



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10th/11th August 2019

Parish Clergy
Fr Martin Cruickshank

Parish Office
Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday
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

WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:
Wednesday 9.30am
Thursday Feast of Assumption 9.30am & Xavier High School 1.30am
Friday 9.30am

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



In the middle of Ordinary Time we discover a theme normally associated with the end of the liturgical year and the season of Advent – vigilance in anticipation of the return of the master. This vigilance demands that we live lives of faith. We do not know when God will open the door of our existence and call us into a deeper realisation of the sacred dimension of life itself. Vigilance is a characteristic of a Christian at all times, for all times. We must be ever vigilant.

While we live in the expectation of the coming of God in the future, we also live now in the presence of God. This means that God is present with us now, as a companion in our lives. It also means that this presence is the context within which our lives unfold. However, until all things are brought to fulfilment, we live in this presence by faith. Faith and hope are intimately joined. As believers we are called to trust in the promises of God, even when what is promised seems impossible.

We are assured that we will be blessed, but we can never be sure of the exact nature of the blessing. In faith, we put our trust in God and then carry out our responsibilities. In faith we wait for the Lord, who is our help and our shield, not really knowing under what guise he will come to us. Faith is both the cost of living as a disciple and the reward. (Dianne Bergant CSA)



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Margot O'Donnell, Sue Pollock, Mark Awburn, Jim Purvey, Maria Terhaar, Bob Corrigan, Gavin Livermore, George Bradford, Kristen Devine, Matt McIntosh, Daryl Rickard.

ANNIVERSARIES: Siobahn Harte, Ada McDonell, Marie Hickey, Dell Flanagan, Dimpsey Weston, Chris Maclean, Beverley Bungey, Joe Keighran, Pat Sheehan, Frank Grice, Dorothy Thompson, Sally Guthrie, Bernard Stout, Cindy Rohick, Emma Mansfield, Christopher Burdak, Bill Thompson, Bon Phefley, John Sumuelson, Lena Tregupis, Laura Grabbatz, David Crowe, Jack Ryan, Thomas Ryan, Nellie Gaudry, Rita Bognell, Jean Bailey, George Palmer, Ann Cowin.

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: 10th /11th August

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Nano Clancy Justin Clancy Volunteer	Chris Lewis MACE Sisters Wendy McFerran
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Regan Pat Hopkins Catherine Cutler	Carmel Butts Pamela McIntosh Mary Lefevre Kansas Michael Cathy Nyhan Sue Betts
Cantor Musicians	Val Hayes	Ann/Lachlan McIntyre Val Hayes
Counters:		

Sat /Sun: 17th /18th August

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Confirmation	Leanne Michael Roy Thompson Michael Stephenson
Eucharistic Ministers	Confirmation	Pauline Willis Peter & Dianne Treacy Fran Kernaghan MACE Sisters Ann Marie Whiting
Cantor Musicians	Confirmation	Catherine & Judy Val Hayes
Counters: Nardia Scarvell & Liz Simon		

Prayer to St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Ever generous God,
You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy. With confidence in your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop we ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too, like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust and openness. Ever generous God hear our prayer.

We ask this through Jesus Christ.
Amen.



A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“Whenever we look to Mary, we come to believe once again in the revolutionary nature of love and tenderness.”

Parish News



Parish Office Hours

While Gemma is on holidays the Parish Office will operate on Wednesday and Friday from 9.00am to 2.00pm. No Mondays until the end of August.

Sacrament of Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation for children in Year 6 will be celebrated in our parish community next Saturday 17 August at 6pm during our celebration of Eucharist.

Please remember in your prayers the children and parents in their commitment to continue to open their lives to the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Please be aware that as we have over 40 children and their families to be seated on that evening we will be pleasingly overcrowded.

If possible it would be beneficial for regular parishioners on that evening only to attend our 9.30am Sunday celebration of the Eucharist or attend the Saturday evening mass in one of our neighbouring parishes.

Diocesan Spirituality Day for Women

The Council for Australian Catholic Women (CACW) Wagga Wagga Diocese are holding a spirituality day for women on Saturday 31 August at Kildare Catholic College Wagga Wagga from 9.00am—3.30pm. Morning tea and lunch provided. Cost: Donation only. It is a day of reflection where women can come together to listen, ponder and pray with hope. Registration: Eventbrite.com.au/e/60036624159 Further details: Anne Brown 0499 425 970 or email cacw.waggawagga@gmail.com

Pastoral Planned Giving

Thanks for your ongoing support of our parish community in this regard. If you are not already contributing to our parish community in this way and are able to do so please fill in the details on the slip where the envelopes are located and place in the container provided. Otherwise contact the parish office by email/phone with the relevant details.

Due to changes in taxation policy and our financial status we have been advised that you will not be able to claim your contribution to the P.G. as a tax deduction.

Contribution statements for 2018-2019 financial year are now available for collection on table at church entrance (Mate Street). You are asked to fill in the census details contained in each statement and return it by email or by placing it on one of the collections.

Proposed Casserole Lunch Cancelled

Due to lack of numbers the proposed shared casserole lunch to be held this Sunday has been cancelled. When the weather is warmer it is proposed we have a parish picnic in the park. Date to be determined.

Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council AG Meeting

The annual general meeting will take place on Thursday 12 Sept at 6pm in the Parish Hall. All interested parishioners welcome to attend. Drinks & nibbles will be offered at the conclusion of the meeting.

This weekend we welcome to the community of the church through the sacrament of baptism Annie Isabel Gormly daughter of Ryan & Sarah; Logan Dempsey Blake son of Daniel & Teegan.

Plenary Council 2020

About 40 people attended the sessions led by Fr Bernie Thomas as updates on the discernment process involved in the next stage of preparation for the plenary council. We are asked to reflect on how is God calling us to be a Christ-centred church in Australia that is:

1. Missionary and evangelising
2. Inclusive, participatory and synodal
3. Prayerful and Eucharistic
4. Humble, healing and merciful
5. Joyful, hope-filled and servant community
6. Open to conversion, renewal and reform

Morning Tea after Mass

Thanks to the Deanshaw family group for helping with catering last Sunday. Members of our local St Vincent de Paul have volunteered to assist with our next morning tea on Sunday 1st September.

Sacred Heart Church - Capital Works & Mainten.

We have been informed by Ian Bennett who works for the diocese and the catholic schools office in the area of capital works and maintenance that a proposed detailed plan for heating/cooling in the church and the roof replacement will be delivered this week. As soon as this plan materialises a meeting will be organised with some members of the finance committee and the engineer to discuss the proposal so that we can move forward as quickly as possible.

Roadworks Around Church

Council roadworks involving kerb and guttering in Swan Street and resealing of the road are progressing. This continues to make parking and movement around the church boundary rather challenging. Please be extra careful when parking, reversing and alighting from vehicles either on the street or in the car parking area.

Outreach Group Meeting

Will be held for members on Sunday 18 August in the Hall after the 9.30am Mass. If unable to attend please contact Barbara on 6021 7868 for discussion.

Invitation to Ladies of Sacred Heart Church

You are invited to St Peter's Women's Fellowship Coffee Morning with guest speaker Pastor Peter Fuhlbohm on Wed 11 September at 10am in St Peter's Lutheran Hall Urana Road, Lavington Cost \$10. RSVP to Marie Bahr 6040 7158 by 31 August.

Liturgy of the Word

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year C

Readings: Wis 18: 6-9; Heb 11: 1-2,8-12; Luke 12: 32-48

Responsorial Psalm:



Blessed the people the lord has chosen to be his own. (Sung)
Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. (Said)

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of man is coming.

Alleluia!

Reflection on the Readings

This week's gospel passage carries with it the expectation of the late 1st Century as the early Christians awaited the triumphant return of the Christ (sometimes called the Second Coming or the *Parousia*). This is a familiar theme through the gospels and, in fact, across the gospels we can see that the communities were beginning to face the realisation that the promised return was taking longer than they had expected. In the gospel of Mark, it is clear that the community expects the Parousia at any moment, while by the time of the writing of the gospel of Luke, 10 or 15 years later, we can see that the language has taken on an aspect of uncertainty about the timing – it could be sooner or it could be later ('It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third...').

What began to emerge was an attitude that if we don't know when the Parousia will come, then we need to live 'in anticipation' of it. We need to live as *if* the Parousia were imminent. So, rather than waiting for the kingdom of God to be delivered, we must live our lives in such a way as to bring about the kingdom; to draw the kingdom into the present. Jesus often spoke of the kingdom as both near and not yet. If we all live the values of the kingdom, by our very actions we bring the kingdom into being. This gives an incredible significance to the way we choose to live our lives. If we 'invest' in the kingdom by living out the values of the kingdom and living in expectation of the Parousia, then that 'investment' is its own reward.

The Greek word *parousia* means 'presence' or 'arrival'. In ancient times the word was usually associated with the formal visit of a king or a ruler. The *parousia* of a king was a significant and sometimes formidable event. In the writings of the New Testament, the word is used for the return of Christ, the drawing to a close of salvation history and the full establishment of the kingdom of God. The earliest Christians expected to see the Parousia in their own lifetimes. The realisation that this was not to be the case led to a rethinking about living a Christian life.

Jesus responds to Peter's questioning the gospel in a roundabout way by speaking about a steward acting either faithfully and with wisdom or alternatively irresponsibly and recklessly. A steward is one who stands in the place of the master during the master's absence – taking on the duties, responsibilities and authority of the master. That's exactly what Christian people are called to do: become stewards who act in the place of Jesus as we await his return. As the prayer of St Teresa of Avila says, Christ has no body now on earth but yours. (Greg Sunter)

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