



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.

The Presentation of the Lord

1st / 2nd February 2025

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-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—Mass of Anointing—Mercy Place Chapel 2.00pm;

Xavier Staff Mass - 8.30am—Church

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 is held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm in the parish hall.

Feast of The Presentation of The Lord Jesus



The prophecy of Malachi (First Reading) is fulfilled when Mary and Joseph present the child Jesus in the Temple, for Malachi speaks of a day when 'the Lord . . . will suddenly come to his Temple'. The Gospel serves as a formal announcement of Jesus's arrival in the Temple: his presentation to Gentiles and Jews alike, as 'the salvation' of all humankind. The intimate scene also highlights the faithful piety of the young couple, as well as the patient faith and hope of Anna and Simeon.

The **Second Reading** underlines the reality of Jesus's humanity. Like all of us, Jesus must grow in maturity and wisdom, as well as experiencing the suffering that real temptation brings to every human being.

The **Psalmist** marvels that the Lord of the Universe has deigned to live amongst us in the Temple: he bids its gates and ancient doors to lift their heads, so that the mighty Lord may enter.

As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we pray that, like the Holy Family, we might have a growing faith and hope in a loving God who cares for us all. We remember especially those who are victims of modern slavery in our turbulent, uncertain world. We also ask for an openness of heart and spirit to appreciate God's many blessings, freely available to us every day.

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Nonee Reis, Fr Jim McGee, Alfred Brunner, Barbara Matthews, Esther Fair, Lucia Fornasiero, Fr Tony Loth, John Hogan, Richard Toole.

ANNIVERSARIES: Julie Yonson, Dorothy Keane, Lilian Nicholl, Chum Day, Frank O'Rourke, Vivian Duell, Michael Bourke, Betty Harrison, Barbara Quirk, Ada Duncan, Dorrie Hore, Nancy Phillips, Brendan Dodd, Molly McCarthy, Bob Cherry, Richard Noel Hickey, Sr Patricia Marcella, Les Bright, Sr Carmella Nesbitt, Max Butts, Fr Jim Clarke, Josie Favell, Beryl McBrien, Wayne Boyd, Ben Dambuis, Kevin Hartley, Joan Bruton, Martha Moscher, Peter Urosevic, Ivan Hanrahan, Stephen Kirley, Alice Shanahan, Charles Bowen, Joseph McBrien.

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: 1st / 2nd February

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

Sat / Sun: 8th / 9th February

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Adrian Mitchelhill	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Xavier Clancy	Roy Thompson
Lector 2	Catherine Cutler	Brigita Serbinek
Eucharistic Ministers	Shinead Kilroy Pauline Mulquiney	Trish Parkinson Sandra Temple Pamela McIntosh
Cantor	Judy Lindsay	Damien Parkinson
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Anne Gordes & Lorraine Willis		

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

Today we too, like Mary and Simeon, want to take Jesus into our arms, to bring him to his people. Surely we will be able to do so if we enter into the mystery in which Jesus himself is our guide."

Parish Prayer

God of Love, Source of all hope and good things; You call us in love, to share in the work and ongoing life of our Sacred Heart Parish.

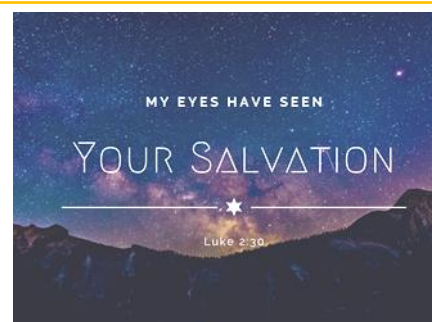
Bless this parish of ours and lead us to be confident and joyful in serving those around us, so that through us, the world may catch a glimpse of the love you have for each one of us.

Make us instruments of your love to everyone that we encounter in our parish community, at home, at work and in our neighbourhood.

Help us to grow in gratitude so that we can recognise and thank you for all the good things you have given us.

Each day may we come to know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Parish News

Reflections on Today's Readings

If I can, like Jesus himself, I withdraw to a place of solitude to pray. Perhaps this is outside, on a prayer walk. I ask the Holy Spirit to help still my inner being, so that I become aware of, and present to, the love of Christ and the Father in my heart. In my own time, I allow myself to be touched – and perhaps challenged – by this profound reading. I notice any interior reactions and stay with them.

Jesus became human, like me, in every respect. Can I allow myself to dwell within the wonder and mystery of this God made man for me? How far am I drawn to the vulnerable, humble, humanity of Jesus, who lived in poverty and obscurity? Can I fall in love with Christ, who at times 'has suffered when tempted' and knows what it is to be broken-hearted? Perhaps I ask for the grace to come into a deeper personal relationship with God. I bring my whole being into silent, loving attention, within the holy presence of the Lord.

As I come to the end of my prayer, I ask for help to become even more aware of God's loving design for the world, and more willing to live 'in the service of God'. *Our Father . . .*

I ask the Spirit to lead and guide me into the 'temple' of my own heart as I deliberately focus my loving attention on Christ Jesus. As best I can, I withdraw from the turmoil of any thoughts and distractions. Letting them die down, I create an inner space to welcome the Holy One.

I read this intimate narrative of the young couple bringing their new-born son into the Temple to consecrate him to the Lord. Perhaps the story is familiar . . . though perhaps, like Mary and Joseph, I do not grasp its full significance at first. What do I notice? I share with the Lord from my heart.

Simeon (and later in the Gospel passage, Anna), like the members of the Holy Family, are models of patient, enduring faith. Perhaps I pray for the desire to experience a deeper, child-like trust and hope in God, the Father of all creation. Like Jesus before me, I invite God to increase my wisdom and faith in the power of the Divine. *Glory be . . .*

Parish Pastoral Council

The first meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Council for 2025 will be held this Tuesday 4 February at 6.00pm in the parish hall. All welcome.

Parish Morning Tea

Our parish morning tea is this Sunday at the conclusion of our celebration of the Eucharist in the parish hall. All welcome, especially any new parishioners.

Xavier Staff Mass

To be held in Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday 4 February at 8.30am. All welcome.

Parish Alpha Gathering

Our monthly Parish Alpha gathering will begin for 2025 this 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.

Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors Roster

A new roster is now available in hard copy on table at the Swan Street church entrance.

We are also 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.

Bible Study Group

Resumes for 2025 on Wednesday 12 February at 7.00pm in Parish Hall. All welcome.



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

*Maisy Grace de Vries
daughter of Ryan and Brooke*

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: From the prophet Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as tit should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

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: Who is this king of glory?

It is the Lord!

O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **R**

Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in way. **R**

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **R**

Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
He is the king of glory. **R**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham.

It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people, Israel.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 2:22-40 (Short form)

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord,—observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord—and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' The Gospel of the Lord