



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.

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

4th / 5th January 2025

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 by accessing our website.

WEEKDAY MASSES: This Week:

Tuesday—Sacrament of Anointing and Mass—Mercy

Place Chapel 2.00pm

Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION: SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45pm

BAPTISMS—By appointment.



Lighting of the Christ Candle

Fr Martin: The three stories of Herod, the wise ones, and the holy family together demonstrate the way things are in the world. The Magi, Joseph and Mary represent those who obey the signs of promise and look for a new order. Alternatively, Herod stands for the powerful who seek to maintain control through cynicism, cruelty and oppression. What was true then is true now. We continue to need visions of a new way of being kinder, more compassionate, more respectful, more harmonious as individuals and as a nation.

Where there is the darkness of hatred, we pray:

Jesus, Be born in us, be born in our world

Where there is the darkness of fear, we pray:

Jesus, Be born in us, be born in our world

Where there is the darkness of hopelessness, we pray:

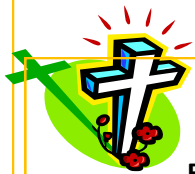
Jesus, Be born in us, be born in our world

(Christ Candle is Lit)

All: May the star of Bethlehem, which was the guiding light to the Magi bring peace, happiness and love to all our lives as we begin the journey of a New Year.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Lucia Fornasiero, Fr Tony Loth, John Hogan, Richard Toole, Shaun Sutcliffe, Katica Mejak, Rhonda McCormack, Bob Hilton, Mike Egan, Ray Allen.

ANNIVERSARIES: Derek LeFevre, Noel Scott, Patrick Togher, Brian Mawson, John Sykes, Keith Hertzog, Kerryn Mildren, John Mamouney, Sr Monica Esler, Lynette Dosenko, John Cronin, Katherine Wishart, Alma Putnam, Peter Liepins, Veronica Fagg, Myrtle Westblade, Fred Owen, Agnes Armstrong, Frank Lacey, Frank Tracey, Maria Kramer, Martha Oldcarn, Margaret Keys, James Whitehead, Noel Frauenfelder, Joy Bruton. *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:

Rafael Joaquin Morrissey

Son of Anthony and Emiliana

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 4th / 5th January 2025

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Jan Skinner Colleen Day Michael Byrnes	Sr Carina Morton Sue McLaurin Mary Hunt
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Regan Kaye Deanshaw	Sue Betts Pamela McIntosh Dianne Treacy
Cantor Musicians	Brian Waters/John van Lint Judy Foley	Heath Neville Ashleigh Donaldson
Counters: Jane Togher		

Sat /Sun: 11th / 12th January

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator Lector 1 Lector 2	Justin Clancy Xavier Clancy Shinead Kilroy	Bede Hart Yvonne Thompson Stuart Thompson
Eucharistic Ministers	Jeneice Harding Volunteer	Gemma Whitehead Mercedes Goss Marisa Hart
Cantor Musicians	Brian Waters/John van Lint Val Hayes	Bernadette, Helen and Wendy
Counters: Richard & Trish Parkinson		

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"The Lord's star, is a reliable and constant light that takes you by the hand in life and accompanies you to peace and joy as it did with the Magi."

Blessing upon the New Year

Lord,

At the beginning of this new year,

I offer you my life.

Come take my voice, may the words I speak be filled with encouragement and goodness.

Come take my hands, may the work they create be generous and giving.

Come take my feet, may the journeys I walk be led by your Spirit within.

Come take my life Lord, for I love your goodness, your kindness and your leading.

Shine your light in us, through us, over us.

May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes.

Set your way before us.

May all your plans succeed so that we may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. Amen.

From the fullness of his grace we have all received one

Blessing

after another.
John 1:16



We welcome you to our New Year celebrations. This season provides us with a unique opportunity to contemplate the mystery of God's love. That love finds its manifestation in us, our families and in our celebrating community. As we prepare to enter a New Year we are reminded of the need to care for those who live on the margins of society - those who need to discover not our judgement, but God's mercy and hope.

May 2025 lead you to discover and share the peace and happiness which only God can give and which is reflected by our journey of faith.

Thanks to all of you for continuing to live and share your faith within our Sacred Heart Parish community. A special mention needs to be made for those who walk that extra mile so that we might continue to proclaim Christ's presence in our midst with sure and certain hope. Your efforts are much appreciated and valued.

Parish Christmas Day Lunch

About 48 people gathered to celebrate Christmas Day lunch in our Parish Hall. Gratitude is extended to everyone who donated their time, food, culinary skills and financial assistance.

A special thanks to Marjorie Serbinek and the organizing team for planning and co-ordinating this parish event.

'Three Wise Women....would have....

Asked directions
 Arrived on time,
 Helped deliver the baby,
 Brought practical gifts,
 Cleaned the stable,
 Made a casserole
 And there would be Peace on Earth.
(Anonymous)

Farewell Lucia Fornasiero – Rest in God's Peace

Lucia was born on 26th May, 1915 in the small Italian village of San Daniele del Friuli. She came to Australia during the summer bush fire season of 1938, a week after marrying her husband Emilio (d:1970). They had 7 children: John, Michael, Maria, Peter, Paul (dec), David (dec), Christine (dec).

Lucia's earthly life ended at the gate of a New Year, 31 December 2024. Lucia was a strong woman of active and vibrant faith. May the trust she always put in the Lord lead her safely home to enjoy her heavenly reward.

In a particular way thanks is extended to Sr Carina for visiting Lucia each week so that she could receive the nourishment that participating in the Eucharist provides.

January Morning Tea – Change of Date

Our January morning tea will now be held after our celebration of 9.30am Eucharist on **Sunday 12 January** in our parish hall. This gives us an opportunity to farewell Fr Norman Banzuela who will join the parish community of Sacred Heart Griffith as an assistant priest in the following week.

If possible, please bring something to share.

St Clare's Conference Christmas Appeal

Thanks to your generosity an abundance of food and gifts have been donated to provide hampers for Christmas. Cash donations will be used locally.

Happy New Year!

The story of the Magi invites us to reflect on our own journey of life as we begin another New Year. What are the focal points that guide and direct my life? When I meet Jesus through a relationship with another, how do I respond? Am I willing to follow a new, exciting and challenging path with Jesus?

Liturgy of the Word

First reading Isaiah 60: 1-6

Arise, shine out Jerusalem for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look around: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord. The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 71

Lord every nation on earth will adore you.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement. **R**

In his days justice shall flourish,
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **R**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts,
shall pay him tribute..

The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts,
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him. **R**

For he shall save the poor when they cry,
and the needy who are helpless.,
He will have pity on the weak,
and save the lives of the poor. **R**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem in Judea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant, king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem in the land of Judah you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star appeared and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and returned to their own country by a different way. The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus through the gospel. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia , alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!