



# 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 Neville Stanislaus, Fr. James Mc Kay  
 Gladys Abriani, Ross Rundell, Lys Crowe,  
 Fr. Frank Monaghan P.E.



## This Bulletin is for

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> DEC.** HOLY FAMILY  
**FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JAN.** MARY, MOTHER OF GOD,  
 OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS.

**Welcome home everyone as we celebrate the Birth of Christ with our loved ones and fellow parishioners. May these celebrations both in the Church and at home bring peace and joy to all.**

### THIS WEEK'S READINGS:

**First Reading** Sir 3:2-6. 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22. 24-28 Kindness and respect for parents is urged.  
**Psalm** Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1 or Ps 83:2-3. 5-6. 9-10. R. v.5 Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.  
**Second Reading** Col 3:12-21 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24 What is expected of the chosen of God.  
**Gospel** Lk 2:41-52 Jesus is found in the Temple.



### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

**First Reading** Is 60:1-6 Jerusalem is exalted.  
**Psalm** Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11 Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.  
**Second Reading** Eph 3:2-3, 5-6 Paul declares the Gentiles co-heirs to the Kingdom.  
**Gospel** Mt 2:1-12 The Wise Men journey to the infant Jesus.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Recent Deaths:** John Cummins and Sam Messina (Melton).  
**Anniversaries:** Maurice Ryan, Vera Bennett, Eileen Hillman, John Coleman, Bernie Moloney, Gladys McCarthy, Frs. Pat Culligan & Pat McGuire.  
**Sat 6.00 p.m.** Kylie Davis and Leonard Code.  
**Sun 9.00 a.m.** Natalino Finis and Alessandro Piscioneri.  
**5.00 p.m.** Maria Dimasi  
**Note to Families requesting special Masses:**  
 Please let celebrant know you are present before Mass.

## Baptism

This weekend we welcome Kelly Chen, Kennedy Crozier, Pia Crozier, Brooke Andrews, Chelsea Carusella, Dion Stanbrough and Luca Lewis into God's family, and into our Parish family.



## **IT IS THAT TIME.**

Once again have come to the end of the year and it is only right and proper to acknowledge all those who have kept the parish alive and able to spread the Good News in word and action. Our parish is one that is heavily dependent on volunteers who give so much of their time and talents to serve on committees, who assist with the liturgy, the care of the sick, the needy and the housebound, the maintenance of the church and surrounds. Your prayerful, emotional and financial support ensures that our parish can continue to build on the good work others have done in years gone by. May god reward all who play their part both seen and unseen. Thanks also to those who work in parish administration and in the presbytery, Gladys Abriani, Lys Crowe, Ross Rundell and Margaret McDonald.



May God bless you all.

## **We pray for the sick**

Joshua Herrick, Seamus Haughs, Fr. Don Gunn, Sr. Joyce White rsj, Rob Smith and Anne-Marie Hine.

## **MASS TIMETABLE FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR BREAK**

<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> -Christmas Day</b>	<b>8.00 a.m. &amp; 10.00 a.m.</b>
<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup></b> (Feast of St. Stephen)	<b>10.00 a.m. Hillman Room</b> <b>6.00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b> (The Holy Family)	<b>9.00 a.m. 5.00 p.m.</b> <b>8.30 a.m. Irymple</b>
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b> (Boxing Day)	<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup></b> (St. Thomas a Beckett)	<b>7.00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30 a.m.</b>
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup></b> (St. Sylvester 1)	<b>9.30 a.m.</b>
<b>Friday (New Year's Day)</b>	<b>9.30 a.m. &amp; 5.40 p.m.</b>
<b>Solemnity of the Mother of God World Day of Peace.</b>	
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10.00 a.m. Hillman Rm.</b> (Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nanzianzen)

## **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

On behalf of Gladys Abriani, Lys Crowe, Frs. Frank, Jim and Neville, I wish you the peace and joy that only our Saviour can bring to this world. May the celebration of his birth in a stable at Bethlehem be an opportunity for us to reflect upon his presence in those entrusted to our care and in the needy here and elsewhere. May our response imitate that of Christ who came to serve and not to be served. We pray that God's blessings be yours in abundance during the New Year.

*Tom Brophy*

## Thank You!

Frs. Neville, Jim, Frank and Tom sincerely thank parishioners for their greetings, cards, and gifts. We appreciate very much your patience, understanding and acceptance of us with all our faults and failings. Be assured of our continuing prayers as we exercise our ministry among you all. We could not be in better company, sinners that we all are!



### Volunteers:

So often no one can see  
Your service for the Lord  
But know that Jesus sees the work  
You've done for no reward  
We just want to let you know  
We appreciate you too  
And we are sure a heavenly reward  
Is waiting there for you.  
Just to say a big 'Thank You'  
For your service in the Lord  
We pray that God continues  
To bless you in your life  
As you have been faithful in  
The work of Jesus Christ.

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### NOTES FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

We have begun a study of Pope Benedict's Encyclical Caritas in Veritate (Charity in Truth). Charity, in the form of good wishes and giving is especially present at Christmas.

The Encyclical begins a meditation on love and charity – “an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace. It is a force that has its origin in God, Eternal Love and Absolute Truth...only in truth can charity shine forth...Truth is the light that gives meaning and value to charity”.

### Reflection for Dec 27 - -Feast of the Holy Family ~ Luke 2:41-52

The time between Christmas and New Year is often family time, a good time to think about what family means.

For many, it is a challenge to juggle the various family commitments. We do our best, and trust that everyone will understand the sometimes difficult choices that have to be made.

The readings invite us to focus on family relationships. At a very basic level, we are all 'children of God' (1 John 3:1), invited to remember the love that God has 'lavished on us'.

In the first reading, we find Hannah, the mother of the future prophet Samuel, recognising God's claim and dedicating her child to God. In the Gospel reading, Luke presents the young Jesus coming with his parents from Nazareth to Jerusalem 'as usual' for the great feast of Passover.

He is twelve years of age, capable in that culture of making quite He does just that, much to the consternation of his parents, who only become aware 'after a day's journey' that he has remained in Jerusalem and not joined the extended family group or synodia for the return journey to Nazareth.

Mary and Joseph are not well pleased. They express their concern but fail to understand his response: he is primarily God's child and must follow God's call first and foremost.

This does not preclude obedience to his parents, but it does foreshadow the pain involved in being parent to this young man whose mission will take him along paths they would never have chosen for him.

As Luke's story unfolds, Joseph fades from the picture. Mary lives as we are all called to live, 'storing all these things in her heart'. Sometimes God's call to children is in tension with parents' wishes or hopes. Children are first of all 'children of God'.



Much as we might want to, we cannot hold on to them. We try to understand their choices, we do everything we can to nurture their uniqueness, and we pray that they too will grow in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and with other members of the human community. - Veronica Lawson RSM

### NEW YEAR'S DAY Friday January 1<sup>st</sup> 2010

### FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD & WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Masses will be celebrated at **9.30 a.m. & 5.40 p.m.**

Today we begin a new year 2010 and at the same time we say farewell to the old year 2009. It is a time to thank God for the blessings we have received over the past twelve months and an opportunity to seek this blessings and guidance during the coming year. We also seek the protection and intercession of Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother.

World Day of Peace is also celebrated.

The Message of Pope Benedict XVI for the celebration of the forty-third World Day of Peace has as its theme: "If You Want To Cultivate Peace, Protect Creation".

*The Church has a responsibility towards creation, and she considers it her duty to exercise that responsibility in public life, in order to protect earth, water and air as gifts of God the Creator meant for everyone, and above all to save mankind from the danger of self-destruction. ... Our duties towards the environment flow from our duties towards the person, considered both individually and in relation to others. Hence I readily encourage efforts to promote a greater sense of ecological responsibility which, as I indicated in my Encyclical "Caritas in Veritate", would safeguard an authentic "human ecology" and thus forcefully reaffirm the inviolability of human life at every stage and in every condition, the dignity of the person and the unique mission of the family, where one is trained in love of neighbour and respect for nature.*

- Pope Benedict XVI

### OFFICE HOURS

As from the new year the Parish Office will be open from **Tuesday to Friday – 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

The office will not be open on a Monday. This will enable the priests to take their day off and cut some parish expenses.

The Parish Office will be closed for the next week and reopen on Tuesday January 5<sup>th</sup> at 9.00 a.m.

The parish telephone number is 5021 2872 which has a message bank so priests can be contacted if necessary.

### Last Week's Income

Priests Support – (1 <sup>st</sup> Collection)	\$ 1,307.00
Envelopes (2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection)	\$ 2,666.35
Loose Plate	\$ 436.20

### Mass Times

*During the Holiday Season (from now until school returns at the end of January) the weekday Masses will be celebrated at the following times:*

<b>Monday:</b>	No Mass unless a Funeral Mass;
<b>Tuesday:</b>	7.00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday &amp; Thursday:</b>	9.30 a.m. (unless a Funeral Mass).
<b>Friday:</b>	5.40 p.m.
<b>Saturday:</b>	10.00 a.m.

### Eucharistic Minister's Roster

The Roster for 2010 has been completed and sent out this week. serious decisions for himself.