

Sacred Heart Parish

NORTH ALBURY

330 Swan Street
North Albury
NSW 2640
02 6025 1516
www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

6th October / 7th October

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:

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
9.30am**

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661

CHURCH STORES.

**Religious gifts and supplies shipped
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churchsupplies@ozmail.com.au

PAULINE BOOKS AND MEDIA

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In marriage, the couple does not merely receive a sacrament, they become one. They become an outward sign of the love of God. They are able to open themselves to each other in love, because God has first loved them. When they become one in marriage, they create something new, something that is a sign of the creative power of God. This in no way minimises the passionate love that they may have, or the unselfishness with which they give themselves to each other. Rather, it underscores the origin of that passion and the model of that unselfishness.

We are brothers and sisters of Christ in more than one way. First, through his incarnation, he became one of us, a little lower than the angels. He shared our human existence; he knew the highs and lows of human life. Then he redefined family relationships, claiming that blood bonds were no longer the determinant for establishing kinship. Instead, those who hear the word of God and keep it, those who commit themselves to God in faithful discipleship, are his brothers and sisters.

Marriage and other forms of discipleship make religious demands on us. Because we are taking a step into the unknown, they require a profound act of trust – trust in ourselves, trust in each other and, most importantly, trust in God. They also expect openness on our part – openness to give and openness to receive. Unfortunately we associate these characteristics with unpretentious children. While children may possess them because they are innocent, adults must repossess them because we have been recreated in Christ. (Dianne Bergant CSS)

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Dawn Adams, Bruce Armstrong, Jock Gordon, Lorna Knox, Bill Persik, Eileen Gill, Sr Margaret Schmetzer.

ANNIVERSARIES: Reginald Gard, Sr Patricia O'Connor, Sr Francesca Parkin, Kathleen Yensch, Paul Hagan, Josephine Frauenfelder, Tom Whitty, Lois Ferris, Thomas Smith, Raymond Neal, John Stapleton, Mary Powell, Fred Sheather, Emilie Lautenbacher, Nicholas McLeod-Nibbs, Drahoslov Molinek, Shirley McNuff, Algy Arendarcikas, Margaret Wills, Mary & Les Davies, Gladys Hodgson, Franka Schnitzer, Jeffrey Mongan, May Everett.

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: 6th / 7th October

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Anthony Foley	Roy Thompson
Lector 1	Pat Hickman	Gavin Dykes
Lector 2	volunteer	Ray Murtagh
Eucharistic Ministers	Volunteer Jeneice Harding	Pauline Willis Gemma Whitehead Marjorie Serbinek
Cantor	Volunteer please	Judy Lindsay
Musicians	Catherine Cutler	Val Hayes
Counters: Nardia Scarvell & Liz Simon Cleaning Group: Group 4		

Sat /Sun: 13th / 14th October

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Virginia Mitsch	Terry Hillman
Lector 1	Kellie Gordes	Richard Parkinson
Lector 2	Barbara Godde	Leanne Michael
Eucharistic Ministers	Jim & Kaye Deanshaw	Pamela McIntosh Mary Lefevre Noelene Cruise
Cantor	John van Lint	Bernadette & Wendy
Musicians	Val Hayes	
Counters: Desmond Lum & Jane Togher Cleaning Group: Group 5		

Prayer for Married Couples

Father, your greatest command was to love You and love each other.

You've given marriage as a holy relationship that reflects our relationship with You.

Show us how to follow your example and set aside our selfishness and pride and humbly serve each other.

Help us to be of one spirit and of one mind and value each other above ourselves, looking out for each other's interests.

In the midst of our busy lives, help us take time to love each other deeply from the heart, as you have loved us.

May the love we have for each other be an example to the world of how You love them and gave Your life for them.

Amen

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"Love needs time and space; everything else is secondary ."

Parish News

Sincere Gratitude

The M.A.C.E. Sisters and the Filipino Community of Albury and surrounding areas sincerely thank Fr Martin for having celebrated the St Lorenzo Ruiz for them last Friday 28 September. They also appreciate the Sacred Heart parish community for their participation and thank in particular the readers, offerers, servers, organist, choir and collectors for their help. "We are sincerely grateful for everyone's involvement. May God bless us all!"

Annual Appeal for the Work of Catholic Mission

Next weekend our parish will be holding the annual Catholic Mission Appeal. This year we are invited to consider how we can answer Pope Francis' call to be a part of mission and how we can support mission globally. This year's appeal focusses on the country of Myanmar the largest country area in mainland Southeast Asia and is bordered by China, Bangladesh, India and Thailand. It has a population of around 53 million people with approximately 135 separate ethnic groups. Despite its size and location, Myanmar is also placed in the lower half of the region's economies with around one quarter of its population estimated to be living below the poverty line. Please contribute to the appeal as generously as you are able.

Our Parish Pastoral Council met last Tuesday evening to begin reflecting on and addressing issues related to our Sacred Heart communities strategic plan for the future. The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will take place on Thursday 1 November at 6.00pm in the Parish Hall.

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers Rosters

Your rosters are now available for collection from side table at Swan Street entrance to church. Please let the office know if you would like your roster sent by email.

Feast Days

Tuesday 9th Oct—St Denis, St John Leonardi
Thursday 11th Oct—St John XXIII

Morning Tea

Our **Parish Morning Tea** will be held this Sunday 7 October at the conclusion of our celebration of Eucharist.



Plenary Council

Many thanks to those who were able to attend our second deanery listening and dialogue session in connection with the 2020 Plenary Council. Over sixty 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.

This plenary council or full council of Catholics won't begin until October 2020. It's being planned as an event where hundreds of Catholic representatives will deliberate on how the Catholic Church in Australia moves forward - in a world where the authority of its clergy leadership is under unprecedented challenge. It's a bit of a radical idea on consultation - where lay Catholics both women and men, brothers and nuns, all bishops, ethnic catholic churches, the youth, the marginalised, ex-catholics, survivors of sexual abuse, basically everyone is being called to contribute to the critique and future planning of the Catholic church in Australia.

In the coming months there will be an opportunity within our parish community to come together in small groups to participate in the listening and dialogue process or go to the website to make your own individual response:

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

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.

Liturgy of the Word

Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year—Year B

Readings: Gen 2: 18-24; Heb 2: 9-11; Mark 10: 2-16

Responsorial Psalm:



May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,

God will live in us in perfect love.

Alleluia!

Reflection on the Readings

In the Western world today, somewhere between one-third and one-half of marriages end in divorce. It's a statistic that we hear wheeled out as a sign of the collapse of family values in our society. However, the reverse statistic is also true: somewhere between one-half and two-thirds of marriages are lasting ones. In the last 30-40 years, divorce has transformed from being a shameful scandal to an accepted, even commonplace, fact of life. It would be uncommon not to know someone affected by divorce. Despite those who argue that divorce is too 'easy', it is an emotional and difficult decision for couples to reach and has rippling impacts on children, extended families and friends.

When the Pharisees in the gospel asked Jesus about the law regarding divorce, they really weren't interested in divorce; they wanted to check Jesus' orthodoxy – how he stood in relation to traditional teaching. Rather than respond to them directly, Jesus asks them first of all to name the teaching to which they refer. He then explains that Moses only ever wrote the instruction because the people were so unwilling to listen to God's way.

For the second time in the last few weeks, the gospel shows Jesus welcoming children and praising their attitude as the way to the kingdom of God. Children of the time had no status and were regarded as literally the property of their father. When Jesus laid his hands on the children and gave them his blessing, this was the action of a father 'claiming' the child as their own. To welcome the kingdom like a little child is to enter into living the kingdom of God without any claim to position or status; to recognise our complete dependence on others; to let go of our ideas of who is important and who is not; to allow ourselves to be 'claimed' by Jesus.

This section of Mark's Gospel explores what it means to be a disciple. While this particular passage may seem to be a bit out of place, Jesus seems to be stressing to the disciples that there are some bottom lines – some non-negotiables – when it comes to being a disciple. Unlike the Pharisees who are preoccupied with the letter of the Law, Jesus encourages his disciples to get beyond that and understand the spirit of the Law – God's dream for humankind. The shift in the passage to the focus on children seems a little disconnected but the whole passage is about living in the kingdom with the right attitude.

Most of us at some time or another have been told to 'grow up'; 'stop acting like a child'; or to 'act your age'. It implies that, as we grow older, we have to behave in a more 'responsible' or 'mature' way than when we were children. Jesus turns this on its head and tells us that unless we 'welcome the kingdom like a little child' we will never enter it. The gospels are full of stories about people who call on God's mercy because they recognise that without God they are nothing. When they subsequently receive God's mercy or healing they welcome it all the more – like a little child. (Greg Sunter)

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