



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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 15th/16th 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/>

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.



Second Sunday of Lent

15th and 16th of March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) is a 13-year-old primary school student from Samoa. Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Toefuata'iga's school community struggled without reliable access to clean water, which impacted students' education and hygiene. Teachers often had to leave the school to fetch water from nearby homes, disrupting lessons and adding strain to the community. When the water ran out at the school, students were sent home which meant they missed out on valuable learning time.

Thanks to the support of Caritas Australia in partnership with Caritas Samoa, Toefuata'iga's school now has a 10,000 L water tank through a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.

"Now that we have the water tank, things are so much better, we can stay at school all day, and I get to spend more time learning and playing with my friends. I'm happy that we don't have to go home early anymore." – said Toefuata'iga.

This transformative story is just one example of how Caritas Australia's Project Compassion creates waves of change around the world. Will you stand with students like Toefuata'iga this Lent?



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: Joseph Patrick Ryan, Harry Wilson, Katherine Davies, Gerry Pinnuck, Cresten Harley, Mary Lang, Genevieve Black, Kevin Drage, Max Vogel, Kevin Kernaghan, Lucia Fornasiero.

ANNIVERSARIES: Cletus Ball, Julie Morgan, Sr Carmel Clancy, Bill McNamee, John Kane, Ivan Kruze, Katerina Serbinek, Helen Faulkner, Dario Zanardo, Domenica Malez, Richard Ratajczyk, Joyce Corrigan, Albert Finnister, Adrian Shattock, Lisa Malone, Cliff Chapman, Attilio Bellina, Herb Doolan, Roy Hummerston, Noel Duck, Wally Lane, Molly Cooper, Betty Lindner, Patrick Mullavey, Roy Quin, Steven Wright, Molly Mitsch, William Hayes, Walter Kirley.

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:

Jack Michael Daly & Harvey Cecil Daly sons of Luke & Shanayde

Carter James Mathew Coelli son of James & Georgie

ROSTERS

Sat / Sun: 15th / 16th 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		Damien Parkinson
Musicians		Val Hayes
Counters: Gordon Bryant & Laurie Moylan		

Sat / Sun: 22nd / 23rd March

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Jan Skinner	Ed Brown
Lector 1	Adrian Mitchelhill	Margy Brown
Lector 2	Xavier Clancy	John Dowling
Eucharistic Ministers	Pauline Mulquiney Justin Clancy	Moira Porta Pamela McIntosh Fran Kernaghan
Cantor	Judy Lindsay	Heath & Xavier Students
Musicians	Judy Foley	
Counters: Jane Togher		

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

The Lord does not disappoint; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there waiting for us with open arms.

(The Joy of the Gospel 3)

Prayer—2nd Sunday of Lent

*Heavenly Father,
We thank you for the invitation to climb
the mountain of prayer and
contemplation.
Help us to embrace the discipline and
detachment needed to seek your
presence in our lives.
May we find the courage to set aside
the distractions of the world and
cultivate the interior silence that allows
us to encounter you more deeply.
Guide our hearts and minds as we
reflect on the Transfiguration, and open
our eyes to see your glory in our
everyday lives.
Grant us patience with ourselves as we
journey together, and inspire us to be
bearers of your peace in the world.
We as this in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ.
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.

Foster Carers—Urgently Needed

While Out of Home Care is often referred to simply as foster care, there are a number of different types of care for children and young people who enter OOHC.

Respite care involves caring for a child or young person on an occasional basis. This usually occurs over weekends or school holidays and is planned in advance.

Emergency care is when children and young people need immediate care to ensure their safety, they require carers to be available at very short notice. This type of care can be required for days, weeks or up to 3 months whilst further planning is undertaken to ensure the best care option for the child or young person.

There are many ways to care and change lives! You yourself may be in a position to respond to this urgent social need in our region or you may know someone who would be willing to assist in this way.

For more information about becoming a foster carer please contact Anglicare on 02 6245 7100 or visit:

www.anglicare.com.au

Free Magazines—Australian Catholics & Diocesan Paper 'Together'

The autumn edition of Australian Catholics explores what the words of Jesus recorded in John's Gospel 8:12 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life' means for our discipleship and faith journey.

Free copies of both journals available at the usual places in church.

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>

Lenten Discussion Group

Lent is an invitation to metanoia, to confront all that creates distance between God and us and to embrace the path of Mercy and Hope. It is by God's grace that we turn towards God and are transformed.

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.

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 6th September probably in our Parish Hall.

More details of this and other events in the coming weeks.

Counters Roster Renewal—New Counters Needed

Last chance to join us before new roster is formulated this week. Counting of both collections 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 by Monday 17 March or add your name to the list at the Swan Street entrance.

Rotation is about once every 10 weeks.

TO PONDER:

The call of transfiguration is the call to listen and observe in order to follow. In the Gospel, despite the overwhelming sights, God does not tell the disciples to "look" but rather to "listen" to Jesus. Paul tells the Philippians to "observe" in order to be "imitators" of Christ. Why listen and observe? Because both mean attentiveness and openness in seeing and experiencing Christ all around us, in the seeming ordinariness of our lives. It is the call to listen and observe that leads to our transformation and the transformation of "all things," as Paul says, into Christ.

How are you actively listening and observing today?

Sacred Heart Footy Tipping Competition

We are under way to discover who by loyalty, canny selections or sheer luck will be crowned Sacred Heart Footy Genius for 2025. The tips are so bad thus far that you are still welcome to join us. Cost \$24 in total.

Contributions can be made through the parish office or placed in an envelope with your name and 'Footy Tipping 2025' on the front and placed on one of the collections. 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.

Bonus point awarded to anyone who gets 9/9 per full round.

AFL football fixture draws available for collection at Swan Street entrance.

With Gratitude

Thanks is extended to Nick Manning and Heath Neville from Xavier who arrived at the eleventh hour to remedy a complex I.T. situation before last Wednesday's funeral service.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: From the book of Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.' The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 26

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

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink? **R**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call:
Have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' **R**

If is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. **R**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! **R**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things.

For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up a mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.

Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus. 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen. The Gospel of the Lord.