

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."

Weekend Mass Times

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

Parish Pastoral Team

Fr. Tom Brophy,
Fr. James Mc Kay, Fr. Neville Stanislaus,
Gladys Abriani, Fr. Frank Monaghan P.E.

Sacred Heart Parish



Mildura / Irymple

259-263 Eleventh St, Mildura.
Ph 5021 2872 Fax 5023 0337
P.O. Box 10037 Mildura 3502

parish@sacredheartmildura.org.au
www.milduracatholicchurch.org.au

St Francis Xavier's Church
Elms Street, Irymple

SUNDAY 2nd JANUARY 2011
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

Weekday Masses

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

Tues: 7.00 p.m.
Wed: 9.10 a.m. Hillman Room
Thurs: 9.30 a.m. Hillman Room
Fri: 5.40 p.m.
Sat 10.00 a.m.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah. 60: 1-6.

Psalm: 71: 1-2. 7-8. 10-13.

Response: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading: Ephesians. 3: 2-3. 5-6.

Gospel: Matthew: 2: 1-12.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS -- The Baptism of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah. 42: 1-4. 6-7.

Psalm: 28: 1-4. 9-10

Response: The Lord will bless His people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts. 10: 34-38.

Gospel: Matthew. 3: 13-17.

RECENTLY DECEASED: David Ryan, Noreen Jenkin, Rita Donnelly (Broken Hill/Merbein). Fr. Tony Hicks (Melb), Bishop Joe Grech (Bendigo), Neville Walshe (Robinvale), Brian O'Sullivan (Melbourne/Patchewollock)

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Camella Cahallaro, Bob McKenzie, David Barker, Fr. Pat McGuire, Barbara Lewis, Michael Hudson, Joan Gregory, Colin Altmann

Sun 5.00 p.m. Antonia Vemaia, Leo De Maria,

Thurs 6th- Enzo Mazza

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Sr. Joyce White rsj, Rob Smith, Sr Margaret Carmody (Hamilton), Michael Hall, Melva Scott, Uschi Russell, Tony O'Hurley, Michael Carey, Antonio Tassone, Jill Brophy, Fr. Peter Claridge, Tim Krake (Melb), Kerrie Hall, Peter Sullivan (Melb).

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.

WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Monday Prayer Group: 2.00-4.00pm.

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

Christian Meditation: Sat – 11.30am. Hillman Rm.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We wish you every blessing for the coming year and assure you of our prayers.

Frs. Tom, Jim, Neville, Frank

This weekend we farewell Fr Tom, our prayers go with him as we wish him all the best for his future.

WEDDINGS:

Congratulations go to Adam Stevenson & Sally-Anne Burford, who were married last Thursday.

SPECIAL THANKS

Through the grace of God and the assistance of many our Christmas celebrations were meaningful and memorable for all those who were able to attend. The priests of the parish are particularly proud of our organists, musicians and singers who led us in the carols at the Masses on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day. It was great to have some of our former choristers return and sing with us, as it was to have musicians return and join in at more than one Mass we might add! We must also thank Lisa Cirillo for all the great work she did in enabling the youngsters act out the Nativity Play at 6.00 p.m. Mass. Everyone was just so happy with the children's involvement. Well done Lisa, the rehearsals were worth it! Thanks to Gwen Hill, our sacristan, who helped set up for each Mass and clear up afterwards. Well done good and faithful servant. Thanks to those men who helped clean up the church gardens and surrounds. The property looks magnificent. Finally we would like to acknowledge the great work done by Gladys Abriani and Margaret McDonald in the preparation, typing and distribution of our Sunday bulletins, not just this Christmas season, but throughout the past year. The many involved in various ministries at the Masses and in the counting of the collections made the efforts all worthwhile. May God continue to bless you all for your participation and generosity.

NEW CHURCH WINDOWS

Over the past few weeks, and in the following week, some three new windows have been and are being installed through the generosity of parishioners and others in remembrance of departed loved ones. They are enhancing and beautifying our church. Next weekend they will be blessed during the 9.00 a.m. Mass. All donors and parishioners are invited to attend when the makers of the windows - Max & Val Robinson of Mildura and William Micallef of Lead Delights (Richmond) will be introduced to the congregation and explain the story of their project and the composition of the windows. We would like to thank some of the local tradesmen who have assisted with the work including:

Devilee's Air Conditioning & Refrigeration for the relocation and improvement of the air conditioner, Peter Saunders of Forbes Wilson for the use of the scissor lift, King & Hudswell for the provision of two new outlets for the new air conditioner, and Peter O'Loughlin a glass cutter and Brian Hall for polishing. Thanks a million!

CATECHIST WANTED

We are seeking the assistance of someone to assist our Catechists at Ranfurly State School on Fridays for ½ an hour. If you would be able to assist or would like more information please contact the Office on 50212872.

COLUMBIAN CALENDERS 2011 These are available from the St Vinnies kiosk at \$7.00 each.

The parish office will reopen on Tuesday January 4th after the Christmas/New Year break.

The office is open from Tuesday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

REFLECTION ON THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Epiphany reminds us that our God is the God of all nations. It is the feast of the wise ones or ‘magi’ who look beyond the cares of their immediate present, read the signs in the created world, and follow the star that leads them to the new born child, the incarnate Wisdom of God. The gospel does not stipulate how many wise ones, or magi, come to worship the child. There is no indication in the story as to whether they are men or women or both.

The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh have been traditionally associated with three different characters, usually kings, of diverse nationality and colour. Though there were magi among the Jews, it is most likely that the magi of our story are from among the Gentiles. These wise ones from the East foreshadow the response of other outsiders who will recognise Jesus as ‘God with us’ and pay him homage. Notable among such outsiders are the Canaanite woman who seeks healing for her daughter (Matt 15:21-28) and the Roman soldier who witnesses the death of Jesus and recognises him as God’s son (Matt 27:54).

Matthew, the story-teller, leaves room in the tableau he has created for the insertion of other wisdom figures who will emerge through the ages. There is an invitation for us to enter into Matthew’s drama, to be the wise ones, to join with people of different cultures, to engage in our own search for Wisdom, and to follow the star that leads to Truth and lasting peace. Pope Benedict XVI speaks of peace as “an irrepensible yearning present in the heart of each person, regardless of his or her cultural identity” (World Day of Peace Message 2006). We recognise that irrepensible yearning in our own hearts and we seek it for all the peoples of the earth, as did the wise ones of old.

Stewardship Corner -- Thoughts on Giving

Epiphany of Our Lord

“...the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and co-partners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel.” Ephesians 3:6

Today we celebrate the fact that Christ came to all of us, not just the Hebrews. He made us all one body with Him. Because God has given us different gifts we all have different yet equally valuable roles to play in the Body of Christ. If one of us does not play his or her role the whole body suffers. How will you play your role this year?

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS

- 1st Collection (support of Priests & Presbytery)** \$ 926
- Christmas Offerings \$1,386
- (This 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).
- 2nd Collection (Support of Parish & Diocese)** \$1,722
- Loose Plate** \$ 300.65
- Bishop’s Annual Christmas Appeal \$2,672

FROM OUR PASTOR’S DESK

As I conclude my eight years in the Parish of Sacred Heart this week it behoves me to share with you something of how I am feeling. It is with grief and sadness that I leave the parish as so many of you have been made me welcome that this has become my home. Thank you for that loving concern and support. We are all aware that change is a necessary part of growth in our lives so I must move on and another must take my place. I know I have made many mistakes through my impatience and lack of sensitivity and for those I seek your understanding and forgiveness. Thank you for allowing me to walk with you at difficult, joyous, sad and happy times. You helped me more than you realise. My sincere gratitude must go to those priests with whom I have lived and worked - Frs. Frank, Jim and Neville - who each have a great sense of humour - and so enabled me to keep going when things were challenging. Thanks also to Gladys and Margaret whose patience and care kept me sane and healthy in the office and presbytery. Finally may God bless you all for your love and support of this parish and yours truly.

You will be in my prayers as I hope I will be in yours.
Tom Brophy

<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 9TH JANUARY</u>	<u>READERS: 9TH JANUARY</u>	<u>MUSIC 9TH JANUARY</u>
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<p>6.00 P.M. P.Kelleher M.McDonald K.Quinlan B.Weightman E.Frauenfelder M.Roper S. Tisler</p>	<p>9.00 A.M. E. Mazza A.Paseka R. Byra F.Chiavone T.Chiavone G.Scopacasa M.Scopacasa</p>	<p>5.00 P.M. M.Ransome B.Dolence S.Hermans M. Suppa F.Virgona</p>	<p>6.00 P.M. K. Towns</p> <p>9.00 a.m. P. Opie</p> <p>5.00 p.m. M. Tobin</p> <p><u>COUNTING TEAM 9.</u> GEORGE DOLENCE. 5023 7993.</p>	<p>6.00 p.m. N. Armsden Filipino Group 9.00 a.m. M. Sullivan K. Verbeek Talia Fainga’Anuku 5.00 p.m. Volunteers please</p>
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