

Fr. Michael McKinnon PP
Fr. Neville Stanislaus, Fr. James McKay
Fr. Frank Monaghan PE
Secretarial Staff: Cathy Pickup

Weekday Masses

If there is a Funeral Mass on Wed, Thurs, the advertised Mass will be cancelled.

- Tues: Anointing of the sick Mass 10.30am
- Wed: 9.10 a.m Thurs: 9.30 a.m.
- Fri: 5.40 p.m
- Anointing of the sick Mass Tues Nov 8th at 10.30am

Weekend Mass Times

Sat: 6.00 p.m.
Sun: 9.00 a.m, 5.00 p.m.
Irymple: 8.30 am.

Sacred Heart Parish

Mildura/Irymple

259-263 Eleventh Street
Mildura

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P.O. Box 10037 Mildura 3502

parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au
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St Francis Xavier's Church
Elms Street, Irymple

SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER 2011
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Our Parish Vision

"Our Parish is a Eucharistic Community united by our faith in Jesus Christ.

We work together in the power of the Holy Spirit to spread the good news of God's Kingdom."

Our Parish Schools

Sacred Heart Primary School – Principal Greg Lane 50231204

St Paul's Primary School – Principal Corrie Conway-Weel 50234567

Catholic Secondary College

St Josephs – Principal Darren Atkinson 50188000

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading: Is 40:1-5. 9-11

Psalm: Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

Response: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation

Second Reading: 2 Pt 3:8-14

Gospel: Mk 1:1-8

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading: Is 61:1-2.10-11

Psalm: Lk 1:46-50. 53-54. R. Is 61:10

Response: My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading: 1 Thes 5:16-24

Gospel.: Jn1:6-8.19-28

RECENT DEATHS: Sunday 4th 9.00am: Giuseppina Rocco (Italy – sister of Filomena, Maria & Joe Rocca)

ANNIVERSARIES: Sunday 9.00am Lino Galasso, Tony Modica, Rosa & Francesco Modica

Sunday 5.00pm Froilan Edwardo Garcia (40th Anniversary)

Only members of the deceased's immediate family are permitted to arrange anniversary Masses.

WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Monday Prayer Group: 2.00- 4.00 p.m.

Rosary: Monday 5.00 p.m.

Prayer of the Church: Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri. 8.40 a.m.

Charismatic Prayer Group: Tues 7.30 p.m.

Scripture Reading: Thurs 10.30 a.m 20 Beasy Court

Devotion Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3.00 p.m

Christian Meditation: Sat – 11.30 a.m. Hillman Rm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – held the 1st Friday of each month in the Church from 12 noon – 5.00 p.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday 11. 00 a.m to 12.00 p.m

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

If you want a sick person prayed for, please ask for their permission. Please let us know when to take their name off the list.

Jenny Jones, Margaret Tynan, Nadia Wolczek, Dorothy Norris

***PLEASE NOTE TUESDAY MASS TIME CHANGE**

KIOSK - Columban Calendars for 2012 - \$8.00 ea
Christmas Cards pk of 8 - \$3.00 ea
New Mass Books - \$7.00 ea



REFLECTION

The opening verse of Mark's gospel evokes the opening words of Genesis, the first book of the Bible. The whole of Mark's story of Jesus is presented as the beginning of a faith journey into which the listener/reader is invited. In some manuscripts of the Greek text, there are only five words in this verse, seven in others manuscripts, and twelve in our English translation. So short a statement and a world of meaning that foreshadows the key elements of the story to follow! The term gospel (euangelion) means good news. It originally referred to the news of victory delivered by a messenger, usually in time of war. The good news in this context is about Jesus or Joshua, a name meaning 'Yahweh saves'. The reader knows immediately that this Jesus is the Christ, the Anointed One of God, Israel's longed for Messiah. The actors in the story have to discover this truth as the drama unfolds. The two additional words present Jesus as son of God, as having the characteristics of God. The gospel writer identifies John the Baptist as the messenger who proclaims the need to prepare the way for the arrival of a new Presence in our world. Mark creates the impression that something big is happening here. John draws massive crowds from city and country alike. They come to him in 'the wilderness'. The wilderness theme recalls Israel's experience in the Sinai desert. Wilderness is the place of testing and of new beginnings for God's people, the place of God's 'coming' or God's 'advent' to Israel. As the gospel unfolds, Jesus will be impelled by the Spirit into the wilderness where he will pass the tests that Israel failed. This reading invites us to prepare for God's advent, God's coming, by ritualising metanoia (usually translated as repentance), and thus being ready for the One who comes. The translation 'repentance' does not convey the nuances of the Greek term metanoia which literally means a 'change of mind' and suggests an 'expansion of horizons'. God's advent demands a whole new mindset that will predispose us to receive the gift of God's forgiveness.

Mark's depiction of John evokes the image of the prophet Elijah in 2 Kings 8 and the 'hairy mantle' of the prophet in Zechariah 13:4. John is a prophet who, like the prophets of old, calls God's people to reconsider where they stand in relation to God. He is also the one who heralds the advent of the 'stronger' One who will baptize 'with the Holy Spirit'. And yet there is nothing in the subsequent narrative about Jesus baptizing. As we reflect attentively on Mark's gospel this liturgical year, we might discover for ourselves the meaning of this little phrase.

– Veronica Lawson RSM

COMING EVENTS

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP end of year get together will be held at the Tenth Street Time Share Resort on Sunday the 4th December at 11.00am. Please bring own lunch and drinks BBQ available. K K to exchange value \$5.00 to \$10.00. Contact Helen & Gary Huxtable 50235035

SUNDAY SCHOOL - CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR KIDS We would like to invite any children to come along to our Christmas party on Sunday 11th Dec at 9.00am Mass.

CATECHETICS & ADULT FORMATION

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Envelopes will be available next weekend 10/11 December for the Annual Christmas Appeal.

With thanks Sacred Heart Conference V de P

COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF RECONCILIATION

During the season of Advent as part of our preparation for the celebration of Christmas we will gather for a Communal Rite of Reconciliation on Wednesday 14th December at 7.00pm in the Church.

ADVENT

Invitation: to participate in a small gospel reflection group during the four weeks of advent – one meeting per week focusing on each Sunday's gospel. Contact parish office on 50 212872

SACRAMENTAL

Tentative dates for Confirmation for 2012 will be the Weekends of 19th + 20th + 26th + 27th May.

First Eucharist will be held on the 15th + 16th

September 2012



BAPTISMS: We would like to welcome Jack Kelly, Addison Mullins, Caden Brank, Niamh Fush + Harper Scherger into our Parish family.



WEDDINGS: We would like to congratulate Trent mayger + Belinda O'Halloran along with Shaun Richardson + Yelena Grivec on their recent weddings.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

1 st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)	\$1409.00
2 nd Collection (Support of Parish & Diocese)	\$2430.00
Loose Plate:	\$ 451.60

(The first collection and the offerings go toward the cost of the Priests' stipends/ food / cleaning / fuel / car expenses/other living expenses/ phone / SEC and Diocesan expenses which are paid quarterly.)

SIOBHAN STAGG

Siobhan Stagg who regularly sang at weekend Masses over many years, is returning home to Mildura to perform a fundraising concert for Arts Mildura on Sunday 11 December, at 2 pm at the Mercy Theatre. She will be joined by Victorian Opera tenor, Benjamin Namdarian for an exciting program of musical favourites. Tickets are \$25 on line at:

<https://www.gticketing.com.au/artsmildura/>

Siobhan says, "I'm thrilled to be returning to perform in Mildura. The Mildura community has had such a positive influence on my development so far."

LITURGY

There will be a Liturgy Team Meeting held at 5.00pm on Tuesday 6th December in the Hillman Room all are welcome to attend.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

A group of dedicated parents are offering Children's Liturgy at 9am Sunday Mass. If you have school aged children we encourage them to join in and participate in fun activities focused on the Gospel readings. We would also like more parents to assist so come along with your children on Sunday or contact the parish office on 0350212872 for more information.

MIDNIGHT MASS

This year there will be a midnight Mass held for Christmas. Please spread the word, as future celebrations depend on numbers attending.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

New rosters are now being compiled to be issued in January. If you are not able to continue or wish to change the Mass time you are rostered for and if there are any new people interested in becoming Eucharistic Ministers please advise the Parish Office before Thursday December 8th 2011. Training will be provided for new people signing up.

CHILDREN'S RESOURCES FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

The Parish is offering parents two books (\$12.00ea) that provide stories and prayers focusing on the season of Advent and the celebration of Christmas.

They can be purchased from the St Vinnies stall at the back of the Church, or through the Parish office.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

GATHERING SPACE

After informed discussions with both the Finance Committee and the Parish Council, the decision has been taken to initiate serious planning for the construction of the Gathering Space. A Committee consisting of Peter O'Donnell, Terry Murphy, Darren Atkinson, Trevor Aust, Rinni O'pt Hoog and myself have met with the architect who has been commissioned to present plans which will soon be available for public viewing. This project will obviously require that we set up a special building fund to assist us with cost. I am confident that with the understanding of how this space will assist the pastoral development of the Parish as well as enrich our community spirit, we will be assured of a generous response from all who support the growth of our Parish.

Father Michael

VINNIES WEEKLY SPECIALS

Pioneer budget bacon 1kg	\$5.75
Dried Fruit – Sultana 500g	\$3.50
Sun Muscats	\$4.00
Currants	\$5.00
Noodles 5 pack	\$1.60 pk
Sorbent thick & large tissues	\$1.95
Red Cliffs Honey - Box	\$3.75 up to \$10.00
SPC Peaches – Pears 825g	\$2.00 can
Local Carrots pre packed 1kg	\$1.30
Fresh pineapples	\$3.30
Pumpkins	\$1.00

MISSION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ASYLUM SEEKERS - ESSENTIAL FACTS

3. Australia's share of the world's asylum seekers is tiny. According to the UNHCR's figures (2009), of the 1,181,215 asylum seekers who sought recognition, Australia received only 6206. This was only 0.53% of global asylum applications. Of 44 industrialised nations Australia ranked 16th overall – but on a per capita basis ranked 21st.

4. Other countries have far greater numbers of refugees than Australia.

Australia with 22,548 refugees and people in refugee-like situations, rank 47th in the world. This is compared to Pakistan (1,740,711), Iran (1,070,488), Syria (1,054,466), Germany (593,799), Jordan (450,756), Kenya (9358,928), Chad (338,495), China (300,989), USA (275,461), and UK (269,363). On a per capita basis Australia is far behind poorer countries such as Jordan, Syria, Republic of Congo, Chad and Iran, and is also well behind other wealthy countries such as Sweden, Norway, Canada and Germany.

"NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS"

ST PAULS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and friends of the St Paul's Community.....

As we enter the Advent Season of the Liturgical year, we begin to look forward to the joys and challenges of the Christmas days ahead. To put us all in the spirit of giving, this week there is an exciting initiative happening!!! Together with the Sudanese community in Mildura, we are pooling our resources and starting a WELL and WINDMILL project. Local Member, Peter Crisp and Federal Member John Forrest are supportive of the initiative begun by Stephen Kor who is a parent at St Paul's. A large poster with photographs of the Sudanese village is on display in the school foyer to help us imagine what it would be like to have clean drinking water for all. The wrist bands were a huge success with more than \$740.00 given to Mrs Guthrie for the Shared Table in Peru. Thank you for showing support for our ongoing project and connection.

SACRED HEART PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear School families and friends,

Welcome to December. Only 24 days till Christmas. Advent is upon us! I sit here wondering where the year has gone and what have I accomplished in that time. I think most of you are probably asking the same questions. Well what a week it has been. Firstly, I would like to say thank you and congratulations to the mums who made the School lunch order day a resounding success. The healthy lunch alternative was well received and the mums worked tirelessly in preparing over 220 wraps and countless fruit salads for the children. Thank you for all your hard work. It is greatly appreciated. Monday saw the Middle Unit children celebrate their end of year activities in style with lots of fun games and challenges provided by Wildside Outdoor adventures. They certainly looked tired by the end of the day. It was great to see them enjoying themselves. Tuesday saw our senior Kanga 8's cricket side compete in the regional finals in Swan Hill. Thank you to the parents and staff who supported the children. Our school was very well represented and after a tense and nail biting finish in the final our team came runners up. Well done on a great effort!

RECOVERING FROM THE SICKNESS OF CLERICALISM (AND ANTI-CLERICALISM)

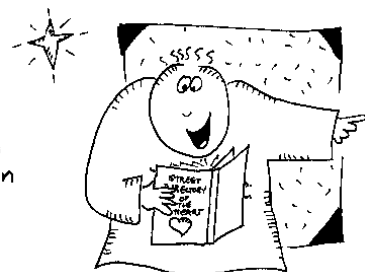
The solution to the problem of clericalism is not in anticlericalism but in the undoing of the clerical distortion of priesthood by recovering what Irish teacher and poet John O'Donohue [called](#) "the priestliness of the human heart". Clericalism is a disease; and the entire church — "clergy" **and** "laity" — are infected. Anticlericalism is the same disease, only in reverse. The pathology is in the rivalry and the violence at the heart of both. If clericalism is the arrogation of power to and by the clergy, then anticlericalism is its mirror image, its ugly twin, its envious rival. Instead of heaping contempt on priests and attempting to undermine the "clerical institution", we need to heal the "ecclesial body", for the body is one and needs to be whole. Our clerical brothers and sisters are *our* brothers and sisters: part of an "us" that (God knows how) is Christ's Body, his "priestly people". And therein lies the seed of the only authentically Christian solution to this problem: Christ, the priest of a new kind of "temple", prophet of new kind of "law", and king of a new kind of "kingdom". Useful as sociology and psychology can be, they will not be our best means of finding the cure we need. We need Christ more than we need systems analysis and conflict resolution strategies, therapy or counselling — useful as they all may be. Indeed, their usefulness will come into its own when, and only when, we use them in the light of the Gospel and in relationship with Christ. Prayer must be our first and last "strategy" in dealing with the problem of clericalism (and anticlericalism), for prayer is the lifeblood of the priestly human heart. To undo priesthood's distortion into clericalism, and clericalism's mutation into its rival twin, we need to practice the priestly art of prayer, the prophetic science of love, and the royal dignity of service. We need to start by asking Christ to heal us of the disease we all suffer from — at once its victims and its carriers. We need to open our minds to the Gospel and the example of Jesus, imitating him who "emptied himself" and not each other in our envious and rivalistic pathology. Prophetic honesty — and that means, above all, a radical self-honesty — is the natural consequence of prayer. If in prayer we can allow ourselves to be loved just as we are, then we can turn around and face ourselves and admit to just how and what and who we are, personally and individually, and therefore communally and even institutionally. Truth, as it sets us free, also empowers us to serve; and in serving, to give true leadership in the way of the Gospel. We are a priestly, prophetic and royal "People of God" — all of us. As we learn to receive this identity more and more, we shall be healed of our diseases, and be the stronger for it.

BY DRASKO DIZDAR

DEAR God

Teach me to follow
my heart rather than
my head

Amen



FOR THE CHILDREN



MINISTER'S ROSTER

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST			MUSIC			READERS		
December 3/4			December 3/4			December 3/4		
6.00 P.M	9.00 A.M	5.00 P.M	6.00 P.M	9.00 A.M	5.00 P.M	6.00 P.M	9.00 A.M	5.00 P.M
P Kelleher	M Modica	W Finn	M Guthrie	Italian Choir	M Hammond	K Quinlan	P Maloney	H Curran
M McDonald	T Faingaanuku	T Finn	Leaders welcome	N Armsden	J Ljubic			
K Quinlan	M Faingaanuku	P Cox						
B Weightman	M Grivec	M Ransome				COUNTING TEAM 7		
E Frauenfelder	F Caldarelli	B Dolence				ALAN CHALKLEY 50221746		
M Roper	R O'pt Hoog			IRYMPLE ROSTER				
S Tisler	R O'pt Hoog			READER	SPECIAL MINISTER			
				D Knight	K Knight			

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST			MUSIC			READERS		
Dec 10/11			Dec 10/11			Dec 10/11		
6.00 P.M	9.00 A.M	5.00 P.M	6.00 P.M	9.00 A.M	5.00 P.M	6.00 P.M	9.00 A.M	5.00 P.M
T McNamara	L Welsh	S Hermans	Filipino Group	M Guthrie	SH Group	K Towns	Sr Rosemary	C Ellis
M Henderson	N Lewis	M Suppa	N Armsden	Leaders Welcome	M Faingaanuku			
L Kearney	P Opie	F Virgona						
L Crowe	S Opie	R Antony				COUNTING TEAM 8		
M Cirillo	C McErvale	M Zema				TREVOR AUST 50236597		
M Capogreco	E Mazza	K Groves		IRYMPLE ROSTER				
J Hall	A Paseka			READER	SPECIAL MINISTER			
				F Merlin	M Jensen			