



# Sacred Heart Parish

NORTH ALBURY

330 Swan Street  
North Albury  
NSW 2640  
02 6025 1516  
[www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com](http://www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com)

## *Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*8th September / 9th September*

### Parish Administrator

Fr Martin Cruickshank

### Parish Office

Fran Kernaghan - Wednesday & Friday

Gemma Whitehead - Monday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Phone: 6025 1516

Email: [sacredheartna@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartna@gmail.com)

Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

### Mass Times

**SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm**

**SUNDAY: 9.30 am**

**WEEKDAYS MASSES: This Week:**

**Tuesday, Wed, Thurs & Friday 9.30am**

**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**

### CHURCH STORES.

**Religious gifts and supplies shipped overnight. Phone (02) 9233 2268.**

**[churchsupplies@ozmail.com.au](mailto:churchsupplies@ozmail.com.au)**

**PAULINE BOOKS AND MEDIA**

**Phone (03) 9882 3424**



As we begin to welcome the Gospel, we make the sign of the Cross on our foreheads, on our lips and over our hearts. It is meant to be accompanied by the thought: 'May the Gospel be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart.' It wouldn't be enough to mentally recite that little prayer. We have to do something physical.

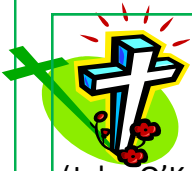
Jesus could not have been more physical than in the story of today's Gospel. He stuck his fingers in the man's ears and touched the man's tongue with spittle, saying the Aramaic word 'Ephphatha', 'Be opened'.

Our Lord could have healed this man with a simple prayer. But he acknowledged the sheer physicality of the person to be cured. We are not angels, but ensouled bodies and that is how our Lord particularly related to this man in need of healing.

It is in the sacrament of Baptism that we imitate the Ephphatha incident in today's Gospel. At one stage, the priest lightly touches the ears and then lightly touches the mouth of the person being baptised. This brings the baptised person into a community formed by hearing and speaking the Word in faith.

We could take a moment to recall the Ephphatha dimension of our baptism. Take your thumb and lightly touch your ears (a parent could do this for an infant) making a prayer along the lines of our baptism: 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the mute speak. May He again touch my ears to receive His Word and my mouth to proclaim His faith to the glory and praise of God the Father. Amen. (Fr Michael Tate)

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Maryanne Kennedy, Pat Densley (John O’Keeffe’s sister), Ellen Widdup, Pat Pass, Evelyn Burke, Patrick Walshe, Siobahn Harte, Laurie Moretti, Jim Glasgow, Elwyn Farrugia, James McLoughlin, Jamern Emmett.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Noeleen Low, Jan McNamee, Anne Twomey, Allan Wessen, Arthur Walsh, Gloria Dawson, Mary McLaurin, Megan Ryan, Bill Ditchfield, Emily Clark, Jo Handley, Geoff Hore, Bob Kirkwood, Bill Ashworth, John Austin, Geoffrey Loulson, Harold Hopp, Agnes Sutherland, Frances Slater, Ken Herbert, Valda Beebar, Frederick Buckhorn, Jack Weber, Jim Newman, Bruno Karwowski, William Gaudry, Alan Seaton.

*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: 8th/ 9th September

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Ed Brown	Roy Thompson
<b>Lector 1</b>	Nano Clancy	Wendy McFerran
<b>Lector 2</b>	Justin Clancy	Sr Carina Morton
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Pat Hopkins Judy Lindsay	Mary Lefevre Kansas Michael Kevin Kennedy
<b>Cantor</b>	Margaret & Ed Brown	Catherine Cutler & Judy
<b>Musicians</b>	Val Hayes	Lindsay                      Judy Foley
<b>Counters: Desmond Lum &amp; Jane Togher    Cleaning Group: Group 6</b>		

Sat /Sun: 15th /16th September

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Brian Waters	Richard Parkinson
<b>Lector 1</b>	Paula Waters	Leanne Michael
<b>Lector 2</b>	Volunteer	Bede Hart
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Jeneice Harding Michael Regan	Carmel Butts Carey Menz-Dowling Frank Glennon
<b>Cantor</b>	Judy Lindsay	Bernadette & Wendy
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	
<b>Counters: Peter Toner &amp; Gordon Bryant    Cleaning Group: Group 7</b>		

## Prayer for Drought

We pray for life giving rain.  
For the men and women who grow crops and care for animals that produce food.

For all the children who live in drought areas who may not have basic needs being met at this time.

For all in drought affected areas who suffer depression and anxiety because they have lost hope.

For ourselves that we will generously support our neighbours battling drought.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## Thought for the Week ( Pope Francis):

“.....without farming, there is no humanity, and without good food, there is no life for the men and women of every continent.”

# Parish News

## **Anniversary of Priesthood**

On 17th September Fr Martin celebrates the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination. The Parish will acknowledge this at 9.30am Mass next Sunday 16th September followed by morning tea in the hall. All parishioners welcome to attend. A plate of goodies would be most welcome.

## **Choir**

Our choir will be singing at our 9.30am Mass next Sunday 16th September. We are not having a practice but gathering @ 9.00am for a quick run through. Anyone who would like to join us on the day is most welcome. We can always do with more singers, especially male.

## **St Lorenzo Ruiz Mass**

To be held on Friday 28th September, 2018 at 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church, Mate Street, North Albury with Fr Martin.

Please bring some food to share for Pot-luck dinner in Sacred Heart Hall afterwards.

**A Reflection Evening** for current and future Eucharistic Ministers on 'The Eucharist—Source and Summit of the Christian Life' including practical suggestions for this important ministry will be held on Tuesday 18 September 7.00pm—8.00pm at the Sacred Heart Hall. All most welcome to attend.

**Our Parish Pastoral Council** for 2018 / 2019 comprises:

Fr Martin Cruickshank, Justin Clancy (President), Sr Anne Hagan, Ed Brown, Bede Hart, Lyn Hamilton, Narelle Naughton, Virginia Sykes, Jane Ward, Brian Waters, Margaret Gawen, Louise Fifield, Catherine Cutler, Barbara Godde and Michael Regan.

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be held on Tuesday 2 October at 6.00pm. At this gathering the members of the council will address issues relating to our strategic plan for the future.



*This weekend we welcome to the community of the church through the sacrament of baptism Harry Patrick Nolan son of Stephen and Karlee.*

## **Choral Gems**

A concert of sacred music presented by Murray Conservatorium Choir on Saturday 15 Sept at St Matthew's at 7.30pm and Sunday 16 Sept at St John's Wodonga at 2.30pm.

Tickets: \$25; \$20 concession; under 18 free. Pieces include Tantum Ergo, O Salutaris Hostia (not the same tunes we used to sing) but really beautiful music.

## **Plenary Council**

Many thanks to those who were able to attend our deanery listening and dialogue session in connection with the 2020 Plenary Council. Over fifty people gathered of varying ages to offer their reflections on possible directions for the Catholic Church in Australia and to listen to one another's concerns, ideas and stories of faith.

The second session will gather together the issues raised and help prepare individual and communal submissions.

This will be held on Tuesday 25 September 7.00pm to 8.30pm at Mantra, Albury 524 Smollett Street. All welcome. For further information about the Plenary Council process go to:

<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

## **Morning Tea**

Thanks to the community of Xavier High School who have volunteered to host our September Morning Tea this Sunday 9 September at the conclusion of our celebration of Eucharist.

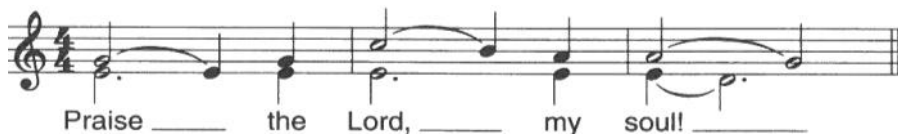


# Liturgy of the Word

*Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year—Year B*

*Readings: Is 35: 4-7; James 2: 1-5; Mark 7: 31-37*

*Responsorial Psalm:*



***Praise the Lord my soul.***

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick..

Alleluia!



## Reflection on the Readings

The Gospel story of the healing of the deaf mute is striking because it is one of the few stories where the crowd makes the request of healing from Jesus. This is understandable given that the man cannot speak for himself, but the scene, as Mark writes it, is very touching. Mark tells us that the crowd brought the man to Jesus. 'They' beg Jesus to heal him, 'they' are ordered not to tell anyone about the miracle, but 'they' go straight out and tell everyone about it.

What happens there is what happens here every Sunday. Coming to Mass is not a private affair. It is not my Mass, my prayer, my Church. The pronouns we use reveal a lot about our attitudes. It's our Eucharist, our prayer and our Church. Within the Mass there are opportunities for private prayer, but Eucharist is, essentially, an action of the assembled community. In our own way we bring the deaf and the mute to Jesus each time we gather. This is what the Prayers of the Faithful are all about. This is why they are so important.

When we visit another parish we can tell a lot about it by the care with which the intercessions are composed and compiled. If they only attend to the needs of the parish and never with the wider Church or the world, if they focus on the needs of the Catholic world and never with the plight of those in crisis, who may not share our faith or may hold to another or no faith, it says so much.

The Church has always believed in the power of intercessory prayer. Not that God needs to be reminded what our world needs. God knows that better than we know it. But intercessory prayer sorts our priorities and establishes who has a claim on our affections and concerns. It also enables others to know that we stand in solidarity with them.

And miracles still happen when we are one with those for whom we hope and pray. Sometimes the first miracle that occurs is that we notice the needs of some group beyond our immediate circle. Their suffering moves us and we choose to help them.

Let's pray in this Eucharist that Christ removes our blindness, opens our ears and loosens our tongues so that we speak up for those who are most in need of a healing word that brings them justice and peace. (Fr Richard Leonard SJ)

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