



Sacred Heart Parish, North Albury, pays respect to the Wiradjuri people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. We acknowledge with respect elders past, present and emerging.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9th/ 10th October 2021

Parish Clergy

Fr Martin Cruickshank Parish Priest

Parish Office

Gemma Whitehead—Monday

Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday, Friday

9.00 am – 2.00 pm

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Mass Times

In order to help comply with NSW government health orders **NO** public or private masses with a congregation (with the exception of funerals) from Monday 11 October until Monday 25 October.

Live-streaming of Sunday 9.30 mass 10th October at Sacred Heart by accessing our website.

Live-streaming of mass in Diocese of Wagga Wagga on Sunday 17 October and Sunday 24 October from St Michael's Cathedral **only** at 9.30am on YouTube at:

<https://youtu.be/vFxmX1ui16A>

Plenary Council

During the last week the Fifth Plenary Council of the Australian Catholic Church assembled for the first time. Getting to this point has been a long process that began three & a half years ago. We now seem to live in a different country, in a different age. Its planning and initial stages began before the bushfires, before coronavirus, before the restrictions and lockdowns that have been part of our daily lives. It was conceived as a process that would bring people together personally in their local churches and finally in large gatherings. Its final stage come when people cannot gather to celebrate Mass in much of Australia and the members of the Council will meet electronically.

In the face of so much change it is helpful to remind ourselves of what the Council is about and what we might hope for from it. Pastoral councils are held from time to time in the Church to discuss issues of national importance for the Church. This is the first to be held in Australia since 1937. Their structure was regulated at a time when it was conceived as a gathering of Bishops, but it takes place when Pope Francis has pressed for Church governance in which all Catholics are involved. In this Council only Bishops will vote on its decisions and clergy and Religious form the majority of the Council members. Despite these limitations, the preparations for the Council tried to involve as many Catholics as possible at parish level, in naming the main issues facing the Church today, giving feedback in the preparation of material for the Council discussions. Lay people from each diocese will be among the members of the Council.

This complex process began with a simple question: "What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?" The question is deliberately broad: it can be asked of the internal life of the Church as it is expressed in our liturgy, teaching, parish and diocesan organisation and decision making. It can also be asked, as Pope Francis has emphasised, about the relationship of the Church to the wider society in our outreach to people who are not Catholic or marginalised by society, and in our contribution to public life and conversation.

At the Council, the members will have the benefit of the feedback from people in its earlier stages. They will be expected to take account not only of what we have said but of the passion with which we have brought to particular issues.

What might we hope that the Council will deliver? Pope Francis has recently spoken much of his own hopes. He is more concerned with good process than with good conclusions. He does not see the Council as a parliamentary meeting in which positions are debated and decided by vote. He sees them as exercises in listening in which all present are taken beyond their initial convictions. People may continue to differ but they will have recognised deeper truths behind the difference. In this respect we all will be listening for the voice of the Spirit.

That process puts much emphasis on reflective prayer. This does not mean saying more prayers but making more space for reflection on what people have heard and said and on our own inner response. We do not stop at the point of agreement or disagreement but keep listening to what is being said beyond the



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Marg Caton, Margaret Doyle, Tony Whiting, Cath Godde, Jim Sheahan, Val Bullock, Pat O'Shaughnessy, Argentina Ranocchia, Howard Nash, Tony Scamell, Margaret Harris, Una Murphy Noel Fielder, Stanislaw Adamczewski, Tom Van Lieshout.

ANNIVERSARIES: Lindsay Beck, Betty Healy, Bessie Stephenson, Reginald Gard, Sr Patricia O'Connor, Kathleen Yensch, Josephine Frauenfelder, Margaret Newman, Lois Ferris, Bill Toohey, John Stapleton, Fred Sheather, Emilie Lautenbacher, Nicholas McLeod-Nibbs, Raymond Piltz, Drahoslov Molinek, Andreas Christy, Shirley McNuff, Algy Arendarcikas, Margaret Wills, Leo Plunkett, Mary & Les Davies. *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: 9th / 10th October		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Paula Waters Kellie & Jasmine Gordes	Bede Hart Ann McIntyre Liz Phegan
Eucharistic Ministers	Sr Loretta Corrigan	Trish Parkinson
Cantor Musicians	John van Lint Judy Foley	David Hicks Val Hayes
Counters: Carey Menz-Dowling & John Dowling (Sunday) Group 2		

Prayer for the Plenary Council

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
Come, Holy Spirit of the great
South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your
people in Australia and guide us
on the pilgrim way of the Plenary
Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face
in one another and to recognise
Jesus, our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our
stories and to speak boldly of your
truth. Give us ears to listen humbly
to each other and a discerning
heart to hear what you are saying.*

*Lead your Church into a hope-
filled future, that we may live the
joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus
Christ our Lord, bread for the
journey from age to age. Amen.
Our Lady Help of Christians, pray
for us.*

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us



*This weekend we welcome into
the community of the Christian
church through the sacrament
of Baptism:*

Oaklen Harvey Owen Walsh son of Jodee & Jared and **James Patrick Griffiths** son of Matthew & Grace.

(con't from front page) words and behind our own instinctive response. The Council relies on a process of listening enriched and purified through prayer.

Over the sessions of the Council multiple answers to the simple question with which the process began will emerge and be refined. They shall then need to be received by people like us at the grass roots. It is understandable that many people have been skeptical about the Council. It takes a lot of trust in the Holy Spirit to invest effort and to place hope in such a process. But who better to trust? (Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ)

Parish News

Letter from the Bishop of Wagga Wagga

6 October 2021 Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

According to the NSW roadmap for the whole of state re-opening, during the fortnight from Monday 11 October until Monday 25 October only the fully vaccinated are permitted to enter churches. (Monday 11 October is the Monday after 70% of the eligible population is fully vaccinated and Monday 25 October is the Monday after 80% will be completely vaccinated.)

I direct that the Diocese, the Parishes and the clergy in the diocese follow the NSW government public health orders. After receiving advice, I have decided that it is too onerous to ask parishes to monitor and implement compliance in respect to vaccination status. Also, the Church, the sacrament of communion, should not be separating people as they come to Mass. Further, excluding some Catholics from worship has the potential to cause long lasting upset and division. Thus, given the brief duration of this regulation, I have taken the grave and sad decision to direct that in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga there will be no public or 'private' Masses with a congregation taking place and that our churches will close between Monday 11 October and Sunday 24 October inclusive.

For similar reasons, our chapels of adoration will also close. Our churches can be opened for funerals and weddings and these will follow the Public Health Orders. From Monday 25 October, our Churches are again open to our entire community and regular Masses and other services will resume.

As a way of celebrating our unity in Christ, on Sunday 17 October and again on Sunday 24 October, in the diocese there will be one live-streamed Mass from the Cathedral at 9am on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/vFxmX1ui16A> I invite you to join me for these Masses. This is an opportunity to celebrate our union as the pilgrim people who have their eyes fixed on the Lord. We will be explicitly the one body of Christ and remain united in this time of tension. This is an opportunity. Let us pray these Masses as the one Church of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

I encourage those who are hesitant about receiving a vaccine to see their family doctor to discuss receiving it. Your doctor will give advice that is appropriate for you. Your priests and I will be offering Mass for you during this time. In Jesus Christ and Mary Immaculate. *Bishop Mark Edwards*

First Holy Communion

Once again in order to comply with current state government Covid-19 regulations it has been necessary to defer the celebration of the Sacrament of First Eucharist at Sacred Heart. Hopefully, we will be able to set some new dates in the coming week. Parents of candidates will be informed by email of the new proposed dates as soon as practically possible.

Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council

Thanks to those who have committed themselves to serving on the Parish Pastoral Council in 2021—2022. The new members are as follows: Ed Brown (President), Fr Martin (Parish Priest), Karen Purtle (Secretary), Bede Hart (St Anne's), Catherine Cutler, Louise Fifield, Sr Anne Hagan, Lyn Hamilton, Joseph Kipper, Susan McLaurin, Carey Menz-Dowling, Adrian Mitchellhill, Narelle Naughton, Cathy Nyhan, Michael Regan, Brian Waters, Chris Wenke and Lorraine Willis.

A new date for when Parish Council can meet face to face will be confirmed in the coming week.



Plenary Council: First Assembly October 3-10.

From Sunday 3 October until Sunday 10 October, the Catholic Church in Australia will gather for the first Assembly of the Plenary Council which will primarily be conducted in the virtual environment of Microsoft Teams. The Plenary Council is an opportunity for us to look forward in hope to the renewal of the Catholic Church in Australia.

The Plenary Council will mark an ongoing process of reform and renewal which will hopefully herald a 'new Pentecost' for the Church.

Finally, Synodality is passing from the "I" to the "we" with the focus on serving the common good in a spirit of listening, discernment, reconciliation and healing.

It is a spirituality of pilgrimage which we will experience in our local context and culture. To a significant extent, our Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council is an example of synodality, where as co-leaders with co-responsibility, we are called to **listen, discern, reflect and review**.

Please pray for the 'success' of the Plenary Council as we 'listen for the whisper of the Holy Spirit guiding our Church on this journey'. *Ed Brown (Plenary Council Member)*

Paper copies of a homily given by Fr Frank Brennan SJ reflecting on the possibilities and complexities of the Plenary Council are available for collection n at the church entrances. Also Geraldine Dougue has an excellent podcast series. Each evening Geraldine reflects on the day's events of the plenary sessions and interviews delegates. i.e Plenary Matters Ep 4 Lay Women at the Council; Ep 6 Diagnosis & Change. Also by accessing the Plenary Council website www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au there are reflections covering the issues arising from each day's session.

Liturgy of the Word

First reading : Book of Wisdom 7: 7-11

I prayed and understanding was given to me; I entreated and the spirit of Wisdom came to me. I esteemed her more than sceptres and thrones; compared with her, I held riches as nothing. I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, I held riches as nothing. I reckoned no priceless stone to be her peer, for compared with her, all gold is a pinch of sand, and beside her silver ranks as mud. I loved her more than health or beauty, preferred her to the light, since her radiance never sleeps. In her company all good things came to me, at her hands riches not to be numbered.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 89

(When the Psalm is sung, the words will vary slightly but the meaning remains the same.)

Response: Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Make us know the shortness of our life,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
Show pity to your servants. **R**

In the morning, fill us with your love;
We shall exult and rejoice all our day.
Give us joy to balance our affliction
for the years when we knew misfortune. **R**

Show forth your work to your servants;
Let your glory shine on their children
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
Give success to the work of our hands. **R**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews 4:12-13

The word of God is something alive and active: it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely: it can slip through the place where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow; it can finely judge the secret emotions and thoughts. No created thing can hide from him; everything is uncovered and open to the eyes of the one to whom we must give account of ourselves.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 10:17-30

Jesus was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You must not kill; You must not commit adultery; You must not steal; You must not bring false witness; You must not defraud; Honour your father and mother.' And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these from my earliest days.' Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him, and he said, 'There is one thing you lack. Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, 'How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!' The disciples were astounded by these words, but Jesus insisted, 'My children,' he said to them, 'how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' They were more astonished than ever. 'In that case', they said to one another, 'who can be saved?' Jesus gazed at them. 'For men and women', he said, 'it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God.' Peter took this up. 'What about us? We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land—not with-out persecutions—now in this present time and in the world to come, eternal life!'

The Gospel of the Lord.