



*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.*

## *Second Sunday of Lent 24/25 February 2024*

*Sacred Heart Parish is a Child Safe Community. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.*

### **Parish Clergy:**

**Fr Martin Cruickshank—Parish Priest**

**Parish Office 9am-2pm**

**Gemma Whitehead—Monday**

**Fran Kernaghan—Wednesday & Friday**

**Phone: 02 6025 1516**

**Email: [sacredheartna@gmail.com](mailto: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: Name # Please contact Office for a number**

**Presbytery A/c BSB: 066 789; A/c No: 10000 5575**

**Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable People:**

**<https://wagga.catholic.org.au/safeguarding-children-adults-at-risk/>**

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### **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:**

**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 at 9.30am mass during school terms.**

## **Project Compassion Story—Second Sunday of Lent**

### **Ronita's Story**

22 year old Ronita lives with her husband and two children in a barangay (local district) in Quezon City, which is situated in Metro Manila in the Philippines.



Ronita left school when she became pregnant as a teenager. This could have had a life-long impact on her ability to find work and provide for her family. Thankfully, Ronita was given a second chance at completing her studies when she heard about the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), Caritas Australia's local partners in the Philippines.

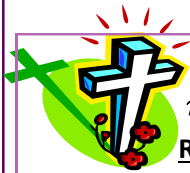
Through the FCJ's Alternative Learning System (ALS) program, Ronita was able to re-enrol in her studies, and continue learning in a safe and flexible environment – even with the arrival of her second child, Egzy Grey. After completing her ALS classes, Ronita went on to earn her Grade 12 Senior High School Diploma. With her new diploma, Ronita has now secured a job at a call centre which she hopes will allow her to support her family while she continues her studies.

With the support of the FCJ, Ronita has overcome Tremendous obstacles to enjoy better employment prospects and a brighter future for her whole family.

*"I have now graduated senior school and I am so proud of myself," she said, "I feel hopeful for the future ... Now it's not impossible for me to achieve my dream... Thank you."*



# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Francis McFarland, Wilma Friedlieb, Angela Poole, Florence Murphy, Lou Groenewegen, Wilga Jones, Norma Lawlor.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Patrick Nightingale, Jan Hodge, John Mills, Arnold Fletcher, Mary Corrin, Robert McIntosh, Fr Gerry Iverson, Ethel Herbert, Savina Patten, Megan O'Donoghue, Margaret Morgan, Alexander Irvine, Arnold Russel, Marie Mulligan, Alan Boswell, Hazel Richardson, Noreen Coyle, Marilyn Pullen, Nancy Flynn, Laszio Rhedey, Dinny Grentell, May Jones, Agnes Lane, Bridget King.

*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: 24th / 25th February

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Volunteer	Margy Brown
<b>Lector 1</b>	Catherine Cutler	Sr Carina Morton
<b>Lector 2</b>	Michael Byrnes	Kay Morrell
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Jeneice Harding Pauline Mulquiney	Trish Parkinson Sue McLaurin Fran Kernaghan
<b>Cantor</b>	Brian Waters/John van Lint	Bob Mathews
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
<b>Counters:</b> Diane & Greg Bartsch		

### Sat / Sun: 2nd / 3rd March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Justin Clancy	Richard Parkinson
<b>Lector 1</b>	Catherine Cutler	Brigita Serbinek
<b>Lector 2</b>	Volunteer	Roy Thompson
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Pat Hopkins Kaye Deanshaw	Eamonn Buckley Trish Parkinson Sue Betts
<b>Cantor</b>	John van Lint/Brian Waters	Margie, Ed and Heath
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	
<b>Counters:</b> Margaret Brown & Moira Porta		

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

"I am invited to listen to Jesus, and Jesus manifests himself, and by his Transfiguration he invites us to gaze at him. And looking at Jesus purifies our eyes and prepares them for eternal life, for the vision of heaven."

## Project Compassion Prayer

God of all hope  
we pray for our world with all its beauty  
and need.

We thank you for the love in our lives that  
is a mirror of your unending love.

May all creation know your compassion  
this Lent and may we take courage to  
share it, especially with those who don't  
have what they need.

In our time, we hear the same words you  
spoke to Moses: 'I will be with you,' when  
you ask us to do courageous things.

Through our prayer, fasting and  
almsgiving, move us to act in the  
company of your Spirit, showing  
compassion and acting for justice to  
renew the face of the Earth now and for  
all future generations. We ask this in the  
name of Christ.

Amen



# Parish News

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE 2024

This day of prayer is celebrated in over 170 countries around the world. **This years celebration has been prepared by the Women of Palestine.** The service for the North Albury area will be held at the Seven Day Adventist church, 805 David Street, Albury on Friday 1st March at 10.30am. This will be followed by morning tea (byo plate to share). All welcome.

## SACRED HEART PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Membership 2024:

Fr Martin Cruickshank, Ed Brown (Chair), Marjorie Serbinek (Secretary), Lyn Hamilton (Secretary), Louise Fifield, Bede Hart (Principal, St Anne's), Sr Anne Hagan, Brian Waters, Narelle Naughton, Michael Regan, Joseph Kipper Gush Kipper, Cathy Nyhan, Susan McLaurin, Chris Wenke, Lorraine Willis, Adrian Mitchelhill, Carey Menz-Dowling.

Meeting Dates: **Thursday 7 March; Thursday 4 April** in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 6.00pm.

If you have agenda items to be discussed at the upcoming meeting these need to be sent to the Minutes Secretary Marjorie Serbinek: [m4serbinek@gmail.com](mailto:m4serbinek@gmail.com) by the Monday before the scheduled meeting.

## We Need Your HELP!

An invitation to participate in the ministries of Reader / Commentator, Eucharistic Minister, Counter.

With the movement of people over the summer break we need to revise and update our liturgical ministries.

If you are able to offer your gifts as a reader / commentator, eucharistic minister or counter please add your name and contact to one or more of the lists provided.

If you are already on the list and are willing to continue in this roll you don't have to do anything. If for whatever reason you want your name removed please contact the parish office.

Reader / Commentator: Involved in setting the scene / prayers and proclaiming the liturgy of the word at both weekend masses (6.00pm & 9.30am). You can indicate your preference for time and ministry (reader/commentator).

Extra-ordinary Ministers of Eucharist: Involved at both masses for distribution of Eucharist. New ministers can be commissioned.

Counters: We are in urgent need of new counters for 1st & 2nd collections. Either Sunday morning after mass or Monday morning 9.00am in our parish office. 1/2 hour max.

If you are not currently on the roster for one of the above ministries and are able to contribute in this way please add your name to the lists at the Swan Street entrance. Remember if it is to be it is up to me!

## LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical, and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

## SACRED HEART FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

The AFL football season is about to spring into action. First round begins on Thursday 7 March. Please register your interest by contacting the parish office by phone or email: [sacredheartna@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartna@gmail.com) or by adding your name to the sheet located at the Swan Street entrance. Footy fixtures will be available for collection next weekend.

Cost \$1 per round = \$24 all up.

## CONFIRMATION 2024

Bishop Mark Edwards will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation in our parish community on Friday 14 June at 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church.

Parents of catholic candidates not attending St Anne's Primary School (**Yr 6 & beyond**) are asked to contact our parish office by email or phone so that you can be informed of the process for preparation.

## MORNING TEA

Our monthly morning tea is next Sunday 3 March at the conclusion of our celebration of 9.30am Eucharist.

A special invitation is extended to those who are new to our parish. Please bring something to share if possible.

## What's Happening at Sacred Heart

**Lenten discussion group** continues this Tuesday at 7.00pm in the parish hall.

**Bible Study Group** commences this Wednesday 28 February and continues each Second and Fourth Wednesday of the month in our Parish Hall at 7.00pm.

We are seeking volunteers to help plan and organize our **Alpha Program** which will take place post Easter in the morning. Dates and time yet to be decided.

## TO PONDER:

Our reading from Romans promises that God is "for us" & desires our blessing. God, through Jesus, gives up everything for us. Jesus is God's beloved son, just as Isaac was Abraham's beloved son. Yet we are also God's beloved children. Dorothy Day once stated that "we must love to the point of folly" - despite rejection, despite the possibility of a crushed heart. This is the kind of love that God, through Jesus, has for us. This is also the kind of love that we are called to give back to God.

*Do we love to the point of "folly"? What motivates us to take this risk?*

## PROJECT COMPASSION—Caritas Australia

After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family. **Please donate to Project Compassion.** Together we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.





# Liturgy of the Word

## **First Reading: Book of Genesis**

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham. Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering on the mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham,' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self—it is the Lord who speaks—because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience. The word of the Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalm 115**

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

***Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.***

I trusted even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted.'  
O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful. **R**

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.  
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:  
I will call on the Lord's name. **R**

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people,  
in the courts of the house of the Lord,  
in your midst O Jerusalem. **R**

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

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord.



**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to your Lord Jesus Christ!**

## **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 9: 2-10**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said, 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean. The Gospel of the Lord.