



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.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 10th / 11th February 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: 10000 5575

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:

Ash Wednesday 9.30 am

Friday 9.30 am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS—By appointment.



World Day for the Sick



The theme of today's readings is God's loving compassion and healing. We, too, are called to be loving, as well as pure and holy. Two of the readings speak of leprosy: a disease that can now be cured, but at the time was seen as a punishment for sin. The belief was that either the leper or one of their family had offended God in some way.

The First Reading reveals the requirements imposed on lepers. They were to make themselves physically unattractive, so that people would know they were unclean, and to live apart, outside the city walls. They were thus sentenced to indefinite exile from their community and excluded from worship.

The leper we meet in the Gospel breaks the law because of his faith. He approaches Jesus, pleading to be made clean. We see Jesus's compassion, mercy, and healing power in curing him. The leper can be readmitted to his community once he has seen the priest, though conversely, Jesus now becomes the outcast.

In the Psalm we hear the joy of the psalmist who, in acknowledging and repenting of his sins, is confident of the Lord's forgiveness. The Second Reading calls us to be witnesses to Christ's teaching in everything we do, whilst always being sensitive to others.

This week, I may like to pray for the courage, humility and faith of the leper in the Gospel, as I bring my own desires and needs to Jesus. I ask for the Spirit's guidance to be loving and helpful to others at all times.

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Wilma Friedlieb, Florence Murphy (Fr Peter Murphy's mother), Lou Grownewegen, Wilga Jones, Norma Lawlor.

ANNIVERSARIES: Arthur & Pat Scott, George & Margaret Azzi, Richard Kennedy, Matthew Griffiths, Sr Pat Osborne, Alice Frauenfelder, Hubert Newhauser, Vin Griffiths Snr, Kath Dowling, Noel Flanagan, Pauline Blissett, Alma Whitehead, Jane Student, James Mallay, Claude Gilson, Des Healy, Keith Clancey, Monica Bayley, Arthur Campbell, Shirley Pantling, Herbert O'Callaghan, Ena Gale, Catherine McCormack, Alice Butler, Connie Murphy, Birute Valys, Stephen Ratcliffe, Claude Jones, Edith Ryan.

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: 10th / 11th February		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Colleen Day	Roy Thompson
Lector 1	Kaye Deanshaw	John Dowling
Lector 2	Michael Byrnes	Samuel Serbinek
Eucharistic Ministers	Pauline Mulquiney Volunteer	Di Treacy Moiria Porta Sr Patricia Weekes
Cantor	John van Lint / Brian Waters	Heath Neville
Musicians	Val Hayes	Ashleigh Donaldson
Counters: Jane Togher		

Sat / Sun: 17th / 18th February		
Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Justin Clancy	Bede Hart
Lector 1	Catherine Cutler	Mercedes Goss
Lector 2	Paula Waters	Lorraine Willis
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Hopkins Anna Farrell	Carey Menz-Dowling Pamela McIntosh Sue McLaurin
Cantor	Judy Lindsay	Bernadette, Helen and
Musicians	Judy Foley	Wendy
Counters: Richard & Trish Parkinson		

Prayer for World Day for the Sick 2024

Jesus, You knew what it was to suffer, to feel pain, to be afraid of what may come.

May you be with the sick in their most difficult moments.

Watch over all who are sick: our family members, those in hospital and those who struggle alone.

Lift them up when they grow weary, or when patience grows thin.

Bless them, comfort them in their pain, calm their fears and surround them with your peace. We place our sick under your care and ask you to bless all those who care for them in our health and aged care facilities and in our homes.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"The sick, the vulnerable and the poor are at the heart of the Church; they must also be at the heart of our human concern and pastoral attention."



Parish News

TO PONDER:

Our readings invite us to consider the importance of community. In ancient Israel, it was necessary to separate those with skin infections in order to protect the community. Yet this separation was also devastating for the one who was sick. In the Gospel, Jesus's concern is the man's full reintegration into the community after he is healed. And Paul reminds his audience to seek always what will build up and unify the community in faith. Together, these readings challenge us to reflect on our own communities. How do we seek to build up and support others, and how are we dependent upon and responsible for those around us?

The Gospel story contains powerful emotions—the man's kneeling, begging, and likely elation at the end of the story; and Jesus's deep compassion for the one who is suffering and marginalized. We might consider how Jesus would react to the ways in which we exclude others today, to our wide-ranging divisions, and to the systems that breed hierarchy and inequality. Paul exhorts us to be 'imitators' of Christ in the second reading. What, then, is our responsibility in our communities today, in light of Paul's exhortation and Jesus's compassion?

LENTEN GROUPS

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 14 February. Once again it is our intention of offering Lenten discussion groups as a way of enhancing our personal and communal faith.

We begin this Tuesday 13 February in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm. If you would like to participate in this group please add your name to the list at the Swan Street entrance or contact our parish office by email / phone. If you wish to lead a group in your home or at another time / venue please let us know and we will organize reflection material for you.

"A Resurrected Life" - is a daily reflection resource and invites us to believe in the extraordinary hope that the gospel bears as we reflect on the readings of the day during lent. These are available from all entrances to the church. Please take a copy.



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

Macey Carmela Plunkett
daughter of Thomas and Micaela

Hadley Grace Fagan
daughter of Timothy and Denika

SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS

St Anne's Primary School

We welcome Samantha Sheather to St Anne's as our new religious education co-ordinator.

Cassandra Jones has decided to return to full time teaching in the classroom. Our gratitude is expressed to Cassie for the gentle, innovative and meticulous manner in which she has approached all her endeavours with children, staff and parents.

Xavier High School

We welcome Nicole Morton who returns to Xavier as Principal having served as Principal of St John's College Dubbo for the last three years.

Executive Appointments for 2024

Acting Assistant Principal—Shinead Kilroy

Acting Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator—Mary Jane Boyd

Acting Religious Education Co-Ordinator—Ed Brown

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy returns during our celebration of 9.30am Eucharist this Sunday and then on the second and fourth Sunday during school terms.

It continues to be an innovative way of enabling children to meet Jesus, developing and sharing their faith at their own level.

If you would like to join the adult team please contact Genn Hamam email: genwhelton@hotmail.com

PARISH BIBLE GROUP 2024

Our parish bible group commences on Wednesday 28 February 2024 at 7.00pm in the hall and then continues every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Our theme '*In the Footsteps of Jesus*' is narrated by author and pastor Max Lucado at different locations in Israel where Jesus walked. Thoughtful questions for reflection will follow the 20 minute video giving us a chance to share and fellowship. You are very welcome to join us. Contact Fran on 0408 268 518.

PARISH ALPHA PROGRAM FOR 2024

We are seeking volunteers to join the Alpha team to plan and organize our Alpha program for 2024. This is a great way to meet others and share our gifts and talents to bring about another exciting Alpha program. Please phone Fran on 0408 268 518.

FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE—personnel appointments

Fr Reece Beltrame has been appointed Spiritual Director at Vianney College w.e.f. 14 January 2024.

Fr Henry Ibe has been appointed as Dean of the Murrumbidgee Deanery.

Sacred Heart Parish is a child safe community. We provide the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all and a zero tolerance to child abuse.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable People:
<http://safeguarding.wagga.Catholic.org.au>

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Book of Leviticus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests, who are his sons. The man is leprous, he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 31

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

Response: *I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble and you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.

O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. **R**

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
My guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
and you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. **R**

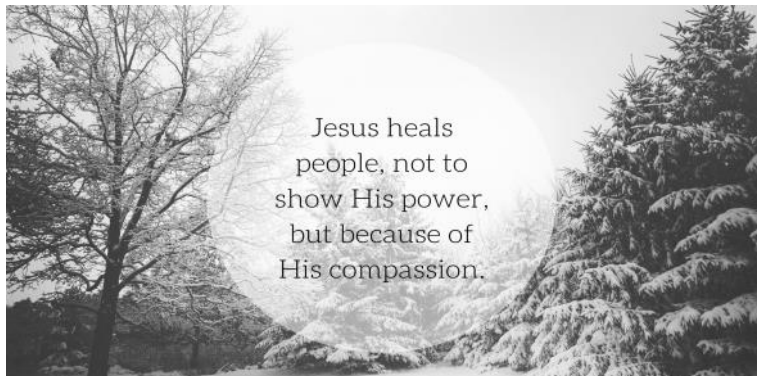
Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. **R**



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

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.



Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1: 40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to,' he said, 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.