



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 Advent 29th / 30th November 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 & Wednesday

Frances Kernaghan 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

Mass of Anointing Mercy Place Tuesday 2pm

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.

First Sunday of Advent Lighting of the first Advent Candle Candle of Hope



Priest: Our expectation begins now.

We begin our journey, like Joseph and Mary. We cannot see the way ahead. We cannot know what hope will come but we trust God to journey with us, beckoning along with the prophet.... "O House of Israel, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord."

This is our hope as we light the first candle of Advent.

First Candle is lit

All listen or sing Christ be our Light

All: We light this candle to remember what was promised and to dream about what could be. We light this candle full of hope because we know the days are surely coming as we have seen signs of God's hope. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus may we see signs of your hope in the midst of so much uncertainty.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Parish Community



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Mons. Frank Marriott, Aileen Wales (Sr Michael), Fr Frank Moloney, Clare Packer, Matthew Borg, Carolyn Wenke, Maureen Rourke, Margaret Esler, Annette Maloney, Molly Hopkins, Michael Dunkerley, Frank Glennon and Pat Boyd.

ANNIVERSARIES: James Burke, Anthony McLeod-Nibbs, Angela Lynch, Leesa Hammond, Margaret Power, Gerry Harrington, Jack O'Rourke, Winifred O'Brien, Mary Willis, Vera Coyle and Jane Hicks.

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: 29th / 30th November

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Justin Clancy	Ed Brown
Lector 1	Colleen Day	Kay Morrell
Lector 2	Xavier Clancy	Bethany Carey
Eucharistic Ministers	Kaye Deanshaw Pauline Mulquiney	Belinda Shelton Sue Betts Pamela McIntosh
Cantor Musicians	Judy Lindsay Judy Foley	Heath Neville Ashleigh Donaldson

Counters: Laurie Moylan & Gordon Bryant

Sat / Sun: 6th / 7th December

Ministry	Vigil	9.30am
Commentator	Adrian Mitchelhill	Bede Hart
Lector 1	Nicole Morton	Roy Thompson
Lector 2	Jan Skinner	Cathy Nyhan
Eucharistic Ministers	Catherine Cutler Anna Farrell	Trish Parkinson Sr Siony Narelle Naughton
Cantor Musicians	Volunteer please	David Hicks Val Hayes

Counters: Jane Togher & Brian Fealy

Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and darkness,
send you Holy Spirit upon our preparation for Christmas.

We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people walking in darkness yet seeking the light.

To you we say 'Come Lord Jesus'
Amen.



Thought for the week Pope Leo XIV

Love means answering God's call and making the radical choice to serve those in need.

Parish News

TO PONDER:

Advent is a season of introspection and preparation. Shortened days invite stillness as we enter a new liturgical year and prepare for Christ's coming at Christmas. It is also a time of the 'already and 'not yet': our Messiah has already come into this world, yet now we wait for the fulfillment of the Messiah's return. Our readings from Romans and Matthew call us to a state of wakeful waiting, to 'put on' Christ, the 'armour of light,' in our thoughts and our actions. They also call us to remember that Christ's return is not just symbolic or a pie-in-the-sky story. It is real, and it is happening through God's presence and intervention in human history. Advent is therefore not just a season but a state of mind and heart. We are to be Advent people, living in hope, wakeful and working toward the coming of God's kingdom.

INVITATION—Jan Skinner School of Speech and Drama

An Examination Presentation for students is being held in our Parish Hall on Friday 5 December at 7.00pm. Everyone welcome to attend.

Advent Daily Reflections—Holy Stillness in a Jubilee Year of Hope

Advent comes to us each year as an invitation. It beckons us into a season of quiet anticipation and deep longing for God's presence among us, the birth of God- with-us. We are called, as pilgrims of hope, to pause amid the busy rhythms of our lives and to enter a holy stillness that opens our hearts to God-with-us.

The Jubilee Year calls us to go on pilgrimage—not so much a physical journey but an inner journey into hope. A hope where we wait and watch with open eyes for the signs of God's presence, even in the darkness. (*Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Brisbane*)

This free resource is available for collection from all entrances to the church. It can be used for individual or small group reflection.

Sacred Heart Parishioners—Christmas Lunch

A gathering of parishioners who are at a loose end or won't have the company of family will take place on Christmas Day in our Parish Hall for lunch.

If you would like to attend please contact the parish office by email or add your name and contact details to the list at the Swan Street entrance.

Post Alpha Group

Our final meeting for 2025 takes place this Tuesday 2 December at 10.00am in the parish hall. We will be looking at "The Spirit of Our Lady" from The wild goose Series (Luke 1:30-35) All welcome.

Tribunal of the Catholic Church

Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Wagga Wagga Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the Wagga Wagga Office of the Tribunal on **02 6937 0017** or email tribunal@wagga.catholic.org.au

Parish Morning Tea 7 December 2025

Mass will be at 9.30am followed by our monthly morning tea. We will be acknowledging and thanking Liz Johnston for her contribution to Catholic Education for over 30 years in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

We are especially grateful for her time at St Anne's Primary School as classroom teacher, Religious Educator, Vice Principal and Principal.

Please bring a plate to share if you are able.
All most welcome.

Simbang Gabi 2025

7pm each evening from 15-23 December 2025 at St Augustine's Church, 55 High Street, Wodonga VIC 3690
Simbang Gabi is a treasured Filipino tradition that gathers the community in joyful hope and prayer as we await the birth of the Saviour. We would be delighted to welcome parishioners from across our region as we celebrate together.

Carol s with the Choir

Friday, December 5 at 7.30pm at Walla
Saturday December 6, 7.30pm St Matthew's
Sunday, December 7, 2.30 pm Galvin Hall Wodonga

Diocesan Newspaper—'Together'

The November edition of Together has arrived and is available at all entrances to the church. Please take a copy.

Australian Catholics

The summer edition of Australian Catholics has also arrived so please take a copy from church entrances.



Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the law will go out from Zion and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.' He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm 137

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

Response: *Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.*

I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
Within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R**

It is there that the tribes go up,
The tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **R**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
In your palaces peace!' **R**

For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good. **R**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

13:11-14

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon—let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 24: 37-44

Jesus said to the disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day. So will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.' The Gospel of the Lord.