



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.

The Ascension of the Lord
20th/ 21st May 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 into our Church A/c (2nd Collect)
BSB: 066 789; A/c No: 10000 5574; Ref No:
Please contact Office for a number.

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.

CHILDRENS LITURGY

Children’s liturgy is offered in Sacred Heart parish community each second and fourth Sunday during school terms.

ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART

We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from ‘time immemorial’, and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a *spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or ‘mother nature’, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.* It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years? With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia’s nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. *This is the torment of powerlessness.*

We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a *rightful* place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution. Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: *the coming together after a struggle.* It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice & self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ben Darby, Terry Ryan, Ron Gale, Theo Smit, Terry O'Brien, Cyril Przibella, Bill Mitchell, Wal McVicar.

ANNIVERSARIES: Violet Kennedy, Ella Pallot, Veronica Croft, Vic O'Haire, Dawn McLennan, Allan Perso, Brian Twomey, Alan Mildren, Joseph Rudig, Muriel Tozer, Anne Cronin, Gerard Osmond, Lillian Whelan, Francis Helm, Benjamin Daly, Kylie, Luke & Ben Chant, Emily Nichols, Frances Fletcher, Julie O'Farrell, Phyllis Hehir, Colin Mitchell, Jack Drum, Val Lewis, Mary Moncrieff, Pat Fuller, Mollie & Roy Jones.

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: 20th /21st May

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Sr Carina Morton	Margy Brown
Lector 1	Paula Waters	Lorraine Willis
Lector 2	Michael Byrnes	Ed Brown
Eucharistic Ministers	Anna Farrell Volunteer please	Marisa Hart Fran Kernaghan Carey Menz-Dowling
Cantor Musicians	Catherine Cutler / Judy Lindsay Judy Foley	Ed, Margie, Heath & Don
Counters: Anne Gordes & Lorraine Willis		

Sat /Sun: 27th / 28th May

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	St Anne's Confirmation	St Anne's Confirmation
Lector 1	Commitment Mass	Commitment Mass
Lector 2		
Eucharistic Ministers	Kaye Deanshaw Adrian Mitchelhill	Trish Parkinson Dianne Treacy Sr Patricia Weekes
Cantor Musicians	Brian Waters Judy Foley	Bernadette & Wendy
Counters: Judy Warren & Michael Byrnes		

Prayer for Week of Christian Unity

21st—28th May 2023

Theme is: "Do good; seek justice."

God of justice and truth, we seek your guidance to embody the prophet's call to do good and to seek justice. May we grow with the courage and compassion of Christ, and walk in the way of peace and reconciliation. May God's Spirit enliven and embolden us to stand in solidarity with others until all are treated with dignity and worth. May our holy living be a foretaste of the mercy and blessing of the reign of God.
Amen

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"Unity does not imply uniformity; it does not necessarily mean doing everything together or thinking in the same way. Nor does it signify a loss of identity."



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

Nate James Foster
son of David & Jessie

Parish News

BISHOPS ENCOURAGE CATHOLICS TO READ AND DISCUSS ULURU STATEMENT

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference endorsed the Uluru Statement from the Heart in 2021, with the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia taking the same step last year (Uluru Statement website). As a vote on an Indigenous Voice to Parliament nears, Australia's bishops have encouraged Catholics to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart—the document from which the Voice proposal emerged.

During their plenary meeting in Sydney last week, the bishops considered how they might assist Catholics in preparing for the referendum to enshrine the Voice to Parliament in the Constitution, with a vote due in the second half of 2023—will later this year issue their annual Social Justice Statement on the place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Australian society, they decided to issue a statement at this point in the referendum process.

The bishops argued that the fact First Nations Peoples have lived in Australia for many thousands of years, but their custodianship of the land isn't mentioned in the Constitution is "an omission which needs to be rectified" A Voice to Parliament isn't the only way to achieve that outcome, the bishops wrote, but it "is the way requested by those who gathered at the historic meeting at Uluru". "This could be a significant step towards a more just and equitable Australia," the statement says. "We want to encourage all Australians to educate themselves as well as possible concerning the proposal to establish the Voice. This is an important moment in the history of the nation, and it can help us to move towards a deep and just reconciliation. It also offers a mechanism to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples." The bishops call for a meaningful debate on the issue, acknowledging that "people may, in good faith, have differing concerns and perspectives". For those who have not yet read the statement, it appears in full on the front page of this week's parish newsletter.

50th School Reunion for St Joseph's/Aquinas Graduating year 1973.

We are looking for memorabilia to borrow for the event 21 October 2023. If you have kept anything from that era and could lend it to us, could you please contact Karen Purtle 0407 260 834

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY MASS on Saturday, 10 June 2023 at 12 noon at St. Patrick's Church, Albury followed by fellowship at the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate. All Filipinos and Australian friends are invited. MACE Sisters – 0402 090 438

EASTER WATER Small bottles of water blessed at the Easter Vigil are still available in the baskets on the sanctuary and on the table near the confessional.

TOGETHER The May edition of our diocesan newspaper has arrived. Please take a copy from all entrances.

CATHOLIC MISSION'S 2023 PROJECTS

As a valued supporter we warmly invite you to hear updates on the work of Catholic Mission over the past 12 months, and the countries and projects of focus for 2023. A light lunch will be served. Please advise of any allergies or dietary requirements when you RSVP.

This event will be held in the Sacred Heart Hall on Tuesday 6 June 2023 from 12 noon concluding by 1.30pm. Please RSVP by 31 May 2023 to Jane Plum on **0400 445 605** or email jplum@catholicmission.org.au

ST MATTHEW'S EMERGENCY CARE PROGRAM

Songs of Hope—A concert by Melinda Schneider in aid of St Matthew's Emergency care will be held on Saturday 27 May in St Matthew's Church at 3.00pm.

Tickets \$45.00 from www.trybooking.com/chisz.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION—Confirmation 2023

Confirmation will take place on **Friday 23 June at 6.00pm** in Sacred Heart Church. Parents of possible candidates not attending St Anne's Primary School are asked to contact our parish office by email or phone so that you can be informed of the process for preparation.

Our commitment masses for candidates, their parents and families will take place next weekend the Feast of Pentecost on **Saturday 27 May 6.00pm and Sunday 28 May 9.30am.**

Confirmation Preparation Day—Thursday 15 June—School Hours—St Anne's Primary School.

NEW ROSTER FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, READERS & COMMENTATORS

We are currently in the process of updating our Readers/Commentators, Eucharistic Ministers Roster for June—October 2023.

We are seeking and will welcome new additions to these important liturgical ministries of service.

Please add your name and details to the list at the Swan Street entrance or alternatively contact us by email in the coming week.

TO PONDER:

Faith is a path of winding growth into knowledge of Christ. This is not intellectual knowledge but a deeply intimate relationship. Paul describes it as enlightenment, meaning that the Spirit will literally give light to the "eyes" of our "hearts" (Greek *dianoia* also translates as "mind," "thought," or "intention"; Eph 1:18).

It is this enlightenment, the Spirit's suffusion of light into our entire being, that guides us into the fullness of knowledge and hope in Christ. We hope in the One who was raised up and who has and will raise us up with him, the One who is intimately present with us "always" (Matt 28:20).

Take time to ponder hope this week—what it means to you, where it is present or seemingly absent. How does hope guide your life?

Liturgy of the Word

First reading Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised, 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judea and Samaria and indeed to the ends of the earth. As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 46

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

Response: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. **R**

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R**

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. **R**

A reading from the of Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that we can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always until the end of the world.
Alleluia, alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 28: 16-20

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.