



## *The Baptism of the Lord*

*11th / 12th January 2020*

### **Parish Clergy**

**Fr Martin Cruickshank**

### **Parish Office**

**Gemma Whitehead—Monday**

**Fran Kernaghan - Wednesday, Friday**

**9.00 am – 2.00 pm**

**Phone: 60251516**

**Email: [sacredheartna@gmail.com](mailto: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**

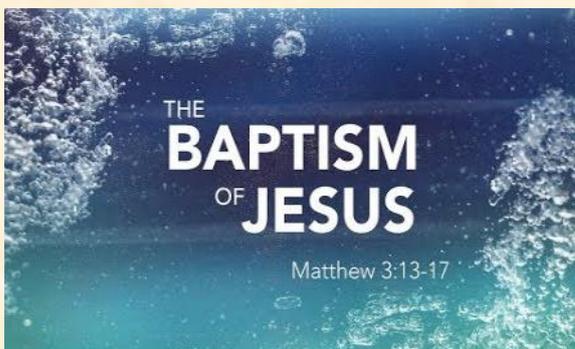
**BAPTISMS—By appointment.**

**Preparation Course: 0411 883 661**



The baptism of Jesus inaugurates his ministry as the anointed one of God. The passage from Isaiah indicates the kind of messiah he will be. He will not exercise harsh justice, nor will he wield the sword of vengeance on the battlefield. He will be a servant, who, though mighty is gentle; one chosen by God, yet committed to the needy and the marginal; the Son of God who attends to the least within the community. The messiah of God may have come from an insignificant village like Nazareth, but he was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power. The messiah of God does not conform to the expectations of a proud and self-absorbed society. Filled with the Spirit of God, he acts out of a gentle, compassionate spirit.

For whom did the messiah of God come? For those whom society discarded. He came for people who are broken and suffering, for those who are blind or imprisoned. He came for people who are so easily pushed to the margins – the homeless, the unemployed, the abandoned children, the helpless elderly, the mentally and chronically ill. He also came to people who, like Cornelius, do not belong to our inner circles, people who threaten us, people we might actually despise. He came for the strangers among us, those who have different cultural customs, those who worship in different ways. He came for people we have pushed out as well as for those we have refused to let in. The messiah of God came for all people without distinction. (Dianne Bergant CSS)



# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Brian Mawson, Kelvin Duke, Phyllis Ward, Peter Conrick, Terry Quirk.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Tony Iverson, Kathleen Lester, Raymond Fogarty, Ann Bellett, Bill Cromarty, Gregory Sutherland, Nola Toner, Geraldine Krautz, Marianna Kalenikovs, Geoffrey Kimball, Marie Sullivan, John Whyte, Gertrude Heppner, John Packer, Michael Mullavey, Daren Fisher, Doris Hourigan, Frank Esler, Leslie Maloy, Tom Drum.

*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: 11th / 12th January

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b> <b>Lector 1</b> <b>Lector 2</b>	Brian Waters Paula Waters Michael Byrnes	Richard Parkinson Leanne Michael Lachlan McIntyre
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Michael Regan Anna Farrell Judy Lindsay	Pamela McIntosh Pauline Willis Carmel Butts Gemma Whitehead Sr Patricia Weekes Peter & Dianne Treacy
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	John van Lint Catherine Cutler	Anne & Lachlan McIntyre Val Hayes
<b>Counters:</b> Desmond Lum & Jane Togher		

### Sat /Sun: 18th / 19th January

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b> <b>Lector 1</b> <b>Lector 2</b>	Kellie Gordes Jasmine Gordes Volunteer	Chris Lewis Michael Stephenson Rosalie Martin
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Catherine Cutler Jeneice Harding Pauline Mulquiney	MACE Sisters Cathy Nyhan Fran Kernaghan Peter & Dianne Treacy Ann Marie Whiting
<b>Cantor Musicians</b>	Brian Waters Judy Foley	Simon Goss
<b>Counters:</b> Gordon Bryant		

## Communal Prayer—Lighting of the Paschal Candle

**Leader:** God of heaven and earth from the breath of your love came the creation of the world. St Paul discovered after his encounter with the Risen Christ, the truth that God does not play favourites, but that anyone of any nationality who respects God and does what is right is acceptable to Him. May our soul delight in coming to know the chosen one, the one on whom God's spirit rests.

*(Candle is Lit)*

**All:** Help us to live out the call of our baptism so that that we might be bearers to others of the good news of Christ's light and peace.

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

"Baptism permits Christ to live in us, and to live united with him, in order to collaborate in the Church, each according to his or her own condition, to the transformation of the world."

# Parish News



*We welcome into the community of the Christian faith through the sacrament of baptism Caleb Dallas Robinson son of Patrick and Gabrielle.*

## Statement from Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference

Australia is facing an unprecedented calamity as fire engulfs the land in many places. We have all seen the apocalyptic images, even if we are not in the areas most affected. Lives have been lost, homes and towns have been destroyed, smoke has shrouded large swathes of our country. And there is no end in sight to the horror which confronts us with our powerlessness before the devastating force of nature.

The efforts of firefighters have been heroic. The resilience of the communities affected has been extraordinary. This has been Australia at its best, and we all stand with those who have been most stricken and with those who are putting their lives on the line to fight the fires.

But we need more than words. Expressions of solidarity are important, but they are not enough.

**To this end parishes across the country are asked to take up a special collection at Masses on the Australia Day weekend (Sat 25 Jan—Sun 26 Jan). All funds will be used to support the Vinnies bushfire appeal.**

With broad and deep roots across the nation, the Church stands ready to walk alongside people throughout their journey of recovery.

Facing this exceptional crisis, we renew our call for insistent prayer for those stricken by drought and fire, for those who have lost their lives in the fires and their families, for rain to quench the parched land and extinguish the fires, and for the urgent action to care for our common home in order to prevent such calamities in the future.

A genuinely Catholic response to a crisis of this magnitude must draw strength from prayer which inspires concrete and compassionate action.

## 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. Its 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](http://www.concernedcatholicswagga.com) or [www.catholicforrenewal.org.au](http://www.catholicforrenewal.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 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.

## 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.

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

## Beat The Heat!

Bottled water and clean face washers are now located in the long cupboard at the side of the confessional. Free to use at your convenience.

Because of the extreme hot weather and debilitating smoke if you are unable to come to weekend mass and wish to receive holy communion please contact Narelle Naughton so that home visitation can be arranged. Narelle 0417 216 488.

## 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](mailto:bevispurtle@internode.on.net)

# Liturgy of the Word

*The Baptism of the Lord—Year A*

*Readings: Is 42: 1-4, 6-7; Acts 10: 34-38 ; Matt 3: 13-17*

*Responsorial Psalm:*



***The Lord will bless his people with peace.***

## Alleluia Verse:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.**

**Alleluia!**

## **Prayer in the Face of the Terror of Bushfires**

God our loving Father, we are subject to the whims and impulses of our natural world. You are the God of the plains, the hills, the rivers and the mountains of our country and we come before you to pray for those who fight fire; a good servant, but a terrifying master.

Like soldiers going to defend us, Lord, our volunteer fire fighters leave families, loved ones and their homes to protect us from the fires that ravage our land. We earnestly pray for them as they work so tirelessly against such a deadly foe.

We remember and pray for the volunteers and residents who have been killed, and we commend them to your merciful love. We pray for the volunteers and all who have been injured and we pray that you will stretch out your healing hands over them.

Father, be with all victims who have lost their homes, their animals, their crops and their livelihood. Bless the many volunteers who support our fire fighters with food and drink, and all those who give to those left with nothing.

We pray for killed or injured wild life; both native and domestic, and for trees and plant life that have been destroyed.

Send out your Spirit and renew the face of our injured and wounded land and all her people. May our gathering in prayer increase our solidarity with all who give so much of themselves to protect so many.

In your boundless love, watch over us all and keep us safe.

Our Lady, Help of Christians, pray for us

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, pray for us

St Florian, Patron Saint of Fire Fighters, pray for us

*Prayer written by Fr Tony Hill*

*Parish Priest of Euroa*

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