



*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 IN ORDINARY TIME

AUSTRALIA DAY 25th / 26th January 2025

### Parish Clergy:

Fr Martin Cruickshank—Parish Priest  
Biscuit— Cat in Residence

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-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:**

**NO Scheduled Weekday masses this week**

**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 7.00pm in the parish hall. We will resume in February 2025.

### IN SEARCH OF AUSTRALIA DAY - By Andrew Hamilton

Jesuit priest Fr Andy Hamilton writes for Jesuit Communications publications and for Jesuit Social Services. He is also chaplain to the Lao Community and to the Immigrant Detention Centre.

National days are helpful when they invite us to ask what we want our nation to be like and where our reality falls short. They can then allow us to celebrate the famous and unrecognised people who have helped shape the nation for good.

These large questions offer compass bearings for responding to the challenges posed by the large issues of the day that threaten to overwhelm or paralyse us. This year, these include the horror of war as we have seen it in Gaza and Ukraine, the threat of a wider conflict, and uncertain relationships with an unpredictable United States. Among them also are economic pressures experienced unequally by Australians, querulousness and polarised public conversation about a variety of social issues, and the urgent need to respond effectively to global warming and to the potential of new technologies to change human life as we have known it.

These challenges make it doubly important to have a large vision of what we want our nation and world to be. In general, this must be of a society in which each human being can flourish. That statement, of course, is abstract and needs to be filled out. But it is large in consequence. It implies that each human being is of equal value, equally precious, and may not be treated as a means to someone else's end. To speak of human dignity implies that the worth of all human beings does not depend on their wealth, intelligence, achievement, race, religion or political allegiances.

Human dignity and flourishing are not empty concepts. They find expression in relationships, and so in human rights that define what we are entitled to expect from one another and are called to give to one another. They include the right to freedom, to life, to security, to shelter, to religious practice, to political and social association, to education and to work, for example. These personal and social rights reflect the human reality that we do not flourish by ourselves but through relationships with others. We depend on others to be born and reared, to PTO

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Fr Jim McGee, Alfred Brunner, Barbara Matthews, Esther Fair, Lucia Fornasiero, Fr Tony Loth, John Hogan, Richard Toole, Shaun Sutcliffe, Katica Mejak, Rhonda McCormack.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Margaret Smith, Myles Borg, Royce Boyd, Bernard Weiss, Lillian Hancock, Bryan Palmer, Donald Murphy, Mary McPherson, Kevin Houlihan, Jack Whitty, Frank Douba, Kevin McAlroy, Joan Cruikshank, Brian Lane, Emilio Fornasiero, Hilda Joynson, Peter Carroll, Charles Thome, Norman Lane, Mary Miglionico, Reginald Scammell, Tim Berkley.

*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: 25th / 26th January**

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Adrian Mitchelhill	Richard Parkinson
<b>Lector 1</b>	Michael Byrnes	Brigita Serbinek
<b>Lector 2</b>	Volunteer	Hugh Pinter
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Kaye Deanshaw Pat Hopkins	Moira Porta Shinead Kilroy Fran Kernaghan
<b>Cantor</b>	John van Lint	Ed, Margie, Heath & Don
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	
<b>Counters:</b> Gemma Whitehead		

**Sat / Sun: 1st / 2nd February**

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
<b>Commentator</b>	Nicole Morton	Sr Carina Morton
<b>Lector 1</b>	Michael Byrnes	Sr Patricia Weekes
<b>Lector 2</b>	Kaye Deanshaw	Lorraine Willis
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Colleen Day Jeneice Harding	Eamonn Buckley Sr Siony Marisa Hart
<b>Cantor</b>	Brian Waters/John van Lint	David Hicks
<b>Musicians</b>	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
<b>Counters:</b> Margaret Brown & Moira Porta		

## **An Australian Canticle of Praise**

(Inspired by Psalm 24)

This land is God's, and all that is in it,  
The red earth and rainforests the  
oceans and mountains.  
All that dwells on this island continent  
belongs to God.  
Loving God, you are the Creator of all  
that is and we praise you,  
For creatures unique to this great  
south land- fish and birds, animals and  
plants, flowers and trees in their diverse  
kinds,  
For the ancient peoples of this land who  
maintained its sacredness for centuries,  
For convicts and settlers who bore the  
hardships of wrestling with a harsh  
environment,  
For migrants down through the years  
who have provided a diversity of  
culture that enriches an already  
bounteous land.  
For those who seek to enter our  
Country in search of freedom, safety  
and new hope.  
For all of these, Creator God we praise  
and thank you this day."

## **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

## Continued from front page:

communicate, to do business, to form a family, and to trade. No person is self-made. Human flourishing depends on peaceable and cooperative relationships at every level of society. Any national celebration will highlight stories of those relationships.

Because human dignity is so bound to relationships between human beings, society has a responsibility to ensure that each human being can flourish. This is done in part by fostering agency in the groups that help shape people's identity. Respect for persons will lead us to attend to the many historical and contemporary relationships that have shaped human lives and to the ways in which those relationships have been wounded. Respect for persons demands respect for complexity.

In hard and contentious times the commitment to the inalienable and equal dignity of each human being and respect for their associated rights will inevitably be put under pressure in public conversation and political decisions. The complexity of relationships risks being ignored in favour of a conflictual and exclusionary focus on human beings. Most recently that dynamic has been evident in the attempts to reduce the war in Gaza to a simple conflict between good and evil and to define the people of Israel and of Gaza the worthy and unworthy. The policies and strategies of the war are then evaluated accordingly. A proper respect for complexity would recognize the tragedy and complexity of war and would insist on respect for the humanity of people in judging the morality of the goals and the methods of war.

A similar lack of respect for human beings and for the complexity of relationships can be seen in the introduction of harsh laws directed at children who have committed serious offences. In many cases underlying the pressure for these laws has been prejudice based on race and colour. The call to submit children to the same penalties as adults has failed to respect the gradual growth of children into responsibility for their actions, the need of children for the support of family, and the destructive effects on children of confinement. To treat children as adults will have different results, often catastrophic for children. Respect needs to take account of difference.

Similarly, respect for Indigenous Australians must take account of the complexity of their historical relationships to settlers. The simplistic claim that all Australians must be treated the same ignores the effects of Australian settlement, dispossession, exclusion and discrimination on Indigenous Australians and on their descendants. If we are committed to making Australia a nation in which all people can flourish, we have many reasons to thank those who have gone before us. Respect for human dignity underlies and is embodied in the rule of law and in the institutions that support it. A national day that celebrates and reaffirms the commitment of all Australians to it is worth discovering.

## Parish Morning Tea

Our parish morning tea returns to the first Sunday of the month (Sunday 2 February) at the conclusion of our celebration of the Eucharist in our parish hall. All welcome, especially any new parishioners. If possible please bring something to share.

## Parish Pastoral Council

The first meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Council for 2025 will be held on Tuesday 4 February at 6.00pm in the parish hall. Any agenda items need to be referred to the Minutes Secretary Marjorie Serbinek by Friday 31 January at: [m4serbinek@gmail.com](mailto:m4serbinek@gmail.com)

## Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors Roster

A new roster is being prepared for those wishing to carry out the ministry of reader/commentator and Eucharistic minister from February—May 2025.

If you are currently on the list all you need do is advise any dates that are unsuitable.

We are looking for those who are new to our parish who wish to participate in these ministries of service.

Please add your name to the list at the Swan Street entrance or contact our parish office by phone or email.

## Formation In Faith

In the Bible in a Year podcast, Fr Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Catholic Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection and prayer along the way.

Find out more about the Bible in a Year and how to listen at: [ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear](http://ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear)

Some paper copies of the programme are available for collection on the table near the car park entrance.

A similar guide is available to explore the Catechism of the Catholic church at: [ascensionpress.com/ciy](http://ascensionpress.com/ciy)

## Parish Alpha Gathering

Our monthly Parish Alpha gathering will begin for 2025 on Tuesday 4th February in the parish hall at 10.00am. Please note time change from 10.30 to 10.00! We will discuss the gospel reading from the video and share our thoughts over a cuppa and cake.

You are welcome to join us anytime.



# Liturgy of the Word

## **First Reading: From the prophet Isaiah 32:15-18**

Once more there will be poured on us the spirit from above; then shall the wilderness be fertile land; and fertile land become forest. In the wilderness justice will come to live and integrity in the fertile land; integrity will bring peace, justice give lasting security. My people will live in a peaceful home, in safe houses, in quiet dwellings.

The Word of the Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalm 84**

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

**Response: The Lord speaks of peace to his people**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
A voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
Justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **R**

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **R**



## **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:2-12**

Jesus began to speak to the crowds. This is what he taught them: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth." "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled." "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy." "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God." "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven. The Gospel of the Lord.

## **A Reading from first letter of St Paul to Corinthians**

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

The Word of the Lord

## **Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

**Alleluia!**