



*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*7th September / 8th September 2019*

**Parish Clergy**  
Fr Martin Cruickshank

**Parish Office**  
Gemma Whitehead—Monday  
Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday  
9.00 am – 2.00 pm  
Phone: 6025 1516

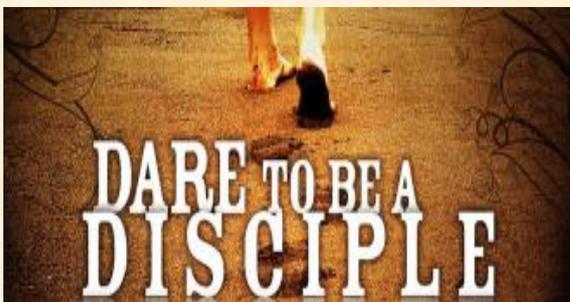
Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com  
Web: <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com/>

**Mass Times**

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm  
SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:  
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am  
First Tuesday of the month: 11.00 am Mass  
at Mercy Place.

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



The Season of Creation is an ecumenical celebration each year beginning on the 1st September through to the feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4th October. The 2019 theme is 'Web of Life.' The Season of Creation is a special time dedicated to deepening our relationships with creation and our Creator. The following is the prayer for 2019:

**Creator of Life,**

*The earth is full of Your creatures and by Your wisdom you made them all. At Your word the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit, the waters teemed with swarms of living creatures of every kind and the world was filled with every kind of winged bird, walking animals and creatures that creep upon the ground. Mountains, plains, rocks and rivers shelter diverse communities and through the changing seasons Your Spirit renews the cycles of life.*

*During the Season of Creation, open our eyes to see the precious diversity that is all around us. Enlighten our minds to appreciate the delicate balance maintained by each creature, inspire us to conserve the precious habitats that nature this web of life.*

*In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ.*

Amen

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Rebecca Collins, Tim Fischer, Tom Christian, Julie Hannan, Moya Perret, Gerald Agosta, Samantha Tobin, Alice Poole, Eva Cole, Maisie Miller, Gerald O'Sullivan.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Sr Margaret Schmetzer, Noeleen Low, John Weaven, Jan McNamee Anne Twomey, Mary McLaurin, Allan Wessen, Arthur Walsh, Gloria Dawson, Megan Ryan, Jo Handley, Geoff Hore, Bob Kirkwood, Bill Ashworth, John Austin, Patrick Hamilton, Harold Hopp, Ludwig Jankowski, Agnes Sutherland, Ken Herbert, Valda Beebar, Frederick Buckhorn, Jack Weber, Jim Newman, Bruno Karwowski, William Gaudry Alan Seaton, Josie Graeba.

*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: 7th / 8th September**

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

**Sat /Sun: 14th / 15th September**

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b> <b>Lector 1</b> <b>Lector 2</b>	Kellie Gordes Michael Byrnes Colleen Day	Chris Lewis Michael Stephenson Rosalie Martin
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Catherine Cutler Jeneice Harding Pauline Mulquiney	MACE Sisters Cathy Nyhan Fran Kernaghan Ann Marie Whiting 2 volunteers
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	Margaret & Ed Brown Judy Foley	Bernadette & Wendy
<b>Counters: Michael Byrnes</b>		

## **Prayer for Rain**

*Loving God, we pray for rain to renew the ground, to replenish our dams, to bring some chance of feed, to bring the possibility of some reward to those who have toiled so hard over many years.*

*We pray for all those whose lives are under the shadow of drought. We think first of those who work with the land, for farmers and their families, for those who rely upon the land for their life and relationships.*

*During this time of drought, we pray for the cooling, gentle rain that will once again bring life to the fields and crops that feed us and sustain the lives of those who cultivate the land.*

*We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen*

## A Thought for the Week ( Pope Francis):

*"Faith in God leads us to recognise Him in His creation, which is the fruit of His love for us, and which requires us to care for and protect nature."*

# Parish News

## **Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council AGM**

The annual general meeting will take place this 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.

## **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!

## **St Lorenzo Ruiz Mass**

To be celebrated at St Patrick's Church, Albury on Saturday 28 September at 3.00pm.

A potluck / merienda-cena will follow in the Meeting Room. Please share.....

## **Plenary Council 2020**

**Let's Listen & Discern**—*How is God calling us to be a Christ centred church that is Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal?* **Pray:**

"Lord, You once told us, 'Just as you did it to one of the least of these, who are members of my family, you did it to me.' May our eyes be opened to the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and imprisoned. May our minds be freed from the bounds of self-interest, fear and prejudice. May our hearts be moved to recognise and respond to the needs of your people. May we be open to the fruits of your Spirit, so that our thoughts, words and actions can be infused with love, peace, compassion and selflessness."

What actions do you feel strongly called towards?

What actions could really help us to move toward becoming a Christ-centred Church that is Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal? What is the most loving response that the Spirit is calling us to?

What ideas do you have that can nourish our local faith community?

For more information and ideas for reflection and response on this stage of the plenary process go to:

[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

## **Children's Liturgy**

During Spring, on Sundays 15 Sept; 20 Oct & 17 Nov where we share in children's liturgy, families are invited to join in an after-mass get together at the playground alongside Riverdeck Café, Noreuil Park, Albury.

This is an opportunity for families in our parish to connect with one another, particularly families with younger children. All welcome and questions may be directed to Louise 0439 449 714 or Genn 0406 002 241.

## **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 8 Sept 2019**

This week on the Journey, we hear the words of Luke's Gospel 14: 25-33. Do we know our True Identity? The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes asks these questions, and Mother Hilda from the Abbey encourages us to look for the patterns. We are blessed to have such truly talented Christian music artists on our show. Tune into LIFE 101.9 FM or 98.5 The Light Albury Wodonga Sunday 11am or go to [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) Can be sent to you each week as a podcast via email – for free.

## **Closure of Carmelite Monastery, Wagga Wagga**

It has been announced that due to lack of ongoing vocations, diminishing numbers and health problems the Carmelite's 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 & farewell are yet to be decided.

# Liturgy of the Word

*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year C*

*Readings: Wis 9: 13-18; Phil 9: 10, 12-17; Luke 14: 25-38*

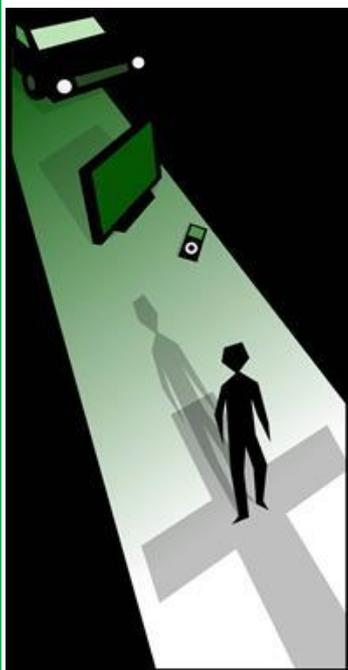
*Responsorial Psalm:*



**In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

## Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your laws.  
Alleluia!



## Reflection on the Readings

There are two short stories in Luke's Gospel today. Both are about sensible planning. The first one is about deciding to build a house. You sit down look at plans, available finance and other factors before you begin the project. You will look a bit of a fool if you start on the foundations and run out of money. The neighbours will be quick to have a laugh. The second repeats the message but for a community or nation. If a country decides to go to war the leaders will have to sit down and consider the cost.

Maybe a better solution will be to work for peace. These planning discussions seem to be at odds with Jesus' general message but we know the stories were to be instructive for the community so what do we hear in these stories today. The key lies in the introductory sentence. The language is very tough. Discipleship means God's work first and all other attachments second. Not everyone will be happy with this but it explains why there are few disciples. In Jesus' time as in our own there are always people ready to follow the new; ideas, fashions even religions. Anyone can stand up and declare themselves for Jesus especially in the heat of a religious experience. The kingdom of God is not built on emotion but faithful commitment. Discipleship costs. Can you pay the price?

Jesus is suggesting that discipleship is not something to accept blindly. "Sit down," he says, "Weigh the pros and cons." Don't say yes until you are reasonably sure. In contrast to some evangelical movements which believe religion is about numbers, Jesus is saying that he doesn't want reluctant disciples. He doesn't want people who feel trapped in something they don't understand. Jesus proclaimed freedom. His disciples proclaim freedom. We can't do that if we don't feel free. So what does it cost?

We will have to start by changing some attitudes. Like Jesus we have to expand our narrow view of family and nation. The word family has to include all people. Remember when he got a message to come home Jesus said he was with his family. The people he ministered to were his family. Proclaiming a God who has no favourites, will cost. We are threatened by inclusiveness. For many, identity comes from belonging to a special group; of knowing who's in and who's out.

A striking example of this comes in the short letter to Philemon, just twenty five verses. Paul writes to a friend on behalf of a runaway slave, Onesimus. In the letter Paul does not ask just for the acceptance back into the household for the slave and the remittance of punishment. This alone would be a big ask, but Paul asks Philemon to welcome Onesimus back as his brother. Such is Paul's confidence in the quality of Philemon's discipleship that he says, "I know you'll do more than I ask." (Patricia Stevenson rsj. )

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