



Fourth Sunday of Easter

2nd / 3rd May 2020

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 at Sacred Heart North Albury

Join our virtual celebration of the Eucharist each Sunday while coronavirus restrictions remain. Simply click of the YouTube link provided on our website. Will be available for your participation by Saturday afternoon. Thanks to Nick Manning from the IT department at Xavier, Cameron Adam, to Ed & Marg Brown and James Burke (website) for their assistance in this regard.

Prayer Resources: Located on parish website under “Latest Newsletter”.

From Liturgy Brisbane: The first document contains the Sunday readings with associated commentaries and prayers. It is suggested that families gather to read the scriptures aloud together.

The second resource is designed for families with young children. An extract from the Sunday gospel is provided, along with some reflection questions, a family activity and a worksheet for children.

SAINT FLORIAN

Back in January, at the height of those terrible fires, we began to hear about Florian, the patron Saint of fire-fighters.

St Florian was born around 250 AD in the ancient Roman City Aelium Citium – present-day Sank=Polten, Austria... He joined the Roman Army and rose through the ranks to commander of the imperial army in the Roman province of Noricum. Florian organized and trained an elite group of soldiers whose sole duty was to fight fires.

During the Diocletianic persecution of Christians, reports reached Rome that Florian was not enforcing the proscriptions against Christians in his territory. Aquilinius was sent to investigate these reports. When Aquilinius ordered Florian to offer sacrifice to the Roman Gods, Florian refused and so was sentenced to be burned at the stake.

Standing by the funeral pyre, Florian is reputed to have challenged the Roman soldiers to light the fire, saying, “If wish to know that I am not afraid of your torture, light the fire and in the name of the Lord I will climb on to it.”.

Afraid of his words, the soldiers did not burn Florian but executed him by drowning in the Enns River tied to a millstone.

St Florian is widely venerated in Central Europe, and was adopted as patron Saint of Poland in 1184. A famous St Florian’s Church is located in Krakow where his veneration has been particularly intense since 1528, when a fire burned through the neighborhood but spared the church.

The St Florian Cross is often seen in the badges of fire-fighters today. The feast-day of St Florian is 4th of May, which kind of takes the edge off Star Wars day. (Courtesy Joseph Kipper)

While quite naturally issues surrounding the COVID19 pandemic are taking centre stage let us continue to remember in prayer our rural communities continuing to recover from the ravages of bushfires and drought.

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Bill Rourke (Marisa Hart's father), Debbie Yensch, Peg Hanrahan, Timothy Davern, Bert Steenberg, Wayne Fulford, Brian Filliponi, Michael Bereza.

ANNIVERSARIES: May Smith, Merle McCabe, Paul Griffin, Leo Butler, Tony Phelps, John Gardiner, Helen Scully, Paul Ofak, Jessica Lawrence, John Thompson, Peter Fodor, Joyce Lyons, Zetta Mitchelhill, Nell Norman, John Piltz, Barney Zerbst, Connie Waters, Kath Toner, Michael Clark, John Lopez, Edward Ilsley, Josephine Keogh, Jack Hanrahan, Val Lewis, Alan Hulm, Mollie & Roy Jones, Roy Lonergon.
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

Easter Prayer

God of goodness, you know us intimately
And you care for us with great love.
Your love is all embracing
drawing all people together.
May our love be welcoming of all people.
May we be open to your Spirit moving
in unfamiliar ways and in unlikely places.
May we work for that day when all will be drawn
into union with you
the source of all life and love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
the Good Shepherd who leads us
and the Holy Spirit who empowers us.
Amen

Prayer to the Good Shepherd

Faithful Shepherd,
You are not a hireling who runs away at the sight of danger, but Your fidelity was tested and proven on the wood of the Cross.
Accept the gift of our gratitude for Your marvellous care.
Help us to hear and follow Your voice.
Watchful Shepherd, who protects the flock and searches tirelessly for those who wander from the fold, retrieve the lost and bring them home.
Tend and heal their wounds.
Good Shepherd, who lays down His Life for His sheep, nourish Your people with the Bread of Life, that we may reflect Your likeness and enjoy the spring of Living Water that never ends.
Amen



A Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

‘Always have before your eyes the example of the Good Shepherd, who did not come to be served, but to serve and to seek and save what was lost.’

Parish News

Online Mass and Prayer Resources

Options for viewing Mass online:

Website: northsydney Catholics.com then 'Mass on Demand' (Mass 9.00am every day) can be viewed any-time after that. Lavender Bay, North Sydney.

1. Daily Mass: Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn: www.catholicvoice.org.au *Mass celebrated specifically for viewing online.*

2. Daily Mass: Archdiocese of Melbourne: <https://Melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Daily Mass: The 1.00pm Mass is streamed live daily (Mon-Fri) from St Patrick's Cathedral in Melbourne and is then available as a recording on demand until one hour prior to the next 1.00pm Mass.

Sunday Mass: On Sundays, the 11.00am Mass is streamed & also available as a recording on demand.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF SACRED HEART PARISH

I am conscious that all around us people are losing their jobs and that this will create an unprecedented level of stress and anxiety.

Thanks for your continued support of our parish community through your generous contributions to the second collection. It may be some time before we will be able to resume gathering as a Eucharistic community.

If possible please continue to contribute to the financial security of our parish community through the direct deposit scheme. For those using envelopes, if you are able to put away your regular contribution each week and store it until life as we have known it returns to normal, that would be most appreciated.

Planned giving contributions can also be left at the Presbytery during office hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.00am—2.00pm following coronavirus social distancing and medical protocol.

Sacred Heart Bank Account for Parishioner Depositing Church Account Second Collection

Pays insurance and utility accounts. Covers all maintenance and pastoral/liturgical activities expenses.

Internet Transfer

Account Name: Sacred Heart North Albury Church Account

BSB: 066-789; Account Number: 100005574

Description: Surname & Envelop or Planned Giving Number

Presbytery Account First Collection

Pays for household expenses and Priest's Stipends.

Internet Transfer

Account Name: Sacred Heart North Albury Presbytery Account

BSB: 066-789; Account Number: 100005575

Description: Surname

Prayer to the Good Shepherd

Lord of the 23rd Psalm,
I have known death,
And you have refreshed my soul.
I have known fear,
And you have comforted me.
I have known hunger,
And you have set a feast before me.
In the darkest valley no calamity
Of humankind or nature has separated us.
Teach me to walk as you walk
Beside those in mourning
So that they will know joy,
Beside those in fear
That they will know comfort,
Beside those in hunger
That they will feast until their cup overflows.
As your goodness and love follow me,
May mine follow my neighbour
That the threat of the worst terrors
May turn to the knowledge of the comforts
Of the house of the Lord,
Where you have invited us to dwell forever.
And so let me strive to help build on earth
What you have promised us in heaven.
In the face of all calamity, present and yet to come,
Let me lead my neighbour beside quiet waters,
The quiet waters of the Good Shepherd. Amen

UPDATE ON PROPOSED CAPITAL WORKS

The successful tenders for the capital works project as regards Sacred Heart Church are Meredith Roofs (Replacement of Church Roof); O'Connells Refrigeration (Heating/Cooling).

The total cost of the project without added extras is \$174,500 GST inclusive. As previously indicated the project will be funded from our reserves held in the Diocesan Provident Fund. Materials have been ordered. A site meeting for the coming week has been organised by Ian Bennett (Project Manager).

Diocesan Newspaper 'Together' Available Online

The monthly printed issue has been temporarily suspended while churches are closed and schools are in learning from home mode.

The new look 'Together' will be produced on a twice-monthly basis which will be online until our churches and schools open again.

Please let your parishioners know they can access a copy online at:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/togetherwagga

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/togetherwagga>

Website: www.wagga.catholic.org.au/Diocesan-Paper-Together.aspx

For those of you who are unable to access Together on-line, we will endeavour to provide you with a printed copy. Please call our Editor on 0437 738 726 or email: together@wagga.catholic.org.au to request this.

Liturgy of the Word



A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 36–41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number. The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:1–6 R. The Lord is My Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**
You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**
Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
For ever and ever. **R.**



A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 10:1–10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord