



*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.*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent  
17th / 18th December 2022*

**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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**Bank A/c Details for Parishioners wishing to Direct Deposit:** Church A/c: BSB: 066 789; A/c No: 10000 5574 Ref No: Please contact Office for a number or add your surname & initial.  
Presbytery A/c: BSB: 066 789; A/c No: 10000 5575

**Mass Times**

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

Live-streaming on Sunday 9.30am Mass by accessing our website.

WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:

Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

Tuesday: Christmas Mass and Anointing at Mercy Place Chapel 11.00am. All welcome to attend.

(Negative RAT test required before entry)

**CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MASS—9.00PM**

Singers are required to help form a choir for our celebration of 9.00pm Christmas Eve Mass. Practice of the carols to be sung will take place beforehand in the Church from 8.30pm.

All voices welcome!!

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

*Lighting of the Fourth  
Advent Candle*



**Priest:** As we gather this day we

feel love in the explicable and the extraordinary. We celebrate the wonder of what could be just as Mary sang: ‘My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.’

It is with this love that our souls unite to magnify the good news so full of blessing in the lighting of this fourth candle of Advent, the candle of love.

***Fourth Candle is lit***

**All sing Christ be our light.**

**ALL:** We light this candle to celebrate our love, joy and peace for the world. Like Mary, we might hesitate and be cautious with our praise but when we remember what God has done we can only sing with joy and love. Eternal God, who magnifies each of us, surprise us with your love, joy and peace in these last days before Christmas. Warm our hearts to feel the joy and peace of your presence in our lives and in our world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Irene Matthews, Brian Sefton, Rom Hayes, Roger Lescun, Leone Bocquet, Joan Trescowthick, Len Soule, Marlene Plummer, Edith Alvarado.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Fr Kevin Flanagan, Sr Therma MACE, Ellen Keane, Leo Keane, Peter Gibbs, Keith Groth, Joan Krautz, Oswald Stenson, Geoff O'Brien, Wendy Murphy, Annette Power, Linus Drew, Stan Deveney, Frederick Mackay, Gavin Surridge, Chris Thumpston, Ruby O'Keefe, Tom O'Rourke, Lyn Maloney, Eric Low, Owen Drysdale, Frederick Lindsay, Benjamin Orman, Fr Michael Buckdale, Kathleen Frauenfelder, Marlene Clee, Jane Hill, Harry Collins, Beryl Splatt, Norm Frauenfelder.

*Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.*



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

**Rosannah and Elowen Sharpe**  
daughters of Phillip and Caitlin

**Matilda Grace Cameron**  
daughter of Luke and Jane

## ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 17th / 18th December

| Ministry   | Vigil                            | 9.30am                                       |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Commentator</b>                                 | Adrian Mitchelhill               | Cathy Nyhan                                  |
| <b>Lector 1</b>                                    | Paula Waters                     | Tammy Robertson                              |
| <b>Lector 2</b>                                    | Michael Byrnes                   | Liz Phegan                                   |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                       | Justin Clancy<br>Jeneice Harding | Fran Kernaghan<br>Marisa Hart<br>Moira Porta |
| <b>Cantor</b>                                      | Judy Lindsay                     | Bob Mathews/Mary Buckley                     |
| <b>Musicians</b>                                   | Judy Foley                       |  |
| <b>Counters: Anne Gordes &amp; Lorraine Willis</b> |                                  |  |

Sat / Sun: 24th / 25th December

| Ministry                           | Vigil   | 9.30am  |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Commentator</b>                 | <b>Christmas Roster on table—Swan St side</b><br><i>(put your name down if you are available for any of the masses)</i> | <b>Christmas Roster on table—Swan St side</b><br><i>(put your name down if you are available for any of the masses)</i> |
| <b>Lector 1</b><br><b>Lector 2</b> |   |   |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>       |   |   |
| <b>Cantor</b><br><b>Musicians</b>  |   |   |
| <b>Counters:</b>                   |   |   |

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

“As we admire Mary for her response to God’s call to mission, we ask her to help each of us to welcome God’s plan into our lives with sincere humility and brave generosity. ”

## Advent Prayer

As we enter the last week of Advent, we quietly reflect on the mystery of the incarnation.

We rest in awe, in wonder, at how our God entered our world and came to be with us.

We pause to receive the gift offered us: that the Spirit of God will open up our lives and that Jesus will really come into our hearts.

May we have watchful hope today, believing what the Lord promises us.

Let us pray today, that we might be God’s servants, that we might be instruments of God’s LOVE for our families and all we encounter this week.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Amen



# Parish News

## Christmas Mass Times 2022

### Christmas Eve (Sat 24 Dec)

**6.00pm—St Francis Xavier Centre (hall)  
Xavier High School.**

*(This Mass will be live-streamed)*

*Entry via Currawong Street, Curlew Crescent (Bus Bay area) or Fallon Street.*

*While there is ample seating, there is still plenty of room on the sides for those who wish to bring a picnic blanket and sit with their family in this way.*

### **9.00pm—Sacred Heart Church**

### Christmas Day (Sun 25 Dec)

### **9.30am—Sacred Heart Church**

## To Ponder: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Only through faith do we see God, and through faith God is revealed to us. Our readings describe certain attributes of faith that help us maintain a stance of readiness in our lives. In the responsorial psalm, it is the one “whose hands are sinless” and “whose heart is clean” who can seek and stand confidently before God.

For Paul, the cornerstone of faith is obedience, which begins with the openness to hear God’s call and then respond. Joseph’s selflessness and mercy beyond any sense of personal injustice give him the freedom to hear and respond to God’s voice. Soon, Christmas will be here, God-with-us. As we continue to ready ourselves, how is our faith? How free are we to see, hear, and respond.

## St Clare’s Conference North Albury—Christmas Appeal

Donations of gifts (unwrapped) suitable for children to the age of 12 years, cash, donations or festive food items for distribution to members of our local community who are in need can be left in the baskets at the entrance doors around the church by this Sunday 18 December.

**Columban Calendars \$10 each are still available on table near Sacred Heart window.**

## Prayers of Thanksgiving

Let us pray in thanksgiving for our Year 6 students from St Anne’s who participated in their Graduation ceremony last Monday evening. Their excitement and enthusiasm was tangible as they supported and encouraged one another as reflections were read and awards given.

Let us pray for all our young women and men who received HSC results in recent days particularly those attending Xavier High School. May they be open to the pathways that will enable them to live life to the full.

Both our school staffs at St Anne’s and Xavier are to be commended not only for their adept teaching skills but more importantly for the pastoral care and guidance provided.

## Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers & Commentators

A roster is provided for you to put your name down if you can help with either Christmas Eve Mass (9pm) or Christmas Day Mass (9.30am). Swan Street entrance.

## Ecumenical Advent Prayer Service

You are invited to attend our ecumenical Community Carol Service representing the variety of faiths in our region, emphasising that peace and goodwill belong to everyone.

This carols and readings service will be held at St Matthew’s Anglican Church this Sunday 18 December at 5.00pm.

## From the Bishop’s Office

Fr Reece Beltrame provides the following update: ‘Although the surgery to remove as much of the tumour as possible from my brain was successful, the subsequent biopsy has revealed that the nature of the tumour was a high grade recurring cancerous one. This diagnosis is on the more serious end of the spectrum. The doctors have advised me to receive treatment for this which I have already started.’

Please keep Reece, his parents and family in your prayers during this difficult time.

## Personnel Appointments

Fr Marco Killingsworth is appointed Administrator of Mulwala/Barooga/Berrigan from 18 January 2023.

Fr Jomer Calma is appointed Assistant priest at St Patrick’s Albury from 18 January 2023.

Deacon Michael Perry is appointed to St Patrick’s Albury.

Fr Luke Joseph is appointed Administrator of Urana/Oaklands in addition to being Parish priest of Lockhart from 18 January 2023.

Fr Andrew Grace is appointed to the Council of Priests to the end of this current term.

Fr Anthony Dunn is appointed to the Council of Priests and the College of Consultors to the end of their respective terms.

Fr Kevin O’Reilly is appointed as Spiritual Director at Vianney College Seminary for 2023.

## Christmas Music Old and New

The Murray Concert Choir will present a feast of Christmas music in concerts Saturday Dec. 17 at St Matthew’s at 7.30 pm and Sunday Dec. 18 at St John’s Wodonga at 2.30 pm. Renowned conductor Guy Noble will direct the choir while Paul Tasker will conduct the chamber orchestra.

The feature item is Charpentier’s Midnight Mass.

Tickets are available on line (see the posters in the church), at the Cinema Centre, from choir members or at the door: \$25, \$20 concession, U18 free.

## Australian Catholics—Summer Edition

Free copies available for collection at all church entrances. Pope Francis has said that each vocation in the church and in broader society contributes to a common objective to celebrate among women and men that harmony of manifold gifts that can only be brought about by the Holy Spirit. This edition explores how the Holy Spirit works in those called to priestly and religious life, to marriage and to inspire others through their chosen profession or by volunteering.

# Liturgy of the Word

## **First reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14**

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered, 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of humankind without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' The word of the Lord

## **Responsorial Psalm 24**

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

**Response: Let the Lord enter: he is king of glory**

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,  
the world and all its peoples.  
It is he who set it on the seas;  
on the waters he made it firm. **R**

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?  
Who shall stand in his holy place?  
The man with clean hands and pure heart,  
who desires not worthless things. **R**

He shall receive blessings from the Lord  
and reward from the God who saves him.  
Such are the men who seek him,  
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R**



## **A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans**

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace The word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
A virgin will give birth to a son;  
His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.  
Alleluia!

## **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 1: 18-24**

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,  
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.

When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home. The Gospel of the Lord.