



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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 29th/30th 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—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

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.



Fourth Sunday of Lent

29th and 30th of March 2025

Irene lives in a remote village in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Life hasn't been easy for Irene. After losing her father in a war, Irene and her family were forced to flee their home. Life became even more challenging when her husband left, leaving Irene to raise her 2 children alone. Without finishing her education and with few job opportunities in her village, she struggled to provide even the basics for her family. Things began to change when Irene joined the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program (YCSP), run by Caritas Kongolo with the support of Caritas Australia. Through the program, Irene learned sewing skills and was provided with a sewing machine and fabric. Irene also gained farming skills. Now, she grows enough food to feed her family and even shares her sewing knowledge by mentoring other women in her community.

"Before, women depended on men's income, but now, with our sewing skills, we can take care of ourselves," Irene said. Your support of Project Compassion helps women like Irene to create brighter futures for themselves and their families.



Photo credit: Arlette Bashizi/Caritas Australia

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Maria Katschmarsky, Michael Brady, Jim Watson, Joseph Patrick Ryan, Harry Wilson, Katherine Davies, Gerry Pinnuck, Cresten Harley, Mary Lang, Genevieve Black, Kevin Drage, Max Vogel, Kevin Kernaghan, Lucia Fornasiero.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jim Hickey, Joan Travers, Michael Bereza, Anne Whitfield, Charles Borg, Jack Dempsey, Robert Killelea, Bep van Kerk Oerle, Penny Johnson, Mary Cromerty, Delma Mullavey, Shirley Foster, Patti Crozier, Geraldine Grimson, Darryn Graeber, Mary Benefield, Mary Curley, Evelyn Esler, John Norman Smith, Lawrence Hennessy, Joyce Lawson, John Smith
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:

Emme Roslyn Riddell daughter of Julie & Leigh

Raphael Zachary Dacey son of Julie & Zachary

Elizabeth Frances Carter daughter of Harold & Marnie

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 29th / 30th March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Colleen Day	Sr Carina Morton
Lector 1	Kaye Deanshaw	Liz Phegan
Lector 2	Mary-Jayne Boyd	Bethany Carey
Eucharistic Ministers	Michael Regan Nicole Morton	Sue Betts Mercedes Goss Eamonn Buckley
Cantor	John van Lint/Brian Waters	Heath Neville
Musicians	Judy Foley	Ashleigh Donaldson
Counters: Jane Togher		

Sat / Sun: 5th / 6th April

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Justin Clancy	Natalie Osborne
Lector 1	Michael Byrnes	Brigita Serbinek
Lector 2	Paula Waters	Sandra Temple
Eucharistic Ministers	Shinead Kilroy Kaye Deanshaw	Marisa Hart Sue McLaurin Carey Menz-Dowling
Cantor	Brian Waters/John van Lint	Bob Mathews
Musicians	Judy Foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Richard & Trish Parkinson		

Lenten Prayer

Loving Father,

We recognise the brokenness in our relationships and in ourselves and we turn to you for healing and guidance.

Help us to keep our gaze on you, trusting that you can bring us and those we love, back home to your embrace.

Remind us that no matter how fractured our paths may seem, your compassion is always there to guide us back to one another and to you.

As we leave this space may we continue to seek your presence and live out our discipleship through prayer and action.

Amen.

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

"Let us all walk in the same direction, tending toward the same goal, attentive to one another in love and patience."



Parish News

From the Bishop's Office

After consulting with the relevant Provincial and Regional superiors Bishop Mark Edwards has made the following appointments.

Fr Norman Banzuela OSJ as Administrator of St Michael's Cathedral Wagga Wagga.

Fr Roshin Michael IVD as Assistant Priest in Griffith.

Deacon Hoat Nguyen CSS to Finley, Tocumwal and Jerilderie parishes.

Deacon Michael Pham to the Cathedral.

Deacon Xavier Nguyen to St Patricks Albury.

Appointments take place beginning weekend 26/27 April

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.

Choir for Easter Ceremonies

Includes Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. Singers needed and gratefully welcomed for our choir due to some members not being available this year.

Practice times as follows: Thursday 3rd & 10th and Wednesday 16th April. 7.00pm—8.00pm. Please contact Val Hayes on 0422 953 771 or the Presbytery for more information.

Bonsai Under Lights

Come join us for a beautiful, unique display of Albury's largest collection of Bonsai, accompanied by the soothing sounds of The Murray Concert Choir and a display of botanic artwork. Friday 4th April at Valibo Nurseries, 534 Urana Road, Lavington. Entry via Barneys Rubble. \$20 entry. Choir performance, with complimentary wine and cheese. 7.00—10.00pm.

Ignite Our Gifts For Future Generations—6th / 7th Sept

Our 70th Anniversary Committee invite all past and present parishioners, students, and staff, to celebrate our faith throughout the generations, on the 6th and 7th September 2025.

The celebrations will include historical activities, involving students and families at Xavier Catholic College and St Anne's. There will be details to follow soon.

Sacred Heart Footy Tipping Competition

Now that the Bombers are back on the winning list, hopefully a Footy Tipping Ladder to the end of Round 3 will be published in next weekend's newsletter. A reminder that selections need to reach us before the beginning of each round (usually) Thursday via email/phone or snail mail box.

Failure to submit selections will result in home teams being allotted. AFL football fixture draws still available for collection at Swan Street entrance to the church.

TO PONDER

Our readings invite us to a new way of being in the world. In Joshua, the Israelites lose their daily allotment of manna that nourished them in the desert. In place of manna, God calls the people to a better form of nourishment from the land itself. This physical nourishment becomes a symbol of inner renewal and transformation, marked outwardly by the first Passover celebration in the Promised Land. In Luke's Gospel, both sons are also called to transformation, or what Paul calls becoming a "new creation." Ponder this theme of transformation. What kind of transformation do you need right now, and how would inward transformation manifest tangibly in your daily life and actions?

Morning Tea

Morning Tea returns next Sunday 6 April at the conclusion of our celebration of 9.30am Eucharist in the Parish Hall.

If possible please bring something to share.

A reminder that daylight saving ends that weekend—so turn your clocks back an hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Catholic Education Awards 2025

Last Thursday evening at Catholic Education Wagga Wagga awards night Mr Ed Brown received a recognition award for outstanding service to education within our diocese. Since his retirement Ed has spent his time playing golf, watching movies, attending race meetings and live concerts and apparently doing home chores (the vacuuming—only once). What a life!

On the same evening Ann Friedlieb originally from Albury (Jack and Marie's daughter) received a special award recognizing her career in Catholic Education as a primary school teacher all at St Patrick's Griffith for 50 years. What an incredible achievement of dedication, commitment & service.

Liturgy Meeting

The liturgy team meets this Tuesday 1st April in the Presbytery at 4.00pm to plan the liturgical music and readings for the Easter Triduum. If you have an interest in this regard you are most welcome to join us.

Reading Room Update

The reading room at the Mate Street entrance is currently out of action—dry rot in the floor boards. The old floorboards have been removed and currently are waiting for new materials to be supplied. **Please do not try to access this area until further notice.**

Lenten Discussion Group

Our Lenten discussion and reflection group meets each Tuesday at 7.00pm in our Parish Hall.

You are most welcome to join us at any time.

Alpha Program 2025—Save the Date

This year our parish Alpha program begins Tuesday 29 April from 10.00—11.30am. Our launch weekend is on 5/6 April.

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith and meaning in a friendly, open and informal environment. Do you want to get connected and share faith with others?

Our first session explores "Is there more to life than this?" Contact Fran on 0408 268 518 or visit: alpha.org.au

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: From the book of Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 33

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

Response: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **R**

Look towards him and be radiant;
Let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (abridged)

Jesus said, 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me". So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.'" So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.' Now the elder son was out in the fields and on his way back he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. 'Your brother has come and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.' He was angry and refused to go in.

The father said, 'My son you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.' The Gospel of the Lord.