



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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 22nd / 23rd 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:

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.



Third Sunday of Lent 22nd and 23rd of March 2025

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Growing up, Lam often felt isolated due to limited job opportunities and difficulty moving around his community. While his friends started jobs after high school, Lam stayed home with his parents, unsure if he could ever achieve his dream of becoming a graphic designer.

Everything changed when Lam joined the I-SHINE program, supported by Caritas Australia. Through this initiative Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. Along the way, he built confidence, made friends and gained a sense of connection.

Today, Lam runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income. Lam hopes his story will encourage other young people with disabilities to overcome obstacles and pursue their dreams. Lam's journey shows how your support of Project Compassion empowers individuals to break barriers and transform their lives.

Will you walk alongside people like Lam this Lent?



Photo credit: 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: 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: Joe Ratcliffe, Inge Husz, Allan Scholz, Garry Rake, Robert Nichols, Mary Cudmore, Susan Dawson, Connie Barber, Billie Walsh, Robert Grealy, Jack Livsey, Mary Scott, Catherine Caton, George O'Neill, Michael Mitchell, Harry Flood, Margaret O'Dwyer, Ethel Shipard, Dawn Ridley, Lindsay Anderson, Glenn McPherson, Kathleen Johnson, Robert Salzke, Leonard Vogel, Paul Husz, William Grant, Catherine Condon, Penny Murphy
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:

Amarnie Elizabeth Victoria Keenes and Joseph James Kevin Keenes

Children of Jessica Kathleen Smart

ROSTERS

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: Gemma Whitehead		

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		

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

This Lent, God is asking us to examine whether in our lives, in our families, in the places where we work and spend our time, we are capable of walking together with others, listening to them, resisting the temptation to become self-absorbed and to think only of our own needs.

Project Compassion Lenten Prayer

God of our journey we are all pilgrims of hope brought together by your love and your wish that we may all be one.

We pray that in this Year of Jubilee when we are called to greater justice and care for our common home that we may
 Unite Against Poverty.

May we work in unity for the freedom of the oppressed and the renewal of creation.

May our compassionate minds and generous hearts help bring about a world where all can live in peace.

May our Lenten pilgrimage of fasting, almsgiving and prayer bring us closer to your loving heart.

We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen



Parish News

TO PONDER:

According to our Exodus reading, God's nature is uncontainable, indescribable, and utterly beyond human comprehension. Luke's parable underscores this reality by depicting God's nature as paradox: God is both compassion and judgement. For the disciple who is open and trying, however, both readings ultimately lean on the side of compassion. They remind us that God has claimed us and that God's power works through and with human weakness. For example, if you read the broader call story of Moses (Exod 3:1-4:17), you will notice that Moses is reluctant and flawed. And Jesus's disciples are not so different in Luke's Gospel! Yet all disciples are transformed by grace. Use this week's readings as a mirror for self-examination. What are your weaknesses and strengths? How is God calling you to conversion while shaping and transforming you?

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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.**

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. You are still welcome to join us. Cost \$24.

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.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: From the book of Exodus

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of the bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight.' Moses said 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow. Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This is what you must say to the sons of Israel: The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob has sent me to you.' This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.' The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 102

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

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **R**

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. **R**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. **R**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Corinthians

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Glorify you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glorify you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told them a parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, 'Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year, if not, then you can cut it down.' The Gospel of the Lord.