



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.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

31st December 2022 / 1st January 2023

Parish Clergy

Fr Martin Cruickshank Parish Priest

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/>

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: 100005575.

Mass Times

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6.00 pm

SUNDAY: 9.30 am

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

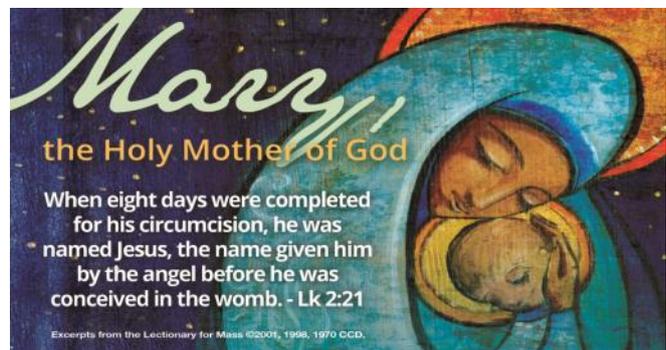
WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:

Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.



Liturgically, the Octave of Christmas commemorates: the Solemnity of the Mother of God; the day designated for prayers for global peace; and the beginning of the New Year. Though the shepherds gain insight into the presence of God by seeing this holy family, it is Mary who holds all these things in her heart. She is the one who ponders the significance of these mysterious events. Mary becomes for Christians an inspiration of contemplation and reflection. She inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events, lest we go blandly through life without meaning or direction. She inspires us to fidelity to the practices of our faith, practices which are the disciplines of soul that lead the community to a clearer focus on God's presence in human affairs.

The theme of peace appears today on many levels. Its meaning, 'fullness of life', bursts forth in every one of the readings. The ancient prayer or blessing of peace is an appropriate start for the New Year. It resonates well with the angels' wish for people of good will. Peace is also our inheritance in Christ. As adopted children of God, we have been given the freedom to live in a godly manner, calling God our *Abba*. Right relationships in the covenant activity of God are the pathways of peace. The beginning of a New Year is a good time to reach out to others and to pray for God's blessing of peace for each dimension of human encounter.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Augustine Ryan, Maureen Brown, Graeme Johnstone, Diana Ashley, Irene Matthews, Brian Sefton, Rom Hayes, Roger Lescun, Leone Bocquet.

ANNIVERSARIES: Kevin Flanagan, Ross Smith, John Sykes, Susan Lally, Eileen Howard, Dawn Robison, Kerryn Mildren, John Mamouney, John Cronin, Miroslav Student, Bert Coyle, Trish Carmody, Daniel Darcey, Brian O'Donoghue, Peter McKee, Peter Leipins, Veronica Fagg, Catherine Glennon, Badea Ghosn, Joan Dougheney, Barbara Robertson, Fred Owen, Agnes Armstrong, Frank Lacey, Catherine Weldon, James Whitehead.
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: 31st December / 1st January

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Colleen Day	Sr Carina Morton
Lector 1	Justin Clancy	Brigita Serbinek
Lector 2	Volunteer	
Eucharistic Ministers	Pauline Mulquiney Michael Regan	Sue Betts Noelene Cruise Mercedes Goss
Cantor	John Van Lint	Simon Goss
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters		

Sat / Sun: 7th / 8th January

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Adrian Mitchelhill	Roy Thompson
Lector 1	Volunteers	Ann McIntyre
Lector 2		Liz Phegan
Eucharistic Ministers	Jeneice Harding Patricia Hopkins	Gemma Whitehead Sue McLaurin Narelle Naughton
Cantor	Brian Waters	Ed, Margy, Heath & Don
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Lachlan McIntyre & Wendy McFerran (Sunday)		

Blessing upon the New Year

Lord,
At the beginning of this new year, I offer you my life.
Come take my voice, may the words I speak be filled with encouragement and goodness.
Come take my hands, may the work they create be generous and giving.
Come take my feet, may the journeys I walk be led by your Spirit within.
Come take my life Lord, for I love your goodness, your kindness and your leading.
Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us.
May all your plans succeed so that we may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing.
Amen.

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“look toward the new year of 2023 grateful for what we have received, repentant for our failings and resolute to work with God's grace to better our lives, our communities and ourselves”.



Parish News

We Welcome you to our New Year celebrations. This season provides us with a unique opportunity to contemplate the mystery of God's love. That love finds its manifestation in us, our families and in our celebrating community. As we prepare to enter a New Year we are reminded of the need to care for those who live on the margins of society - those who need to discover not our judgement, but God's mercy and hope.

May 2023 lead you to discover and share the peace and happiness which only God can give and which is reflected by our journey of faith.

Thanks to all of you for continuing to live and share your faith within our Sacred Heart Parish community. A special mention needs to be made for those who walk that extra mile so that we might continue to proclaim Christ's presence in our midst with sure and certain hope. Your efforts are much appreciated and valued.

A big thank you to all who helped prepare and participated in any way in our Christmas Masses.

Our liturgies are always enhanced by those who share their musical giftedness. We are so fortunate that our 6.00pm Christmas Eve family mass at Xavier and our two masses in Sacred Heart had the benefit of live carols, melodious voices and vibrant musical instruments.

A Christmas Prayer

God of many happy returns, thank you for finding a home among us,

For drawing us all to the side of your manger where we share your arrival

With smelly creatures and simple shepherds.

Christmas is a busy time, often burdened with crazy expectations.

There is no such thing as a perfect family.

Emotions can be raw.

Give us a few quiet moments today to light a candle for you and place it on that modest cake we have made with our lives, where you bring light.

On we that live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. Amen

(From Michael McGirr 'Doorways into Hope & Joy')

Prayer For Ukraine

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, Prince of Peace. Amen
Anglican Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

ALL: We light the Christ candle to celebrate and thank you for sending this Child to be Emmanuel, God among us. We join the chorus of angels with our glad tidings and great joy. God has been made real, God has come close. Holy God we rejoice in your presence and pray for wonder and delight. We live in **HOPE**, we pray for **PEACE**, we share your **LOVE** as we are filled with **JOY**. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Heartbeat—A Newsletter of the Sacred Heart Parish Community

The Christmas edition of 'Heartbeat', the reflective journey of our parish community is available for collection at the church entrances. It can also be downloaded by accessing the parish website.

Thanks to those who contributed ideas and articles. Much gratitude is expressed to Karen Purtle for her editorial and organisational input.

Catholic Mission: Reach Out-Give Life

If you're seeking to give a gift that gives back as a New Year begins Life-Giving Gifts represent a variety of mission projects supported by Catholic Mission around the world. By purchasing Life-Giving Gifts for your loved ones, you are not only showing them how much you care for them, but you are also making an incredible difference for those in need. <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/gifts2020/tax-deductible-gifts-education>

Mission Today is a magazine that celebrates our international network of missionaries. You will find the latest edition at this link: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/news/publications/mission-today-december-2022>

May the wonder of the first Christmas, the joy of God's abundant blessings and the peace of Jesus' presence be with you always. *Jane Plum (Diocesan Director Wagga Catholic Mission).*

Christmas Poem

Loving Father, help us share in the song of angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the magi Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, and sharing your goodwill for all people. Amen

Columban Callendars—are still available on the table near Sacred Heart window. \$10 each

Diocesan Newspaper—Together

December Edition available at all entrances

Happy New Year

Liturgy of the Word

First reading: Book of Numbers

The Lord spoke to Moses and said., 'Say this to Aaron an his sons 'This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace.'"

This is how they are to call down my name on the sons of Israel and I will bless them.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 66

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

Response: May God bless us in his mercy.

God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **R**

Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **R**

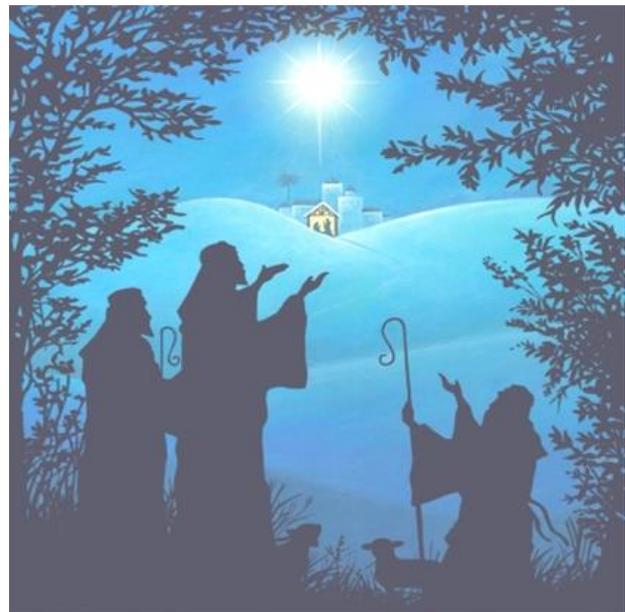
Let the peoples praise you O God;
Let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **R**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
In the past God spoke to our ancestors through
the prophets;
now he speaks to us through his Son.
Alleluia!

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Galatians

When the appointed time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law and to enable us to be adopted as sons. The proof that you are sons is that God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts: the Spirit that cries, 'Abba Father', and it is this that makes you a son, you are not a slave any more; and if God has made you son, then he has made you heir.
The word of the Lord.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 2: 16-21

The shepherds hurried away to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

When the eighth day came and the child was to be circumcised, they gave him the name Jesus, the name the angel had given him before his conception.

The Gospel of the Lord.