy Father reiterated that almsgiving helps Christians "free" themselves from world goods and is an exercise of self-denial.

Catholic News Service reports the Pope's Lenten message themed, "Christ Made Himself Poor For You" stresses the notion that while material riches possess an enormous "force of attraction", they must not be idolised.

"Almsgiving helps us overcome this constant temptation, teaching us to respond to our neighbour's needs and to share with others whatever we possess through divine goodness," Pope Benedict said.

"The Lenten season is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, which aid in an inward cleansing that allows the Christian to welcome Easter with renewed spirit."

Pope Benedict added he hoped his Lenten message reflected almsgiving in a way that is not an "empty, loveless gesture of philanthropy or an egotistical attempt for attention or applause."

"There is little use in giving one's personal goods to others if it leads to a heart puffed up in vain glory but it must be hidden and, as everything, must be done for God's glory and not our own," he said.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday February 6 and Easter Sunday is March 23.

LIFE is CHANGED not ended- Workbook

If anyone has borrowed a copy of:

A workbook for preparing a Catholic funeral, which has been lent to them in the past and have not returned it, could you please return it to the Priests as soon as possible.

This weekend	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Readers	V Kidd	Sr Rosemary	P Maloney	M Ransome
Eucharistic Ministers	A. Thumma M. Joseph P. Kelleher M. McDonald J. McDonald M. Roper S. Tisler	G. Scopacasa M. Scopacasa B. Dolence M. Flinn Sr. Grace Rogers	B. Bunting C. Maugeri C McErvale L. Rowe N. Leonardis M. Speed E. Garreffa	J. Macri W. Finn T. Finn P. Cox
NEXT WEEK: Music	M. Hammond L Crouch		G&F Lane	N. Armsden J. Marci A. Treloar
Counting Team Next Week	3 rd Feb 10 th Feb	Team 7: Team 8:	Alan Chalkley Trevor Aust	50221746 50236597

Finance- Last Week's Collections

1 st Coll. (priests & presbytery)	\$ 1291.00
Direct Debit and Credit Cards:	\$ 577.53
Envelopes	\$1684.00
Loose Plate	\$ 423.05
Total Parish Support (2nd Coll.):	\$ 2684.58



We would like to thank Des Tobin for all his hard work, rewiring, tidying up of wiring in repairing our PA system in the Church.

Luke & Marion Guthrie's Update: Email.

We have settled in to our house in Montenegro. It is very comfortable. The surrounds are quite stark as we are very much on the outskirts of Lima where the houses (huts) are built on the hill side. Not a tree in sight! I begin teaching this week and we also meet our adult groups on Monday night. Fr. Mick McKinnon and Fr. Leo Donnelly have been marvellous to us. It is quite hot and very dusty here. Our feet are black and we have trouble getting them clean!! We have met quite a few people and have found them very welcoming. We don't have the internet on yet so when we do I will be more responsive. I am in a little hut on the hill now .Bit like being in the back shed! Thank you for sending the news bulletin. I haven't emailed school yet but will do soon. Take care, love to all back home. No phone and no internet has bound us down a bit.

Take care, love to all back home.

Love and peace, Marion.