



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 of Easter 4 / 5 May 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

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:

Tuesday 7 May—Mercy Place 2.00pm—Sacrament of Anointing & Eucharist. No RAT test required.

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.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

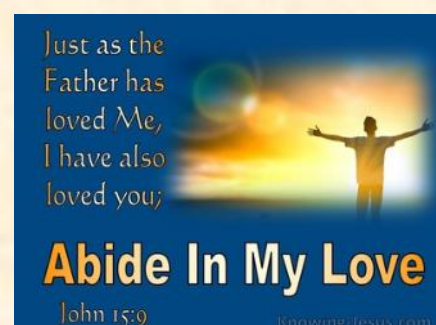
Our parish bible study group continues every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm in the parish hall.

Reflection for Sixth Sunday of Easter

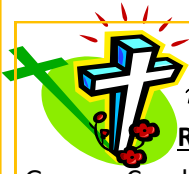
This weekend's readings centre on the theme of love: the totally faithful, unconditional love of God for us. The First Reading describes a turning point in the growth of the Early Church. Peter visits the house of Cornelius, a Roman centurion and Gentile, announcing that 'God does not have favourites'. God reaches out to those who listen to him through his Holy Spirit. He creates a community of love that embraces all humanity.

St John (Second Reading) reminds us that God loved us first. God's nature is love. The great depth of that love is revealed in God sending Jesus, whose self-sacrifice redeems our sins and draws us into the life of God. The Gospel shows us Jesus teaching his disciples about his loving relationship with his Father. Jesus chooses and invites us into that same intimate relationship. He tells us how to follow him: that we should love one another. The Psalmist encourages us to sing praise joyfully to the Lord whose love offers salvation to all.

As we approach the end of the Easter season, we pray for the grace that we ourselves might reflect the gift of God's love, through our actions to our brothers and sisters, and to all creation. We also give thanks for the love of our friends, and for the joy that they bring to our lives.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Joan Beecher, Bob Endres, Marie St George, Carol Harrington, Peter Dower, Anthony John Bradford, Joan Travers, Maree O'Brien, Julie Morgan.

ANNIVERSARIES: Bill Rourke, Brian Gibson, Ronald Clayton, Joan McLaurin, May Smith, Paul Griffin, Leo Butler, Noreen Roach, Tony Phelps, John Gardiner, Helen Scully, Therese Chandler, Paul Ofak, John Thompson, Peter Fodor, Frederick Maher, John Barber, Joyce Lyons, Molly Davis, Nicholas Heaton– Harris, Connie Waters, Kath Toner, Michael Clark, John Lopez, Edward Ilsley, Robert Garland, Jack Hanrahan, Dave Hulm, Roy Lonergon.

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: 4th / 5th May

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Nicole Morton	Margy Brown
Lector 1	Catherine Cutler	Sr Patricia Weekes
Lector 2	Paula Waters	Lorraine Willis
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Regan Justin Clancy	Eamonn Buckley Mercedes Goss Sr Siony
Cantor	Brian Waters/John van Lint	Lachlan McIntyre
Musicians		Val Hayes
Counters: Richard & Trish Parkinson		

Sat / Sun: 11th / 12th

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Colleen Day	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Damian Carroll	Tammy Robertson
Lector 2	Kaye Deanshaw	Brigita Serbinek
Eucharistic Ministers	Jeneice Harding Pat Hopkins	Shinead Kilroy Narelle Naughton Trish Parkinson
Cantor	John van Lint/Brian Waters	Heath Neville
Musicians	Val Hayes	Ashleigh Donaldson
Counters: Diane & Greg Bartsch		

Quote Pope Francis:

"The happiness that everyone desires, for that matter, can be expressed in any number of ways and attained only if we are capable of loving. This is the way. It is always a matter of love; there is no other path. The true challenge is that of who loves the most "

Prayer for the

Alpha Programme

Loving God, we come to you today asking for Your guidance, wisdom and support as we the Sacred Heart parish take part in the Alpha programme.

Fill us with Your grace as we come together in fellowship to explore our Christian faith and engage in meaningful discussions.

Bless every guest who has committed their time to participating in Alpha and all those volunteers who serve to make this programme possible.

May every Alpha session begin with Your inspiration allowing us to grow closer to you, to nurture the bonds of parish community and the building up of the body of Christ. Amen



JOHN 15:9
"Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love."

Parish News

TO PONDER:

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you." The Gospel and 1 John affirm that discipleship begins with Christ's call. The great mystery of resurrection is that Christ has been unleashed on the world, calling who he will. Our Acts reading demonstrates this reality: the Holy Spirit descends upon the Gentiles, and Peter accepts that "God shows no partiality." This is a powerful statement. It means that our social and political barriers, distinctions and inequalities are false barriers of our own human making. But it does not have to be this way. Do we believe that radical transformation is possible? How can we believe more fully in the reality of resurrection, of Christ unleashed upon the world?

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place this Thursday 9 May at 6.00pm in the Parish Hall. 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 the Monday before the scheduled meeting.



ALPHA INVITATION

Every day we ask so many questions. What should I wear? What's the weather going to be like? How am I going to fit everything in? But then there are those bigger questions like Why am I here? Where am I heading? Is there more to life than this? ALPHA brings people together to explore, connect, share and enhance our faith. Join us on a fun filled adventure to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning. You're invited to attend our next session on **Tuesday 7 May at 10.30am** in the parish hall. There is still time to register. For more details phone Fran 0408 268 518.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—Riverwood Pick Up

We need volunteers to add to our list for picking up parishioners from Riverwood Village (West Albury) to attend Sunday morning 9.30am mass. Only once a month or longer depending on the response to this request. Expressions of willingness to participate in the current roster will be gratefully received by contacting the parish office by phone or email.

MEN'S BREAKFAST—Lavington & North Albury

Saturday 11 May from 7.45am in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Speaker: Leanne Michael—Mothers Day special; obviously we hope that all mothers attending will have a driver. Funds raised go towards SRE. Enquiries: Kip 0417 669 717 or asleeper@bigpond.com

SACRED HEART FOOTBALL TIPPING—As of end Round 7

A welcome change at the top! **46**—Bede Hart, Val Hayes, Coyle Family, John Dowling, Judy Lindsay; **45**—Brian Butts, Carmel Butts, Liz Phegan; **44**—Liz Jones, Kay Locke, Ray Trebilcock; **43**—Genny Green, Richard Power; **42**—Wendy Glazebrook, Fr Martin, Brian Millgate, Cathy Nyhan; **41**—Eamonn Buckley, Matty Boyd, Judy Warren, Carey Family.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION—Confirmation 2024

Bishop Mark Edwards will confer the sacrament of confirmation on candidates (usually Yr 6 children and beyond) on Friday 14 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.

Parent/Student Reflection and Information Evening:

Tuesday 7 May 6.00pm in St Anne's School Hall.

Confirmation Commitment Masses (Feast of Pentecost):

Saturday 18 May 6.00pm and Sunday 19 May 9.30am.

Confirmation Student Preparation Day: Thursday 30 May during school hours at St Anne's Primary School.

SACRAMENTAL DATES—First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

The Second Rite of Reconciliation for students (Yr 4 and beyond) receiving the sacrament of penance for the first time will be held on Tuesday 28 May at 6.00pm in the Sacred Heart Church.

The Sacrament of First Eucharist will be held over the weekend of Sept 7/8 at both 6.00pm & 9.30am masses.

MORNING TEA

Our monthly morning tea will be held this Sunday 5 May at the conclusion of our celebration of 9.30am Eucharist. All welcome to join us in parish hall.

PRIESTLY VOCATIONS DAY

"Is God Calling You" - Vocations Day at Vianney College Wagga Wagga on Saturday 11 May, 2024.

To register: Call Fr Sean Byrnes **02 6921 2164** or email: byrness2@wagga.catholic.org.au

See flyer on noticeboard.

WEBINAR INVITATION: Why God?

Join us for an inspiring conversation with Fr Richard Leonard SJ and David Halliday, editor of Eureka Street as they explore insights into the way God works through people and often through unexpected places and events.

In his latest book *Why God? Stories to Inspire Faith*, Richard provides personal and engaging stories surrounding Church, Liturgy and Sacraments, Faith and Spirituality.

Tuesday 7 May at 7.00pm via Zoom. Cost: free. Go to garrattpublishing.com.au where there is a link to register.

PRESENTATION SISTERS SESQUICENTENARY

Wagga Wagga

We invite you to join us as we celebrate the 150 years since our foundation on 29 May 1874—29 May 2024.

Saturday 1 June 1pm—5pm Open Afternoon For All Formalities, prayer ritual and blessing of commemorative plaque to be placed in the chapel. Visits to Mt Erin Chapel, Heritage Centre and Erin Earth Gardens. Afternoon tea in the boarding school dining room and old convent dining room. For catering arrangements, would you please register your name and number of guests, no later than Friday 10 May to email: sesquicentenary1874@gmail.com

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!' Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise', he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 97

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

Response: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

Sing a new song to the Lord
for he has worked wonders.
His right hand and his holy arm
have brought salvation. **R**

The Lord has made known his salvation;
has shown his justice to the nations.
He has remembered his truth and love
For the house of Israel. **R**

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God
Shout to the Lord all the earth,
ring out your joy. **R**

A reading from the first letter of St John

My dear people let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

**All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!**



A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 15: 9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. No-one can have greater love than to lay down their life for their friends.

You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know their master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name.

What I command you is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord.