



SACRED HEART PARISH, MILDURA

259-263 Eleventh St, Mildura

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Office Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9.00am to 5.00pm

St Francis Xavier Church, Elm Street, Irymple

PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:

Fr Tom Brophy, Fr John Monaghan,

Mrs Mary Gobbo, Mrs Helen Findlay & Mrs. Jen Ditchfield

Mrs. Rebecca Hogan

Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 6.00pm, Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am, 5.00pm and Irymple 8.30am.

Reconciliation (Confession): Saturday 11.00am or by appointment.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 3, 2006 YEAR C

THIS WEEK:

First Reading: Jer 33: 14-16

Ps.24 To you, O Lord, I lift my soul

Second Reading: 1 Thess. 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28; 34-36



NEXT WEEK:

First Reading: Bar 5:1-9

Ps. 125 The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading: Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Recent Deaths

Annunziata De Maria (Italy), Bev Burge,
Jacob Cullen (Donald), Jim Hughes (Toorak)
Antonio Vitale (Italy) – brother-in-law of Concettina &
Sergio Malcotti (Mass Dec. 10 at 10.00 a.m.)

Anniversaries

Tony Modica 10.00 a.m. Sun
Anna Maria Rocca, June Landy, Jim Brophy,
Frs. John Martin and Sid Morey, Mons. Bill
McCunnie

Note to Families requesting special Masses:

Please let the 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: Thur 2/177 12th Street 10.30 a.m
Devotional Prayer and Exposition: Fri 3.00 p.m.

We pray for the sick

Annie Lambert, Norma Presswood, Betty Stirrat,
Stephen Rosenhart (brother of Henriette de Jong)

Weddings

Frank Chisari & Eylem Kilicaslan

Baptisms

Noah Samakovski

Weekday Mass Times

If there is a Requiem Mass on Wed/Thu
the advertised Mass will be cancelled

Tues: 11.00 a.m.
Wed: 9.10 a.m.
Thurs: 9.30 a.m.
Fri: 5.40 p.m.

Sat:

10.00 a.m.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The season of Advent marks the beginning of the Christian year of worship. The sights and sounds of Advent attempt to focus our attention on Jesus' comings – at Bethlehem, today and in the fullness of time – by insisting that while we look back to his birth and forward to his second coming, it is in the daily struggles, challenges and choices that the 'days of the Lord' will be found.

The Advent readings have a double focus: we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time and we prepare for Christmas. The first readings from the Old Testament are prophecies about the Messiah and the Messianic age, especially from Isaiah. The second readings are instructions from Paul's letters that fit the focus of Advent. The Gospels exhort us to be vigilant as we wait for the second coming of Christ; they focus on John the Baptist and they tell of events immediately preceding the birth of Jesus.

ADVENT

THE FIRST CANDLE – THE PROPHETS' CANDLE

This first candle reminds us of the prophets – those special persons who spoke God's word to the people during the hundreds of years before Jesus was born. The prophets told the people what God was going to do and instructed them on how to get ready. Zechariah prophesied about the promised king: Rejoice, rejoice, people of Zion! Shout for joy, you people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you! The Lord says, 'Your king will make peace among nations; he will rule from sea to sea'. Zechariah 9:9-10

All: Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation!
You bring forth light from darkness.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sacred Heart Mildura

Saturday 6.00 p.m.

Sunday (Christmas Eve) 8 am, 10 am,
5 pm (Children's Mass), 7 pm & 10 pm.

Monday (Christmas Day) 8 am & 10 am.

Irymple

Sunday (Christmas Eve) 8.30 a.m.

Monday (Christmas Day) 8.30 a.m.

Merbein

Saturday 6.00 p.m.

Sunday (Christmas Eve) 6 pm Vigil

Monday (Christmas Day) 10.00 a.m.



What's on this week

Sacred Heart Parish Ladies' Group & the Parish Hospitality Group Mass will be in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall on **Tuesday, December 5 at 11.00 a.m.** Mass will be followed by luncheon and entertainment. If you require transport, please contact 5023 0901.

R.C.I.A. will meet in the Hillman Room on **Tuesday, December 5 at 7.30 p.m.** Please note change of day.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MEETING at 6.30 p.m. on **Wednesday, December 6** in the Fleming Room

What's coming up

FAREWELL TO SR. ANTOINETTE will be held on **Saturday, December 9 from 2p.m. – 4 p.m.** at the Wentworth Memorial Rooms. Please bring a plate to share. No gifts please.

RSVP Karen/Carmel 5027 3624 by Dec. 4.

IRYMPLE FARMERS' MARKET

Please note that the market will be held next weekend, **December 10** after Mass.

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS

The Rocca and Whyte family groups will be combining for the last gathering for the year; a picnic brunch at Jaycee Park next **Sunday, December 10 at 11.00 a.m.** Please bring your own food and drinks and a small Kris Kringle gift to share. If you are bringing children, please provide their gift. If you haven't yet joined a family group and would like to come along, you will be most welcome. More information call Jean - 5023 7561 or Denise - 5021 1918.

WORLD YOUTH DAY MEETING

The next meeting concerning World Youth Day will be held in the Hillman Room on **Wednesday, December 13, 2006 at 7.30 p.m.**

A DVD about World Youth Day is available from the Parish Office.

OTHER NOTICES

PARISH TEAM NEWS

Mrs. Jen Ditchfield has completed three months as our new part-time Pastoral Associate and we thank her for that. The position was then reviewed by Jen and the Pastoral Team and it has been decided that the job now be shared between Jen and Mrs. Rebecca Hogan. Both will work on a casual basis from now on and we shall review the positions in another three months. So welcome aboard Rebecca! We look forward to having you as part of the Team. Please keep the Team in your prayers.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING AND PARISH CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

What a memorable celebration we had to honour Christ our King and to conclude a year of activities marking the Centenary of the Parish, the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy and the provision of Catholic Education.

To have such a willing response from so many folk in our community of different backgrounds, cultures, languages and traditions to our invitation to participate in our Sunday Mass, and then share some food and refreshments together on the Church lawns is a strong indication of the unity and love that exists in our parish family. It was a really fitting conclusion to our Centenary Year and augurs well for our future as a community, recognising the riches we have in our diversity.

Thanks to all involved in the preparation of the liturgy, the participants, the musicians, the sacristan, the children from Sacred Heart and St. Paul's schools for the posters, the K. S. C. and the ladies from the Women's Social Group, Mr. Rob Woulfe and all those who helped assist with the cleaning up afterwards. Special thanks must go to those who brought food to share. Your generosity was unbounded. Last but not least must go our thanks to Sr. Rosemary for all the work behind the scenes. May God bless you all. We certainly ended with a bang and not a whimper! Frs. John, Frank and your truly were overwhelmed by wonderful celebration. We are looking forward to next year already! *Fr. Tom.*

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME

Thanks to all those who collected their sets of envelopes and letters of receipt from the church last week. We have had a few hiccups with this new programme so bear with us as we get it all into shape. Some parishioners did not receive their sets of envelopes, and once we were able to find their names from the lists parishioners made up, we have put them out for collection this

weekend. If there are some still not there please contact the parish office or speak to the person on duty by the table of envelopes and your name will be recorded and the problem addressed.

Hopefully all those who plan to give to the PGP are now able to do so. Thanks to all involved in setting up the new Planned Giving Programme, as it has been a lot of work. Please accept our apologies for the mistakes we have made. If you have any queries about the PGP, or wish to contribute, please make contact with the parish office at any time.

CHURCH CAR PARK

If you have had an orange notice put on your windscreen recently we do apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused. If you are attending Mass, Funerals/Rosary etc. during the week **YOU DO NOT NEED A PERMIT.** We normally check the carpark periodically for non-permit holders, so if you do happen to get one, please be calm and disregard. Thank you.

SUNDAY MASS MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

All organists and other musicians are asked to collect material for the next three months from the top of the organ cupboard. Thank you for making use of this material as the singing is always improving. Keep up the good work.

World Youth Day 2008

ePILGRIMAGE

Become a cyber pilgrim!

ePILGRIMAGE is one of the cornerstones of WYD08 communications with youth all over the world.

Launched in April 2006 on the official website, ePILGRIMAGE is the WYD08 monthly online publication providing spiritual and catechetical formation for Australian youth right up to December 2008.

Translated into the four official WYD08 languages, ePILGRIMAGE is also available for young people throughout the world.

Each eDITION features a *Message of Hope* by Bishop Anthony Fisher OP (Coordinator of World Youth Day 2008), *Faith Foundations*, *Pilgrim Prayers*, *Inspired Writings*, *Testimonies of Faith*, *Lives of Saints and Witnesses* and *Places of Pilgrimage*. ePILGRIMAGE will also be a source of practical information for pilgrims as we approach July 2008.

Join thousands worldwide on the journey towards 2008.

Register online now at www.wyd2008.org to receive ePILGRIMAGE automatically by email. Check the website for past editions and to see what's coming up.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Jesse Tree is now in the Church. Gift tags are on the tree for you to take and provide gifts to the

value of \$10. Please return them by NEXT weekend, Dec.10.

READERS' ROSTER

A new roster is to be prepared so please contact Trish with any changes. New Readers always welcome. Thank you.

Trish Swincer – BH – 5023 1317 H – 5023 6231.

NEW BOOK on St. Luke's Gospel by Fr. John McKinnon - \$10 – from the Parish Office

CHILDREN'S COLOURING SHEETS

This week we have put some colouring-in sheets and coloured pencils at the entrances to the church. These are for the children to colour in during Mass. There will be different sheets each week. The colouring-in sheets will be Christmas focused over the next few weeks.

There will also be some sheets with word searches and puzzles for the older children, and these will be available at the Masses when we are not running a Children's Liturgy. This will provide children with an activity to do which relates to the Gospel of the week. They are for any child who would like to do them; we just ask that you return the pencils to the box at the church entrance after mass, and take the artwork home with you.

We are always in need of coloured pencils, so if you have a collection at home that are no longer useful to you, we would love to take them off your hands.

Happy colouring children!

Last Week's Collections

<u>Priests' Support</u>	\$1,402.00
<u>Parish Support</u>	
Direct Debit and Credit Cards:	577.53
Envelopes	3,319.45
Loose Plate	511.70
Total:	<u>\$4,408.68</u>

Scripture Note

Today's First Reading points to the first coming of Christ. It says that the Messiah will be descended from the stock of David, and his reign will be marked by wisdom, justice and integrity.

The Gospel deals with the Second Coming of Christ. The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. The disciples are urged to await the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

How to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ is also the topic of the Second Reading.

Reflection

During this liturgical year the gospel according to Luke will be read on Sundays. The thirteenth

century Italian poet Dante described Luke as the scribe of Christ's gentleness. It is the gospel of mercy and compassion. Luke is anxious to point out how the life of Jesus ought to be paralleled by the life of the Church. So he will present the life, destiny and teaching of Jesus as a pattern for the Christian Community for which he was writing.

CHURCH MOUSE

The Pope and the Ecumenical Patriarchate

While media interest has focused on Catholic-Muslim relations, the Pope is in fact in Turkey at the invitation of the [Ecumenical Patriarch](#). His visit coincides with the feast today of St Peter's elder brother, St Andrew the Apostle, patron saint of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. The official website of the visit provides an up-to-date and comprehensive account of the Pope's activities. Also on offer are live web broadcasts and a virtual tour of key venues.

- www.patriarchate.org

Prayer

Thank you, Father, for all the wonderful gifts you have given me, especially my home, my family, my friends, my work, my church family and my country,

Help me to remember in prayer those for whom life is not nearly as happy as it is for me:

Refugees, who have no home or place to call their own;
Christians in lands where Christians are persecuted;

All who are unhappy in their work, are badly paid or have to work in poor conditions;
All who are badly treated in their home and family;
All who are without friends – the lonely, the sick, the sad, those in hospital.

O God, help me never to become blind to the needs of others around me or heartless in responding to their needs.

For Jesus' sake I ask this.

Amen.

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.

W/end Dec 2/3	6.00 p.m.	8.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.	5.00 p.m.
Readers	B. Bleeser	L. Welsh	M. Speed	B. Chaplin
Eucharistic Ministers	M. Roper S. Tisler K. Girke S. Girke L. Roden J. De Jong H. De Jong	P. O'Donnell F. Carbone B. Weightman G. Scopacasa M. Scopacasa B. Dolence M. Flinn	A. Chalkley P. Kerr B. Bunting C. Maugeri P. Reddy C. McErvale L. Rowe N. Leonardis	W. Finn T. Finn P. Cox M. Ransome F. Virgona
Counting Team	Team 6 – Captain Peter Adair – 5023 5193			
W/end Dec 9/10				
Readers	Sr. Sylvia	J. Foster	R. Byra	J. Joslyn
Eucharistic Ministers	M. Capogreco L. Gooch K. Burns A-M. Greville M. Sheahan M. Meredith V. Kidd	M. Mazza A. Vartuli N. Zudetich S. Foster S. Visona E. Panetta Sr. Grace Rogers	M. Speed E. Garreffa M. Modica L. De Iesi M. Haynes U. Williams P. Opie S. Opie	M. Zema J. Zema S. Walker J. Ribarits J. Rocca P. Rocca
Counting Team	Team 7 – Captain Alan Chalkey – 5022 1746			