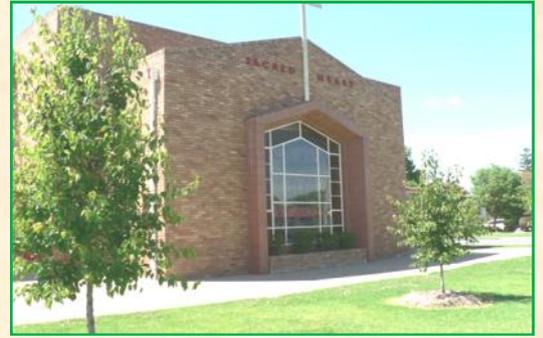


Sacred Heart Parish

North Albury



Thirty—First Sunday in Ordinary Time

29nd / 30th October 2016

Parish Clergy

Fr Kevin Flanagan PP

Parish Office

Fran Kernaghan

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 60251516

Fax: 60404016

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS: 9.30 am Monday,
Wednesday, Friday (in the church)

First Tuesday of the month: 11.00 am Mass
at Mercy Place.

RECONCILIATION

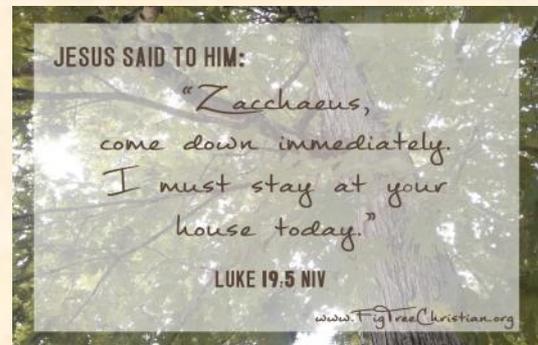
SATURDAY: 4.45 PM-5.45 PM

WEDDINGS—By appointment.

Preparation course: 6051 0222

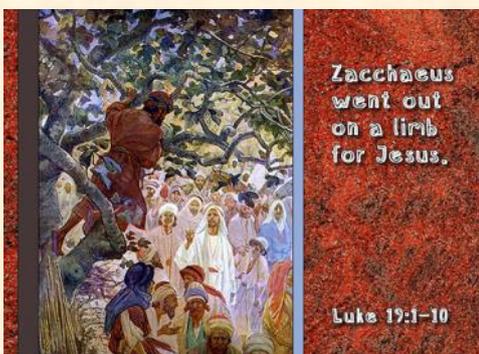
BAPTISMS—By appointment.

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



The change of seasons is always an opportune time to marvel at the magnificence of the natural world of which we are a part. Its colours, its textures, its smells all reflect the limitless imagination of the creator. Perhaps the most marvellous feature of the world is the interconnectedness of all the elements of which it consists. Somehow the spirit of the creator is manifested through each and every aspect of this universe. And we are part of it all. The universe may be as a grain in the balance or a drop of morning dew, but each grain and each drop contains within it the possibilities of the future.

Offering hospitality is a profound social act. When we offer hospitality, we invite another into our world, into our lives. We shift our attention from our own cares and concerns to the needs and comfort of the other. By the act of hospitality we transform strangers into friends and intimates, just as Jesus did with Zacchaeus. The hospitality that Jesus offers dissolves all constraints. Relationships disregard the biased measures of propriety, forging bonds of reconciliation and issuing everyone an invitation to intimacy. The hospitality that Jesus offers recreates the world from one of insider versus outsider to one of universal inclusivity. Sinners become friends, the lost are found, and all are restored to the rightful place as children not merely of Abraham but of God. The creativity of the creator is matched by the compassion of the re-creator. (Dianne Bergant CSS)



Parish Community



We pray for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith especially:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rosa Vuga, Kevin Willoughby, Vera Gehrig, Val Symmons.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jim Bowcher, Isabel Fietz, Elizabeth Pochdalofszky, David McEachern, William Hudson, Alan Buckhorn, Bob Norman, Barney Oak, Norma Duffy, George McKee, Beatrice Hammond, Marie Collins, Desmond Wynack, Frank Gain, Irene Berg, Mavis Waser, Jan Ryc, John Cummins, John Murray, Tony Kirley, Jim Thompson, Shirley Schilg, Lil McAuliffe, Geraldine Steele, Lionel Mitchell, Josephine Estevez, Mary Hutchinson, Pat Nesire, Laurie Dykes.

Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer for the Sick

We pray for all those who are sick. May they draw strength and healing from God's presence with them and from our prayers and thoughts for them. May they have peace in their hearts and know they are greatly loved by all.

We offer our prayers believing that God's presence and power can do more than we can ever know. Amen

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 29th / 30th October

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Brian Waters	Leanne Michael
Lector 1	Paula Waters	Michael Stephenson
Lector 2	Cassandra Jones	Terry Hillman
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Hopkins Judy Lindsay	Kansas Michael Helen O'Keeffe John O' Keeffe
Cantor Musicians	Catherine / Judy Judy Foley	Bernadette & Wendy

Counters: Anna Loughry & Michael Byrnes Cleaning Group: Group 1

Sat/Sun: 5th / 6th November

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Anthony Foley	Roy Thompson
Lector 1	Gordon Robison	Gavin Dykes
Lector 2	Michael Byrnes	Ray Murtagh
Eucharistic Ministers	Geoff Jervois Jeneice Harding	Marie Pennay Robert Brown Pauline Willis Pamela McIntosh
Cantor Musicians	Brian Waters Judy Foley	Volunteers

Counters: Nardia Scarvell & Liz Simon Cleaning Group: Group 2

Prayer for Generosity

Lord I thank You for what You have given me – so many blessings that I cannot begin to count them – they are without number. Lord I pray that You would develop in me a giving heart that glorifies You - a cheerful heart that desires to give back to You a small measure of the over-abundance that You have poured into my lap.

Father there are times when I worry about giving and times when I hold back from giving because I have a nagging in my mind that if I give away too much I may render myself without sufficient and so I come to You now to ask You to change my heart in respect to giving, so that it more truly reflects a heart that pleases You. I ask that You would give me wisdom to know what to give, when to give and to whom to give – and change my attitude I pray, towards giving, - knowing that all things come from You and it is from the over-abundance of the bountiful supply that You have graciously poured into my lap that I am giving back to You.

Give me I pray, a giving heart, a generous heart—a grateful heart. Amen.

A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis): ‘Lord, help us to live the virtue of generosity, to love without limits.’

Parish News

A final reminder that Fr Richard Leonard will at the Xavier High School Arts Centre at 5:00pm this Sunday, 30th October, to present a workshop on "Liturgy: God's great love meets our frailty". Don't miss this great opportunity to hear a highly relevant, engaging and entertaining presentation from a world renowned speaker.

All Souls Day Mass will be held in the Memorial Garden on Wednesday 2nd November at 9.30am. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea afterwards.

Hearing Loop (for those with hearing impairments) is located on the organ side of the church and you need to sit in row 4 & 5 from the front. We would welcome any feedback as to its effectiveness.

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors Roster is now available to be picked up from table at front of Church. Please swap with someone if you can't make the allotted day. We now have 4 Eucharistic Ministers on for 9.30am Mass.

Australian Catholics Magazine - Year of Mercy in the Catholic Church. Copies are now available at entrances to the Church. Please take one.

Islamic Society of Albury/Wodonga welcomes you to an *Open Mosque Day* at Mirambeena Hall, Lavington on Sat 29 October from 10.30am to 4.30pm. Find out about all aspects of Islam. Phone Yakub 0403 679 465.

Albury Chamber Music Festival - 11th—13 November 2016
This exciting new event aims to bring Australia's finest performers to the Border for a series of seven wonderful recitals over three days at 3 different venues - Adamshurst, St Matthew's Church and MAMA. For tickets go to MAMA or www.alburychambermusicfestival.com.au

Feast Days during the Week

Tuesday 1st November—All Saints Day

Wednesday 2nd November—All Souls Day

Thursday 3rd November—St Martin de Porres

Friday 4th November St Charles Borromeo

November Book of Life

November is traditionally the month to remember the Holy Souls. Our Book of Life will be displayed at the front of the Church during November. If you would like to add family members to this book there are sheets of paper and sleeves inside the front of the Book.

November Mass envelopes will also be available at Church entrances if you wish to request a Mass or prayers for your deceased family members and friends.

Mass for this week will be 9.30am Wednesday in the Memorial Garden. No Masses on Monday or Friday.

Year of Mercy Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father and told us that whoever sees you sees him...

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord.

May our Church, with renewed enthusiasm bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed and restore sight to the blind...

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy and through you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit one God for ever and ever.

Amen

For Religious Gifts & Supplies (ships overnight)

Churchsupplies.com.au or 02 9233 2268

Sacramental Candles (local business)

Sacredcandles.com.au or 0403 619 044

Liturgy of the Word

Thirty—First Sunday of the Year—Year C

Readings: Wis 11: 22—12: 2; 2 Thess 1:11—2:2; Luke 19: 1-10

Responsorial Psalm:



I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Alleluia Verse:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son;
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Alleluia!



Reflection on the Readings

Don't you find yourself attracted to people who are a bit 'over the top'? In fact, one seeks *them* out rather than the apathetic, the bland or the lukewarm. Zacchaeus was one of those 'over the top' characters, not only figuratively but, in the incident in the gospel, literally. He was curious about Jesus of Nazareth and so desperately wanted to catch a glimpse of him that he climbed into the branches of the sycamore tree so that he could be above, over the top of, the crowd.

But Jesus had his eyes peeled for an 'over the top' character. He was on the lookout, and he looked up and saw Zacchaeus and invited himself to his home! That is, the home of Zacchaeus, the home of a man whose name means 'clean'. He was 'Mr Clean'. But he was regarded as dirt by his fellow Jews, a filthy collaborator with the Romans, collecting their taxes. In fact, he was so contaminated by his association with them that many Jews regarded Jesus as putting himself in danger of contagion in going to the home of Zacchaeus. But, Jesus knew his man.

Zacchaeus had already reacted in an over the top way: 'So he made haste and came down and received him joyfully.' But there was to be more. The enthusiastic sightseer was being sought by an even more enthusiastic insight-seer. Jesus of Nazareth was and is the Divine Seer into the heart. Jesus looked at Zacchaeus and saw him in a double perspective. He saw him in the immediate field of vision, but simultaneously in the prospective field of vision. He saw Zacchaeus not only as he was but as he could become, was destined to become if only he would respond to the grace on offer.

In fact, Jesus' gaze unlocked the potential within, turned the deep down impulse to do something good into reality. And what resulted was truly 'over the top'. 'Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold.' So much for Zacchaeus, but what about for us?

Sunday after Sunday we come to Mass to catch a glimpse of Jesus. We do try to get away from 'the madding crowd' so that we can get a good vantage point and at Mass we are graciously given a perspective which allows us to see Jesus in the Scriptures and the Sacrament.

But, whilst we catch a glimpse of Him, He is gazing at us. The reality is we are in the real presence of the One who is seeking *us* out.

He sees me as I am.

He sees you as you are.

He sees the person I am capable of becoming;

He sees the person you are capable of becoming.

When we become aware of the over the top impulse to do good, how do we translate that impulse into reality? What gives us the courage to act in an exuberant way? Jesus offers us his friendship. As Jesus says elsewhere in the gospels 'I no longer call you servants but friends.' There were 'over the top' consequences for Zacchaeus. There could be 'over the top' consequences for you and for me!

(Fr Michael Tate)

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