



Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
31st August/1st September 2019

Parish Clergy
 Fr Martin Cruickshank

Parish Office
 Gemma Whitehead—Monday
 Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday
 9.00 am – 2.00 pm
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Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm
SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:
Tuesday 11.00am Mercy Place. Includes sacrament of anointing.
Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.
Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



Fathers in Our Lives

We give our thanks, Creator God, for the fathers in our lives.

Fatherhood does not come with a manual, and reality teaches us that some fathers excel while others fail. We ask for Your blessings for them all and forgiveness where it is needed.

This Father's Day we remember the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, and the ways--both big and small--they lift children to achieve dreams thought beyond reach.

So too, we remember all those who have helped fill the void when fathers pass early or are absent; grandfathers and uncles, brothers and cousins, teachers, pastors and coaches and the women of our families.

For those who are fathers, we ask for wisdom and humility in the face of the task of parenting. Give them the strength to do well by their children and by You.
 In Your Holy name, O God, we pray.
 Amen.

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Tom Christian, Julie Hannan, Moya Perrett, Gerarld Agosta, Samantha Tobin, Alice Poole, Eva Cole, Maisie Miller, Gerald O'Sullivan.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Weaven, Don Fraser, Bishop Brennan, Stewart Bryant, Maryanne Kennedy, Mary McLaurin, Sally Robinson, Mary Emerson, Cess Herbert, John Sharman, Eric Livermore, Theresa Lopez, Nell Cruickshank, Geertja Van Gorkom, Anne Fallett, Michael Lawrence Irene Lieberman, Kathleen Bomford, Lawrence Taylor, Joseph Terlick, Krystal Crowther, Laura Bowen, Craig Pierpoint, Graham Marshall, George Keogh, Nancy Parnell, Bill Maloney, Fr Bongiorno.

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: 31st August / 1st September

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Ed Brown Nano Clancy Justin Clancy	Colleen Day Wendy McFerran Bede Hart
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Hopkins Judy Lindsay Volunteer	Mary Lefevre Sue McLaurin Kevin Kennedy Marjorie Serbinek Ann McIntyre Marissa Hart
Cantor Musicians	Margie & Ed Brown Val Hayes	Bernadette & Wendy
Counters: Michael Byrnes		

Sat /Sun: 7th / 8th September

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Brian Waters Paula Waters Lorraine Willis	Richard Parkinson Leanne Michael Lachlan McIntyre
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Regan Anna Farrell volunteer	Pamela McIntosh Pauline Willis Carmel Butts Gemma Whitehead Sr Patricia Weekes volunteer
Cantor Musicians	Catherine & Judy Judy Foley	Ann/Lachlan McIntyre Val Hayes
Counters: Brian & Carmel Butts		

National Child Protection Week *1st—7th September*

Gracious God provide us with a listening heart that we see and hear the voice of each of our children. We ask you God to strengthen and guide all in our Catholic communities. Grant us the ability and time to listen carefully when children come to us seeking help.

May our institutions and families respect, listen and do what is required to help children feel safe. Let your grace and love fall gently upon our children giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience to seek assistance when required.

We ask you this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“Without father figures, young people often feel ‘orphaned,’ left adrift at a critical moment in their growth and development... fathers are necessary as examples and guides for our children in wisdom and virtue.”

Parish News

Closure of Carmelite Monastery, Wagga Wagga

It has been announced that due to lack of ongoing vocations, diminishing numbers and health problems the Carmelites are unable to keep the monastery in Wagga functioning. For 53 years the 'Carmel' has been a source of prayer, reflection and worship. The commitment, service and hospitality offered by generations of these religious women deserves our heartfelt gratitude. The date for the formal closure of the Carmel and opportunities for farewell liturgies are yet to be decided.

Monthly Morning Tea

Morning Tea is shared in Sacred Heart Parish Hall the first Sunday of each month after our celebration of Eucharist.

Thanks to members of our local St Vincent de Paul Conference for helping out today.

Rosary Crusade

Sunday 8 September—Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary. *Praying for the needs of the world.* St Patrick's Church, Albury at 9.10am; 11.40am; from 1.30 pm—4.50pm.

Also Holy Spirit Legion of Mary hosting rosary in park (Fredrick's Park North Albury) beginning 11.30am. A sausage sizzle & dessert/fruit will be provided. Four complete rosaries recited with breaks between.

Football Tipping - Final Results for 2019

1st Martin Cruickshank 134

2nd Paula McEachern 133

3rd Kip Kipper & Brian Butts 132

Honourable mentions: Cathy Nyhan 131;

Noel Willis 130; Don Jones & Richard Power 128;

Molly Fulford & Fran Kernaghan 127.

Before I left Finley there was uproar when the local publican won his own comp. All enquiries should be directed to Brian Butts!

Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council AGM

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

Father's Day Blessing

Good Shepherd God,

We ask your blessing on these men who stand in your presence. We give thanks for the gift of their fatherhood:

- For their unconditional love, self sacrifice and compassion
- For their patience, perseverance and understanding.
- For their laughter, tears and hard work

May they be sustained, nourished and strengthened in their vocation. May they know the appreciation and gratitude of their families and the community of the Church.

We ask this blessing in the name of Jesus Christ the Risen Son. Amen

3 CHOIRS FESTIVAL

The combined choirs of Albury, Beechworth and Wangaratta will present Handel's "Messiah" on Sat. September 7 at Scot's School at 7.30 pm and at Wangaratta Cathedral on Sun. September 8 at 2.30 pm. Tickets: \$25 (\$20 concession) From Cinema Centre and Murray Conservatorium.

Australian Catholics—Spring Edition

Has arrived and in this edition we explore family life. Many of the articles have been planned and written by young people. Their insightful contributions explore some of their own ideas, questions and concerns about what family is about in today's world.

Family life is at the centre of our faith. For many of us, its where faith was first planted and nurtured and is hopefully a place where we learn about the 'little gestures' that lead to holiness. As Pope Francis says: *'These little gestures are those we learn at home, in the family; they get lost amid all the other things we do, yet they do make each day different. They are the quiet things done by mothers and grandmothers, fathers and grandfathers, by children, by siblings. They are little signs of tenderness, affection and compassion.'*

Please take and distribute your free copies.

Sacred Heart Church - Capital Works & Maintenance

Recently representatives of the Parish Finance Committee met with Ian Bennett (Diocesan Projects Office) and local engineering consultant Phil Carkeek.

It was agreed that modifications needed to be made to the presented plan for heating/cooling in the church. Once the plan has been adapted and a concrete proposal detailed a follow up meeting will be held.

The Journey Catholic Radio Program—Airs 1 Sept 2019

This week on the journey we hear Luke's gospel 14:7-17. Sister Hilda from the Abbey, Marilyn Rodrigues, the peaceful parent share their sage words. We have the ever talented Trish McCarthey with her God spot and you will also hear from Fr Dave Callaghan. Tune into Life 101.9FM or 98.5FM, the Light Albury/Wodonga or go to: www.itunes.icr.org.au Can be sent to you each week as a podcast via email for free.

Liturgy of the Word

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year C

Readings: Ecc 3: 17-20, 28-29; Heb 12: 18-19, 22-24; Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Responsorial Psalm:



God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Take my yoke upon you;
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.
Alleluia!

Reflection on the Readings

There are at least two ways we can hear Jesus' words in today's gospel. The first is as a strong challenge about social justice.

National boundaries mean nothing to God. All people are equal in God's sight, so the banquet Jesus refers to has implications for how we share the riches with which we have been blessed with others in the world. The poor, crippled, lame and blind of our world are the majority of God's children who mainly live in the Third World. They are our brothers and sisters. At the banquet of life Christians are called to give priority to the needs of these people, not only because they have a just claim on our resources, but also because they can't do anything for us in return. They purify our motives. When we link our concern, time, talent, career, and money with these children of God, we tame that nagging question, 'What's in it for me?' with a firm reply, 'Very little – except God's justice.'

A somewhat comforting angle to take on this gospel is more psychological. Many of us, when we come to God at any time, try to dress ourselves up to look better than we are! This gospel reminds us that at Christ's banquet, however, it's not the poised and perfect who are most welcome, but the vulnerable. What does this mean for us who pray and celebrate the Eucharist? That God embraces those parts of us that are in greatest need of his love and healing – where we are poor, crippled, blind and lame.

We know this it is true because if Jesus is telling us to host the poor and broken at our tables, then as the perfect host he must do exactly the same with us at this Eucharistic meal as well.

When I was a child we referred to our finest clothes as our 'Sunday best' and we wore them proudly to Mass. Not only did we look good, we acted the part as well. Everyone was on best behaviour for the entire parish to see. Now, I have nothing against dressing with care and behaving well at Mass; it can be a sign of our self-respect, our courtesy toward others and our devotion to God. But God cares more about what's going on inside us. We can never hide from God, especially at the Eucharist because we have been invited to be here, not as we would like to be, but as we are.

May this Eucharist – this taste of heaven's justice – give us renewed courage to think beyond our self and national interests, and show to others the hospitality of God that has been lavished on us. May we discover that where faith is concerned, the answer to 'What's in it for me?' is 'More than we can ever hope or imagine.'

(Fr Richard Leonard SJ)

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