Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th / 17th June

Parish Administrator
Fr Martin Cruickshank
Parish Office
Fran Kernaghan
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9.00 am – 2.00 pm
Phone: 60251516
Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com
Web: http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm
SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS MASSES: (This week)
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9.30am
NO Thursday morning mass

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

RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM
***BAPTISMS*—By appointment**
Preparation Course: 0411 883 661

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Saturday 30 June at the 6.00pm vigil mass

Parish Choir Notice
Next practice will be on Saturday 23 June at 11.00am. Future dates will be advised. New singers most welcome.

Sacred Heart Planned Giving Program
Many thanks for your ongoing support of our parish community through your contribution to the Planned Giving Program (2nd Collection).
With the end of the financial year rapidly approaching your generous donations will help us prepare an expenditure budget for the coming year. Yearly donations gratefully received.
Envelopes for the 2018-2019 financial year beginning Sunday 1 July are available for collection at the church entrance.
From that date please destroy old envelopes as some numbers have changed for accounting purposes.
If you are not currently supporting the pastoral, liturgical and maintenance needs of Sacred Heart Parish in this way and are in a position to do so please contact the parish office by phone or email for a set of envelopes or direct debit details.

Sacred Heart Footy Tipping Competition
Colleen Howard **76;** Val Azzi, Peter Toner **75**;
Brian Butts, Fr Martin **74;** Mick Maher **72;**
Declan Clancy, Val Hayes, Paula McEachern **71;**
Carmel Butts, Naughtons, Dot Taylor **70;**
For all disputes please contact Brian Butts not the Presbytery!!
Remember Round 14—17 begins Thursday night.

Parish Community

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: May Corrigan, Brent Welsh, Eileen Quirk, Michael Higgins, Kerry Dowling, Geoffrey Jervois.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary Larkin, Judy O'Shannessy, John Flood, Fr Len Egan, Ruth Wynter, Warner Hogan, Anita Williams, Ann Purvey, Phillip Adams, Marie Dick, Brian Gawen, Brian McNamara, Leo Boswell, Bob Monk, Ken Willis, Vera Maguire, Christopher Nuttall, Thomas Heuts, Ena Joseph, Mary Packer, Eileen Muldoon, Anne Slattery, Angelika Huysse, Shirley Hill-Willis, Mary Hull, Christopher McDermott, Jan Duke, Leonard Hogg, Frank Williams, Jake & Maddison Murray, Nell McIntyre, Arthur Benson, Jaquelyn Parker, Phyllis Mott.

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: 16th /17th June		
Ministry	**Vigil**	**9.30am**
Commentator **Lector 1** **Lector 2**	Colleen Day Karen Purtle Volunteer please	Rosalie Martin Michael Stephenson Volunteer please
Eucharistic Ministers	Judy Lindsay Volunteer please	Trish Parkinson Kansas Michael Fran Kernaghan
Cantor **Musicians**	Volunteer please Judy Foley	Anne McIntyre Val Hayes
Counters: Volunteer please		**Cleaning Group: Group 2**

Sat /Sun: 23rd / 24th June		
Ministry	**Vigil**	**9.30am**
Commentator **Lector 1** **Lector 2**	Nano Clancy Justin Clancy Ed Brown	Bede Hart Roy Thompson Wendy McFerran
Eucharistic Ministers	Pauline Mulquiney Pat Hopkins	Frank Glennon Carmel Butts Dianne Treacy
Cantor **Musicians**	Margie & Ed Brown Catherine Cutler	Bernadette & Wendy
Counters: Nardia Scarvell & Liz Simon		**Cleaning Group: Group 3**

Prayer Reaching Out to Others

Through me
let there be kind words, a warm smile and a caring heart.

Through me
let there be a willingness to listen and readiness to understand.

Through me
let there be dependability, steadfastness, trust and loyalty

Through me
let there be compassion, forgiveness, mercy and love.

Through me
let there be every quality I find, O Lord in You.

Amen.

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis): 'Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world.'

Parish News

Albury/Wodonga Winter Solstice Event

Thursday 21 June QE11 Square from 5.00pm.

Help us shine a light on the darkest night.

Gather in the warm embrace of community for one night to support those affected by suicide. Be inspired and uplifted by the stories and songs of our guest speakers and performers.

Guest speakers: Samuel Johnson (actor); Tim Elliott (award winning journalist); Ian Roberts (former NRL player); Les Murray (poet).

Music provided by The Northern Folk and the jazz group Solstice Trio. Hot food and drinks available.

For further information: www.wintersolstice.org.au

Parish Morning Tea

We need volunteers to help cater for morning tea for the remainder of 2018—ie 1 July, 9 Sept, 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec. Please fill your names in on the roster located front noticeboard / carpark entrance.

Clergy Appointments

Following a meeting of the Diocesan Consultors with Archbishop Christopher Prowse on Thursday 31 May it was decided that the following appointments be made Fr Stephen Onyekwere appointed as Administrator of the Parishes of Finley and Tocumwal from the end of June. Fr Henry Ibe appointed as Administrator of the Parishes of Lockhart and Urana upon his return from overseas.

Children's Liturgy Sheets

Children's Liturgy worksheets are scattered throughout the pamphlet shelves. They contain a sheet for younger / older children based on each Sunday's Lectionary readings. The activities are quite engaging. Please use them during mass or take them home with you.

Feastdays

Tuesday 19th June– St Romuald

Thursday 21st June—St Aloysius Gonzaga

Friday 22nd June—Sts John Fisher & Thomas More

Sisters of Mercy 150 Years Celebrations

This year acknowledges 150 years since the Sisters of Mercy arrived in Albury. Celebrations are planned for weekend 21st / 22nd July. More detailed information is available on the notice boards in the Church.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in our parish community on Saturday 11 August at 6pm. Parents of year 6 children not attending St. Anne's who wish them to receive this final Sacrament of Initiation are asked to contact Fr. Martin by phone or email as soon as possible so that appropriate preparation can be arranged. Our email address can be found on the front of this bulletin.

Confirmation Parent Information Night will be held this Tuesday 19 June in St Anne's School Library at 6.00pm.

Confirmation Commitment Masses:

Sat 23 June / Sun 24 June

Sat 7 July / Sun 8 July

Prayer for Our Sacred Heart Parish

God of Love, Source of all hope and good things;

You call us in love, to share in the work and ongoing life of our Sacred Heart Parish.

Bless this parish of ours and lead us to be confident and joyful in serving those around us, so that through us, the world may catch a glimpse of the love you have for each one of us.

Make us instruments of your love to everyone that we encounter in our parish community, at home, at work and in our neighbourhood.

Help us to grow in gratitude so that we can recognise and thank you for all the good things you have given us.

Each day may we come to know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly.

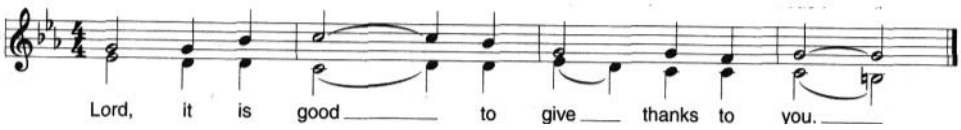
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B

Readings: Ez 1722-24; 2 Cor 5: 6-10; Mark 4:28-34

Responsorial Psalm:



Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Reflection on the Readings

This week's gospel is a wonderful example of the teaching style of Jesus. It even tells us that 'he would not speak to them except in parables'. Jesus used the parable form almost exclusively to share his message. He used imagery that was familiar to his audience; parables about the everyday life of a rural community: seeds, planting, growing, harvesting. The secret of Jesus' parables, when we understand the cultural context, is that there was always a 'twist in the tale' – what is called a 'discombobulating shift' – that turns the expected outcome of the story on its head.

This is nowhere more evident than in the image of the mustard seed. On the surface the parable is about the kingdom of God starting from very small, humble beginnings and growing into something great. However, immediately prior to this kingdom parable, Jesus has reminded us that the community makes a living out of growing grain crops like wheat for bread, etc. His parable about the mustard seed describes a tiny seed that grows into a great shrub 'so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade'. A farming community that was growing grain crops would be greatly alarmed at the thought of actually attracting birds to their fields or even nearby. Jesus' message about the kingdom of God is that it is actually disruptive and invasive. The kingdom brings unrest and disquiet to the predictable. The kingdom of God is unsettling. This is a much more challenging parable than it appears from a literal reading.

Jesus sought to describe the kingdom of God by comparison and analogy – 'The kingdom of God is like … '; 'To what can we compare the kingdom of God?' He never gave a lecture about the kingdom, rather, he painted a picture in terms that were readily recognised by his audience but forced them to think differently about the image he used. It forced them to think about themselves and their world in a different way. Kingdom parables begin innocently enough with a familiar image but very quickly shift to a challenge about the way we normally perceive things. The kingdom is often portrayed as a contradiction.

The first parable in the gospel passage describes the unerring work of the kingdom. It is like the seed that almost magically transforms into a fully grown plant that may be harvested – apparently without any external forces. Of course, we know that plants need to be fed, watered, weeded and nurtured to ensure their proper growth. However, the kingdom of God works in our lives in a similar way – if we feed and nurture it, the kingdom will produce a great harvest. Even if we don't pay it attention, the kingdom is present and acting in our world.

(Greg Sunter)

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