



330 Swan Street  
North Albury  
NSW 2640  
02 6025 1516  
[www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com](http://www.sacredheartnorthalbury.com)

*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 in Ordinary Time* *17/18 January 2026*

*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](mailto:sacredheartna@gmail.com)

**Web:** <http://sacredheartnorthalbury.com>

**Bank A/c Details for Parishioners** wishing to Direct Deposit into our **Church A/c** (2nd Collect)

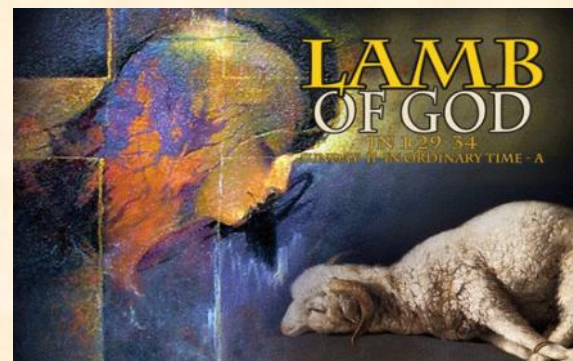
**BSB:** 066 789; **A/c No:** 10000 5574;

**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/>



With today's Gospel from St John, Christmastide flows almost seamlessly into Ordinary Time. Christmas ends with the 'revelation' of the Son of God, and Ordinary Time begins with the Baptist recognising Jesus as the Lamb of God. If we, also, recognise Jesus as the Chosen One of God, what does that mean? What does it ask of us?

A way forward can be readily found in the three other texts of today's liturgy: doing God's will and delighting in God's law in the depth of our heart (Psalm); taking our place among all the saints, the holy people of Jesus Christ (Second Reading); and being a light for the nations so that God's salvation may reach all people (First Reading).

Let us pray, this week, that by 'seeing' God, both at work in the world and present to us in our lives, we might bear witness to the Chosen One by the daily choices we make.

### **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.

# Parish Community



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Peter Hickey, Jacqui Fornasiero, Barbara Gladman, June Toole, Terry Coelli, Terry Grazules, Marie Neville. Stephen Wilson, Margaret Graham, Gabrielle Ceberano, Frances Walsh (Peter Whitehead's sister), Matthew Borg and Carolyn Wenke.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Wilga Jones, Barb Paterson, Brian Rolfe, Mark Harrington, Harry Struck, Louis John Payne, Paul I'anson, Sr Christopher ryan, Gregory Sutherland, Cachary Peters, Alma Hancock, Hilda Brewster, Rosemary Cosser and Norman Gray.

*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:*

**Rudy James Bent**  
Son of Samuel & Cailey

**Thomas Henry Maguire**  
Son of Simon & Natalie

## ROSTERS

**Sat / Sun: 17/18 January 2026**

| Ministry   | Vigil  | 9.30am   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Commentator</b><br><b>Lector 1</b><br><b>Lector 2</b> | Adrian Mitchelhill<br>Xavier Clancy<br>Kaye Deanshaw | Cathy Nyhan<br>Roy Thompson<br>Bethany Carey       |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                             | Pauline Mulquiney<br>Justin Clancy                   | Belinda Shelton<br>Gemma Whitehead<br>Sue McLaurin |
| <b>Cantor Musicians</b>                                  | Judy Lindsay<br>Judy Foley                           | David Hicks<br>Val Hayes                           |

**Counters:** Barry Pickett & Bernie Seaton

**Sat / Sun: 24/25 January 2026**

| Ministry   | Vigil  | 9.30am  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Commentator</b><br><b>Lector 1</b><br><b>Lector 2</b> | Michael Byrnes<br>Adrian Mitchelhill<br>Paula Waters | Natalie Osborne<br>Margy Brown<br>Brigiita Serbinek |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>                             | Jan Skinner<br>Kaye Deanshaw                         | Dianne Treacy<br>Sue Betts<br>Narelle Naughton      |
| <b>Cantor Musicians</b>                                  | John van Lint Brian Waters<br>Judy Foley             | Bob Matthews<br>Val Hayes                           |

**Counters:** Gemma

## Prayer for Our Sacred Heart Parish

*God of Love, Source of all hope and good things;*

*You call us in love, to share in the work and ongoing life of our Sacred Heart Parish.*

*Bless this parish of ours and lead us to be confident and joyful in serving those around us, so that through us, the world may catch a glimpse of the love you have for each one of us.*

*Make us instruments of your love to everyone that we encounter in our parish community, at home, at work and in our neighbourhood.*

*Help us to grow in gratitude so that we can recognise and thank you for all the good things you have given us.*

*Each day may we come to know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly.*

*Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

## Thought for the week Pope Leo XIV

*"Peace begins with each one of us: with the way we look at others, listen to others, and speak about others."*





# Parish News

## To Ponder

As we transition from Christmas to Ordinary Time, the call to discipleship is strong and urgent. Our readings bridge the two seasons by remaining with the Suffering Servant poems in Isaiah and with John the Baptist at the beginning of Jesus's ministry. The servant and John have a deep connection with God, as does Paul. God formed each of these figures to be unique prophetic witnesses and lights to the world. God has also formed each of us as unique witnesses. Now that we have celebrated Jesus's birth, Ordinary Time invites us to meditate upon this great gift and ponder our response. What does it mean to be called forth by God as a witness? Are we open to hearing the call, and are we ready to respond with the power of the psalmist: "Here am I, Lord: I come to do your will"?

## To Ponder

Witness begins with recognition. In the Gospel, John the Baptist is waiting for Jesus and is receptive to God's revelation. Twice he states that he "did not know" Jesus. Yet he still recognises Jesus instantly, stating, "He is the one." He calls his audience to stop and behold the son of God, who will heal the collective brokenness of the world and bridge us back to a relationship with God. John recognises that Jesus is the one he has been waiting and longing for, the one who will not disappoint. As you pray with the Gospel, imagine yourself in John's shoes saying the same words about Jesus: "He is the one." What is this experience like? Today, in the context of your own life, can you describe what (or whom) you are waiting and longing for most?

**St Vincent de Paul Society North Albury  
Fundraiser Trivia Night  
Saturday January 31 @ 7.30pm  
Sacred Heart Parish Hall**

Tickets \$10 per person with Teams of 6-8 or individuals welcome.

BYO food and non-alcoholic drinks

All proceeds going to assist local people experiencing hardship or homelessness.

*Further enquiries phone Liz 0423 064 823*

## Murray Garden Pick up Roster

### *New volunteers urgently needed*

We would like to thank Meg and Kelly for their support in picking up our Parishioners from Murray Gardens. As they are no longer available to help, we need more volunteers willing to go on a roster to collect Murray Gardens parishioners Sunday morning to attend 9.30am Mass. If you would like to volunteer please contact the Parish office via phone or email.

## Media Release 15 January 2026 from the National Catholic Education Commission on School Fees

The National Catholic Education Commission has released a statement challenging the recent Cost of Education report issued by Futurity Investment. The report paints a misleading picture of the nature of fees in Catholic schools across the country, causing unnecessary alarm for parents who make the choice of education that best suits the needs of their children – whether that is a government, Catholic or independent school.

Year after year parents continue to choose a Catholic education because it is the best fit for their child and family. Parents should keep in mind that additional costs beyond tuition can vary greatly, and not every family experiences all the ancillary expenses mentioned in the report.

Catholic Education is committed to accessible education and works with its families to ensure that an inability to pay does not deny a family access to a Catholic education.

Our schools have long been a mechanism to support the most disadvantaged and provide for the common good. Any family who needs assistance is encouraged to speak to their school principal about options for support.

More information can be found in a printed copy of the full release on the Swan St entrance table or logging onto [NCEC Challenges Cost of Education Report](#)



# Liturgy of the Word

## First reading Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10

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

**Response:** *Here I am Lord; I come to do your will.*

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God. **R**

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. **R**

In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart. **R**

Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord. **R**

## A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "This man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit," Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## A reading from the first letter of the St Paul to the Corinthians 1:1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.  
This is the word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us  
He enabled those who accepted him to become  
the children of God.

**Alleluia!**