



# 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 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 08 JUNE 2008: Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

### THIS WEEK

First Reading **Hos 6:3-6**  
Psalm **Ps 49:1. 8. 12-15. R. v.23**  
To the upright I will show the saving power of God.  
Second Reading **Rom 4:18-25**  
Gospel **Mt 9:9-13**



### NEXT WEEK

First Reading **Ex 19:2-6**  
Psalm **Ps 99:2-3. 5. R. v.3**  
We are his people, the sheep of his flock.  
Second Reading **Rom 5:6-11**  
Gospel Acclamation **Mk 1:15**  
Gospel **Mt 9:36-10:8**

**Recent Deaths:** Peter.W. O'Callaghan (Melb), Sylvester (Les) Richardson, Concetta Morello(Melb),Fr Frank Harper(Win/Forbes Diocese)

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sat 6.00 p.m. Rok Tisler  
Sun 8.00 a.m. Stephen King, Gerard Robertson  
Sun 8.30.a.m Mona Welsh (Irymple)  
Sun 10.00a.m Anthony Puglisi

**Anniversaries:** Fr. John Smith, Frank Deacon

### 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 12<sup>th</sup> St -10.30a.m.  
Devotional Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3.00 p.m.

### Weekday Mass Times - Italian Masses.

Mon: Hillman Room 10.a.m &7.00 p.m.  
Tues: Hillman Room 10.a.m &7.00 p.m.  
Wed: Hillman Room 10.a.m &7.00 p.m.  
Thu: Hillman Room 10.a.m &7.00 p.m.  
Fri: Irymple Multi Cultural Centre 2.00 p.m.  
Fri: Hillman Room 7.00 p.m.

### Normal Weekday Mass Times

Sat: 10.00 a.m

### CHANGE OF VENUE FOR SATURDAY MORNING MASS

Until further notice Saturday Morning Mass will be celebrated in the **Hillman Room**.

### We pray for the sick

Maureen Quaine, Kathleen Window-Delaney, Jo Brady (Nandaly), Cyril Wright (Adelaide) & Rosalind Devassy Parakkal (India), Glen Levey and Daniel Roden who is about to undergo surgery.

### BAPTISMS

**This Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June** we welcome into God's family – Marcus Demaria who will be baptised after the 6.00p.m.Mass.

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June** we welcome into God's family: Logan Cochrane, Alice Rodgers, Riley Downes and Alannah Lavery into our Parish Community who will be baptised after the 10.00a.m. Mass.



## St. Anthony's Mission 9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> June

We welcome back Fr John Pagnin who will be leading the Mission and celebrating Masses this week. Daily Mass with instructions and discussion will be celebrated at 10.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. in the Hillman Room from Monday until Thursday inclusive. On Friday Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated in the Irymple Multi-cultural centre at 2.00p.m. and Mass for the Dead will be celebrated in the Church at 7.00 p.m. These masses will be bi-lingual (Italian and English). We are using the Hillman Room on account of the cooler weather and to make us feel more of a community.

Next Sunday **The Feast of St Anthony** will be celebrated at the 10.00 a.m. Mass. This will be followed by a procession and Free BBQ lunch in Sacred Heart Hall. The raffle will be drawn and items will be performed by Sacred Heart School students.

### Another busy week

Next Tuesday Frs Matthew, Frank and Tom will be in Ballarat for a Council of Priests meeting and to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Ordination of Fr Glynn Murphy and 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Ronald Mulkearns.

OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY - -- QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

## Meeting the Challenge of Abortion

The challenge to all Victorians in 2008 is to respond to abortion with laws and policies that:

- maintain that abortion is a crime, hence wrong, socially unacceptable;
  - restrict and rein in provisions for the killing of the unborn;
  - reflect the need to support women in a predicament of unplanned or difficult pregnancy so that in being loved they may respond with love towards the child they carry.
- Therefore –

- **We call on all who are concerned to write now to their Members of Parliament, clearly expressing their views against decriminalisation.** Details can be found about our local members on leaflets in the ledgers at Church doors.
- **We call on all Members of Parliament to listen calmly and rationally to the voice of conscience, to weigh carefully the harm involved in this legislation.**
- **We call upon all men and women of good will to reject abortion and choose life.**  
If you need some help constructing your letters please refer to the points made in the Bishops pastoral letter on abortion. On the back page of bulletin.



## St Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal

We thank everyone for their generosity in donating money, non-perishable goods, clothing and blankets. Last weekend we raised \$687 (loose change from second collection), If you wish to donate to this appeal please use the envelopes to be found at the Church doors and either place them on collection plate or take them to St Vinnies in Lime Ave. Blankets can be taken to the store.

## Parish Activities for the Week

- **TUES – CATHOLIC WOMENS GROUP - monthly meeting 2.00 p. m.**
- **TUES – BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN -5.00 p.m.** Hillman room
- **TUES – SANT-ANTONIO COMMITTEE** will meet in the Fleming Room following 7.00pm Mass.
- **WED - MEET AND GREET** 11th June at 9am at St Paul's Primary School. Activities for children, birth to school age will be available. LOTS OF FUN!!!! Everyone Welcome.
- **THURS - INFORMATION SESSION ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH** 7.00pm in the Counting Room in the back of the Church. For further info Phone: 5021 2872.

St Joseph's Primary School Red Cliffs on 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their establishment.

All Sacred Heart School community for the wonderful celebration last weekend when Bishop Connors and Mr. John Forrest MHR opened the new extensions.

*Diamond Wedding Anniversary.*



Mick and Elaine Hogan on celebrating 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. We also congratulate Elaine on reaching four-score years and ten.

## ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

Mr Darren Atkinson on his appointment as Principal of Saint Joseph's College as of 2009. We assure him our prayers in the times ahead.



## MARK IN YOUR DIARIES:

### ➤ CATHOLIC WOMENS SOCIAL GROUP

Will hold a -3 Course Luncheon & Crazy Whist Day  
Mon 16<sup>th</sup> June at St Josephs College Stadium. Tickets \$15.00 Ph: 50230919 or 50230522.



➤ **PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP** is having a home Mass with our founder, Father Peter Mc Grath at the home of Denise & Gerry Lavery on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm. Followed by a casserole dinner. Please bring a casserole to share. BYO drinks.

### ➤ ENROLMENTS

Enrolments for 2009 are now being taken by St Paul's Primary & Sacred Heart Primary Schools. If you want to enrol your child into the Prep Year for 2009, please call to make an appointment time for the interviews which will take place in the first 2 weeks of term 3. If your child is not in the Transition group, now is the time to apply for the Prep class.

### ➤ ACU National University Experience

Australian Catholic University Ballarat (Aquinas) will be holding a University Experience for year 12 students on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June. Interactive teaching session will be held based on the courses offered at ACU National. The sessions will focus on teaching, nursing, paramedicine and early childhood with a supplementary session on the student life balance. For more information and to register for this exciting event please visit: [www.acu.edu.au/universityexperience](http://www.acu.edu.au/universityexperience) or phone the Ballarat campus on 5336 5383.

## Finance- Last Week's Collections

1<sup>st</sup> Collection \$ 1220.00

Planned Giving \$ 1877.95  
Loose Plate \$ 687.70

Loose plate to St Vinnies Winter Appeal. Thank You for your generous support.

**PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS**

Planned Giving receipts can be collected from the foyer. Any queries please contact Parish Office.

**Donations of Wool**

The Circolo Pensionati ladies would like any spare wool you may have to continue knitting items for St Vincent de Paul. If you have any, your donations can be left at the Parish Office.



**ON THE MOVE**

Fr Don Gunn P.P. (Wentworth/Dareton) has been notified this week of his new appointment in Condobolin. Fr Don will start in his new parish on the first weekend in August.

**Gospel Reflection- Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A  
(Matthew 9:9-13)**

In every human community, there are people who ask loaded questions or make verbal side-swipes. This is part of the dysfunctional communication of the negative critic. It generally results in pain or embarrassment for the person indirectly targeted as well as diminishment of the critic. A reflective response to a side-swipe can be an effective way of disarming a critic and of restoring dignity to the situation. Jesus had it down to a fine art, as today's gospel demonstrates. He may not have won his critics over, but he probably made them reflect on their behaviour and think twice before they tried it again. The wisdom of his response remains for those who assemble for a meal 'in the house'.

The juxtaposition of meal and house in the gospel narrative invites us to reflect on the Eucharistic gatherings in the early house churches. The company is not so different from ours when we gather for Eucharist. Jesus is present. His close followers are there with all their faults and failings, some more ready to acknowledge their shortcomings than others. There are those on the edge, a little afraid to declare themselves because of their anomalous life situations or occupations that don't

quite fit the accepted mores. Finally, the 'righteous' (used ironically in this instance) take their place and feel free to pronounce judgment on 'unacceptable' membership and unconventional leadership alike.

It is very easy to condemn. It is not so easy to value difference and to see wisdom in a compassionate embrace of all God's people. Jesus zeroes in on his sophisticated and well-educated critics, telling them to go and learn the meaning of the words of the prophet Hosea, 'I desire mercy rather than sacrifice.' Custodians of the Jewish tradition may not have appreciated such a directive. To learn, they must simply attend to what they see before them. Jesus has actually shown them the meaning of mercy in action. He has invited one of society's social pariahs, a customs official named Matthew, to 'follow' him. Matthew responds without hesitation. He leaves an occupation that upholds the infrastructure of the Roman Empire for a life on the road in the service of God's empire. The toll collected on transported goods was crippling for peasant farmers and others transporting their goods to market. The system was skewed. Jesus' invitation and Matthew's response deal a mini systemic blow to the Empire. Every little counts and the witness of one small step can reverberate through the ages and give courage to those who would seek to advance God's way of doing mercy in our world.

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.

This weekend	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
<b>Readers</b>	V Chong	K Shultz	S/E Opie	I Russell
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	S. Tisler K Girke S. Girke. L. Roden J. De Jong H. De Jong M. Capogreco	E. Panetta D. Pemberton. L. Walsh E. Frauenfelder L.Belej	F. Chiavone T. Chiavone S. Opt'Hoog E. Opie A. Chalkley P. Kerr B. Bunting	J. Macri W. Finn T. Finn P. Cox
<b><u>NEXT WEEK:</u> Music</b>	N. Armsden Filipino Choir		Feast Of St Anthony Italian Choir	G & F Lane
<b>Counting Team Next Week</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> June Team 5: Jim Farrelly 50215646 15 <sup>th</sup> June Team 6 : Peter Adair 50235193			

Parish Pastoral Council Members: Terry Murphy 50233056 , Fr. Tom Brophy 50212872, Chris Slattery 5022 0565, Mary Gobbo 50234621, Marita Jensen 50237208, Fr. John Monaghan 50212872, Jean Rocca 50237561, Brian Grogan 50211209, Cornelia Conway-Weel 50234567, Sr. Rosemary Graham 50231841, Peter O'Donnell 0429104225, Veronica Chong 5023 1362.

## Making abortion legal?

### A PASTORAL LETTER OF THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF VICTORIA

*To the Catholic people of Victoria and all men and women of good will,*

2008 is a critical year in the life of the people of Victoria. In our State Parliament we are confronted by a series of legislative projects that involve grave moral issues. Prominent among these projects is the so-called "decriminalisation of abortion".

Each of these projects raises serious moral and social questions. Our concerns arise both from our religious and moral convictions and our commitment to respect the dignity of each human being.

#### 1. Abortion is Wrong

As John Paul II taught in his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae* (1995), all unborn human beings have a right to life:

"The human being is to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception; and therefore from that same moment his rights as a person must be recognised, among which in the first place is the inviolable right of every innocent human being to life."<sup>1</sup>

Every attempt to harm an innocent human person violates principles of justice and is always wrong. Every procedure adopted with the intention of killing an unborn child, or of terminating its development is an attempt to harm, even if it is carried out reluctantly and with regret. Such procedures are referred to as "direct abortions", that is where the death of the unborn child is directly willed.

The direct abortion of any unborn human being is always wrong. In his encyclical, Pope John Paul II taught:

"Therefore, by the authority which Christ conferred upon Peter and his Successors, in communion with the Bishops ...I declare that direct abortion, that is, abortion willed as an end or a means, always constitutes a grave moral disorder, since it is the deliberate killing of an innocent human being. This doctrine is based on the natural law and upon the written Word of God, is transmitted by the Church's Tradition and taught by the ordinary and universal Magisterium."<sup>2</sup>

Last month, Pope Benedict XVI described abortion as the "most serious injustice today".<sup>3</sup>

Just because a proposition is taught by the Church does not mean that it is, by that fact, "religious" and, therefore, not rationally grounded. Although the defence of human life has been left largely to Catholics and evangelical protestants, it remains the case that the right of the innocent not to be killed and the right of the unborn to the equal protection of the law are grounded in reason and upheld by those who have no religious faith.

#### 2. Should Abortion be "Decriminalised"?

In Victoria, the *Crimes Act* retains provisions which make abortion criminal.<sup>4</sup> Those provisions address the circumstances in which direct abortion is contemplated. Each provision is contravened only where a procedure is carried out with intent to procure the miscarriage of a woman. The provisions do not affect medical interventions where the death of the child is the unintended side effect of therapeutic intervention intended to remedy some pathology in the mother.

However, the provisions in the *Crimes Act* were weakened by the ruling of Mr. Justice Menhennit in 1969.<sup>5</sup> The judge directed a jury that abortion was lawful where the doctor honestly believed on reasonable grounds that the act done was necessary to preserve the woman from some serious danger. He said "(a)s to this element of danger, it appears to me in principle that it should not be confined to danger to life but should apply equally to danger to physical or mental health provided it is a serious danger not being merely the normal dangers of pregnancy and child birth." Thus, the judge introduced notions of "necessity" and "proportionality" into the interpretation of the provisions. The doctors in the case were acquitted of the charge of abortion. In our law, there is no appeal from an acquittal; as a result, the ruling has continued to guide police and prosecutors.

Since 1969, in practice "necessity" and "proportionality" have been stretched to include almost any reason to procure an abortion. The need even to offer a justification for an abortion is seldom recognised.

**What must be urgently addressed is that, in practice, we have unrestricted abortion on demand, a situation that provides neither protection for the child before birth nor protection for the child's mother.**

Part 2 continued next week. The full version of this letter can be found at <http://www.cam.org.au/abortion/making-abortion-legal-9.html>