



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.

Third Sunday of Advent—Gaudete Sunday *10th / 11th 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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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: 10000 5575

Third Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle



Priest: We come to together in the joy of God's love. We have often felt so misunderstood and even unloved, but today we marvel in the joy that begins in God. We celebrate this joy in the words of the Prophet Isaiah:

'They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces for the Lord will be with them.'

Third Candle is lit

All listen or sing Christ be our light.

ALL: We light this candle to celebrate your joy that unites all people. We pray that all people might experience this kind of joy that surpasses all understanding. Loving God, pour into our hearts this day the light of your joy warming us to one another, enlightening our understanding of others and revealing the joy that guards our hearts and minds.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

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

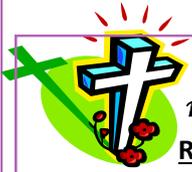
RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Rom Hayes, Roger Lescun, Leone Bocquet, Joan Trescowthick, Len Soule, Marlene Plummer, Edith Alvarado.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Jim Victory, Sr Marie Duffy, Ernest Elias, Imelda Phegan, Kent Van Every, Michael Murphy, Marie Carter, Geoffrey Jervois Snr, Irene Unger, Lillian Clear, Len Syphers, Maria Klaus, Gerarda Van Dijk, George McShane, Nell Seymour, Charlotte Roberts, Lucy Freeman, Nell Martin, Jason Black, Francis Clancy, Ray Corrigan, Francis Henry, John Muldoon, Lesley Beach, Peter Guthrie.

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:

Henry, Grace & William Wild children of Glenn & Jessica

Harriet Marie Mills daughter of Nicholas & Natalie

Harper May Sharp daughter of Matthew & Kayla

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 10th / 11th December

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Sr Carina Morton	Roy Thompson
Lector 1	Volunteers	Sr Patricia Weekes
Lector 2		John Dowling
Eucharistic Ministers	Anna Farrell Jeneice Harding	Carey Menz-Dowling Cathy Nyhan Dianne Treacy
Cantor	Brian Waters	Bernadette & Wendy
Musicians	Judy Foley	
Counters: Margaret Brown & Moira Porta		

Sat / Sun: 17th / 18th December

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

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“Advent invites us to a commitment to vigilance, looking beyond ourselves, expanding our mind and heart in order to open ourselves up to the needs of people, of brothers and sisters, and to the desire for a new world. It is the desire of many people tormented by hunger, by injustice and by war.”

Advent Prayer

Precious Lord, as I embrace this Advent Season, please open my eyes to see the great value and blessing of Your Incarnation.

Help me to discover Your hidden presence in this world and within my own soul. I desire to see, understand and experience the profound effects that Your Incarnation has on my life and I desire to receive those effects more fully this Advent.

May I become a sanctuary in which You dwell so that I, like Your dear Mother, may bring Your presence into the world.

My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my King and God.

I abandon myself to You and seek to put all my trust in Your tender care.

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

Farewell, Rom Hayes

Thanks to all those who helped in any way with our celebration of Rom's life. In particular, gratitude is extended to our organist, Judy Foley and our Sacred Heart Choir for lifting us up on eagle's wings.

A few words from Val

I have been overwhelmed with the generosity of the Sacred Heart Parish. My grateful thanks to Fr Martin, To Judy and the choir, and the number of people who sent flowers and food to my home and to the wake.

If I fail to personally thank you for your support, please believe that it has been impossible to keep track of who brought what to the house or the wake.

I am very grateful for all the prayers and humbled by the support and generosity of our great Parish Community.

Val Hayes & Family

To Ponder: Third Sunday of Advent

John's question to Jesus is an honest one: "Are you the one who is to come?" Jews of Jesus's time believed the messiah's arrival would mimic the imagery from Isaiah: the messiah would swoop down in glory and power, righting the world and saving the people from corrupt social systems. Yet Jesus did not come (and will not return!) according to these literal expectations.

Thousands of years later, we join first-century believers in awaiting the Messiah's return. Our readings describe key qualities to cultivate in the meantime: joy, patience, ethical behaviour, the ability to be prophetic witnesses in our world. But how real does this return seem to us? John lived in expectation of a "yes" to his question.

Do we?

As you pray with the readings this week, ponder and savour this message of joy. How do you experience this wellspring in your life?

Alpha's Christmas Gathering/Party

We are holding our Alpha gathering on Tuesday 13th December at 7.00pm in the parish hall. An invitation to all Alpha guests, volunteers and parishioners.

You are all invited to come along and help us celebrate and give thanks for the success of the parish Alpha program held this year and the birth of our Saviour at Christmas. Bring a supper plate/finger food to share, drinks provided. Everyone welcome.

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.

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.

St Clare's Conference North Albury Christmas Appeal

With Christmas approaching and the demand for our services increasing, we again ask for your support with donations of gifts (unwrapped) suitable for children to the age of 12 years; cash donation or festive food items. These will be distributed to members of our local community who are in need. Baskets will be placed at the doors of the Church during December.

Columban Calendars—\$10.00 each available at the back of the church. NO Christmas cards available this year.

Christmas Music Old and New

The Murray Concert Choir will present a feast of Christmas music in concerts at Walla Lutheran church on Friday Dec. 16 at 7.30 pm; 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.

Heartbeat

All articles, photos for inclusion by deadline Monday 12 December to Karen by email bevispurtle@internode.on.net so that proof reading and printing can take place.

John Hossack— Memorial Service

We are holding a Memorial Service for the families we serve and you are Invited As We Remember You and Your Loved Ones at Christmas. Please bring a special ornament to place on the Christmas Memorial Tree, and if you would like a photo of your loved one in our photo tribute please email a picture with your loved ones name to Tracey before 4pm on 12 December. The service will be held in the Hume Chapel at John Hossack's at 435 Wilson Street, Albury on Thursday 15 December at 6.30pm. Following the service the staff warmly invite you to join them in our Cedar Room for light refreshments. Phone 02 6041 3855 or email: tbastin@hossackfunerals.com.au

Liturgy of the Word

First reading: Isaiah 35: 1-6,10

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and bloom, let it bring forth flowers, like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy. The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God. Strengthen all weary hands, steady all trembling knees and say to the faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy, for those the Lord has ransomed shall return. They will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them and sorrow and lament be ended.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 145

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

Response: Lord, come and save us

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
Who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **R**

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
who raises up those who are bowed down.
The Lord, who protects the stranger
and upholds the widow and orphan. **R**

It is the Lord who loves the just
But thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God from age to age. **R**

A reading from the Letter of James 5; 7-10

Be patient, sisters and brothers, until the Lord's coming.

Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, sisters and brothers, so as not to be brought to judgment yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, sisters and brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord..

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 11: 2-11

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the one who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? Someone wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

The Gospel of the Lord.