



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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 5th/6th April 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 9.30am

Friday—9.30am—Sacrament of Anointing will be offered during celebration of Eucharist.

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.



Caritas AUSTRALIA

PROJECT COMPASSION

Fifth Sunday of Lent

5th and 6th of April 2025

The transformative work of Caritas Australia is only possible thanks to supporters like you and the dedication, passion, and resilience of our local partners, who tirelessly work to empower communities and create brighter futures.

In Vietnam, Caritas Australia's partner programs, like I-SHINE, helped Lam, a young man with a disability, gain graphic design skills and start a successful freelance business, inspiring others to pursue their dreams.

In Samoa, Caritas Australia works with Caritas Samoa to improve access to clean water and sanitation through initiatives like water tank installations, transforming health and well-being for families like Toefuata'iga's.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Kongolo on the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program. This initiative equipped Irene, a single mother, with sewing and farming skills, enabling her to support her family and empower others in her community.

Through partnerships like these, Caritas Australia creates lasting change in communities across the globe.



UNITE AGAINST POVERTY
this Lent

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

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Stephen Paull, John Haynes, Maria Katschmarsky, Michael Brady, Joseph Patrick Ryan, Harry Wilson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jim Hickey, John Bradford (AJ), Wallace McVicar, Sue Thompson, Norm Jessop, Elizabeth Simon, Heidi Yonson, Philip Liston, Meg McNamee, Mark Pennay, Sister Baptista, Kevin Corrigan, Kathrina Schieber, Joe Everett, Allan Roach, Pamela Quin, Otto Sproule, Colleen O'Reilly, David Miller, Pam O'Brian, May Evans, Phillip Percy, Edna Stephenson, Patricia Darbyshire, Rusty Stewart, Bob Gray, Angel Taravillo, Kerry Faul, Frank Percy, Wal Tozer, Joan Godde, John Norman, Catherine Thompson, Patrick Scammell, Sandra Gillett, Alice Frauenfelder, Mary Egan

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: 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		

Sat / Sun: 12th / 13th April

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Michael Byrnes	Richard Parkinson
Lector 1	Jan Skinner	Kay Morrell
Lector 2	Catherine Cutler	Mary Hunt
Eucharistic Ministers	Colleen Day Jeniece Harding	Cathy Nyhan Trish Parkinson Moiria Porta
Cantor	Judy Lindsay	David Hicks
Musicians	Judy foley	Val Hayes
Counters: Diane & Greg Bartsch		

Thought for the Week (Pope Francis):

An evangelising community knows that the Lord has taken the initiative, he has loved us first, and therefore we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, go out to others, seek those who have fallen away, stand at the crossroads and welcome the outcast".
(The Joy of the gospel)

LENTEN PRAYER

Loving Father,

as we gather today we come before you with open hearts eager to listen and learn from your Word.

We reflect on the powerful encounter between Jesus and the woman in the Temple, recognizing the mercy and compassion that you extend to each of us.

May we remember that, like Jesus, we are called to kneel in love and understanding before others, offering grace instead of judgement.

Guide our thoughts and actions allowing us to grow in our faith and deepen our commitment to living out your mercy in our lives.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

Together—April Edition

The April edition of the diocesan newspaper 'Together' and the autumn edition of Australian Catholics are available for collection at the usual places within the church.

Parish News

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES 2025

The dates may change but times and venue remain the same.

Holy Thursday (17 April)

Mass of the Lord's Supper **6.00pm**

Good Friday (18 April)

Ecumenical Stations of the Cross in Sacred Heart Church
10.30am

Hot cross buns shared afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Commemoration of The Lord's Passion **3.00pm**

Easter Saturday Vigil (19 April) 6.00pm

Easter Sunday (20 April) 9.30am

We require readers, commentators, & Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Thursday, Good Friday (Commemoration of the Lord's Passion) and Easter Sunday.

Please add your name to the list located at the Swan Street entrance.

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 continue this Thursday 10th and Wednesday 16th April. 7.00pm—8.00pm. Please contact Val Hayes on 0422 953 771 or the Presbytery for more information.

Men's Breakfast Lavington-North Albury 2025

This event has recommenced for 2025 and the next event is for the young men in our border region. Rick Leeworth, local entrepreneur and man of God, has many powerful things to share with men of all ages. We invite parents to bring their young adult sons along. 8.00am Saturday 12 April at St James Parish Hall, Lavington. Cost \$5. Contact Ps Chris Field 0425 886 837.

Maintenance Update

A new floor in the reading room has been constructed to replace the old one which had disintegrated due to dry rot and the broken wooden poles renewed in the parking bay area. Total cost \$4,776.14.

Our most recent water rates bill amounted to \$2,684.74. We received parishioner donations of ^\$600 to help offset this expenditure.

Thank you for continuing to support our parish community liturgically, pastorally and financially. If you are not already contributing to our second collection through envelopes, tap n go, or direct debit, you are encouraged to do so, as this is the only means we have of servicing our financial commitments.

Gratitude is expressed to Declan Michael for his skill and calm temperament in negotiating the carpentry jigsaw puzzle involved in the restoration of the reading room.

Mercy Night—Thursday 10 April—St Patricks Church @7.30pm

Open to anyone wanting to grow closer to the Lord and experience his mercy—including those who want to encounter the Lord for the first time.

Music, Adoration, Confession, testimony and prayer. Enquiries: Annie 0427 371 122.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament of anointing will be offered during our celebration of Eucharist this Friday 11 April at 9.30am. Shared morning tea to follow in our parish hall.

TO PONDER: "Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

Jesus invites us all to be liberated from our pasts into new, or renewed, commitments to God. Like the characters in the gospel passage, each of us has sinned, yet none of us is condemned. This gospel message has no qualifications or boundaries. It is therefore an impossible concept for the mind to fully grasp, and it is certainly not our societal ideal (consider our criminal justice system, with its emphasis on punishment over rehabilitation). This message is also the Easter promise and invitation: the promise is our liberation, and the invitation is transformation into Christ. From what do you need liberation today?

Lenten Discussion Group

Our Lenten discussion group concludes this Tuesday 8 April in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm with a reflection on the upcoming events of Palm/Passion Sunday. All welcome to participate.

Children's Liturgy

A special Children's Liturgy will be held during our celebration of 9.30am mass next Sunday concentrating on the events of Palm Sunday and Holy Week. A great opportunity for preschool age children to enter Holy Week with prayer and activities focused at their level of understanding.

Alpha Launch Weekend

Our Parish Alpha launch is this weekend 5/6 April. Alpha team members will give a short talk with promo video and be available after each mass to answer any queries. Please take one of the flyers to hand out to others.

Contact Fran on 0408 268 518 or visit: alpha.org.au

Sacramental Information—Confirmation 2025

Bishop Mark Edwards will confer the sacrament of confirmation on candidates (usually yr 6 children and beyond) on Friday 13 June at 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church. Parents of possible candidates not attending St Anne's Primary School are asked to contact our parish office by email or phone so that you can be informed of the process for preparation.

Parent/Student Reflection & Information Evening—Tuesday 6 May @ 6.00pm in St Anne's School Hall.

Confirmation Commitment Masses—Saturday 17 May 6pm; Sunday 18 May 9.30am.

Confirmation Student Preparation Day—Thursday 5 June during school hours at St Anne's Primary School.

SAVE THE DATE

Sacred Heart Parish 70th Jubilee Celebrations

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

The celebrations include a dinner to be held in the grounds of Xavier Catholic college on Saturday 6 September from 6.00pm **Please note that Saturday evening mass on that day will be celebrated at 5.00pm in Sacred Heart Church not at the usual time.** Morning Tea will be celebrated at the conclusion of 9.30am mass in Sacred Heart Parish Hall.

More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: From the prophet Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.
The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 125

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

Response: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad. **R**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as steams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **R**

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing; they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philippians

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you, my brothers and sisters, I am far from thinking I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.
The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everyone, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus, 'go away, and don't sin any more'. The Gospel of the Lord.