



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
30th / 31st January 2021

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

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

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

WEEKDAY MASS: This Week:

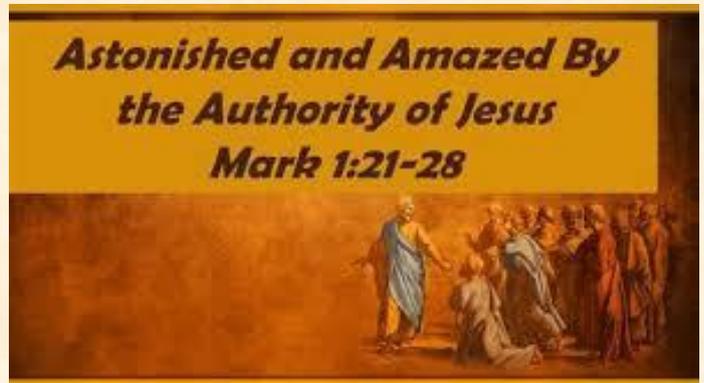
Friday Only 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.

Preparation Course: 0411 883 661



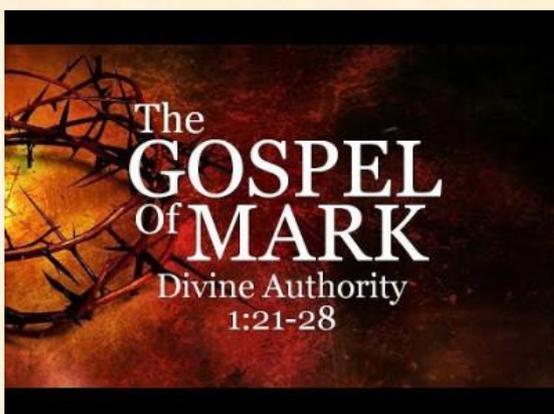
As we live through these days of pandemic, we may be comforted by the words of the Psalmist, who encourages us to listen to the Lord's voice and not to grumble as the Israelites did at Massah and Meribah in the desert.

In the **First Reading**, Moses announces a true prophet speaking God's words and commandments.

In the **Gospel**, we meet this true prophet in the person of Jesus, who teaches the people with authority, making a deep impression on his audience. Even unclean spirits obey him.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul, believing that the end of the world is near, encourages the Corinthians in an attempt to free them from all worry. Whatever their marital status, he urges them to focus their undivided attention on the Lord, showing their devotion to him.

This week I may want to pray for all those who find it difficult to listen to God's voice, especially if God chooses to speak through the people we meet. Perhaps I can also focus on keeping my full attention on the Lord, trusting that he will help me to avoid distractions from the one thing that matters: listening to him.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Miles Borg, Brian Rolfe, Frank

Dunn, Harry Struck, Mark Harrington, Kath Duck, Bill Freestone, Grace Margaret Mackie.

ANNIVERSARIES: Frank O'Rourke, Julie Yonson, Lilian Nicholl, Chum Day, Richard Noel Hickey, George & Margaret Azzi, Donald Murphy, Vivian Duell, Betty Harrison, Barbara Quirk, Ada Duncan, Dorrie Hore, Kevin McAlroy, Nancy Phillips, Brendan Dodd, Les Bright, Josie Favell, Beryl McBrien, Wayne Boyd, Molly McCarthy, Bob Cherry, Peter Carroll, Ben Damhuis, Kevin Hartley, Joan Bruton, Martha Moscher, Ivan Hanrahan, Stephen Kirley, Alice Shanahan, Charles Bowen, Charles Thome, Antonio Audino, Gordon Doubleday,
Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.

Australian Catholic Mass Attendance Report 2016

The National Centre for Pastoral Research has released the full Australian Catholic Mass Attendance Report 2016. The report combines the national count of Mass attendance, plus data from the National Church Life Survey and the Australian national census of 2016.

What do our latest Mass attendance statistics - already five years old - tell us about where the Church in Australia is headed?

Imagine a church in Australia with 100 people in it. As you look around, you will see:

- ◆ 62 of those present are women, and 38 are men.
- ◆ Just six of the 100 present are aged between 15 and 24 years.
- ◆ 45 are over 60 years of age, and 13 are over 80.
- ◆ 57 were born in Australia.
- ◆ 67 are married. 11 are widowed, and five are separated or divorced.
- ◆ 38 have achieved a university education.



*This weekend we welcome into the community of the Christian church through the sacrament of Baptism:
Lincoln William Grove son of Jeremy and Sarah.*

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“His word consoles and encourages us. At the same time it challenges us, frees us from the bondage of our selfishness and summons us to conversion.”

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

Prayer for our Country Australia

Lord God, your Spirit has moved over the face of Australia, and formed from its dust a rolling brown land.

Your Spirit has moved over its warm tropical waters and created a rich diversity of life.

Your Spirit has moved in the lives of men, and women, and children, and given them, from the dreamtime, an affinity with their lands and waters.

Your Spirit has moved in pilgrim people and brought them to a place of freedom and plenty.

Your Spirit moves still today in sprawling, high rise cities, in the vast distances of the outback, and in the ethnic diversity of the Australian people.

Lord God, in the midst of this varied huddle of humanity you have set your church.

Give us, the people you have so richly blessed,

a commitment to justice and peace for all nations;

and a vision of righteousness and equality for all people in our own country. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Parish News

Visitation of Bishop Mark Edwards

Bishop Mark Edwards has expressed his intention to visit all the parish communities in our diocese as soon as is practically possible.

Bishop Mark will be visiting our parish community over the weekend of February 6—7. He will be the main celebrant at both masses over that weekend.

As he has expressed his willingness to meet parishioners in a social context we will hold gatherings in our Parish Hall at the conclusion of our celebration of Eucharist on both Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Proposal:

Saturday Evening: BYO salad / sweet to share. +Parish will provide drinks / cold meat / chicken. So we can calculate numbers please indicate your willingness to attend and indicate whether or not you are able to provide a salad / sweet.

Sunday Morning: Morning tea as per usual. Bring something to share. Tea / coffee provided.

Continuing COVID-19 protocols Re: Recording Church Attendance

In line with current state government requirements QR Codes are available at all the church entrances. Please use the NSW Govt model available on your phone. For those without an electronic device we will continue to use the manual way of recording the required information.

Please ensure that each time you attend a church service the necessary attendance requirements are recorded.

UPDATED COVID-19 DIOCESAN PROTOCOLS

If you are feeling unwell, have a cough or cold, sore throat or flu like symptoms please do not attend our physical gatherings as this puts others as well as yourself at risk.

After having your name registered or ticked off please use the hand sanitiser located at the four entrance points of the church at the beginning of our liturgical celebration and as you leave the church building.

Communion will begin with those on the car park side and then move to those seated on the Swan Street side. Please allow space between each recipient.

AUSTRALIA DAY

PRAYER

We bless you, God of the universe, for this land; for its contrasts of landscape and climate, for its abundance of wealth and opportunity.

We bless you for our history, its courage and hope. Give us, in our diversity, tolerance and respect for each other and a passionate commitment to justice for all.

Bless us so that we might be a blessing to others.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Lenten Discussion Groups

The Season of Lent begins with the commemoration of Ash Wednesday on February 17.

Once again it is our intention to hold Lenten Discussion groups on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in our Parish Hall from 7.00pm. Please indicate your intention to participate in one of the groups by signing the sheet at the Swan Street entrance or by email so that we can order the required materials. If anyone is interested in a group meeting for discussion in their home please contact the parish office.

Return of the Roster System Commentators/Readers/Eucharistic Ministers/ Counters Needed

As a new year begins within the confines of a COVID-19 world we will try to return to a roster system for Readers/Commentators/Eucharistic Ministers and Counters from early February.

This weekend you will be able to volunteer your services to be a Reader/Commentator/Eucharistic minister at either the 6.00pm or 9.30am Mass.

We urgently need to restock our supply of counters (2nd Collection). While usually this has been completed on Monday morning (9.00am) in the parish office, it is also possible to carry out this ministry of service after mass Sunday morning.

Please consider sharing your gifts and talents and contributing to the pastoral life of our parish community as you are able.

Alternatively, you can email the parish office with your preference for participating in any of these ministries of service.

Men's Breakfast—February 13th (2nd Sat of month)

Held at St James Hall, Lavington. Open 7.45am for 8.00am Grace. Speaker: John Keogh—testimony.

Please observe any current Covid-19 regulations.

If you would like to volunteer to help with set-up, cooking or cleaning up please phone Bruce 0427 706 756 to put your name for preference of duties.

Sacred Heart Bank Account for Parishioner Deposits 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

Liturgy of the Word

First reading Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'" The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9

*Response: If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
With songs let us hail the Lord. **R**

Come in, let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' **R**

A reading from the first letter of the St Paul to the Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the Lord's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.
The word of the Lord.



Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia , alleluia!
A people in darkness have seen a great light:
a radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came, he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new,' they said, 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside. The Gospel of the Lord.