



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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 8th/ 9th March 2025

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—Thursday & Friday **(PLEASE NOTE:**

For the month of March the Office will be open on THURSDAY instead of the usual Wednesdays).

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/>



First Sunday of Lent 8th and 9th of March 2025

This Lent, we're invited to *Unite Against Poverty* with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year is especially significant as we celebrate the Jubilee Year - a time of renewal and solidarity.

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a young student from Samoa who faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her school now has a 10,000 L water tank, improving access to clean Swater and allowing teachers to prioritise education

We'll get to know **Lam** from Vietnam. Born with short stature, Lam faced social exclusion and limited employment opportunities. Through the I-SHINE program, Lam completed a course and is now a freelance graphic designer.

And we'll meet **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) who faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family.

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:

Wednesday & Friday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION: SATURDAY: 5.15 PM-5.45 PM

BAPTISMS: By appointment.

CHILDRENS LITURGY:

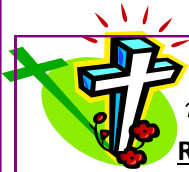
Children's liturgy is offered in Sacred Heart parish community each second and fourth Sunday at 9.30am mass during school terms.

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.



Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Katherine Davies (nee McLaurin), Gerry Pinnuck, Cresten Harley, Mary Lang, Genevieve Black, Kevin Drage, Max Vogel, Scott Hayward, Kevin Kernaghan, Lucia Fornasiero.

ANNIVERSARIES: Julie Morgan, James Murphy, Raymond Lang, John Stiler, Patricia Corrigan Margaret Creek, Mel Murphy, Bill Stirling, Herbert Koucky, Errol Edmonds, Juanita Jervis, Nora Roache, Robin Drewe, Assunta Ravenna, Keith Appleton, Roy Toon, Mina Bingham, Laurence Williams, William Toohey, Frank Kelly, Neville Bennett, Olga Howalczyk, Stella Sisley, Sylvester Graeber, Basil Harrington, Carl Vonthien, John King, Ida Murray.

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:

Cruz Graham McDougall son of
Blaike and Danielle

Nash Anthony Scott son of
Brett and Tayla

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 8th / 9th March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Adrian Mitchelhill	Narelle Naughton
Lector 1	Jan Skinner	Sue McLaurin
Lector 2	Michael Byrnes	Mary Hunt
Eucharistic Ministers	Justin Clancy Colleen Day	Trish Parkinson Sandra Temple Sr Patricia Weekes
Cantor	John van Lint/Brian Waters	David Hicks
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Carey Menz-Dowling & John Dowling		

Sat / Sun: 15th / 16 March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Nicole Morton	Cathy Nyhan
Lector 1	Paula Waters	Lorraine Willis
Lector 2	Catherine Cutler	Sr Patricia Weekes
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Hopkins Jan Skinner	Gemma Whitehead Belinda Shelton Dianne Treacy
Cantor	Brian Waters/John van Lint	Damien Parkinson
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Gordon Bryant & Laurie Moylan		

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

“Only through respectful and compassionate listening can we enter on the paths of true growth and awaken a yearning for the Christian ideal: the desire to respond fully to God’s love and to bring to fruition what he has sown in our lives.”
(The Joy of the Gospel)

Prayer—1st Sunday of Lent

*Heavenly Father,
as we gather in this Lenten season,
we thank you for the journey into the
desert alongside your Son, Jesus.*

*Help us to embrace this time of
reflection and growth, recognizing our
vulnerabilities and the temptations
we face.*

*May we find strength in our weaknesses
and draw closer to you through prayer
and self-giving.*

*Guide our pilgrimage in this Year of
Hope, that we may learn to imitate
Christ’s humility and love and discover
the grace that comes from facing our
struggles.*

Amen



Parish News

From The Office of Bishop Mark Edwards

Fr Peter Murphy the current administrator of St Michaels Cathedral and Vicar General of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga has been appointed by Pope Francis as the eleventh Bishop of Armidale.

We congratulate bishop-elect Murphy on his appointment and pray that God may bless his life and ministry in the Diocese of Armidale. Fr Peter's consecration will take place in Armidale's Cathedral on the evening of Thursday 8 May. He will remain in the diocese until after Easter.

Fr Anthony Dunne (Thurgoona) has been appointed as the new Dean of the Albury-Murray region with immediate effect.

On Saturday 15 March in St Michael's Cathedral at 10am Deacon John Baptist Nguyen will be ordained to the priesthood. At the same ceremony Xavier Nguyen, Michael Pham and Joseph Hoat Nguyen will be ordained to the diaconate.

Albury & District Historical Society Invitation

The March meeting of the Albury & District Historical Society will focus on the works of Fr Patrick Hartigan whose first parish was St Patrick's Albury. The talk is entitled "Films, Faith and Fast Cars". If you are interested this will be at Albury's Commercial Club on Wednesday 12 March at 7.30pm. More details can be found at: <https://alburyhistory.org.au/meetings/>

Film Screening—"The Great Warning"

This film screening is going ahead on Monday 10 March at the Regent Cinema Albury at 6.30pm. Tickets: \$30 per person. Tickets can still be purchased by accessing the website: <http://fan-force.com/screenings/the-great-warning-regent-cinema-albury/>

You can view a YouTube Trailer of the film at: <https://youtu.be/S6XOtPoV42M>

Sacred Heart Footy Tipping Competition

With only two games this weekend it is not too late to join us. Cost: \$24 in total. The competition will once again be run through the parish office with selections needing to reach us before the beginning of each round (usually Thursday) via email/phone/snail mail box. Failure to submit selections will result in home teams being allotted. Bonus point awarded to anyone who gets 9/9 per full round. AFL football fixture draws available for collection at Swan Street entrance.

Lent 2025 with The Catholic Guy, Bruce Downes

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is free and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

The Season of Lent

The Season of Lent began during the week with our commemoration of Ash Wednesday.

Our path to Easter is one of memory. It is a personal journey in which we are encouraged to remember the times when we have been struck with wonder and gratitude at God's love for us and at the world that Jesus opens to us. It is a time for rediscovering the surprise of faith and the way of Jesus.

In the early Church, Lent allowed public sinners to reflect on sin and to seek pardon. We know that we are like them and the prayers of Lent encourage us to remember God's love for us in our sinfulness and to pray for a new start and the adoption of a new heart.

You are welcome to join our Lenten group which meets every Tuesday evening in our Parish Hall from 7.00pm—8.00pm for prayer, reflection and discussion.

Parish Pastoral Council Report—Save the Date

As part of the 70th year celebrations of our Sacred Heart Parish community it is intended to hold a dinner at the conclusion of our celebration of Eucharist on Saturday 6 September probably in our Parish Hall. More details of this and other events in the coming weeks.

Counters Roster Renewal

We are looking for new parishioners to join us in this important activity. Counting of 1st and 2nd collection takes place either after mass on Sunday or on Monday from 9.00am in the Parish Office. Each person is paired with someone else. Please contact us by email or add your name to the list at the Swan Street entrance with your availability/preference. Rotation is about once every 10 weeks.

Alpha Gathering

Our Parish Alpha gathering this Tuesday 11 March at 10.00am in the parish hall. All welcome.

Property & Maintenance

The reading room at the Mate Street entrance is currently out of action—dry rot in the floorboards. **Please do not try and access this area until further notice.**

Thanks to the Coyles, particularly Tim for re fencing the Sacred Heart Tennis Courts entrance after someone stole a number of gates.

The Sacred Heart Tennis Club ceased to exist over 12 months ago and since then the property has continued to deteriorate. Mr Bernie Sandral, the new chief operating officer of the diocese has inspected the site and has agreed to investigate alternative usage of this parish owned land which might generate some form of income for our parish in the future.

Project Compassion—Unite Against Poverty

This Lent each of us is invited to *Unite Against Poverty* by contributing to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year is especially significant as we celebrate the Jubilee Year—a time of renewal and solidarity.

Project Compassion boxes and envelopes available for collection at all church entrances.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: From the book of Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God. The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 90

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

Response: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,
Says to the Lord: 'My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **R**

Upon you no evil shall fall,
No plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels,
to keep you in all your ways. **R**

They shall bear you upon their hands
Lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread
and trample the young lion and the dragon. **R**

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him;
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'
I will save him in distress and give him glory. **R**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours'. But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here; for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.
The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!