



*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.*

## *Third Sunday of Advent 14th / 15th December*

*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

Fr Norman Banzuela (OSJ) Priest in Residence

**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-vulnerable-people/>

### **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 17 Dec—Mass of Anointing at Mercy Place Chapel—2.00pm.**

**Wednesday & Friday (Mass of Anointing) 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 is held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the parish hall. We will resume in February 2025.

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

*Lighting of the third*

*Advent Candle*

*Candle of Joy*



**Priest:** The third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday which comes from the Latin word meaning 'Rejoice'. The colour of the candle is pink which is the liturgical colour for joy. It takes us back to the joyful anticipation of the Shepherds who journeyed in trust to see Jesus in Bethlehem even before the wise ones.

### *Third Candle is lit*

All: Sing chorus of "Christ be our Light"

**All:** We light this candle as a reminder of the need to make room in our hearts and our homes to experience the joy of the Lord's presence. May God's spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time of anticipation and reflection as we joyfully await the chance to celebrate the birth of the Christ child who is for us the light of the world.

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Eliza Nicholson, Rosalind Smith, Peggy Gallagher, Anne Munk, Bob Hilton, Lloyd Charter, Leigh Torrisi, Phillip Wise, John Raines, Bernard Hore, Joan Quick, Mike Egan, Ray Allen, Peter Treacy.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Marie Williams, Greg Scott, Shaun Brady, Leo Keane, Sr Therma MACE, Sr Marie Duffy, Kent Van Every, Keith Groth, Michael Murphy, Geoff O'Brien, Wendy Murphy, Linus Drew, Irene Unger, Chris Thumpston, Ruby O'Keefe, Eric Low, Owen Drysdale, Len Syphers, Ben Orman, Fr Michael Buckdale, Kathleen Frauenfelder, Marlene Clee, Nell Seymour, Harry Collins, Beryl Splatt, Norm Frauenfelder, Jason Black.

*Gather our loved ones into your arms. Quiet our doubt and anger and send us your healing grace. Through Christ our Lord.*



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

**Hamish Ted & Henry Walter Kreuzer**  
sons of Richard & Nicola

**Alfie Charles Farrugia**  
son of Bradley and Clea

## ROSTERS

### Sat / Sun: 14th / 15th December

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Adrian Mitchelhill	Sr Carina Morton
<b>Lector 1</b>	Kaye Deanshaw	John Dowling
<b>Lector 2</b>	Volunteer	Mary Hunt
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Pauline Mulquiney Michael Regan	Dianne Treacy Sr Patricia Weekes Carey Menz-Dowling
<b>Cantor</b>	Judy Lindsay	David Hicks
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
<b>Counters:</b> Carey Menz-Dowling & John Dowling		

### Sat / Sun: 21st / 22nd December

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Justin Clancy	Cathy Nyhan
<b>Lector 1</b>	Xavier Clancy	Sue McLaurin
<b>Lector 2</b>	Paula Waters	Margy Brown
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Anna Farrell Colleen Day	Gemma Whitehead Mercedes Goss Marisa Hart
<b>Cantor</b>	Lachlan McIntyre	David Hicks
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
<b>Counters:</b> Gemma Whitehead		

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

*'The most beautiful gift the Catholic Church and its members can give the world is a reason to live with hope.'*

### Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit upon our  
preparation for Christmas.

We who have so much to do seek quiet  
spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things  
look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways  
long for the complete joy of your

kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the  
joy of your presence.

We are your people walking in darkness  
yet seeking the light.

To you we say 'Come Lord Jesus'

Amen.

( Henri Nouwen)



**Rejoice Sunday**

# Parish News

## Sacred Heart Parish Christmas Mass Times 2024

### Christmas Eve (Tuesday 24 December)

**6.00pm** Xavier High School Hall

**9.00pm** Sacred Heart Church

### Christmas Day (Wednesday 25 December)

**9.30am** Sacred Heart Church

Roster for Christmas Eve (9pm) & Christmas Day (9.30am) is available for you to put your name down on the table at Swan Street entrance.

### Advent Reflection

Speaking to thousands of visitors and pilgrims in the Vatican audience hall on Thursday 12 December Pope Francis declared, *'The most beautiful gift the Catholic Church and its members can give the world is a reason to live with hope. The Christian cannot be satisfied with having hope; he or she must also radiate hope, be a sower of hope. Hope is not an empty word or a vague desire of ours that things may turn out for the best; it is a certainty because it is founded on God's fidelity to his promises'*. At a pivotal moment in the film 'Shawshank Redemption', Andy says 'Remember hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things and no good thing ever dies.' How do I need to rediscover hope at this time in my life? In the days leading up to Christmas, how can I be a sign of hope to those I encounter by my attitudes and actions?

### St Clare's Conference North Albury Christmas Appeal

With Christmas approaching and the demand for our services increasing, we again ask for your support with donations of gifts (unwrapped) suitable for children to the age of 12 years; cash donation or festive food items. These will be distributed to members of our local community who are in need.

Baskets have been placed at the doors of the church. Please put all cash donations in an envelope marked (St V de Paul Christmas Appeal) and place on one of the collections during mass. **DO NOT PLACE MONETARY DONATIONS IN THE BASKETS.**

### SINGERS NEEDED FOR 9.00PM CHRISTMAS MASS

Anyone is welcome to join our choral group. A practice will be held on Thursday 19 December at 7.30pm. If you can't make that date you are still welcome to join us on Christmas Eve.

### Columban Calendars

We will be ordering 2025 Columban Calendars through the parish office. The cost of the calendar is \$11.00. If you wish to obtain one please contact Fr Martin after mass or the parish office on Monday

### Gardening Squad

Heath Neville returned with his band of helpers from Yr 9 to complete weeding the Presbytery garden last Thursday. Gratitude is extended to the staff and students of Xavier High School for their initiative in this regard.

### Parish Christmas Day Lunch

At the time of printing we have 55 people who have indicated their intention to participate in Christmas Lunch in our Parish Hall on the 25 December from 12 noon. If you are able to donate something for the meal ie salad, dessert etc., please add your name, contact number and proposed item to the list on the table at the Mate Street entrance.

### Parish Invitational Brochure

This is a resource we can all hand out to people who might like to come and join us for mass or any of our parish ministries mentioned.

It also has the Christmas mass times but can be handed out all year round! We hope you have someone in mind to invite, and through our community, into a relationship with Jesus. Brochures are available at all entrances to the church.

### Ecumenical Carol Service

You are invited to attend our special Christmas Community service—Songs of Hope and Prayers for Peace and Goodwill at St Matthew's Anglican Church Albury this Sunday 15 December at 5.00pm.

### Power Outage—Change of Office Hours

We have been informed that a power outage is scheduled for the residents in Swan Street next Friday 20 December. Therefore, the parish office will be staffed this Thursday 19 December from 9.00am—2.00pm instead of the Friday.

### Australian Catholics—Bringing Faith to Life

The summer edition of Australian Catholics is available at all entrances to the church. Please take a free copy.

### Together

The Diocesan newspaper 'Together' for the month of December has arrived. Please take a copy from all entrances to the church.

### Sacrament of Anointing

The Sacrament of Anointing will take place during our celebration of Eucharist this Friday 20 December at 9.30am. Through the sacrament of anointing, Christ strengthens those who are afflicted by illness and those who are weakened by age. Morning tea to follow in our parish hall. If possible please bring something to share.

The next sacrament of anointing at Mercy Place will take place this Tuesday 17 December in the Chapel at 2.00pm during our celebration of the Eucharist. All welcome to attend.

### From Jane Plum, Diocesan Director for Catholic Mission

Thank you for your support that enable missionaries in places like The House of Mercy in Ulaanbaatar, to invite more people to the table. Pope Francis reminds us that, *"The wedding feast of his Son that God has prepared remains always open to all, since his love for each of us is immense and unconditional. When you follow the inner call to "Go and invite everyone to the banquet" you follow God's loving rule and may glimpse the Kingdom of God"*. In this Season of Advent let us take time to reflect on our own participation in God's Kingdom and the ways we are striving to foster Christ's peace. God bless you all. Our parish contribution to this year's Catholic Mission Appeal was \$2,338.65.



# Liturgy of the Word

## **First Reading: From the prophet Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away.

The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp.

The Lord your god is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

He will exult with joy over you,

he will renew you by his love;

he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

The Word of the Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalm 24**

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

**Response: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel**

Truly, God is my salvation,

I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **R**

Give thanks to the Lord,

give praise to his name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name. **R**

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds,

Make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy

for great in your midst is the Holy One of  
Israel. **R**

## **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

**Alleluia!**

## **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3:10-18**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same'. There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in the fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.