



330 Swan Street
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www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com

Sacred Heart Parish

NORTH ALBURY

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th September / 16th 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

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

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAYS MASSES: This Week:

Tues, 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

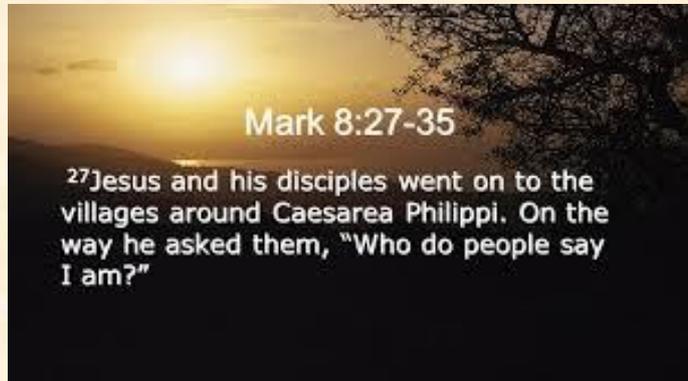
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Mark 8:27-35

²⁷Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

There are several messianic traditions, each one characterising the anointed one of the future in a unique way. Do we expect a prophetic figure who will enter our world and reform the structures of society, or a strong leader who will overturn these structures and establish a new order? Are we waiting for a teacher who will transform our minds and hearts, or a judge who will punish us for our infidelities? Are we expecting someone who will renew the face of the earth, or someone who will come in fire and brimstone to destroy it? What kind of a messiah do we expect? For what kind of a change are we preparing ourselves?

Jesus seems to overturn our expectations. We look for one who will save us from the predicaments in which we find ourselves, and he comes to us as one who seems to be a victim of his own predicament. God's thinking seems to be the reverse of ours: Those who save their lives, lose them; those who lose their lives, save them; the seed must die before it can bear fruit; Jesus will be killed, but will then be raised from the dead.

Can we claim to understand Jesus? Or are we more like the people in James' community: people who profess faith in Jesus, but who do not live it out; people who speak pleasant words to others, who say the right things, but who do not back up their words with good works? Is our faith really living?

(Dianne Bergant CSS)

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Eileen Gill, Sr Margaret

Schmetzer, Maryanne Kennedy, Pat Densley (John O'Keeffe's sister), Ellen Widdup, Pat Pass, Evelyn Burke, Siobahn Harte.

ANNIVERSARIES: Bernard Rolfe, Niel Russell, Tess Dynan, Gwenith McSpadden, Norm McLaurin, Judith Taylor, Mary Egan, Mario Fabbro, Brad Carrick, Terry McCabe, Patricia Kernaghan, Irene Shanahan, Noel Rothe, Fr Brian McEwan, Dora Drennan, Michael Conroy, Frances Slater, Paul Holmes, Tom O'Brien, Paul O'Loughlin, Mary-Rose Tynan, Les Ryan, John Lindner, Wilhelmine Dempsey.

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: 15th/ 16th September		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Brian Waters	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Paula Waters	Leanne Michael
Lector 2	Volunteer	Bede Hart
Eucharistic Ministers	Volunteer Michael Regan	Carmel Butts Carey Menz-Dowling Frank Glennon
Cantor		Choir
Musicians	Judy Foley	
Counters: Peter Toner & Gordon Bryant Cleaning Group: Group 7		

Sat /Sun: 22nd /23rd September		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Volunteer	Cathy Nyhan
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Michael Stephenson
Lector 2	Karen Purtle	Terry Hillman
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim & Kaye Deanshaw	MACE Sisters Trish Parkinson Fran Kernaghan
Cantor	Brian Waters	Simon Goss
Musicians	Catherine Cutler	Val Hayes
Counters: Brian & Carmel Butts Cleaning Group: Group 1		

Prayer for Father Martin on the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination

We give you thanks, that you have blessed us with the ministry, friendship and care of Father Martin and we pray that he may continue to exemplify in word and deed the Gospel of Jesus.

Grant that we, with him, may serve you now in our parish community. May the Lord God bless him and keep him always in his care. May the Lord equip him with everything that is good and enable him to carry out his ministry to all whom he encounters.

May the Lord give him understanding of the Gospel, sincerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and God's name be glorified.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“.....carry out the ministry of Christ the priest with constant joy and genuine love, attending not to your own concerns, but to those of Jesus Christ.”

Parish News

Congratulations Fr Martin on your 25th Anniversary

With Thanksgiving on your 25th Anniversary of
ORDINATION



May the Lord God always be with you, in your going out and your coming in. May the Lord fill your heart and your mind with his love in Jesus Christ. And may the Lord always inspire you to share that love with all those whose lives you touch.

Outreach Group

Following a discussion at the Parish Council meeting it was decided to re-form the Outreach group in the Parish. Outreach group members would need to visit parishioners who are unable to go to Mass, unwell, lonely or bereaved. If you are interested in joining the Outreach group please contact Barbara Godde on 6021 7868 for further information.

Eucharistic Ministers Training

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.

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. Come and celebrate this important feast day with our Filipino community.

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

Feast Days

Monday 17th Sept – St Robert Bellarmine

Thursday 20th Sept—Sts Andrew Kim Taegon,
Paul Chong Hasang and Companions

Friday 21st Sept—St Matthew



This weekend we welcome to the community of the church through the sacrament of baptism Thomas James Godde son of Matthew and Emma.

Mercy Day Mass

Our end of term and celebration of Mercy Day school mass will be celebrated on Friday 28 September in St Anne's School Hall at 9.30am. All welcome to attend.

Morning Tea

Thanks to the community of Xavier High School for hosting last weekend's morning tea.

Morning tea will once again be shared at the conclusion of 9.30am mass this Sunday.

Our next monthly morning tea will be held on Sunday 7 October.



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/>

Liturgy of the Word

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year—Year B

Readings: Is 50: 5-9; James 2: 14-18; Mark 8: 27-35

Responsorial Psalm:



I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living. (Sung)

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living (Said)

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

Alleluia!

Reflection on the Readings

‘But you, who do you say I am?’ This would have to be one of the most powerful questions of the gospels. It echoes down the centuries and is just as relevant today as it ever was. ‘Who do you say I am?’ Our answer to that question is perhaps the most revealing statement of our faith. Our answer no doubt changes over time as we grow in understanding and as we experience the ups and downs of life, but nonetheless, just like Peter in the gospel passage, our answer remains a clear statement of our faith. ‘Who do you say I am?’ Just a good guy who lived 2,000 years ago? A role model? A friend? God made flesh? The Word come down from heaven? Nobody? Everybody? Our saviour? An inspired man of God? The Messiah?

Perhaps you’ve never tried to actually answer the question yourself. It is a confronting question, ‘Who do you say I am?’ It’s confronting because, as Christian people, we believe that our actions are a reflection of our beliefs and values. It’s confronting because whatever we say in answer to that question has implications for the way we live. ‘Who do you say I am?’ You see, the question is in the present tense, not the past. It doesn’t ask ‘Who do you say I was?’; it asks, ‘Who do you say I AM?’ The very question asks us to recognise that Jesus was not just some guy who lived 2,000 years ago but rather someone who continues to be a presence in our lives today. And he stands before each and every one of us today and asks that same, demanding, confronting, purposeful question: ‘Who do YOU say I am?’

When Peter answers Jesus’ question he demonstrates the disciples’ dawning awareness of Jesus’ true identity. It is the first occasion that the disciples are called to own what they think about Jesus. However, when Jesus begins to spell out what being the Messiah reality means – persecution and death – Peter tries to convince Jesus that he doesn’t need to go down that path. Jesus turns on Peter and snaps, ‘Get behind me, Satan!’ It is a reminder of the desert temptation Jesus had to face at the start of his ministry when he wrestled with what sort of messiah he was called to be.

The Gospel of Mark is famous for a technique of ‘sandwiching’ stories or sections between two related events to bring what is sandwiched into greater focus. This gospel passage falls within a significant sandwich that runs from 8:22 (the healing of a blind man at Bethsaida) to 10:52 (the healing of blind Bartimaeus). The healings of blindness that surround the sandwich reflect the lack of ‘sight’ that the disciples have. The ‘meat’ of the sandwich is all about the disciples not really understanding Jesus’ mission and what it means to truly be a disciple.



(Greg Sunter)

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