



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.

9th March 2008 Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

THIS WEEK: Year A Fifth Sunday of Lent

First Reading **Ez 37:12-14**

Psalm **Ps 129. R. v.7**

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading **Rom 8:8-11**

Gospel **Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45**



NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY 16th March Passion Sunday

First Reading **Is 50:4-7**

Psalm **Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading **Phil 2:6-11**

Gospel Acclamation **Phil 2:8-9**

Recent Deaths:

Roy Harwood.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sun 5.00p.m. Joe Mandica, Alfredo Scarfo, Catalino, Diosdado, Godofredo, Jocelyn & Edvarda Tac-an, Ivan, Marg & Susan Naray, June Smythe, Ian Schotler, Ricardo Matildo.

Tues 2.00p.m. Fr. John Shanley

Anniversaries:

Giuseppe & Rosa-Maria Mandica, Frank & Domenica Gattuso.

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.

Tues	<i>Anointing Mass</i>	2.00 p.m.
Wed		9.10 a.m.
Thurs		9.30 a.m.
Fri:		5.40 p.m.
Sat:		10.00 a.m.

We pray for the sick

Anne O'Donnell, Theo Van Kooten, Joy Englefield, Rosalind Devassy Parakkal(India), Brian Blesser, John Dolence, and Joe Sestak.



We welcome **Toby Lee Morello & Jesse James Horvat** into our Parish Community as they receive of sacrament of Baptism this weekend..

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.*

Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 9

The Lord frees people from the bonds and slavery of the past and helps them move to a new place. This week's Project Compassion story focuses on Fernandez who is teaching art and drama to young people living in the slums of Sao Paulo in Brazil as a way of supporting them to overcome poverty, oppression, drug and arms trafficking. Project Compassion invites you to give generously this Lent in supporting Caritas' life-giving programs.



LENTEN BANNERS

The theme of the **5th Sunday** is 'Death to Life' and is based on the two readings 'The Raising of Lazarus,' and 'The Grain of Wheat' which are both stories about 'life' and transformation. The **brown curve** at the bottom of the design represents the position of the body in death. The flower symbolizes the growth that occurs when the body is transformed from the position of death, to life. It also represents the growth of the wheat; from a seed to a plant. The **yellow tombstone** behind the flower is symbolic of death. The **white background** like the flower represents life and the transformation of a seed once it spouts from the ground.



Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations to Matthew Roper and Melissa Innes who celebrated their wedding on Saturday 8th March.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

9 March

Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

Our story today focuses on Fernandez from Brazil who is a young man of hope and dreams! His dream is to become an artist so that he can use his talents to free young people from poverty, oppression, drug and arms trafficking in the slums of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Fernandez and other young people have benefited enormously from participating in the Centro de Cultura run by Movimento de Defesa do los Favelados (MDF) for children and young people.

Caritas Australia is dedicated to supporting these projects which restore respect, human dignity and self worth to many young people. Fernandez describes the positive impact of these projects: *We have the opportunity to develop our skills of self expression and life skills which will enable us to contribute to the well being of the community.* In today's gospel story Lazarus is restored to life through the miracle of Jesus who raises him from the dead! This resurrection story challenges us to be instruments of life in restoring wholeness and social well being to the poor and oppressed in our world. Project Compassion invites you to give generously this Lent in supporting these life-giving programs.

Finance- Last Week's Collections

Priests Support –	\$ 1251.00
Direct Debit and Credit Cards:	\$ 577.53
Envelopes	\$ 1877.80
Loose Plate	\$ 376.00
Project Compassion to date	\$ 1479.75

Total Parish Support: **\$ 2831.33**

ROSTERS

In preparation for Holy Week and Easter, rosters for the following are required:

Readers, Eucharistic Ministers,
foot washing, Altar Servers, etc

Roster s have been placed on the table near the stairs to the Gallery. If you are able to help please put your name on the list.

Coming Events
ALTAR SERVING TRAINING

ALTAR SERVING TRAINING will commence Tues 11th & Wed 12th March between 4pm -6pm. If you haven't handed in your Application form please bring on the day.

 ❖ **Catholic Womens Social Group - Meeting**

Tues 11th March in the Hillman Room at 2.00pm.

 ❖ **RCIA Team Meeting**

❖ Thurs 13th March – 6.30pm. Hillman Room.

 ❖ **RCIA Gathering**

Thurs 13th March – 7.30pm. Hillman Room.

 ❖ **Music Practice**

❖ Thurs 13th March 6.30 pm- 7.30pm. Contact: Meg Sullivan.

Women's Day of Reflection
Open Invitation

The Sacred Heart Parish of Mildura would like to invite you (women of all ages in your parish and school community) to a

WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION

facilitated by Sister Veronica Quinn from the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat

WHEN : Tuesday 18th March , 2008

WHERE : Sacred Heart Church
261 Eleventh Street, Mildura

TIME : 9.30 am till 3.00 pm

RSVP 11th March, 2008
Parish Office 03 50212872
PO BOX 5048
MILDURA, VIC, 3502

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

A quiet place

is 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.

Sacred Heart Parish of Mildura in conjunction with

St Joseph's Parish Redcliffs

would like to invite

ALL PARISHIONERS

to a

TWILIGHT RETREAT

Facilitated by Sr Veronica Quinn sgs from the Diocese of Ballarat.

WHEN : Monday 17th March , 2008

WHERE : St Joseph's Catholic Church REDCLIFFS

TIME : 6.30 pm till 8.30 pm

RSVP 11th March, 2008 .

People in need of transport please contact the Office.


St Paul's Meet & Greet

Do you know of a young family who are looking to develop a greater bond with the Parish and School Communities? St Paul's Primary School is running a Meet and Greet morning at the school Wednesday 12th March, and will run each fortnight throughout the term. The program is open to any parents or carers with babies, toddlers and preschoolers, providing the children with stimulating age appropriate play group activities and music. Parents without toddlers are also encouraged to attend and enjoy a cuppa and a chat. At each session the parents will be given a short talk on Education, Parenting or Faith issues such as Lent, literacy development, numeracy, VELS, The Sacraments, speech development etc.

Meet and Greet will be held in Room 9 at the school from 9.30am. and is free of charge. For information contact:

Naomi Kennedy Hm: 50212877 or St Paul's 50234567.

World Youth Day -

Now is the time to register to be part of the Ballarat Diocesan Group.

Registrations close on **March 31**.

More information can be found at www.wyd2008.org
Don't miss out on the biggest celebration of our faith in our own backyard.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL



The Vincentian Family World Youth Team want **scarves and beanies** knitted for the participants coming to Sydney from Pacific Countries. The Sacred Heart Conference here in Mildura are looking for people to **knit or to donate wool**. Scarves, beanies, or wool may be left at the Lime Street St Vinnies Store or the Presbytery Office or contact Sr Patricia Fitzgibbon
Ph: 5021 5486 for collection.
Patricia Fitzgibbon rsm.

HOSPITALITY IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

Date - 09/03/2008

We have all heard stories of people coming to a Sunday Parish Mass – perhaps visitors from another state or country, or someone who has been estranged from the Church, or an enquirer wanting to find out about Catholic faith and practice- and are totally ignored by other worshippers. Rest assured, this would never happen at one of the so called mega churches!

When we are welcoming visitors to our home, whether family, friends or strangers, we normally tidy the house, greet guests at the door, provide enough food and drink for everyone and make sure that all are comfortable and included in the conversation. For some reason, however, this accepted and expected behaviour is sometimes forgotten when it comes to the worshipping community.

We have all heard stories of people coming to a Sunday parish Mass - perhaps visitors from another State or country, or someone who has been estranged from the church, or an enquirer wanting to find out about Catholic faith and practice –and are totally ignored by other worshippers. Rest assured, this would never happen at one of the so-called mega churches!

Things have changed in recent years, however, and many parishes have established a ministry of hospitality and roster people to be greeters at the church door. Having parish ministers of hospitality is not a “cop-out” for the rest of us however. Everyone at Mass has a ministry of welcome and warmth to the community and is called to be present to others as fellow members of the Body of Christ.

It is up to each one of us to be attentive to those who are with us at Mass and to make everyone welcome. Christ is present in the assembly and we are called to reverence this presence in the

same way that we acknowledge Christ's presence in the presider, the word and the consecrated elements.

While hospitality is everyone's ministry, some within the community have a particular role to play in creating an atmosphere that is inviting and welcoming:

- Celebrants through their manner of presiding and preaching. It is important that those who lead liturgical celebrations use voice and gestures in such a way that all present are clearly included and encouraged to participate in the liturgical action.
- Readers by proclaiming clearly. Ministers of the word need to ensure that all can hear the readings and that their use of eye contact and silence conveys to all present that the word of God is being addressed to them.
- Organists and other instrumentalists by giving clear introductions so that people know when to start singing. Cantors by drawing everyone into the common sung prayer through their welcoming manner and inclusive gestures.
- Sacristans, cleaners and environment ministers by creating a welcoming worship space. People will feel comfortable and included if a church is clearly signposted, parking and entrances are easy to find and the church is attractive and comfortable.
- Ministers of communion by serving graciously at the table of the Lord. Communion ministers make space for each communicant as they share with them the Body and Blood of Christ as fellow members of Christ's body. They need to be respectful and caring and to be comfortable making contact with other people through their eyes, words and hands.
- Ushers/greeters by providing a warm welcome at the church door and offering information to visitors. Hospitality ministers need to be friendly people who remember names relatively easily and know key people in the parish to whom they can direct enquirers.

A parish which works at forming all its members as ministers of hospitality can transform a group of Mass goers into a welcoming and life-giving community that generates faith, hope and love.

- Elizabeth Harrington (*Liturgy Lines*)

Gospel Reflection-5th Sunday of Lent Year A

(John 11:1-45)

Today's readings touch into the most profound of human mysteries, the mysteries of life and death. To hold a new born child or to see a sick person restored to health is to experience the wonder of life. On the other hand, the unexpected death of a loved one brings unimagined grief and pain. Death brings tears, even anger. Little wonder that 'life' becomes a metaphor for transformation and new beginnings or that 'death' so often signifies deprivation and loss.

The gospel reading is about the death and restoration to life of Lazarus, 'the one whom Jesus loved'. It is the last of the seven 'signs' in John's 'book of signs' that reveal the 'glory' of God. It is the greatest of Jesus' signs. It functions as a catalyst for the events that lead to his death: '...from that day on they planned to put him to death' (11:53). It also provides the occasion for Jesus to assert 'I am the resurrection and the life' and to invite assent to that revelation of his identity. It reveals the compassion and tender heart of Jesus who weeps at the grief of Mary his friend and the death of her brother. It also reveals the goodness in the hearts of those 'Jews' who share her grief and who come to faith in Jesus who raises the dead to life.

Though the story revolves around the plight of Lazarus, Martha and Mary are the characters who, with Jesus, occupy centre stage in the narrative and into whose faith journey we are invited to enter. The women are introduced before Lazarus. Martha and Mary are identified as 'sisters' who live in Bethany.

Are they blood 'sisters' or sisters in their love of Jesus, their faith commitment to him, or both? Lazarus is Mary's sick 'brother'.

There is no mention at the outset of his relationship to Martha, though she later claims him as her 'brother'. Might they all be part of a little faith community in Bethany rather than biological siblings?

A brief notice alerts the reader to the imminent death of Jesus: 'Mary is the one who anointed Jesus with perfumed oil and wiped his feet with her tears'. The details of that story are yet to be narrated. The reader will later discover that Mary's anointing of Jesus is 'for the day of [his] burial'. As so often in John's gospel, misunderstanding and irony function to bring the actors in the drama and us as actors in the theatre of Christian life to new levels of faith and understanding.

-Veronica Lawson RSM

(John 11:1-45)

Lead us not into Temptation.

Global warming is a hot topic. We hear forecasts of a future in which current temperate zones become deserts. We are warned of the dangers of apathy and the consequences of ignoring the signs. We are urged to act now to avoid terrible devastation later. Usually the suggested solutions are industrial, economic or scientific, but often we hear the call to live more responsibly in relation to our environment by altering the way we live so that fewer greenhouse gas emissions enter our atmosphere. Written by Archbishop Denis Hart Lent presents us with a similar warning: a call to change our present way of living in order to avoid future consequences. The solution proposed by our Lenten discipline, however, is spiritual rather than scientific or industrial or economic.

This weekend	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Readers	C Ellis	P Sandell	M Speed	I Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers	A-M Greville M Sheahan M Meredith V Kidd J Hall A Thumma M Joseph	M Mazza A Vartuli S Foster S Visona E Panetta	C McErvale N Leonardis M Speed E Garreffa M Modica L De Iesi	J Macri W Finn T Finn P Cox
NEXT WEEK: Music	M. Hammond M. Schmidt		M. Sullivan All Welcome Palm Sunday	N. Armsden L. Crouch
Counting Team Next Week	9 th March Team 2 Joe De Jong 50237802 16 th March Team 3: Vince Fundak 50245774			