



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 in Ordinary Time
27th / 28th January 2024*

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 9.30 am Mass by accessing our website

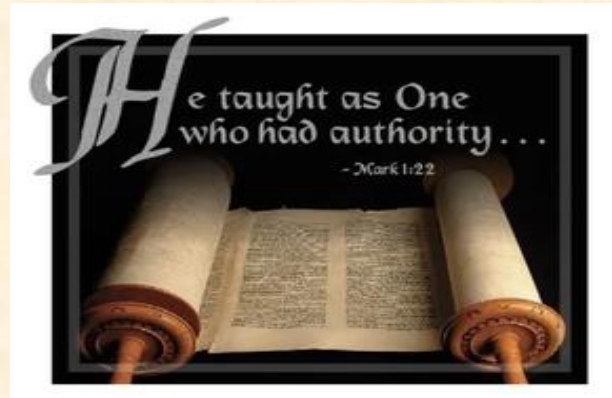
WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.



In the First Reading, Jonah takes the word of God to the people in Nineveh. They hear it, are inspired to change their evil ways, and God shows them his mercy. God's love and forgiveness are at the heart of the Psalm, as we pray for better understanding of the ways in which the Lord invites us to live our lives.

St Paul issues a challenge to the Christian community in Corinth in this week's Second Reading. At the centre of this, though, is an encouragement to us to free our minds and hearts from reliance on the things of this world, and to place our hope in the reign of God. The Gospel speaks of the opening of the hearts and minds of the first apostles as they leave behind everything they know in order to follow Jesus.

This week, perhaps I can give myself the gift of a little extra time with scripture. I pray that the Lord will open my mind and heart, so I can see more clearly where my path with him lies.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Wilga Jones, Norma Lawlor, Kevin Rodgers, Stephen Harris, Noel Scott, Kevin Quirk, Greg Scott, Buster Upshall, Betty Lindner.

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Smith, Dorothy Keane, Frank O'Rourke, Royce Boyd, Bryan Palmer, Donald Murphy, Mary McPherson, Vivian Duell, Betty Harrison, Barbara Quirk, Frank Douba, Kevin McAlroy, Nancy Phillips, Joan Cruikshank, Emilio Fornasiero, Molly McCarthy, Bob Cherry Hilda Joynson, Peter Carroll, Charles Thome, Mary Miglionico, Reginald Scammell, Antonio Audino, Gordon Doubleday.

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: 27th /28th January

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Colleen Day	Sr Carina Morton
Lector 1	Paula Waters	Narelle Naughton
Lector 2	Kaye Deanshaw	Kay Morrell
Eucharistic Ministers	Adrian Mitchelhill Jeneice Harding	Trish Parkinson Gemma Whitehead Marisa Hart
Cantor Musicians	John van Lint Judy Foley	Ed, Margie, Heath and Don
Counters: Carey Menz-Dowling & John Dowling		

Sat / Sun: 3rd / 4th February

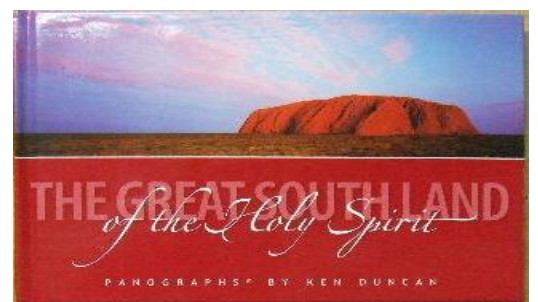
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Adrian Mitchelhill	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Sue McLaurin
Lector 2	Justin Clancy	Cathy Nyhan
Eucharistic Ministers	Kaye Deanshaw Pat Hopkins	Cathy Nyhan Fran Kernaghan Narelle Naughton
Cantor Musicians	Brian Waters/John van Lint Judy Foley	Lachlan McIntyre Val Hayes
Counters: Gordon Bryant & Laurie Moylan		

Prayer for our land Australia

Creator God,
We pray for this land, our culture, our customs, our languages, our people and our nation.
Gather us together to look after this land, so that the beauty of our mother earth may be preserved for all future generations.
Jesus our brother, give us your grace, To be united in one mind, one heart, and in one action so that we can continue the journey of reconciliation, to solve the divisions of our growth and enable all Australians to work together in love, peace and joy.
We ask you, God the Holy Spirit, overshadow us with your presence especially this our nation.
We ask you to guide all people regardless of their colour or status in life so we can truly learn and have better understanding in the knowledge of language and culture of this land Australia.
Amen

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"We received this world as an inheritance from past generations, but also as a loan from future generations, to whom we will have to return it!"



Parish News

TO PONDER:

In Deuteronomy, Moses describes the prophetic role as born from the peoples' desire not to "hear the voice of the Lord" or see God's "great fire". Direct contact with God is so awesome, so overpowering, that it may cause death (Deut 18:16). The prophet therefore mediates the divine through a human body, absorbing some of the power and softening the contact. Yet the prophetic message is God's message. It can be overpowering. It can burn like a great fire in all directions - indicting each of us, all of us, seeking to speak through us - even as its source and goal is divine love. When have you experienced God through the mediation of a prophet? When have you experienced God's direct, burning love?

In Mark, the unclean spirit asks Jesus, "What have you to do with us?" The answer is clear in Mark: Jesus is out to destroy evil. Yet the unclean spirit's question is a good one to ponder. What does Jesus's prophetic message—his acts of teaching, healing and rebuke—have to do with us?" The only way to truly discern the answer is to live a life oriented toward listening to God—a life "without distraction," according to Paul. The responsorial psalm states, "if today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" (Ps 95:8). Our readings call us to keep our hearts soft and our ears open to the divine messages working through us and around us, messages which seek to heal, unite and help us adhere or cling to God.

PRAYER FOR UKRAINE & THE HOLY LAND

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

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

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

"Two lessons for church leaders and social justice groups from the recent referendum"

As we celebrate Australia Day and reflect on how we can constructively contribute to the communities in which we live an article written by Fr Frank Brennan S.J. "Two lessons for church leaders and social justice groups from the recent referendum" is offered for your reflection.

Copies are available at all the church entrances.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2024

The first meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council for this calendar year will take place on Thursday 1 February at 6.00pm in the Parish Hall.

Any agenda items for discussion need to be emailed to the secretary Marjorie Serbinek: m4serbinek@gmail.com or by contacting the parish office by email / phone.

SACRED HEART PARISH MORNING TEA

Our monthly morning tea resumes on Sunday 4 February at the conclusion of our celebration of 9.30am Eucharist. A special invitation is extended to those who are new to our parish, to those moving or returning to our local area. You are most welcome to be involved in the life and ministries of this faith community.

For the faithful regulars, please bring something to share if possible.

SAVE YOUR USED STAMPS

Mary Mackillop today recycles used stamps to raise urgently needed funds to fight poverty.

Your used stamps will: **Give** disabled children an education in Papua New Guinea; **Fund** training programs for poor women to learn life skills in Peru; **Provide** vital health care to poor communities in Timor—Leste.

Your used stamps will be sold at auctions to collectors in Sydney. The money raised will go directly to Mary Mackillop Today (MMT) in Sydney.

Please place your used stamps in the container provided on the table near the Sacred Heart window.



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

Lottie Reece Baker daughter of Connor and Sheridan

Leo Archie Eaton son of Andrew and Tahlia

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, 'All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods that prophet shall die.' The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 94

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

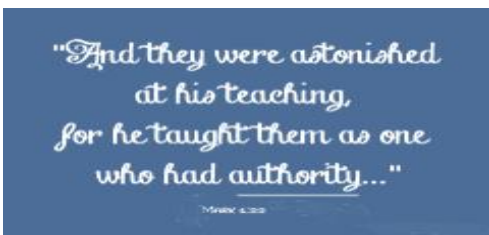
Response: *If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R**

Come in; let us kneel and bend low;
Let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert,
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work.' **R**



A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife; he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.
The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**A people in darkness have seen a great light;
A radiant dawn shines on those lost in death.
Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1: 21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum and as soon as the sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new and with what authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilee countryside.

The Gospel of the Lord.