

SACRED HEART PARISH, MILDURA

259-263 Eleventh St, Mildura

Ph: 5021 2872

parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au

P.O. Box 10037, Mildura 3502

Fax: 5023 0337

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 Matthew 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 13th July 2008: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

WORLD YOUTH DAY JULY 15TH – 20TH 2008

THIS WEEK Fifteenth Sunday

First Reading **Is 55:10-11**

Psalm **Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8**

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading **Rom 8:18-23**

Gospel **Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9**



NEXT WEEK Sixteenth Sunday Year A

First Reading **Wis 12:13.16-19**

Psalm **Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5**

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading **Rom 8:26-27**

Gospel **Mt 13:24-43 or Mt 13:24-30**

Recent Deaths: Nancy Rodgers, Barry Parfrey & Fr. Coley McKenzie

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anniversaries: Mary McFadyen,

Sat 6pm. Matteo Deangelo, Kelleen & Herbert Curran.

Sun 10.00a.m.: Bruno & Francesca Pelle,
Anton & Maria Golobic.

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 12th St -10.30a.m.

Devotional Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3.00 p.m.

Weekday Mass Times -

Tues: 7.00p.m.

Wed: 9.10a.m.

Thur: 9.30a.m.

Fri: 5.40p.m.

Sat: 10.00 a.m.

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

Mary Lazarus (Sunshine), Roslyn Mandiameli (Swan Hill), Peter Jones (Melb), Bob Pemberton (Adelaide), Daniel Roden, Joy Englefield, Maureen Quaine, Kathleen Window-Delaney, Rosalind Devassy Parakkal & Joseph (India), Fr Brendan Smith & Glen Levey.

Prayer for Rain

Loving God, whose son Jesus Christ called all who were thirsty to come to him, believe and drink, Look in mercy on your Australian people living in a dry land. Forgive our selfishness in life and our misuse of our natural resources. We commit ourselves to value and care for your gifts to us. We ask you for the rain we need to replenish our reservoirs and artesian reserves. May rivers of living water and practical compassion for all who suffer flow out from our hearts. Refreshed by your Spirit, and following in the way of Jesus Christ, we will continue to serve you in the people and creation entrusted to our care. Amen.

Our Pilgrims Start their Journey

A Blessing for all pilgrims from the Sunraysia area, will be held on Sunday at the 5pm. Mass followed with a BBQ. This will be the day before the road trip to Sydney begins!

We are grateful for your support and continued prayers for vocations especially in the lead up to WYD08.

THE Catholic Church says it is close to achieving its pilgrims target for World Youth Day with 197,000 local and overseas Catholic youth headed for Sydney. "With so many young people together in Sydney, they will know that they are not alone in their faith."

WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIMS FLOCKING TO SYDNEY 15th – 20th July.

As Australia welcomes pilgrims from around the world, we pray World Youth Day will bring young people closer to God.

Pope Benedict XV1

'In less than one day, Pope Benedict XV1 will make his first visit to Australia for World Youth Day! He is the 265th Pope, the spiritual head of the Catholic Church. Before he was elected to the top job, he was a well known Catholic theologian, writer and defender of Catholic doctrine.

"Pope Benedict says that to really understand the Catholic faith one has to be immersed in a community where it is lived. We just fall in love with it because we are loved by people who are in love with it and through them we get to see it in operation." "I am sure that from every corner of the Earth, Catholics will unite with me and the youths gathered (in Sydney) to invoke the Holy Spirit ... in a variety of languages and cultures."

Pope Benedict will leave Sydney on July 21st after World Youth Day ceremonies culminate in an open air mass at Randwick Racecourse expected to attract hundreds of thousands of pilgrims on July 20th.

"It's going to be a great opportunity for us to talk to the young people who have come from all over the world to experience the fullness of their faith, We live in such a materialistic society, where God and religion is so often overlooked, that sometimes young people think that they might be the only ones out there to want a deeper relationship with their religion." (Sr Noelle)

A thought for our personal journey

"This truth about God, that he is mystery, is fundamental. He calls us out of ourselves and beyond ourselves, he is the God of surprises, always creating something anew. He is at work in the heart of every human being, loves each one and is drawing each to himself. He is no respecter of persons or of our human hierarchies of rank and status, which he upsets: 'He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.' He is at work across the Christian denominations, across religions and in the hearts of those who profess to have no religion. God is mystery, but if we turn to him, he will lead us."

Excerpt from "God of Surprises" by Gerard Hughes SJ



REFLECTION

Prayer for WYD Pilgrims

O God of all youth, we pray to you:
We are young people,
and we want to celebrate life!
We cry out against all that kills life:
hunger, poverty,
unemployment, sickness,
repression, individualism, injustice.

We want to announce fullness of life:
work, education, health, housing,
bread for all.

We want communion, a world renewed.

We hope against hope.

With the Lord of history

we want to make all things new.

WYD08- Watch it on SBS

WYD08 will be the largest gathering of young Catholics ever to be held in Australia. Tune into SBS to see all the major events live and try and spot the Eureka Flag and the 400 strong Ballarat contingent.

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

15.00 World Youth Day 2008: Opening Mass

Thursday, July 17, 2008

14.00 World Youth Day 2008: Pope's arrival

Friday, July 18, 2008

15.00 World Youth Day 2008: Stations of the Cross

Sunday, July 20, 2008

09.15 World Youth Day 2008: Papal Mass Live

*Live coverage of the Papal Mass from
Randwick Racecourse*

12.30 World Youth Day Highlights: Papal Vigil

19.30 World Youth Day Highlights: Papal Mass

Monday, July 21, 2008

17.00 World Youth Day 2008: Event Highlights

Love & Politics- Social Justice

The order of society is based on two virtues: justice and charity. However, justice presupposes a lot of love already..... Justice has its limits whereas charity knows none. (Blessed Frederick Ozanam)

A VOCATION VIEW:

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A.

The seed of a vocation seeks fertile surroundings. Sometimes it gets stepped on, sometimes it gets choked, sometimes it lacks depth. But other times it is nourished by loving and caring friends.



St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

The Sacred Heart Conference of St Vincent de Paul are grateful to all those who contributed so generously to their Winter Appeal.

Parish Activities for the Week

Central Walnuts BCC members, family & friends are invited to get together at the home of Pam & Craig 39 Kiata Drive on **Sunday 13th 12.30pm.**

BYO finger food & drink.

Tues 15th Finance Committee Meeting 12.30pm.

Tues 15th Parish Pastoral Council meeting-
7.30pm. - Hillman Room.

Thurs 17th RCIA Meeting 7.30pm Hillman Room
Topic T1-In Search of God.

First Eucharist/Communion

First Eucharist will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Parish on 23rd, 24th, 30th and 31st August. Children need to have received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Penance to be able to take *part*. Preparation begins with a

- **Parents' Meeting at 7:15 p m on 16th or 17th July**

in Sacred Heart Church. At least one parent must attend this meeting to be part of the programme.

IMPORTANT NOTE

YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO BE REGISTERED FOR THE SACRAMENT BY JULY 18TH OR THEY WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL 2009 TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST EUCHARIST.

THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

MARK IN YOUR DIARIES

Passionist Family Group next outing is to the Coomealla Club Sunday July 27th 5.30 pm for dinner.

St Joseph's College - Class of 96 Reunion

Will be held on 2 August, 2008. Do you know anyone that attended with the graduating class of '96 or anyone who studied with or taught them from 1991 to 1996?

If so, please email the organisers: stjoes96@gmail.com or call Paul on 0413287232.

EUCHARIST MINISTERS

New rosters are coming out in August. If there are any changes to your details or you prefer a different Mass time please contact the Office ASAP. If there any parishioners who are willing to become a Eucharist Minister or would like more information please contact the Office.

Gospel Reflection

The Australian Church is presently in the midst of Days in the Diocese, leading up to World Youth Day which culminates with the final Mass with Pope Benedict next Sunday morning. The presence of overseas students in our homes and our churches this weekend reminds us that our parish and diocese are part of something much bigger than ourselves. Among the many pilgrims, several young Timorese are gracing the homes of parishioners and religious communities in my parish. These young people have spent almost a year preparing for these two weeks and are committed to contribute actively to parish life on their return to Timor. They bring a deep faith and trust in God, partly born of suffering and deprivation of the resources we tend to take for granted. They are being exposed to a standard of living almost beyond their imagining. They are also encountering the goodness in the hearts of young Catholic Australians and the generosity of their families. Expectations of WYD vary. Some are sceptical about such events. What difference do they make in the life of the Church? How will we judge its success or otherwise? Jesus' parable of the sower, seed, and soil reminds us that the grace of God's word is there for everyone who is open to receive it. If the seed takes root in rich soil, the harvest is assured. If it misses the mark and falls on the path, the benefit is only for the birds. If the soil is rocky, the growth is premature and short-lived and the harvest is very limited. If the seed falls among thorns, it is choked-so once again, no harvest. The readiness of the soil is all important, though the extraordinary extent of the yield is the measure of God's abundant grace. This parable reflects Jesus' closeness to the earth and his familiarity with the lives of ordinary people. While scattering of seed before ploughing seems a rather wasteful method of sowing a crop, such a practice is attested in the ancient world. Is the sower an extraordinarily generous God or an exploitative and wasteful estate owner? A parable teases its hearers and invites them to ponder its many levels of meaning. We have to bring our own life experience into dialogue with the word of the parable and search out its meaning for us. In the context of WYD, the parable of the sower may yield its wisdom more slowly than we wish because young people tend to grow up at different rates and

This weekend	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Readers	L Crouch	V Chong	Sr Patricia	M Tobin
Eucharistic Ministers	M Joseph P Kelleher M & J McDonald M Roper S Tisler K Girke	T Panuccio D Brown P O'Donnell F Carbone B Weightman	S Op't Hoog E Opie A Chalkley P Kerr B Bunting C Maugeri C McErvale	J Rocca J Macri W Finn T Finn
<u>NEXT WEEK:</u> Music	N. Armsden Filipino Choir		Pacific Islanders	G & F Lane
Counting Team Next Week	13 th July Team 10: Brian Grogan 50212099 20 th July Team 1: Gerry Lavery 50211918			

Finance- Last Week's Collections

1st Collection \$ 1152.00

Planned Giving \$ 1604.50
Loose Plate – \$ 309.25

their faith develops in myriad ways that only God as harvester truly comprehends. Let's pray for an abundant harvest from WYD. -Veronica Lawson RSM

A Pastoral Letter from the Catholic Bishops of Australia

“...we ought to be inviting as many as possible to share in the forgiveness and salvation Jesus has won for all of us.”

World Youth Day provides a powerful theme, *You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses* (Acts 1: 8). Through the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to witness to Jesus Christ, which means we ought to be inviting

as many as possible to share in the forgiveness and salvation Jesus has won for all of us. In their emphasis on the new evangelisation, recent Popes have stressed this same message.

While many in the world have never heard of Jesus, in our own society many have heard of him, but not responded. Others in our society have begun to believe, but their faith in the Lord Jesus has waned, especially in terms of their relationship with the Church, the Body of Christ. The reasons for this are many and varied. Whatever the reason, this has resulted in a situation where the Church community is impoverished because of their absence. While we address this letter to the community of faith worshipping the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Eucharistic celebration, it is really our brothers and sisters, who are absent from our worshipping community, who are the subject of this letter.

Jesus Christ lives in his Church

Many of us, bishops, priests, grandparents, parents and others feel a deep personal pain, anxiety, even guilt at this loss. Have we failed in being true witnesses to Jesus? Have we resisted the power the Holy Spirit has given us? A further concern is that our brothers and sisters are not regularly in touch with the Mystery of our salvation, which is the risen Christ, and therefore, they are somewhat removed from that very full manifestation of the love of the Father that is made present in the Church. While the Spirit blows where he will, and Jesus comes to us in our ordinary everyday life especially through the poor and needy (Mt 25), Jesus' command to "Do this in memory of me" is only carried out in the Church. We recognize that the Mass lies at the very heart of our Catholic faith. The sacraments too, which many who are distant from the Church still seek, are a further encounter with Jesus that is not present elsewhere. The sacraments are really the most intense and intimate expressions of that life-giving community of disciples, that fellowship in Jesus, which is the Church. This is the work of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. It is in the Church that Jesus and the Father have uniquely come and made their home (Jn 14:23).

Re-connecting

What can we do to address this situation? Firstly, we must ensure that our parish communities are genuinely welcoming and respectful. Why should people come back to us, if the welcome they receive is no better than it was previously? Secondly, we need to go in search of those who are no longer with us, like a shepherd reaching out to the lost sheep (Jn 10). This is much harder, but it is perhaps even more necessary. It will involve a variety of approaches. It runs the risk of rejection, but that is a risk which the new evangelisation demands. Many of those to whom we want to reach out could be just looking for or waiting for, even unconsciously, a word of welcome, encouragement or invitation. The right approach is essential. Only slowly can one broach the delicate questions of faith and conscience with those we are seeking. Jesus himself, the Good Shepherd, is surely the model for us in this regard. The approach will often take the form of allowing them to tell their story in a context of sharing our faith. Whatever form it takes, it should arise from their need, not ours.

Sharing hope

Who is to meet this challenge? Every member of the Church. We are all responsible. No one can excuse themselves from this responsibility, because it flows from the Baptism that we all share. Some of the faithful feel that they do not have the necessary theological training to make such an approach or to engage in deeper conversation about the faith. St Peter tells us, *Always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you have.* (1 Peter 3:15). Sharing your faith with people is sometimes better and more convincing than theological argumentation. Faith speaks to the heart, and the heart responds to God. Our personal witness can also be supported by other means: strategies and programmes designed for this purpose; prayer and bible study groups; effective use of the media and modern technology. There are now many Catholic websites, some interactive in a way that could be helpful in making and sustaining contact with people. It is important that parishes and other communities explore which strategies and programmes are most suited to their particular situation. We Bishops have just commissioned a new programme called *Reconnect*. It invites all Catholics to reconsider their participation in the life of the Church.

World Youth Day will challenge all those who have Jesus in their heart to reflect more deeply on their relationship with him. It may well be the occasion for many to turn again to the family of the Church. We must continue to reflect on its theme: *You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses* (Acts 1: 8). When Pope Benedict XVI, the Vicar of Christ on earth, celebrates Mass at Randwick, it will be a unique expression of our Catholic faith. We invite all to join us in the family of the Church around our chief Shepherd. Let us boldly witness to our faith!

The Catholic Bishops of Australia 22 June 2008

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

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