



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus

28th December / 29th December 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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Email: sacredheartna@gmail.com

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

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:

Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



All of the major themes found in today's readings highlight the relational character of family life. In Sirach some of the dynamics of family living and responsibility as exercised in the ancient world unfold before our eyes. The rewards of faithfully observing these family codes are showcased in the responsorial Psalm. Paul directs our attention to the manner of relational living to which we are summoned as members of the family of God, a manner of living that flows from the bond of perfection that unites us. The gospel narrative paints a picture of a family that follows the directives of God.

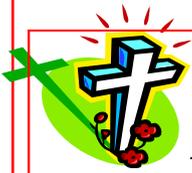
So much has been said recently about family values. But what exactly are they? The specifics of family customs and roles played within the family may be culture-bound, but it seems that the values out of which they emerge and that inform them are not. They include mutuality, respect and service between wives and husbands, between parents and children, and between the young and the old.

Mutuality, respect and service become characteristics of the Church or the ecclesial family as well. What binds the family of God together are virtues that are as relational as are the ties that bind the members of the natural family together. It may be more challenging to live out these values within the church, for those who are called to put on Christ, bearing with one another in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience must relate in this way with people who may be strangers.

(Dianne Bergant CSA)



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kelvin Dukes, Phyllis Ward, Elizabeth Flynn, Annette Boyle, Jim Burke, Angela Lynch, Marlene Mirani, Ellen Hagan, Shane Fifield.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ross Smith, Jack Gill, John Gawen, Nancy Gray, Susan Lally, Dawn Robison, Jim Brooder, George Rossmann, Eileen Howard, Tyson Baczynski, Miroslav Student, Bert Coyle, Trish Carmody, Scott Larkin, Maddison Palmer, Brian O'Donoghue, Daniel Darcey, Peter McKee, Matthew Gunning, Bill Ryan, Peter Rolfe, Catherine Glennon, John Warford, Joan Dougheney, Bob Purtle, William Foo, Kit Telby, Catherin Weldon, Frank Lacey, Agnes Armstrong, Badea Ghosn, Barbara Robertson.

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: 28th/ 29th December

| Ministry | Vigil | 9.30am |
|--|---|--|
| Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2 | Kellie Gordes Sr Patricia Weekes Jasmine Gordes | Jane Murtagh Gavin Dykes Cathy Nyhan |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Lyn Hamilton Pauline Mulquiney Jeneice Harding | Sue Hayhoe Richard & Trish Parkinson Moira Porta Noelene Cruise 2 volunteers |
| Cantor Musicians | Brian Waters Judy Foley | Catherine & Judy Val Hayes |
| Counters: Michael Byrnes | | |

Sat /Sun: 4th / 5th January

| 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 Michael Regan | Mary Lefevre Sue McLaurin Kevin Kennedy Marjorie Serbinek Ann McIntyre Marisa Hart Pauline Willis |
| Cantor Musicians | Marg & Ed Brown Judy Foley | Bernadette & Wendy Val Hayes |
| Counters: Nardia Scarvell & Liz Simon | | |

Blessing upon the New Year

Lord,

At the beginning of this new year, I offer you my life.

Come take my voice, may the words I speak be filled with encouragement and goodness.

Come take my hands, may the work they create be generous and giving.

Come take my feet, may the journeys I walk be led by your Spirit within.

Come take my life Lord, for I love your goodness, your kindness and your leading.

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed so that we may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. Amen.

A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

'It is worthwhile to live as a family, that a society grows strong, grows in goodness, grows in beauty and truly grows if it is built on the foundation of the family.'

Parish News



Concerned Catholics for Renewal-Reforming Our Church Together

Based on the model already existing within other dioceses a similar group has been formed within the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. It's mission is to help create a gospel-centred Australian Church which is accountable, inclusive and transparent.

Getting Back in Mission available through Garratt Publishing is the formal submission of Catholics for Renewal to the Australian Plenary Council. In its forward Robert Fitzgerald (Former Commissioner, Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse) writes, 'I hope and pray that the Plenary Council 2020/21 will be an opportunity for the Church in Australia to explore the evidence, engage in open dialogue and discern a new course for the Church. The time for resolute action is upon us. The time to govern out of hope not fear is now!'

A public forum is planned to be held in Albury on Thursday 20th February 2020 at 7.30-9.00pm at the Stanley Room Commercial Club.

Additional information is available on the website www.concernedcatholicswagga.com or www.catholicsforrenewal.org.au

Plenary Council 2020

In recent days parishes have received an email from the office of Archbishop Christopher Prowse (Apostolic Administrator of Diocese of Wagga Wagga) indicating that our diocese will be sending a delegation of 5 people to the Plenary Council. This includes the Bishop and two members of diocesan church leadership. This leaves **Two** delegates to be chosen across the lay faithful of the diocese.

Have you been part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to express your interest in being a delegate from our diocese?

Expressions of interest to participate in the Plenary Council as a diocesan delegate need to be received at McAlroy House by 12.00pm 25 January, 2020.

Copies of the information sheet and the application form are available on our parish website, from the parish office or on the table at the Swan Street entrance to the church. You may wish to encourage someone from our parish community to consider engaging in the selection process.

Heartbeat—Christmas Edition 2019

The renewed and reinvigorated edition of 'Heartbeat' is available for collection at all the church entrances.

If you wish to be a part of the team that continues to nourish the life of 'Heartbeat' or have a creative suggestion or contribution for future editions please contact Karen Purtle: bevispurtle@internode.on.net

We welcome into the community of the Christian faith through the sacrament of baptism Mabel Lou Brown daughter of Stephen & Skye.

The Christmas season provides us with a unique opportunity to contemplate the mystery of God's love. That love finds its manifestation in us, our families and in our celebrating community. Christmas reminds us of the need to care for those who live on the margins of society - those who need to discover not our judgement, but God's mercy and hope.

May this Christmas lead you to discover and share the peace and happiness which only God can give and which is reflected by our journey of faith.

Thanks to all of you for continuing to live and share your faith within our Sacred Heart Parish community. A special mention needs to be made for those who walk that extra mile so that we might continue to proclaim Christ's presence in our midst with sure and certain hope. Your efforts are much appreciated and valued.

We welcome home to our local community many young women and men over the Christmas holiday season. You are a great blessing to the Church. May you continue to be aware of the presence of God's Spirit in you life's journey - a presence that is real, inspiring, challenging and comforting.

Alpha Course

Sacred Heart Parish intends offering the Alpha course in 2020. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore the basics of the Christian faith. Exploring faith is a journey—no pressure, no charge. People come on the Alpha course for many different reasons; some have never been to church and want to investigate whether God exists, others may have attended church and want to further explore the relevance of the Christian faith to their daily lives. Listen, learn, discuss and discover. Alpha is a place where no question is too simple or too hostile.

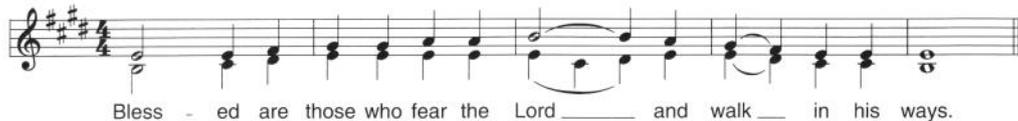
In an informal, friendly and open environment, lives can be transformed. For further information please view the parish website or contact Michael Regan mjregan68@bigpond.com

Liturgy of the Word

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus—Year A

Readings: Ecc 3:2-6,12-14; Col 3: 12-21 ; Matt 2: 13-15,19-23

Responsorial Psalm:



Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. (Sung)
Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways. (Said)

Alleluia Verse:

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!



Christmas Season



Communal Prayer for Lighting the Four Candles of Advent

And the White Christmas Candle

Fr Martin: Today is the Feast of the Holy Family, in which we recall the hope we have in Christ. Today we light again the candles of hope, peace, love and joy.

(Each candle will be lit as the reader speaks)

First Candle We speak of hope - because God keeps his promises to us.

Second Candle We work for peace - because Jesus is the 'Prince of Peace' and he calls his children to work for peace in his name.

Third Candle We show love - because Jesus gave everything for us and led us to know the forgiveness of God.

Fourth Candle We share joy - because the Holy Spirit fills our hearts and minds with the presence of God.

Last Candle Now we light our white candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised so long ago, you have come to us once again, and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.

(Light the white Christ candle now)

All: Lord, you come as a tiny, fragile baby, yet we know that you are God and you are with us. May the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

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